

**Temple Isaiah
Board of Trustees
Minutes August 15, 2017**

Voting Members Present: Soo Borson, Carol Fragen, Ron Martinez, Gary Miller, Christopher Spellman, Richard Jeffery, Adam Gilbert, Peter Gordon

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

Not Present: Shoshana Barer, Larry Fechter, Mitchell Karp

Guests: Bob Fey, Steve Gorosh

Christopher Spellman called the meeting to order.

- A. Rabbi reported that Temple Isaiah, in partnership with Palm Springs Art Museum, will be running programs for Sukkot and Hanukkah.
- B. Soo Borson moved to approve the July 2017 minutes, Adam Gilbert seconded, Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Gary Miller moved to request that all Board Members sign the Code of Conduct, Adam Gilbert seconded. Motion approved.
- D. A discussion to clarify employee leave policy. Employees would no longer accrue leave once maximums were met, until they used some of their leave up. The goal of such a policy would be to prevent encumbrance of large amounts of money to pay out unused leave when an individual leaves employment. The Board will take this up again at a future meeting.
- E. Soo Borson moved to move remaining unrestricted funds in the endowment account (approximately \$67,000) to checking, and the Blindman funds (approximately \$100,000) to a special savings account. Gary Miller seconded. Motion approved.
- F. The Board discussed current policy covering expenditures and agreed not to change existing limits (\$2,500 without special approval or a competitive bidding process).
- G. Facilities Committee report: Adam Gilbert provided preliminary oral reports from the 'stay' and 'move' subcommittees.
 - Bob Fey provided a written draft from the 'stay' committee which will be discussed at the September board meeting. Recommendations emphasize increasing rental income, mounting a large fundraiser, growing membership, and fundraising from the congregation.
 - Reporting for the 'move' subcommittee, Adam Gilbert delineated 4 options: buy a building, buy land with plan to build, lease an existing building, or rent space in local commercial venues.
 - Steve Gorosh on behalf of the 'move' committee commented that anybody would love a solid business plan that could show how we could remain here, but noted that the entire stay committee's plan is based on putting us into the real estate business which we have been doing for years without realizing sufficient revenue to keep us here. He cited the 'maintenance' subcommittee's analysis of the expenses associating with

remaining here, and their growth over the last five years, which establish a firm basis for determining what our revenue would have to be.

- An updated membership report will be ready for the September board meeting.
- H. Soo Borson introduced a proposed invitation to the Congregation to attend the first in a series of discussion forums to be held August 30. Adam Gilbert moved to approve and send the invitation out by the end of the week, Carol Fragen seconded, motion approved. The board discussed what information should be provided at the discussion forum about our financial situation and the work of the stay and move committees. Soo Borson requested and, by means of a motion from Gary Miller which passed unanimously, was to be given input from the board regarding content of a written summary for distribution.
- I. Fundraising efforts.
- Rabbi Lazar pointed out that many of our members have little or no discretionary income. No proposals for large fundraisers have been put forward. There was discussion of current practice and results regarding fundraisers of any size (we break even or show profit) and sources of funding.
 - Peter Gordon reported that Sara Silverman declined the invitation to do a fundraiser for us but plans for an opera evening are moving forward; budget proposal reviewed and approved.
- J. Finance Committee. Questions regarding the use of accrual vs cash accounting were discussed in the context of finalizing our profit and loss statement and the deficit for 2016-2017. Richard Jeffery discussed differences between the two and appropriate uses of each. Carol Fragen stated that Harold Matzner, who committed to covering the amount of last fiscal year's deficit, will want the final statement to use the accrual method.
- K. Membership Committee. Larry Fechter submitted a report; no action items.

Gary Miller moved to adjourn the meeting, Carol Fragen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.