

Hebrew College Board of Trustees Minutes of Meeting March 28, 2024

Present [by video]: Nancy Kaplan Belsky, Keith Dropkin, Susie Tanchel, Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, Rosa Franck, Van Lanckton, Myra Snyder, Steven Lewis, Sara Lee, Deborah Feinstein, Diane Troderman, Mark Atkins, Jevin Eagle, Tara Mohr, Andy Offit, Laure Garnick, Suzanne Priebatsch, Steven Targum, Avi Killip, Harvey Chasen

4:01pm Nancy Belsky calls the meeting to order.

4:01pm Motion to approve minutes – approved

4:02pm Rabbi Sharon gives President’s report and D’var

- D’var – reminding us to see in the mud the conditions for rebirth.
 - “Before springtime becomes beautiful, it is plum ugly”. Parker Palmer.
 - Teaching about the ever-present possibility of hope.
 - The promise of Carpas.
- President’s Report
 - Leadership Transitions
 - Internal restructuring for July 1 (Rabbi Daniel Klein – Dean; Rabbi Jane Kanarek – Dean of Faculty; Gita Karasov – Director of Admissions and Student Life)
 - Org Chart: New titles will eventually report to the provost; in the interim they will report to Rabbi Sharon.
 - Provost V Dean of Faculty: Provost: Oversight of accreditation process, placement director, development for RS, relations with alumni association, teaching. Dean of Faculty: Teaching assignments, oversee curriculum innovation, mentor Jr. faculty, supporting PD opportunities.
 - Legal implications – HC employees are at-will.
 - Gala and Graduation Honorees [Gala: Jehuda Reinharz, Rabbi Adina Allen, David Hoffman, Esther Award: Rachel Fish] [Graduation: Cochav Elkayam-Levy, Parker Palmer, Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum]

4:41pm Board of Managers Report (Andy Offit)

- Board of Managers is the group that “runs” the building.
 - Members: Sara Brown, Susan Schechter, Andy Offit; 3 members from TR
 - 10% of HC Budget goes through BOM
 - We pay 94% of the insurance for the building
 - Tanya McCann spends time on CA, and TR Congregants (25% and 25%)
 - Keshet is leaving TR (moving to Temple Emmanuel); the whole back wing revenue belongs to Reyim. If it’s not a Hebrew School program, HC could benefit from the revenue.

4:50pm Development Report (Rosa Franck)

- Annual Campaign Financial Review
 - 78.3% to 1.95M goal
- Spring Development Events
 - Gala
 - Pre-reception for Capital Campaign Donors of Herrick Road and Washington St.
 - Art Exhibit
 - Opening Sunday, April 8th at 5pm
 - Living Legacy Zoom
 - Thursday, April 4 at 12pm
 - Philanthropy Seminar Pilot
 - Targums hosting intimate seminar
 - Dan Judson and Carol Targum co-leading
- Potential sponsorship:
 - Courses at HC
 - Soul Sounds

5:04pm Finances

- Partnership between Sara Brown and Keith Dropkin – Sara took over BOM, facilities, and many other responsibilities. Sara is also partnering with Budget Managers to help them understand how to prepare a budget, what the numbers mean, how to make up for gaps, how to plan for the future.
- Keith’s move is scheduled for Memorial Day week.
- Variances
 - Electricity
- Tuition and fees are trailing; there is a timing issue; 100k in potential shortfall.
- Rentals are ahead
- Teen Learning trailing

5:19pm Governance (Steven Targum)

- Critical Issue: Trustees – review and reelect existing trustees
- Identify and nominate new trustees: Diversity, access to philanthropic potential, increasing geographic range
- Revision of the Bylaws
- Frequency and location of Board Meetings; type of meetings we have

5:24pm Approval of Graduates for 2024 – approved unanimously

5:25pm Adult Learning (Susie Tanchel)

- Who are our ALs? 2,037 Participants (69% from MA; 38% from other states)
- Total Gross Revenue: \$539,451.40 as of March 15, 2024
- Survey take-aways
 - Top three factors whether to engage in AL: Topic, Instructor, Location
 - 44% of people learn better in person

- Barriers to learning: no time; too expensive, what classes should they take?
- Different ways of charging \$\$ for classes? Materials charge/room charge/etc.
- Antisemitism as a topic for classes
- Rethinking how AL is working at Hebrew College
 - Moving away from particular programs and thinking more holistically about the experience of a student
 - How do we build in experiences that don't only engage the mind but actually engage the whole person?
 - Two trips next year – American South, and then Prague/Budapest
 - Focus energy on Jews by choice or Jews who have not yet been engaged in Jewish learning

5:45pm Oys and Joys

- New award HC came up with for the Chai Society
 - If you have taken 18+ courses, you are inducted into the Chai Society
 - Deb F. has taken 36 classes
 - Nancy B. has taken 33 classes
 - Laure G. has taken 27
 - Susan S. has taken 24
 - Myra S. has taken 23
- Sara has a Great Grandchild named Gideon
- Rabbi Steven Lewis and Susan Schechter organized the series of Trustees conversations about Israel – powerful, meaningful experience.

5:48 Move to executive