

Board of Trustees Meeting

August 15, 2018

Minutes

Chair: Heidi Schell ♦ Minutes: Ayelet Shapiro ♦ Timekeeper: Andy Oliff

Know where you came from; know where you are going; and [know] in whose presence you will have to make an accounting. Pirkei Avot 3:1

Attendees

Board

Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson
Julie Feuchtwang
Scott Haber
Jon Herstein
Marilyn Hollinger
Ware Kuschner
Jeff Lerner
Matt Mandel
Andy Oliff
Gene Podkaminer
Betsy Rosen
Heidi Schell
Eric Schlezinger
Sharon Silverman
Maria Yarmolinsky

Absent

Jenna Fisher
Adam Steinberger
Arlene Rosenberg
Mary Ann Waterman

Staff

Rabbi Lisa Delson
Rabbi Dan Feder
Rabbi Molly Plotnik
Cantor Alexandra Fox
Karen Wisialowski
Ayelet Shapiro
Allison Steckley
Madeleine Steckley

Guests

Michael Battat
Lois Fried
Sophie Saddik

Summary of General Trustee Action Items:

1. Every Board member to sign up for at least one HHD Hospitality shift.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449acaf2aa7fa7-peninsula>
2. Please make your HHD donation or pledge before the start of the HHD.
3. Help collect pledge cards during Yom Kippur services.
4. Advise Cris Perry or Sharon ASAP if you have not already confirmed your HHD Honor.
5. Complete your assigned congregant outreach by September 9, Erev RH.
6. Be an ambassador during the HHD! Wear your Trustee name badge, introduce yourself to new people, answer questions, and share any observations or feedback with senior staff or Heidi.
7. Please send your headshot to Ayelet for inclusion on the Board page on the new website.

President Heidi Schell called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

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| 1. Welcome, Blessing for Community Service Heidi Schell introduced Sophie Saddik, PARTY President. | 5 min | |
| 2. D'var Torah (Matt Mandel) | 5 min | |

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| 3. Fulfilling Our Vision During the High Holy Days (Rabbi Feder, Michael Battat, Lois Fried, Sharon Silverman, Karen Wisialowski, Heidi Schell) | 35 min | Discussion |
| <p>Heidi reminded everyone that the HHD are an opportunity for us to live our values, to connect and engage with congregants and guests, and to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all. Important for Trustees to be visible and present. She also encouraged everyone to nurture their own “awe” and spirituality and take time to enjoy the HHD experience for themselves.</p> <p>Services: Rabbi Feder informed the Board of the various services available. He reminded Trustees to be positive role models to other congregants.</p> <p>Hospitality Team: Co-Chairs Michael Battat and Lois Fried explained the different roles needed for Hospitality Team and how to sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449acaf2aa7fa7-peninsula</p> <p>Action: Every Board member to sign up for at least one Hospitality shift.</p> <p>Appeal: Sharon gave an update on the Appeal and asked for 100% participation from the Board. She also asked for Board members to help collect pledge cards during Yom Kippur morning services when the Appeal will be made.</p> <p>Action: Board members to make their HHD donation or pledge before the start of the HHD.</p> <p>Action: Board members to help collect pledge cards.</p> <p>Honors: Sharon gave an update on Honors and asked that Board members confirm their roles if they haven’t already.</p> <p>Action: Advise Cris Perry or Sharon ASAP regarding your Honor.</p> <p>Action Items - Additional Expectations of Board members: Heidi reminded Trustees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete their assigned congregant outreach by September 9, Erev RH. - Sign up to give a brief welcome/please sit down at the beginning of services. - Be an ambassador! Wear your Trustee name badge, introduce yourself to new people, answer questions, and share any observations or feedback with senior staff or Heidi. | | |
| 4. Story of the Month (Jon Herstein) | 5 min | Personal Reflection |
| 5. 2018-19 Board Priorities (Heidi Schell, Scott Haber, Julie Feuchtwang, Rabbi Delson) | 35 min | Presentation/Discussion |
| <p>Heidi reminded the Board of the four agreed upon Board priorities for the upcoming year (Cantorial Transition/Musical Experience, Membership/Engagement, Tikkun Olam, and Philanthropy.) She underscored the important role that the Board plays both individually and collectively in advancing our priorities. Tonight we will focus on two of the priorities and what role the Board can play in each of these.</p> <p>Cantorial Transition/Musical Experience (Co-Chairs Scott Haber & Julie Feuchtwang)</p> | | |

Scott and Julie reviewed the structure that's in place, action plans and strategies, and who is doing what to ensure a smooth transition for PTS and Cantor Fox. Here's what the Board can do:

- Be positive ambassadors for PTS and role models for congregants
- Listen, observe
- Create buzz: Invite friends/fellow congregants to services, events, spread the word via your social channels
- Provide feedback (both your personal feedback and what you might hear) to Julie, Scott, Heidi, Rabbi Feder or Karen on transition related items
- Julie and Scott welcome any ideas and suggestions, and also any experience you may have with clergy transitions
- Pay attention to congregant comments
- If you would like to be more involved with any aspect of the transition, please contact Julie, Scott, or Heidi

Social Justice/Action (Co-Chairs: Arlene Rosenberg and Rabbi Delson)

Rabbi Delson gave an overview of the progress the Social Justice Team has made, reminding everyone that striving for justice is living our Jewish values. She highlighted the fact that the team met all its goals for last year. She shared the team's objectives for this year including conducting house meetings in 2019.

Here's what the Board can do:

- Be partners and ambassadors for the house meetings including participating, hosting, reaching out to your network, and understanding the process
- Attend and actively participate in social action and public policy learning events
- Help with planning and coordinating the house meetings

Membership/Community Engagement

Current leadership team includes Matt Mandel, Lauren Schlezinger, and Andi Zussman. Board will be taking a deep dive into this priority at the 2018 Board Retreat.

Philanthropy

Board will resume this conversation after the High Holy Days.

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| <p>6. Board B'rit/Covenant (Heidi Schell) Heidi asked the Board to sign the board covenant.</p> | 10 min | Discussion |
| <p>7. Website Update (Ayelet)</p> | 10 min | Presentation |
| <p>Ayelet gave an overview of the new website that will be launched late August 2018. She opened up the possibility to the board for feedback on content. Action: Please send your headshot to Ayelet for inclusion on the Board page.</p> | | |
| <p>8. Governance</p> | 5 min | Vote |
| <p>Motion: To make a mortgage payment of approximately \$116,822 on 8/16/2018 from the Financial Freedom Fund. (Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson) Betsy Rosen seconded the motion. The motion passed.</p> | | |

Background: We may pay down 20% of our mortgage balance every year without any prepayment penalty. The balance of the mortgage as of August 1, 2018 is \$584,112. The balance of the Financial Freedom Fund as of June 30, 2018 is \$152,503. After the paydown, there will be \$35,681 in the Fund. Currently, there are pledges outstanding of \$183,000 that we expect to be paid over the next two years.

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| <p>9. Board Packet Q&A</p> | <p>10 min</p> | <p>Discussion</p> |
| <p>Karen gave an overview of the new members who have joined and shared that we have hired Jonathan Harris as the new Director of Finance & Administration.</p> <p>Heidi informed the Board of the Annual Board led Shabbat on October 5th and asked for three volunteers to organize the service with the clergy.</p> | | |
| <p>10. Consent Agenda <i>Includes last month's Board minutes and approval of new members.</i> The consent agenda was approved.</p> | <p>2 min</p> | <p>Vote</p> |
| <p>11. Concluding Prayer</p> | | |
| <p>Meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.</p> | | |