

Beth-El Board of Trustees

Meeting minutes February 21, 2017

Present: Neal Goldman, Abby Steele, Chip Morris, David Marco, Vickie Kennedy, Buzzy Klausner, Ron Van, Ed Mercel, Cathy Winterfield, Donne Ordile, Rachel Marcus-Mitchell, Jacquie Sinder (Office Manager).

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Neal Goldman, President.

Approval of the January Minutes: The January 2017 minutes were unanimously approved and accepted as written.

D'var Torah: The Rabbi was not able to attend so there was no D'var Torah.

President: Neal mentioned that "We have two upcoming B'nai Mitzvah's and there is a sheet passed around for a Trustee to sign-up to present to the child and represent the board. We do have a script if anyone wishes to use. We would appreciate your participation."

Treasurer's report: Chip presented a Cash Flow vs Prior year for the last seven months ending January 31, 2017. We are doing better than last year. Although Quick Books gives detail, Chip is trying to get it a little more than summary level. He makes a couple of adjustments to reflect the latest entries, sometimes manually. He said "Last month we were \$16,000 below budget, this month we are \$6,000 below budget". He also addressed Neal's question about postage/printing last month, commenting that "it was for the Directory". There was a short discussion on where that actually should be placed in the budget; perhaps under fundraising. "The biggest thing is that we are consistent in where we put it" said Neal. There was discussion about current expenses vs. budgetary expenses. Our bookkeeper, Stephanie, is following-up on membership dues owed. Buzzy had several questions about the budget sheet and sought clarification from Chip. It was agreed that we need to combine the "High Holiday Campaign" (revenue) and "Celebrate the Seasons" line items. The formatting

needs to include all the fundraising. No new members nor attrition of present members occurred this month.

Business Matters:

By- Laws: Neal announced that “We have formed a six-member subcommittee. They met and are to review 12 pages of By-Laws to see what tweaks they would like to recommend to the Board. This will be completed in the next few weeks and they will make a formal presentation to the full Board within the next two meetings.” As we’ve grown and changed, we want the By-Laws to reflect and support our Synagogue. It will then be presented to the Congregation at the Congregational meeting.

Nominating Committee: Donna Berger has agreed to chair the nominating committee this year. Neal is helping her to put together the committee. There is an e-Blast coming out to take nominating applications. Our members will have until March 15th to submit the applications. If you are a Board member and your term is expiring, there is a separate application that either Jacquie or Neal has. The following current Board positions are expiring: Neal, Abby, Chip, Charlie, Lou (needs to be re-nominated, since he was appointed), Ed, Buzzy and Ron.

School Building: MG, Neal, Abby and perhaps a few others are going to reach out to contractors to compare bids “and see where we stand”. The elevation drawing was submitted by the Architect, Nicholas Renard.

Security: The Board continued to evaluate whether we should hire a private service or continue to use the off-duty St. Johns County Sheriffs for security. Jacquie researched armed private security services where the cost is \$17-22 an hour. Neal presented that it is difficult to find firms willing to provide security for less than an 8-hour shift, however, two have been found that would consider fewer hour shift. It is Neal’s recommendation that “we probably proceed to interview and hire one of these security companies. And then proceed to replace the Sheriff’s office. We are looking for people who can accommodate our schedule, because we do not need eight hours of consecutive coverage”. The Board discussed incorporating Security into next year’s annual budget. It will be

considered in the future. Abby made a motion to “move forward with an armed Security Company with a marked car”, to include a Class D License. It was seconded and fully passed.

Lip Sync event: Might not occur.

Corned Beef Sandwich: March 30-31st Sale forms were passed out to Board members. The bigger the sale, the more money we raise. Neal and Charlie will drive to Boca Raton to pick up the corned Beef.

Annual Night of Giving: Abby reported that Tammy and Lori ran a meeting and designed the layout in the Synagogue. Rachel secured the music and Kathy and Abby finalized the food with the caterer Yoon. There will be three choices of entrees: meat, fish or vegetarian. The selections will be color-coded on each person’s name plate. We sent out our e-Blast and got our first donation from Gail Greenfield. We are looking for vacation homes, airplane rides, etc. to donate to the silent auction. It is April 22 and will have an optional masquerade theme. Sheryl Hertzfield will do the invitations and they will be mailed out prior to the next meeting. Cathy will oversee the food and we will have a full bar. We just need someone to chair the auction.

Committee Reports:

Education: No report

Adult Education: No report

Sisterhood Report: Vickie was not present so Cathy reported on her behalf. Though the Sisterhood will not bring this to the Board, it was presented that the storage closet concept received three bids, but Sisterhood realized that they were not able to achieve what they had hoped and has withdrawn pursuing their project. They initially were planning to store the tables and chairs and all of Sisterhood’s things in this closet. However, they realized the synagogue cannot accommodate the Bridge Game nor Bar & Bat Mitzvah seating in lieu of closet space. The Sisterhood Shabbat is scheduled for 2/24. A Sisterhood representative

(Cathy Winterfield) went to Palms Presbyterian to talk about Israel. Miriam's Seder will be April 4th.

Brotherhood Report: Rabbi's discussion and dinner is co-ed and everyone is invited. The Rabbi will select a topic.

Ways and Means: No report

Membership: Donne asked if there were someone who consistently comes to services to let her know about any prospective members they might meet. There was much discussion about how we could reach out to new people and the important role a Board member plays in welcoming people. Jacquie has a record of most calls from people expressing interest about the Synagogue; perhaps Donne can review the ledger. Next Shabbat dinner is March 10th.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Marcus-Hendry Mitchell