

Beth El Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes September 6, 2017

Members Present: Abby Steele, President; Neal Goldman, Past President; Charlie Frohman, Vice President/Brotherhood; Rachel Marcus-Mitchell, Secretary; Chip Morris, Treasurer; Vickie Kennedy, Sisterhood President, David Marco, Ron Van, Ed Mercel, Tracy Aquila, Stuart Rosenfeld.

Rabbi Matuson and Jacquie Sinder, Executive Director, were in attendance.

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

Approval of August Minutes: The August 6, 2017 minutes were approved and accepted as written.

D'var Torah: The Rabbi spoke about the emerging Reform Judaism and Rabbi Isacc Meyer Wise's address in 1850 as to whether people should be seated or standing when the Arc was open. History says that on Rosh Hashana Rabbi Wise and the Board President had a fist fight over whether or not a person should stand or sit during the service. There was such consternation that a congregational fight ensued and it was the shortest High Holiday service in the history of Judaism! Rabbi Matuson wished the Board a sweet and happy New Year. He thanked them for all the work that they do and said he was proud of serving this congregation and the Board as a whole. "So, don't punch anyone, don't get into a fight and enjoy the holiday and "La Shana Tova!"

President's message: Abby discussed that 'soft' copies are sent out via email, and we can look at it on line and give feedback as necessary. "We therefore don't need to also get hard copies (printed) at the meeting." This way we save time, paper and money. She thanked everyone for working hard over these last few weeks preparing for the High Holiday services. "We will need some more ushers and also need all of you to send back your requests for honors. Thank you."

Treasurer: Chip reported that we are tracking similarly as last year, ending August 31st. The Building fees are now being recorded properly, so the reporting is more up to date. Neal asked about those people that are lagging behind on their dues and commitments. Chip said we are following up on that. The Board welcomed new members, they are: Michael and Naomi Kaplin, family; Ceceila and David Cristol, two adult children; Woody and Jean Cantor, two grandchildren; Lee Epstein & Jill Dorsey, 4th grade twins; and Jason and Colleen Olitsky, children. All members were approved unanimously by the Board. Chip introduced that the **The Procedure for Special Assistance** was taken to the finance committee with a recommendation to replace the Policy and Procedure process. *Refer to Policy & Procedure manual.* No member shall be denied based upon financial hardships. There was much discussion and there was a Motion for the Board to remove

The following: Delete second bullet point "that are paying full membership" and third hollow bullet point will be completely deleted. This was approved unanimously by the

Board. We will replace the Procedure for Special Assistance with the revised edition, effective this date 9/6/17.

Business Matters:

Celebrate the Seasons- Tracy reported that Yoon Spoon will be catering and Oliver Twist will handle the set-up and drinks for the bar. She will be incorporating the new Motif (Tree of Life) and logo used for the High Holiday campaign at this event. She has a committee that will decorate beforehand. Approximately 60 people are expected to attend. Tracy is also looking toward the Gala as an outside event and will have more information moving forward. The committee is also exploring other things we do for the Temple. We are interested in doing something quarterly.

Jafty activities with the Temple – Rabbi Matuson and Abby met with Ahavad Chesed Reform Temple Rabbi and President Brian Mendelson to discuss creating new synergy for our teens. They were very receptive, and there will be reciprocal opportunities in the future.

High Holidays- Neal said we were well organized and we have secured Cantor Butensky for our Services. Buzzy Klausner is coordinating the ushers, and he is working on it presently, please email him as to your intent. Neal requested all Board members wear their badges. Worship committee meeting next week, and everything moving along smoothly. Guests cost \$50, students and active military are free.

Director of Operations and Administrative Position- Abby introduced the job description and suggested Board members email her with any suggestions regarding this new position. She also discussed the broad role and responsibilities Jacquie presently has and that we do not ask her to make copies for various things. Use 'soft' copies to communicate.

Board Committee Chair Reports:

Education: Charlie submitted a report. He thanked Vickie for her great work, and welcomed Avery coming on board as chair. We are now at 62 students.

Adult Education: Martha Becker will be chairing this year.

Library Committee- The library policy was tabled as the Chair, Cathy Winterfield was not present.

Sisterhood: Vickie Kennedy talked about the Fashion show, the Bema flowers were selected, each teacher will receive \$50 for their classroom, the ice cream social will occur, the silver polishing has been rescheduled to a different location, please contact Elaine Silver. Hannah Moore will be overseeing the youth group 8-12th graders and get back to the Temple in town to coordinate future activities.

Brotherhood: Charlie reported current rules for joining the brotherhood and wondered do we want to establish a protocol for membership. There was much discussion about

sisterhood membership and congregational membership. Abby believes we have to put something in place as a policy that you can't be or Brotherhood or Sisterhood if you are not a Congregational member. Since less than 2% (presently) are in this situation, they will be *Grandfathered-in*, but if you drop your membership, for two years you cannot be a member of Sisterhood or Brotherhood. Vickie said she will discuss it with the Sisterhood Board and bring it back to the Board of Trustees. Charlie will defer to the Board on this matter.

Membership: Stuart will be the senior chair and Gail will be the junior chair. Shabbat dinners and movie night will continue as planned.

Building: Ed reported that we need a preventive program for the trailer. The biggest problem is water retention which leads to mold. He has been working with Danny Cohen. Clean-up needs to be done, it will cost a maximum of \$2,000 or less. We are not happy with the landscaper and trimmer. Ed will request from Charlie and Abby for authorization since it is already in the budget.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board will be October 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Marcus-Hendry Mitchell, Secretary