

CBS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES: June 16, 2016

Meeting was called to order by Jeffery Actor, President, at approx. 7:05 pm.

The following persons were present:

Allan Goldstein; Stephan Rubin; Iris Fisherman; Karen Bernstein; Aaron Howard; Morris J. Narunsky; Ellen B. Fiesinger; J. K. Actor; Dori Wind; Rhonda Kaplan; Steven Lerman; and Amy Halevy.

Also in attendance were the following persons: Larry Estes; Cantor Mark Levine

The following items of business were addressed at the meeting:

I. President's Welcome

A. Minutes for approval

There was no actual formal Board meeting last month for which minutes need approval.

B. Introductions of new Board members

President Actor welcomed Morris Narunsky, incoming President of CBS Men's Club, and Dori Wind, incoming President of CBS Sisterhood.

II. Clergy Report/Educational Report

A. Rabbi Teller

Rabbi Teller is on vacation, but advised President Actor that Eric Lipman has reported many CBS Congregants had committed to donating \$346,000.00 to Jewish National Fund High Holiday Appeal from 77 Congregants!

B. Cantor Levine

Cantor Mark Levine reported on the success of the Tikun Olam Initiative, which is active and thriving, Mah Jong at Medallion has extended its program beyond initial event. Coordinating charitable event /program with Sister Theresa Catholic Church. He emphasized that programs need to have committee chairs to run and coordinate.

III. Financial Report

A. Initial discussion on FY2017 budget - staying on track for 2016-2017

B. Update on annual giving

- I. Change in accounting procedures, auto pay, etc

Larry advised the Board that we are sending statements, not bills or invoices, with an emphasis on promoting pledge, gift, with a donor centric emphasis. Jeff commented on the difference in attitude -that we appreciate our donors, whether in money or time.

- II. membership option for GMS parents who want to join CBS

- III. Security fee adjustment; Building fund

- C. Life & Legacy (Grinspoon) - time to reach our next goal

IV. Old/New Business/Updates

- A. Discussion: President's discussion - vision for future

- I. Board goals for coming year

Jeffrey discussed these goals for the Board for this year:

- 1) Build a SENSE OF SPIRITUALITY from the board
- 2) Increase intra-board and inter-congregant communications
- 3) PHYSICAL GROWTH of synagogue
- 4) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT and MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT
- 5) FINANCIAL STABILITY
 - a) Programs developed on a cyclical basis and for targeted groups
 - b) Endowment and Naming opportunities
 - c) Equipment and daily operations
- 6) INCREASED PRESENCE in the greater Houston Community.

- B. Update/report on Fund Development Committee

- I. Committee composition and charge

- II. Spring 2017 fund--raiser

President Actor summarized details of plan to present a 60th Anniversary Gala as part of an extended weekend of celebration, honoring Sandra Weiner, a founder of CBS. Plan will emphasize inclusivity and creating opportunities for broad range of activities and support from all demographics of CBS. Fundraising for this event is part of a larger effort as part of a 5 year plan.

- C. Security in light of recent events

President Actor commented on last night's vigil in downtown Houston from victims of night club shooting in Orlando. He compared the Orlando incident to recent terror events in Tel Aviv and focused on comparing outrage against these kind of events. He noted that security concerns will again be foremost in the minds of our Congregants.

President Actor

D. Ongoing Item: use of e-mails lists

President Actor reported on a congregant's recent use of a mailing list made up of Congregant's private, personal contact information and sought Board feedback on what policy CBS should have with regards to use of such information in the future. Board discussed. Board agreed that allowing other persons / institutions to use such information violates privacy rights /expectations of Congregants and should be prohibited.

E. Rabbi Teller and Sabbatical Plans

Actor reported that Rabbi Teller's sabbatical schedule is 12/11/2016-3/11/2017

F. Constitutional review

Stephan Rubin reported that an ad hoc committee is being formed by President Actor to review the CBS Constitution and make recommendations, if needed, to the Board in a future meeting(s) to address concerns raised due to events connected to last Congregational Annual Meeting.

G. Ongoing Item: GMS report

President Actor informed the Board that a meeting with GMS leaders, including new Head Master, to discuss current status of ongoing arrangement and future plans, if any.

H. Library: request for support

President Actor was recently contacted by Susan Schlein via letter to discuss goals for Library and need for funding to assist with conversion of VHS tape collection to digital mode, more books on more shelves. Also, Rabbi Teller suggested to him that we have book stand inn the back of sanctuary for young kids to access age appropriate reading material. Reviews of hot books from ERJCC Book Fair is also an idea. Sisterhood contributes \$500/year. Schlein wants a budget; Actor responded that CBS budget is already set and was approved at Annual Meeting, but we can promote financial support of Library. Schlein wants additional \$700 -1,000 above Sisterhood gift. Actor pointed out to the Board that Ms. Schlein is doing an excellent job with Library and commended her for her efforts. Amy Halevey suggested that Board donate money collected at meeting for Tzedakah.

I. Benefactor BBQ?

President Actor discussed tentative plans for a special event. Stephan Rubin suggested that the event be hosted at home of Debi Mishael

J. Committee Reports- None submitted.

President Actor reported that Ken Podell, recently elected to Board, was assuming role of Chair for FPC, with help from Marc Malacoff, and expressed gratitude to Moshe Even for his successful efforts in leading FPC in the past.

K. Next Meeting Scheduled: 3rd Thursday in August, 2016

V. Good and Welfare

President Actor congratulated Aaron Howard and Rabbi Teller for an outstanding Shavuot program!

President Actor thanked Samantha / Paul Wallace for their generous donation of scholarship to help send kids to summer camp.

Dori Wind promoted Sisterhood's sale of Honey for High Holidays; this is an important fund-raiser for Sisterhood and she strongly encouraged everyone to support the effort.

Tzedakah collected \$50.00.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Stephan Rubin,
Secretary (Substitute)