

Board of Trustees Minutes February 21, 2018

Chair: Lauren Schlezinger ♦ Minutes: Arlene Rosenberg ♦ Timekeeper: Andy Oliff

*Pick from each of your tribes [those] who are wise discerning and experienced, and I will appoint them as your heads.
-Deuteronomy 1:13*

Attendees

Board

Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson	Betsy Rosen
Lois Fried	Arlene Rosenberg
Marilyn Hollinger	Heidi Schell
Jeff Lerner	Lauren Schlezinger
Andy Oliff	Sharon Silverman
Gene Podkaminer	Yash Snider

Absent

Scott Haber
Julie Feuchtwang
Jenna Fisher
Jon Herstein
Ware Kuschner
Matt Mandel
Adam Steinberger

Staff

Rabbi Lisa Delson
Rabbi Dan Feder
Karen Wisialowski
Allison Steckley
Ayelet Shapiro

Guest

Keith Tandowsky

Summary of General Trustee Action Items:

1. Board members are encouraged to subscribe to the Board calendar on the PTS website using the instructions Karen provided in her CCO Report.
2. Board members are to review the proposed changes to the Restricted Fund Handbook and share any comments or questions with Karen.
3. Board members are encouraged to contribute to the pooled sponsorship fund for the May 5 fundraiser and to help secure items for the May 5 raffle.

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

1. Welcome, Blessing for Community Service 5 min

Ayelet Shapiro, new Director of Community Engagement, introduced herself to the Board and Board members introduced themselves to her.

2. D'var Torah (*Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson*) 5 min
3. Senior Rabbi Report (*Rabbi Dan Feder*) 10 min Report

Rabbi Feder talked about three learning sessions he attended at URJ Biennial in December that made strong impressions on him: (1) a session on how organizations can use Design Thinking to transform the way they do things; (2) a session on theological evolution in Judaism; and (3) a session on creating a "culture of philanthropy," which Rabbi Feder feels we have done well at PTS.

Important Dates for Trustees

Executive Committee Meeting—March 1, 7p ♦ Special Havdalah Event with Chava Mirel—March 17, TBD
Board Meeting—March 21, 6:15p

4. Goals Check-In (*Lauren Schlezinger*) 15 min Discussion

Lauren distributed a list of the Tier 1 and Tier 2 priorities that the Board adopted at our retreat in August 2017. The Board broke into small groups to consider (1) whether the congregation is allocating resources according to our priorities; and (2) how the Board can actively monitor progress toward our goals. Regarding (1), consensus is that leadership is allocating time according to the priorities. Regarding (2), groups suggested that project teams are responsible for holding themselves accountable and that reporting in meetings is the most effective way of informing the Board of progress.

5. Preschool tuition 15 min Vote

Motion: To approve Peninsula Temple Sholom Preschool tuition for the 2018-19 school year.

Background: The proposed 2018-19 tuition rates can be found at <https://preschool.sholom.org/>. These rates represent roughly a 3% increase over the 2017-18 rates. They also reflect an additional hour per day because the school's core hours will be changing from 9-12 to 9-1 next year. The proposed rates are supported by the Finance Committee.

Motion made by Heidi Schell and seconded by Sharon Silverman. Motion passed.

6. Small Group Working Session
- Material for Nominating Committee (*Heidi Schell*)
 - Board Outreach to Support Membership Commitment Renewal (*Karen Wisialowski*) 30 min Activity
 - Congregational Transition Conversation (*Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson*)
 - Building Community in Support of Social Justice Goals (*Rabbi Lisa Delson*)

The Board divided into small groups to discuss the four issues listed above.

7. Story of the Month (*Heidi Schell*) 5 min Personal Reflection
8. Board Packet Q&A (*Lauren Schlezinger*) 10 min Discussion

- In her report, Karen provided instructions for subscribing to PTS' online calendars.
Action: Board members are encouraged to subscribe to the Board calendar on the PTS website using the instructions Karen provided in her CCO Report.
- Karen is in the process of updating the Restricted Fund Handbook, which lists all of PTS' restricted funds and their purposes and contains guidelines for spending money from restricted funds. Karen proposes increasing the minimum spending amount that requires Board approval from \$2,000 to \$3,000. She also proposes increasing the minimum initial contribution required to establish a named restricted fund from \$2,500 to \$10,000. She will be asking the Board to approve the revised handbook, including these changes, in March or April.
Action: Board members are to review the proposed changes to the Restricted Fund Handbook and share any comments or questions with Karen.

