

ANNUAL MEETING 6/8/2017

Clergy Report

New program to provide daytime programming to seniors and empty nesters from CJP. We had Shir Appeal for music. Transportation for Linden ponds to synagogue. Piloted Mishkan HaNefesh. Two summer courses on Mondays over the summer. New children's prayer book for the high holy days. We will show the movie "Denial". Trip to Israel in December with Cantor. 4 day civil rights trip in Alabama, ? end of November. We hosted return of Mitzvah Day. We have been chosen to become part of inclusion initiative and will install railings on bima with \$500 we were given.

Acceptance of 2016 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Accept: Mary Horowitz

2nd: Susan Keman

All those in favor: unanimous

Opposed: -

Abstentions -

Passed

President's Report

Have we lived up to values? Jewish worship- new Mishkan HaNefesh. 10th grade confirmation. Many bar/bat mitzvahs. Sisterhood held Shabbaton. Purim Shpiel was held. More pre-negs for Shabbat services. Reconstituted religious practices committee. New cemetery committee to provide interfaith cemetery. Jewish study-Success of confirmation trip to NYC. Adult education included many movies. Inclusion-to include as many people as possible we have a communications committee. Will review website. We are part of interfaith Jewish family. We will participate in Boston's Pride Parade. Financial inclusion-ended year with surplus. Talent show, Casino Night, and Golf Outing. Planned Giving Committee to work on an endowment. Tikun O'lam - food drive all year. Raised money to sponsor Syrian Refugees, brought back Mitzvah Day. Thanks to Rabbi and Cantor for working to ensure we are cared for as individuals and grow as a community. Thanks to Ellen Bernstein and Annette L'Hereux. Thanks to

volunteers on all committees. Thanks to Michael Teller. Lifetime contribution award to Renee Rudolph.

Slate of Proposed Trustees and Officers

Grace Strake - nominating committee - list of executive committee, list of board members.

Questions: Are we supposed to re-elect half the board every term? People move up to executive board from board or may resign part way through a term. Board members can stay for 6 years. There is quite a bit of turn-over this year. This causes things to get out of sync. Bylaws account for this. When we vote for vice presidents, not everyone is moving up the ladder. Are they making the 6-8 year commitment? Goal that each VP has a portfolio of committees he/she has worked with.

Motion to Accept Slate: Mitch Marcus

2nd: Cathy Rein

All those in favor - unanimous

Motion carries

Proposed Budget

David Alschuler: Finances continue to improve, surpluses. Membership is up - we have 276 families. Dues income ahead of plan. School enrollment above plan. Abatements favorable to plan. Managed expenses effectively. Budget for next year - 276 family units. Annual commitment - 2% increase in family commitments and school tuition. Dues for senior single members over 67 have been lowered.

Question: What is the status of our reserves? \$300,000 in reserves

We have made our fundraising targets.

Question: Are reserves earning anything? Yes but very little, we are looking into opening new accounts to earn more.

Question: How much of dues goes toward tuition? 77%.

Raises for clergy and staff for next year. Increase in insurance rates.

Budget more for snow removal (shared with JCC). Increased support for confirmation trips.

Question: Do we have cyber insurance? If your database is hijacked, they can be destroyed and held for ransom. Insurance helps deal with that. Database is backed up to a memory stick. Currently we are protected by closed site.

Increased investment in leadership training, URJ dues. Budget for biennial. Salaries are biggest expense.

We are in better shape than we were five years ago and we are modestly increasing our reserves.

Question: Can we bring back the monthly bulletin via paper? Info is published in e-mails. Do we want to incur the expense (postage, paper, etc.)?

Motion to accept budget: Susan Keman

2nd: Grace Strake

Open to discussion for amendment to add \$5000 to budget for paper bulletin

Motion by Ben Barclay

2nd by Joan Carr

Discussion: Some don't want more paper. There are other more user friendly emails. We can design it to look more like a paper bulletin. People who want paper can request this. Improving digital for max info, not going back to "old" way of communicating. Opt in for paper for group of people that want it. Needs to be addressed by Communications Committee to make a recommendation to the board. Agreement that a few people want paper but not most.

