

TEMPLE SINAI BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – September 16, 2020

Present [meeting conducted virtually by Zoom]: Michael Baratz, Lori Berman, Naomi Camper, Dora Chen, Jill Chenok, Andrew Engel, Gary Friend, Nancy Golding, Cathy Goldwyn, Kenneth Jaffe, Deborah Lewis, Nancy Liebermann, Matthew Pachman, Debbie Rappaport, Deitra Reiser, Catherine Ribnick, Elizabeth Rose, Stephen Sacks, Marcie Solomon, Laura Steel, Seth Speyer, Michael Sussmann, Lisa Tucker, D. Jean Veta, Regina Ziegler, Rabbi Roos, Rabbi Goldstein, Rabbi Diamondstein, Cantor Croen, Cantor-Educator Robins, Ali Hurewitz, and Ellen Agler.

Call to order: With a quorum of the Board members present, the meeting was called to order by Temple Sinai President Deborah Lewis at 7:34 p.m.

D’Var Torah: Jill Chenok delivered the D’var Torah.

BOARD OPERATIONS AND GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Board Meeting minutes** – the August 2020 Board Meeting minutes were approved.
- **Membership report** – the August-September 2020 membership report was approved.
- **Budget and Financial report** – Marcie Solomon provided an update regarding the status of the first months of the new fiscal year for 2020-2021. The Budget Task Force recently met and discussed the year-to-date financial performance, and the Temple is presently on track to meet the lower projected expectation. There will be additional expenses in connection with additional Religious School costs and Nursery School teacher severance payments. The Committee believes that, at present, there are still too many financial uncertainties to formulate an accurate budget. On a going forward basis, the Committee will be focused on considering further expense reductions with sensitivity to maintaining our compassionate Temple Sinai culture. The Committee will be meeting in mid-October and Marcie will provide a report next month.
- **Capital Campaign report** – Naomi Camper gave an update regarding the Capital Campaign. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, time is being taken to evaluate a number of factors including the needs of the Temple going forward, the impact on our membership base, the anticipated demands for space, and the impact on the schools. To date, we have had no cancellations of Capital Campaign pledges. The Board also discussed future targeted fundraising.

UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:

- **High Holy Days Update:** Rabbi Roos provided an update regarding planning for the High Holiday services and he provided an overview of the new platform (produced by Ideas Unlimited, the ‘host vendor’) at www.sinai5781.com, which will be going live in 24 to 35 hours. The planning continues to

re-invent the High Holiday worship experience to ensure the majesty of the holidays, engagement, spirituality and communality to try to replicate a feeling of family gathering.

REPORTS:

- President's Report – as submitted.
- Senior Rabbi's Report – Rabbi Roos provided an oral report, including updates regarding the round-the-clock activities on the part of clergy and staff, transitions in the Nursery School, b'nei mitzvah celebrations, and the 2020 confirmation class. He also discussed his Ten Year Anniversary celebration and gave a welcome to Ali Hurewitz as our new Acting Director of the Nursery School. We are also looking forward to welcoming baby Goldstein, we extend our deepest condolences to Cathy Goldwyn and her family on the death of her niece, and we wish everyone a very Happy New Year.
- Executive Director's Report – as submitted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Personnel matters were discussed.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Steel, Secretary