

TMF Board Meeting Minutes – October 2017

In attendance: Steven, Kevin, Jo, Rachel, Elaine, John Mark, Cindy, Przemek

Thursday, 05 October

Participants arrived at various times. We shared supper & fellowship

Friday, 06 October

Devotion: Kevin

Eph 1:15-23 – Hope, a confident expectation and 2:1-10 – Grace through faith

Session 1: TMF Board Matters

- 1) Announcements
 - a) Robin Park resigned her board position with a letter dated 9/14/17
 - b) Michelle Wilkinson resigned her advisory board position with a letter dated 9/15/17
 - c) Voted to pend election of new board member until later in the meeting
 - d) Decided to send written letter & plant to Robin. Standard letter has been sent to Michelle.
- 2) Mailbox(es)
 - a) We will investigate the cost of having mail forwarded to new mailbox and make a decision on course of action prior to renewal of GA mailbox
- 3) Status of Atty for TMF
 - a) John Mark will pursue a contact with GA Nonprofit Org
 - b) Steven will contact Richard Brody
 - c) Will make a decision by calendar year end
- 4) Liability Insurance
 - a) Kevin will pursue ins after 1st of year once 2017 financial docs have been completed
- 5) Monthly calls
 - a) Monthly calls will be resumed with call time changing to 2nd Sunday of the month at 3pm central time
 - b) Calls to include relevant volunteers as well as board members
- 6) Partnership Items:
 - a) Partnering with “Friends of Jewish Heritage in Poland” (Dan Oren’s NPO)
 - i) Voted to partner with “Friends of Jewish Heritage in Poland”
 - b) FODZ
 - i) Discussed status of working relationship with FODZ
 - ii) Voted to continue partnership with FODZ
 - c) Yehoshua’s concerns
 - i) Yehoshua would like to see more structure, stability & cohesiveness within the Jewish Community of Warsaw. This is informational only as it is outside our direct area of influence.
- 7) Website Proposal – Rachel
 - a) Need short term and long term goals
 - b) In the short term, expense of obtaining professional assistance with website exceeds our budget
 - c) In the long term, we need to plan for a professional revamp of the website
 - d) John Mark will help with short term updates
- 8) Obtain credit card for use in renting vehicles
 - a) Kevin will pursue this after the 1st of the year once 2017 financial docs have been completed.

Session 2 – 2017 Projects Overview with a focus on what we learned and how we feel about what we experienced.

- Wodzislaw(Ellis) – Steven
 - Jews/non Jews working together. Aleks participated. Steven’s role was consultant & philosopher. Ellis’s goal is to reclaim continuity of Jewish identity that was broken by Shoah
- Krzepice – John Mark
 - Met with teachers and Marek. Seeing transformation from community ‘helpers’ to leaders
- Nasielsk – Rachel, Przemek
 - Descendants, community, local activists. No matzevot so focus is on other things.

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Our role is to help develop cohesion and connect people to the community

- Award Ceremony (Krakow) – Steven, Przemek
 - Good networking opportunity
 - ‘Fractured Community’ issue well known
- Radomsko (Documentary) - Steven
 - Reconciling w/ past
 - Film almost finished & will be featured in Atlanta JFF
- Przerosl – Kevin
 - Descendants group with int’l reach
 - Prayer of Dead said by Cantor – very meaningful
 - Local historian – advocate for projects
 - Connecting present to the past – heart of our organization
- Piaski/Wawolnica/IHRA Project – Przemek, Elaine, Cindy
 - Experienced lots of uncertainty
 - We spent more time in servant role than in determining direction
 - Relationship always a factor
- Chrzanow – Steven
 - Continuation of IHRA Project
- Oswiecim – Jo
 - Relationships strong factor
 - Photo exhibit
 - Upcoming recognition for work in cemetery
- Rohatyn (Ukraine)- Steven
 - Will stretch us
 - Experienced heartfelt vision & passion Jay & Marla have
 - Steven’s shared ‘blueprint’ for a 2018 project he & Jay developed
 - Bringing back memory is exhausting
 - Catalytic, transformative agents – bring change/effect change
- Commemoration Project w/ FZ – Steven
 - Placed 28 commemorative matzevot – all w/n the ‘death corridor’ between Lublin & Lviv
 - Locations were in camps, forests, cemeteries, & hidden places
 - Very intense, not much time to debrief
 - Preemptive guerilla action – didn’t seek permissions first (key to seeing how people react to markers)
- Discussed how to document projects in a consistent manner & what to include. Jo to draft format that includes:
 - Details for analytics (Who, Where, When, etc)
 - Narrative
 - Pictures
 - Participant feedback (survey, quotes, feedback)
- We’ll stick to TMF swag for participants and do gifts/gift bags for partners, officials, etc as dictated by situation