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9. Cantorial Transition and Search Update (*Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson, Marilyn Hollinger and Keith Tandowsky*) 30 min Report, Executive Session and Vote

- Communications:
 - Marilyn demonstrated the new cantorial transition website, which is located at <https://cantor.sholom.org/>. The website contains, among other things:
 - Information and RSVP links for the three special events honoring Cantor Barry;
 - A blog where updates will be posted;
 - Links to the congregation's and the Cantor's letters about Cantor Barry's retirement;
 - A description of the various teams involved in the cantorial transition;
 - Basic information about the new B'nai Mitzvah program;
 - A link for making donations to the Cantor Barry Reich Tribute Fund; and
 - Information about and testimonials to Cantor Barry.
 - The communications committee also plans to run ads in J. Weekly and is working on an article that they hope will be published in J. Weekly.
 - Marilyn thanked Andi Sobel for her very hard work on the transition communications.
- May 5 "All That Barry Jazz Supper Club" fundraiser for the Cantor Barry Reich Tribute Fund:
 - Ticket prices have been set at \$150 and \$250.
 - We are looking for sponsorships to underwrite the cost of the event so that more of the money raised can go to the tribute fund. A single sponsorship is being established to pool contributions from Board members and past presidents; we hope to collect \$10,000 for this pooled sponsorship fund. Those who contribute \$1,000 will receive two tickets to the May 5 event.
 - Nathaniel asked that Board members:
 - Attend the event;
 - Contribute to the leadership sponsorship fund at a level that is comfortable;
 - Help secure items that can be bundled into premium raffle prize packages, such as a Sports Package, a Northern California Travel Package, and a Dining Around Town Package.

Action: Board members are encouraged to contribute to the pooled sponsorship fund for the May 5 fundraiser and to help secure items for the May 5 raffle.

- Nathaniel made the following two motions:
 - **Motion:** To ratify that Scott Haber, Personnel Committee Chair, Karen Wisialowski, Chief Community Officer, and Rabbi Dan Feder are authorized to negotiate, on behalf of PTS, the terms of a contract with the cantor candidate recommended by the Cantor Search Committee. Motion seconded by Marilyn Hollinger.
 - **Motion:** To approve and ratify all actions taken to date by the Cantor Search Committee, the officers and clergy of PTS with respect to offering the position of cantor, and negotiating the terms of employment, to the candidate recommended by the Cantor Search Committee. Motion seconded by Lois Fried.

Lauren moved that the Board enter Executive Session, joined by Rabbi Feder, Karen Wisialowski, and Keith Tandowsky, to discuss these two motions. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:25 pm. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:48 pm.

Both motions passed.

10. Governance Motions 10 min Vote

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- **Motion:** To elect Heidi Schell as President of Peninsula Temple Sholom for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019.

Bylaws reference - Article VII, Section 2(a): "Selection of President. At the January meeting of the Trustees, the Trustees shall elect a committee of three (3) Trustees who shall nominate a Trustee for the position of President. At the February meeting of the Trustees, the committee shall present their nominee. Other nominations may be made from the floor. The Trustees shall then elect a President. The newly elected President shall take office at the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year."

At last month's meeting, Yash Snider, Betsy Rosen, and Matt Mandel were elected as the nominating committee for President

Motion made by Yash Snider and seconded by Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson. Heidi was excused from the room while the Board voted. Motion passed.

- **Motion:** To elect April Glatt, (Chair), Michelle Tandowsky, Marc Engel and Diane Goldman as members of the 2018-19 board term Nominating Committee.

Bylaws reference – Article XV, Section 1: "The Trustees shall no later than at its regular monthly meeting in March elect a Nominating Committee for the purpose of nominating Trustees. This committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Trustees and four (4) members of the congregation at large, as well as such alternates as the Trustees may determine. All these committee members must be members in good standing. It is the spirit and intention of these Bylaws that any nominating committee shall be composed of more members of the congregation at large than of Trustees. The Trustee who shall serve as President in the next fiscal year shall not serve on the Nominating Committee."

The trustees Julie Feuchtwang, Jon Herstein and Andrew Oliff were elected in last month's meeting.

Motion made by Andy Oliff and seconded by Marilyn Hollinger. Motion passed.

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| 11. Consent Agenda | 2 min | Vote |
| <i>Includes last month's Board minutes and approval of new members.</i> | | |

Consent Agenda was approved.

12. Concluding Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

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