

Houston Hillel Board Meeting
Sept. 11, 2023
Minutes

In Person: Grant Beiner, Jeff Berlat, Eric Bishop, Steve Block, Terry Cweigenberg, Rabbi Gideon Estes, Carly Fleck, Abby Lestin, Sammie Lorch, Rozanne Rubin, Katia Sokolov, Rabbi Kenny Weiss

On Zoom: Marvin Blum, Michael Burgower, Alex Lewis, Lou Mizis, Lauren Schwartz, David Vener

D'var Torah

- Kenny presented a midrash from Mekhilta deRabbi Ishmael on Exodus 12:7.

Fall programming highlights

- Each staff member shared one anecdote about their recent work on campus.

New building update

- Lauren Schwartz: Design overview and recap of our progress so far.
- Kenny: Overview of fundraising to date, grant proposals in progress and those to be submitted.
- Rozanne and Kenny will meet with the Sibel Foundation on Sept. 18. Tentative ask of close to \$5 million. Houston Hillel is a perfect candidate for the grant. The Seibel Foundation will make an award in early 2024.

New Building Reimbursement Resolution

- Allows reimbursement from capital campaign donations for expenses incurred from operations.
- Gideon moves to adopt the resolution. Grant and Rozanne second the motion.
- Gideon amends motion to delete "taxable" from the resolution, Eric Bishop seconds the amendment.
- Passes unanimously.

Land Lease with Hillel Foundation of Greater Houston

- Eric Bishop: Presents an overview of Hillel Foundation of Greater Houston, Inc. and Houston Hillel, Inc. The Land Lease formalizes the relationship between the two organizations and allows Houston Hillel to erect a new building on the site.
- 50 years, \$100 per year
- Gideon moves to approve the lease. Grant second.
- Steve Block provides additional explanation and answers questions.
- Passes unanimously.

Close and adjourn

- Lou Mizis asks where meetings and events will be during construction
- Neighbors offered apartment rent free for office. Possibility of using Emanu El.
- 12 month to 18 month construction period