

Hebrew College Board of Trustees Minutes of Meeting May 16, 2024

Present [by video]: Nancy Kaplan Belsky, Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, Suzanne Priebatsch, Van Lanckton, Mark Atkins, Myra Snyder, Sara Lee, David Hoffman, Laure Garnick, Deb Feinstein, Steven Targum, Susan Schechter, Susan Shevitz, Andy Offit, Susie Tanchel, Rosa Franck, Keith Dropkin, Daniel Klein, Jane Kanarek, Myra Musicant

4:02pm Nancy Kaplan Belsky called the meeting to order.

4:04pm Laure Garnick gives Dvar Torah re: Season of counting the Omer; this evening is night 24.

4: 06pm Meeting went to Executive Session for President Evaluation.

4:39pm Executive Session for Presidential Evaluation ended

4:40pm Governance Report, Steven Targum

- Revision of the by-laws; June 6th is the last date for Trustees to receive the by-laws; list of trustees with end-of-term dates (three weeks before the new year). Voting regarding the new by-laws is on June 17th.
 - No longer need real estate committee
 - Term for board members
 - Trustees will be able to rotate off and on the board as long as there is a year in between.
 - Every standing committee will have a set of rules to govern how the committee operates.
- Evaluate existing trustees and access turnover.
 - Ross Silverstein leaving the board. All other current trustees are staying on.
 - Identified several potential new Trustees; held interviews.
 - Anticipate three new board members for FY25.
 - Trustee recruits can come from anyone – looking for people who fill in the needs of the board: finance, governance, development, strategic planning

4:51pm Development Report, Rosa Franck

- Rosa used a new template for her report that the board will be using in the future
- Gala surpassed fundraising goal
- 95% towards annual campaign goal; roughly 100k left to go

5:01pm New Rabbinical School Leadership; Sharon Cohen Anisfeld introduced Rabbi Daniel Klein and Rabbi Jane Kanarek.

- Daniel Klein
 - Lifelong connection to Hebrew College, through both Camp Yavneh and Prozdor. His family has also been connected. He is also a Rabbinical School Alum.

- Two things are at the center of the Rabbinical School: understand that Rabbi's need to be learned and live Jewish traditions; Personal transformation leading us towards living sacred lives/finding our own path of doing that.
- Jane Kanarek
 - Personal background: grew up in Newton Centre; came to Hebrew College in 2005 part-time, while working on dissertation at University of Chicago. Being at Hebrew College gave Jane the chance to teach the text she loved in its original language. Discovered a love of teaching Rabbinical students. Academy/Religious life speak to each other very deeply. Deeply poetic religious language. Excited to continue to foster excellence in teaching and mentor junior faculty; support learning needs of students.
- Small discussion about Rabbi Justin David and faculty/Rabbinical School transitioning through this change.

5:19pm Presidents Report, Sharon Cohen Anisfeld; Question & Answer only

5:22pm Finance Report; David Hoffman and Keith Dropkin

- Keith Dropkin gives March 31 financial report
 - Working hard building the FY25 budget
 - Contributions in great shape; grant revenue is the shortfall – 400k short of where we expected to be
 - Beyond budget revenue of 300k offsetting what would otherwise be savings
 - Net tuition trailing budget by 121k
- David Hoffman
 - Stronger arm to grants rather than just believing they are going to “come in”
 - Interfund Borrowing: In 2008 HC was short on operating funds; the Board borrowed from the Endowment (3.1 million). Was due to be paid back in 10 years; 16 years later and not much has been paid back.
- Q&A
 - Can we use the funds we raise for the campaign for this purpose? No - we need people to give us an unrestricted donation; the Board would vote to use it for this purpose.

5:37pm Oys and Joys, Nancy Kaplan Belsky

- Keith Dropkin is moving to Minnesota T minus 7 days
- Sharon Cohen Anisfeld's daughter and partner are moving to Boston
- Susan Shevitz, Susan Schechter, Harvey Chasen Birthdays
- Myra Musicant granddaughter bat mitzvah

5:41pm Move to Executive Session