

# Congregation Brith Shalom Board Meeting

## Minutes

November 17, 2011

CBS President Milton Mosk called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Present: Milton Mosk, Allan Goldstein, Jeff Actor, Karen Lukin, Martin Kay, Gregg Sheena, Mitch Kreindler, Grant Caplan, Joel Dinkin, Jennifer Friedman, Peter Gingiss, Alan Goldsmith, David Lewis, Tom Samuels, Randi Sonenshein, Matt Stein, Ian Taxman, Lisa Estes, Chuck Koller, Lisa Lowenstein, Laurie Silverblatt, David Wald, Larry Estes and Rhoda Goldberg.

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

Milton outlined the process that will be used to help guide the congregation in determining whether CBS should maintain its affiliation with USCJ. LJ Waldman and Hy Warshaw will guide the process.

There will be two meetings held. At the January 22 meeting Jay Weiner, USCJ Regional Director, and two congregants who have different perspectives on the issue of CBS continuing its affiliation will speak. At this meeting, and at a subsequent meeting on February 26, congregants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

During the week of March 5 there will be a special board meeting and the Congregation will be invited. There will be one item on the agenda- whether the CBS constitution should be amended to eliminate the requirement that CBS be part of United Synagogue of America. A motion will be made and tabled to revise the constitution to allow CBS to withdraw its affiliation. A second motion will be made and tabled to authorize the withdrawal of CBS from USCJ. Once discussion on the first motion is concluded both motions will be tabled because the second motion has no basis until the first motion is voted upon.

At the regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 15 a vote on the first motion will be taken after discussion of the motion. If the first motion is approved then

the second motion will be brought up for discussion and a vote. These are Board recommendations that will need to be voted on at the 2012 Annual meeting.

If the first motion fails then the second motion will remain tabled. At this point a new motion will be presented that overturns the motion that was passed by the prior Board to cease payment to USCJ.

Marc Malacoff and George Engelhard will again be in charge of the CBS directory project which will become a yearly fundraiser. Sisterhood will be the honoree for the next directory. Ads will be sold from January through June and the directory will be ready for distribution by the High Holidays.

An online directory may be available at some point.

The software that is being used will allow congregants to change their information online.

### **Financial Report:**

The new ten month cycle for collecting annual giving has resulted in \$343, 391 in cash.

Revenue and expenses are on target. However, there will be a deficit of \$50,000-\$75,000 that will be covered by Year of the Torah funds. The actual synagogue budget is built on 88%-90% of the amount pledged for Annual Giving.

40% of the congregation gives at the sustaining level or higher. Of the 20 new members that have joined since June 1, 2011 6 are under 30 years old, 7 are giving at the sustaining level and 7 are giving below the sustaining level.

The Financial Affairs Committee will be analyzing the various membership categories and considering whether CBS should have a building fund.

97% of Annual Giving for FY 2010-2011 has been collected.

46% of Annual Giving for FY 2011-2012 has been collected.

99% of the Yom Kippur pledges for FY 2011-2012 have been collected.

37% of the Yom Kippur pledges for FY 2011-2012 have been collected.

**Old Business:**

The motion to adopt the report on the Education Director and renew Cantor Mark Levine's contract and to also direct the Officers to execute a new contract with Cantor Levine was brought back. The Board voted to renew Cantor Levine's to accept the report, renew Cantor Levine's contract and direct the Officers to negotiate a new contract.

**New Business:**

Lisa Lowenstein made a motion to accept the report on Cantor Lance Rhodes and to renew Cantor Rhodes' contract. This motion will be tabled until the December 15th Board meeting.

**Board Member Engagement:**

Board members broke into three groups:

Governance- (Allan Goldstein, Karen Lukin, Alan Goldsmith, David Lewis, Marc Malacoff, Matt Stein, Wendy Conaway, Peter Gingiss, Laurie Silverblatt and Rhoda Goldberg) This group will consider changes to the CBS constitution and the decision making process.

Member Engagement-(Jeff Actor, Rosine Chappell, Steve Conaway, Jennifer Friedman, Ellen Heffler, Norri Leder, Lisa Estes, Maxine Goodman, Chuck Koller, Lisa Lowenstein, Frances Rubin and David Wald) This group will assist the Membership Committee and determine the Committee's activities and focus.

Strategic Planning-(Martin Kay, Gregg Sheena, Mitch Kreindler, Grant Caplan, Joel Dinkin, Seth Lerner, Tom Samuels, Randi Sonenshein, Ian Taxman and Sherry Taxman )This group will develop a 1-3 year plan and a 5 year plan.

The groups met and came back to together. The groups will meet again at the December Board meeting. The groups will be in email contact or meet in person before the December board meeting. Peter Gingiss will lead the Governance

group; Lisa Lowenstein will lead the Membership Engagement group and Tom Samuels will lead the Strategic Planning group.

**Adjournment:**

Upcoming events:

November 18- Friday Night Ruach

November 19- Community Shabbat will be held at CBS instead of Sunday Religious School, Havdalah at Evergreen Park at 5:30 pm.

November 20- Men's Club Baseball

December 11-Mitzvah Day

December 20- There will be candle lighting and dinner at CBS at 6:00 PM for the first night of Chanukah. The choir will perform during dinner.

January 14- The new date for Dancing with the Stars.

January 27-29- CYJ Retreat

Good and Welfare:

Steve Conaway's mother was killed in a car accident and Steve's father was injured and is in the hospital

\$45.00 in tzedakah was collected.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.