

Temple Sinai

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

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

Absent: Banner

Attending: Bloom

Marx called the zoom meeting to order at 6:40.

Welcome and thank you's: Marx thanked all those who participated in the very fine MLK services of the past weekend; he also thanked everyone who participated in collecting more than 1700 book for the Red Bookshelf in Albany, part of the MLK Day of Service for Temple Sinai. He commended Banner for the interesting, well attended Sip 'n Draw event and Wang for the panel discussion on the movie, Fanny's Journey.

Minutes: On a motion by Lowenthal/Hoffmann, the December minutes were approved. Patashnick abstained.

D'Var: Kipp gave a d'var on the plagues and how they played out today.

Standing Reports: On file in the office.

Education Director: Bloom talked about working with MLK volunteers to collect books for the Red Bookshelf. Thanks to a lot of people they were able to collect about 1700 books. The Religious School will celebrate Tu B'Shevat with a short seder on Wednesday, January 27.

Treasurer: Watsky updated financial numbers which present a much better picture than a month ago. In addition, we have received some grants which have helped the financial picture.

Annual Appeal: Over the last month, we have come very close to reaching our goal. Board members have agreed to write letters to those who have not given or who might like to increase a gift so that we can achieve our \$50,000 goal.

Avodah: Ruben reported that the Rabbis had left us very well organized for their sabbatical and he thanked all who contributed to the community effort to keep the Temple running smoothly in their absence.

Social Justice: Hoffmann reported that while there is a core group of people on this committee, there are representatives in a number of different organizations which helped to promote the ideas.

Nominating Committee: Lowenthal reported that the committee had fulfilled its goal of presenting a full slate to the Board for its consideration. The Board will vote on the proposed slate at the February meeting. She thanked her committee for its work and help.

Renovation Project: As part of this discussion, Patashnick made a presentation on capital campaigns. After a long discussion, it was apparent that we do not fulfill the necessary components of a capital campaign and perhaps we should consider other formats asking people to help pay off the loan.

Spring Fundraiser: Discussion concerning whether to have a spring fundraiser and if so what kind. Both Seligman and DeVries have declined to chair it again feeling last year's silent auction was too much work for too little money.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted

Terry Lowenthal

Secretary

Next Meeting: February 16, 2021

Topics held over:

Endowments

Nominating Slate

Spring fundraiser

