

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Meeting 9/13/2021**

Call to Order 8:10 pm

Zoom attendance- Judy Balter, Rick Dissen, Jim Donenberg, Hillary Elkins, Andy Lebovitz, Diana Lewis, Karyn Liss, Bret Maxell, Marjorie Maxwell, Roz Mohktarian, Wes Nissen, Amy Offenbach, Neil Rosengard, Jill Roter,

Attendees: Cheryl Braude, Linda Foster, Howard Freidin, Suzy Hakimian, Sue Lampert, Steve Lessman, Raymond Rokni, Robyn Rosengard, Randy Samborn, Seth Schrank, Howard Sigal, Tanya Solomon, Bob Spector, Bill Shulman, Andy Wagner, Jackie Zelkowitz

Harold Dembo, Steve Elisco Ari Footlik, Annie Goldman, Ellen Grossman, Leslie Rogoff, Edna Schrank, Dan Sher, Laura Shulman, Jay Silver, Charlotte Stern, Adam Weinstock, Alyssa Weisbach, Alan Zelkowitz

Past Presidents –Larry Grossman, Tami Rokni, Lily Zoberman

Past Presidents via Zoom- Michael Balter, Barbara Gelfeld, Fred Katzenstein, Jack Knopoff, Howard Michaels, Brian Miller, Glen Roter

Excused: Cantor Steven Stoehr, Leann Blue, Eric Golberg, Stacy Ybarra, Debbie Solomon

Staff: Rabbi Melman, Rabbi Ferratier, Susan Karlinsky,

Absent: Joel Greenman, David Hakimian, Donald Levine, Leonard Mason, Barbara Petasnick, Henry Rabinowitz, Marc Schwartz, Brad Shaps, Alan Shapiro, Jerry Stanton, Joel Weinstein, Sara Weinstein, Joe Wolke, Michael Zaransky

- D'var Torah presented by Rabbi Ferratier
- 2 days away from Yom Kippur
  - G-d is a creator and can do whatever he wants-he can be merciful. We can also make demands on G-d
  - CBS BOT-we are leaders and members and need to be intentional when acting in our positions as leaders and members
- Approval of June's Minutes and August Committee Reports  
Motion by: Howard Sigal      Seconded by: Sue Lampert
- Amended- Judy Balter was in attendance via zoom. Brian Miller, Glen Roter and Lily Zoberman should be listed in past presidents section-they attended via zoom and were in zoom section of attendance.
- Minutes Approved

- President's Report – Bob Spector
  - Reminded BOT members to turn in their BOT responsibility pledge sheets
  - Bob has received lots of feedback from members regarding the hard work of the clergy during Rosh Hashanah
  - Bob thanked Rabbi Melman for his help during Rosh Hashanah
  - Bob has enjoyed his level of involvement during the Holidays
  - Bob was very impressed with security and their awareness of who was coming into the parking lot
  
- Executive Director Report-Susan Karlinsky
  - Staff and Clergy have worked very hard the last few months-it was easy to close the synagogue, more challenging to open it again- we need to be communicative, creative, informative and consistent
  - Feels as if we are “chasing” the next challenge- Multiple plans need to be in place for every event
  - Please thank the synagogue staff-they are tired, overworked and frustrated at times.
  - Issues with early service second day Rosh Hashanah-Power went out three times the day before and not everything was able to re-boot in the correct order. Took some people 40 minutes to get on to services. People needed to “clear their Cache” or they needed to turn off their computers and wait a few minutes. Thank you to Seth Schrank for his help
  - Discussion if an email should go out to congregants to explain what happened-it only affected 100 people. There were 1100 distinct logins over 2 services on the second day.
  - Plan for Kol Nidre-. Everything will be powered down, clear and re-started, then power up- this should eliminate any issues with power failure.
  
- House Committee – Ray Rokni
  - Completed project- Library memorial plaque is completely installed and populated. Thank you to Maria for overseeing this project. A temporary Ner Tamid is displayed with plaques until a more permanent display is provided and installed. Looking for a donor for a permanent Ner Tamid. 450 plaques were relocated. Next project for Maria-putting plaques together for families.
  
