

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER MERCER  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018

The President, Scott Schaefer, determining that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 7 Gordon Avenue, Lawrence Township, NJ 08648, at 7:15 P.M.

**Executive Committee present:** Howard Cohen, Chip Loeb, Jerry Neumann, Scott Schaefer, Marty Schwartz and Joshua Waldorf

**Staff present:** Julie Davidson Meyers

**Executive Committee not present:** Florence Kahn, Donald Leibowitz and Joanne Snow

**1. Welcome and Report of the President**

Scott Schaefer thanked Howard for hosting the Executive Committee meeting. Scott reported on committee activity since the last Executive Committee meeting.

- A. **Stewardship Committee** is planning a gathering for Fund holders and Promisers on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. Invitations have been mailed. The Trustees are encouraged to attend and publicize the event.
- B. **Governance Committee** has decided not to hold a strategic planning session at this juncture. The staff will coordinate finding a date to hold an optional facilitated board conversation on next steps our Board and our Foundation.

The Committee will not onboard any new board members for 2018-2019 cohort. The Committee is carefully assessing all board members' roles so that we can operate efficiently and most successfully.

- C. **Life & Legacy Committee** will hold the year-end Life & Legacy year-end event/check distribution ceremony on June 14, 2018 at Beth El Synagogue in East Windsor. The Harold Grinspoon Foundation will hold its national Life & Legacy Meeting on June 3 -5, 2018 in Springfield, MA. All Trustees are invited to participate.

Notes from the last Life & Legacy Committee meeting were distributed and are included as an appendix to the minutes.

- D. **Investment Committee** continues to work hard on behalf of all of our fund holders. Scott thanked Marty Schwartz for his tireless effort to promote the Foundation and our investment strategies to secure new organizational and personal funds for the Foundation.

**2. Executive Director Report**

Julie Davidson Meyers report that the transition from Vanguard personal account to investor account is nearly completed. Once our 2018-2019 Executive Committee start their terms, the signatures will be updated. Julie announced that the staff is migrating all Board Minutes and Agendas online through Board Docs. Julie reminded the Executive Committee to be responsive to all Foundation emails especially to RSVP for meetings and approving grant recommendations.

**3. Investment Committee Report**

Marty Schwartz gave an investment update.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Chip Loeb reported on the budget and led a discussion on an monthly accounting discrepancy with Renaissance reporting. He will be scheduling a meeting with Renaissance to resolve the issue.

**5. Good and Welfare**

Julie shared that the foundation received verbal confirmation of a new six figure endowment partner fund! Thank you to Scott and Marty for working with Temple Beth El in Hillsborough!

Upon motions duly made, seconded, and approved the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joshua L. Waldorf, Secretary

**APPENDIX**

**LIFE & LEGACY Update  
April 9, 2018**

**Summary**

- Year 4 of LIFE & LEGACY concluded on March 31.
- In total, the community has secured 570 Legacy Gift Commitments (Promises) throughout the duration of this program. 67 of these Promises have been secured in Year 4. Eleven partners have reached or exceeded the annual goal of 4 Promises.
- We have removed Kehilat HaNahar from the Year 4 program due to inactivity this year; this allowed us to lower the community wide goal to 52 Promises, at a time when several Partners were struggling.
- Two of the remaining 13 Partners also did not meet the Promise goal but will still be recognized with a certificate at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration event on June 14.

- Quarter 4 reports (for Jan, Feb, Mar) are due from Partners on April 16. The Quarter 4 community report is due to the Grinspoon Foundation on April 30.
- A 4<sup>th</sup> Annual LIFE & LEGACY Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2018 at Beth El Synagogue. We are planning to replicate last June's well-received breakfast format, with a festive awards ceremony and grant distribution. The planning committee will meet again on May 7, when invitations will be prepared for a mailing. Save-the-Date postcards were mailed out in early March.
- The Legacy Gathering (L&L National Conference), hosted by the Grinspoon Foundation, will be held on June 3-5, 2018 in Springfield, MA.

#### **Jewish Community Foundation – Legacy Gifts Update**

- 16 out of 22 current (2017-18) Foundation Board members have made Legacy Promises to the Foundation. We hope to encourage all Board members in the coming months to make a Legacy Promise to the Foundation and/or a meaningful gift to our Endowment Fund.
- The Foundation has secured 8 Promises in Year 4. We **doubled** our required goal of four promises and have met the Bonus Grant of securing two additional promises. The Foundation has 38 Legacy Promises total.
- The Foundation exceeded the 75% formalization goal, achieving 21 (of 26) formalized promises from Years 1 and 2 donors.

#### **Partner Activities**

- Shalom Heritage Center held its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala in February and honored all its Legacy Donors with plaques, photos, video and program testimonials, and tremendous recognition of L&L and JCFGM for our efforts. It was a lovely evening; Amy represented the Foundation.
- Select Partner organizations invited the Foundation to present at Board meetings this year, including: Beth El Synagogue (Scott presented), Greenwood House (Allen Porter presented), JFCS (Miki Krakauer presented), and Or Chadash (Scott presented).
- A successful L&L workshop was held in January hosted by and in collaboration with Jewish Family and Children's Service. The workshop was entitled *Can We Talk? Navigating the Next Steps when a Legacy Donor Passes Away*. Representatives from nine Partners attended the workshop.

#### **Foundation Stewardship Work**

- At the recommendation of the Stewardship Committee, we designed a new informal quarterly newsletter, entitled *Legacy Letter*. The second winter issue was distributed in January. Fund holders received a copy of the newsletter in their quarterly financial

statements; all other legacy donors received a copy in the mail. A spring issue is in the works.

A Legacy Month “Thank You Reception” is scheduled for May 9. Invitations were mailed and RSVPs are coming in. Please help us spread the word to those whom have made a Promise and Fundholders.