

**MINUTES**  
**Temple Sinai Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2020; 24 Shevat 5780**

**Board Members Present**

Jon Braslaw, Liz Daoust, Calvin Gibbs, Ann Gordon, Melissa Heller, Neil Jacobson, Sara Klein, Laurie Leiber, Jim Manheimer, Susan Rosenthal, Sydney Schimmel, Andrew Shear, Karen Tanner, Joan Waranoff, Phil Witte, Erik Zwerling

**Board Members Absent**

Becky Chase, Richard Hart, Josh Kuluva, Frances Rotolo, Bart Schenone, Debra Schoenberg, Anne Schmitz, Karen Tiedemann

**Staff Present**

Stephanie Ben-Simon, Terrie Goren, Ellen Lefkowitz, Rabbi Regev

7:03 Call to Order

7:05 Welcome / Ice Breaker

7:14 Approval of January 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

*Joan Waranoff moved to approve, Phil Witte seconded. All approved.*

7:15 Consent Calendar:  
Membership Report

*All approved new members.*

7:20 Finance and Membership Update – Terrie Goren and Sydney Schimmel

- All revenue has been recognized; we will still be behind in membership this year. The preschool and religious school are coming in over budget so there is a positive variance.
- The Cantor's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is making up for the annual giving deficit.
- The debt service (interest and principal payment on the mortgage) will need to be paid partially out of cash this year.

7:32 Email Addresses and Email Policy Framework – Terrie Goren

- The temple is working on getting email addresses for all committees, which should happen in the very near future; we are trying to avoid having congregants' email addresses on the public website.

7:35 Capital Needs Assessment – Terrie Goren

- The task force has met once already and will meet again in the near future. The group is working to prioritize the capital needs of the building; safety and security will be top priorities.
- A roof evaluation is happening this week, and other assessments are needed too. Terrie has a proposal from the group delineating how much money will be needed for these types of professional assessments/evaluations; the task force is requesting \$20K.

*Discussion ensued.*

*Andrew Shear moved to approve up to \$20K for building inspections, Erik Zwerling seconded. All approved.*

7:55 Wise Aging Committee Report – Susan Rosenthal and Ruth Hurvitz

- This committee has been working since last summer and wanted to inform the board of their activities which are all related to supporting older congregants (last third of life) and their social and emotional needs from the perspective of Wise Aging.
- Katie Butler, author of *The Art of Dying Well*, will be at Temple Sinai to speak on April 5; other speakers will be coming in the future too.
- The first Wise Aging group of 12 members will begin meeting in early March and will continue until June. Some have an interest in becoming Wise Aging facilitators; the temple will be sponsoring a facilitator training program next fall (two-day intensive training, then seminars over the next ten months).

*Discussion ensued.*

8:20 WTS Committee Report – Karen Tanner

- Upcoming WTS Shabbat will be held on March 13.
- WTS represents the collective voice and presence of women in congregational life; the group's goals are to nurture a sense of community among women, develop leadership, participate in spiritual and educational activities, and support temple youth (among others).
- The group is in charge of programming, Women's Seder, social events, Kiddush cups, gift shop, film club, fundraising, mindfulness and wellness, social action, trips- very active in many ways.

8:28 Social Action: Update on Census and other SA activity- Andrew Shear

- Social Justice working group met to begin the visioning process: what social action and social justice will look like at Temple Sinai.
- In the meantime, there are several pilot projects in the works: Census project, community engagement process with RAC (100% voting congregations), info sessions on California propositions.

8:33 World Zionist Organization elections - Rabbi Regev

- Voting will continue until March 11; the temple will continue to encourage congregants to participate (at Purim, with computers and QR codes for voting by phone).
- Board members can share voting information with fellow congregants.

8:49 Strategic Plan update - Jon Braslaw

- The Steering Committee met last week and will meet again on 2/24. Rabbi shared her thoughts about the plan, which will be comprised of visionary work that sits underneath the Shema and V'ahavta statements. The Steering Committee will oversee the Strategic Action Team. The Steering Committee will put together a timeline and figure out how to introduce the Shema and V'ahavta statements to the larger community.
- The temple will also need a more practical/shorter term plan- Sustainability Plan.
- Several congregants with strategic planning experience have volunteered to be part of the SAT.

*Discussion ensued.*

9:03 Security Task Force update – Terrie Goren

- The task force will be meeting on March 11 for the first time; the purposes of the group are to provide security ideas and solutions, make sure everyone feels comfortable and welcome, and introduce long term security plans to the temple.

9:08 URJ Scheidt Seminar – Jon Braslaw

- Seminar for temple presidents; half from West coast and half from the rest of the country.
- Jon participated in many good discussions about being inclusive and welcoming and developing a culture of philanthropy.

9:18 Clergy Parsonages

- Clergy submitted their parsonage amounts for 2020.

9:20 Executive Session

### **Upcoming Significant Dates:**

**Purim Carnival and Spiel – March 8/9, 2020**

**Board Meeting - March 18, 2020**

**Sinai in Song Concert = March 21, 2020**

**Board Meeting- April 15, 2020**

**Board Meeting- May 20, 2020**

**Board Meeting- June 17, 2020**