

## **CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 20, 2014**

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Actor, Vice-President, at approximately 7:05 pm.

The following persons were present:

Stephan Rubin; David Lewis; Jeff Actor; Sherri Taxman; Marc Malacoff; Leah Wolfthal; Steve Conaway; Aaron Howard; Peter Gingiss; Karen Bernstein; Amy Halevy; Grant Caplan; Tom Samuels; Milton Mosk.

Also in attendance were the following persons: Rabbi Ranon Teller, Rhoda Goldberg, and Larry Estes (partial).

Rabbi Teller discussed this week's Parsha, involving the Red Heifer.

The following items of business were addressed at the meeting:

**1. *Membership Status***

**2. *March 9<sup>th</sup> vote, General Assembly of Kehillot, USCJ dues system***

Grant Caplan / Jeff Actor reported that the vote was close, but against the proposed re-structured dues. Grant thought the process was chaotic and disorganized. Insurance proposal also failed.

**3. *Art show wrap-up***

Grant Caplan reported that the event was successful in that we offered something different, bringing Jewish life to the shul. Financially, we were not as successful as we hoped to be. Grant said we had "hotel art" quality instead of high end, moving pieces.

**4. *RPC Policy (Rabbi)***

Some Congregants want the Amidah to leave out mention of sacrifices. Whoever is Hazzan has the option to pick which version to use, with or without the mention of sacrifices.

Rabbi Teller also reported on the tallit policy for women on the bimah and asked Board to discuss process. Jeff Actor said Committee makes the policy, subject to Board review. Rabbi said RPC would keep policy in place, with room for exceptional situations. Jeff Actor proposed that RPC present any policy change at next meeting.

**5. *ED Review***

Stephan Rubin presented the ED Review Summary. Report unanimously accepted by Board. Jeff Actor asked the Board to discuss the ED role and its continuation.

Discussion ensued. Milton Mosk asked Rabbi Teller to comment to the Board. Grant Caplan moved that we continue the ED role (subject to revision of the responsibilities by Board), seconded by Amy Halevy. Board unanimously voted in favor of the Motion. Marc Malacoff moved, seconded by Grant Caplan, to retain Larry Estes in the ED position. Stephan Rubin proposed the Motion be amended so that the job description be revised so as to de-emphasize Ed leadership and responsibility for fund-raising and membership recruitment. Amendment accepted by Malacoff and Caplan. Motion passed with one vote against.

**6. *Budget***

Tom Samuels presented the proposed Budget for FY 2014/2015. Grant Caplan moved, seconded by David Lewis, that we consider the (un)proposed Budget. Motion tabled per Standing Rule. Executive Committee to work on developing fund-raising plan.

**7. *Nominating Committee***

Milton Mosk presented a Motion regarding the Nominating Committee: Past President, Milton Mosk (Chair), Sandy Weiner (Past President), Amy Halevy (Board Member), and Velva Levine (Member of Congregation-at-Large). Need one more Board member per Constitution. Board voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

**8. *Good and Welfare***

Karen Bernstein announced she is the CBS representative for Houston Kashrut Association.

Aaron Howard announced Adult Ed series continues. Next Wednesday the series continues. Scholar-in-Residence takes place April 4-5, 2014.

Marc Malacoff thanked Stephan Rubin for Purim comedy show programming and promoted JTS Torah Fund event.

**9. *Tzedakah*: the sum of \$51.00 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