

Guidelines for KS Board making funding decisions or endorsements

08/9/2018

Principles on funding decisions

- Kol Shalom wishes to provide its membership with meaningful events, activities and experiences rooted in Humanistic Judaism.
- We believe in building community which may include financial and in-kind support
- Kol Shalom is a volunteer organization with limited resources.
- There are many wonderful and worthy organizations and activities. Due to limited resources Kol Shalom can only support a small fraction of these and must be selective in what it supports.
- Kol Shalom's infrastructure, which is supported by donations, needs to be valued and taken into first consideration. The office, website, newsletter, Board and committees, etc. exist because of voluntary donations and volunteer support.
- When there is a cost for an event or service, Kol Shalom members pay less than non-members. Generally, when there is a cost beyond the Kol Shalom fixed costs (for instance facility rental or hiring a teacher) there will be a charge/fee/contribution for the event/activity

Considerations

- How does it connect to Kol Shalom?
- Is this an event with outreach to the community?
- Is there a goal of increasing membership?
- Are there additional costs beyond Kol Shalom fixed costs? For example are there facility costs? Costs for performers, lectures or teachers?
- Is this in the home of a Kol Shalom member? If so that person decides whether there is a charge and whether non-members attend (and if so, under what circumstances).

Guidelines for proposing funding

- The Board should review the funding proposal at a prior meeting before it is voted upon. For funding requests that come up unexpectedly and need quick turnaround, the proposer will email all necessary information to the Board President who will send it to the full Board for consideration.
- Funding an organization or event, the proposer will submit a brief written explanation including:
 - what it is and why Kol Shalom should support it
 - its connection to Kol Shalom priorities and goals
 - benefit to, visibility or acknowledgment of Kol Shalom
 - link to the organization's website (if any) so that Board members can get more information.
- Funding of a Kol Shalom program or activity the proposer will submit a proposal including:
 - description—what is it
 - its connection to Kol Shalom priorities and goals
 - costs and benefits
 - frequency; audience, member/non-member

Principles on endorsements

Proposals for endorsements almost always go to the Social Action Committee first for discussion and recommendation. Crucial, time-critical issues may come to the Board directly. Generally, the person proposing the endorsement will email a package to the Board describing the proposed endorsement and

including educational material and sites to the Board at least two weeks in advance of the Board meeting. Crucial, time-critical issues may be expediated.

- Kol Shalom's name is valuable and the Board, the decision-making body, will be selective on what Kol Shalom endorses.
- Generally, the actions, measures or endeavors endorsed by Kol Shalom are close to our mission and core beliefs, and are within our core expertise.
- Endorsements must be passed by a 2/3 vote of the quorum of the Board attending the meeting. (Note that if many people abstain it may be difficult to achieve a 2/3 vote of the quorum).
- Requests for endorsements may be used as an opportunity for member outreach and education, whether or not Kol Shalom makes an endorsement. An educational forum or discussion may be an appropriate response to a request for an endorsement, particularly if it is outside Kol Shalom's area of core expertise.