

## Minutes of Temple Sinai Board of Trustees

### March 15, 2017

**Board Members Present (19 Board Members):** Jennifer Alderman, Jon Braslaw, John Citron, Liz Daoust, Robert Einspruch, Matti Fromson, Ben Galison, Richard Hart, Melissa Heller, Neil Jacobson, Emmett Koehler, CeCe Langs, Jacob Levine, Tom McCleary, Susan Rosenthal, Frances Rotolo, Bart Schenone, Sydney Firestone Schimmel, Debra Schoenberg, Sam Schuchat, Karen Tanner, Joan Waranoff, Phil Witte

Absent: Erik Zwerling

**Staff Present:** Rabbi Mates-Muchin, Rabbi Regev, Ellen Lefkowitz, Dorian Farrow, Cantor Keys

7:05 D'var Torah – *Tom McCleary*

7:15 Approval of March Minutes and Bima Sign ups – *Emmett Koehler*

- A question was asked on how to sign up for Bima duty online. Emmett will send out a link to the sign up page.

7:20 Consent Calendar:

A. Membership Report – *Dorian Farrow (attachment)*

7:25 Financial Report – *Jon Braslaw and Dorian Farrow (attachments)*

- Year to Date (*attachment*)
- Update on Temple Finances
  - There is a \$285,000 operation cash balance. Due to the current cash balance and effective cost controls, the Temple will not need to access the line of credit this year.
  - The refinancing of the mortgage will be complete by the end of the month. The refinancing will save the Temple \$35,000 a year in interest.
  - Dorian Farrow was acknowledged for his work on the Temple budget.
  - Revenue is slightly exceeding the budget.
  - Expenses are 66% of the budget year-to-date, which is acceptable due to the costs incurred during the High Holy Days.
- Cemetery
  - Currently behind on revenue, but expect to meet the budget.
  - There will be some extra expenses to fix the roof.
- Capital Improvements
  - The Temple boiler needs to be replaced. The cost is being assessed as bids are solicited.

7:40 Creating a nominating committee – *Matti Fromson*

- The new Temple bi-laws call for a standing nominating committee.

- Members of the committee would serve 2 year terms with staggered starts, so that the entire committee will never be all new. Members would not serve on the committee for more than 6 years.
- This will be a 7 member committee, appointed by the Temple Board President and approved by the Temple Board. The committee will be comprised of 3 board members, 3 non-board members, and 1 other individual.
- At the April board meeting, a slate of members will be presented by the Temple Board President.

8:00 Report from the Membership Committee – *CeCe Langs*

- The membership committee's goal is to expand Temple membership and to welcome new members.
- The committee is open to recommendations, particularly ways to reach out to new members.
- There are 20 caring committee areas that will be reaching out to people in their areas.
- It was noted that at least 2,000 units of housing were being built within 3 blocks of the Temple. This may be a potential group for new membership.
- A suggestion was made to send out notices to local papers about Temple Sinai programs and speakers to bring in potentially new members.

8:15 Development Report – *Sam Schuchat*

- Louise Epstein is stepping down from the Yesod campaign.
- Sam is meeting with Louise to get the current information on the campaign.
- There is a question on how to finish Yesod. \$3.1 million has been pledged by 150 families. How and when should the campaign move into a larger phase, shifting to smaller donations from all Temple Sinai families?
- The goal is to complete the campaign within the next year.

8:30 Visioning Task Force Exercise 2 – *Rabbi Mates-Muchin*

- Members of the board were broken into smaller groups and asked to create a six word "Shema statement." (see: contributions below)

8:45 Karen Tanner was introduced as the new Women of Temple Sinai (WTS) representative to the Temple Board.

9:00 Executive Session to discuss Clergy Contracts followed by adjournment

9:15 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Emmett Koehler

Six word "Shema statements" from visioning exercise:

- Explore tradition, find purpose, build community
- Dor l'dor spiritual, socially conscious, inclusive

- Creating community Jewishly
- A welcoming, inclusive community to explore Judaism
- Inspired through community, belief, and mitzvot
- Inspire through purpose, be known by love
- Joyful, spiritual home for Jewish families
- Rooted historically, embracing diversity, welcoming all
- Empowering community-minded Jews to connect, reflect, and make change
- An inclusive, vibrant, joyful Jewish home
- Uniting Jewish hearts, hands, and minds
- Historically rooted, forward-thinking, vibrantly Jewish
- Be Jewish, be happy
- Certain words discussed
  - Connect and reflect
  - Joyful or vibrant
  - Like “inclusive” more than “diverse”