

CSS Board Meeting, June 25, 2020

Present: David Alschuler, Wendy Barrett, Ellen Bernstein, Adam Brodsky, Brian Duckman, Brenda Elfman, Debbie Farber, Diane Fischer, Lisa Flashenburg, Julie Fox, Ally Gall, Marty Gall, Scott Garland, Ronit Goldstein, Audrey Himelhoch, Harvey Irlen, Ellen Jacobs, Rabbi Joseph, Steve Pohl, Naomi Preble, Pamela Price, Heidi Short, Jay Tolman, Cantor Weiss

I Blessing

- A reminder that what we do is Holy work.
- Review of our mission statement (see the CSS website to read it). Make sure the decisions we make are consistent with our mission.

II Dvar Torah

- Lay leaders to do Dvar Torah for Board meetings from now on.
- This week's Torah portion is Korach. Appropriate because it is about leadership as Adam takes leadership of the Board.
- Steve Pohl to do the Dvar Torah for our next Board meeting.

III Clergy Report

- A. What can CSS do to contribute to the conversation about race/racism? Concrete steps to making a difference?
 - Reading and learning about what it means to be an anti-racist. Recommends Ibram X. Kendi's book How to be an Anti-racist.
 - Frequent black-owned business
 - Other ideas? Speak to Rabbi, Cantor or Adam
- B. Will be soliciting ideas and input from the congregation about High Holidays. What is it about the High Holidays that is most meaningful to you?
 - Spending whole Yom Kippur day with the community—human interaction
 - Music at Kol Nidre
 - Music throughout holidays. Will need better fidelity if we do this over Zoom.
 - Food collection
 - Getting the Temple ready
 - Reading everyone's Jewels of Elul. Hugs and hellos.
 - Procession of the Torah on Kol Nidre night. Speaks to the majesty of the day.
 - Togetherness. Can we make refinements to the break-out technology that might create some sense of intimacy/togetherness?
 - Concern about members who won't/can't be on Zoom. Don't want to exclude. Could we invite those members to someone's house? Diane suggested having Phyllis and Marilyn over for the Zoom services, for example.
 - Shofar blowing
 - Different groups being called to the Torah
 - Teen led children's service
 - Tashlikh
 - Aliyahs

- Being together
- Can we do any portion of High Holidays outside?
- Could we stream services from the sanctuary so people could still feel like they are there? Better than nothing.

IV. Review upcoming calendar; participation and expectations; summer schedule

- Please participate. We can't expect others to attend events if we don't attend.
- Do we need to meet as a board in July? Yes—will have data from High Holidays survey back and need to discuss. Meeting will be July 16 at 7:30 p.m.

V. Financial Update

- Membership dues letters went out (thanks to Ellen B.) and we are getting forms and payments back.
- Revenue is still overstated but working on figuring that out.
- Leadership training closer to the fall—teach us all how to read financials.
- Reconciling Chaverware and Shulcloud is tough.
- Wendy Goldstein (Asst. Treasurer) is an expert in Quickbooks and will help us figure it all out.
- Fiduciary duty to have financials reviewed. We missed a few years but are back on track.

VI. Reorganization

- Concern that Board doesn't always know what's going on.
- Will ask for a short report from each committee before Board meetings.
- Virtual Bimah—Adam happy to do Fridays through the summer. If anyone wants to take a Friday, Adam is happy to share.
- Annual Appeal—Renee McDonald did Annual Appeal last year and would like some help this year. Volunteers? Julie Fox will help and will reach out to Renee. Will report back to Board in August.
- Capital Campaign—Debbie and Grace spoke and will restart in July. Will report back to Board in August.
- Bylaws—have been working on modernizing the bylaws. Volunteers to continue this work? Scott, Marty and Harvey.
- Personnel Committee—Adam will hold on to this responsibility.

VII. Initiatives

- FinCom Budget Planning—Brian happy keep on it. Steve Dehner asked to be involved and will join Finance Committee. FinCom will report to Board in August with schedule of meetings, etc.
- Pandemic Donation Fund—idea to start a fund to benefit families who need help during pandemic. Set up fund in fall (not now since dues bills just went out). Funnel this through Rabbi's discretionary fund to maintain confidentiality? Is this for help with dues or personal aid? We already have a vehicle to help with dues, so feeling is that it should be to help with personal needs. Concern about tapping congregation for \$ too many times. Lisa to take this on with Diane's help.

- Leadership training for Fall—anyone willing to work with Adam to organize (whether using expertise from within congregation or outside congregation)? Debbie, Pam and Brian will take it on.

NEXT MEETING JULY 16th at 7:30 p.m.