

Minutes  
Kona Beth Shalom (KBS)  
Board of Trustees  
September 7 , 2025  
Zoom (online) meeting

TRUSTEES LOGGED INTO MEETING

Alan Silverman, Nella Silverman, Elaine Dobinson, Barry Blum, Heather Friedman-Rivera, Joel Gimpel, Sarah Kramer, Vic Greenspan, Stuart Liroff, Craig Silverman, Arnie Rabin, Courtney Meiselman and Mike Bernstone

TRUSTEES ABSENT

R. Shari Berman

OTHERS PRESENT

Aviva Plaut, Yehudah Plaut, Vivienne Aronowitz and Marilyn Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting began at 11:00 a.m. right after the Annual Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES

Upon motion made by Joel and seconded, the minutes of the August 3, 2025, board meeting were approved.

MONTHLY MENTION

Heather recognized Barry's knowledge and kindness and that it meant so much to her and to all at Kona Beth Shalom. Barry leads and teaches with gentleness and humor, and we're grateful for the 17 plus years that he served as our president. On a more personal note, though, she wanted to thank Barry for always being there to help during the learning phases, as President and as Shomer. Barry's steady support has made a difference, and deeply appreciated.

JEWISH JOY

Marilyn joined the Kahalu'u beach day online as she couldn't make it in person. She thought it was noteworthy and funny that the one and only time that KBS rented a pavilion in all the years we've been in Kona, the beach had to close because of a shark sighting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial report was sent by email to the board prior to the meeting.

There were no questions for Mike.

Upon motion made by Barry and seconded, the financial report was approved.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FACILITIES

Heather wanted to discuss emergency supplies at New Thought Center of Hawaii (NTCH).

Alan said that he and Aviva are having a quarterly meeting on this coming Wednesday with Pasha Macgregor, manager of NTCH, and will check the number and location of fire extinguishers and if there is a first aid kit with CPR mouth shields available. If not, we will have to invest in some of those.

Alan brought up the question if we wanted to hire an off-duty policeman for security during the High Holidays (HH). Discussion was postponed until we discuss HH.

### CEMETERY

This committee report was discussed during the Annual Meeting.

### WEBSITE

This committee report was discussed during the Annual Meeting.

### BIKUR CHOLIM

This committee report was discussed during the Annual Meeting.

### ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

This committee report was discussed during the Annual Meeting.

### HIGH HOLIDAYS (HH)

After a lengthy discussion the majority of the Board felt like an off-duty police security car was not needed at NTCH, but that we should notify the local police station that we are having HH or shabbat services at NTCH so that they are aware of it.

There is a security person assigned at each service. Heather or Stuart will sit near the entrance so they can see who's coming in and can greet newcomers. The security person will do a perimeter check and parking lot check before and midway through services or as is deemed appropriate. NTCH has already asked us not to post on a sign outside on the street or parking lot that Kona Beth Shalom is having services.

If congregants cannot leave by the front entrance, they can vacate the sanctuary, through the slider door into the yoga room or go along the walkway at the back of the building and come through the back door of the kitchen. which needs to be unlocked before services and locked when we leave for the day.

Elaine suggested that we have 2-3 people signed up to help at the entry during HH so that we can check who has tickets and help if they don't with a membership form. We also would like the names and emails of those new people who come. The new KBS brochure has a QR code that takes you to the KBS website where you can find the sign up form for tickets. We won't stop them from coming in but ask that they give a

donation when they go home. Marilyn and Heather volunteered to help. Heather will send out an email for volunteers.

#### ADULT LEARNING/JUDAISM 101

Aviva said she taught 4 students the 5-week Hebrew learning course, She will continue lessons based on what people individually want to do after that. KBS has the materials so we can teach others as needed.

Aviva believes that the High Holy Days occur at a time of the year when we take time to connect with our Jewish selves, and that there is always a kind of flourishing and elevating of that part of our lives which she hopes to build on.

R. Shari is leading the mincha afternoon service on Yom Kippur (YK). She will speak to R. Fink about other prayers she could lead.

SHABBAT SHUVAH    September 27, 2025                    10:30 a.m.

Location:    NTCH  
Leaders:     R. Fink  
Torah:       Aviva, R. Shari  
Drash:       R. Fink  
Challah:     Courtney  
Security:     Stuart

9 a.m. setup: Plauts, Silvermans, Vic  
Heather is unable to make it on this shabbat.

SIMCHAT TORAH    Saturday. October 11                    10:30 a.m.

Location:    NTCH  
Service:      Aviva/Barry

#### JEWS NEWS

This report was discussed during the Annual Meeting.

ANNUAL LUNCH WITH THE RABBI                    September 28, 2025                    1:30 p.m.

Location:    Sunset Kai Lanai, Keauhou  
Menu:        5 choices, drinks included but not alcohol

Rabbi will be there with his wife, Dr. Janet Kaufman  
The Board members with their partners are invited.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Heather will send the list of inquiries we received from Holly Blue Hawkins (green burial), Saul Kaye (Chanukah performer), Yitzhak Husbands-Hankin (concert) and Pizmon, a cappella group, in March to the new Board members.

#### NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held Sunday, October 5, 2025, at 10 a.m. on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nella Silverman,  
Secretary