

**Houston Hillel Board Meeting**  
**May 8, 2023**  
**Minutes**

Attendance: In person: Scott Friedman, Rabbi Kenny Weiss, Carly Fleck, Daniel Pickelner, Rabbi Gideon Estes, Sandy Jackson, Nathan Canen. On Zoom: Ethan Schultz, Grant Beiner, Eric Bishop, Rozanne Rubin, Lou Wexler, Lena Lieb, Terry Cweigenberg.

Welcome – Scott

D'var Torah – Kenny

- The intersection of Torah and architecture.
- Kenny thanked Scott for his term as president. Kenny presented Scott with a tzedakah box as a gesture of gratitude. Kenny also gave a tzedakah box to Rozanne, who did not receive a gift at the end of her term as president due to the pandemic.
- Kenny shared staff updates and engagement data insights.

Nominating committee report – Rozanne Rubin

- Gideon Estes moves to accept the report. Sandy seconds.
- No discussion. Adopted unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – Scott Friedman

Springboard expansion grant

- Gideon Estes moves to adopt the budget. Nathan Canen seconds.
- Kenny shares updates to the budget.
  - We received a \$10,000 Springboard Expansion Grant to retain Carly.
  - Potential increase to health care expenses if our new Springboard Fellow wants to be on our plan.
- Adopted unanimously.

New Building Resolution

- Scott reviewed the board's work to this point – participant surveys and conversations with other Hillels.
- Resolution:

Moved that Houston Hillel commence a capital campaign with the goal of raising sufficient funds to:

1. Tear down Houston Hillel's current facility and replace it with a new building and surrounding infrastructure.
2. Increase Houston Hillel's endowment to support the new facility and future programming.

Further moved that Houston Hillel Board of Directors empower Houston Hillel's Executive Committee to approve on the Board's behalf documents related to the implementation of a Capital Campaign such as, but not limited to, a Capital gift acceptance policy and Gift naming agreement. The Executive Committee will report to the Board of Directors any actions it takes on the Board's behalf.

- Gideon moves to adopt the resolution. Daniel Pickelner seconds.
- Discussion
  - Daniel Pickelner: Will the Ashby Highrise construction overlap with Hillel's? Uncertain.
  - Kenny reviews capital campaign prospects and donors to this point.
  - Terry Cweigenberg: How much will this cost? \$3 million or thereabout.
  - Kenny explains proposed site and floor plans.
  - Kenny presents capital campaign brochure draft.
- Adopted unanimously.

#### Good and Welfare

- Rabbi Gideon Estes will be honored for his 13 years at Or Ami.

#### Adjournment