

Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation  
Board of Directors' Meeting Summary

Date: 9.1.21      Location: Zoom

Start Time: 7:31 pm

End Time: 8:59 pm

Item	Action
I. Welcome and Call to Order	
II. Blessings	
III. D'var	There was no one signed up so we discussed the need/importance of having D'var at each meeting. Many people felt it was important to keep. Emily encouraged the use of Sign Up Genius to plan for people to volunteer.
IV. Appoint Timekeeper	Appointed
V. Minutes from 8/11/21 Board Meeting	Approved
VI. Monthly Financials/Membership Renewals/Projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Membership numbers look good. 8 of the Religious School Families are enrolled in Taste of JRC, so hopefully they will become new members at the end of the Taste trial period.</li> <li>● Seems fewer resignations than last year – 83 FY 21 families haven't renewed but Micky feels many will renew</li> <li>● Adjustment numbers are <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> way into adjustment dollars – a little bit over in households paying a little <u>above</u> the requested amounts.</li> <li>● We probably won't go over budgeted amount for dues adjustments. Adjusted FY21 financials – net income was better than projected – rolling over PPE funds to help with future years</li> <li>● Building repairs will show in FY22 (work getting done later than originally planned).</li> </ul>
VII. Building Reopening and High Holiday Update	Rabbi Rachel Weiss:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has not been an easy time/decision to go to High Holidays on Zoom. But, because we made this decision over a month ago, it has allowed us to be thoughtful and creative in how we program the events for HH. Lots of thought and technical work is going into making this a meaningful holiday none-the-less. The message to the congregation is that we are living out our Jewish values that <i>we care for one another and the health of all of our members.</i></li> <li>• Other long term plans for opening building – Sept 12 – Religious School will be opening initially outdoors but eventually in the building</li> <li>• Eventually B’nai Mitzvah’s will be held in the building and Tot Shabbat will be held inside the building. We are not “closed”; we are moving ahead cautiously and reconnecting as creatively as possible.</li> </ul>
VIII. Board Goal #1 – increasing membership	Hannah Shearn: Effort is to have each board member recruit 1 new family this year. Sign up sheet was passed around asking if you needed to paired up with someone or you knew someone you could work on recruiting. Goal is to make a connection with someone. Most members have joined because they built relationships that brought them in.
IX. Consent Agenda A. Rabbi’s Report – No report this meeting B. Cantor’s Report – No report this meeting C. Executive Director’s Report – No report this meeting D. Treasurer’s Report E. House Report	Approved
X. Upcoming Meetings Goal Update, Major Topics Review	Elliot and Ann shared background and history of how the ARTF started and what their task was. Board goal is linked above. It was a request from the board, originally approached Racial Equity Task Force, but when they had their hands full with programming, we needed a special,

	<p>task-specific task force. Board and clergy felt it imperative to do the work to actually become an anti-racist congregation. Not just delegate it to those who are interested, but to do a self-examination and do the work - identify where JRC as an institution may have blind spots and unintended consequences as a result of living in a society that is swimming in a society awash with systemic racism and white supremacy culture, whether overt or not.</p> <p>The Board wanted help from JRC members who may be more attuned than the average board member to these issues to help us focus on identifying and trying to address areas where we may fall short. Too easy to put it off, refer it out to a committee, or let the folks who are energized around the issue carry that water for us.</p> <p>Several members were approached to serve on the committee – specific “ask” was help us develop an anti-racist lens – help the board, clergy and staff in decision making in an anti-racist way; in order to reduce unintended consequences that might have been happening before.</p> <p>The recommendations presented in the report, and in the discussions, should be seen as a suggested “approach” to applying the anti-racist lens spelled out in its introduction to each of the areas listed in report. These are not requirements for us; they are suggestions that this group had and are now open for discussion- we will get more of the thinking behind the recommendation. No expectation they will all get accomplished.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● At the meeting on 9/22 –we will hear suggestions about Communications, HR and Ritual practice. There will be more time for discussion.</li> </ul>
<p>XI. Sign up for Gift Giving, D’var, Snacks</p>	<p>Board members were encouraged to sign up.</p>
<p>XII. Yasher Koach Corner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Emily: Maria Tolpin, taking on the “nudge in chief” role for accessibility and inclusion working group</li> <li>● Hannah: Renewal reminder callers:</li> </ul>

- Elliot Frolichstein-Appel, Irv Miller, Robin Byster, David Tabak, Freddi Greenberg, Jonathan Markowitz, Tessa Fischer, Barbara Israelite
- David T. :David Tabak, Alex Silets and Brad Moldofsky for their work on the JRC Tech Team.
- Jonathan: Micky Baer and Rabbi R for stepping in and helping with Rachael S's absence.
- Elliot F-A: IJTF and its leadership for convincing HIAS to add at-risk LGBTQI+ Afghans to its letter from the Jewish institutional world

Emily:

- Layhao Diep Providing the Email addresses for the Yashar Koach list
- Rabbi Rachel and Micky for stepping in and stepping up even further than before with Rachel Sherman's absence due to her father's untimely passing
- Micky : David Tabak for tech team leadership
- Emily: Linda Kaskel for continuing contribution of accessibility and technology expertise and leadership for inclusion

Rabbi Rachel:

- Janie Winkler care packages for college students
- Sandy Spatz, Judy Mendel reaching out to members being asked to do HH readings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Micky - doing at least 3 people's jobs now especially with Rachel Sherman out - doors open, lights on, new members, renewing members</li> </ul> <p>Kyra:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosh Hodesh Group leaders who continue to do a fabulous job, including a hybrid gathering last month: Linda Kaskel, Tamar Frolichstein-Appel, Ann Dolinko, Kim Moldofsky</li> </ul> <p>Emily:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becca Sperling, Nancy Katz, Eli Shearn, Lou Weiss, Robin Trilling, Elliot Frolichstein-Appel -</li> <li>• Participating thoughtfully in the Post It lab to help imagine and inform JRC membership engagement, leadership development and board structure</li> </ul>
XII. Good and Welfare	Items were shared.
XIII. Executive Session	
XIV. Next Meeting and Adjournment	<u>8:59 pm adjournment –Next Meeting 9/22/21</u>