

MINUTES
Temple Sinai Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2019; 18 Elul 5779

Board Members Present

Jon Braslaw, Becky Chase, Liz Daoust, Matti Fromson, Melissa Heller, Neil Jacobson, Sara Klein, Josh Kuluva, Jim Manheimer, Susan Rosenthal, Frances Rotolo, Bart Schenone, Andrew Shear, Karen Tanner, Joan Waranoff, Phil Witte

Board Members Absent

Calvin Gibbs, Richard Hart, Laurie Leiber, Debra Schoenberg, Sydney Schimmel, Anne Schmitz, Erik Zwerling

Staff Present

Terrie Goren, Ellen Lefkowitz, Rabbi Mates-Muchin, Rabbi Regev

7:09 Call to Order

7:10 Group activity: Elul reflections

7:33 Approval of August 2019 Board meeting minutes

Joan Waranoff moved to approve the minutes, Frances Rotolo seconded. All approved.

7:36 Consent Calendar:
Membership Report

All approved new members.

7:41 Finance and Membership Renewal Update – Terrie Goren

- Financial report sent out today; 89% of membership renewals complete (848 families so far). Average pledge is \$2480; \$142K for security with the increased ask this year.
- Diligently trying to understand budget variance. Jon, Sydney and Terrie will meet in the next few weeks to figure out how to present revised budget.

7:46 High Holy Days Security – Terrie Goren and Sara Klein

- Off-duty OPD uniformed police officers will be at temple for Rosh Hashanah morning services and all day for Yom Kippur. Patrol cars will be parked nearby.
- For evening services, we will rely on Paramount security officers and our HighCom security guard, Clarence.
- We have raised \$6K so far from congregants to cover the cost of the added OPD security, and Terrie is seeking board approval to cover this unbudgeted expense in excess of \$5,000, as required by our bylaws.
- *Security discussion ensued.*

Bart Schenone moved to approve expenditure to cover police costs for High Holidays services, Phil Witte seconded. 19 members approved, one opposed. Motion carried.

Bart Schenone then moved to amend proposal to approve up to \$8K to cover police costs, Jon Braslaw seconded. 19 members approved, one opposed. Motion carried.

8:19 High Holy Day Calls – Jon Braslaw

- Calling all congregants to wish them a happy new year during Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur is an annual tradition; board members share this responsibility and will make 25-30 calls each.
- Lists will be distributed next week by Phil Rubin and calls should be made by Yom Kippur.

8:31 Board Retreat – Sara Klein and Jon Braslaw

- The Board Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, 12/8 from 9 AM-1 PM (the December board meeting will be embedded within the retreat). Pending reservation completion, the retreat will be held at the Ranch House at Wilder in Orinda.
- Some topics to cover: strategic planning process kickoff, financial discussion/reporting, board roles and responsibilities.

8:35 Shema and V'Ahavta Statements – Rabbi Mates-Muchin

- The Strategic Visioning Taskforce (SVT) made edits to the statements since the board gave feedback at the June meeting.
- The group and the clergy are still figuring out how to introduce these statements to the congregation; they will not be included as part of the High Holidays this year.
- Would like to first share them with lay leadership through the temple committees and then will roll them out to the larger community in the next few months.
- The board is voting to approve the Shema and V'Ahavta statements as presented by the SVT.
- *Discussion ensued.*

Bart Schenone moved to adopt the Shema and V'Ahavta statements as presented by the SVT. Neil Jacobson seconded. All approved.

8:58 Adjourn

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:

October 16

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY OCTOBER 27

November 20

BOARD RETREAT/DECEMBER MEETING SUNDAY DECEMBER 8 (9 AM-1 PM)

January 15