

Temple Shalom
Executive Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2021, at 7:00 pm via Zoom

In Attendance: Debra Levy-Fritts, President; Myron Schwitzer, VP; Lory Kohleriter, VP; Laurel Fisher, VP; Jason Gadsby, Treasurer; Theresa Myers, Secretary; Rabbi Paley; Steve Lewis, Executive Director.

D'var Torah: Rabbi Paley started the meeting with a D'var Torah regarding Genesis 37:5-11; 40:4-8. He spoke about Joseph and his ability to interpret dreams. Rabbi mentioned Debbie Friedman's (of blessed memory) song the Old Shall Dream and the Young Shall See Visions – from the book of Joel. Rabbi discussed Joseph's journey and stated if you will it, it is no longer a dream. It is important to do what is necessary and to take action steps to plan for the future, as a part of leadership.

President's Report:

- Debra Levy-Fritts stated the annual fund is continuing. We will soon have a current update on the amount raised to date from Kathryn.
- There is a URJ Membership lab opportunity which Monica Susman is aware of, and Diane Laner are participating in. Debra is soliciting information from committees for board packets.
- We also will need to provide delegates for the URJ's General Assembly. Myron commented on the changes being contemplated to the URJ bylaws.
- Debra discussed HundredsX as an opportunity to fundraise. Beth Torah raised \$15K. Debra is meeting with HundredsX reps on timelines, etc. Debra had a meeting set up to discuss the fundraiser with Brotherhood and Sisterhood as well.

Executive Director's Report:

- Steve Lewis stated we will start the budget process soon. First staff will make suggestions on budgets, it will then move to committees for review of their section, and then through the final process. We anticipate the process will be finalized by March 2022.
- Steve discussed the list of membership suspensions. There was a list of 60 non-responsive members, and it is now down to 40. Steve will send out the list to see if any of the Executive Committee knows any of the suspended members and can give insight to their situation. These members are not included in the budget for revenue purposes.

Programming Report:

- Rabbi said he hoped everyone saw the new Adult Education learning initiative called JEWEL (Jewish Engagement & Learning). The program includes learning opportunities as well as service opportunities. For those who participate and log their learning and volunteer projects, they will receive acknowledgement for their efforts throughout the year.
- Rabbi stated GrandTime's first session was successful. This new project, which was an initiative between Temple Shalom with funding from the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas, is for grandparents of grandchildren from interfaith marriages. The next event will be held Sunday, 12/12/2021.
- Rabbi introduced the Family Journeys project. This is a family education initiative not tied to Sunday School. Rabbi Paley and Debbie Niederman will lead the program and they will begin in January 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. followed by a brief closed session.