

UVJC Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
7 June 2017
7:00 pm – Roth Center for Jewish Life

Present: Sue Berg, Bill Brown, Debbe Callaghan, Thomas Cochran, Felixa Eskey, Laura Rosenthal, Lynn Schwartz, Robert Shumsky, Stephen Woloshin

Regrets: Gloria Finkelstein, Matthew Henken, Robyn Jacobs, Deb Kaplan, Rachel Kleinbaum, Jeff Lubell, Rusty Sachs **Guest:** Carolyn Gordon representing the Social Action Committee

Ex-Officio: Rabbi Boraz

1. **Call to Order & Welcome (Laura):** Note that future meetings are for the full BOT, due to the amount of business.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** BOT meeting 3 May 2017 minutes approved with 3 corrections. (1 typo, and under “Old Business” changed that motions were passed unanimously to reflect that there were 2 abstentions for the first motion and 1 for the second motion.

3. **Reports:**

a. **Social Action Committee (Carolyn):** An Immigration subcommittee has formed.

- Co-sponsored an all day forum at the Friends Meeting House on being a sanctuary city. It was well attended and many expressed appreciation for the UVJC’s involvement.
- >50 people attended a Lunch & Learn at the Roth Center
- 4 members attended a vigil in Manchester
- The UVIP is coordinating an interfaith effort to support immigrants. Discussion on how the UVJC can participate culminated in the following motion:

Motion: The Board of Trustees recommends we support the Social Action Committee in efforts to help immigrants in the Upper Valley and that the UVJC be a co-sponsor of activities of the United Valley Interfaith Project. (Passed Unanimously)

b. **Education Committee (Felixa):**

- Maddie had two exit interviews (with Laura & Rusty and with the Education Committee). Her observations will be shared with Melissa and Rabbi. Maddie was grateful for her experience here.
- Some parents have expressed a desire for an adult Hebrew class during Hebrew School, would be more likely to join the UVJC if this were available.
- Suggestion to send a letter to the UVJC list of members and non-members introducing Melissa and her vision for the school so it is clear that new things are happening. Consider also sending a press release to reach those not on our list.

c. **Security Committee (Debbe):**

- See attached handout of process and recommendations. Discussion.

Motion: The BOT will explore the implementation of the recommendations of the security committee as outlined in the June 2017 memo of the committee. (passed unanimously)

d. **Ruach:**

- The Shavuot hike led by Shira Hoffer had about 2-dozen people of all ages attending. We would like to see some of these people become members.
- June 24 – Contemplative service with meditation.

- Happy Hour with the Rabbi: 5 people attended the first one, including a non-member. This forum will grow community and allow people to get to know the Rabbi and each other on a more personal level.
- e. **Staff Report (Laura):** Carole retires on June 30 and we are grateful for her 13 years of dedicated service. A comprehensive recruitment process for a new person took place including revising the job description. We hope to make an announcement soon. [Additional details in camera.]
- f. **Annual Dinner Debrief:** Enjoyed by those who attended. There were some sponsors but w/o a big fundraising push did not raise as much money as in previous years. More help needed next year so the work does not fall primarily on one person.
- g. **Annual Meeting Debrief:**
- More than 40 members attended.
 - Bill announced our planned \$4,000 deficit budget. The budget was approved.
 - Rusty shared that an anonymous donor had offered to match funds up to \$1,000. Several in attendance came forward to pledge donations which raised \$1,700, bringing in a total of \$2,700, significantly reducing this planned deficit.
 - The announcement of adding Kol Ha'Emek to the UVJC name was well received.
 - Nathan Margolis and Gary Schwartz were honored for their years of dedication to the High Holiday services. Kathy Parsonnet received the Mishpacha award. Gary was away and his award will be presented at another time.

