

**Minutes from the
Ohavi Zedek Synagogue Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
June 15, 2017**

DATE:	June 15, 2017	TIME:	5:30P
LOCATION:	OZ – Samuelson Saiger Sanctuary	MEETING TYPE:	Informational and Decision Making
FACILITATOR:	Wayne Senville	TIMEKEEPER:	Wayne Senville

TIME	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
5:56 pm	Board Meeting Commenced	Present: Wayne (chairing meeting in absence of President), Liz, Suzanne, Sarah, Karen, Judy, Joanna, Harvey (Trustee), Eric Corbman (Congregant) Absent: Miriam, Sharon, Jessica, John, Abby
5:56-6:03	D'var Torah	Rabbi Amy led Board in d'var torah
6:03-6:04	Approval of Meeting Minutes	Sarah moved to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2017 Board meeting; Bill seconded; unanimous approval.
6:04P – 6:34P	June 11th Congregation Mtg - Summary	Discussion about June 11 th Congregational Meeting, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative ways to discuss issues with congregants as turnout seemed low. • Feedback from congregants, including questions about availability of materials prior to congregational meeting, budget presentation. • Making more data available to congregants; providing certain data periodically to the congregation to keep members up to date regarding membership, etc. • Possibility of congregants participating at congregational meeting electronically. • Membership numbers – Grace has been working to improve system for tracking membership numbers • OZHS students • Possible changes to voting. • Possible bylaws changes to address electronic attendance at meeting and voting. • Communication strategy – congregant has offered congregant's assistance to help improve. • Assessment – congregant has offered congregant's assistance to help Board assess where we are, where we are going.
		Action Items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grace will check with NAASE contacts to see how other congregations communicate with congregants about

		<p>items to be addressed at congregational meetings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. All board members make calls to congregants for feedback no later than July 16. 3. Bylaws subcommittee (Judy and Suzanne) – to address possible bylaws changes re: electronic attendance, voting at congregational meetings. 4. Wayne – to send Doodle poll to the Board regarding dates for August retreat
6:34	Treasurer's Report (Bill Miller)	<p>We have asked for \$30K of the line of credit. \$48K balance in bank, after June payroll. At this point, we may not need to borrow more. We may have less of a deficit at the end of the year than expected. If so, we'll need to assess why in better position. Bill will look into this.</p> <p>Recent conversation with Lender – Lender open to possibility that if OZ responsibly uses funds, keeps good amortization schedule, we could use it as a cash flow assistance mechanism annually. We are keeping a good amortization schedule. Bill will provide update at next Board meeting.</p> <p>We raised \$5100 through the auction -- \$5,100! ** Thanks to Sharon and Vivien and all bidders – great job!</p>
6:39P	Executive Director's Report (Grace)	<p>HR Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about HR is deferred to the July Board meeting. • Update regarding Marguerite's decision to leave OZ. • Assessing to see if we can fill this void through structural changes and obtaining smaller quantity of assistance. For instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kesef is going to handle membership forms this year, and hopefully this will absorb this workload. ○ High Holidays – if we don't have reserved seating, the workload might be sufficiently less. ○ Looking into best way to obtain additional support. <p>Marketing and outreach: Grace had meeting with Leigh Samuels to discuss need to get more accurate sense of people's thoughts about OZ. Once get sense of our reputation, we can address next steps, including in-reach (people already here).</p> <p>Facility: The Howard Center will start using our space in July and August (1 hour in morning and 1 hour in afternoon) for students/staff in summer camps.</p> <p>Preschool update: We have full enrollment and a waitlist. Contracts sent to families along with handbook and forms. Licensing moving along – inspections done, state taking some action in July. Upgrades to building have happened.</p> <p>Theme for the upcoming year: Widespread support for having an annual theme. Committee chairs recently voted on the theme of interfaith collaboration. Rabbi Amy would like to explore Israel engagement in her adult education class (including history, culture, politics). Rabbi Amy sees connection and intersection between the two themes. For instance, for the next Feen Lecture, Yosi Kleinman Levi could be the featured speaker, addressing both themes. He is a journalist who used to be more right wing and now is centrist, who writes about Israel and has done interfaith work. Next steps are TBD.</p>

