

**Temple Shalom Board of Trustees
Board Meeting, Board Room
Monday, December 11, 2023**

Following the 6:30 Latke Tasting, the Meeting was called to order at: 7:00pm

Present:

Dennis Eichelbaum, President	X	Rik Heller	X	Karen Stock	
Theresa Myers, Executive VP	X	Lory Kohleriter	X	Steve Weintraub	X
Terry Abel, Vice President	X	Barry Lachman	X	Alice Rosen, Sisterhood President	X
Stephanie Hirsh, Vice President	X	Stuart Marcus		Louis Marx, Brotherhood President	X
Joel Guskin, Finance Director	X	Gretchen Reynolds	X	Rabbi Andrew Paley	X
Gail Enda, Treasurer	X	Ali Rhodes	X	David Lamden, Executive Director	X
Laurel Fisher, Secretary	X	Renee Roth			
Debra Levy-Fritts, Past President	X	Stephanie Russell		Barry Epstein	X
Barry Brown	X	Ryan Schamerloh	X	Paddy Epstein	X
Emma Darling	X	Mollie Schick	X		
David Gerber	X	Bill Siegel		Debbie Niederman, Lifelong Learning Director	X

Jewish Journey – Barry Brown

Director of Lifelong Learning Report – Debbie Niederman

- Debbie joined the meeting to give us an update on the Lifelong Learning Department.
- The Lifelong Learning Council is being chaired by Stuart Marcus.
- The Adult Education Committee is led by Kathryn Frish and Harriet Bell. There are lots of great classes being offered. They are also looking into doing some Adult Education Travel as well.
- Debbie has been working on enhancing our holiday learning with activities such as the *Banquet in Thyme* for Sukkot and perhaps a *S'lichot Under the Stars* program in the Fall.
- If you'd like to get involved in planning the Passover University program, please let Debbie know.
- There are many new programs this year, some of which have been created in response to requests from our members, including:
 - Baby and Me Celebration Circles
 - Inaugural Pre-K Sunday School Class which has 8 children
 - Hebrew Through Movement Program that focuses on creating an auditory/physical Hebrew rich environment for all students.
 - Stay and Schmooze Program once a month for parents to gather, network and connect to our holy community. Supported by Brotherhood/Sisterhood
 - New emphasis on Teen Travel with a goal of taking different trips for each high school year. This year we will be taking 8 students to the L'taken Social Justice Seminar in Washington DC.

President's Report – Dennis Eichelbaum

Temple Shalom builds holy community, connecting our congregation to one another, to God, Torah, Israel and the Jewish people through worship, study, gathering and community service.

- Dennis reminded the Board to Sign up to greet or give announcements for Shabbat Services.
- Veteran's Day Calls: the response from Veterans was positive and they appreciated the personal touch. It was noted that we are the only congregation that invites Veterans to participate in a Color Guard at services each year. David Gerber suggested we advertise to the community that we offer this service.
- The Temple Shalom Past Presidents held their annual meeting/dinner. It was very well attended and there were productive conversations.

Fundraising Update – Theresa Myers

- The Annual Fund Campaign is still going on, and Chair, Kathryn Frish is still making calls. Currently we are at \$145,000 with a goal of \$165,000.
- We are still waiting for final numbers from the Golf Tournament.
- The Justice Garden raised \$937 in online donations and \$100 in cash donations. The Amazon Wish List that was created has also done quite well.

OnBoard Grant – Debra Levy Fritts

- Debra is proud to announce that we were able to raise enough funds to make our match of \$50,000 this year. All of the paperwork was turned in on December 1st and we heard back with full approval in just 4 days. The goal is to use a portion of these funds to create a special task force to do a policy audit and to bring in Cindy Moscovitz to help with this. *Kol HaKavod* to Debra and her team.
- Theresa Myers made the following motion that was seconded by Lory Kohleriter:
I move to authorize the president to engage a governance consultant not to exceed \$10,000, and consistent with the OnBoard grant using OnBoard funds.
- The motion passed unanimously.

Garden Report – Gretchen Reynolds

- The Justice Garden Ribbon Cutting and Dedication that was held on Sunday, December 10th was beautiful and very well attended. Gretchen acknowledged her entire team who worked so hard to make it happen.
- Gretchen also noted that she is continuing to apply for grants.
- Barry Lachman made the following motion that was seconded by Lory Kohleriter:
I move to authorize the president and/or Executive Director to accept any grant awarded to Temple Shalom for the garden.
- The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report – David Lamden

- David shared a list of Upcoming Events.
- The Staff Holiday Lunch will be on Wednesday, December 13, 2023.
- Communications Report: David is finalizing an agreement with the selected vendor.
- David is looking into security upgrades to the lighting on the east and southeast side of the building.
- David's trip to the NATA Conference was informative and there is much for him to process. He appreciates our funding his attendance at this conference.
- David has arranged for holiday treats to be provided to the local DPD substation and our security guards to thank them for all that they do. Brotherhood and Sisterhood are providing support for this.

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Rabbi Paley's Report – Rabbi Paley

- Rabbi noted the sudden passing of Rabbi David Ellenson, a scholar, mensch, and leader in the Reform Movement.
- The URJ is holding a conference in Washington DC this week.
- Rabbi also noted that NFTY (the Reform Movement's Youth Movement) has been struggling in recent years. He shared that Lauren Stock, daughter of Aric and Karen Stock, is working to re-energize the youth programming.
- Kudos to Mandy Monreal and the Kol Shalom Youth Choir who sang at the Galleria on the first night of Hanukkah.
- Rabbi will be traveling to Israel on Saturday, December 16, 2023, with 15 colleagues on a Solidarity mission.

Board Discussion – Budget Priorities for 2024-25

- Given that a Budget is a reflection of the priorities of an organization, the board broke into small groups to discuss what our priorities ought to be in the coming budget cycle. David will gather the comments and report back next month. Budget areas include:
 - Communication
 - Facilities
 - Board/Governance
 - Lifelong Learning
 - Membership/Belonging
 - Security
 - Tikkun Olam

Rubber Chicken – Alice Rosen presented to Mollie Schick and the garden committee.

Secretary Reminders – Laurel Fisher

- Reach out to Debbie Niederman if you want to help with Passover U
- Sign up to be a Greeter or Make Announcements at Shabbat Services
- Attend the January 6th Joanie Leeds Concert 5pm
- If you choose to donate to Israel, Rabbi will have specific suggestions upon his return.

Sad & Glad

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Laurel Fisher

Temple Shalom Secretary