

**Temple Isaiah**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
**February 21, 2017**

Voting Members Present: Shoshana Barer, Carol Fragen, Adam Gilbert, Peter Gordon, Ira Helf, Richard Jeffrey and Atma Wiseman

Non-Voting Members Present: Rabbi David Lazar and Douglas Morton, Executive Director.

Guests: Robert Fey and Robert Weinstein

Not Present: Soo Borson (excused), and Gary Miller (excused)

The January 2017 Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**I. Rabbinical & Executive Director Comments**

- A. After D'var Torah Rabbi commented that we had a beautiful Bat Mitzvah at the Temple last week for Elke Lehman.
- B. Rabbi commented we should be cognizant that there are different places where different decisions lie. Rabbi stated that he listens to all points of view and that we need to respect different positions that people have. Rabbi stated that he believes not all decisions should be made with a vote.
- C. January 2017 Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.
- D. There will be one more Short lecture and two more Judaism of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century lectures and that the more Board members that attend the better.
- E. Passover dinner will be the first night at the same prices as 2016, \$70 for members and \$85 for non-members and will be held on April 10, the 1<sup>st</sup> night of Passover instead of the second night like last year. So far we have 2 angels donating wine and flowers. For every \$1,000 donated, we should be able to lower the member price by \$5.
- F. There are many upcoming Community Center events which should bring in approximately \$30,000. In addition, we are excited that the Palm Springs Symphony Orchestra will holding their inaugural concert at Temple Isaiah, which will yield approximately \$5,000.

**II. Financial**

- A. So far we very similar compared to last year's budget. While we're \$30,000 ahead because of the Lavin Fundraiser, we're down \$40,000 because of general donations. It's quite possible that the funds from general donations were diverted over to the fundraiser making it a wash.

- B. We now have 10 years of good data on Merrill Lynch. In the past 10 years we have gone from \$1.5 million to less than \$200,000. Typically we transfer about \$150,000 from the account in the second half of the year. So far this year we've transferred \$40,000. We are within \$6,000 of our annual budget forecast and we seems that everything we try gets us to the same numbers.

### **III. Ritual**

- A. Shoshana Barer made a motion that individuals other than the Rabbi do announcements. The motion was seconded by Carol Fragen. Shoshana would also like to see TIWA members participate in lighting Shabbat candles, announcing birthdays and anniversaries, and looking for other ways to bring in money for the Temple. Rabbi stated that he would prefer his hand not be forced into a decision and that this should be an ongoing discussion and/or passed to the Ritual Committee. There was concern that the Ritual Committee only consists of one person, Sandie Ovesen. Atma pointed out that making announcements is a Public Relations opportunity and with our finances as they are, all positive PR is critical. A "poll" vote was taken. Motion carried with 3 in favor, 1 opposed and 2 abstentions.

### **IV. Real Estate**

- A. It was agreed that it would not be fair to discuss the options for moving forward with the possible sale of the building because one of the bidders was present in the meeting and it wouldn't be fair to the other bidder.
- B. A motion was made by Peter Gordon to adjourn the meeting, Adam Gilbert seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.