



**Date and time of meeting:**

June 11, 2017

**Attendance List:**

**Executive Committee**

<i>President: Linda Meisel</i>	✓	<i>VP Adm: Judi Fleitman</i>		<i>Rabbl: Adam Feldman</i>	✓
<i>VP Fin: David Politziner</i>		<i>Rec Sec: Russell Feder</i>	✓	<i>Director: Debbie Orel</i>	✓
<i>VP Ed and Y: Nicole Soffin</i>	✓	<i>Trust: Barak Bar-Cohen</i>		<i>Trust: Naomi Richman-Neumann</i>	✓
<i>VP Rel Aff: Linda Milstein</i>		<i>Trust: Moshe Margolin</i>	✓	<i>Trust: Ginger Schnitzer</i>	
<i>VP Prog: Helaine Isaacs</i>	✓			<i>Past Pres: Naomi Perlman</i>	

**General Board**

<i>Adult Ed: Jeremy Kasdin</i>	✓	<i>HR: Harry Cummins</i>	✓	<i>Mens: Steve Hudis</i>	
<i>Adult Ed: James Rosenberg</i>	✓	<i>Israel: Debbie Gross</i>		<i>Mens: Aaron Bellows</i>	✓
<i>Finance: Benny Soffer</i>		<i>JCW: Charlene Borsack</i>	✓	<i>Relig Affairs: Barbara Schwartz</i>	✓
<i>Fundraising: Bret Jacknow</i>	✓	<i>JCW: Debbi Gitterman</i>	✓	<i>School, Youth, Family: Rachael Cooper</i>	✓
<i>House: Eric Jaffe</i>	✓	<i>Long Range: Edye Kamenir</i>	✓	<i>Soc Action: Lew Gantwerk</i>	
<i>A&amp;C: Heidi Joseph</i>	✓	<i>Members: Martha Friedman</i>	✓	<i>Soc Action: Abigail Rose</i>	✓

**Other Attendees**


### **Call to order**

Linda Meisel, TJC President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the TJC Library

### **Agenda**

1. Opening Remarks and Dvar Torah
2. Team building activity
3. Open Discussion

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Opening Remarks and Dvar Torah**

Welcome new board to an important process. The year will bring excitement and challenges including the *search and hire for two new essential staff members* and *several other critical decisions*.

Board has a fiduciary responsibility in serving the congregation. Make sure you read the by-laws, policies and all the other training material in the Board Training Handbook that was distributed.

The Dvar Torah, delivered by Rabbi Feldman and based on Moses sending “12 Spies” into Canaan [Numbers 13:1-33](#), emphasized leadership vision, context and perspective. What we see as members of the congregation will be different than what we see as members of the board. Congregational issues and decisions will be viewed differently and we all need to work together to come to common solutions. Rabbi also emphasized the importance of making connections and developing creative solutions. When we view the Tzit Tzit we are reminded of the commandments. Similarly when issues arise the board needs to look beyond the immediate view and make connections to create solutions.

## **Team Building Activity**

A team building exercise was conducted to help new board members get to know each other and to help develop some common leadership goals. The exercise was titled "Our Common Values and Focus". See attached worksheets. Board members first paired up to interview each other and fill out the "Interview Questions" worksheet. Then groups of six were formed to collect and summarize thoughts on the "Summary Sheet"

### **"Quotable Quotes" Highlights**

"Grounded in traditions, living in the present with an eye on the future..."

"People across generations feel comfortable to fulfill their Jewish needs as *they* define them"

### **Themes Highlights**

Power of community and espousing Jewish values

Inspiration of Jewish rituals

*(TJC has a)* Culture of Acceptance

Gratitude and appreciation for being a member of TJC

*(TJC is a)* Vibrant Congregation

*(Everyone values)* Events that build community

## **Open Board Discussion**

*Theme → Communications, Outreach and Technology*

- Use technology to broaden input from and communication with the congregation. The Long Range planning experience can help guide how technology should be used to grow the congregation.
- Broader engagement will signify that things are changing. Use engagement to spread the word that the new board is here to make changes.
- TJC reputation in the community needs to be improved and this starts with strong communications and outreach.
- Board members need prep and talking points to be able to answer questions and have a unified positive message...to the congregation and larger community.
- Channel community dissent and unhappiness in to action..Get Involved if you want to make a change

*Theme → Board responsibility and behavior*

- Need to find a balance between transparency and confidentiality in board work. We need to work to find some optimized balance.
- General board meetings are open to the community. We need to make sure this is communicated by using different types of media: Lobby TV, Services Pamphlets and just make sure people know it is open.
- Anything other than respectful professional behavior will not be tolerated. The congregation needs to know that Leaders are Leading!
- Respectful and appropriate behavior and interactions are expected at board meetings and this needs to be encourage and enforced by leadership. It is important to manage speech.

## **Board Meeting Closure**

Next General Board Meeting 6/25 at 7:30

Motion to close meeting: Moshe Margolin

Meeting closed at 9:30



**TJC Board: Our common values and focus**

**Summary Sheet**

1. Quotable quote

2. Most compelling story

3. 3 themes

