Temple Sinai
Pittsburgh PA

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees

April 11, 2019

In attendance: George Arnold, Elizabeth Collura, Marc Darling, Morgan Faeder, Gina Faiola, Laura Fehr, Nancy Gale, Art Goldberg, Joe Goldston, Steve Jurman, Mara Kaplan, Jerry Katz, Josh Lederer, Philip Lehman, Lynn Rubenson, Frank Schwarz, Saul Straussman, Bill Taxay, Lynda Wrenn, Alison Yazar
Center/Auxiliary Representatives: Harton Wolf, Joe Weinkle
Clergy and Staff: Rabbi Jamie Gibson, Cantor Laura Berman, Rabbi Keren Gorban, Drew Barkley
By Invitation: Marc Adelsheimer*, Rachel Kudrick*, Paul Pitts*, Samantha Skobel*

(* Board nominees)

After minyan, President Philip Lehman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. A motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was made, seconded and unanimously approved. Along with incoming board members, introductions by all in attendance were made.

Budget Progress Report (Art Goldberg/Jerry Katz)
The Budget Committee continues to meet to finalize the new FY20 budget. An overview and various scenarios were presented.

President’s Report (Philip Lehman)
Philip reported that the Open Doors Award honoring Eva Tansky Blum, which will be at May 17 Shabbat services, has already raised $125,000 (of which $97,000 has been collected) and invitations have not even been mailed yet. He reminded board members of the upcoming Board Retreat with Rabbi Sam Joseph on Sunday, April 14.

Executive Director’s Report (Drew Barkley)
Drew reminded the group that the Volunteer dinner and Shabbat is Friday, April 12 and reminded everyone to attend. He also announced the following upcoming “save the dates:”
  • Legacy Dinner, May 3
  • Folk Shabbat, May 10
He noted that the new Shul Cloud platform would launch shortly, on April 15. Drew submitted new members for approval; they include:
  • Aly Silver and Jen Butchart (young adults)
  • Kerry Gettys (recently retired with family as members)
  • Carol Tabas (with a special needs adult son, attracted to Mostly Musical and special needs inclusion)

A motion to accept them as new members was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.
**Life/Legacy Recap (Philip/Drew)**
The initiative was reviewed for new members in attendance. Temple Sinai for this FY year signed up 29 people and received an $8,800 bonus incentive from the program. It will continue over the next several years. If you haven’t signed up yet, there is time.

**Clergy Reports**

**Cantor Berman**
Cantor Berman reported that 200-250 people attended the Cantor’s Assembly Concert event at Temple Sinai in honor of Leonard Bernstein’s 100th Anniversary.

**Rabbi Gorban**
The Next Dor school year will have its last day on Sunday, April 28, with a community celebration, to which all are invited. She is currently leading a new Intro to Judaism class. She was named as president of the Great Lakes, Ohio Valley Area Association and participated in a CCAR Conference last week.

**Rabbi Gibson**
Rabbi Gibson announced that he has engaged Yossi Klein Halevi, author of “Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor” to present two lectures in Pittsburgh. The first is Monday, May 13 at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the second on Tuesday, May 14 at the JCC. He noted the service schedule during Passover and reminded all that if anyone needs a place to go for Seder or has room to include others, to contact Judy Mahan.

Rabbi Gibson then read the letter that announces his retirement in June 2020. The letter will be emailed and US mailed following the meeting to the entire congregation. Everyone expressed their gratitude and feelings about the legacy Jamie is leaving us.

After good and welfare, and upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

*Submitted by Lynn Rubenson, Secretary*

*May 2, 2019*