

Board of Trustees
July 19, 2017 ♦ 6:15 pm
Meeting Minutes - Approved

Chair: Lauren Schlezinger ♦ Minutes: Heidi Schell ♦ Timekeeper: Matt Mandel

Attendees

Board

Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson
Julie Feuchtwang
Jenna Fisher
Lois Fried
Scott Haber
Jon Herstein
Marilyn Hollinger
Ware Kuschner

Staff

Jeff Lerner
Matt Mandel
Andy Oliff
Betsy Rosen
Arlene Rosenberg
Heidi Schell
Lauren Schlezinger
Yash Snider
Adam Steinberger

Staff

Rabbi Lisa Delson
Josh Mason-Barkin
Karen Wisialowski

Guests

Carla Koren
Alison Poggi-Leon
Tal Simon
Jesse Zimmer

Summary of Action Items:

1. Please feel free to add comments to the Group Discussion on Priorities document:
<https://goo.gl/ZHskGh>.
2. Review July President's Report and contact Lauren if you can assist with Board Retreat refreshments (8/27) and/or planning Board Shabbat (9/8).

Meeting was called to order by President Lauren Schlezinger at 6:15PM.

1. Welcome, Blessing for Community Service & Introductions 10 min

Lauren welcomed our newest trustees Jenna Fisher and Andy Oliff to the Board. New Board members, guests, staff and current Board members introduced themselves.

2. D'var Torah 5 min Rabbi Delson

3. Investment Update (*Carla Koren, Morgan Stanley*) 20 min Discussion

Carla provided a brief overview and update on the PTS Investment Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide long-term stability for PTS. Fund has a modest risk profile. Fund has been fully invested since its inception in Nov 2016. Value at inception was \$854K; current value is \$926K. Returns are 7.86% YTD (net of all expenses) and 8.40% (net of all expenses) since inception, which is in line with target indices.

In response to questions on operations related to stock donations, Carla shared that donations of stock are accepted. Stock donations are received by Morgan Stanley to an account for that purpose and sold immediately with the approval of PTS. Net proceeds are then delivered to PTS and applied as directed by the donor. In many cases, those donations are for general purposes or for temporarily restricted funds and, therefore, not invested as part of the PTS Investment Fund.

4. Board Activity 10 min Discussion

Lauren led a small group exercise in which we discussed how we prioritize our time given the competing priorities in

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Board Meeting—August 16, 7p ♦ Board Retreat—August 27, Noon-5p ♦ Board Shabbat—Sept. 8, 6:30p*

our respective lives.

5. 2017-18 Priorities (*Lauren Schlezinger*)

50 min Discussion

Lauren led an exercise in which Board members prioritized and discussed proposed Board goals for 2017-18. **Action:** Lauren encouraged trustees and staff to add comments to the Group Discussion on Priorities document <https://goo.gl/ZHskGh>.

6. **Motion:** To approve creation of the Jerry Ezrin Memorial Fund with the following description. (*Adam Steinberger*)

5 min Vote

This fund was created by the Ezrin Family in memory of Jerry Ezrin, who loved this congregation. The purpose of this fund is to support technologies and tools that enable PTS to offer its services beyond the walls of the synagogue. Initially, it is contemplated that this fund will support video streaming of worship services and special events in the sanctuary and Klein Spiritual Center. The Fund will be acknowledged when funds are used.

Note: The Ezrins are seeding the fund with \$7,200. It is anticipated that friends will contribute to the fund in the coming year to meet the minimum balance of \$10,000.

Adam Steinberger made the motion. Matt Mandel seconded. Motion passed.

7. **Motion** To create a membership category for adults ages 19-29 (“young adults”) with a modest financial membership commitment. The initial amount will be \$49 annually per individual, and subject to change according to the temple’s operating budget each year. Young adult members will not be charged an annual Facilities Reserve assessment. Congregants whose membership is at the young adult membership commitment level are not eligible for discounted preschool tuition. (*Matt Mandel*)

5 min Vote

Background: There are adult children of congregants who grew up in the area and still live nearby. We want to encourage them to reconnect with PTS. This is in addition to, and would reinforce Rabbi Molly’s work to engage this age cohort. As an FYI, Congregation Emmanu-el in San Francisco and Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos both offer similar young adult memberships.

Matt Mandel made the motion. Arlene Rosenberg seconded. There was discussion. Motion was amended to change the amount to \$54. Motion passed.

8. **Motion:** To approve the following slate of Officers for the 2017-18 term: Heidi Schell – First Vice President and Acting Secretary; Scott

5 min Vote

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Haber – Second Vice President; Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson – Third Vice President; Adam Steinberger – Treasurer. The term of these officers shall run from July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 (*Yash Snider on behalf of the Officer Nominating Committee*)

Yash Snider made the motion. Jeff Lerner seconded. Motion passed.

9. Cantorial Transition Update (*Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson*) 15 min Discussion

Nathaniel shared the goals for the Cantorial Transition process: 1) to create a vision for the musical experience at PTS; 2) to conduct a search and hire a cantor that can help realize our musical vision for PTS; 3) to give congregants appropriate opportunities to honor Cantor Barry throughout the year in ways that will be meaningful to the Cantor himself; 4) to dovetail anticipated philanthropy around the Cantor's legacy at PTS with current philanthropy strategy; 5) to ensure a smooth transition for families going through the B'nai Mitzvah process; and to 6) communicate transparently and frequently with the congregation throughout. Nathaniel and Kathleen Shugar will be co-chairing the Steering Committee that will coordinate the efforts of the various groups working on executing the vision, search, gala, etc. Adam Steinberger and Heidi Schell will also serve on the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee and the chairs of the constituent groups hope to begin meeting as a group in August; meanwhile, the committee working on the vision for the musical experience is forming under Adam Steinberger's leadership, and is reaching out for input from congregants.

10. Board Packet Q&A 10 min Discussion

Lauren reiterated her appreciation to the Board for their engagement and for taking on key roles. **Action:** Please review the President's Report and complete action items.

11. Consent Agenda 2 min Vote

Consent agenda was approved.

12. Concluding Prayer

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37PM.

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