

Jewish Family Services

Minutes of 57th Annual General Meeting

20 March 2012 at the Jewish Drop In Centre, Edmonton

Present: Jeni Adler, Michael Alpern, Yehudit Arnold, Mike Campbell, Judi Card, Corliss Chan, Dwayne DeGraves, Larry Derkach, Amy Dixon, Ehud Ellman, Rabbi Daniel Friedman, Rhoda Friedman, Alberto Genis, Barry Goldberg, Barry Greenspan, Russ Joseph, Tina Kafka, Nora McWalter, Harry Nolan, Ruth Nolan, Svetlana Pavlenko, Hanna Pollack, Karen Preston, Liron Shteynprez, Lewis Wasel, Robert Wood, Mel Wyne.

Regrets: Carol Aube-Girard, Vistara Conway, Rhonda Eidelman, Bob Gliener, Daisy Grossi, Stephanie Hendin, Terry Karpman, Elizabeth Nett, Netta Phillet, Tulane Rollingher, Martha Squire, Arthur Totman, Alba Valderrama, Ken Wasserman.

Call to Order: President Lewis Wasel called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm, welcomed everyone, and declared that a quorum was present.

Introductions: Lewis introduced Board Members and Honorary Officer Ruth Nolan and former President Harry Nolan. He acknowledged representatives from key funding partners: Russ Joseph, Edmonton Jewish Federation; Amy Dixon, United Way; and our board member Judi Card, National Council of Jewish Women. He also acknowledged Svetlana Pavlenko, Executive Director of the Jewish Senior Citizens' Centre, our host and program partner.

Agenda: →[Motion 1]: M.Alpern/R.Wood that the agenda be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

D'Var Torah: referring to the upcoming Passover holiday, Rabbi Friedman noted that our lives do not happen by accident: G-d cares and plays an active role. Likewise, at JFS people are not left to the vagaries of life, but we are here to care.

Minutes: →[Motion 2]: M.Alpern/R.Joseph that the minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

President's Report: Lewis reviewed the many highlights appearing in the Annual Report, including the new Holocaust Survivors' Support program, the Kosher Food Bank initiative, our collaborations and partnerships, and growing public relations and fund raising capacity. He spoke with pride about our tri-ennial presentation to the United Way. He spoke about how he first encountered JFS through being assisted with his aging mother. He called on Michael Alpern to introduce Corliss Chan, our Board Intern for the current year. Lewis paid tribute to the staff and Executive Director, and thanked board members, and funders and community members for their support.

Executive Director's Report: Larry felt the many changes in 2011 have taken us into new level. Two new positions- Director of Fund Development and Supervisor of Home Support (plus his team) are part of substantial new growth. We have more story to tell and more ability to tell it well. We grew such that we needed to move to a larger office location. We still rely on many partnerships and networks to do our work. We are grateful for the broad support we receive from throughout the community, not only financial, but through partnerships, referrals, volunteers, etc. In the end, it is all about changing lives. He introduced the staff present. He thanked the many supporters and the Board of Directors.

Thanks: →[Motion 3]: M.Alpern moved sincere thanks to Larry Derkach and the staff. CARRIED by applause.

Treasurer's Report: Judi Card noted that there were sufficient revenues during the past year to ensure a good level of service, and that we had remained within budget, and maintained good relationships with funding organizations. The Finance Committee continued to look at risks to the agency.

Auditor's Report: Judi introduced the auditor, Dwayne DeGraves, who presented his report. Dwayne noted that it was a "clean audit" with the usual disclaimers concerning the non-verifiability of donations and fees for service, and that all finances were in order.

→[**Motion 4**]: J.Card/M.Alpern that we ratify the 2011 Auditor's report. CARRIED

→[**Motion 5**]: J.Card/M.Alpern that we appoint DeGraves Pallard & Associates LLP as Financial Auditors for the fiscal period of 01 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. CARRIED

Nominating Committee Report: Robert Wood presented the report, on behalf of committee chair Rabbi Friedman, also noting members Bob Gliener and Mel Wyne. Rabbi Friedman and Bob Gliener have reached their 8 year maximum. This reduces the Board to the minimum 10 elected members, plus Rabbi Friedman who will remain on the Board as Past President. Suitable candidates are sought throughout the year, and may be appointed mid-year, with continuance subject to election at the next AGM. One such member was appointed, Barry Goldberg in September 2011.

→[**Motion 6**]: R.Wood/M.Wyne that Barry Goldberg be elected to the Board of Directors for a first regular term. CARRIED

Three board members have completed terms and are eligible for re-election.

→[**Motion 7**]: R.Wood/J.Card that Michael Alpern, Terry Karpman and Lewis Wasel be re-elected to the Board of Directors for an additional term. CARRIED

Presentations: Lewis Presented Rabbi Friedman with gifts of a book and candles, noting with humour that half the book was in Russian. Rabbi Friedman read aloud the Russian title to the approval of Svetlana Pavlenko. Lewis thanked Bob Gliener in absentia for his service, and noted that a gift will be presented at a later date.

Courtesies:

Lewis thanked everyone for coming, and Hannah Pollack for the refreshments.

Adjournment:

→[**Motion 8**]: R.Wood/J.Card that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED at 8:11 pm.

Larry Derkach
Recording Secretary

Lewis Wasel
President

Director