

Minutes  
Kona Beth Shalom (KBS)  
Board of Trustees  
March 1 , 2026  
Zoom (online) meeting

TRUSTEES LOGGED INTO MEETING

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

TRUSTEES ABSENT

R. Shari Berman and Stuart Liroff

OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting began at 4:01 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Opening prayer for peace was led by Heather. This prayer was written upon reflection on the one-year anniversary of the 1/13/22 hostage takeover of Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas.

MI SHEBEIRACH

The mi shebeirach prayer was said for those on our board and in our community and friends who are in need of healing.

MINUTES

Upon motion made by Barry and seconded, the minutes of the February 2, 2026, KBS Board Meeting were approved.

MONTHLY MENTION

Thanks to Barry and R. Shari for leading a beautiful and fun service this past shabbat. Also thank you for all who prepared and brought food to make it special. A big thank you to Arnie for his amazing magic lesson. Heather said she plans to practice the tricks and show them to her grandchildren.

JEWISH JOY

The new treasurer transition is almost done with all the tasks: banking transfer done, the Schwab account paperwork mailed off, some insurance changes are still pending which will be explained in Old Business. Thank you to all on the Board who helped with this project.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Una emailed the treasurer's report during the meeting. There is still more to change in the report, including the year-to-date totals and comparisons to last year, but these will get done. We had a nice donation of \$5,000 from Richard Green last month. Una has sent a donation letter to Richard. Joel made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. The motion was seconded and approved.

The bank account debit cards have been received and can be used for KBS expenses. We are still working on transferring the Schwab account. Paperwork has been sent to the Schwab accounts manager and when they are received, he will discuss different options for investing KBS money.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### FACILITIES

Everything is working smoothly for in-person services at New Thought Center Hawaii (NTCH). We had 25 people attend our past in-person shabbat which is a nice turnout for us.

##### CEMETERY REPORT

Heather reported that everything is OK at the cemetery and has sent Barry an updated pdf of the cemetery information booklet.

Arnie has been trying to find a new cemetery location in Kona. He wanted to be sure that the Board is interested in him pursuing this as it is quite a lot of work. He has spoken to Chabad rabbi Gerlitzky and a church that has available land. He didn't want to keep working on it if there is no interest. Joel summed up the discussion saying that the Board is interested in having a Kona cemetery location, but it is too early to make a decision as we need more information. Arnie has been invited to be a member of the cemetery committee.

##### WEBSITE

Heather wanted to ask the Board to consider authorizing a fairly big budget to update the website, as it is the public face of KBS. Discussion ensued about the price of getting a professional web designer outside our immediate congregation to do this work. Hirsch Fishman, a web designer who has experience with synagogue websites and works with WordPress, estimated it would cost about \$2500. Suggestions were made that, before signing anything, KBS request a prototype of what the proposed website page would look like. A motion was made by Heather

and seconded to create a budget not to exceed \$3500 to hire a website designer who will create an inviting, easy to use website for KBS. The motion was passed.

#### BIKUR CHOLIM/SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mi shebeirach was said for those on our Board and in our community who are having health issues.

#### ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There is a planned Zoom meeting this coming Thursday, March 5 at 4:00 p.m. on Zoom. A possible screening of the "Tree of Life" documentary will be discussed.

Sunday, March 15, 10 am - noon: book club on Zoom, discussing "Israel" by Noa Tishby

April 12 or April 19, 1 - 4 pm, Ceramics workshop; flyers for the website will be coming out shortly. Courtney says in April we will make pinch pots and come back in May for glazing. .

#### HIGH HOLIDAYS (HH) COMMITTEE

Great news! Rabbi Fink and his wife have agreed to come back for HH this year.

#### JUDAISM 101

Since Aviva and Yehudah Plaut are away, this class will be postponed until they return.

SHABBAT HAGADOL                      March 28, 2026                      10:30 a.m.                      NTCH

Leader: Barry Blum

Drash: TBD

Leyners: Need to consult with R. Shari when she returns from Japan

Challah: Courtney Meiselman

Security: Heather

Remember the Hawaii Food Bank for food or monetary donations.

Potluck - Heather will bring salad, others no pork or shellfish please.

PESACH                      Wednesday., April 1, 2026

No community seder is planned for this year.

#### JEWS NEWS

Beth Or Purim Carnival March 1, 5 p.m.

Chabad of Hilo Purim Party March 3, dinner and megillah reading, Wailoa River State Park

Beit Aloha Elohim BAE, Purim Party, Saturday, March 7, 3:30 p.m.. There are two community seders planned for first and second nights of Pesach, April 1 and 2.

#### OLD BUSINESS

#### INSURANCE UPDATE

According to our bylaws, Article VI, Section 6: All officers and members of the Board of Trustees shall be covered by a blanket position fidelity bond in the amount to be determined by the Board of Trustees, the cost of which shall be borne by the congregation.

Heather has gotten some information from our agent, Eugene Tagawa, Business Insurance Services, regarding the types of insurance we have (liability) and don't have (fidelity bond). She will send this information and quotes for these instruments to Board members for their information. This matter will be tabled until the April meeting. Questions that came up are lack of embezzlement protections and the need for coverage of employees. KBS has no employees. See Addenda for copy of this proposal.

