

Adat Board meeting 12/09/25

In attendance:

Mark Klapow, President

Shana Waggoner, Immediate Past President

Cate Whiting- At-Large/Governance

Anita Lampel- At-Large/Tikkun Olam

Jane Feldman- Vice President, Personnel and Administration

Lauren Biel- Vice President, Development

Ariel Levin- Vice President, Community Engagement

David Clopper- Religious Practices

Mark Grossman- Vice President, Lifelong Jewish Learning

Tal Widdes- At-Large/External Relations

Daniel Simkin- At-Large/Children, Youth and Family Engagement

Andrew Leach- Treasurer

Jacob Feinspan- Vice President, Programming

Ariel Michelman-Ribeiro- Secretary

Staff: Rena Milchberg

Meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.

We voted to approve the October Board Meeting minutes- passed unanimously..

Tal Widdes made a motion for Adat Shalom to become a member of AIM. Tal is working on a framework for supporting organizations like this. The interest in AIM came from the community action meeting last Spring. She said she will think about how to measure impact.

The motion passed, 12 yea, 1 nay.

The board discussed Rabbi Scott's Israel proposal. There was concern that it is not a finished product ready for full approval. There was a suggestion to break it into goals first, and then mature the timeline section to be considered for approval later. The board held a vote to endorse the goals section of the proposal. It passed unanimously.

Mark Klapow proposed nominating Shana Waggoner as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The board passed this unanimously.

Cate Whiting shared progress on updating the bylaws. They are cleaning up the language and editing it to make more sense. They plan to better link the board positions to committees for a better structure. Cate will present a final version in January for board comments. She will then socialize it with the congregation.

Anita Lampel gave an update on the Social Action committee's activities. They had a good meeting last week with 58 people on Zoom to discuss issues from the community meeting.

There will be more activities coming up, for example, on climate action. She talked to Pam and Rozzie about engaging more youth in the activities.

Daniel Simkin said had a meeting with Rozzie and Aaron Shneyer about kabbalat shabbat activities for the Children, Youth, and Families group.

Shana Wagger gave an update about the Reconstructing Judaism group. The Chair will visit Adat Shalom in February. Shana participates in monthly calls with Reconstructing Judaism and quarterly meetings for large synagogues. They will hold a convention in March and Adat members are encouraged to attend. She will bring a dues proposal in February.

Mark Klapow identified priorities for the coming year, with the plan to let staff and lay-leaders develop programs and budgets, and then the board would vote on the budget in the future. He led a discussion about priority topics: music/art, villages/local connections, adult learning, and young families. Additional topics people suggested were Israel connection and a strategic growth plan. The board also discussed the initiative for Rabbi Scott to attend shabbat dinners in members' homes. It was agreed that there needs to be better communication about what the status of that initiative is and how to tweak the dinners going forward to reach more people effectively.

Mark Klapow gave an update on the search for a second clergy. There are a few viable candidates, and we may get a few more applicants later because of the timing rules about other denominations applying to Reconstructionist synagogues.

.The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.