

Congregation Brith Shalom Board Meeting

Minutes

January 17, 2013

CBS First Vice President Allan Goldstein called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Present: Allan Goldstein, Jeffrey Actor, Karen Lukin, Martin Kay, Rhoda Goldberg, Grant Caplan, Steve Conaway, Joel Dinkin, David Gerger, Peter Gingiss, Amy Halevy, Seth Lerner, David Lewis, Marc Malacoff, Tom Samuels, Sheldon Weisfeld, Leah Wolfthal, Wendy Conaway, Lisa Estes, Maxine Goodman, Lisa Lowenstein, Laurie Silverblatt, Rabbi Ranon Teller, Cantor Lance Rhodes, and Larry Estes, Executive Director.

In his D'var Rabbi Teller spoke about how the narrative of the Exodus story is one of freedom and how in today's world we are not free of the 24/7 culture of technology and consumerism. Shabbat is a time made to free us from this culture. The rabbi challenged us to choose a practice that will help free us from these demands.

President's Report – The proposed changes to the CBS Constitution were discussed. Town hall meetings will be held on February 20 and February 28 to get congregational feedback.

Because of concern that there will not be enough congregational representation on the Board the proposed number of at-large position was changed from 4-6 to 4-10.

The position of Treasurer will be abolished.

A question arose as to why the Fund Development Committee and the Membership Committee were not standing committees with Board representation. It was pointed out that the Fund Development Chair should also be a member of the executive committee, and the membership chair could be a member of the board. There was a desire to have more flexibility so that someone who might be a good membership chair but does not want to sit on the board could do so. Karen Lukin, Chair of the Governance Committee, said that this was the intent. Karen will discuss this with the Governance Committee.

The Financial Vice President and the Executive Director will work with the Facilities Committee in regards to how and to whom the Facilities Committee reports.

The requirement for a quorum will change from 15% of the membership in good standing to 10%.

The budget will be approved by the Board. At the Annual Meeting the Congregation will have the opportunity to reject the budget with a vote of two thirds of the members who are in attendance.

This will be discussed at the February 21 Board Meeting.

Endowment Campaign- Seth Lerner reported on the Endowment Campaign. The meeting at Maxine and Steve Goodman's home was well attended. Additional parlor meetings will be scheduled. Financial details are in the attached agenda.

Financial Report- Martin Kay reported that expenses are on target. The lower revenue number is the result of larger donors not completing their commitment. There is no real concern about this. It is a matter of timing. Details are in the attached agenda.

In this fiscal year \$92,000 of Year of the Torah funds will be used to balance the budget. In 18 months there will be no Year of the Torah funds remaining.

Rabbi's Report- Rabbi Teller reported on some upcoming events:

Friday night Ruach will take place on January 18

Sisterhood Shabbat will be held the weekend of January 25-26

A food summit and Tu B'Svat Seder will be held on January 27

There will be a Young Professional's Happy Hour on January 31

Cantor Rhodes will present a Concert for benefactors on February 10

The Adult Education Committee is sponsoring a three part program on Texas Jewish history beginning on January 26

Old Business- None

New Business- Rhoda Goldberg made a motion that was seconded by David Lewis- Move that Congregation Brith Shalom Board approve the following to be named to the Nominating Committee for the purpose of establishing a slate of officers and Trustees to be presented at the next annual meeting of the membership:

Maxine Goodman (Chair), Ron Moses, Marc Malacoff, Lisa Lowenstein, Lori Rubin

The motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment-

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21 at 7:00 PM.

The Town Hall meetings on the proposed changes to the CBS Constitution will be held on February 20 and February 28.

Good and Welfare- Cleo Caplan, daughter of Grant Caplan, sent a note to the Board saying "I love Shabbate and all of you"

Rabbi Teller received a note from Naomi Wittlin thanking him for inspiring her family to increase their Shabbat observance.

Lisa Roskin, a teacher at the First Baptist Christian Academy, wrote a note thanking Rabbi Teller, Cantor Levine and Cherye-Ann for organizing and presenting a program about Judaism for her students.

Tom Samuels announced that his wife Elli has published a cookbook, *Cooking with Elli*.

There is still time to sponsor the Sisterhood cookbook. Please call Doreen Lerner for more information.

Joel Dinkin commented that a smaller Board will mean less support at a time when more Board support is needed for Brith Shalom.

Maxine reminded us that Cantor Rhodes celebrated his birthday on December 23 and Rabbi Teller's birthday will be on January 18.

Marc Malacoff announced that he has been made manager of IT Security for Infrastructure Operations at Halliburton. He also thanked Rabbi Teller and Cantor Rhodes for making a donation in memory of his brother.

\$61.00 in Tzedakah was collected.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhoda L. Goldberg
Secretary