

# Houston Hillel

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 22

Present: Rozanne Rubin, Ellie Rips, Kenny Weiss, Alyssa Silva, Eric Cohn, Daniel Pickelner, Jeff Levine, Jonas Actor, Kendall Toarmina, Leon Trakhtenberg, Lou Mizis, Marlene Rubin, Gideon Estes, Sandy Jackson, Eric Bishop

Next meeting: Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm

### **Houston Hillel History Lesson- Kenny**

- Kenny took the board on a trip back in time to the beginning of Hillel, The Menorah Society, and more!

### **Presidents Report**

- **Check in on last board meeting minutes**
  - All in favor of last board meeting minutes
- **Dashboard**
  - Board looked at numbers of engagements and where we are with donations at this time
  - Eric Cohn asks about the logistics of Shabboxes and Shabbags
- **Goosebump of the Week**
  - Rozanne goes over the reasoning behind the Goosebump a Week. It's a feel good sharable story about Houston Hillel.
- **Board relationship with staff – insights from the most recent Hillel International Board Leadership Session**
  - Where are we in terms of the relationships between the board and staff.
  - If the board is independent, then they do not know what's going on at Hillel and cannot make informed decisions.
  - If the board is too dependent on the staff, this can be overbearing for staff.
  - We want to be in the middle.
  - 3 principles to creating a partnership with board and staff, Shared purpose, role clarity, time.
  - Encouraging Board to attend HillelU sessions for board education

- **Houston Hillel Staff Shoutout-Rozanne**

- Completed salary discussions with professional staff
- Shoutouts for Alyssa, Ellie, and Lior
- Adam Lehman, Hillel International President and CEO will meet virtually with Houston Hillel's Board, students and community on April 29
- Alyssa has been selected to be a part of the JWI Jewish Communal Women's Leadership Project.
- Ellie and Lior did an Instagram live Shabbat and carried on despite adversity during the cold weather.

**Old Business- Rozanne**

- Strategic Action Plan- Motion to extend 3 year strategic plan to a 4<sup>th</sup> year.
  - Rabbi Gideon Estes Seconds
  - All in favor
- Zinn endowment
  - Discussion about endowment establishment with Zinn \$250,000 gift

**New Business**

- **Evernote- Kenny**

- Board minutes kept in Evernote, 20 years strong
- Can easily search all minutes and find information needed

- **Nominating Committee- Eric Cohn**

- Eric Cohn and Lou Mizis on committee
- Asking others to join, Eric Bishop and Rozanne volunteered to join
- Please send your suggestions for new board members to Kenny

- **Budget- Kenny**

- First draft completed by Kenny and sent to Kendall, Rozanne and Scott to review

- **New Business- Eric Cohn**

- Building Task Force will have its first meeting in the next few weeks

- Not a sell the building conversation, just to think strategically how we use the building and what the future looks like for the building.
- This committee will consist of community members not on the board as well. Trying to go beyond board knowledge to think big picture.

**Mad Libs- Rozanne**

- Purim Story Mad Lib!

**Good & Welfare- Rozanne**

- Rozanne will be donating to Hillel as Mishloach Manot in honor of board members
- Kenny shares the good news about Eli
- Jonas finishes his PhD in May and will be moving to New Mexico for a post doctoral job.
- Gideon mentioned that he was moved to donate to Jewston by Alyssa's Goosebump of the week and Eric Bishop seconded that and encouraged the board to support Daniel Wolfe's business.