

Houston Hillel

Meeting Minutes

11/2/20

Present: Alyssa Silva, Kenny Weiss, Rozanne Rubin, Eric Bishop, Jeff Berlat, Ellie Rips, Lou Mizis,, Jeff Levine, Jonas Actor, Lior Ashkenazy Dor, Gideon Estes, Scott Friedman, Jade Gordon, Sean Kessel, Sandy Jackson, Eric Cohn, Brian Cweren, Marlene Rubin, Lena Lieb, Daniel Pickelner, Bobby Wizig,

Next meeting: Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 on Zoom

1. **Kenny's D'var Torah: Sifre Devarim, Piska 13**

Leadership, calling on others, appreciating unique qualities, you can't do it all by yourself, IQ vs. street smarts.

2. **Fist of 5 Activity led by Rozanne**

It's all about the numbers!

Takin a look at the engagement report and asking questions

Bringing in a significant amount of money in October

3. **Programming Debrief**

Jewish Learning Fellowship (Ellie at UH and Rice) aka long term deep impact event

Tzeh V'Lamed with Jewston- 3 part series learning cohort- High Impact

Weekly Hebrew Learning w/ Lior

4. **Committee Meeting Overview/Questions**

Building committee: Have we looked into building access? - "Eric Cohn"- The answer was no, but it's something to look at.

Reopening Task force committee meeting next week

Development Committee meeting: Virtual Rice Alumni event w/David Leebron on Nov. 12

Will there be a plan to engage those who we have not had contact with before?- "Lena Lieb"

Giving Tuesday- Alyssa will create a webpage to be shared on social media and via email.

Treasurer's Report:

- We finished the previous year with a surplus of about \$10,000

- PPP Loan payback is still up in the air
- We have not had to borrow from ourselves in a year
- This is the calmest we have been about our finances in years
- Strategic Action Plan is up next this year, and will be renewed the following year

5. President's Report

- In order to be a good ambassador, you need 2 good stories, 2 good facts, and a heaping dose of enthusiasm
- Hillel Internationals Higher Holidays had 15,000 unique viewers
- Hillel International has hired a Director of Security
- Measurements during COVID
- 5 C's of COVID
- Jade Gordon from Stephen F Austin shares a story

6. Old Business

Endowment policy will be drafted in the coming months

7. New Business

2020 Zinn Endowment: \$250,000 gift to Houston Hillel- early payout of bequest

- Gideon Estes moved to accept the recommendation and Eric Bishop 2nd it.
- Discussion then ensued and additional context was given by Kenny Weiss.
- Noted that this is the first time the board has discussed an endowment fund creation
- Question from Brian Cweren about where we put the endowment/diversifying- Kenny answered, saying that HJCF handles everything and we support the Jewish community by having our assets with them.
- Eric Cohn affirms that it may make sense to look elsewhere
- Call to vote by Rozanne
- All in favor, passes unanimously
- Next step is a review from the finance committee

Parsonage Allowance for Kenny

- Gideon Estes moves for the full amount
- Lou Mizis seconds it
- Rozanne Calls to vote
- All in favor, passes unanimously