

## Minutes of Peretz Executive Committee Meeting

**February 21, 2008 (corrected)**

In attendance: Bluma Field, Anton Friedman, Sylvia Friedman, Bernice Kastner, Donna MacDermot, Louise Miller, Victor Neuman, Dena Dawson

Minutes: Louise Miller; typed by Donna MacDermot

### *Corrections to previous minutes:*

Clarification to minutes: President's reporting complete; need more info. Motion to accept with further info to come: MSC Victor, Bluma

### *Buisness arising:*

- Planters repairs: Crack at front entrance has been grouted. VanCity has now met their obligation.
- Cemetery: At present, Jewish burial entails paying an expensive membership to Beth Israel, Shara Tzedek. Rabbi Mivasair of Ahavat Olam starting to investigate other spaces. Would he perform a funeral at a cremation? Donna to liaise with AO's cemetery committee

### *President's Report*

Richard not in attendance; no President's report.

### *Treasurer's Report*

- Tom Hansen, our bookkeeper, is away due to a medical emergency. No treasurer's report.

### *New Business*

- Banquet report: 138 in attendance, Went well, excellent program, made some money. Having the youth perform was a good idea. Honorarium given to Stephen Kaplan. A few minor complaints: not enough meat for seconds. This is due to late reservations. Next year we will order even more surplus than this year. Bluma: all the volunteers were fantastic. Re next year's banquet (Shtetl Wedding): have to be sure to set a date early enough that there won't be snow. Probably move it back to its original late Nov/early Dec slot. Youth table great idea. Apparently the kitchen people watered down the juice—next time get way more and serve it full strength.
- Long term parking rentals: Possibility to rent some of our P2 rarely used spaces for long term parking. We would have to be able to issue cards that only opened parkade. Donna to investigate whether our software can do this.
- Alarm procedure: opening the elevator does not trigger alarm. If the elevator sign is on the Do Not Enter side, do not step out of the elevator.
- Volunteer recognition: a big thank you for the volunteers. Maybe we could call up the volunteers during big events so everyone can see who is doing all the work. Need to keep an accurate list of who helped. Perhaps long term volunteers could be called up and given a rose.
- Casino grant application for cultural programs: We will apply for choir support (we already have money for a CD). David Skulski has an idea for a Jewish orchestra with a focus on Jewish music. Victor says we cannot take on another group like the choir that would require a lot of subsidy. Grant funding has to be present to pay for the whole orchestra project—casino plus foundations. Peretz can contribute the venue and help with publicity. Sylvia feels setting up an orchestra not

our role; space is also at a premium, which could affect rehearsals. David S. has already contacted our members who are musicians, it is a possible way to get them involved. If we include the orchestra in our Federation grant, we have to use it for what we asked for, not put it into general revenues, or we could jeopardize our chances with them. Further discussion required on this project.

- Ahavat Olam applying for a Foundation grant to hire a full time fund raiser for one year to teach them how to do it and get them set up. If they get it, we should try next granting season.
- Coordinator's overtime: Donna is told she has to justify her overtime, even ¼ hour. She feels short amount isn't necessary to justify—when there is lots to do she will work as needed and during the slow times she will spend down her time bank. Tabled until Richard can participate in the discussion.
- CSJO Souvenir book: They are creating one for this year's conference. Want an ad. Agreed we'd purchase ½ page.
- Federation's photo bank: Want photos of holiday celebrations, etc. Sending Josh Berson to photograph at next Fraytik tsu Nakht.
- Noise problem: Salsa dancers on Friday create noise, neighbours complaining. Police were here to monitor noise. City hall brought a decibel counter; no official letter yet about their results. Fire dept. said we needed to reduce our occupancy when liquor is being served. Victor in touch with someone at the City. Probably we won't need to change our occupancy. He will contact her again to clarify. The feeling is, they will just drop the matter, as we are not primarily a liquor-serving establishment.
- Larry Wilde: he is interested in doing a show in September about the influence of American comedians on the Canadian sense of humour. Victor, Richard and Jerry Kushner to talk about how to divide up expenses.
- Purim Carnival (Mar. 9) Hall is rented; carnival will have to be in Senior's Lounge and hub if OK with teachers.
- Dena and David Dawson celebrating their "10<sup>th</sup>" anniversary on Feb. 29. Happy anniversary!

*Motion to adjourn: Anton*

Next meeting: March 13.