

Congregation Sons of Israel Governance

Board of Trustees. The Rabbi and all past presidents are non-voting, *ex officio* members of the Board of Trustees. In addition, there are eighteen “at large” voting members of Board of Trustees and eight voting officers. Trustees are elected by the congregation at congregational meetings (typically held in June) to three-year terms and are staggered so that approximately one-third are elected every year. Trustees are limited to two consecutive three-year terms on the Board. Trustees come to monthly meetings, serve on standing committees, volunteer for *ad hoc* committee work, approve policies and actions of committees, recommend an annual budget and contracts, have a fiduciary responsibility to the synagogue, and perform many other duties to administer and manage the operations of the synagogue.

Executive Committee. CSI has eight officers who make up the Executive Committee and are also voting members of the Board of Trustees. They are elected directly by the congregation at even-year congregational meetings. All officer terms are for two years and there are no term limits. CSI has four “at-large” vice presidents, though each has been asked to take on specific portfolios such as Fund Raising and Personnel. The Treasurer is responsible for managing the day-to-day finances of the synagogue, chairs the budget committee, and works hard to make sure that the congregation’s financial needs are met. The Secretary of the congregation acts as a vice president and also is responsible for meeting minutes, voting, and seeing that certain official communications with the congregation occurs. The president is elected for a two year term and then serves an additional two years as Immediate Past President. The president presides over congregational and Board of Trustee meetings, chairs the Executive Committee, calls such meetings, signs agreements and contracts on behalf of the congregation as approved by the Board, and serves on all committees except the Nominating Committee as a non-voting *ex officio* member. The IPP is essentially also a voting vice president and serves as an advisor to the president, chairs the Past Presidents committee when called, and serves as the chair of the Nominating Committee.

How are officers and trustees chosen? The Nominating Committee forms each year at the request of the President and is chaired by the Immediate Past President. This begins the process of finding and vetting nominees for Trustees and, in even years, for Officers. The Nominating Committee attempts to find volunteers who are committed to the wellbeing of Congregation Sons of Israel, represent our diverse demographics, and bring needed skills, talents, passions, and differing perspectives to the Board.

Board of Trustee Meetings. All CSI members in good standing may come and observe any Board of Trustee meeting, though if the meeting goes into “executive session” (typically at the end of a meeting) that portion of the meeting is restricted to trustees and invited guests only. If you would like to observe a Board of Trustees meeting, come to a meeting. Meetings start at 7:30pm and generally occur on the 4th Tuesday of the month, though are sometimes moved to accommodate holidays and schedule conflicts, so please consult the CSI calendar.

The CSI Constitution is available on the CSI website under *About Us – Board of Trustees* and is there for your reference as a member of our CSI community. Policies adopted by the Board of Trustees and Board Meeting minutes are also available from that webpage