Motion to call the question- carries

Vote on amendment (to add \$5000 to budget for a paper bulletin)

In favor: 18

Opposed: many

Abstentions : 5

Motion does not carry

Motion to accept budget

Those in favor - all but one

Those opposed 1

Budget Passes

- I. Clergy Report
- II. Acceptance of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes
- III. President's Report
- IV. Slate of Proposed Trustees and Officers
- V. Proposed Budget
- VI. Sisterhood Presentation
- VII. Adjournment

2017-2018 Proposed Slate for Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

President	Scott Garland
First Vice President	Deb Farber
Second Vice President	Adam Brodsky
Third Vice President	Michael Goldberg
Financial Secretary	Steve Pohl
Ass't Financial Secretary	Renee McDonald
Treasurer	Mary Horowitz
Assistant Treasurer	David Miller
Corresponding Secretary	Wendy Barrett
Recording Secretary	Brenda Elfman

Returning Board Members

Josh Hoch (4)
Cathy Rein (3)
Charles Dannison (3)
Angelo Lobosco (3)
Carole Brown (3)
David Alschuler (2)
Chana Snyder (2)
Lillie Seeger (2)
Hank Wolfson (2)
Ross Kerber (2)
Bev Levine (2)

New Board Members

Ally Gall
Leslie Wentworth
Heidi Short
Ken Kuperstein
Naomi Preble

Ex Officio Members

Past President	Grace Strake
Sisterhood President	Judy Kalla
Brotherhood President	David Heller

Sisterhood Presentation

Deb Farber

Thanks to Ellen Jacobs

81 members

Half of membership to WRJ.

Provide \$1000 for families in need at holidays

\$1000 to youth scholarship

School supplies donated to schools in need.

Kiddush cup to b'nai mitvahs

Confirmation class Mishkan Ha'Nefesh

Trivia night fundraiser, Shabbaton, co-sponsored breakfast with Men's club

Caring Committee-looking for everyone to participate in some way

URJ biennial slide show with Deb Farber and Josh Hoch-There is scholarship money from the temple. Dec 8 - shabbat services at biennial and there will be a bus from temple

Men's Club Report

There were many more activities this year. David Heller, president.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

All in favor

Adjourned

MENS CLUB CSS
REPORT 2016-2017

OUR CLUB MADE A COMMITMENT TO HELP OUR TEMPLE IN PHYSICAL PROJECTS THAT NEED TO BE DONE AROUND THE TEMPLE DOING GARENEING AND GENERAL CLEAN UP BEFORE THE HIGH HOLIDAYS. HELP OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN ORGANIZING THE DOWN STAIRS OF THE TEMPLE.

WE HOSTED BREAKFASTS:

ONE FEATURING DR. DAVID PARKER CHIEF OF URGENT CARE FOR HARBOR MEDICAL

ANOTHER FEATURING HINGHAM EMT EMERGENCY PROGRAM AND CPR DEMONSTATION

HEALTH BREAKFAST FEATURING DEBRA WEIN ON HOW TO EAT HEALTHY

BREAKFAST FEATURING "ISRAEL DEPUTY COUNSUL MATAN ZAMIR IN A JOINT PROGRAM WITH OUR TEMPLE SISTERHOOD

WE HELP RENE RUDOLPH ,HAVING OUR MEMBERS MEET WITH HOMEBOARD MEMBERS TO TAKE THEM OUT FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DATES.

WE HOSTED THE FOOD TABLE FOR THE RABBI'S PROGRAM " IN PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE;

WE HAVE ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE TMEPLE ,BOWLING NIGHTS, AND OUR ANNUAL VISIT TO THE SEE THE "PAW SOX" IN PAWTUCKET"R.I.

Fundraising Committee

Fundraising is an important part of our annual efforts for our Temple community. Unfortunately our dues do not cover all our costs, and proceeds from our fundraising events help support our Congregation's community outreach, calendar of festival celebrations, full religious school program, and varied adult learning opportunities.

