

**Minutes -- MCA July 6, 2020 Board Meeting & Subsequent Polling (as corrected -- see strikethroughs below and page 2)**

In Attendance

J. Zalasky, S. Brazina, P. Sherman, L. Nizin, M. Sobol, R. Prosten, I. Kushnir, M. Binder, E. Feldman, M. Weisberg, J. Margolis, M. Kehila, L. Israelite, W. Kargher, ~~S. Weiss~~, J. Simon,

**Meeting called to order @ 9:00 AM** by President Les Nizin. Meeting conducted electronically via ZOOM.

**President's report:**

Minutes of May 4, 2020 meeting approved as submitted by unanimous voice vote. (Moved Binder, Second Kushnir)

**Treasurer Feldman reports**

- We will have a **surplus of \$30,000 (+/-)**. We are paid up on commitments to JFGN for *Federation Star* through January of 2021. Next payment will be due in February, 2021. Similarly, our entire 2020-2021 Book Fair commitment has already been satisfied.
- Discussion of **allocation of remainder of surplus**. Les suggests that we not address how much should be devoted to room-naming at this time -- September would be a better time.. Jeff Feld has indicated there will be no deadline for satisfying our \$75,000 room-naming commitment.
- Discussion of \$11,000 credit to MCA for luncheons not held. Sobol wonders why this shows up as a negative on our books. Larry says the vendor over-refunded some members by mistake after luncheon cancellations, but that MCA was made whole.

**President's report continued:**

- President Nizin reports that Richard Price has left the board and that Jim Simon has been asked to join the Board.
- Les also reports that Ted Epstein is no longer the editor of the *Federation Star* and has severed all connections with the JFGN, including his Book Festival role. Les has reminded Jeff Feld of the JFGN's commitment to MCA of expanded coverage -- Feld is aware of his promise -- should be executed by Epstein's successor.
- At President's request, Larry Israelite reports that we now have **345 renewed members**. Hard to compare with last year, but we are "behind last year". Les notes a prior discussion with Larry which suggested we are behind 90 +/-, understandable given the current situation.

- President Nizin wonders what we should do with/to **non-renewing members**. Larry Israelite says people will continue to receive program updates, but will not be eligible to register for events. How best to remind? Max Weisberg suggests sending a formal invoice. Sobol notes that WCA removes non-payers from all mailing lists. Les believes those who don't receive e-blast will wonder why and contact somebody. But only 60% of members open mail.
- Discussion of **virtual events operated in conjunction with other organizations** and impact on membership. Michael Sobol believes all organizations are going after the same speakers, so Michael suggested the collaboration on Zoom events. Has worked well so far (travelogue went from 30 participants when it was MCA only, to 120 after WCA got involved.). Wayne Kargher suggests that we need to know how many members are Naples "residents". Larry Israelite will work at coming up with a partial answer.
- Steve Brazina wonders "**is more & more Zoom is a better thing**" (he wonders about overlap & that organizations we partner with will solicit our members for \$ and memberships)? Richard Prosten wonders if so many programs being listed simultaneously will create an "overload" that can cause readers to pay less attention to the material. Larry Israelite sees offering as many programs as possible as a good thing. Michael Sobol agrees with Prosten and cites the JFGN e-blast of this day (July 6) as an example of too much material. Larry says the joint programming will go away "once this all goes away".
- Nizin moves, Larry seconds motion that "**During this period of pandemic, we open up the MCA to cooperation with other organizations (on a case by case basis) for joint virtual programming**". Approved.
- **Officer vacancy**. Les notes a vacancy in the office of 2nd Vice President. By-laws require the Board to fill that vacancy. Les moves that Michael Sobol, at Michael's request, be elected 2nd v-p until next election. Sobol understands that in so doing, he will be giving up his currently elected office of 1st v-p. Upon his election there will be a vacancy in office of 1st v-p. Unanimous adoption/election.

As a result of this action, there is now a vacancy in office of 1st v-p. Les moves that **Jeff Zalasky be elected 1st v-p** until next election. Prosten second. Les has discussed the matter with Jeff who is amenable to the move. Unanimous adoption/election.

### **Report of 1st VP Sobol**

**Michael has retained "Sarge" to do a Dec. 20 presentation** similar to that at last year's "Candle Lighting", either virtually or at Temple Sholom. He's already accepted a \$500 deposit towards a ~~\$3,000~~ performance fee. For MCA members only. Minimal charge possible. Kiddush type food only.

President Nizin discusses weekly e-blasts and their format going forward. **Next Board meeting will be on Sept 8 at 9AM.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM**

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Prosten  
Secretary

### **Subsequent Actions**

On July 21, President Nizin polled the board about a request that the Board consider converting its scheduled November luncheon (almost certain to be virtual), featuring Lew Paper into an MCA sponsored session of the Book Festival. The vote was in the affirmative.