

Agenda – OZ Board Meeting

Present: Naomi Barell, Suzanne Brown, Eric and Karen Corbman, Judy Danzig, Mindy Evnin, Lisa Glass Kornstein, Erika Geremia, Sarah Glassman, Judy Hershberg, Joshua Kernoff, Harvey Klein, Nat Lew, Jason Lorber, Barbara McGrew, Bill Miller, David and Holly Pasackow, Jeff Potash, Yoram Samets, Michael Schaal, Lila Shapiro, Rabbi Amy Small, Brett Smith, Kay Stambler, Nancy Sugarman, Gary Visco, Rebecca Wasserman, Cantor Steve Zeidenberg.

Facilitator: Nat

Meeting Recorder: Jeff Potash

| | | Item | Discussion, Action Steps |
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| 1 | 5:30 | Dvar Torah – Rabbi Amy | Rabbi Amy noted that it is 50 years since her Bat Mitzvah. Time has passed...We are now thinking about changes in the Jewish community. In this week’s parsha, we read the Priestly blessing, the ancient gathering of community. Recently, Moment magazine addressed “What is Community today?” Anita Diamond cited communities forming around specific interests and passions. This is the challenge and the opportunity for us to focus on what will define us. David Brooks noted that community incorporates both common story and a common project (e.g., the historical Tabernacle brings Jews together in community). Today’s culture often overemphasizes “self.” It’s time to swing the pendulum. We need new forms of community to sustain us.... |
| 2 | 5:40 | Approve minutes from April | MOTION to accept. Board approves. |
| 3 | 5:45 | Clergy and ED reports | Rabbi Amy: (1) As this has been an “extremely difficult” 11 days for Israel and Palestine, I will recite Rabbi Nachman’s prayer for peace. A communal conversation is needed, but will also be difficult. We are working on constructing an instrument so we can do this well, probably later in June. (2) The most recent Pew Study on |

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| | | | <p>the Jewish community confirms much of what we've been seeing around younger Jews: fewer are actively engaged in synagogues; many are intermarried. Younger Jews are less religious but their Jewish identity is important (centering around culture, food). These insights are telling: the old forms are slipping, but there are opportunities...</p> <p>Cantor Steve: It is a "human miracle" that so many of us are vaccinated in our community. (2) We had a wonderful culmination of the Hebrew School year – congratulations to Naomi for her work. (3) Now we will be focusing in the near future on planning ways to come together safely, which is very exciting. (4) The last Zoom coffee house will be on Saturday night</p> <p>Sarah Glassman: We have a family who is applying for new membership, the Odies (Rebecca and Josh).</p> <p>A MOTION to accept the Odies as members was unanimously approved by the Board.</p> <p>Noting the length and depth of her written report, Sarah cited a few highlights, included efforts to address air transfer concerns and continuing to work on the CRM.</p> <p>Nat noted that his lengthy written report contains considerable information on plans for reopening.</p> |
| 4 | 6:05 | Questions about written reports (incl separate Treasurer's) | No questions were asked. Nat cautioned Board members that "You have been informed. Please read our reports!") |
| 5 | 6:10 | MOTION: Approve FY 21-22 budget proposal (separate) | Nat reminded Board members that he had sent out two budget |

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| | | <p>documents. The 2020-21 fiscal year will end balanced; and we anticipate 2021-22 will also close balanced.</p> <p>Brett and Suzanne asked how much PPP money we're spending. We are spending \$43K this year and \$119K next year. We will also be using Imagine 2025 (formerly Resilience Campaign) money as we promised those who donated. Sarah noted that we will need to grapple with a significant shortfall after 2022.</p> <p>Naomi asked where money comes from for events like Channukah, Purim, Passover: Sarah explained that there are a variety of options (it's "murky" – sometimes donations, general fund...); Naomi asked if we could or should numbers in our budget? Nat and Bill recommend this be done next year (with a new treasurer!). Rabbi Amy supported Naomi's request.</p> <p>Becky asked why this year's facilities fee was increased substantially but seems to goes down in following years. Bill identified that as an error based on incomplete calculations. Becky expressed concerns (on behalf of other parents as well) about the 5% increase in preschool tuition. Sarah noted that the increase funds pay raises and will allow Erika to become a full-time director. Also, the cost is comparable to other preschools.</p> <p>ACTION: Nat indicated that he and Bill will review costs for holiday (Chanukah, Purim, and Passover) events and will plan on using Imagine 2025 money as necessary to guarantee the needed funds.</p> |
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| | | | <p>Naomi inquired about the possibility of funding additional events associated with Imagine 2025.</p> <p>. A Motion was made by Gary to approve the proposed fiscal 2022 budget with the addition of expenses and income for holiday events to be worked out before the congregational meeting. Mindy seconded. The Motion was unanimously passed.</p> |
| 6 | 6:45 | RESOLUTION: Funding of Cantor salary in FY 21-22 (below) | <p>A RESOLUTION was presented stating “The Board affirms that OZ has raised enough money to fully fund the cantor’s salary and benefits in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget while keeping that budget balanced.”</p> <p>The Board unanimously approved the resolution.</p> |
| 7 | 6:55 | OZ successes (speed round) | Lots going on – and all very uplifting! |
| | 7:00 | MINYAN | |
| 8 | 7:30 | Imagine 2025 Presentation | <p>Members of the Imagine 2025 leadership team (Judy Danzig, Josh Kernoff, Jeff Potash, Yoram Samets, and Brett Smith) used a Powerpoint presentation to highlight major points developed in their full report shared earlier with the Board.</p> <p>Questions and/or comments focused on a number of issues, including: (a) whether community center programming could be broader than just “Jewish content”; (b) what needs to be done to allow the Full Circle preschool to grow by 20% by Fall, 2022; (c) Should we initiate welcoming protocols BEFORE people are even members; (d) Let’s not lose the “interfaith” component of the social action</p> |

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| | | | <p>committee; (e) Concerns raised about Shuk and the G'Mach efforts being rolled up into social justice umbrella; (f) a need to recognize there are many kinds of religion and spirituality and they aren't always in the sanctuary; (g) the construction of a table with all of the Imagine 2025 task forces, membership information, and oversight/reporting lines; (h) Consider using language in communications, marketing, etc that is mindful of warm language vs. cold/technical language (i) Is this plan too broad? Do we need to further focus? Center around a "radially welcoming community"</p> <p>A MOTION was made by Mindy to accept the report and to accept the set of specific recommendations specified in the final 8 slides. Gary seconded. The Board unanimously passed the motion.</p> <p>Nat asked that the Board and the leadership group understand and appreciate the tremendous amount of work placed by this process on our staff and clergy and to be respectful of their time.</p> |
| | 9:00 | EXECUTIVE SESSION | <p>Motion: to enter executive session. Bill makes the motion. Mindy seconded. Board approves.</p> |
| | 9:56 | Adjournment | <p>Motion: Suzanne moved and Gary seconded. Board approved.</p> |