

Minutes of Temple Sinai July Board Meeting (via Zoom)
July 20, 2021, 6:30-8:30 pm

Introductions: President Jerry Silverman opened the meeting. The following Board members were present: President Silverman; Past President Marx; Treasurer Watsky; Secretary Seligman; Trustees Getz, Novik, Gordon, Hoffmann, Lowenthal, Mopsik, Zwicker, Kopans, Patashnik, Pine, R. Silverman, as well as Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein and Administrator Pattie Cornute and School Director Sylvia Bloom. Absent: Cutler.

D'var: Rabbi Jonathan presented a short D'var Torah to open the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of the June meeting were approved.

President's report: President Jerry Silverman presented his goal of keeping meetings brief by "Consent Agenda:" Minutes and uncontroversial reports will be put together and approved all together. These will be sent to Board members along with the Agenda for the next meeting. Each of these reports needs to be received by the Friday before the month's meeting, in order to be read by Board members. The order of consideration will be discussion, then motion and vote on the matter. Meeting times will be 7:00 pm. The meeting format will be a hybrid of in-person and Zoom.

Treasurer's Report: made and accepted

Rabbi's Report: Because the Saratoga Springs United Methodist church has made available use of its outdoor facility at no charge and is supportive of Temple Sinai's use of it this summer, Rabbi Jonathan recommends that the congregation make a contribution to the church, the source being the Rabbis' discretionary fund.

Administrator's Report: Pattie reminded the Board of the email address, board@saratogasinai.org, used to communicate Board matters, and requested a reply to these emails or an email message saying if someone is not receiving Board emails. The Board expressed grateful acknowledgement of all the work and extra, above and beyond work that Pattie does. Tremendous thanks.

"Big Four:"

1. High Holy Day Services:

The Avodah Committee is preparing a letter to the Congregation regarding the conducting of services: the Temple will be able to hold services at the Bernhard Theater, with

restrictions on the number of people allowed in the venue: no overflow seating, certain number of seats for Skidmore students and personnel. Services will be streamed as well; reservations will be required. The Committee's memo will remind congregants of a reservation deadline to respond with number of seats requested for each service.

- 2: Reopening (considerations of Covid and Renovation).
3. Rabbis' transition

4. Building Renovations

These issues will be presented and discussed at the August 15 congregational meeting, scheduled for 5 pm.

5. Religious School

Sylvia reports that a committee, consisting of herself and volunteers, has been formed to determine issues such as setting of the calendar. The school aims to be flexible, using both in-person and virtual programming. Sylvia announced that two teachers for Sunday program are still needed.

Board Retreat: This is the item most important to President Jerry Silverman. It will be held live in the West Wing and also streamed on Zoom on **August 22**, 9:30 am. *?In your last email you have it down for Aug. 21, but I was sure in the Board meeting and a previous email you said Aug. 22. Straighten me out.*

Good and Welfare. This will be added to Board meetings, to inform members about life events experienced by members. This month it includes an update on the renovations of the addition, which are reported to be going well.

(Jerry, we have not had a discussion of how you would like to have the meeting minutes presented, e.g., how much detail, reporting of motions and acceptances, names of all present, etc. On the Zoom meeting I found it difficult to make note of exactly who was there, but since all were present, I can just look up the board member names and include them if you want. If there were motions made, voted on, etc. I neglected to make note of it. If you want more detail included of the topics involved, I will listen to/watch the recording of the meeting.

Caroline Seligman, Secretary