

Temple Sinai Board of Trustees Meeting Notes
Meeting- 11/20/24

Attendees	Present	Attendees	Present	Attendees	Present
Stephanie Podolak	X	Gerald Lassow	X		
Dave Eisner	X	Janette Amayo	X	Rachael Narcissi	X
Jonathan Falk	X	Emily Yates	X	Terri Tilliss	X
Phyllis Babich	X	Rob Eber		Lisa Meer Weiss	X
Ana Koser	X	Melanie Wiseman	X	Eddie Yenkinson	X
Marshall Tobin	X	Jean Guthery	X		
Kathy Zeiger	X	Rebecca Hea Wilson	X		
Jim Stone	X				
Rabbi R. Rheins	X	Lisa Thorner	X	Doni Kaye	X
Rabbi M. Shields	X	Ruthie Lipshulch	X	Sheila Purdin	X
Debbie Foster	X	Lauren Bubis	X		

6:00 p.m.-7:35 p.m.

I. Dinner

II. D'Var Torah

Rabbi Rheins

III. Old Business

A. Updated EC/Board Meetings

B. Review/Acceptance of Minutes

Stephanie Podolak

1. Motion to approve: Jim Stone
 Second: Kathy Zeiger
 Motion passes

C. Chai 5 Campaign Update

Lisa Thorner

Updates: We are on pace to match what we did last year. \$25,000 is the goal. This is a great way to touch all of the members and the Sinai community and allow them to donate as much or as little as they can/need

Rabbi Rheins said that there is a donor willing to match \$20,000. An email will go out to the members about this

D. Upcoming Events

a. Musical Shabbat-November 22
 Middle Eastern Oneg, music

Lisa/Debbie

b. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
 Sunday at 4 pm, with First Plymouth Church

Rabbi Rheins

First Plymouth was Sinai's first home for about 7 years, we are hosting them, their choir and our choir. Really nice way to celebrate together. Interfaith relations are very important right now, would be good to have a good presence from the board

- c. Defeat Antisemitism Terri Tilliss
This is happening on 11/21 and it's a series of sessions. How it feels to be at the center of antisemitism will be the topic
- d. Sinai Shines Debbie Foster

This is how we bring our community together with a Sinai wide Havdallah, candle making, preschool and religious school kids performing together. Looking for sponsorships. This is a great way to encourage attendance
- e. Chanukah-December 27

On the 8th night of Chanukah will do a virtual candle lighting to show strength in our community

Planning a Chanukah dinner, 5:30 pm, encourage everyone to bring their own menorahs, go to the sanctuary together for an intergenerational service where we all light candles together
- f. Torah Project Rabbi Rheins

January 12th and January 13th, a donor has been generous enough to bring Rabbi Moshe Druin to fly out and help repair the torah. This will be a great way for the community to come together to see the repairs.

IV. New Business

Lisa/Stephanie

- A. Updated Calendar of Events
Updates: Mitzvah Day was a success, great turnout at Sinai Social
- B. Insurance for Staff Update
Going from \$65 to \$80/employee, 20 people utilize this and we currently have Kaiser
- C. Youth Group Coordinator
Working on getting money to programming to teens/tweens and working on hiring someone to help with this. Someone would be hired to work around 20-25 hours for this.
- D. Preschool Update Sheila Purdin

Three teachers have been let go from March until now due to cause. This was not taken lightly. Preschool has options now on new hires and is a stronger place due to higher pay. This will impact the quality of school teachers.
-Moving forward there will be better communication to families that will go out through Remini.
-2 of the teachers have been replaced and the 1 position is being interviewed for

-A few years ago we made the conscious decision not to do Universal Pre-K, but Sheila has been reevaluating things and we think it's time to take part in it because the numbers make sense for us. The preschool can look to make sure to get the guaranteed 15 hours Universal Pre-K is contributing for. Also, this lives within our Sinai values for quality early educators, so we would like to make this available to all.

-Local community organizer, Downtown Preschool Program and we would be the only Jewish school participating besides Temple Emmanuel who is not doing it. We won't have to change our programming.

E. Homeland Security Grant Lisa/Lauren Bubis

-Applying for additional fencing, push gates etc.

F. Finances Phyllis Babich

a. Donations higher than budgeted numbers. We are close to the same amount as last year.

Typically, we get more donations in September due to the holidays. Religious School income was down from budgeted, but last year it was \$65,700 and this year it is \$62,000, so it is almost the same as the prior year.

Madrachims get 50% off tuition, which the religious school looks at is as a learning by teaching.

Will take a vote on Credit Card fee at some point soon. Last year processing fees were \$34,000. This year they are \$22,000. People are changing the way they pay their dues.

b. Looking at switching banks.

c. Looking at doing full audits every other year

Vote on this is taken:

Motion to approve: Marshall
Second: Kathy Zeiger
Motion passes, all approved

d. Administrative fees on Donations: Looking at doing an Administrative fee of 5% applied to all donations. This will help offset fees for operating costs and most non-profits do it. There is a cost in running a fund, the staff needed to do it, and the cost is borne by members and the Temple. It is a common practice for non-profit organizations to be deducted from the donation, not in addition to. A letter will go out to donors and the congregation explaining this.

e. Budget Meetings

If anyone wants to be on the finance committee, meeting quarterly, let Phyllis know

G. Fundraising

Annual Event will take place on June 8th
Getting Committee together to brainstorm ideas.
Concert? Any ideas?

Looking to change how we brand it. Terry, Melanie, Lisa, Dave, Debbie