

CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: December 18, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Allan Goldstein, President, at approx. 7:08 pm.

The following persons were present:

Allan Goldstein; Stephan Rubin; Jeff Actor; Moshe Even; Leah Wolfthal; Mitch Kreindler; Steve Conaway; Michael Englehart; Peter Genghis; Karen Bernstein; Karen Lukin; and, Milton Mosk.

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

Allan Goldstein began with some reflections about the importance of spending time with family, CBS community, and, importance of maintaining good health.

The following items of business were addressed at the meeting:

1. 10th Anniversary Update

Rhoda Goldberg reported that plans are finalized. Two parts: 1st - Saturday, January 24, will be special with Teller's father as Guest Speaker during services. A very special luncheon is planned with expected attendance of 400. Teller's father will follow lunch with learning opportunity. 2nd - Evening will begin with appetizers, havdalah, dinner, concert with David Krohn, and program called Meet the Pres(sidents).

Larry Estes shared with Board the status of funding efforts. Business ad sales to date approx \$15k; member ads of \$12k, Commitments for the weekend are totaling approx \$161,377.

Allan encouraged all of the Board Members to participate at whatever level they feel comfortable and continue to make solicitation calls to generate interest and support. Michael Englehart encouraged Board Members to take advantage of CBS Website info on 10th Anniversary. Moshe Even encouraged promotion through Madrich and Bimah announcements.

Formal invitations are at the printer!

2. Financial /Membership Update

Larry Estes reported that CBS, on a year to date basis, generated substantial revenue, with annual giving up due to prior year's collection. Full year expenses are better than projected. Net forecast reflects an improvement; however, this is based upon projected gain from 10th Anniversary and Directory revenue.

Seth Lerner warned that this year's fundraising effort will not be duplicable in future years and attention will need to be given to raising substantial funds and promoting Annual giving.

Allan Goldstein discussed membership changes.

3. Interim Plan

Allan Goldstein said he attempted to clarify what the Interim Plan entails. Allan gave an outline of the Plan: Cantor Levine will take on most responsibilities of Cantor, including leading some services, life cycle events, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, etc... Second component involves having a High Holiday Cantor, who would also do special concerts, fundraising and other events. Third, per Teller, would involve congregants learning new melodies (to be unveiled on 1/24 morning services) with energy and soulful presentation. Levine to continue as Ed Director, with hiring an assistant Director, under Levine's supervision, with emphasis on youth and Young Families with children.

Plan subject to future evaluation before making a long term or permanent commitment.

Allan discussed his online website blog and asked for feedback. Peter Gingiss asked about the Constitutional issue raised by a Congregant. Allan suggested that, per his opinion, Constitution allows flexibility for this Interim Plan. Seth Lerner expressed interest regarding timing of evaluation. Karen Bernstein spoke to Cantor Rhodes' basis for leaving, to which Allan responded that Cantor Rhodes spoke with Allan and Milton Mosk, who made an effort to convince him not to leave. Moshe Even said nothing substantial by way of Congregation response will occur until implementation. Peter Gingiss asked where we are with setting up Plan (see below). Allan and Teller spoke to having staff be available early next year to discuss Plan and its implications. Milton Mosk suggested those dates be publicized, to which Larry Estes confirmed such plans are in place.

Jeff Actor discussed status of conversation with David Krohn and his personable nature and musical ability and how that would fit into the Plan. Krohn had a meeting with Choir representatives, and is anticipated to meet with RPC. Meeting went great. A Congregant has indicated he would step up financially to make his participation possible. Jeff Actor also thanked Elliot Gershenson for his assistance and support.

Allan told the Board he, Jeff and Karen Lukin met with and discussed Levine's role and updated compensation. Levine suggested we hire a young person who is looking for a stepping stone position with CBS, to help with the Religious School. Tralyn Evans leaves in May, 2015.

Moshe Even asked Teller to comment on Krohn: Teller believes that he is more than appropriate for High Holidays and looks forward to working with him and the Choir. Krohn intends to keep most tunes and support Choir.

4. Endowment Fund

Allan Goldstein emphasized the need to continue building up the Endowment and discussed the use of those funds. Milton Mosk said a Committee would entertain proposal and discuss use of the funds and make recommendations, consistent with cap of 4% to be applied to operating costs as determined by the Board. Milton said Board could make a request for application of those funds. Discussion ensued as to restricted vs. unrestricted access to funds

held in Endowment account. Rabbi Teller spoke about Elliot Gershenson's suggestion regarding use of funds needs to be disclosed and marketed. Leonard Goldstein spoke about designating use of funds and how we would have to raise a substantial sum before we could make any kind of difference in application to operating costs. Michael Engelhart suggested using Endowment Fund as "sponsor of 10th Anniversary event. Allan Goldstein said Financial Affairs Committee should discuss and report to the Board. Karen Lukin questioned spending funds without allowing funds to build in value. Larry Estes reported about our return on the investment of those funds.

5. Financial Vice-President Replacement

Allan Goldstein reported two vacancies: Leah Wolfthal, whose service and contributions to CBS are greatly appreciated by the Board; and, Tom Samuels also resigned as Financial VP, and his service and contributions were greatly appreciated by the Board. Allan nominated Milton Mosk to replace Tom. Motion made by Mitch Kreindler, seconded by Michael Engelhart. Brief discussion ensued. Voted unanimous approval.

7. Gift Agreement

Milton Mosk thanked Tom Samuels for his service, and discussed proposed terms and conditions for a substantial gift to CBS. Milton spoke about Denise's desire to create a legacy for her mother and father because of their contribution and service to CBS. Initial gift to Endowment fund of \$125k, with effort to match additional \$125k. Milton Mosk excused himself from the meeting to allow Board discussion, which ensued. Seth Lerner, seconded by Peter Gingiss, moved that Executive Committee, acting with sentiment of Board discussion, proceed to work with Mosks to enter into an agreement regarding their proposed gift, specifically with concern regarding proposed installation of acrylic to be mounted within ark. All but one member voted in favor of Motion.

8. Brith Shalom Proud

Moshe Even reported that Larry Estes, Ken Podell, Stephan Rubin recently met and discussed CBS Proud Enhancement Day, January 18, 2015, with Project Captains to be secured and a walk through scheduled to identify and prioritize projects. We will begin promoting the event at this week's Ruach event.

Good and Welfare

Mitch Kreindler advised Board that Mitzvah Day 2 will take place this weekend to finish Yasher koach to Maxine Goodman and Eli Samuels who served as Co-chairs for ERJCC Book Fair

9. New Business:None

Tzedakah collected \$35.00.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:36 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