

CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: APRIL 24, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Allan Goldstein, President, at approximately 7:05 pm.

The following persons were present:

Allan Goldstein, Stephan Rubin; David Lewis; Jeff Actor; Mike Engelhart; Sherri Taxman; Marc Malacoff; Leah Wolfthal; Steve Conaway; Mitch Kreindler; Aaron Howard; Peter Gingiss; Karen Bernstein; Amy Halevy (via telephone); Grant Caplan; Tom Samuels; Karen Lukin.

Also in attendance were the following persons: Leonard Goldstein and Larry Estes.

The following items of business were addressed at the meeting:

1. *Southwest Kehillot Shabbaton; Meeting with Rabbi Joseph Wernick, CEO of USCJ.*

Camp is unavailable for the period we were going to stay. Event will be re-scheduled for a later date to be determined.

Rabbi Joseph Wernick is still meeting with us at 7:00 am minyan on Friday, May 9, 2014, followed by a breakfast. He also offered to schedule a meeting with the Board. Allan suggested that, if interested, we can schedule an informal meeting with him.

2. *USCJ Dues*

Since vote on last proposal was defeated, they have to find another way to assess dues. By default, they assess by number of members. \$76.50 per person was the flat rate. However, the proposed rate will be \$74.50. Allan asked if there was any objection; there being none, Board approved proposal.

3. *Annual Meeting*

At least 14 days notice required to have the annual Meeting. President may propose, and did propose May 15 or May 22.. Allan is leaning towards May 22; approved by a majority of the Board.

4. *Proposed Budget; Formation of the "Wolfthal Commission"*

Tom Samuels discussed proposed budget for 2014-2015 fiscal year. This year we will have a deficit, probably in the \$50-75,000 dollar range. Made some assumptions regarding fundraising and membership levels, and projecting a deficit of \$130,000 for the next fiscal year. Samuels says effort to resolve budgeting issues will require structural changes. FAC recommends formation of a "commission" composed of a Board member leading, and members who were interested and come from relevant committees, such as Endowment, and make specific recommendations as to solving the financial problems. Allan reminded the Board that the Board needs to act on the proposed (not recommended) budget. Discussion ensued.

Allan disclosed that a family is considering making a large donation in a six figure range, which if added to our current endowment cash investments might result in a \$400,000 endowment cash investment range. Efforts also being made to raise significant amount of money to fund a Rabbinic Chair in connection with the Rabbi's 10th Anniversary, with events scheduled throughout the year, with a portion of the funds to help offset the deficit.

Samuels reported we have receivables of over \$200,000 that is over 90 days overdue.

Grant moved to approve budget, seconded. Majority voted to "present the proposed budget" at the Annual Meeting. Jeff Actor moved that the "commission", responsible to the Board, be formed to address financial issues, seconded by David Lewis. Stephan Rubin suggested that we energize existing Fund Development Committee. Jeff Actor withdrew motion. Leah Wolfthal agreed to spearhead formation of "commission". David Lewis proposed, seconded by Tom Samuels, that she work with existing relevant committees; unanimously approved by the Board.

Jeff Actor tendered \$20 toward deficit reduction. Board expressed its appreciation to Actor!

5. 10th Anniversary Task Force and Directory

A 10th Anniversary task force has met and includes Lori Rubin and Karen Lerner. The group is meeting to plan a year round of activities. Allan thanked Midge Wische and Elly Sokol of Sisterhood to work on the directory. Allan wants Men's Club to volunteer two workers for the project. Office staff is soliciting business advertising donations.

6. *Interim Cantor Task Force*

Cantor Rhodes does not anticipate making any change in his employment status this year and will be focusing on next year.

7. *Membership Report*

We added one Sustaining Member since last month. No change in the bottom line on our membership. Larry reported we average net 12 new members per year.

8. *Chai Initiative task force report*

Looking for more ways to have personal touches, such as life-cycle events. Allan thanked Peter Gingiss for his efforts on behalf of the committee. Allan discussed experience related to us by outreach coordinator at another shul: Greeters welcome you at the door and introduce you to Ambassadors who walk with you to your seat and ask questions. Peter Gingiss encouraged Board members to come early at services to assist with Ushering.

9. *Brith Shalom Proud proposals and Facilities update.*

Marc Malacoff discussed proposals that would promote pride in CBS and facility.

10. *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

Allan reported on how the funds were distributed over the last year.

11. *Good and Welfare*

Kitchen policy will be discussed next Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Sherri Taxman announced Sisterhood is hosting a Regional event this extended weekend.

Men's Club Shabbat is this weekend, per Michael Engelhart. State of the MC will be presented during Friday night services. Saturday nite show is developing into a great event.

Engelhart also announced his son, Joey, has been accepted at a college level program.

Audrey Goodman and Avi Moses will be starring in The Music Man at Emory Weiner.

Allan reported that we received thanks addressed to Larry Estes and Board from Allyson Gershonsen for shiva meal.

Jeff Actor advised we planted a Mexican Plumb tree donated by the Koler-Boticelli family in memory of Chuck, placed near the pomegranate.

Allan wanted to thank David Lewis and Margaret for their efforts on behalf of the Board and shul. David and Margaret are relocating to Scotland in connection with his employment.

Marc Malacoff thanks Peter Gringiss and his wife for the New Member event, and thanked Sisterhood on their Regional event.

David Lewis also announced that Mira has a part in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory this weekend.

9. *Tzedakah:* the sum of \$52.25 was collected.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:39 pm

Congregation Brith Shalom (CBS) is an Egalitarian Conservative Jewish synagogue that strives to be:

An intimate community that welcomes everyone as family, encouraging personal relationships with our spiritual leaders and each other;

A spiritual community that is created through personal growth and active participation;

A compassionate community that cares for every member, for *klal yisrael*, and for all people in need;

A learning community that seeks deeper knowledge of Torah and commitment to Jewish values;

A sacred community that nurtures every individual's Jewish journey.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan Rubin,

Secretary