

## **CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA: APRIL 19, 2018**

I. Welcoming Remarks from President - **Stephan Rubin**

Welcome and let me know what I can do for you!

II. D'var - **Rabbi Ranon Teller**

Yom H'atzmaut- Prayers, Hatikvah and Shofar blowing!

III. Approval of Minutes - **Ellen Fiesinger**

Thank you to Erin for taking them last meeting. Technical difficulties have not allowed me to receive them.

IV. Reports and Updates\*

A. Clergy updates

1. **Rabbi Teller,**

Lovely B'nai Mitzvot this weekend

.Shabbot in the park- May 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 Bellaire Nature Center in Chapel if inclement weather

2. **Cantor Mark Levine**

Thank you to David Krohn for the Houston Grand Opera function this weekend

B. Financial Vice President's Report - Elliot Gershenson

1. Financial Affairs Committee

a. Cash Flow Statement – Don't have one today. We have been borrowing money. Our collections for March have been poor. We are in a bad cash position. If everyone paid what they owed us, we could get through June. Our automated billing has not been working- Melissa is exploring this glitch. Religious school is \$65,000 short because of this glitch.

b. Collections -Super Sunday  
Instead of Super Sunday, a team is being formed (please volunteer) will call 200-250 families We need better data in order to figure out how to approach this issue.

c. Annual Giving Increase - FAC approved 3%- Not an issue right now- no recommendation for now.

2. Fund Development Committee

a. Membership Directory

b. YK Appeal – We want to raise \$100,000 in the next month so we can start the appeal

c. Kiddush Luncheon- Although we voted on this two meetings ago, we need to redo the plan to reflect current procedures. A hand-out is given with two new options. See hand out.

Elliot is making motion, Eljay is second. Open for discussion- Over 50 birthdays and 50 anniversaries in any given month. Karen concerned about her mother who has sponsored at the old level. Elliot will call her mother to discuss the new plan. The back office will help to coordinate. Average Kiddush costs \$1200 per Shabbat. Calls will be made two months ahead of time to anniversary and bday celebrants to ask if they are interested in helping to sponsor.

Call for question- Debbie 1<sup>st</sup>, Debi 2<sup>nd</sup>. – All in favor 16 2 abstentions.

d. CMEL 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary- We want to raise money before this as well.

e. Endowment Fund

f. Life and Legacy Report – Ellen Fiesinger

C. Standing Committees update

1. Religious Practices Committee - update- **Dani Roisman**

- He is on the phone. There is a handout with motion. Constitution requires us to issue tickets to members who are in good standing. The subsequent pages are not part of the motion. So today we are to vote on this plan. If it is not voted through,

we will return to past plan. Jeff Actor has a question- Why a motion and not a show of approval from the Board? A policy can be adapted, a motion is more permanent.

We are now opening up for discussion. Eljay asks if this is a change to the constitution and then it should be voted on by entire membership at Annual Meeting. Isn't this changing the constitution. Last year, we changed the policy because of extenuating circumstances. Amir is concerned that we will exacerbate our financial shortfall by voting on this motion. He suggests that we get our financial house in order before we approve this motion. Rhoda has a question- How many members really get turned away? Rabbi states that no one in the past few years have been turned away. Jeff states we don't turn people away, we make them feel uncomfortable so that people in arrears have to ask why they don't have tickets. Amir has no problem not turning people away, he does feel that we need to ask people to be in good standing. Ken wants to know if the FAC has been advised of this motion. Dani states "no". What is the financial implication of this motion? No one is sure- Amir thinks it may be 10% who will feel they don't need to pay. Stephan is suggesting that the FAC review this policy. This is an RPC motion. Dani states that the RPC feels that we should not ask a family only once a year why they are in arrears. But instead accounts should be reviewed more often. Dani will be in Israel at the next RPC meeting. He may be able to call in.

Stephan asks" Dani can we table the motion for this month- Dani 1<sup>st</sup>, Michael Zlotnik 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Michael Zlotnik is here to say that the RPC proposed the motion as a religious motion not as a financial motion.

2. Education Council - update - **Cantor Mark Levine / Ellen Fiesinger**

Anna will be recognized

3. Facilities Planning Committee - **Ken Podell**

Plumbing issues have been fixed we will know if it has been successful next month. Bids are out for new electric provider. Looking at office space to provide more confidentiality.

4. Membership Committee - **Sara Norris** – Absent.

#### D Auxiliaries / Other Committees

1. Men's Club - **Morris Narunsky** – Michael Zlotnik is here instead as Morris is not well. Men's club Shabbat Softball picnic on Lag B'omer picnic.
2. Sisterhood - **Dori Wind / Denise Mosk** – Torah Fund event- Sunday April 22. Denise Mosk being honored as Woman of valor
3. Hazak
4. Young Professionals

#### V. Old Business.

- A. Staffing Update - Introduce and Welcome Interim Synagogue Administrator – Melissa Magenheim

Welcome aboard! First day 4/16/2018.

"I am excited to be here, great to meet people, lot's of learning, interesting and challenging"  
[Synagogue-administrator@brithshalom.org](mailto:Synagogue-administrator@brithshalom.org) for now. She will be here 9-5:30 most days.

#### VI. New Business.

VII. Good and Welfare.

Debi Mishael's mother in law is moving here June 1<sup>st</sup>. Official chapter of the Pomegranate guild of Judaic Needlework, a national organization, is being started at Brith Shalom

Jeff Actor- Yom H'atzmaut at Merfish center today was good.

Rabbi Teller- Torah covers we have five almost a sixth is completed. Ellen Orsick is the artist.

Mike Zlotnik- The Houston Ha,Zmir chapter of which Andrew Zlotnik is a member, performed at Lincon Center. It is a national chorus/choir organization with a local chapter in Houston.

Stephan – Emma Kaye's Bat Mitzvah this weekend was special to watch her play guitar with the Rabbi.

Eljay 1<sup>st</sup>, Marc Garvin 2<sup>nd</sup>

Adjourned

\$53

***\* = Reports should be submitted in writing to be presented to the Board of Trustees at the meeting unless an oral presentation is necessary to support a request (motion, resolution, etc..) for the Board to take some particular action.***

REMINDER: Next Board Meeting: May 17, 2018 @ 7:00 pm.

Annual Meeting May 24, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

Attendees: Stephan Rubin, Rabbi Teller, Debbie Karakowsky, Ken Podell, Rhoda Goldberg, Debi Mishael, Karen Bernstein, Eljay Waldman, Elyse Evans, Steven Goldberger, Mark Jason, Cantor Mark Levine, Marc Garvin, Rhonda Kaplan, Ellen Fiesinger, Michael Zlotnik, Amir Halevy, Elliot Gershonson, Melissa Magenheim