

Congregation Shir Shalom  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Minutes  
February 18, 2014  
7:00 PM

The Board of Trustees approved the minutes from January 27, 2014.

Phil Herzbrun, chairman of the Communications Committee, updated the Board of Trustees about Communications Committee procedures and how to publicize events at Temple. The communications committee is responsible for Chai Notes, emails, Facebook, Twitter, submissions to the Buffalo Jewish Review and the monthly Jewish Journal. There is a new form, to be used when an event is planned, to let the Communication Committee know about the event and how it should be publicized. Other projects include the creation of a Temple Directory and the possibility of live streaming Friday night Shabbat services to people unable to attend.

Eric Zappia was approved as a new board member (term of office is over 6/30/14) to complete the term of Michael Bluman, who recently resigned from the BOT.

ILJS (Institute of Liberal Jewish Studies) -- The next event will take place in 2015. This will be their 18<sup>th</sup> scholar in residence program. Volunteers are needed to represent Shir Shalom on this community-wide committee! Please let Jill Hamilton know if you are interested.

CSS 2020— the first planning meeting will take place on March 4 with the members of the Executive Committee.

The Board approved the Nominating committee who will present the next slate of potential board members. Eight slots are to be filled for next year, because of a previous board vote adjusting the size of the board, in order to ensure that roughly the same number of people rotate off the board each year.

Board members whose term of office is complete June 30, 2014: Rella Corris, Darci Cramer-Benjamin, Joe Glickman, Elaine Kellick, Georg Iggers, , Michael Millman, Shari Jo Reich, Michael Rosenberg, Brian Schepart, Craig Small, Rebecca Utech, Scott Weinstein, Eric Zappia. All are eligible to serve on the BOT again because this term completes the first cycle of Congregation Shir Shalom.

Additionally, a Nominating committee consisting of some of our past presidents will be created to select the next officers of CSS.

A Social Action Committee met several weeks ago based on Rabbi Alex's interest in getting this going. A lot of ideas were generated. Jill will put together a survey for membership at large. What are they interested in? Federation has done a similar

*Our mission is to be a welcoming community and to enhance all aspects of Jewish life.*

survey.

The Membership Committee has been tasked with creating a promotional brochure to give to prospective applicants.

The BOT approved the prepublication purchase 700 copies of *Mishkan HaNefesh: A Machzor for the Days of Awe*. It will be available in 2015. Congregants will be given an opportunity to honor or remember someone with a donation for a book plate in the front cover.

The Youth group will be selling hamentashen as a fundraiser.

Our finances appear in strong condition after the first seven months of the fiscal year. Although dues income and events rentals have decreased, it appears we will have enough to carry us through the remainder of the year.

Make A Joy Full Noise, the Cantor's Concert to commemorate those lives lost in Flight 3407, was lovely and inspirational.

Sisterhood announced that after this school year, the Judaica Shop will be open by appointment only.

Sisterhood will donate \$2500 towards the cost of the new High Holiday prayer books.

Men's Group will be helping to support Eagle Scout Candidate Josh Seefried who will be updating the playground this spring.

Robin Raphael and her son (Nathan Gellin) have started to combine the library books from legacy synagogues Beth Am and Sinai with help from Cantor Sharon Colbert and Jill Hamilton.

A Sofer came for the day during the Religious School and examined all Torahs. He found problems with almost every Torah. An estimate for repairs will be obtained.

Thanks to a generous bequest, the front bathrooms will be upgraded.

Rabbi Alex has completed the requirements to be considered a Reform Rabbi and has been accepted into the CCAR (Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Reform movement rabbinic association). A celebration will take place in the late spring.

The link to register for the Congregation Shir Shalom trip to Israel is now activated.

Our sister congregation in Gottingen, Germany has created a video that describes life in the Göttingen congregation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MgIqEy4tOs> An extensive article will be published in the Jewish Journal concerning Goettingen.

Respectfully submitted by,

Robin Raphael  
Congregation Shir Shalom Secretary