

TEMPLE SHALOM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Monday, February 1, 2021 (via Zoom)

Present: Debra Levy-Fritts, President, Stephen Falk, VP, Lory Kohleriter, VP, Phil Rosenfeld, VP, Jeff Kort, Finance Director, Jason Gadsby, Treasurer, Rodney Schlosser, Immediate Past President, Rabbi Andrew Paley, Cantor Devorah Avery, Steve Lewis, Executive Director, Debbie Niederman, Religious School Director, Jacque Comroe, Emma Darling, Gail Davidson, Barry Epstein, Laurel Fisher, Roy Flegenheimer, Lisa Greenstein, Stephanie Hirsh, Michael Kaplan, Toni Lachman, Bob Landers, Diane Laner, Adam Mandel, Theresa Myers, Zach Palmer, Jody Pearson, Michael Sarnier, Myron Schwitzer, Mark Stromberg, Steve Weintraub.

Absent: Stacey Segal, Adam Berman

Guest: Dr. Lara Johnson

Meeting was called to Order at 7:05 by President Debra Levy-Fritts.

D'Var Torah was given by Rabbi Paley

Minutes of the recent Executive Committee were accepted.

Covid 19 Task Force: Guest, Dr. Lara Johnson provided a current update. There have been over 22,000 deaths in Dallas County due to Covid. There have been 1,427 new cases, with 44 patients currently in ICU, 134 patients in Parkland. It is recommended that all possible activities remain outdoors, in compliance with CDC recommendations. An information session will be forthcoming in two weeks.

Youth Commission: Debbie Niederman gave an overview of the Youth Commission, which has begun to wrap up. She reports that ten meetings have been held so far. Debbie gave a presentation of the Draft of Mission and Vision statement for Youth Learning at Temple Shalom. (Looking Inward, Looking Outward, Looking Forward.) The members of the Commission were recognized for their hard work and dedication. A new prayer for learning will soon be offered. Debbie spoke about what it means that "all your actions are Torah" and becoming Torah. Discussion followed.

Executive Director's Report: Steve Lewis acknowledged Debbie Niederman and her staff for her effort in our school. He further reported that we have great tenants in Mercy and they are presently on the verge of extending their contract with some minor negotiations still being discussed. In consideration is a change in spaces currently occupied, such as their use of the sanctuary instead of the Chapel. Steve further reported that Coram Deo Academy has been very cooperative and is very carefully following Covid protocol. There is current discussion with regard to their improving the playground and painting downstairs classrooms subject to our approval. They currently have a 5-yr lease. There has been some discussion about their considering building a Gym on Temple property.

PPP (Payroll Protection Plan) Steve advised that the PPP was a blessing to us, however, Version 2 has several requirements for which we do not qualify.

Jeff Kort advised that the Budget process is underway. The working groups will begin in February, the Board will vote whether to recommend the budget in April, and the proposed budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in May. Jeff further advised that this is the time for our annual loan from the Endowment Fund, in the amount of up to \$250,000, for cash flow purposes, which will be reimbursed in full in July.

A motion was made by Jeff Kort to borrow up to \$250,000 from the Endowment Fund. Seconded by Gail Davidson. Motion carried.

Fundraising: Steve Weintraub thanked those who worked so hard on the “Gaga to Gershwin” program. He advised that we are using the Gift Smart program. Steve spoke briefly about the upcoming “Pha-Roast” event, which is being jointly offered by Brotherhood and Sisterhood. Dennis Eichelbaum will MC. This will be a family-friendly event. More information will be forthcoming online.

President’s Report: Debra reported that we are still exploring the possibility of a Lone Star Circus event. More information will follow at a later date.

Jeff Kort moved that this event be postponed until July. Mark Stromberg seconded. Motion Carried.

Annual Fund: Jeff Kort spoke briefly about the Annual Fund. More callers are needed. We currently have between \$135,000 to \$140,000 so far.

Membership Committee: Membership Committee continues to be in the process of formulating plans.

Board Development: Debra reviewed the highlights of the last board discussion regarding Guiding Principles. She encouraged those who have not read the articles she previously sent to please try to do so. These articles address synagogues in time of Covid.

Rabbi Paley: Rabbi spoke about the current trends going on with regard to functioning during Covid times, the possibility that our future will involve being online; Belonging vs. Membership; in-home learning; not all about content, it’s about community. The goal of providing content is to create connection, relationships. He also spoke about the Spiritual journey, a defining characteristic of the new member, “riding the waves G-d sends us.” Discussion followed on how to apply these ideas to Temple Shalom and the changes already at our doorstep. We are constantly changing, fluid.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.