- Membership – Sue Lampert
  - Happy to report the following membership numbers:  
Member Households (as of 9/1/21): 1060  
New Members in the past twelve months: 36

Includes:

- 23 joining this FY (since 7/1/21)
  - 14 with young children
  - 4 newly married
  - 5 re-joins
  - New YACHAD Affinity Groups are continuing to be formed, once leaders/facilitators are identified for the many interests of our congregants. Please let Lisa Orlov know if you, as lay leaders of CBS, are willing to facilitate conversation in a YACHAD group of an activity you enjoy.
  - Membership is working with Leann and Lisa on **Sukkot @ Home** (a fun and creative pandemic alternative to Sukkah Hop) on September 25, 2021 from 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom. Registration is open
  - Please make your High Holiday phone calls to members. Please give Sue information if there is no number or the number is incorrect.
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- Programming – Randy Samborn
    - Registration is open for the Fall Distinguished Speaker event at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14. Amy Spitalnick, executive director of Integrity First for America, will detail the organization’s efforts behind a lawsuit scheduled for trial in late October in Federal Court in Charlottesville. The plaintiffs are Charlottesville victims who were injured. Moderator will be Senator Doug Jones-senior fellow Center for American Progress
      - We are not paying Doug Jones a fee- propose to make a modest donation to Center for American Progress. We are not paying Amy-making a \$5000 donation to Integrity first for America.
      - We have co-sponsors-. StandWithUs Midwest, Techny Towers Conference and Retreat Center, Bright Star Church Chicago, and St, James Church Chicago
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- Finance Committee Report: Cheryl Braude
    - No verbal report
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- Social Action – Suzy Hakimian
    - “What you do counts”-every BOT member was given a card to write down one thing they have done to help others. It will be put on a board and turned into a mosaic at the end of the BOT’s year. We should give ourselves credit for doing good things
    - Fill up bags with food for the ARC-we are one of the Arc’s biggest donors.
    - Steve Elisco reported the fall Blood Drive is Sun Oct 10 from 8-1-30 people have already signed up.

- Flu shots-Walgreens needs a commitment for at least 20 people-will try to coordinate with the blood drive. May also try to offer COVID vaccines at the same time.
- Ritual Committee – Bill Shulman
  - High Holidays-good feedback on all services, including intergenerational
  - Rabbi Melman- need 2 ushers for the intergenerational service
  - Outside service was for 3-7 year olds-had 50 people attend. Only had 3 people sign up for the 0-3 service-that's why it was cancelled.
  - Rosh Hashanah day 1-175 people in person for early service, 175 in person for late service. Rosh Hashanah day 2-100 people in person for early service, 100 in person for late service
- School – Robyn Rosengard
  - No verbal report
- Youth – Seth Shrank
  - No verbal report
- Fundraising: Howard Sigal
  - No verbal report
- Sisterhood – Jackie Zelkowitz
  - Opening Luncheon will be on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Susan Abrams, Chief Executive Officer of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center is the featured speaker
  - Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will host Jewish Book Month Author, Fern Schumer Chapman, along with discussion facilitator, Judy Levin.
  - Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> -Annual Holiday Boutique
- Men's Club – Steve Lessman, Andy Wagner
  - Upcoming events
    - Men's club breakfast featuring cardiologist Steve Zaachs-9/19/21-in person or by zoom. Individual breakfasts will be served

- Steaks in the Sukkoth featuring David Shuster-9/20/21-52 men and women attending-registration is closed
  - Joint men's club and sisterhood program October 16 8 pm- The New Tradition Chorus will open the evening followed by a program of Interactive Game Show Trivia.
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- Old Business
  - Bob reported Susan Karlinsky has put together a job description for an administrative assistant position.
  - New Business
    - No new business
  - Good and Welfare
    - Steve Lessman noted his son got married last week and he also has a new granddaughter
    - Linda Foster read thank you notes from congregants to BOT
  - Moved to adjourn at 9:20 pm by Howard Freidin Seconded by Ellen Grossman

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foster