

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 23, 2019
To: Adat Shalom Board
From: Judy Ackerman
RE: Minutes from the July 23, 2019 Board Meeting

Present: Jesse Abraham, Treasurer; Judy Ackerman, Secretary; Scott Arnold, At Large: Governance/Security; Gordon Cohen, VP Communications; Marla Cohen, Executive Director; Vanessa Eisemann, VP Membership Services; Miriam Eisenstein (phone), VP Learning; Marci Greenstein, VP Personnel; Jon Grossman, Past President; Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb; Amy Jaslow, At-Large: LRP/Growth; Suzanne Kalfus, At Large Youth; Jodi Lipson, Torah School Council Chair (phone); Jennifer Sherman, Religious Practices; Shelley Sadowsky, Co-President; Hal Segall, Co-President; Harriet Shugerman, Past President; Shana Waggoner, VP Programming, Rena Milchberg, Religious School Coordinator

Not Present: Sheila Blum, at Large Social Action; Suzanne Kalfus, At Large Youth; Rabbi Hazzan Rachel Hersh

Guests from the Congregation: Idan Sharon, Shalich

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

1. **D'var:** Scott Arnold delivered the D'var.
2. **Approval of Minutes from previous meetings:**
 - The minutes of the Board meeting on June 25, 2019 were approved.
3. **Community Comments:** None
4. **Security Update**
 - Marla Cohen provided an update security. She reminded us that there isn't unlimited resources for a security guard presence. The focus will be on when there is the largest volume of people in the building. This is generally on days when there is Torah School, B'nai Mitzvahs and the High Holidays.
 - We will continue to review recommendations about security to identify what is best for our community since there are pros and cons for most recommendations.
 - Federation is spearheading sending a package to the state for grant money that was allocated during the last legislative session. Marla complete the paperwork

to access those funds. She expects to hear about the Homeland Security grant in September.

- Harriet raised questions that came up during the July Shomrim training about the role of the Shomrim versus the role of a guard.
- It was noted that some individuals, such as people of color who might be stereotyped by a guard, might be deterred from coming to services with an armed guard present.
- For others, there may be a psychological sense of security in the presence of an armed guard.
- It was noted that the foyer is a potential bottleneck during an evacuation so people need to be aware of multiple exits.
- Congregants need to be urged to wear their nametags. We may consider having nametags at the door for people who do not come with nametags.
- It is anticipated that 95 people will be trained by the High Holidays.
- Marla will email the board about additional training dates. It is important that more members participate in the training.

5. Update on Torah School and Education Re-visioning Plans

- Rena Milchberg, the Interim Religious School Coordinator, provided the Board with information about her education and work background. She plans to bring new enthusiasm and ideas to the religious school this year.
- Rabbi Fred said that by having an interim director we have a little time to look at what we want in the long range. However the process needs to be completed in the fall so that we can recruit a permanent director. There will be focus groups and a town hall meeting to get feedback. We need to determine whether we want a curricular approach versus an experiential approach or what the right balance should be.

6. Days of Awe Planning, Volunteering and Board Comments

- Planning is underway. Marla met with our sound engineer regarding the sound system in the sanctuary and whether or not noise from the B'yachad service would impact the service in the sanctuary.
- We will not need a tent at the church.
- Shay is researching companies to drive the shuttles.
- The new website will have signups for volunteers. We'll also need people to recruit volunteers.
- Marla is identifying different ways to communicate the changes in location and logistics for the High Holidays. It was suggested that there needs to be multiple types of communications as well as a FAQ.
- She is hoping that the new website will be up and running the first week in August.

7. New Website Demonstration

- Gordon Cohen reported on the new Adat Shalom website and provided a demonstration. He described it as a work in progress and was appreciative of

the great group of people who have been working with him and the website developer.

- Of the 85 people who were invited to test the website, 30 people actually did so. Most people liked it although there were some critiques on its structure, functionality and style.
- Members will access the Member section with the same password they use for the current website.
- The Member section will have a place for the Board meeting minutes archive.
- Board members should send Gordon any questions about specific issues.
- Communications will start shortly to advise members about the new website.

8. Reports by Board members and Program Council Committees

- For most future Board meetings, time will be allocated on the agenda to address information, as needed, from the Board Update Report.
- Board members should submit something each month for the Board Update Report related to their liaison assignment. It can be as simple as referring to the committee report in the Program Council update.

9. Board Housekeeping Matters:

- Additional material was distributed for the Board Manuals.
- Board members were asked to contribute to the Board Sunshine Fund.

10. Good and Welfare

- Jodi expressed appreciation to our Adat Shalom community for help in identifying a caregiver for a family member.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.