

Adat Board meeting 04/30/26

In attendance:

Shana Wagger, Immediate Past President
Cate Whiting- At-Large/Governance
Jane Feldman- Vice President, Personnel and Administration
David Clopper- Religious Practices
Marc 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
Anita Lampel- At-Large/Tikkun Olam
Ariel Levin- Vice President, Community Engagement
Ariel Michelman-Ribeiro- Secretary
Mark Klapow, President

Staff: Rabbi Scott Perlo

Not attending:

Lauren Biel- Vice President, Development

Congregants attending:

Mark Paster, Larry Goldsmith, Jennifer Gold, Tom Armstrong, Carren Kaston, David Sieradski and Emily Novick, Judith Gelman, Steve Sharpe, Vered Stoller, Phyllis Lerner, Shelley Sadowsky.

Meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.

Mark Paster was allowed to address the board. He expressed concern about personnel issues.

Approval of minutes- Unanimously approved.

Tal Widdes gave an update on the interim Executive Director (ED) search. We will discuss the candidates in an executive board session.

Tal Widdes gave an update on the community alliances proposal. The proposal was sent to the board. She suggested postponing a vote and discussion until the Fall.

Security update from David Clopper. We got assessment and advice from J-Shield.

Kadima Team update from Jacob Feinspan: has been meeting to look for the next ED, ensure weekly emails with updates are coordinated with the board and sent to the community, liaising with Rabbi Teutsch and preparing meeting, office logistics. Moving forward with an HR

consultant to get support. We will start working on a code of conduct for staff and congregants. The Kadima Team does work and makes recommendations but does not make decisions, the Board makes decisions.

Jacob gave an update on Board transparency work. Lauren Biel has been leading this effort. A board email address was created for members to communicate with the board. The Board has been replying to all emails. We are discussing Board office hours. We will circulate board meeting minutes in a portal accessible to members. There is a governance document repository in the portal. We added committee names on the website.

Andrew led a discussion on adding a child protection policy to our insurance, which was required for our insurance renewal. There was discussion to ensure the language covers all staff. The board voted to approve the policy- vote passed unanimously.

Andrew gave a Finance Committee update and led a discussion of the budget. There is uncertainty given the staff situation. Fundraising was stronger this year compared to last year. Inflation has gone up since last year. The committee recommends raising dues. The board will vote on the budget at the next meeting.

The board meeting adjourned at 9:05 and entered an Executive Session.