Session 3 – Jewish/Christian Relations (Steven)

Discussed articles that were distributed prior to meeting:

- The Golden Age of Jewish – Christian Relations (Christian’s approach to Jews)
- Colin Kaepernick vs Tim Tebow: A tale of two Christians on their knees
- Vindictive Polish leaders using new war museum to rewrite history
- Art Academics’ ignorance drives their antagonism to Confederate statues

Discussion points:

Shifting theology correlates to changed behavior

Replacement theology – Jewish history no longer relative

Jew’s focus – what we do today, Christian’s focus - eternity

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Session 4 – What We Do & How We Do It

Reflections:

Cultural stewardship – Jewish heritage

We bring the heart – we are heart changers

Relationships / Bridge Bldg / Connections

Connecting descendants & local communities

We shine a light on needs that exist

Partnerships

- We need to develop leadership among our partners

What answer does money provide?

We must acknowledge our limitations

Identify, equip, & release others

Activating others to go forward on their own

Our role as consultants & leadership development

Models

- Each of us able to lead a project
- Helping develop partners & networks

Process / Procedure – Need to create a checklist (permissions, transport, lodging, meals, etc)

Mentoring options

Individual reflections

- Rachel: Importance of working with descendants
- John Mark: How community perspective is changing
- Kevin: Power of partnership/honor – continuity of history
- Przemek: Servanthood – ability to adjust to circumstances
- Jo: Roots, growth & depth
- Elaine: Complexity, working with Jews & many others, can't lose our identity
- Cindy: Growth like a tree – roots & spreading branches, young people, descendants, "getting rid of the man-made gulf"
- Steven: Saw us make sacrifices, tree is producing fruit, 3 phases 1) March set up, 2) Early Summer & 3) late summer

Saturday, 07 October

Devotion: Przemek

Romans 12:17-21 Do not repay anyone evil with evil

Psalm 133 How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity
(Joshua Aaron on You Tube)

Session 5 - Google Drive – John Mark

- John Mark created group folders to be used for TMF documentation so it's all in one place. He will add more folders as needed
- John Mark helped as needed so each person is comfortable with how to use Google Drive going forward

Session 6 - Structure – Board & Organization

We're doing work that is unseen (roots) and producing fruit that is seen

Voted to change board roles/titles

'Director of Community' role & title has been eliminated

'Director of Operations' title has been changed to 'Director of Operations US'

'Director of Operations – Poland' position has been added

Przemek was nominated for, accepted nomination for, and was voted in as Director of Operations – Poland

Staff Development vs board development

- We need to create a method for developing the organization & staff vs just the board

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- Will need to designate a director of staff
- Will need to differentiate between Admin and Operations
- We need to create distinction between volunteers (organization) and advisory board
 - Create definitions for each
 - Invitation letter(s) – Revise current Advisory document to be volunteer document

Polish NPO Status

International treaty gives us some status in Poland

Prof Jonathan Weber(founding member of Brama Grodzka, currently head of Jewish Studies at Jagellion University) – neutral on going solo, made suggestions

Partner with someone already there

Consider partnering with someone like Caroline

Consider partnering with Galicia Museum or Brama Grodzka

Functional Cooperation

Vehicle, business, Poland identity

Institutional partnership

In summary options are:

1. Go solo
2. Partnership
3. Cooperate with existing
4. No change

Considerations: Control, cost, maintenance, shared resources, limitations on what we do or who else we partner with, legal options & obligations

Best course seems to be to partner with an existing entity as a path to individual identity. If we take this route we would need a contract with clear expectations and time limit.

