

## **Beth El The Beaches Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **Meeting Minutes February 21, 2019**

**Members Present:** Abby Steele, President; Neal Goldman, Immediate Past President; Charlie Frohman, Sherill Herzfeld, Vice President; Rachel Marcus-Hendry Mitchell, Secretary; Chip Morris, Treasurer; Tracy Aquilla, Grace Belkin, Ron Rapaport, Judy De Arman, Donne Ordile, MG Orender.

Rabbi Matuson was not in attendance. Elissa Feldman, Office Manager was in attendance.

A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Abby Steele, President.

**Approval of January 10, 2018 Minutes:** The minutes were approved unanimously, pending correction of Pittsburgh Synagogue's name "Tree of Life".

**D'var Torah:** As Rabbi Matuson was not in attendance, there was no D'var Torah.

**President's Message:** Abby began by thanking Tracy and Sherill for the work they were doing on the Gala. She asked the Board to please attend as this is our primary fundraiser to support the Synagogue. She also talked about the Purim Carnival, and Miriam's Community Seder, sponsored by Sisterhood. It is not exclusive to women, men are welcome, too. She emphasized how these events were a way to enjoy one another's company and have fun.

**Treasurer:** Chip reported three new members: Allen and Ann Hynman, a family membership; Alex and Brooke Umansky, a family membership with young children seven and three years of age; and Dr. Gary and Lauren Snyder, a family membership. The Board unanimously and enthusiastically voted to approve and welcomed the new congregants. These memberships were as result of our discounted membership campaign. Kudos to Grace Belkin for her perseverance and out-reach efforts.

To date, we have approximately 158 memberships.

Chip passed out the financial Budget vs Actuals: FY 2017-2018, July-January 2019. He mentioned that "We are tracking well, with approximately \$28,000 net surplus". He then shared with the Board that he will not be serving as Treasurer after this term. Chip has served under two Presidents, two, two-year terms.

### **New Business:**

**Legacy Proposal Update –** Abby commented that the Rabbi will take a reduction in his salary beginning April. Once his salary is reduced, he will contribute the differential to help pay down the mortgage. That amounts to approximately \$100,000 over three years. David Marco and MG Orender collectively have matched the Rabbi's offer. We owe \$872,000 on the mortgage. Abby asked the Board about the timing of when we should notify the membership about the Legacy Campaign. After some discussion, it was decided to

send out a letter right after the May 1<sup>st</sup>, since June is when we send out the membership renewal letter.

**Policy Manual Update** – Since Karen Toker was not present the update was tabled for the next meeting.

**Gala Update** – Tracy Aquila told the Board that the invitations were sent out. “We are looking for an emcee as the Shumers will not be in attendance, this year.” MG Orender agree to act as emcee. She hopes that we can generate the same amount of money as we did last year. Though the theme is “Playing it Forward” she emphasized that there was no gambling taking place. There was some discussion about the dress code and Tracy indicated she would send an email defining the dress code. The Board was not asked to contribute wine this year, they were instead asked to attend the Gala.

### **Board Committee Chair Reports:**

**Security Committee** – (See attached report) Chaired and reported by Ron Rappaport.

**Membership** - (See attached report). Reported by Grace that she contacts an average of 60 people a week. Grace asked that the Board please submit their bios for the e blast.

**Education Committee** – Donne Ordile reported about the Purim Carnival. She thanked Sharon Frohman for creating a very nice flyer for the school. There was some discussion about food for the cookout and Charlie indicated the Brotherhood will shop and cook the food for the families attending with their students.

**Sisterhood** – Rachel reported on behalf of Vickie. Sisterhood had a lovely time in Atlantic Beach at Urban Farms, coordinated by Karen Freedman. They also are supporting the Purim event on March 10<sup>th</sup>. 3. They are involved in supporting an organization called S.O.A.P. by purchasing soap and assisting in efforts to prevent sex trafficking. Charlie expressed that the Brotherhood would like to have this information sent to them. Lastly, Sisterhood is in the planning stages of Miriam’s Seder.

**Social Action** – (See attached report).

**Brotherhood** – Charlie announced dinner with the Rabbi on March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., this is the annual co-joint dinner meeting with Sisterhood.

### **New Business:**

**Nominating Committee** – Neal is chairing the nominating committee. He is seeking a non- Board member to add to the committee. Sheryl asked to be on the committee. Neal said “There are five seats open, one Vice President, one Treasurer, as well as Board members at large. If you are not elected this year and your time on the Board is up, please let me know of your intent.” After conversation with the Liaison Committee it was agreed that the mailing of the recommended nominees sent to the congregation will include a copy of the applicable bylaws that pertain to nominations for Board position. Tracy said

she will hold another Liaison Committee meeting before the next Congregational meeting so she can speak to the Board about what she has heard from people”.

**Directory** – Abby is looking for someone to head up the Directory this year. Tracy, Sharon Frohman and Elissa have offered to help. Sherry Chait will assist as well. Abby mentioned that “This year we need to make our best effort to include all the congregants’ names.”

**Budget Request form for 2019-** Chip handed out the forms to the Board members. He will review the budget requests for next year. “If anyone has a request please submit it to me by end of March.” He mentioned that we also need to always increase for repairs and maintenance.

**Roof repairs** – There are leaks in the Synagogue roof. Abby reported that we collected four bids that range from \$15,000 to \$50, 000. MG offered to send someone he has that may be much more reasonable. The Board was receptive to his offer.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. The next meeting of the Board will be March 14th, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rachel Marcus-Hendry Mitchell*

Rachel Marcus-Hendry Mitchell, Secretary

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Security Committee Progress Report 2019-02-21*

*Committee Name: Security Committee*

*Committee Chair person: Ronald Rapaport*

*Members: Ronald Rapaport, Ron Van, Charles Frohman, Vickie Kennedy, David Schachnovsky, Neal Goldman, Buzzy Klausner*

*Progress To Date:*

- 1) New security camera system installed and up and running*
- 2) Front entrance keypad installed and working*

- 3) *Signage installed at front road entrance*
- 4) *Slide bolt lock installed on inside of sanctuary door*
- 5) *St John County Sheriff uniformed officers invited to use our facility to have coffee, do paper work, etc from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Tues - Friday*
- 6) *Arrangements being made to have commander of St Johns SWAT Team to visit the facility and map out the building so they are familiar with the floor plan of the facility*
- 7) *Policy and Procedure manual is being worked on*
- 8) *Contacted fire department to learn the protocol to conduct a fire drill for the school*

*Additional course for Adult Education  
given by popular demand*

*Some of the people who meet for the Rabbi's adult ed course would like to continue and our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 7 p.m.*

*The topic will be TRADITIONS. Judy De Arman*

*Membership report*

*When we reach out, it makes a world of difference. Individually, as Board members, when we hear of those who need our support or are going through difficult times, please send cards, make phone calls, or visit them.....it does make a difference!*

*"Tell Me Why, Part 2" scheduled for Tuesday, February 26  
(7:00-8:30 P.M.)*

*Last effort to entice unaffiliated to join under reduced dues schedule  
Grace Belkin*