4. Old Business

a. **20th Anniversary and Torah Rededication:**

- Waiting to hear from Dartmouth College as to whether they will participate.
- Plan a Capital Campaign aiming for 100% participation.
- Suggestion: Donors can sponsor a Verse, Parsha, Book, entire Torah. Plan to create a plaque acknowledging the donors.
- Need to link the campaign to a vision of where we see the community in 5 years. Debbe volunteered to help develop a vision. She will reach out to congregants who are not on the BOT.
- Consider a "Celebration Weekend" (For the 10th anniversary there was a concert at Rollins)

b. **NH Jewish Federation Visit:** Will send out a Doodle poll to assess availability

- Starting to plan for next year's film festival.

5. New Business:

a. **High Holiday planning:**

- Alumni Hall (Top of the Hop) is available for the Reform service at no cost.
- Tom Jacobs has agreed to help with logistics.
- Gary has met with Rusty to discuss what is needed.
- Debbe, Sue, Steve and Thomas agreed to help.

6. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 5 at 7pm.

Adjourned 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Berg, Secretary

UVJC Security Committee Recommendation – June 2017

In light of the current political environment and the rise in bias and hate crimes the UVJC Board formed a Security Committee earlier this year. The committee defined itself and its purpose, met with experts, and reconvened to develop its recommendations.

Members of the committee are (in alphabetical order) Debbe Callaghan (chair), Dan Levin, Cameron Moser (Hillel representative), Claudia Palmer, Laura Rosenthal, Rusty Sachs, and Sam Zucker.

The purpose of the committee was to evaluate current security at the Roth Center and if appropriate make recommendations for changes. The committee focused on the regular operations of the Roth Center. Both the Hanover PD and Dartmouth S&S have protocols for emergency situations.

We pursued four main channels for information: The Hanover Police Department, Dartmouth College Safety and Security, SAU 70 (our school district), and NH Jewish Federation.

Our summary conclusion is twofold –

1. We need to strike a balance between creating a safe environment and a welcoming environment.
2. We want to avoid being a soft target for any incident.

Our concern is to ensure that our congregants and our children, staff, Dartmouth students, and visitors have access to the building in a warm and inviting way while at the same time ensuring everyone's safety.

As a result the committee developed the following recommendations:

1. Gently tighten access to the Roth Center.
2. Provide training for staff for a variety of potential scenarios.
3. Re-engage school parents to be community representatives during school hours.
4. Maintain and periodically test panic buttons.

1. Gently tighten access to the Roth Center – Keep the building open from 8am – 8pm with cameras at all three doors, and access to the building from the side door and the rear side door. Lock the front doors at all times except on Shabbat and holidays. During services a congregant will continue to keep an eye on the door, as already is the practice. Add a sign at the front door directing people to use the side door. From 8pm - 8am access is only by key or by the card reader at the rear side door. This is the door that Dartmouth students use and how they access the building at night with their campus ID cards. Add a panic\call button to this card reader (most campus card readers have a near-by panic\call button).

2. Provide training for staff for a variety of possible scenarios – Ensuring the safety and security of building staff is very important. Provide staff with training so that they understand best practices for a variety of potential safety\security situations. Training would include role-playing of potential situations.

3. Re-engage school parents to be community representatives during school hours – Monitoring access to the building during school hours was done following the Sandy Hook tragedy and this procedure should be re-instated. While it's always challenging to get parents to volunteer, this is a good way to engage parents and create camaraderie while being vigilant about access to the building while our children are present.

4. Maintain and test panic buttons – We have nine panic buttons in the building and they are on a service contract. The vendor should be periodically contacted to test the buttons. Staff and appropriate community members and Dartmouth students should be advised of the location of the panic buttons.

The above is a brief summary of the work of the committee. Should the board approve these recommendations we can investigate the installation of cameras, contact Dartmouth S&S about the changes to door locking, provide appropriate staff training and work with our school director to sign-up parent volunteers. As a committee we fully recognize that our security as a Jewish community is of utmost importance and we further recommend keeping a watchful eye to determine if these recommendations are sufficient.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbe Callaghan for the Security Committee