

Board of Trustees Meeting 12.4.17

Board Members present:

Larry Jacobson, Gene Rosenthal, Jen Feingold, Michelle Weinraub, Amy Rittenberg, Kathy Zeiger, Frank Urman, Wendy Vean, Vicki Goldman, Karen Kaplan, Bruce Tully, Bob Steine, Sandy Korn, Barb Lettes, Lane Feingold

Staff Member present:

Julia Teitell, Karen Kirk, Rabbi Susan Rheins, Rabbi Rick Rheins, Lorne Maltenfort

Guests present:

Suzan Markman, Linda Stein, Susan Crager, Steve Sussman, Jennifer Abrams

Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 6:34. Larry noted that a quorum was present. Rabbi Rick Rheins delivered the D'Var Torah.

Linda Stein, Susan Markman and Susan Crager made a presentation to the Board for a project proposal requesting that Temple Sinai sponsor and support involvement in the Hour Community Interfaith Timebank. The Timebank is designed to benefit Colorado based refugees and immigrants, including, in-sanctuary individuals. Volunteers provide services to the refugee and immigrant community and bank hours for their service. In turn, the immigrants and refugees provide services they may have to offer and bank time for their services. The example given of this was that a refugee needs tutoring, so a volunteer of the Timebank provides tutoring. The refugee can, in turn, provide babysitting services. This project would start small with four organizations, including potentially Temple Sinai and twenty volunteers. The board determined that additional review of this organization, how the Timebank works and how the Temple would participate and/or be involved with this organization requires further review. After further review, the board will respond to this request in January.

Larry Jacobson reported that there is a finalist for the Director of ECE position. Jennifer Abrams, a member of the search committee, presented the credentials and the type of individual the committee was looking for. The candidate needed to have ECE credentials and experience in working in Jewish education. They were looking for someone who could help bridge the preschool to the religious school and the Temple as a whole. The resume for Sheila Purdin was presented to the Board. Sheila has extensive experience in Jewish ECE. The committee felt that she understands the importance of the preschool's connection to the larger Jewish Community. Sheila is currently working with the curriculum that Temple's preschool uses. The committee felt that she understands the parents' perspective and needs, as well as the teachers' perspective and needs. The committee felt that Sheila Purdin was the right candidate to take the preschool to the next level. Sheila is also a board member of the URJ. Karen Kirk, the current interim Director of ECE, expressed her confidence in Sheila as our new Director of ECE and that the state of the preschool is strong. If approved by the Board, Sheila would start somewhere between April 7-15, 2018. Karen will continue to work in the preschool until Sheila starts. Karen also plans to be a substitute teacher, when needed. Karen Kaplan made the motion to hire Sheila Purdin. Kathy Zeiger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Larry Jacobson introduced Steve Sussman, the co-chair of Temple Sinai's endowment. Steve and Ray Smith are the co-chairs of the committee. The committee consists of Frank Urman, Wendy Vean, Larry Jacobson and Lorne Maltenfort as ex-officio. The endowment was established at the outset of Temple Sinai 50+ years ago. Several years ago, \$150,000 was raised through a matching program with Rose Community Foundation. Due to the fundraising for BOF, raising funds for the endowment was put on hold. The Temple has an opportunity through the Grinspoon Foundation and Rose Community Foundation to apply for a 2-year program which helps organizations establish plans, incentives and best practices for their endowment program. Currently only 8% or 9% of Temple Sinai's congregants have made a pledge to the endowment. The endowment is important for the future of Temple Sinai and Reformed Judaism. The deadline for the application is 12/8/18. The Temple is prepared

to present its application for the program. The Board agreed that the Temple could benefit for the program and that we will submit an application. The sessions for the program begin 1/30/18.

Larry Jacobson presented the minutes from 11/28/18. Jen Feingold made a motion to approve the minutes and Gene Rosenthal seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved as presented. Frank Urman reported that Karen Pawlak provided the financial information requested by the auditor by the deadline. The auditor requested that the information be presented in another format, and it is being provided. The auditors will complete their fieldwork on December 11th and 12th. The audit committee will meet on 12/21 to review the audit. After the audit meeting the audited financial statements will be provided to the Executive Committee and then to the Board for approval. Previously it was questioned why the choir expense exceeded the budget by \$10,000. On the financial statement, choir expense is one line item, but the budget has a number of line items. The expense needs to be allocated to the various line items. The choir expense when allocated properly, does not exceed the budget.

Sandy Korn, the 9 Health Fair Liaison, requested board support at the 9 Healthfair. She also would like to see the Temple celebrate Israel's 70th anniversary on Wednesday, April 18th. Rabbi Rheins added that there will be a celebration which will hopefully incorporate not only Temple Sinai, but other Jewish organizations as well. Rabbi Rick Rheins requested that the board become a sponsor for the JCRC. This sponsorship helps support their luncheon, Israel Day Parade, as well as, other events they hold during the year. The cost of the sponsorship is \$750. Rabbi requested that the Temple pay half and he will pay half from his discretionary fund. Bruce Tully made a motion to sponsor the JCRC by paying for half of the cost, Bob Steine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Julia Teitell reported that the Youth Group Winter Chavurah will be held January 12-15. She asked the board to agree to host some of the teens coming to Denver for the Chavurah.

Lorne Maltenfort presented the results from Phase II of the Listening Campaign. The information compiled is forward thinking. The board will take some time to digest the information in order to present it to the congregation. The board will determine what actionable items have come from the results. In addition, the strategic planning committee will use the results to incorporate into the plan to be presented to the board in January.

Letters regarding year-end donations for BOF have been sent.

The board meeting was adjourned at 8:55 for Executive Session