

**Peninsula Temple Sholom
Board of Trustees
Minutes from Meeting on July 20, 2016
Approved**

Summary of Trustee Action Items

- ****By August 1****, Complete the *Success Looks Like* exercise described in detail in the President's Report.
- Email Bev if you wish to opt-out of Board Dinners (\$150/person for the year). Otherwise, the charge will be added to your next bill.
- Sign up for [D'var Torah](#).
- Sign up for [Trustee Shabbat Announcement](#).
- Yash/Nathaniel: initiate meeting with clergy to start planning Board Shabbat.
- Kristine to coordinate refreshments for Board Retreat.
- Jeff to coordinate equipment A-V setup for Board Retreat.

Attendees

<u>Board</u>		<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson	Jeff Lerner Matt Mandel	Rabbi Lisa Delson	Allison Poggi-Leon
Kristine Berman	Gene Podkaminer	Rabbi Molly Plotnik	Madelyn Levine
Lois Fried	Lauren Schlezinger	Allison Steckley	
Jon Herstein	David Silberman	Karen Wisialowski	
Marilyn Hollinger	Sharon Silverman		
Ware Kuschner	Yash Snider		
	Adam Steinberger		

Meeting called to order by President Lauren Schlezinger at 6:15 PM. Chair: Lauren Schlezinger; Minutes: Karen Wisialowski; Timekeeper: Allison Steckley. Board members introduced themselves.

Cultivating Sacred Space

1. Welcome & D'var Torah (*Lauren Schlezinger*)
2. Board Activity

Vision: Big Picture, Big Questions

3. **Envisioning Our Goals.** Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson led the Board in a conversation about our PTS' vision statement: PTS is an inclusive Jewish community where everyone can find peace, inspiration and their own connection to Judaism. Board members were asked to answer the following questions in writing: 1/ What change would you like to see in the next year that gets us closer to our vision? 2/ What can I do as a member of the board, staff or clergy that can help us work towards our vision?

Some items that were listed:

- Everyone feeling comfortable walking into any event at PTS, and feeling like they belong. Action: noticing families that are not engaged and taking steps.
- Increased social justice engagement in the community, including involving teens, especially in our mental health initiative.
- Enhancing our electronic communications and sharing of electronic calendars. to improve our potential continued outreach and networking.
- Increased engagement by members. Action: Building a *chavurah* program.
- All women feel connected to Sholom Women. Action: Reach out one on one to all women of the congregation.

- Increased participation across the board. Action: Invite friends to come along to events and services.
- Understanding of what our membership wants/needs/gets. Action: Dive deep into data. Rethink of new members as first 3-5 years of membership.
- Greater inclusivity on Saturday morning services. Action: Support creative ideas, such as our new 7th grade Saturday morning religious school.
- Bridging the gap between teens and other age groups. Action: Family event hosted by PARTY.

Realizing our Mission

4. Investment Policy Briefing. Gene Podkaminer shared an update on the Investment Committee, which includes Gene Podkaminer (Chair), Adam Steinberger (Treasurer), Tal Simon, Jesse Zimmer, Karen Wisialowski (CCO), and Shari Carruthers (Controller). The Committee has determined its broad investment objectives and is fine-tuning an investment policy statement that it will present to the Board in the fall. Gene responded to questions about the process of working with Morgan Stanley.

5. Board of Trustees Shabbat, scheduled for September 9, 2016. Lauren posited that we have the opportunity to create a Shabbat service—with Board participation in service leadership—that has greater depth than a Shabbat service with just a blessing for the Board. Yash Snider and Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson volunteered to work with the clergy to develop the service.

6a. Lauren Schlezinger discussed the process of making and discussing motions.

6b. MOTION: Offer complimentary membership for regular staff members who work more than 24 hours per week and are Jewish. Motion made by Kristine Berman, seconded by Sharon Silverman. Matt Mandel made a motion, seconded by Jon Herstein, to amend the above motion as follows: Offer complimentary membership for regular staff members who work more than 24 hours per week and are Jewish, for as long as they are employed. Motion passed.

7. MOTION: Allocate \$2,500 from the Zeichick Family Fund for Sukkat Shalom and an additional \$1,500 from the Lokay Educational and Programming Fund to support the congregational retreat from October 28-30, 2016. Remaining balance in the funds will be \$412 and \$24,623, respectively. Motion made by Ware Kuschner and seconded by Sharon Silverman. There was discussion. Motion passed.

8. Board Covenant – Our Five Promises. The Board discussed Board norms in small groups and shared their notes with Lauren Schlezinger. She will report back next month.

Governance

9. Consent Agenda: Membership Report and Minutes. Approved.

10. The Nominating Committee, including Jeff Lerner, Jon Herstein and Ware Kuschner, presented the following slate of nominees to serve as officers of the Board of Trustees: Scott Haber (First VP); Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson (Second VP); Heidi Schell (Secretary); Adam Steinberger (Treasurer). Motion made by David Silberman and seconded by Yash Snider. Motion passed.

10. Standing Reports & Packet Q&A

President's Report in packet and attached here. In preparation for the Board retreat, Lauren asked for all board members to call three congregants to ask them, "An event or experience at or with PTS is successful for me when _____." and to share notes with Lauren.

- CCO Report in packet and attached here. In addition, CCO asked board members with food allergies to contact Bev Rochelle.
- Rabbis' Report. Rabbi Delson shared some of the exciting goings-on this summer. We have introduced Shabbat morning worship experiences, including Yoga Shabbat, Drum Circle Shabbat, Meditation Shabbat, and Genius Bimah Workshop. Rabbi Molly has led Torah Treks. Rabbi Delson and Allison have introduced Play Dates in the Park for families with young children.

Rabbi Delson described the URJ's Reform California initiative on sentencing reform, and

invited Board members to work with her directly, and asked them to identify other congregants who may be interested. Rabbi Plotnik invited Board members to join her at Reform California's Tisha B'Av program on August 13 that we are hosting jointly with Peninsula Temple Beth El. The program is tied to Reform California's incarceration initiative.

11. Board Resource Binder. Karen Wisialowski shared the details of the electronic Board Resource Binder, which is hosted on Box. Directions for signing into Box were shared.

Concluding Remarks and Prayer