

TEMPLE SINAI BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – October 18, 2023

Present [meeting conducted in person and on Zoom]: Naomi Camper, Dora Chen, Glenn Engelmann, Cathy Goldwyn, Sally Greenberg, Cara Jablon, Ken Jaffe, Katie Joselow, Dan Koch, Laura Kolton, Sam Lehman, Ariel Levinson-Waldman, Myron Marlin, Anthony Murphy, Howard Oppenheim, Aaron Panner, Jonah Perlin, Catherine Ribnick, Sara Rosenblum, Dianne Rudo, Dolores Siegel, Marcie Solomon, Seth Speyer, Laura Steel, Anita Stoll, Michael Sussmann, Senior Rabbi Jonathan Roos, Cantor Educator Rebecca Robins, Executive Director Ellen Agler, and Director of Early Childhood Education Ali Hurewitz.

Call to order: With a quorum of the Board members present, the meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Temple Sinai President Ken Jaffe. At the beginning of the meeting, there was an extensive discussion of issues related to the Israel-Hamas war and Temple Sinai's response.

D'var Torah: Michael Sussmann delivered the D'var Torah.

BOARD OPERATIONS AND GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Board Meeting minutes:** The September 2023 Board Meeting minutes were approved.
- **Membership report:** The September 2023 membership report was approved.
- **Financial report:** EVP and Chair of the Finance Committee, Glenn Engelmann, presented a summary of the written Year-to-Date Financial Summary (as of September 30, 2023) for the 2023-20234 Fiscal Year. Overall, the trends continue to be positive. So far, membership commitment and security fee revenues are ahead of budget and are projected to exceed the annual budget. The Nursery School has received several significant grants that will likely eliminate the need for the budgeted investment. Health insurance costs, which were estimated during budget preparation, came in lower than projected, yielding some savings. Investment income, social hall rentals, and high holiday-related fundraising are all ahead of budget.

UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:

- **Renovation and Expansion:** Ken Jaffe provided an update on the Temple's renovation and expansion. Significant progress has been made. The new South Addition is expected to be completed in late November 2023, and, with some exceptions, will be substantially ready for the October 27th celebration and dedication.
- **Capital Campaign:** Naomi Camper gave an updated report about fundraising, including recent and planned events, the theme for closing the Campaign, upcoming celebrations, and future efforts to engage congregants who have not yet participated in the

Campaign. Laura Kolton provided an update regarding the Silent Auction, which is set to 'go live' on November 1, 2023, with over 70 auction items so far, to raise additional money for the Campaign.

- **High Holiday Board Outreach** – Dan Koch provided a report on the High Holiday Board Outreach initiative. Approximately 6-7 board members made telephone calls to congregants, while other board members sent emails. Based on the feedback received, the outreach was well-received and appreciated. By acclamation, the Board extends its appreciation to Dan and to Karen Auerbach for this important endeavor.
- **October 27 Celebration and Dedication** – Naomi Camper outlined the upcoming activities planned for the Celebration and Dedication of the new South Addition, which will include: a Nursery School celebration, a Family Shabbat Dinner & Scavenger Hunt; a Shabbat Service followed by a hakafah (celebratory parade) through the South Addition; a Festive Oneg & Community Celebration, and other activities highlighting the new spaces in the South Addition. Special thanks go to the Music Committee, Circle of Music Lovers and Temple Sinai Brotherhood for supporting these events.

REPORTS:

- **President's Report** – The President did not submit a report this month.
- **Senior Rabbi's Report** – Rabbi Roos provided an oral report, highlighting the operational components of Temple Sinai's response to the Israel-Hamas war, including issues related to security, congregational communications, programming, as well as gatherings, coordination and outreach that have occurred both within the Temple Sinai community/schools and with outside groups/community partners.
- **Executive Director's Report** – as submitted.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Steel, Secretary