

Temple Isaiah
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2017

Voting Members Present: Shoshana Barer, Soo Borson, Carol Fragen, Albert Gilbert, Peter Gordon, Richard Jeffery, Gary Miller, Chris Spellman,

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

Visitors: Christopher Greene

- I. Christopher Spellman Called the minute to order**
- A. Carol Fragen moved to add Mitchell Karp, Larry Fechter and Ron Martinez to the Board. Gary Miller seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
 - B. Dvar Torah – Rabbi said that our Temple is in a wonderful state now with more than enough qualified members wanting to be involved in a deep way.
 - C. Gary Miller moved to accept the May minutes. Carol Fragen seconded, motion passed.
 - D. The Executive Director reported that:
 - a. The water bill was \$500 instead of \$100 due to the painting of the building and a possible leak we will be exploring.
 - b. A new motor for the chiller will be installed for approximately \$2,500 and annual chiller maintenance will be performed for approximately \$2,500.
 - c. 3 Qunceneras in June and July will bring approximately \$12,000.
 - d. Twice Blessed brought in \$700 for a recent art exhibit “Dancers We have Lost”.
 - e. The AA lecture series being held here while the Palm Springs Town Hall is being remodeled has brought in over \$800.
 - f. The painter’s bill will be approximately \$32,000 and will be paid.
 - g. The first summer social went well, the next one will be July 25 at Appetito at 5:00, followed by Eight4Nine on the 29th.
 - h. Temple Isaiah will be placing a birthday wish in an section the Desert Sun is doing to honor Harold Matzner on July 4.
 - i. Property insurance is going up approximately \$3,000 due to an issue with the sprinkling system. The report for exactly what is wrong with the sprinkling system is not in as of yet.
 - j. Our first Temple Isaiah Summer Social at 360 North was a great success thanks to Shoshana Barer.
 - k. As of the June 20 we have renewed 27 families, 5, new families for a total of 32 families. 9 of the 32 memberships have been upgraded.
 - E. Richard Jeffery presented a summary of the 2017-2018 budget with major changes:

- a. After discussion, the Board put \$10,000 additional funds in the budget as opposed to discussing closing the Temple for 4 weeks during the summer.
 - b. The Board noted that the \$100,000 fundraising goal appears to be somewhat “wishful”. The Board agreed to leave it in as it is just a “guestimate”.
 - c. The Board thanked Richard Jeffery for all the work he put into this year’s budget.
 - d. A motion was made by Gary Miller to have quarterly reviews of the budget for changes that occur. Carol Fragen seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- F. Adam Gilbert stated that he would combine the Reals Estate Committee with the Facilities Committee and examine what we can do to make this building sustainable and also look at the potential options in other buildings. Adam would like 3 subcommittees:
- i. Maintenance, ongoing and what will be required
 - ii. Making the current building sustainable and remaining
 - iii. Look at potential options in other buildings.
- Adam Gilbert will work with Doug Morton to make sure there is a flow of information to the Congregation.
- G. Gary Miller requested that Christopher Greene provide any information he has from a walk through that he and Avi Showalter previously did.
- H. Soo Borson reported that she went through the kitchen with Christopher Greene and an inspector. Four of the five ovens appear to be working. Christopher Greene will have the oven that isn’t working removed. Soo Stated that we need to have a conversation at a later date regarding the future of the kitchen.
- I. Ron Martinez, Shoshana Barer and Peter Gordon all expressed interesting in participating with Carol Fragen on the Fundraising Committee. Carol thinks we may have to do some smaller functions and isn’t sure if we’ll be able to retain the level of sponsors that we had for Linda Lavin.
- J. Nick Behrman who has been organizing our Library has prepared a proposal for Temple Isaiah to participate in Modernism this year.
- K. Membership Committee is focusing on:
- a. Retention of existing members. The committee has attempted to contact every member in the congregation and set up a dialogue. Our demographic makeup includes a small population of elderly that aren’t able to attend regular functions at the Temple so a party will be planned specifically for them, which will include transportation to the Temple.
 - b. Creating a Misheberach committee
 - c. Implementing a monthly enhanced oneg where members are encouraged to bring friends and potential members to services.
- L. The Social Action Committee is growing.
- a. followed by dessert and coffee are being planned.

- b. A Purim Potluck is being planned to continue the success of last year's function.

II. New Business

- A. Soo Borson stated that all new business should be presented at least the Thursday prior to the Board meeting.
- B. Soo Borson introduced a Code of Conduct that was initiated by Steve Gorosh and run by the Rabbi. Christopher Spellman requested this be advisory, not mandated.
- C. Peter Gordon presented 2 possible fundraisers for next year:
 - i. An event with a VIP dinner, possibly getting a member to open their home
 - ii. 90 minutes of 3 singers from the Opera Guild.
- D. Soo Borson and Doug Morton will work on a new Members Orientation Book and set a Members Orientation Training.
- E. Gary moved that the Board stand behind the Modernism Proposal, Carol Fragen seconded, motion approved unanimously.
- F. Gary Miller moved to adjourn, Carol Fragen seconded, motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Douglas Morton, Executive Director

TEMPLE ISAIAH: PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT

The person who wants life, loves days, and wants to see good will consciously guard his tongue.

Psalms 34:13

Our Temple Isaiah community is sustained by the three pillars of Jewish Life: TORAH (intellectual growth), AVODAH (spiritual practice), and GEMILUT HASADIM (fixing the world). To deepen our commitment to all three, we must guard our tongues. This has never been more important: we face challenging decisions about the future of our temple and need the talents and commitment of all of us. Bringing our best to these decisions requires that we cultivate respectful communication.

Good decisions will secure our future as a synagogue community. Though we come from many backgrounds and traditions, we share common values and purpose. Interactions between the board of trustees, temple members, staff, Rabbi, and others within and outside our Isaiah community should be conducted thoughtfully: words have the power to help or to harm. Damage done by gossip and by unkind, untrue, demeaning, dismissive, shaming, embarrassing, or insulting words, whether said in private or in public, cannot always be repaired. Our tradition teaches that careful speech – and careful listening – are the foundations of community and of all other mitzvot.

The Board of Trustees pledges to work, individually and collectively, to honor our Jewish heritage of valuing “right speech” as a way to support and sustain our community. This mandate is not excused in challenging times – it applies even more when strong emotions and tightly held opinions threaten thoughtful analysis and collaborative problem-solving. We invite all in our community to share in this commitment as we come together to plan our future.

Sue Borson and Steve Gorosh
June 2017