This past year we tried a couple of new events. In January we had our first "CSS got Talent" event. This successful event provided a fun evening filled with an amazing amount of talent performed by superstars of the Temple. We also had a great evening at the CSS "Casino Night" on April 1st. Bada Bing!

The big event this year is the annual "CSS Golf Outing" that took place June 5th at the Marshfield country club. Always a great time!

Mitch Marcus has again sold gift cards throughout the year. Purchasing gift cards is a great way to support our fundraising efforts. Mitch...you're the best!

Our volunteers, and event committee members have done an amazing job this year, and I can't thank everyone enough for being part of our FUNraising efforts. We couldn't do it without you!

We are in desperate need of volunteers to join our committee, and be a part of our fun endeavours.

If you are interested, please contact Jay Tolman 781-923-1618 or email tagtolner@gmail.com

We are looking forward to next year's events, as we continue to help support our CSS community.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee consists of 13 volunteer members who, throughout the year, welcome and mentor new members in our congregation, and introduce prospective members to our vibrant congregation life.

This year Congregation Sha'aray Shalom has welcomed 24 new members/families. Committee members connect with new members on welcome visits, bringing welcome gifts from the congregation and provide information about congregation activities. Committee members act as mentors or reach out to congregants to assist with mentoring for new members to help them create connections within the congregation.

Throughout the year, the Committee has held numerous social events for new members and prospective members. Events this year include New member receptions, Prospective member dinners, Shabbat Across America reception and Tot Shabbat breakfast . The Membership Committee is open to all congregants who would like to help us in creating strong new member connections within our congregation.

Kathleen Boise

CONNECTIONS

We supported 4 families who lost loved ones...all members of our community. Organised the minyan services for all.

Meals were prepared and delivered three times a week for 3 weeks to members who had surgical procedures and to families with a new born.

A small group continued to meet weekly with a congregant in need of support and friendship.

Calls were regularly made to members we rarely see due to illness and travel issues.

Home visits were made.

Renee Rudolph

Social Action had an extremely busy and productive year at CSS. Committee chair, Jodi Tolman, was thrilled to welcome the incredibly energetic and creative addition of Marci Bracken as her co-chair, who has made all the difference!

In an effort to broaden the scope of our Social Action work to include a focus on social justice, the most notable new initiative this year will be CSS's participation in Boston's Gay Pride Parade on June 10th. A contingent of CSS marchers, along with family and friends, will march behind the CSS banner in our first annual Parade, about which we are very excited!

Also new this year was the installation of our "We Want to Know!" wall to solicit ideas and determine priorities for our Social Action work. Many wonderful ideas have been posted and we hope more and more congregants will share their thoughts. On the last day of religious school, Mitzvah Day was rejuvenated with wonderful turnout and participation.

Thanks to the urging of president, Scott Garland, we initiated a new food collection program to benefit the Hingham Food Pantry (HFP) with receptacles in the lobby vestibule that are filled with nonperishable foods on an ongoing basis and delivered to the Pantry. The continuation of hunger initiatives that have been in place for several years have included our program to further support the efforts of HFP and their partnership with Hanover Trader Joe's, put in place years ago by Susan and Joe Stone. CSS continues to collect hundreds of pounds of food every Yom Kippur that is delivered to both HFP and Wellspring Pantry in Scituate, and in November we will hold our fourth annual Share our Bounty Thanksgiving food drive through which we provide Thanksgiving meals including a turkey with all the fixings for 25 HFP families. We have received several letters of thanks from HFP as our ongoing donations have supported their hundreds of clients throughout the year and well-beyond what they were able to do prior to our expanded involvement.

One new endeavor in the planning stage is quarterly conversations about topics of interest as gleaned from our "We Want to Know!" wall. These will include informal in-home conversations on pertinent topics, as well as more formal panel discussions at CSS with experts in the given field. We look forward to great participation in these conversations and discussions.

As always, we need and welcome congregational support, participation, and involvement either on our committee or in our myriad endeavors. We'd love to have your help so please be in touch with Marci or myself as the new year approaches.

Wishing everyone a relaxing, fun and wonderful summer!

With many thanks.

