

Board of Trustees Meeting

Temple Sinai

December 15,2020

Present: Banner, Cutler, Hoffmann, Kipp, Kopans, Lowenthal, Marx, Ruben, Silverman, Watsky

Absent: Patashnick

Attending: Cornute

Marx called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:40pm.

Welcome: Marx thanked: all who participated in the Special Congregational Meeting, all those who have helped keep Temple Sinai running smoothly in the past month, the caring committee for all their work, and Wang for another successful Saratoga Jewish Community Arts panel film discussion.

Minutes: The November minutes were moved by Lowenthal/Kopans. Hoffmann asked to delete the following sentence under the social justice committee: “ Hoffmann asked for a social justice rep to the board.” The amended minutes were approved unanimously.

D’Var: In the Rabbis’ absence Ruben offered the d’var and discussed the changes in celebrating Chanukah over the years.

Standing Reports are on file in the office.

Treasure: Watsky reviewed the budget and discussed possible budgetary shortfalls. Hoffmann reported on the grants we are receiving from the NENY Jewish Federation.

Fundraising: Marx, reporting for Patashnick, announced that we’d received a new donation from NBT bank.

Social Justice: Hoffmann reported on the different initiatives being offered by this committee.

Christmas Dinner: Banner discussed the items we needed for the dinner and reviewed how the Christmas Dinner will be modified because of the pandemic.

Annual Appeal: At this point, the appeal seems adversely affected by the pandemic and its offshoots. Board members agreed to write personal notes on an Annual Appeal solicitation letters that Marx will write, to encourage congregants to donate. The appeal will remain open through January.

Congregational Meeting results: Watsky reported that the majority of proxies and attendees leaned toward a hybrid approach of paying for the renovations. Board members agreed to then discussed the following issues: How much of our existing funds should we use to pay for the

renovations? Do we want to run a capital campaign? Watsky pointed out that the projects are not contingent on monies from a capital campaign. The Board believes that those who spoke passionately for the project might be willing to contribute more heavily. After discussion, the following motions were made and passed unanimously.

1. Watsky/Lowenthal proposed that we use \$17,500 from the operating budget, \$18,000 from the building account, and \$956 from the West Wing renovation account to prepay on the EIDL loan.
2. Watsky/Hoffmann proposed that we have a capital campaign to help fund the West Wing renovation and that the campaign be divided in two parts: a pre-campaign to start immediately and a broader campaign to start after the closing of the Annual Appeal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 on a motion by Ruben/Lowenthal.

Respectfully submitted

Therese Lowenthal

Secretary

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 19.