

TEMPLE SINAI BOARD OF TRUSTEES
June 20, 2018

MINUTES

Present:

Board: Rita Brickman, Naomi Camper, Jill Chenok, Isabel Dunst, Larry Freedman, Gary Friend, Nancy Golding, Cathy Goldwyn, Jeff Kaye, Deborah Lewis, Andrew Mannes, Matthew Pachman, Catherine Ribnick, Elizabeth Rose, Todd Rosentover, Marcie Solomon, Seth Speyer, Laura Steel, Anita Stoll, D. Jean Veta, Regina Ziegler.

Staff: Ellen Agler, Laura Croen, Rebecca Robins, Adam Rosenwasser

Absent:

Board: Andrew Engel, John Hellerman, Katie Herman, Mica Maltzman, Stephen Messner, Michael Sussman.

Call to order:

Gary Friend called the meeting to order at 6:30, introduced the evening's agenda, and delivered the D'var Torah.

Board Orientation:

Friend introduced new board members, provided an orientation on format of board meetings and presented on: board history, roles, committees, financial oversight, and mission, effective board characteristics, importance of literacy in financial operation, comfort in speaking up in board setting, open/civil discourse in board meeting, value of presenting unified front in outside activities, committee membership and passionate advocacy for TS as institution and for clergy & staff, board giving (time, interest/expertise, resources (access to services, donors, dollars) – all according to each member's capacity, interests, and relationships.

Additional guidance was offered for serving as board rep at Shabbat Friday evening services (where all are encouraged to share personal perspective as board member) and at Shabbat Saturday B'nai Mitzvah services (where all are encouraged to introduce self to family before the service and personalize remarks with gift presentations to reflect relationships, b'nei mitzvah dvar). Additionally, at b'nei mitzvah services board reps are to help usher.

Board Operations:

April, 2018 board minutes were approved as submitted

May/June **membership** report presented and circulated & Membership Chair Jill Chenok encouraged board members in their outreach to new members to help fill interests column to build engagement by new members.

Financial report presented and circulated, Executive Director Ellen Agler highlighted Temple performed “better than budget,” and shared that the annual audit would be conducted beginning week of 7/9 under Audit Committee chaired by Dianne Rudo, noting the independent audit firm rotates staff periodically to keep objectivity fresh.

Staff Bonus Resolution presented, referencing that if TS income exceeds expenses by \$65K or more a portion will be used for bonuses for non-contract staff with President and Exec Dir approval required for all bonuses: Approved

Check Signing Authority resolution presented, referencing that historically ED, Pres, EVP, and Treasurer have authority, which must be reapproved annually. Question was raised on whether annual approval was required, and it was determined that by-laws require such reapproval annually. Approved

Israel Committee Resolution for disbursements presented for approval. There was discussion regarding the second year in a row request for support to Bet Daniel, and the need for greater clarity of case for additional support. Motion was made to table discussion for after Rabbi Roos’ return as he serves as liaison to committee. Will be brought back to July meeting. It was suggested the Committee give consideration to giving money in areas where the impact could be more meaningful, in particular for new congregations and organizations in Israel.

Discussion of **Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form** and how to address if new conflicts come up during the fiscal year. Guidance was offered that should new conflicts arise it is the board member’s responsibility to bring it to the attention of leadership.

Updates & Discussion:

Capital Campaign

Capital Campaign Co-Chair Naomi Camper reminded board TS in “Quiet” phase where research is being carried out, case statement developed, input sought from stakeholders, target goal set based on feasibility, and early solicitation being carried out with goal of securing upwards of 70% of goal before public announcement is made. Camper highlighted our clergy, office staff, religious school staff, facilities staff, and Nursery School staff all had input to the preliminary building design. Camper confirmed to date \$2.4M secured in commitments, bringing TS 25% to base goal. Camper shared overview of priorities for facility enhancement, securing financial buffer, building sustaining funds, and developing alternate revenue sources. She shared the standing campaign committees focusing on four constituencies: Cornerstone gifts, Board affiliation, religious school participants, and general congregation. Camper emphasized the importance of 100% board participation as statement sought by family and institutional funds to prove leadership commitment to goals of campaign.

The board expressed general support for plans as presented. Motion to keep going in direction as presented: passed with unanimous approval

Special Topics for Year

Friend asked board for input on special topics to be presented at board meetings throughout fiscal 2018-2019. Topics suggested included: (1) organization wide assessment of communications and clarity on whether communications plan needs to be revised. It was suggested that with the capital campaign looming there will be an inherent communications realignment and any organization wide assessment might be held for afterwards; (2) special reports from the Social action committee to include presentation on coordinating volunteer utilization and developing frame work for social action volunteering across initiatives (Cathy Goldwyn volunteered to spearhead).

President's report: The report stands as is. Friend offered special recognition of Jill Chenok and Nancy Golding for generating special interest in annual meeting through raffle and prizes and extended communications plan.

Executive Director's Report: The report stands as is. Agler added special recognition for the success of the Annual Campaign under the management of the Development Committee, highlighting the campaign securing in excess of \$200,000 in contributed revenue, the largest in TS history and a 45% increase over the prior year.

Cantor's Addition: Laura Croen highlighted the upcoming Shabbat service featuring leadership from the Poor People's Campaign. Croen shared that the TS community had strong representation throughout the 6 weeks revitalization of the PPC and that TS was recognized by Rev Barber & Harris for its support and the statement it makes about TS' commitment to social action.

General comments were shared by Board members on the deep pride for TS consistently showing up and making statements.

The Board dismissed into **Executive session** at 9:05, where personnel matters were discussed.

Respectfully submitted by Seth Speyer