Jodi Tolman, jodi.tolman@gmail.com
Marci Bracken, marcibracken@gmail.com

Congregation Sha'aray Shalom Adult Education, 2016-17

Sat., Sept. 24, at 4:30 p.m. – **Film: *Saving Mr. Banks*** (followed by Dinner, Discussion, & 7:30 p.m. Sukkot Service)

Mon., Oct. 24, at 1 p.m. – **Film: *Next Year in Jerusalem*** (following 1030 a.m. Yizkor & Plaque Dedication Service & lunch) (A group of American senior citizens travel to Israel.)

Tues., Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. at Linden Ponds – **Lecture: Rabbi Ron Kronish & Mayor Issa Jabor** speak about *The Other Peace Process: Interreligious Dialogue in the Service of Peace in Israel*.

Thur., Nov. 17, at 7:15 p.m. – **Concert** at Glastonbury Abbey: *Pursuit of Harmony*

Sun., Nov. 20, at 4 p.m. – **Film: *Recognition*** (Israel today, as seen through the eyes of 3 Israeli females: a high school teen, a religious social worker, and an Israeli Arab.)

Sun., Dec. 11, at 4 p.m. – **Film: *God's Messengers*** (Israel Today: inside the lives and minds of Jewish settlers in the unauthorized outpost of Havat Gilad.)

Sun., Jan. 15, at 1 p.m. – **Film: *Wings of Change*** (Israel Today: one man wages a battle for Israeli/Palestinian coexistence with the aid of barn owls.)

Tues., Feb. 7, at 1 p.m. – **Film: *The Outrageous Sophie Tucker*** (Just for fun!)

Sun., Feb. 19, at 1 p.m. – **Film: *Jewish Soldiers in Blue and Gray*** (Jews You Should Know About: those who fought on both sides in the Civil War.)

Sun., Mar. 19, at 4 p.m. – **Film: *American Jerusalem: Jews and the Making of San Francisco*** (Jews You Should Know About: those who helped make San Francisco great.)

Sun., Apr. 30, at 4 p.m. – **Film: *Rosenwald*** (Jews You Should Know About: Businessman & philanthropist Julius Rosenwald's work to help African Americans in the South.)

Congregation Sha'aray Shalom
Sisterhood Annual Report
2016-2017

This has been an eventful and successful year for Sisterhood. Our membership is the highest it has ever been, with 81 members. Of those, 9 individuals are new temple members and received a complimentary membership from Sisterhood. As you may know, half of our dues money is sent to the Women for Reform Judaism to support our association with this group.

Our Service to the Temple has continued. We provided \$1000.00 to the clergy for disbursement to families in need at the holidays. An additional \$1000.00 will be presented at the Annual Meeting for the Youth Scholarship program. We also collected over 4 large cartons of school supplies for children affected by homelessness through the Schools on Wheels Program. Sisterhood is just beginning to plan the design and create a Legacy Needlepoint Cover for one of our Torahs. We have also continued to present each of our B'nai Mitzvahs with a kiddish cup, as well as 2 sets of Mishkin Hanafesh in honor of the Confirmation Class.

Our programming consisted of a well attended Kick-Off Dinner in the Fall (with 2 speakers from URJ), a Cooking Event with a kitchen supply give away and raffle, our first ever Trivia Night Fundraiser, and a successful and inspiring Shabbaton. Together with the Men's Club, we co-sponsored a breakfast with the New England Israeli counsel. Our Fitness Day was sadly snowed out, but we will regroup for our End of Year Installation and Dinner on June 22. On that date, we will have a new slate of officers including:

Judy Kalla, President
Allison Junkins, Vice President
Helaine Block, Secretary
Nao Rosenberg, Treasurer
Ellen Jacobs, Past President
Barbara Marcus, Leslie Wentworth, Mary Horowitz, and
Amy Lipman-White, Members at Large

Religious Practices Annual Report

The Religious Practices Committee held its first meeting on April 2, 2017 with Lillie Seeger and Carole Brown co-chairpersons and a committee of nine very responsive members, and has had two additional meetings to plan the goals for the forthcoming year.

