

NCJW MINUTES 12/6/17

Meeting was called to order by Joanne Sininsky at 9:35am.

Those in attendance: Linda Finkelstein, Laurie Alexander, Sharon Hotchkiss, Nadine Kaplan, Judy Traub, Laurie Alexander, Marlene Gropman, Debbie Mendelson, Amy Lieberman, Rona Goldstein, Carol Lubin, Janet Fabricant, Linda Kaber, Phyllis Millman, Dianne Gorbaty, Phyllis Margolin, Susan Schwartz, Gail Siegel, Sarah Rothschild, Susan Glabman, Ruth Zalaznick, Rona Sterling, Diane Wortman, Linda Geller-Schwartz, Merle Bassin, and Ann Mitchell.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – JOANNE SININSKY

The minutes from last month were approved.

Joanne had one item on her agenda. Merle Bassin had chaired the By-Laws Committee. National wants one line changed. We will vote on it next month. Judy Traub was asked to work with National for upcoming changes. Judy will work with National for upcoming changes. Judy said that there is going to be some restructuring for “franchise fees” so that each Section pays the same. More to come from Judy.

TREASURER’S REPORT- GAIL SIEGEL

Bottom line, #41, we have \$154,000. We have raised \$27 from Amazon Smile, and over \$1000 on credit card purchases. An appeal was made to choose Amazon Smile as a preferred online company as we make money when users choose NCJW as a charity. Gail fielded many questions that the Board had, including:

#1: What happens when money is donated to a program? Gail said that it must come through the Treasurer as we must keep a record for the IRS.

#2: What happens to this donated money? Gail explained the process well. She used our new initiative, the Weekend Pantry as an example. The Board approved up to \$12,000 per school year to be spent on the Weekend Pantry. If we did not fundraise or get any donations for this initiative, the Board will authorize \$12,000 to be spent on the Weekend Pantry. However, when donations and/or fundraising monies are received, this amount must be spent first and then the balance of the funds needed to make up the \$12,000 are taken from the NCJW budget to make up the difference. No matter what or how the funds are received, they must come through the Treasurer to meet IRS requirements.

For example, if we received \$5,000 in donations to the Weekend Pantry, then the Committee must spend these funds first, and then ask the Treasurer for the \$7,000 to make up the total approved budget for this initiative.

#3: If your Committee needs more money than the Budget assigned, then they must come before the Board for a vote to amend the Budget and make a motion.

#4: The person who gives us cash must receive a receipt in return. Merle has a letter that covers this issue. Merle Bassin, Corresponding Secretary must be notified of any and all cash donations so a letter (i.e., receipt) can go out.

Debbie Mendelson questioned why the Budget doesn't reflect that they have approximately \$9,000 still left in their budget. Gail explained that these funds were not raised in the current fiscal year (7/1/17 – present). Joanne S. pointed out that there is a Fund Balance that explains what's left yearly. Since the Budget needs some corrections, the decision was to hold off approving the Budget Report until our next meeting.

Approved Treasurer's Report with Corrections: All were in favor.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – GAIL SIEGEL

Gail is still taking suggestions of names and they are meeting the next day to discuss the nominations.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – CAROL LUBIN

SUPPORT THE TROOPS – DIANNE GORBATY

Dianne thanked the NCJW for their support. The joy of this project is getting letters from the service men and women overseas. She has many of them and read one to us. Joanne asked her to send her a few of them so that she could send them on to National. Diane said that the past two years we got a lucky break as the USO was shipping our packages. 150 boxes went out yearly until the USO realized they were not supposed to do this. The new Director said that it cannot continue. At \$18/box, we will not be sending out so many.

Motion: Rona Goldstein made a motion to increase the support of our troops to \$1800. The vote was all in favor.

BREAKING BREAD – DEBBIE MENDELSON

The have served 9 meals since February, and are serving another on 12/17. The chef from the caterer will cook even though he does not work on Sundays. We can thank him by using his company, Tuxedo Gourmet Catering Company for catered events, both personal and professional. The phone number is 561-848-9696. The Homeless Coalition has our photos. We are also on their Facebook page, and it would be nice to use membership to recruit new faces to serve meals. The question arose that since there is money still left in the budget, "how many more meals can we serve?" Debbie will give us an answer to this question at our next meeting. Merle put together 12 kitchen kits given out at the Center. Forty one homeless individuals were affected by these kits. Debbie would like to get more funds for these kitchen kits as well requested that members buy specific items that are needed for the kits. Merle again stressed to Debbie to make sure that NCJW is getting credit for these kits since once they are filled they then go to the Lewis Center to adopt a family. A suggestion was made that we need an outline

as to how the remaining money is to be spent, and making sure that NCJW does get credit for its efforts.

CHOLEE PANTRY PROJECT – DIANE WORTMAN

Lynne Eisman and Diane Wortman will be supervising the filling of backpacks. Every volunteer must be signed up with the Palm Beach School System. If interested, see either Lynne or Diane to get set up.

SPECIAL EVENTS – LINDA FINKELSTEIN

SECRET CINEMA – SUSAN GLABMAN

Susan has about 125 attending. The movie starts at 12:30pm, followed by a luncheon.

DECEMBER CARD PARTY – RONA GOLDSTEIN

There will be about 286 attendees. Based on the cost per person, the event will not be a big money maker, but the silent auction should give it a big boost.

SIGNATURE EVENT – WOMEN IN POWER – NADINE KAPLAN & MARLA SHAINMAN

Amy Lieberman is concerned that there is not enough room for all the vendors, but will work it out. Linda reported that on 1/9/18, Fran is being honored for her KCC Closet and encourages all to attend. Nadine reported that Invitations are being printed and a stuffing party will be happening at her house very soon. More details to come.

