

**AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ALYN HOSPITAL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

March 19, 2024
New York, NY

ATTENDEES:

BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Blumenthal (Zoom)
Joanne Blye
Minette Brown
Paula Glazier
Victor Goldstein (Zoom)
Harvey Grad
Pam Lippitt (Zoom)
Ed Joyce (Zoom)
Wallace Lehman
Jonathan Lupkin (Zoom)
David Meron
Adam Schwartz

STAFF

Dauida Popik

GUESTS

Maurit Beerl
Zvi Ginosar
Naomi Liberman
Mark Sherman

Paula called the meeting to order at 3:08 PM. A quorum was always present.

President's Welcome

Paula welcomed everyone to the meeting.

She then referred everyone to the consent agenda to get approval on the following documents: all documents were submitted via the portal):

- Minutes of December Board Meeting
- 2022 Audit
- Financial Reports from January-February 2024

Approval was unanimous. She then welcomed Maurt to the meeting and thanked her for her update in the NY office the previous week. Paula then turned the meeting over to her to give an update on the Hospital.

Hospital Update

Maurit said she would not repeat the update that she gave in the NY AFAH office a week ago as it is on tape and will be sent out to our donor population. She mentioned that due to the situation the yearly Purim party at the Hospital was more subdued, but it was still lovely.

The Hospital is continually improving their emergency procedures. Generous donations helped with the emergency provisioning right after October 7 when storerooms were turned into additional shelters. The Hospital is now in the process of building a respiratory unit in the shelter.

A month ago, the Hospital launched a Sports Rehabilitation Unit after Hospital hours. The unit takes referrals from Hadassah Hospital, coaches, and sports programs. David mentioned that an organization in Philadelphia (The Alan Horowitz "Sixth Man" Center) would be interested in knowing more about this program. Maurit said we should wait a while for the program to ramp up before involving any other organizations.

Pam asked if the Hospital had contracts with places like Hadassah Hospital so we could use this for public relations. Maurit said it doesn't work that way. The Hospital can't mention relationships unless the other side in the partnership agrees. Pam said maybe we could say 'in the past we have worked with xxx' and Maurit said that that would work.

Development Committee Update

Adam presented the 'Action Plan for 2024 and Beyond' by going through the PDF of the work from the Development Committee. A copy of that PDF has been sent along with these minutes.

The first community reach out is planned for April in the Northeast. There are plans for a 'Sip and Paint' for women (NextGen) in the AFAH office next week. Rabbi David Gelfand, at Temple Israel of the City of New York will be sponsoring a Mitzvah Day at the synagogue and we will have an AFAH ALYN booth. Adam is thinking of juxtaposing the 'Sip and Paint' art with the ALYN children's art.

Andy Brown (Minette's son) has a relationship with the Milken school in Los Angeles where discussions have already begun about them joining the Engage in Empathy program. Mark Halpern's daughter Valerie wants to get involved as well and we are having discussions about a possible Florida event for the "next generation".

WOL Update

Ed said that the Va'ad is planning for Wheels of Love 2024 November 11-14 in the South of Israel. This year's ride will be dedicated to Yakir Hexter z"l, a young man who was registered to ride Wheels of Love this past November with his father Josh but was killed in Gaza. Jerseys are in the process of being made. Yarden is also investigating a hiking option.

Adam mentioned that plans for the US Wheels of Love for June 23 in Princeton NJ are being finalized now and registration should open shortly. This ride will also have an option of a 2-mile paved road so that families with younger children can ride together.

Other Business

Victor said he has a group of friends who will be going over to Israel this summer and they want to visit the Hospital. Ed said he will be in Israel in early summer with his family and wants to visit too. Davida said she is keeping a list of people going to Israel and will liaise with the Hospital to ensure they can visit.

Mark Sherman mentioned that they had a very successful Heels of Love in Israel in early March: 54 people participated and almost \$200K was raised. Davida participated in the hike too and Mark thanked her for all her help while she was there. Davida was given a tour of the Hospital and said that even though she had been to the Hospital during the WOL events she had never had the time for a complete tour. When she was at the Hospital, she gave out the medals to the children at ALYN that were created by the children (during an Israel Day event in December) at the Heschel School in NY.

David announced the Roe Negri Memorial Grant for Young Leadership for Wheels of Love, Israel. The grant is a tribute to the leadership and heroism displayed by IDF Major Roe Negri z"l, grandson of Brenda Hirsch, who was tragically killed in action on October 7. The Grant will cover the registration fee for two cyclists from North America between the ages of 25-35 to participate in Wheels of Love 2024 in Israel. David asked Victor if it needs to be in Spanish to attract applicants in Mexico and Victor said it wasn't necessary as everyone speaks English. Deborah said that there is more information about this in the March newsletter and Board members should spread the word.

President's Closing Remarks

Paula then thanked everyone for their participation in this meeting and their continued support. She mentioned that the June Board meeting had been moved to June 25 so that if anyone is coming in for the June 23 US WOL ride, they can stay for the Board Meeting. She encouraged Board Members to attend in person.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:15PM