Items which have been discussed are:

Assisting with Shiva services and condolence activities in conjunction with the Caring Committee.

Contact with the grieving families during Shloshim and several times during the year following

Members of the committee will be on a monthly rotating basis taking the responsibility of contact with the families of the above.

Creating/designing condolence cards to be sent.

Usher scheduling with the use of Sign-up Genius:

Training session with Kathleen Boise has taken place.

Training board members, Sisterhood representatives as well as other members of various groups and committees who will be asked to assist in ushering, as to the proper decorum, security procedures, assisting service attendees.

High Holy Days Preparations:

Assisting the Rabbi and Cantor in contacting those individuals who will be asked for HHD Honors.
Assisting the clergy with additional services as the need arises.

R.P. Committee participant responsibilities:

Maintain Tallit /Kippot order/cleanliness and proper storage
Seeing that the silver (candlesticks and Kiddush cup) are kept clean

Seeking ways to involve more congregants in service participation

More items are on the agenda which will be addressed during the summer.

We are anticipating a monthly meeting in order to keep the enthusiasm and momentum going.

Carole Brown and Lillie Seeger

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Sha'aray Shalom Hebrew School is to engage our students in an active Jewish community, while providing a foundation for lifelong Jewish learning. With our current schedule, we have limited the educational and social opportunities of our students by splitting the classes on Mondays and Thursdays. By having all classes meet at the same times, we will be able to enrich our students' experiences by differentiating classes by skill set (providing reinforcement or challenges based on skill levels), offering conversational Hebrew, plan experiential learning opportunities, and hosting special programs.

Core values

- 1 community
- 2 conversational Hebrew
- 3 Divide by skill set - differentiating
- 4 School programming - enrichment/ specialists
- 5. Experiential learning

Goals of Ed Comm:

- 1. Support the school
- 2. Sounding board for decisions/changes in logistics or curriculum
- 3. Facilitate communication between teachers, parents, and community

Minutes April 9 Meeting

Purim Carnival Reflection

Need more help from younger grades and older grades to run the games

Binder is very helpful

Basement prizes are organized

Need to refresh the games next year

Mon to Thursday

We will provide tutoring for kids who cannot attend Thursday's only

Monday night dinner's are successful for the older students and should be maintained.

Ed Committee - should be made up of Room Parents next year

FYI/NEWS: The 201617 B'Nai Mitzvah class collected \$36.00 per family and donated to Breast Cancer Research Foundation in lieu of individual gifts. The total doantion was just over \$600.00!

March

Assisted with Purim Canival

January

Attended Social Action Committee to review curriculum (LGBTQA)

December

Assist with Hannukkah Extravaganza Set up/Clean up

Paper Chain Menorah Project Station

November 13 Meeting

Agenda

Plan out Chanukah event/parties

Brainstorm additional programs like music & art

7th grade program reflection and improvements

October

Assisted with Sock Drive

September

Hosted Opening Breakfast and Hebrew School Orientation. Introduced Calendar and Chose Room Parents.

Sent out Jewish Calendar Dates to Public Schools of congregants

Shortly after the Jewish New Year, the Planned Giving committee was formed.

The committee consists of Grace Strake and Mitch Marcus as co-chairs with the assistance of Joan Carr, Ben Weintraub, David Alschuler, Michael Goldberg, and Harvey Doren.

The committee researched with other synagogues who have established endowments to share their wisdom and experiences. Steve Pohl & Scott Garland assisted in laying the foundation in creating an endowment trust document for CSS based on other non-profit organization endowment trusts as models. This document is now being reviewed and revised by an estate attorney.

After numerous committee meetings we have created a draft of a brochure to be used during the campaign. There is still a lot of work to be done, identifying members of the endowment trust, identifying planned giving participants, and finally organizing our next steps for the rollout to the congregation this fall.

