

To: The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation
From: Marilyn Muhlfelder, Secretary
Re: Minutes from the Board meeting of Monday, April 28, 2008

Those present were Marilyn Muhlfelder, Bill Wallen, Michael Cohen, Norma Sevel, Ronna Lasser, David Binus, Phyllis Port, Steve Port, Jan Housman, Roz Sky, Bobby Neidorff, Jeff Greenberg, Madelyn Greenberg, Joel Hollander, Judith Sue Meisner, Paula Pimentel, Reynald Altberg, Clark Adleman and Henry Weinberg

The evening started with a delicious dinner catered by Paula Binus.

1. Welcome and Comments: President Michael Cohen called the meeting to order and welcomed everybody. He asked if we had a good Passover. He then thanked everyone for their commitment to the Jewish community and thanked Dave and Paula Binus for the great meal.
2. . Minutes of January 24,2008 was presented. Jeff Greenberg made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Motion was seconded by Paula Pimentel and passed by those present.
3. Financial reports:

a. Campaign 2008 update -

Total pledged thru April 24,2008 -	\$ 21,313.00
Number pledged -	33
Amount paid-	\$ 12,904.68
2007 Andy Jubelirer Scholarship Fund-	\$2,500.00
Total in Fund-	\$23,676.67
Campaign 2007 report -	
Total pledged	\$184,881.94
# pledged	141

Total paid-	\$184,881.94
New Contributors -	14
Amount-	\$2,026.00
Increased pledges -	37
Amount-	\$3,800.30
Decreased pledges -	5
Amount -	\$4,436.29
2007 Andy Jubelirer Scholarship Fund -	\$ 3,500
Total in Fund -	\$21,126.67

b. Allocations for 2008 -

- i. All allocations have been sent out.

c. Endowment committee-

- i. The committee has met several times discussing investment philosophy. They are looking at the % of funds that are growth or equity as opposed to protection and fixed income. There will be a meeting next week to consider this. Others have a 50-60 % invested into equity. The committee is considering a 50-50% breakdown.

4. Work with Methodist churches on proposed divestment -

Jordan Bailenger has had concern and interest in working with Methodist churches who have considered divesting from Israel as a result of the anti-semitic information being disseminated depicting the victim status of the Palestinians. Due to Jordan's efforts and the American Jewish Committee, the motion to divest was withdrawn. Those present congratulated Jordan on his work and a letter of appreciation will be sent to him.

5. Protest of transfer of liquor license at VFW -

Clark Adelman discussed the concern that VFW was going to sell to Victory Lane

Saloon. He and Joel Hollander have talked to an attorney. A letter was sent to the Liquor Control Board stating that it was not 300 feet from religious buildings.

There will be a hearing concerning this problem.

6. New United Jewish Communities Representative -

Bill Wallen reported that Barry Rudel is now a staff member and Jack Ryger is no longer there. Bill said that Barry is more sympathetic to the needs of smaller communities and is more interested in community building.

7. Program plans and updates -

a. Film Festival review- As stated in Bill Wallen's executive directors report, the ninth annual festival was a great success (the most successful ever). Thanks to Len Zimmerman and the committee. The dinners were great community building events and were the best attended ever. The numbers grew each week. We served from 65-80 people with 288 total meals. Movie attendance was consistent with a total of 471 people. Next year, the Thursday's dates will be February 19,2009 through March 12, 2009.

b. Yom Hashoah program-

Will be held at Agudath Achim, Wednesday April 30th. at 7 P.M.. Hazzan Horwiz will lead the service and three Protestant clergy will participate. There will be church groups present so we need a good attendance.

c. Veteran's Memorial service -

Will be held at the Cemetery Thursday, May 22nd. at 7P.M. Henry Weinberg is searching for a speaker. We are encouraged to attend and honor our veterans.

d. Sunday School Israel Independence Day

Bill Wallen reported that a fair honoring the day will be held the last day of Sunday

School on May 18,2008. We will do a community wide celebration later in the year.

d. Darfur Update -

Bill Wallen announced upcoming programs. On May1, 2008, a program will be held at the United Methodist Church in Hollidaysburg at 6P.M. On May 10,2008, another program is scheduled at Sotto Voce, 439 Lotz Avenue, Altoona from 2 to 5 P.M.

A handout explaining the May 10th session was distributed to the group.

e. Adult Education Series-

Michael Cohen handed out a form to be completed and sent to Bill or Michael.

The form explains to purpose and the format. We are asked to indicate our interest and circle our preference concerning day, time, length of program and frequency. We are also asked for suggestions and thoughts concerning the potential program plus any thoughts on additional adult education programs.

8. Executive Director's report: Bill Wallen presented his report in writing. It is part of the official minutes.

9. Good and Welfare:

a. Judith Sue Meisner made a recommendation that we commend Bill Wallen for all his effort on our behalf.

b. Jan Housman reported that Madelyn Greenberg sent her a history of Agudath Achim. It can be found on AgudathAchim.com

c. Paula Pimentel reported that Marcia Schulman is doing well in her new residence in Harrisburg. She has a boyfriend and goes to a day program. Also, Ruth Ann Rosend is living at the Winds. She is happy but misses her home. Bob Patt is at Homewood recovering from pneumonia. Bill Wallen will send E-mail addresses for

the three so we can communicate with them.

d. Judith Sue Meisner was asked to talk about the Diversity program. She said over 3000 kids and 14 trips have been to the Holocaust Memorial in Washington.

She spoke of the many volunteers and the funding she receives from organizations. She added that the enthusiasm of students and teachers is the greatest thing. She thanked the Federation for its support. She also gave Jan Housman accolades for the work she does in her classroom and with teacher training. Michael Cohen said that probably every kid who has participated has been affected and has affected others.

e. Noah Scheinberg will have his Bar Mitzvah on May 3rd.

f. Henry Weinberg stated that he was thrilled to be home. He mentioned Altoona Police Chief Mitch Cooper's retirement. He added that Chief Cooper always made certain we had security at the Synagogue. The Federation will send a letter of thanks to him.

g. Michael Cohen stated that the Newsletter came out since our last meeting.

He congratulated Bill Wallen and Neil Rudel for a job well done.

h. Congratulations were extended to Roz Sky on the honor extended to her from the Cancer Society.

i. Steve Port asked if other communities give us their Newsletter. Bill Wallen stated that he has talked to Barry Rudel and he will help us with that. Clark Adelman suggested that we exchange Newsletters from other communities by E-mail.

j. Jan Housman talked of her daughter Heidi being a Director of Hillel at WVU and that the kids there from small communities are involved.

Rey Altberg called for adjournment at 8:10 P.M.