

## Congregation Brith Shalom Board Meeting

### Minutes

April 19, 2012

CBS President Milton Mosk called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present- Lisa Estes, Milton Mosk, Steve Rubin, Steve Conaway, Laurie Silverblatt, Joel Dinkin, Tom Samuels, Gregg Sheena, David Lewis, Peter Gingiss, Matt Stein, Martin Kay, Lisa Lowenstein, Alan Goldsmith, Jeff Actor, Rabbi Ranon Teller, Cantor Lance Rhodes and Larry Estes.

Visitors: Mark Katzenellogen and Leah Wolfthal.

Rabbi Teller spoke about Yom HaShoah and why it is important and the impact of Yom HaShoah on the State of Israel. Rabbi Teller also spoke of the need for our communities to respect what was lost in the Shoah.

#### **President's Report**

Milton Mosk reported that negotiations with USCJ have resulted in an agreement for CBS to pay \$16,000 in dues for the last fiscal year, the current fiscal year and the coming fiscal year.

Milton thanked Board members who are leaving the Board: Rosine Chappell, Norri Leder, Matt Stein, Alan Goldsmith, Frances Rubin and Ian Taxman.

Milton announced the slate of new Board members: Paula Bottecelli, David Gerger, Henry Jakob, Alvin Edelstein, Amy Halevy and Sheldon Weisfeld.

#### **Financial Report**

Martin Kay reported that we are now at the point that the amount of revenue collected will decline because of the ten month billing cycle. The ten month cycle seems to be working.

Martin reviewed the CBS cash position of \$231,000 as of March 30, 2012.

There will be major capital expenditures in the next fiscal year and the current budget cannot meet these expenses.

### **Old Business**

Motion to Adopt FY2013 budget- Larry Estes and Martin Kay reviewed and discussed the proposed FY 2013 budget, including the need to pay for capital projects.

There was a general discussion on components of the budgets. There was also a discussion about instituting a separate building fund instead of increasing Annual Giving amounts to fund building repair projects.

There was a discussion on the *Pay Your Age* dues program.

Martin said that adding 20 families at the sustaining level over the next two years will significantly mitigate the financial risk.

Milton said that the FAC is looking at a variety of ways to resolve the issue of financing the operating budget and capital repairs: more members, the endowment campaign, increasing Annual Giving, increasing collections, etc. We have two years to resolve this issue.

There was a discussion about the proposed building repair fund:

Will new members be assessed?

Is this a building fund assessment?

Are we nickel and diming the Benefactors who were told additional charges would not be assessed at increased levels of Annual Giving?

What will happen in 3-5 years when new projects are necessary?

The vote: 14 for, 2 abstentions, no votes against.

## Governance Motion:

The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the President to create a committee (referred to as a team) with the intent of proposing a revision of the Brith Shalom Constitution. This team will examine the following proposals, in addition to any that arise in the course of the team's deliberations:

1. Reducing the size of the Executive Committee
2. Reducing the number of Standing Committees
3. Altering the makeup of the Standing Committees
4. Reducing the size of the Board of Trustees
5. Constitutionally defining the role of the Executive Director, vis-a-vis the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, and the Board of Trustees
6. Dividing the Constitution into a document that includes separate and distinct bylaws

There was little discussion.

15 for, 1 against, no abstentions

## **New Business-None**

## **Subcommittee Reports**

Governance- Milton would like to have a proposal presented to the Board in October 2012, a Board vote taken in November 2012 and a vote by the entire membership in December 2012. There will be town hall meetings before the December membership meeting.

Membership Engagement- Lisa Estes reported that focus of this effort is not to add new members, but to engage current members. One suggestion is to have

term limits for members of teams. This would allow new people to get involved. This needs to be coordinated with the Governance Committee; there are some exceptions to term limits.

Strategic Planning-This team is looking at the following:

What is the plan for the building?

How will the financial gap be filled?

What will CBS look like in five years?

What is the plan to attract to new members?

### **Upcoming Events**

Men's Club Shabbat- April 20-21.

Yom HaShoah Program- Sunday, April 22, at 3:00 PM at CBS

Mother's Day Program- Baseball at Skeeters Stadium in Sugarland.

Next Meeting- Annual Meeting on May 24 at 7:00 PM.

\$43.00 in tzedakah was collected.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence Estes

Executive Director