Respectfully submitted

Grace Strake & Mitch Marcus, co-chairs

Annual Meeting, 2017 Clergy Remarks
June 8, 2017
Rabbi Shira H. Joseph and Cantor Steven I. Weiss

Sung:

The time is now
We've gathered round
So bring all your gifts,
And bring all your burdens with you
No need to hide
Arms open wide
We gather as one
To make a ma-kom ka-dosh

Each year brings us a renewed excitement as to what we have accomplished in the past year and what we look forward to as we prepare for the new year. Our calendar is filled not simply with events but for us, with each service, each activity, each congregational and school trip, it is the promise of opportunities to connect with each other and learn from each other. Truly God is found in the relationships of all of us as we journey on life's path together through the blessings and challenges that each of our members face.

This past year, we inaugurated a new program in conjunction with a grant from CJP, to begin to provide additional services to seniors and empty nesters through additional daytime programming. We are excited that we have once again received a CJP grant to continue providing additional programming to our seniors, whether at Linden Ponds or here at the synagogue. We have enjoyed sponsoring Cantor Jeff Klepper who was a presenter this past December on "Songs You Never Learned in Shul – Jewish Music Humor"

We also invited Shir Appeal, the Tufts University Jewish acapella group..... to share their gifts of music. We have provided transportation to allow Jewish residents of Linden ponds to more easily access religious services at the synagogue and we continue to have Torah study their on a monthly basis.

We will continue to offer these programs and opportunities to more fully integrate the lives of our senior members with the life of the synagogue.

Last year, we introduced *Mishkan Hanefesh*, our new High Holy Day Prayer book, and we continue to look for ways to make worship more accessible. We are teaching two summer courses, each three weeks long on Monday nights, from 7-8 followed by a half hour of Hebrew prayer reading practice. In July, we will study the Shabbat service and find pathways to prayer. In August, we will study the High Holy Day Machzor and use the same format.

New for this coming High Holy Days, we will pilot a new creative children's prayer book, complete with pictures of our synagogue children in the midst of it. How exciting it will be for our kids to see themselves in print.

Last year we piloted a draft of the Selichot prayer book and it was well received. This year we will use the book – *Mishkan Ha'Lev*, now published for our Selichot service. We are pleased to announce that we have gotten the rights to show *Denial*, the story of Professor Deborah Lipstadt who had to defend whether the holocaust was a hoax. The movie depicts the heavy burden faced by Deborah Lipstadt as she seeks to prove that the Holocaust actually happened. We will explore the ideas of truth telling and lies throughout the High Holydays.

We will also offer a special presentation on Yom Kippur afternoon portraying various martyrs of our time that are contained in our new Machzor, through their writing's and perhaps even acting out their lives. Our Religious practices committee will be involved in helping us coordinate this unique recitation of Eleh Azkarah (Those we Remember), a part of the high holy day liturgy.

We are excited to be offering a congregational trip to Israel with Cantor Weiss this coming December. The information is available and there are still spaces available.

We will also be offering a four day weekend civil rights trip to Atlanta, Selma and Montgomery, Alabama. Arrangements are still being confirmed.

We have found that hosting family education for the holidays has been a very successful model. We have had great participation, lots of fun and lots of learning for our unique approach to Rosh Hashanah, Tu BiShvat and Pesach. We will look forward to expanding that as well in the coming year.

We were very excited to host a return of Mitzvah day under the guidance of the Social Action Committee and the Religious School. Next year we will look for

additional ways to get the students of all ages involved, including moving the date a little bit earlier in April.

Finally, our congregation has been chosen to become part of the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Initiative. To that end, we have been given an initial grant of \$500 which will be used towards the installation of new railings on the Bimah this summer and we will be working with the Ruderman team to continue to make sure that we are doing all we can in this important area.

As always, we are honored to serve as the clergy of this congregation. We want to take a moment to thank all of our lay leaders and officers, and especially our president Scott Garland. Scott...we are lucky to have you as our partner in the sacred work of leading our congregation. We look forward to continuing partnering with you and all of our lay leaders to move our congregation forward in the coming year.

Sung:

The time is now
Sing to the One
God's presence is here,
Sh'china you will dwell among us
We'll make this space
A holy place
So separate, so whole,
Rejoice every soul
Who enters here (composed by Debbie Friedman)

