Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation

Board of Directors' Meeting

Date: April 1, 2020 Location: Zoom video conference

Start Time: 7:30 pm End Time: 10:25 pm

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| **Item** | **Action** |
| I. Welcome and Call to Order |  |
| II. Blessings |  |
| III. D’var |  |
| IV. Appoint Timekeeper | Appointed |
| V. Minutes from March 11 Board Meeting | Approved |
| VI. Consent Agenda  A. Rabbi’s Report  B. Cantor’s Report  C. Executive Director’s Report  D. Treasurer’s Report  E. Tier 1 Decisions: 3 ICE Letters | Approved  The Board approved JRC to:  (i) sign onto a letter from Detention Watch Network requesting U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) to immediately release all people currently detained in its custody, to cease all local enforcement operations, and to eliminate ICE check-ins and mandatory court appearances, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.  (ii) send a letter drafted by RAICES, the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services, to Acting Director Matthew T. Albence of U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) to use his discretion to order the immediate release of all people detained in ICE custody, to cease enforcement operations, and take further actions, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.  (iii) sign onto a letter drafted by Organized Communities Against Deportations to Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, U.S. Illinois Senators and Representatives, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, and Chicago City Council members to call for a moratorium on local immigration enforcement, to call for the release of all people detained in ICE custody in Illinois, and to ensure that undocumented people are not discouraged, penalized or prevented from seeking treatment for COVID-19. |
| VII. Monthly Financials and Update on Kesef Accounting Service | Financial statements through February were reviewed, including projections for the full FY 20 incorporating some adjustments for the COVID-19 pandemic. The year is projected to end with a deficit of $14,417. |
| VIII. FY Budget Balancing Options | The FY 20 projections will continue to be refined. The April 18 gala will be switched to an online format, with the goal to net $105,000, as originally budgeted. To take advantage of the U.S. CARES Act, the Board approved a motion that JRC is authorized to apply for an SBA loan in an amount not to exceed $263,000, with loan terms subject to approval by the Executive Director, President, and Treasurer. |
| IX. Revised Draft Budget FY 21 | The Board approved a balanced budget for FY 21, which is based on standard assumptions, i.e. no COVID-19 impact. The Board will develop a tool-belt of well-developed, creative, edgy strategies across all areas of JRC that can be deployed as circumstances change to counter the anticipated COVID-19-related economic fallout. |
| X. Board Goal 3 (Membership Engagement) Progress | The Board formed chevruta/tri-vruta (study partners) to develop creative, innovative solutions to how might we engage new and different members differently in the work of JRC to fill our leadership gap. |
| XI. Sign up for Gift Giving, D’var, Snacks | Board members were encouraged to sign up. |
| XII. Yasher Koach Corner | Board members recognized these individuals:  For leading the March 29 video conference Alternative to the Women’s Seder: Ann Dolinko, Tamar Frolichstein-Appel, Carol Goldbaum, Kim Moldofsky, Linda Mathias Kaskel.  Ruth Wenger for leading two Minyanim via Zoom conferencing, with over 30 participants the first time, and over 50 the second time.  Hannah Shearn for leading JRC’s 2020 gala and for shifting the format under current circumstances.  Linda Mathias Kaskel, Debi Lewis, and especially Max Sendor for transferring JRC’s website to ShulCloud and getting it running.  Robert Israelite, Rabbi David Eber, and Shelli Patt for their work on the FY 20 year-end projections and FY 21 budget. Shelli Patt, in particular, for her expediency and formatting expertise.  Rabbi David Eber for the Passover Resource Guide provided to congregants via email and for being JRC’s anchor for online ritual programming.  Rabbi Rachel Weiss, Cantor Howard Friedland, and Rabbi David Eber for their daily online video messages to congregants.  JRC’s Senior leadership team who speak together six days a week to navigate JRC through this COVID-19 crisis: Rabbi Rachel Weiss, Cantor Howard Friedland, Rabbi David Eber, Sharon Diaz, Elliot Frolichstein-Appel, Sandy Spatz, Dr. Kim Grahl. Dr. Kim Grahl for her attention 30 minutes each day, providing medical insight.  For making check-in calls to all members: Marla Baker, David Block, Becky Block, Susan Cherry, Dori Conn, Christine Duffy Levy, Tessa Fischer, Rick Friedman, Terri Ginsberg Bernsohn, Carol Goldbaum, Alan Gratch, Sallie Gratch, Reese Gratch, Joel Gratch, Freddi Greenberg, Robert Israelite, Josh Karsh, Heidi Katz, Rich Katz, Fran Landt, Robert Lange, Monica Lasky, Susan Lazar, Jonathan Levy, Debi Lewis, Adrienne Lieberman, Jonathan Markowitz, Jon Marshall, Diane Melnick, Melissa Mizel, Suzanne Nathan Hawley, Francie Niederman, Rebecca Osborn, Lisa Pildes, Rhonda Present, Ellie Routtenberg, Lisa Servedio, Carolyn Shapiro, Julie Shufro, Lauren Sklar, David Tabak, Anne Wildman, Sheri Young. |
| XIII. Good and Welfare | Items were shared. |
| XIV. Executive Session |  |
| XV. Next Meeting and Adjournment | The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2020. |