We'll need to be intentional in the way that we communicate to our other partners. (Most closely aligned, narrow focus, etc)

Przemek will investigate the legal differences between a partnership & being an independent entity

Project Proposals 2018 & Beyond

- Dan Oren – Book project (Markuszow & Pawel's material)
 - a. We're interested but want more information regarding publishing options, audience, etc
- Chaim's House
 - a. Period décor in some rooms
 - Olla may be a resource for this
 - b. Family recipe that could be incorporated into business model?
- J Weber – Invite for exhibition at Galicia Museum
 - a. 2 year time line
 - b. Possibility at Grodzka Gate in Lublin as well
 - c. Recovery of Jewish History & Preserving Jewish Heritage
 - d. Preserve Jewish culture in Oswiecim
- 2018 Project List
 - a. Approved & loosely scheduled projects (Calendar at end of doc)
 - Wodzislaw w/ Rabbi Ellis
 - Czestochowa
 - Krzepice
 - Wawolnica (Lublin area) Przerosl
 - Krosniewice (Rosenkrantz)
 - Przerosl
 - Nasielsk
 - Oswiecim
 - Rohatyn – Approved doing a matching grant up to an amount TBD

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- Commemoration Followup w/ Aleks
- b. Approved project – not scheduled (will do if we can slot it in)
 - Kosow Lacki
- c. Projects to reconsider for 2019 and beyond
 - Zambrow
 - Lagow
 - Kepno
 - Klodawa (near Chelmno)
 - Mirzec
 - Skrzynno (near Radon)

Session 8: Fundraising / Awareness Ideas

1. Donation matching drives, Go Fund Me, etc
2. Blitz – One day media blitz – email, social media, etc
 1. 1/3 online come from email campaigns
3. Be intentional w/ 'Giving Tuesday' and end of year giving
4. Nashville Jewish Film Festival – What to promote in way of fundraising
5. Chick Fil-A night in Nashville on Oct 19
6. Event Walk or some other event - Idea for future

Budget Items Identified:

- Website
- Vehicle in Poland
- Dan Oren book propositions (\$12,000zl to Pawel)
- Krzepice Wall (\$20,000)
- Chaim's House

Evening out at Bubba's BBQ

Sunday, 09 October

Devotion: John Mark

Philippians 2:1-5

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Closing discussion – Takeaways

Kevin: Train – keep moving forward, we've come a long way and have a long way to go, we need to develop our org in Poland and we need to move beyond Steven

Przemek: Behind the scenes work, hope moving forward, partnership in Poland

Cindy: Leaving feeling spread thin

Rachel: Rough outline for 2018 – progress, fall of progress, beneficial longer meeting this year

Elaine: Servant heart, refreshing, continue to walk humbly and Lord continue to bless

Steven: Mile markers & implications, God is faithful, being faithful is the only thing required of us, God will take care of the rest, Parable of the talents, 4 days – time well spent, God will give us what we need (not want) when we need it, Appreciate willingness to attempt what seems impossible

John Mark: Amazement, God provides, what we've been able to do w/ few resources & people

Meeting adjourned

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2018 Proposed Schedule

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May	20 – Ellis Steven	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
June Elaine?	3 Czestochowa BBC? Maybe NC	4 College	5	6	7	8	9
	10 Krzepice	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17 Wawolnica (Lublin area)	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
July	1 Przerosl Kevin	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15 Krosniewice	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27*	28*
	29* Nasielsk Prsemek	30*	31*	1*	2*	3*	4*
August Elaine?	5*	6*	7*	8*	9* Oswiecim Jo, Cindy?	10*	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19 Rohatyn Steven, Rachel?	20 Cindy?	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
September	2 Commemoration Project w/ Aleks	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

*Steven out from July 27-August 10