

**Peninsula Temple Sholom
Board of Trustees
Minutes from Meeting on March 9, 2016
Approved**

Attendees

<u>Board</u>		<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson	Jeff Lerner	Rabbi Molly Plotnik	
Kristine Berman	Habib Lichaa	Max Ruzi	
Michael Fried	Arlene Rosenberg	Allison Steckley	
April Glatt	Lauren Schlezinger	Karen Wisialowski	
Scott Haber	David Silberman		
Linda Korth	Sharon Silverman		
Ware Kuschner	Yash Snider		
	Nancy Sturm		

- I. Meeting called to order by President April Glatt at 6:15 PM.
 - a. D'var Torah by Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson
- II. New Business
 - a. Consent Agenda: Approved minutes, confirmed new members.
 - b. Reports
 - i. President's report
 1. April reported that Rabbi Molly is working extremely hard with one rabbi out on maternity leave. April asked the board members step up as a caring community for our clergy. April gave Rabbi Molly a gift certificate to a dinner out from the board to acknowledge her excellent commitment and the quality of her work these past few weeks.
 2. Scott Haber will become the next chairperson of the Personnel Committee, beginning on April 1. April thanked Scott for his continued service on this committee.
 3. Gala: Please encourage your friends to attend! Fundraising is progressing swiftly. The Live Auction is looking for great packages, such as vacations, experiences, and sports packages. There will also be a fund-a-need to support wish list items for the religious school, preschool and SW's camperships.
 4. Annual meeting, May 15 at 9:30AM followed by a very short Board of Trustees meeting. There will be no board meeting on Wednesday, May 18.

5. April reminded the board that next month the board will vote for trustee of the year.

ii. Rabbi's report

1. Rabbi Molly shared her perspective on implementing environmental greening in synagogues. She has substantial experience in her work at prior synagogues and, ultimately, wrote her thesis on developing a green theology. She shared information on a RAC-supported organization called GreenFaith, an interfaith non-profit that offers various programs (e.g., Energy Shield, Water Shield) to synagogues and churches. Rabbi Molly shared that it is our intention to put together a green team to engage in one of these "Shield" programs.

iii. CCO report

1. Thank you to board members for jointly purchasing a page in the tribute book.
2. Karen shared that we have 11 new members since February. Most are motivated by joining preschool. And, many are talking about looking for community. Karen shared that she and Allison are working closely together to encourage preschool families to join. The senior staff is also planning activities and initiatives to encourage preschool families to build ongoing connection to Peninsula Temple Sholom and to one another.
3. Karen announced that Miriam Gershenson is hired as the new Education and Special Projects Assistant, reporting to Rabbi Molly.

c. Teaching moment: Rabbi Molly Plotnik.

- d. DISCUSSION: Budget. David Silberman, Treasurer, shared a summary of the budget as proposed by the Finance Committee. He described the budget process, including gathering the detailed budget requests, the review by the Finance Committee, and the review by the Board. The Board will vote on the budget at the April board meeting.

David invited board members, present and not present at tonight's meeting, to share questions and comments in the next two weeks following tonight's meeting. The board was asked specifically to think about the amount of board fundraising to include in the budget.

Key issues in the 2016/17 budget:

- Current year's activities will yield greater net income than had been anticipated, due to the growth in preschool and some other factors.
- David discussed the key drivers of the budget, including membership commitment, preschool revenue and expenses, and salaries.

David thanked the members of the Finance Committee: Gary Fishtrom, Adam

Steinberger, Maria Yarmolinsky, Matthew Mintz, Lauren Schlezinger, David Silberman and staff members Shari Carruthers and Karen Wisialowski.

The board thanked David and the Finance Committee for its hard work and thorough presentation.

e. Executive Session

III. Closing Words, Meeting Adjourns at 7:58 PM