		<p>Immigration: 4 Syrian families are moving to Burlington soon. The Shuk us helping them obtain clothing and other supplies.</p> <p>High Holiday Seating: Judy raised the idea that, in light of the Congregation's vote, we need to consider needs of congregants, such as those who would benefit from sitting close but might not arrive early. A working committee was formed (Judy, Sarah and Grace), who will create a proposal addressing this issue and other items regarding HHD seating and will present it to the Board at the next meeting.</p> <p>Retreat: Discussion regarding possible Board retreat.</p>
		<p>ACTION ITEMS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each board member go to 5 people, ask for word/phrase that comes to mind when hear "Ohavi Zedek." 2. Board to address next steps for annual theme. 3. HHD Seating Working Group to make proposal regarding HHD seating and bring to Board at July meeting.
6:58P	Minyan	Minyan held in the large sanctuary (in middle of ED report)
7:48	Rabbi's Report	<p>Religious Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shabbat morning services – the committee been addressing how to increase participation. It has decided to make changes one step at a time. The first step is to reduce the length of the service by 15-30 minutes. The committee is working toward consensus on other matters. • Alternative services – pursuing alternative services. • Friday night services, family services/OZHS services – Issue regarding timing of service because some would like to have them at 5:30 and some at 6:30. They are working on a compromise • Yoga services – hope to have once a month • Rabbi Amy addressed the tension between additive and transformative impact with many of these changes, noting that we need to be mindful of them. <p>Interfaith actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rabbi Amy is involved with clergy caucus of Vermont Interfaith Action Committee. Rabbi Amy asked to attend national conference as part of VT team. Rabbi Amy will discuss with President and Executive Committee. • Imam Hasan is leaving Vermont, and all are invited to celebrate with him, Saturday 8:45 at the Mosque. <p>Summer plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rabbi Amy is going to the Hartman Institute July 2 for 2 weeks. • Rabbi Amy has made plans for coverage while away (Kochava, Harvey, possibly Rabbi Chasan).
		<p>ACTION ITEMS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rabbi Amy, President and Executive Committee to discuss possibility of Rabbi Amy attending the national conference of the Interfaith Action Committee. discuss with President and Executive Committee.
8:03	Executive	Judy made motion to go into Executive Session, Joanna seconded, unanimous vote. Board went into Executive Session

	Session	at 8:03pm. Judy moved to go out of Executive Session, Susanne seconded, and the Board went out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm.
		NOTE: After Executive Session, there was no longer quorum at the Board meeting.
8:47	Visioning	<p>Rabbi Amy addressed visioning, following up on the Congregational Meeting. She noted the 2 parts, reflection and prospecting. Discussion regarding where we are going.</p> <p>Moving forward, Rabbi Amy recommends we use the Executive Committee and the Board as study groups for shaping the language of a vision, then holding a day for congregational participation through a series of activities, such as people working in small groups, addressing questions, creating statements from the congregations.</p> <p>Grace addressed the USCJ session led by Howie Goldberg. General interest in utilizing what USCJ have to offer more, such as Thriving Congregation workshop. USCJ could assist with visioning. Grace is continuing to work on PACT goals from the session.</p> <p>Grace has applied for a USCJ grant to assist with the USCJ meeting in December. General interest in having others attend, and discussion about funding to achieve that.</p> <p>Rabbi Amy noted that the shaping of our goals should flow from our vision, so we should address the visioning exercise soon.</p>
		<p>ACTION ITEMS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rabbi Amy will revise the visioning document (from Congregational Meeting) to add the Shalom Shuk. 2. Each Board member come up with his/her own "Our Future Vision" paragraph (similar to that on pp. 2-3 of the Visioning document from the Congregational meeting). What should we be in the coming years, what does it look like, where are we going? 3. Grace working on PACT goals.
9:05P	President's Report (Wayne)	<p>Open Board seat: Miriam Mayer, who is on the religious committee, is interested in serving on the Board. John Blatt will speak with her.</p> <p>Board Meetings: Discussion about different ways to conduct Board meetings. Possible discussion topic for Board retreat.</p> <p>Bylaws Committee: Judy requested that time be allotted at each Board meeting to address the bylaws so the committee can get Board feedback on particular issues. John Blatt will consider this request.</p>
		<p>ACTION ITEMS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Blatt to speak with Miriam Meyer about joining the Board. 2. John Blatt to consider Bylaws Committee's request.
7:50P	Adjournment	Motion to adjourn at 9:19. The remaining stalwart members unanimously voted to adjourn (even though no quorum).