



## CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2025

Dinner at 6 pm and Meeting at 6:30 pm  
Social Hall

**Welcome, President Suzanne Solig:** Highlights of the year: *Isaiah Highlights*, a video montage created by Natalie Assia.

**D'Var Torah, Rabbi Dara Frimmer:** On Tikkun Leil Shavuot (“fixing the night of Shavuot”) we study Torah through the night beginning Shavuot eve. With this tradition, we correct the mistakes of our ancestors who overslept on the day they received the Torah. It is our calling to joyfully pass on the teachings of Torah to future generations.

**President’s Report, Suzanne Solig:** Thanked the Congregation for the privilege of serving as Temple President these past two years. She spoke of accomplishments and challenges and expressed her deep appreciation to clergy, staff, the Board of Trustees and all who dedicate their time on behalf of Temple Isaiah. Suzanne warmly thanked those completing service on the Board: Idelle Davidson, Allie Samek, Adam Siegel, Cindy Mori and Karen Hedges. Read Suzanne’s “Message from Your President” [HERE](#).

**Executive Director’s Report, Deb Moses:** The year’s highlights included our return to UCLA Royce Hall for High Holy Day services, the hiring of our new Rabbi educator Adam Allenberg, the completion of most phase-one building improvements, the launch of new initiatives, and more. See Deb’s full report [HERE](#).

**Annual Award Presentations:** For their leadership and dedication to Temple Isaiah, Chet Widom received the Lifetime Achievement Award; Mike Diamond received the Hineinu Award.

**Approval of Minutes from June 5, 2024 Congregational Meeting, Suzanne Solig:** Harris Smith moved to approve the minutes. Lilli Lee seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Vote to Approve the 2025-2026 Budget, Treasurer Harris Smith:** Summarized the 2024-2025 budget year and presented the proposed 2025-2026 budget. See 2025-2026 projected revenues and expenses and “Overall Thoughts from the Treasurer” [HERE](#). Jerry Witkow moved to approve the budget. Dale Joyner seconded it. The budget was approved.

**Presentation of Contracts, Jerry Witkow, VP of Personnel:**

- **Cantor Randall Schloss** – A 5-year contract commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2030

- **Rabbi Jaclyn Cohen** – A 3-year contract commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2028.

Idelle Davidson moved to approve both contracts. Wendy Plottel seconded the motion. Both were approved.

**Contracts Presented for Informational Purposes:**

- **Avital Etehad, Director of Early Childhood Education** – A 3-year contract commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2028.
- **Rabbi Adam Allenberg, Incoming Director of K-12 Education** – A 2-year contract commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

**Presentation and Election of 2024 Slate of Officers and Trustees, Allie Samek, Past President and Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee:** Other committee members include Terry Pullan, Jessica Dabney, Rachael Kallick, Richard Isakow, Wendy Plottel, Martha Sklar, Orli Belman, Jeff Yaroslow, Susan Bartholomew.

- Officer nominations: Debra Silverman, President; Eric Shabsis, Executive Vice President; Jeff Yaroslow, VP of Communications. Jon Lonner moved to approve the slate. Harris Smith seconded it. All approved.
- Slate of renewing members: Katie Berman, Ken Friedman, Beth Mohammed and Beth Raanan. Jami Messinger moved to approve the slate of Trustees. Terry Pullan seconded it. All approved.
- Slate of new members: Richard Birnholz, Shireen Oberman, Ann Weinman and Sherrie Zacharius. Sheri Hirschfeld moved to approve the slate. Ellen Canter seconded it. All approved.

**Amendments to the Bylaws and Vote to Approve: Debra Silverman, Executive VP:** Presented the Board’s recommended revisions. Also see [Rationale for Changes](#); Bylaws document with [track changes](#); and “clean” copy of Bylaws with [incorporated approved revisions](#).

- **Non-Jewish Members—Tabled**
  - 2.A. “Eligibility” (related to membership)
  - 4.B. “Board Service Eligibility”

After much discussion, proposed changes to 2A and 4B were tabled pending further review and input from the Temple community.
- **Board Terms—Approved**
  - 4.C. “Board Service Term”
  - 4.E. “Temple Officers” – subsection related to “President” and “Executive Vice President and Vice President Terms”
  - 4.F. “Executive Committee”

Alli Samek moved to approve. Jessica Dabney seconded it. The motion passed with 3 abstentions.
- **Finance Committee Updates—Approved**
  - 4.A. “Duties and Powers of Trustees”

- 6.A. “Budget Committee”
- 6.B. “Finance Committee”
- 6.C.1. “Endowment Subcommittee”

Harris Smith moved to approve. Chet Widom seconded it. The motion passed.

- **Personnel Committee—Approved**

- 6.F. “Personnel Committees

Jerry Witkow moved to approve. Beth Raanan seconded it. The motion passed with one no vote.

**Development Report, Jeffrey Glaser, VP of Development:** Thanked all who contributed to our FY 2024-2025 Annual Giving Campaign. We surpassed our goal of \$900,000 with \$979,000 pledged and \$944,000 collected to-date. Jeffrey invited all who would like to help with upcoming fundraising initiatives to contact him.

**Looking Ahead, Debra Silverman:** As incoming Board President, Debra shared her background and vision for the future of Temple Isaiah. She expressed her gratitude to Suzanne for her mentorship and looks forward to working with Executive VP Eric Shabsis and all members of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees. She thanked the Congregation for the trust they have placed in her.

**Closing Comments, Rabbi Frimmer:** Recognized Suzanne for “being our guide through the wilderness” these last two years in her role as Temple President. She thanked her for so capably building and sustaining this community and for her years of devotion to Isaiah. As we welcome her back to the Board in her new role as Past President, we know Suzanne will continue to inspire and lead in meaningful ways. For all this and more, we offer our love and gratitude.

**Cantor Randall Schloss and Rabbi Jaclyn Cohen:** Led the congregation in songs of peace.

**Adjourned at 8:45 pm**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Idelle Davidson, VP of Communications**