

TEMPLE BETH-EL Board Meeting, September 17, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Steinborn, Arthur Berkson, Paul Feil, Buzzie Lieberman, Alison Mann, Marianne Panzini-Rosenthal, Ford Parkes-Perret, Marty Poel, Josh Rosenberg, Bill Stein, Jay Spetalnick, Rabbi Paul Citrin
ABSENT: Mike Lieberman, Mike Mandel

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Steinborn called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.
2. 2008 GALA: Brenda Parish presented the board with a check for \$2200. The Gala Committee is keeping some funds in reserve for payments for a storage locker. The committee may want to consider renting a smaller storage unit.
3. RABBI TEACHING: Rabbi Paul Citrin stated that we will have a special service booklet for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre. The volunteer choir is being resurrected. This Monday evening the board is invited to attend the Peace Conference at TBE starting at 7:00 PM.
4. MINUTES & CORESPONDENCE: The minutes were approved with corrections.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Feil reported that the response to the dues letter has been very good. There are fourteen families who have not responded or are having trouble. Mark stated that he has a list of those who have made no payment. Three no longer wish to be members.
6. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. SPECIFIC GIFTS: Jay handed out a brochure and explained the contents. Jay will talk about this on Yom Kippur morning and the ushers will hand out the brochures. Marty asked if donations may be made to specific existing and established funds. Jay said the intent was for large specific donations for items or programs. The rabbi said the information will be in Adelante.
 - b. TREE OF LIFE LEAF: Mark read the draft letter to be sent to Gabriel Lampert. The letter included the inscription for the Tree of Life leaf. Marty made a motion (Ford seconded) that Temple Beth-El will pay for the Tree of Life Leaf honoring Gabriel Lampert. Passed unanimously.
 - c. WAYS AND MEANS: Mark asked if we have a list of fund raisers. Ford answered "yes" and mentioned an upcoming cooking fund raiser with Jacob Hilbert. Ford has asked Ruth Ann Sugarman to organize an Art Show around the first night of Hanukah. Susan Fitzgerald has talked to Ford about a wearable art function. There will also be a dinner to honor David Steinborn. The rabbi suggested that this should be more than a dinner. There could be more cantor music. The proposed date is April 24. Alison was concerned that there needs to be a committee to organize the dinner and events. At the next board meeting, Ford will have a list of events to circulate to the board.
 - d. SHABBAT CALENDAR: Arthur stated that the list is OK.
 - e. SELF-RENEWING CONGREGATION: Please read Chapters 1-3. Jay recommended the board to read his presentation presented at the retreat and to come up with questions for our next board meeting discussion on the book.
7. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The Executive Board met and voted to approve Stephen Fischmann as a new member.

- b. HIGH HOLY DAYS GREETER LIST: Rabbi Citrin requested that greeters be at the temple 30 minutes before the start. The rabbi also requested that books be placed on the chairs. Rabbi Citrin asked if the Yom Kippur contribution envelopes have been a success. Paul Feil said that he will make sure the right people receive the envelopes.
 - c. NOVEMBER MEETING DATE: Mark requested that the November TBE Board Meeting be moved to November 12.
 - d. NOVEMBER ADELANTE: Mark is writing the TBE State of the Union article for the November Adelante.
 - e. WAYS AND MEANS TOPICS: Alison stated that the Ways and Means Committee needs to be coordinating events such as the Renaissance Faire. The committee needs to ensure they ask for help and volunteers. There was a discussion about displaying art from local art throughout the year. Where would one hang local art work? Paul Feil believes that traffic is low. The rabbi does not see an appropriate wall.
 - f. MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS: Mark mentioned that some congregants would like to receive a monthly email of the financial statement. The board consensus was that would be too much work. Mark stated that neither torah is kosher but can be repaired. Mark recommended a fund raiser for a new torah. Paul Feil stated that the Members Benefit Committee has been unable to meet.
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Buzzie asked if there was a need to move the Sisterhood's Judaica shop Mark stated that there was no urgency. However, Mark would like to know if the current location has been beneficial financially. Alison said she had talked with Terri Sugarman about collaborating with the El Paso congregation to order items for our Judaica Shop. Jay has started the Future Planning Committee. Jay would like some significant questions for use with focus groups.
9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
- a. NEW MEMBERS APPLICATIONS: The board reviewed new membership applications for Barry and Andrea Fisher and for Lucian and Sheralynn Baltuck. Alison moved to accept. Passed unanimously.
10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 08:41 PM. The next TBE Board meeting will be October 15, 2009.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Stein