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### MEMORIAL SCROLLS TRUST (MST)

Heather would like to create a MST committee. but will wait for R. Shari to be home before starting it up. Heather will send the information received from MST to the board regarding care and the 10 year rededication of our Torah scroll. This committee can give a report at the next meeting. It was suggested that the committee might reach out to Maui congregation as they also have an MST Torah. See Addenda for copy of this letter.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting will be held Sunday, April 5, 2026, at 4 p.m. on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nella Silverman, Secretary

Addenda:



Wrap+®

**Thomas J Barbano**  
PO Box 64094  
St. Paul, MN 55102-0094  
Phone: (206) 326-4282  
Email: TJBARBAN@travelers.com

February 27, 2026

Eugene Tagawa  
BUSINESS INS SVCS INC  
615 PIIKOI ST STE 1901  
HONOLULU, HI 96814

**RE: Insured Name:** CONGREGATION KONA BETH SHALOM  
PO BOX 699  
KAILUA KONA, HI 96745-0699

**Expiring Policy Number:** N/A

**Policy Period:** March 1, 2026 to March 1, 2029

3 year period

Dear Eugene Tagawa:

On behalf of **Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America** we are pleased to provide the attached proposal of insurance for your review.

The quotes contained in this document are valid for 30 days, and are subject to the provision of, and Travelers' review and acceptance of, the required underwriting information noted in the Contingencies section. Travelers reserves the right to change the quotes in this document, or to refuse to bind coverage entirely, based on review of the required underwriting information or based on adverse change in the risk(s) to be insured prior to the quote expiration date noted in this document.

Travelers is pleased to offer Risk Management PLUS+ Online®, the industry's most comprehensive program for mitigating your management liability exposures, which is available to you at no additional cost. Please visit [www.rmplusonline.com](http://www.rmplusonline.com) to view the services that are available. If you have additional questions about the site please contact your Underwriter.

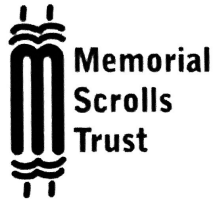
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, a subsidiary of The Travelers Companies, Inc., has consistently earned high ratings for financial strength and claims-paying ability from independent rating services, including a current A.M. Best rating of A++\*. Founded in 1853, The Travelers Companies, Inc. is a Fortune 500 company, a component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, and a leading provider of property casualty insurance for businesses.

Thank you for considering Travelers for your client's insurance coverages. We look forward to discussing this opportunity with you.

Sincerely,

**Thomas J Barbano**  
Travelers Bond & Specialty Insurance

\*A.M. Best's rating of A++ applies to Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America as well as to certain insurance subsidiaries of Travelers that are members of the Travelers Insurance Companies pool; other subsidiaries are included in another rating pool or are separately rated. For a listing of companies rated by A.M. Best and other rating services visit [www.travelers.com](http://www.travelers.com). Ratings listed herein are as of July 2023, are used with permission, and are subject to changes by the rating services. For the latest rating, access [www.ambest.com](http://www.ambest.com).



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Telephone: 020 7584 3741  
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[www.memorialscrollstrust.org](http://www.memorialscrollstrust.org)  
Registered Charity Number: 278900

## CONDITIONS OF LOAN

When a Memorial Scroll is entrusted to a congregation on long term loan, it is on the understanding that the congregation makes a long term commitment to give this Memorial Scroll a prominent and meaningful role in the spiritual and educational life of the congregation. This requires the rabbi and the leaders of the congregation to pledge to dedicate one Shabbat every year to the Jews of their Memorial Scroll – the people, their community, their fate and their heritage. Each Scroll is a messenger from a martyred community that depends on its new community to ensure that their heritage is cherished as well as their remembrance as individuals.

The Memorial Scrolls remain the property of the Memorial Scrolls Trust while they are on long term loan to the designated recipient institution to which they are allocated. It is the policy of the Trust to issue Scrolls only to institutions and not to individuals. It is a condition of the loan that they revert to the Trust in the event of the closure or merger of the designated organisation to which the Scroll is specifically allocated. In the event that a recipient wishes to transfer a particular Memorial Scroll to another party, an application must be made to the Trust, so that it can consider whether to sanction the transfer or to reclaim the Scroll.

The conditions under which a Scroll is issued on loan are:

1. The Scroll is the property of the Memorial Scrolls Trust.
2. The Scroll is issued exclusively to a designated congregation or institution (“the Recipient”) on long term loan, on the basis that the loan will normally be renewed every five years with no cost implications provided that the status and identity of the Recipient remain unchanged and the Scroll can be shown to be playing an ongoing, prominent and meaningful part in the religious and educational life of the original Recipient.
3. The Recipient will pay to the Trust an initial donation of \$5000.
4. (i) New Recipients shall make an annual donation to the Trust of \$360. This amount may be increased at the discretion of the Trust every 5 years by not more than 10%.  
(ii) The annual donation is not obligatory for Recipients having received scrolls on loan before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 under the previous terms. However we would ask congregations to have an annual fundraising for the MST and/or act to as a conduit for their members’ generosity.
5. The Recipient’s website should have an article about their Czech Scroll and its history, as well as the Memorial Scrolls Trust and the Czech Scrolls Museum. The website should also have a link to the MST website [www.memorialscrollstrust.org](http://www.memorialscrollstrust.org)