

**Temple Shalom Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, May 3, 2021, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)**

**Present:** Debra Levy Fritts, President, Lory Kohleriter, VP, Jeff Kort, Finance Director, Devorah Avery, Cantor, Steve Lewis, Executive Director, Adam Berman, Stephanie Hirsh, Jody Pearson, Bob Landers, Diane Laner, Gail Davidson, Jacque Comroe, Laurel Fisher, Michael Kaplan, Phil Rosenfeld, Myron Schwitzer, Rodney Schlosser, Roy Flegenheimer, Steve Weintraub, Theresa Myers, Toni Lachman, Zach Palmer, Marcy Finn, Paddy Epstein, Barry Epstein, Dennis Eichelbaum, and Barry Lachman.

**Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Debra Levy Fritts, President.

D'Var Torah was given by Cantor Avery.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Myron had three changes to the April meeting minutes (which have been subsequently made and sent to Steve Lewis).

**COVID-19 Update:** Barry Lachman spoke about the variants and stated the vaccines are holding according to the reports. There is some emerging evidence of high-risk vaccinated people having breakthrough cases. The concern is how to protect those people since Temple Shalom has a high-risk population. He further stated Parkland is reporting fewer cases which supports the success of the vaccines.

**President's Report/Update:** Debra Levy-Fritts thanked everyone who made it to the annual meeting. She announced the new slate of officers, budget, and new mission statement were all approved. Further, volunteers were recognized, and Stephanie Hirsh gave a preview update of the Blueprint 2025 survey that was just completed. Cantor Avery streamed the slideshow presented at the annual meeting thanking special volunteers. Volunteers included Lonna Rae Silverman, Harriet Bell, Nathan Axelrod, Toba Reifer, Barry Lachman, the Youth Commission, and Covid Task Force Commission members.

Debra Levy-Fritts stated the Temple Shalom staff, COVID taskforce, and Clergy have begun collaborating on a plan to reenter the building in the new programming/fiscal year. Rabbi and Cantor are specifically working on the plan for in-person services. Temple Shalom will start opening the building to small groups such as the Sisterhood's Mah Jong group. The Board needs to further look at protocols and put forth a plan i.e., do we require proof of vaccine to come back into the building, etc.

**Important Board Dates:** June 11th - Board Installation. June 13th - the first board retreat. Times TBD.

**Parsonage Motion:** Jeff Kort made a motion to accept parsonage allowances for the fiscal year 2021-22 for clergy. Rodney explained the Parsonage Allowance is at no expense to Temple. The motion was seconded by Adam Berman. The motion carried unanimously.

**Signature Motions:** Jeff Kort made a motion to allow the following officers to be signers of all Temple Shalom bank accounts except for the Project Atidenu account: Debra Levy-Fritts, Rodney Schlosser, Steven Falk, and Jason Gadsby.

Jeff made an additional motion allowing the following officers to be signers on the Project Atidenu account: Debra Levy-Fritts, Stephen Falk, and Rodney Schlosser.

Both motions were seconded by Roy Flegenheimer. The motions carried unanimously.

**Cantor's Report:** Cantor Avery spoke about Shavuot services. Havdalah service with Nefesh Mountain followed by Sunday morning Blessing of the Babies, and Sunday afternoon Through the Wilderness to Sinai experience followed by Monday morning Yizkor Service on Zoom.

Debra Levy-Fritts asked Theresa Myers to speak about a special Shavuot Mitzvah project: Bagels for Covid Vaccination Staff at Parkland. Theresa stated this is a special opportunity for Temple Shalom members to put together bags and write thank you cards for Covid workers on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Director Update:** Steve Lewis announced Paul and Raelaine Radnitz have offered a donation of \$75,000 to improve the speaker and microphone system in the sanctuary and social hall. Steve stated since this is not a budgeted gift and is a substantial amount of money, it must be approved by the Board. Myron Schwitzer made to motion to accept the gift. Michael Kaplan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Fundraising:**

- Steve Weintraub gave a brief recap of the PhaRoast Fundraiser. He stated 460 people have seen the program. Steve stated, “Kudos to Dennis Eichelbaum, Emma Darling, Scott Butnick, and sponsors.”
- Dennis Eichelbaum proposed a Metroplex Cornhole Championship Tournament to raise \$40k. This fundraising event would be a citywide, high-profile fundraiser that focuses on non-congregational donations. Revenue would come through participant and guest entry fees, food and drink sales, sponsorships, etc. The theme is a “festival experience”. Rodney Schlosser stated this could be a great replacement for the Food Truck Festival which had declined in revenue before COVID. Debra Levy-Fritts stated this fundraiser could be a part of the Board's \$15,000 fundraising efforts through attendance, volunteering, and engagement.
- Theresa Myers proposed a Resale Fundraiser based on the DuPage, Illinois Area Moms Semi-Annual Resale Event. The Temple Shalom Resale Fundraiser would involve the whole community, not just Temple Members. She proposed we partner with the J Resale Shop and Network for Community Members as our fundraising partners allowing them to sell items from their resale shops at 100% commission to those organizations. Theresa stated MySaleManager.net is a cloud-based software for resale fundraisers and highly recommended by the DuPage Area Moms. Consignments could be a 60-40 split or 70-30 for those who also volunteer for the event. We need six months to plan the event. Gross revenue for DuPage Area Moms was \$59,000 for 2019. During Covid, their gross revenue was \$17,000. Theresa laid out a marketing plan for the resale fundraiser which could also be used for other events.
- Gail Davidson asked about utilizing GiveSmart again next year. This was a favorable idea, and it was determined the Board would investigate GiveSmart as an option for the upcoming year/fundraisers.
- Debra Levy-Fritts presented Emma Darling's fundraising idea, “50 Years of Building Community” since Emma was unable to attend the meeting. The extravaganza/gala would be a COVID friendly outdoor/indoor event at Temple Shalom. The event celebrates Temple Shalom’s 50 years in the building and the organization being an integral part of the community. Temple Shalom would charge an entrance fee. Event highlights include dancing, DJ/music, a large screen, raffle, games, food, drink, and sponsorship opportunities. A commemorative book would be an option for the event.
- Debra Levy-Fritts stated she would send an email regarding the three fundraising ideas and propose a special Board meeting to vote on the fundraisers.
- The Board was asked to not share information about the fundraisers with anyone outside the Board.

### **Budget Update:**

- Jeff Kort stated the PPP loan was approved by SBA for loan forgiveness. Temple will be profitable due to the loan forgiveness.
- Steve Lewis stated the PPP2 loan reporting is significantly different than PPP1. The rules also state the organization must have had a revenue drop of 25% from calendar quarter over calendar quarter. Steve is working on the reporting.
- Jeff Kort made a motion to move forward with the application of the PPP2 loan and the Board of Trustees of Temple Shalom authorize the President of Temple Shalom to enter into a new PPP loan agreement through an approved SBA lender for the purpose of current economic uncertainty around the COVID 19 crisis, to maintain workers, maintain payroll, mortgage payments, utility payments, etc. per the SBA formulas. Gail Davidson seconded the motion. Motion carried with one nay (Michael Kaplan).

**Conclusion:** Debra Levy-Fritts recognized the auxiliary representatives and outgoing board with a video presentation.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15

Submitted by Secretary, Theresa Myers