

## Beth El at the Beaches Synagogue

### Board Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

In attendance: Abby Steele, President, Charlie Frohman, Vice President, Cathy Winterfield, Vice President, Neal Goldman, Past President, Vickie Kennedy, Sisterhood, David Marco, Tracy Aquila, M G Orender, Donne Ordile, Ron Van, Sherill Herzfeld.

Also attending: Jacquie Sinder, Executive Director

Abby called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The agenda was distributed together with a proposed budget and a document dealing with policy and procedures.

Rabbi was ill so there was no D'var Torah.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

President Abby Steele thanked everyone for their flexibility in changing the time of the Board meeting to 6:30 and recognized that today was International Women's Day.

Abby presented the Treasurers Report as Chip Morris wasn't able to attend. A proposed budget was published to the Board. The exceptional expenses for the month included \$2800 for the re-keying of doors, a replacement of the phone system at a cost of \$2800.00 and the payment of current and two years of overdue CCAR dues in the amount of \$2312.00.

#### **Business Matters:**

**Gala:** Tracy Aquila, Chair of Ways and Means, expressed her appreciation and support for the Gala to be held March 10<sup>th</sup>. There are over 50 gift baskets for the Silent Auction and a special thank you to Betsy Siegal for coordinating and putting all of the baskets together. There are 63 reservations so far.

**Congregational Seder:** Jacquie Sinder reported that Pastiche will be catering the congregational Seder on the second night of Passover. The owners of Pastiche are members of the congregation. Reservations are slow at this time but that is typical for this event.

**Nominating:** Neal Goldman, Chair of Nominating, reported that there were more applications than positions available on the Board so this year the process will be different from the past. The committee will review the applications and Neal anticipates being able to present a slate at the next Board meeting.

**Sagasser/Greenfield Deposit:** The issue of the refund of the security deposit for the Sagasser/Greenfield evening event has been settled. A \$500 check was sent to the

family along with a letter stating that we found substantial cause for retaining the deposit and found no basis to their claim. However, the Board wanted to put the matter to rest and wished them well in finding a new synagogue home.

**Corned Beef Sale:** Sherill Herzfeld, Tracy Aquila, M G Orender, Charlie Frohman, Cathy Winterfield and Neal Goldman agreed to serve on the committee to develop the marketing plan for selling limited menu items from Ben's Deli, as in selling the meat by the pound.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Education:** Charlie Frohman, Chair of the Education Committee reported that the committee will be sending out a survey to parents regarding enhanced Hebrew studies during the week. Mitzvah Day will be the entire school travelling to River Garden to plant a tree with a plaque. Sisterhood is sponsoring the tree and the plaque and the shovels that the children will use. A **Model Seder** will be held this coming Sunday with all of the food items donated by the parents of the students.

**Sisterhood:** Vickie Kennedy, President of Sisterhood reported that Sisterhood Shabbat was well attended with 25 participants in the service. Miriam's Seder will be on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Brotherhood:** Charlie Frohman, President of Brotherhood, reported that the Dinner with the Rabbi as a joint venture with Sisterhood was well received. There might be a consideration of having this event two times a year.

**New Business:** A three paragraph document and a fuller 9-page document was presented for consideration by the Board regarding an addition to the Policy and Procedure manual regarding sexual predator and/or sexual offender presence on Beth El property together with membership status limitations. There was a motion by Neal Goldman to accept the wording of the 3-page document with the proviso that the attorney will be consulted regarding not having to reference each part of the statute but rather have the reference to each Chapter of the Statutes suffice. The Board does not want to have such detail language in the Policy and Procedures. The motion was seconded by MG Orender and passed unanimously. The Board thanks Jennifer Espenship and her colleagues for all of their assistance with this matter. The following is the adopted addition to **Section X Membership of the Policy and Procedure Manual of Beth El-The Beaches Synagogue** (updated 2012) as policy:

#### **ME#004 Membership and Guest Exclusions:**

Beth El prohibits the membership, and/or presence as a guest, of any person who has been designated as a sexual offender or a sexual predator. Beth El also prohibits any person who has either been arrested and/or convicted of a sexually motivated or sexually violent crime. An arrest without conviction, still bars membership and/or presence as a guest at Beth El. This prohibition is to include all crimes under Florida Statute Chapters 794 and Chapter 800.

Additionally, this prohibition of membership and guest applies if he or she has violated a similar law or laws in another jurisdiction. "Similarity" of the law will be determined by the discretion of the "Board" for determination, but will be ultimately decided in order to protect the religious school students and the congregation.

Beth El also prohibits the membership and/or presence of a guest of any person arrested or convicted of any crime of abuse or neglect against a child. An arrest without conviction, still bars membership and/or presence as a guest at Beth El. This prohibition applies to any crime that factually involves abuse or neglect of a child and includes, but is not limited to, all crimes in Florida Statute Chapter 827. Additionally, this prohibition of membership and guest applies if he or she has violated a similar law or laws in another jurisdiction. "Similarity" of the law will be determined by the discretion of the board for determination, but will be ultimately decided in order to protect the religious school students and the congregation.

The purpose of these prohibitions is to protect the members of Beth El's congregation and the students of the religious school. Full discretion is given to the "Board" to exclude other members based upon other arrests and/or crimes, if the determination is made that it is in the best interests and safety of the Congregation to do so.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board will be held on **April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

Cathy Winterfield, Acting Secretary