

Meeting of the Board of Directors, Oak Park Temple B'nai Abraham Zion
Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 7 pm

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ לְעִסוֹק בְּצָרְכֵי צְבוּר:

Baruch atab Adonai Eloheinu melech haolam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu la'asok b'tzorchai tzibur.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who sanctifies us through mitzvot and has commanded us to engage in the needs of the community.

Present: (18 counted toward quorum): See attached spreadsheet BoardAttendance.2017.xlsx

Absent: Aaron Lebovitz, Brian Hammersley, Janice Moskoff, Elliot Regenstein, Olga Vydra, Cindy Gould, Marci Sperling Flynn

Begun: 7:07 pm

1. **Rabbi's Comments:** Reviewed Kabbalat Torah writings from confirmation class. A common theme of their essays was community closeness, some of the same themes that the board identified at the start of the year. We are conveying those values to our children. Encouraging board members to show up at services—to be role models—is important for our students. 19 kids out of 34 B'nai Mitzot continued. Susan complemented rabbi for bringing kids along. Jenn: our young people are watching us; many feel comfortable being together in the building. Deb: important for families to stay active in congregation.
2. **Previous Minutes:** approved after changes (file BoardMinutes.20170412.Final.docx)
3. **Mission Statement (Jimmy Korshak):** delayed until June board meeting; group will meet during May.
4. **Treasurer's report (Dan Zoloto):** Presented budget spreadsheet and charts, representing situation with 3 months left in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Building expenses are expected to rise. Predict slight downturn in dues this year. Fundraising will rise next year because of auction. High Holiday and Passover income was higher than usual this year. Building expenses and professional salaries trending up (the latter because of health care expenses.) Expect \$35,577 cash shortfall next year compared to \$15,542 surplus budgeted for the year. Max: music budget for next year (2017-2018) doubling partly because of artist in residence and Julie's 20 year anniversary. Sarah: why include depreciation? Building is fully depreciated since it's been over 40 years since construction in 1957, but the addition is still being depreciated. Depreciation has to be on books, but what's important on a cash basis are building expenses going forward. Office & Program Expense includes funds allocated to committees.

We're not merging books with preschool.

This presentation was for our information; final figures and next year's budget will be approved in the

June meeting.

Sarah: are we approving a deficit budget? Has happened in the past, including current year. A: Saving money by reducing programming saves in the short run but we'd lose membership. Randy: we can't know in advance how many people will quit if we raise fees. Sarah: we need to show what our families must contribute to close budget gap. Max: suggest establishing a budget committee; there is none right now. Allie, Sarah, Mel, and Danielle expressed interest in joining a budget committee.

Danielle: pledge forms will be online next year, including credit card payment. There was confusion with 2nd Seder payments being hard to track. New system will make it easier to track religious school fee payments, which have been confusing.

Attachment: Budget spreadsheet, re-formatted.

5. **Communication committee (Karen Muriello & Marc Imowitz):** Marc showed draft trifold handout for Day in Our Village. It's intended as outreach to potential new members. We plan series of trifolds. Board bios on web site are still missing.
6. **Day in our Village 6/4/17.** Jenn and Marc in charge. Helps attract members. Will hand out tri fold brochure.
7. **Greeters Sign Up:** covered through September, greeters program working well. Susan: any instruction sheet for greeters? Greeters stay in rotunda, not in service. Shari: Fridays well covered but not Saturdays. Greeters spreadsheet is on google docs (Alan couldn't find it). Allison suggested using Signup Genius and volunteered to set it up. Jimmy: board presence really important. Max: OK to just greet people you don't recognize; important to greet people who might be prospective members; "Shabbat shalom" alone is a help.
8. **Auction January 27 2018:** still need a committee and a co-chair.
9. **July Board BBQ:** July 12 at Max and Leslie's house.
10. **Security Grant (Danielle):** Amanda Zoloto is applying for JUF grant, which would match up to \$50,000 in security upgrades. Grant application is due end of June; expect decision 5 weeks after submission.

Danielle: If we get the grant we'd have to match ½ of it. About \$33,000 total: improved cameras and additional cameras that are capable of recording and could be viewed remotely; rewiring phone lines and upgrading phone and internet network. Upgraded WiFi network would help with educational services. Remote door releases would be in addition to the \$33,000. So we need a commitment of about \$15,000 before we submit application. Question: if we don't get grant could we afford the total amount? Liz: maybe this should be a 2 step process—if we don't get the JUF grant is there a way to cut costs?

Deb moved that we approve better security, phone & internet. Phone and internet upgrades are important and we must do them anyway. Jimmy: what other upgrades do we need, other than security? Board agreed that security is our highest priority; we could raise funds for specific items.

***Motion:** that we fund upgraded security systems totaling \$33,000, as described by Danielle Sandler, while also applying for grant from JUF to pay for half of it.*

Motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

11. **Board Retreat** (Shari): Sunday August 20 2017, at OPT. Have facilitator; there will be some advance prep work.
12. **Calendar meeting:** June 6 at 7 pm. All committee chairs or representatives must attend. Danielle: need to know all fundraisers to avoid clashes.
13. **Closed Session on Personnel Issues—Health Insurance Premium Cost Sharing:** after discussion, the following resolution was proposed:

Medical Insurance:

Any premiums paid by the employee will be deducted from the employee's pay on a pre-tax basis. The employee will contribute the following amounts toward health insurance premiums for the employee and their family:

<i>August 1, 2017:</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>July 1, 2018</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>July 1, 2019</i>	<i>20%</i>

Motion passed unanimously, no abstentions.

14. Dates to Remember:

June 14 board meeting.

Executive session ended at 8:56 pm

Respectfully submitted—Alan Fox, Secretary

Attached: Attendance

Budget summary, reformatted

Name	Position	5/10/2017
Shari Schindler	President	√
Liz Simon	Executive VP	√
Aaron Lebovitz	Finance VP	A
Jenn George	VP without portfolio	√
Brian Hammersley	Building VP	A
Dan Zoloto	Treasurer	√
Alan Fox	Secretary	√
Deborah Holdstein	Immediate Past President	√
Randy Gillett	Religious School	√
Carolyn Sherman	Glasser Preschool	√
Cindy Gould	Women of OPT	A
Susan Ciselsky	Adult Education	√
Allison Cowett	Social Action	√
Sarah Lewensohn	Fundraising	√
Jimmy Korshak	Worship	√
Marc Imowitz	Membership	√
Karen Muriello	Communications	√
Doris Angell	At-Large	√
Amy Drescher-Crumpley	At-Large	√
Janice Moskoff	At-Large	A
Elliot Regenstein	At-Large	A
Ali Mandell	At-Large	√
Maurie Stern	At-Large	√
Olga Vydra	At-Large	A
Max Weiss	Staff: Rabbi	√
Julie Yugend Green	Staff: Cantor	A
Danielle Sandler	Staff: Administrator	√
Marci Sperling Flynn	Staff: School	A
Robin Arbetman	Staff: Preschool	√
Quorum count (need 16)		18 of 24
	Guest/Observer	Mel Loeb
	Guest/Observer	Lauren Levrant