AMBASSADORS – LAURIE ALEXANDER

Laurie is hosting a wine and cheese event at Orchid Reserve mid-January. She has 21 new members who will attend and the Ambassadors will be honored.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE – RONA GOLDSTEIN

The Evaluation Committee met with Carol Lubin and some suggestions were made to restructure her committee. There is a need for a VP of Homelessness. The breakdown would be as follows:

1. VP Community Outreach: Holiday Baskets, Support Our Troops, Tutoring and Enrichment (Caridad and Benoist Farms), Keynote Singers, Knit or Knot and Nursing Scholarships
2. VP LIFT: Harmony House, Foster Care and Lewis Center (Welcome Kits and Kitchen Kits)
3. VP Homelessness: Weekend Pantry and Breaking Bread
4. VP's and Chairs must keep careful financial records of their income (donations) and expenditures. All donations (especially cash) must be reported to the Treasurer.
5. Program should utilize as many volunteers as possible.

6. In addition to Evaluation Forms for Events, there should be an Evaluation Form for Programs.

Joanne said that the Evaluation Committee recommendation should come at the end of the year so that next years administration could take care of it.

ADVOCACY REPORT - LINDA GELLER-SCHWARTZ

On December 1st there will be a special presentation to highlight Human Trafficking and our other programs. Donna Fishman gave us a nice note with her donation of \$2500. She's open to it being used as we see fit. On March 14th, Linda is thinking of having an event to support inter-generational activities in an effort to bring in younger members.

PARTISAN POLITICS

Joanne began by saying she understands that several members are upset by what she said in the newsletter. She then said that we are a progressive Jewish women's organization and we are non-partisan, however she feels that we can still be critical of a policy and maintain our non-partisanship about POTUS. Rona Goldstein feels that when National puts out a point of view about POTUS, NCJW then becomes a partisan organization, and contacted National to share her feelings.

Laurie A. mentioned that it was she who brought this issue up at a meeting and believes that the NCJW Chapter President's role should be more what the Chapter is doing, the progress and impact of our programs, etc. and less about politics. Joanne called on Linda G-S to develop a valid point of view as to what Advocacy can and can not say. Linda shared her feelings that at this time Advocacy is very polarized, and perhaps we should use the NCJW Chapter Newsletter to communicate our program successes.

KIDS' COMMUNITY CLOSET (KCC) – SARAH ROTHCHILD

Nothing really to report other than a success story. One child came to Liberty Park, one of our newest schools for KCC, in jeans and was not dressed in the proper uniform. One of the teachers took this child to the KCC Closet and outfitted this student in a completely new wardrobe ready to learn.

LIFT – LINDA KABER

Lift is running along fine.

Judy Traub had a meeting with the Director of Independent Living of the Oasis Village of Vita Nova, an organization that provides services to youth who are aging out of foster care or have aged out of foster care. The facility currently has 22 residents, both male and female, ages 18-25. These residents, like all youth aging out of foster care receive a monthly stipend to cover their rent, food, travel, entertainment, phone and other expenses provided they stay in school.

Sometimes they run short of money and neglect to purchase much needed items. Judy said that our LIFT Program could really help these young adults with a gift package of toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, dish washing soap, socks and underwear three or four times a year. Linda Kaber said she could even teach some of the young girls how to knit dolls and they could donate them to the Lewis Center. They could also learn to make fleece blankets and donate them as well. She believes that this activity should fall under LIFT. Joanne would like to table this issue for next month, but needs a SWOT Form filled out in the meantime.

COMMUNICATIONS – RONA STERLING

The training date with Connie has been set for January 11. As of now, she has 19 people signed up and is suggesting to those who are coming to pay \$15 each for lunch, snacks and drinks. Rona would like us to come prepared with questions for Connie.

Many would like to see the NCJW Chapter website have a drop down menu to include forms for membership application, event evaluation, reimbursement, procedures, policies and SWOT.

MEMBERSHIP – LYNNE EISMAN

It's up to date.

ADMINISTRATION – MARLENE GROPMAN & SUSAN GLABMAN

So far they have not found a place to have our Installation lunch. Last year the cost was \$23, which was subsidized by NCJW for 70 attendees. They are looking for an event locale, so please send your suggestions to Marlene.

NEW BUSINESS

READER THEATRE

Carol Lubin brought up the idea of a new program proposed by Loe Goldwasser which is Reader's Theatre. She said that we did it before and that it was stopped by another school, but that this program would be at a different school, the Roosevelt School. Many questioned whether we have enough volunteers for this and Carol assured the board that Loe already has the volunteers she needs. Joanne was concerned about the expectation of the school that we are going into for this program. Rona Goldstein said that this was an existing program and that there was a script for volunteers to follow and sees no problem with instituting it at the Roosevelt School. Joanne feels the problem is process and wants to vote on this activity next month.

OLD BUSINESS

GRANTS PROCESS

Sarah developed an outline as follows to help us with this process.

- Grant to be written by the Grant writer.
- The Grant Application is to be approved by the appropriate VP and the President prior to submission.
- The appropriate VP is responsible for administration and reporting according to the provisions of the Grant.

Motion: A motion was made by Gail Seigel to get approval to add a VP of Homelessness. Rona Goldstein seconded the motion and it was accepted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/GOOD & WELFARE

Ruth had a Great Grand-Daughter named Zoe.

The next Board Meeting is 1/3/18.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.