

CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: August 24, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Allan Goldstein, President, at approximately 10:00 am.

The following persons were present:

Allan Goldstein, Stephan Rubin; Leah Wolfthal; Sheldon Weisfeld; Steve Conaway; Aaron Howard; Peter Gingiss; Aaron Howard; Moshe Even; Mike Engelhart; Seth Lerner; Marc Malacoff; Karen Bernstein; Grant Caplan; and, Amy Halevy.

Also in attendance were the following persons: Leonard Goldstein, Larry Estes, Rhoda Goldberg; and, Rabbi Teller.

The following items of business were addressed at the meeting:

1. Rabbi's Strategic Proposal

Board discussed the options presented by Allan Goldstein, including Rabbi's Strategic Proposal, contacting JTS and hiring a Cantor; do without a Cantor, using lay leadership (excludes pastoral work); and substitute Cantor Levine's role to include traditional davening and hire temporary Cantor for High Holidays.

Leah Wolfthal presented Rabbi's Strategic Proposal.

Kriendler moved, seconded by Howard, to adopt Rabbi's Strategic Proposal and, after lengthy discussion, Board voted, 14 in favor, 1 opposed, to adopt Rabbi's Strategic Proposal.

Accordingly, on a trial basis CBS to (1) retain part-time guest cantor for High Holidays, to maybe include special events (including lifecycle events upon request) and a number of shabbatot to be determined; (2) expand Cantor Levine's role into performing second clergy duties (portfolio to expand into B'nei Mitzvah Program, lifecycles, torah reading management, pastoral care, and some traditional davening; (3) refocus Rabbi Teller's role toward membership engagement and davening enhancement; and, (4) upgrade position of Youth Coordinator to Assistant Educator, responsible for assisting Cantor Levine in the daily operation of the religious school, youth programming, and expanding youth family programming.

Board had further discussion as to plans to implement the foregoing.

2. Deficit Reduction/ Budget/ Fundraising

Seth Lerner provided an update on endowment efforts and discussed plans in place for 10 Anniversary Celebration, which should raise money and promote support for the endowment campaign. Approximately \$450,000 has been raised to date for the Endowment Campaign. Some of the cost of the 10th Anniversary event is being underwritten by generous donors. Saturday evening event will also raise additional money to be applied to operating budget.

Board focused additional discussion on role of Fund Development Committee and its implementation of Wolfthal Commission recommendations as approved by Board. Seth Lerner and Jeff Actor to meet and discuss plans.

Allan Goldstein opened Board discussion as to fundraising ideas.

Gingiss expressed concern over CBS' high cost of using snail mail.

Larry Estes discussed with Board how office is working to cut costs.

Seth Lerner suggested that collection rate be increased, after consideration by Executive Director and Staff and Board members. He further suggested that Executive Director establish Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to address collection efforts. Allan Goldstein requested that Financial Affairs Committee (Seth Lerner) and Larry Estes provide Board at next meeting with analysis of how many members' dues arrangements need to be re-evaluated.

Board also discussed sending extra ticket for High Holidays for members in good standing and that reciprocity be extended to holders of tickets from other synagogues to attend at CBS this year.

3. Roles of Board Members

Allan Goldstein discussed what he believes are the roles the Board Members hold: personal goal to learn and grow as an individual; enhance Jewish learning and knowledge; identify new leaders; and strengthen community's confidence in clergy and professional leadership. Board discussion ensued. Highlight: take your personal passion and turn it into a benefit for the shul!

Good and Welfare

Peter Gingiss announced upcoming training sessions for Ushers.

Allan Goldstein thanked Peter Gingiss for making location available to conduct Board Retreat and Larry Estes for food, drink and logistics, as well as Rabbi Ranon Teller for his presentation on Strategic Proposal.

Mike Engelhart announced Men's Club holding a Fantasy Football Draft, as well as his niece's upcoming Bat Mitzvah.

Aaron Howard announced upcoming Adult Education events.

Marc Malacoff thanked Larry Estes and encouraged Board to improve ways to maintain building.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:41 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