President Board Report: April 19, 2018

Good evening!

Last week we convened a special meeting of the Board of Trustees to review proposals to the Constitution and By-Laws to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on May 10. We did pull back the most controversial proposal at the request of Board members who wanted more time to study and discuss the ideas of non-Jewish members taking a larger role in the governance of our Temple. We did, however, discuss and vote on the remaining proposals, many of which were simple grammatical and writing corrections to the 2010 Constitution and By-Laws. Some of the proposals were voted down, but many were approved with modifications. I am pleased with the outcome and hope that our Board and Congregation agree that the final presentation of proposals presents a good mix of ideas presented with the very best of intentions for the growth and development of Temple Beth-El.

Tonight I am sharing with you the roles that I hope you are able to fulfill at the Annual Meeting. Please let me know if you will be in attendance and able to assist us in running the meeting as smoothly as possible. I do want to share with you the candidates for the Board who will appear on the slate: Returning members Sue Brown, Pearie Bruder, and Michael Mandel, and new candidates Cheryl Decker, Ruth Rubin, and Joanne Turnbull. I want to thank outgoing Board members Allen Blum, Michael Lieberman, and Susan Michelson for their years of dedication, service, and leadership to Temple Beth-El.

I want to thank the JFFF committee and volunteers headed up by our true-blue coordinators, Rebecca Berkson and Aggie Saltman, for again organizing and presenting a fantastic Jewish Food and Folk Festival on April 15. The food and festive atmosphere was wonderful, exciting, and delicious. Although I attended and helped to some degree as a greeter in the morning, I do want to apologize for my limited involvement this year. With Fred just barely able to attend for under an hour and with PARCC testing that started the next day, Monday, April 16, I was not able to give the festival my full attention. My number one responsibility as an Assistant Principal at Mayfield High School is also being the School Testing Coordinator, and the State-Mandated PARCC testing is the most intensive assessment given. I was just not in my usual tip-top form as a TBE volunteer that day, and I feel the need to share that with you. I promise to be back to normal in a few weeks.

Again, I look forward to our Annual Meeting on May 10 and hope you are all able to make it.