Temple Sinai Board of Trustee Meeting 4/26/18

Board Members Present: Bruce Tully, Jen Feingold, Lane Feingold, Kathy Zeiger, Gene Rosenthal, Amy Rittenberg, Michelle Weinraub, Frank Urman, Karen Kaplan, Sandy Korn, Barb Lettes, Grace Bach, Jeff Lavenhar, Wendy Vean, Vicki Goldman, Larry Jacobson

Staff Members Present: Rabbi Susan Rheins, Sheila Purdin, Lisa Thorner, Jody Meyer, Julia Teitell, Sheila Nesis

Guest: Donna Britton

Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. A quorum was present.

Larry introduced Sheila Purdin, the new Director of ECE, and welcomed her.

Rabbi Susan Rheins delivered the D’Var Torah.

Lorne Maltenfort will send the minutes from last month’s board meeting to the board for approval on 4/27/18.

Vicki Goldman reported that the preparation for the Annual Event is going well.

Sandy Korn and Barb Lettes reported that the special Shabbat and dinner celebrating Israel’s 70th birthday was a fun and successful evening. 125 people attended and represented a broad demographic. The evening included Israeli Dancing, arts and crafts, face painting and a jumping castle.

Bruce Tully presented the Board of Trustees slate. The new proposed board members are: David Eisner, Larry Polman and Alix Joseph. The current board members seeking an additional 2 year term include: Kathy Zeiger, Bob Stine, Amy Rittenberg, Michelle Weinraub, Frank Urman, Sandy Korn & Bruce Tully.

The nominating committee feels that the proposed new board members are very qualified.

Jen Feingold moved to approve the new slate, Sandy Korn seconded the motion. The slate for the board of trustees was approved as presented.

Frank Urman presented the financial statements for 2/28/18. Frank hopes to receive the management letter from Jeff Cohen by 4/30/18. The staff is currently working on the budget. The budget will be real time budgeting, so it should reflect the actual cyclical changes in the Temple’s income and expenses, rather than taking annual revenues and expenses and dividing them by twelve. The budget will reflect the adjustments from the audit. Frank and Karen will be meeting with Jeff Cohen to discuss the possibility of changing accounting software. The net income for the month ending 2/28/18 was $66,000. The list of resigned members this month
includes people who have not paid dues for several years. Lorne has reached out to all of these people to determine whether or not they want to be members. Some of these people have begun paying dues again.

Religious school fees were transferred to youth in February, rather than at the beginning of the year. This transfer will be done at the beginning of the year next year.

It was asked if the variances in actual to budget could be presented as a percentage. It was felt that this would make it easier to review the financial statements. Frank said that he would make the change in the presentation.

The board will receive a BOF report at the next board meeting on 5/23/18. Currently $36,000 in donations have been received.

Lorne Maltenfort reported that he attended the JStreet conference in Washington D.C., in which there were 4,000 attendees. He plans to attend the AIPAC conference next year.

The personnel committee reviewed and approved the personnel manual. The manual was sent to the staff for input. The board requested that it be reviewed by outside counsel prior to the manual going to a vote.

Lorne reported that JBK feels that the proposed plants for the new landscaping on Hampden are the correct plants. It would be possible to add greenery which would last throughout the year. The total bid is $16,000. The board requested that this project be delayed until the 2018/2019 budget is complete.

A project to select a new logo for Temple Sinai began in December. The goal is to create a unified logo that will connect the preschool and religious school to the Temple. The intent of the logo is to position Temple Sinai for the next 50 years. The committee and board were looking for a logo that would be unique to Denver, Colorado. The board did not want to move forward with the logos presented. The staff mentioned that there may be significant cost in changing the logo because the current logo is on many parts of the school building. The board was interested in seeing if the current preschool and religious school logos could be adapted to create an overall logo for Temple Sinai. The budget for the entire project was $7,500, which included the website. To date the Temple has spent $2,500 on the project, which for the logo design portion is $1,000 over budget.

Julia Teitell reported that fourteen teens attended Spring Chavurah. Jesse Asseoff and Ben Eber both ran for regional board and won.

Larry reported that the congregational meeting was a success. He congratulated Lane Feingold on the strategic plan. Now that the plan is in place, the hard work needs to begin. At the meeting a few comments were raised regarding the plan, including requesting that the plan be approved by the entire congregation at the Annual Meeting. Larry has agreed to bring the
Strategic Plan to a vote at the Annual Meeting. No additional comments were sent from the congregation after the meeting.

Committees are now forming for the associate Rabbi search and to re-write the by-laws. If you are interested in serving on either committee, contact Larry.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.