

President Board Report: July 20, 2017

Board Norms

Welcome to a new fiscal year and a “new” Board. I look forward to us working together and setting a positive tone as we debate, discuss, plan, and build partnerships. As I mentioned last month, I highly endorse the adoption of basic norms that we will work together to honor. Effective groups generally have a set of norms that govern individual behavior, facilitate the work of the group, and enable the group to accomplish the task. I recommend that, like last year, we establish a set of norms that ensure that all individuals have the opportunity to contribute in the meeting, to increase productivity and effectiveness, and to facilitate the achievement of goals. Last month I gave everyone an index card and asked you to write down a norm that you feel is most important for us to adopt. After collecting them, I read them off to you. I typed these up, and will pass out the list for your review.

Reminder to Bring \$10: Baby Joshua Karol

On Friday, June 9, I received a call from Ruth Ann Sugarman, who wanted Temple Beth-El to consider giving a gift or finding a way to honor baby Joshua Karol. At the June Board meeting, we decided to each contribute \$10.00. I am collecting the money and will purchase a Savings Bond on the recommendation of my frugal New England friends, Barney and Ruth Ann Sugarman. They also plan to give me \$10.00 towards this.

Sanctuary Congregation: Updates?

On Monday, June 5, I received an email from Dr. Dan Allen regarding the Leo Baeck Temple board in Los Angeles, California, who approved a proposal to declare LBT a Sanctuary Congregation. I responded to Dr. Allen and thanked him for his email. I told him I would forward it to our Social Action Committee Chair, Ned Rubin, which I did. Has Social Action discussed this yet?

Adult Education Committee: New Chair Needed

Rose Jacobs has informed me that she has too much on her plate and is stepping down after one year of being the chair. I will work on looking for a new Adult Education Committee Chair. I have asked Jane Grider and she is considering taking this on, especially since the next two Grant-sponsored events will be co-sponsored by Adult Ed, and Jane is part of our grant-writing team.

Website Facilitator Needed

Bob Kimball will be stepping down from managing the Temple website as of December 2017. He is willing to train his replacement. I am looking for someone who is tech savvy and willing to take this on. I have asked Ned to do this, and last month he said he would talk to Bob to see what the position entailed. Ned?

May 7 Board Training: Board Goals

At our May 7 Board Training facilitated by URJ trainer Jim Cherney, we took the day to do some needed self-reflection through engaging in a variety of activities and discussions. Jim helped us to

establish important goals and an action plan for this coming year. At the training, the Board said they would be committed to accomplish the following: 1) We will assist the Rabbi in establishing an administrative task force; 2) We will share personal stories and Board profiles in the Adelante that we hope will encourage congregants to become involved in leadership roles; 3) We will facilitate a leadership development training program to encourage congregants to become more involved in leadership opportunities; 4) We will develop a plan to recognize and thank our Temple volunteers and our members in general (in addition to the FestivUS event); 5) We will establish focus groups to discuss people's concerns; and 6) We will adopt a Board Covenant or Brit Avodah to clarify expectations and responsibilities of Board members.