

Congregation Brith Shalom Board Meeting

Minutes

October 23, 2011

CBS President Milton Mosk called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Present:

Milton Mosk, Allan Goldstein, Gregg Sheena, Mitch Kreindler, Grant Caplan, Rosine Chappell, Steve Conaway, Joel Dinkin, Ellen Heffler, Marc Malacoff, Randi Sonenshein, Matt Stein, Wendy Conaway, Lisa Estes, Maxine Goodman, Chuck Koller, Frances Rubin, Laurie Silverblatt, David Wald, Cantor Mark Levine, Larry Estes and Rhoda Goldberg.

Dancing With the Stars (Sisterhood/Men's Club Fundraiser)-Doreen Lerner

This fundraiser will be held from 8:00 PM-11:00 PM on December 24th, the fourth night of Chanukah, and will have activities for the entire family, including a dance contest. There will also be a teen program and babysitting will be available. Tickets will be \$36.00 and there will be sponsorships for \$90.00, \$180.00 and \$360.00.

Chinese food and desert will be served. There will also be a coffee bar and a cash bar.

Dance lessons will be provided for those who wish to be contestants.

President's Report- Milton Mosk

The Board will vote on whether to renew Cantor Levine's contract at the November board meeting.

The Committee that is discussing Cantor Rhodes' contract renewal is in the process of gathering information.

High Holiday Services went very well. Milton congratulated Religious Practices co chairs Chuck Koller and Paul Scott and Executive Director Larry Estes.

Building and Grounds security was good.

More parents and children attended youth services.

Executive Director's Report-Larry Estes

The Campaign Cabinet met right before the board meeting and reported that 88% of the cabinet has committed to the Campaign, as well as 30% of the Board. The rest of the Board should be contacted by December 15. Please let Larry know if you have not received a solicitation. The Cabinet wants to finalize one large gift by December 31.

Financial Report- Larry Estes

Collections are going well. As of this date there is a net surplus Of \$73, 929.

96% of FY 2011 Annual Giving and 42% of FY 2012 Annual Giving commitments have been collected.

98% of FY 2011 and 6% of the FY 2012 Yom Kippur Appeal have been collected.

Year of the Torah collections are still on schedule with \$106,000 outstanding and \$91,250 in the Year of the Torah savings account.

Board/ Membership Engagement- Milton Mosk

Milton will divide board members into smaller groups in order to work on a variety of issues. Possible work groups suggested:

Governance

Committee Restructuring

Membership Engagement

Board Tzedakah Project

Strategic Planning

After discussion three topics were decided on:

Governance- Refreshing the CBS constitution, examining the structure of the Board in terms of size and structure of committees, decision making and the interaction of the Board, committees and the Office.

Membership Engagement- Work with Membership Committee to engage members in CBS.

Strategic Planning- Developing short and long term plans for CBS.

Old Business- None

New Business- Rhoda Goldberg made a motion that was seconded by David Wald that the Board of Trustees of Congregation Brith Shalom adopt a policy of allowing Board members to attend and participate in meetings via teleconference if they are unable to attend in person.

After discussion it was decided to have a three month trial that allowed Board members to teleconference in to Board meetings. The issue will be brought up for discussion after the three month trial period.

Upcoming Events:

CBS Community Shabbat- Saturday, November 19

CBS Mitzvah Day- Sunday, December 11

Adult/Teen Retreat at CYJ- January 27-29, 2012

Good and Welfare-

Wendy Conaway suggested that we have a member of the Board be at most CBS programs and be available to answer questions and handle emergencies.

Rabbi Teller and Cantor Levine will both be teaching classes about Conservative Judaism.

Men's Club will sponsor a poker night during Monday Night Football at CBS beginning on October 24.

Lisa reported that ten CBS members have volunteered for the Membership Engagement project, but more people are needed.

Grant Caplan reported that the Sheraton Houston Brookhollow is donating 100 lunches to the DeGeorge center for Mitzvah Day.

Phyllis Gingiss has had surgery, but is home and doing well. Please call her.

Ellen Heffler and Denise Mosk are coordinating Sisterhood Shabbat the weekend of February 3-4, 2012.

There will be a food tasting sponsored by Sisterhood at Laura Yosowitz's home.

The Congregants who were unable to attend High Holiday services, but accessed services online were very pleased. Remote access is also available on Shabbat.

Next Board Meeting- Thursday, November 17- 7:00 PM-9:00 PM

\$34.00 in tzedakah was collected.

Milton adjourned the meeting at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhoda L. Goldberg

Secretary