



Temple Sinai 2021 Annual Meeting Agenda May 26, 2021 via Zoom

Call to order: With a quorum of the congregation present, the meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. Temple President, Deborah Lewis, gave a welcome and introduction, followed by opening comments and a prayer by Rabbi Noah Diamondstein in support of our congregation and community.

Presentation of Parliamentary Rules: A presentation of the Parliamentary Rules was provided by Parliamentarian, Matthew Pachman, with an explanation regarding the meeting logistics that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is held virtually and regarding the available technology that allows for public discussion and the taking of votes electronically. This method of conducting the proceedings is consistent with and in the spirit of the Roberts Rules and the Temple By-laws. A motion to approve the Rules of Order was approved upon two thirds vote of those in attendance.

Review and Approval of Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting: Temple Sinai Secretary, Laura Steel, presented the Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting, which were approved upon motion by electronic voting.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Reports:

- **Annual Report:** In her report, Marsha Shaines, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, discussed the different approach for this year's Annual Report, which focuses on first-person stories of congregants' Temple Sinai pandemic experiences. The Annual Report has been mailed to the entire congregation and is also available on the Temple's website.
- **Executive VP/Financial Report:** Executive Vice President and Chair of the Finance Committee, Marcie Solomon, presented and summarized the Financial Report, including the work of the Finance Committee and the Budget Subcommittee. The Report includes a summary of last year's budget for 2020-2021, including the receipt of two Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans which have allowed the Temple to end the year in a better place than anticipated with an additional \$65,000 allocated in the FY 20-21 budget and a wage restoration pool that will restore 100% of lost wages to all furloughed Temple employees affected by the required November/December one-week furlough or other similar wage loss. The 2021-2022 Budget reflects the continuing uncertainties concerning the impact of COVID-19 on our operations and communal

recovery, with the intent here is to provide greater clarity and transparency. The Nursery School has now been completely merged into the Temple's financial and budgeting process. In sum, the Budget reflects \$767 in projected revenue and assumes full forgiveness of the Second Draw PPP loan, based on current regulations. The other assumptions used in the preparation of this budget including gradual re-opening for on-site services, programs and meetings, with appropriate health and safety protocols in place. As we are able to gather at the Temple for services and adult programming again, we will use technology to provide simultaneous virtual connection for members and guests who elect to join from their homes.

The Report includes certain revenue assumptions, including: expected member commitment of \$27k more than current year projection; second Draw PPP of 80% of the total loan of \$852k, with the balance allocated to the building maintenance fund; Sinai Annual Fund contributions expected to be similar to 2019; Fund Transfers from the Sustaining Fund (with a portion for Davis Center for Social Justice at Temple Sinai) of \$153,503 and from other program funds at levels similar to 2019. Expense assumptions for: labor with expected 2% cost of living increase for all employees (no increase was received in FY 20-21); two contract increases; facilities and staffing to add 1 new employee for 9 months; estimated 10% increase in health insurance premiums; increased security costs to be partially offset by reductions in employed safety staff; new anticipated costs for contracted AV operator, COVID related contingency expense line items and additional maintenance for new filtration and additional cleaning supplies. Also discussed were the projected Religious School/Youth Education budget, the net Temple investment of \$243,340 based on 83% of 2019-2020 enrollment with no tuition increase from current rates; the expected Nursery School net Temple investment of \$129,450 based on 45% enrollment of licensed capacity due to DC health & safety regulations; and the Capital and Building Budget reserves for anticipated and unanticipated future needs. In the next fiscal year, the Temple plans to complete a number of projects that were not completed this year due to the disruption of COVID, including upgrades to the HVAC system with enhanced filtration consistent with COVID-related best practice recommendations.

- **Capital Campaign and Renovation Report:** Naomi Camper and Andrew Engel, Co-Chairs of the Capital Campaign Committee summarized FY 2020 developments: the launch of the Davis Center for Social Justice; the renovation and expansion plans for the building and grounds; upgrades to the building; the sustaining fund to support clergy; Capital Campaign goals and fundraising which have, to date, raised \$9.898 million in pledges. Phase 1 of the Temple renovation is underway. In terms of future renovations, we are currently assessing the next phase of renovations, including the proposed new south addition.

- **Clergy Report:** Rabbi Hannah Goldstein provided the Clergy's Report. Senior Rabbi Jonathan Roos is presently on sabbatical. Rabbi Goldstein extended deepest appreciation to the entire clergy and staff teams. She summarized the transition to in-person ritual and study services with hybrid capacity, new AV technology and personnel based on recommendations from a re-opening task force examining the timing and process for resuming in person worship. Rabbi Goldstein also provided an overview of the clergy's continuing COVID-related planning for the High Holy Days using present D.C. guidelines planning for 50% capacity for on-site ritual events with clergy appearing live for services, virtual and possible outdoor services. She expressed appreciation for all of those who have helped navigate the transformation under COVID.
- **President's Report:** Temple Sinai President Deborah Lewis presented her Report, summarizing the events of FY 2020, including her personal thoughts about Temple Sinai during the COVID pandemic as a vibrant and thriving community. In her final remarks as President, she recognized the invaluable contributions of the extraordinary clergy team, Temple staff, and member volunteers.
- After the presentation of the reports, there was a discussion based on questions from the congregation (with an opportunity to participate by the Zoom chat feature and email) on the following subjects: a recent decline in overall membership; re-opening of the Temple building; hybrid worship services; and plans for programming and operations for the Religious School, the Nursery School, Adult Education and Sinaites.

Action Items:

- **Election of Trustees, Officers and Nominating Committee for 2020-2021:** Gary Friend, Nominating Committee Chair, provided an overview of the work of the Committee and presented the slate of nominees for FY 2021. Upon motion and vote of those present, the motion to approve the nomination of Trustees, Officers and Nominating Committee carried.
- **Introduction of incoming President:** President Deborah Lewis introduced incoming Temple President, Marcie Solomon, who expressed sincerest thanks to Deborah for her extraordinary leadership during these incredibly challenging times. Marcie Solomon provided a summary of her background and historical involvement with Temple Sinai.
- **Review and Approval of Budget for 2020-2021:** Marcie Solomon provided an overview of the proposed budget for 2020-2021. After an opportunity for extended discussion that centered around the uncertainty of current economic and public health



environment, the panel took questions and comments. Upon motion and vote of the majority of members present, the FY 2021 budget was approved.

Other Business:

- **Member Recognition:** Cantor Laura Croen extended congratulations, blessings and a hearty Mazel Tov to those who have been members for 50 years: Beth Newburger, Richard and Carol Gross, George and Barbara Korengold. Rabbi Hannah Goldstein recognized the important contributions of Temple leadership, committee members and volunteers, who have served the congregation in a variety of volunteer roles essential for guiding and fulfilling the mission and vision of Temple Sinai. She expressed our collective appreciation for their dedication and commitment to our sacred community. She also welcomed and thanked members as they have agreed to assume new volunteer leadership positions in the coming year.

Adjourn: Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Steel, Secretary