

## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Temple Beth-El, Las Cruces, New Mexico

Date: September 27, 2017

**Trustees Present:** Ann Berkson, Allen Blum, Jeff Brown, Sue Brown, Dee Cook, Diane Fleishman, Jeff Lewis, Michael Lieberman, Ellen Torres, Rabbi Larry Karol (ex-officio)

**Trustees Absent:** Pearie Bruder, Susan Michelson, Michael Mandel, Ned Rubin

**Guest(s):** Leora Zeitlin

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Ellen Torres at 7:03 pm.

**Invocation:** Rabbi Karol gave the Invocation.

**Acceptance of Minutes.** Ellen asked for acceptance of the minutes of the August 17, 2017 meeting. A motion was made by Sue Brown and seconded by Allen Blum to accept the minutes. The motion carried.

#### **Leadership / Board Reports**

A. **Rabbi's Report.** (Highlights) Complete report is attached.

The Rabbi reported that there are 21 students in Religious school, 3 of whom are in a post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah program.

B. **President's Report.**

President Ellen Torres report is attached. Ellen reviewed goals from the leadership workshop in May. Jeff Brown will work with the Rabbi to explore ways to streamline processes of Tempe administration as per our goals. Jim Rosenthal's plan is to have a series of dinners to talk about leadership followed by meetings to inspire and support people who have an interest in TBE. Board members should be present to share values of leadership and should also share names of people would be receptive to taking positions of committee chairs. Renee Frank and the Strategic Planning Committee will set up focus groups. A group is working on a proposal for three 2018 Federation grants. The grant events we have had this year have been very successful. This year they want separate proposals for each event; they are:

- a. "Personal Stories": Collect data and personal stories of history of Jews in Las Cruces and Southern NM; then work with students and faculty of the Department of Theatre Arts at NMSU to develop short plays.
- b. Robin Helzner "A Key to the Casa": Program about Sephardic Jews.
- c. Liturgist Alden Solovy: Author, poet and teacher will visit for a Scholar-in-Residence Weekend.

At least 5 people are needed to make calls for Federation donations. They will have people and materials here to support our first effort. We will have good data to support the Federation's support of our community.

### **C. Treasurer's Report.**

Treasurer Allen Blum reported an overview of the last 2 months and noted that the invoices seem to be working well; however, the outlook for the year is not good as expenses that we cannot control are going up. We received \$1,000 from Verizon and construction should start in December. He also reported on the golf tournament. They still can use volunteers to get raffle prizes and sponsors.

### **Committee Reports:**

- A. BETY/BEMY: Youth Advisor Chair Leora Zeitlin recommended Amalia Zeitlin as the new advisor. A motion to that effect was made by Jeff Brown and seconded by Dee Cook. It passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

- A. It may be possible to purchase a repossessed shed by Tuff Shed cheaper than building one. Jeff Brown moved that we allocate \$1800 plus tax for this purchase. Ann Berkson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously
- B. Policy for use of social hall and kitchen. Policy was approved with the addition of a \$75 deposit.
- C. Feedback on calls made by the Board were very positive for the most part. Members were happy to get calls that did not request money. Most positive comments were for the Religious School and the new dues method. A suggestion was made for more outreach to older members.
- D. We earned \$325 in donations from the Bob Alper event and netted \$650 in admissions and donations at the Challah Rising film event. It was suggested that some of these funds pay for previously approved plaques, which Allen Blum displayed. The funds will go into the general fund.

### **New Business**

- A. Suggestions were made for a "Bring Your Best Dish" Family dinners as a fund raiser. Other ideas were suggested as we all realize that we will need to raise more money, especially if this is the last year of the golf tournament.
- B. Friday night October 13 will be the Board Installation Shabbat

### **Guest Comments:**

**Executive Session:** There was no executive session.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Date of next Executive Committee Meeting: Monday, October 9, 2017 @ 6:30 pm

Date of next Board of Trustees Meeting: Thursday October 19, 2017 @ 7:00 pm