

President Board Report: 11-15-18

FUNDRAISER UPDATES:

Matzo Ball Golf Tournament

We had a very successful MBO Golf Tournament with approximately \$6,234.62 in costs, total gross income of approximately \$14,683.00, a donation to Mesilla Valley Hospice of \$1,000, giving us a net of approximately \$7,448.38, which is the largest net income we've had in all of the six years of the tournament. The finances are still being determined by our Treasurer, Michael Mandel, so all reported details here are still an approximation. Much appreciation goes to Lynn Zeemont and the MBO Committee for all their hard work and dedication.

Pastrami Booth at the Ren Faire

Our Pastrami Booth at the Renaissance Faire on November 3 & 4 at Young Park, under the leadership of Dave Zeemont and Jeff Lewis and the Mensch Club, was a very successful event. Michael and Dave are still tallying the financials and will report the net income hopefully by December. The Center for Spiritual Living pitched in on Saturday and helped make this an overall great event.

Jewish Food and Folk Festival

The Jewish Food and Folk Festival, Sunday, April 7, 2019, headed up by Chairs Rose Jacobs and Francine Feinberg does not have any planning updates as of yet.

Jewish Federation Grants for 2019:

I wrote and submitted two grants to the Jewish Federation last month requesting grant money for two programs. We asked for \$6000 to bring Rabbi Ken Kanter to do a 2-day workshop on the history of American popular music, the history of the American musical, and the development of Jewish worship melodies in American Jewry. We plan to bring him here on February 8-9, 2019. Next we requested \$7,300 to bring Julie Silver, an American Jewish singer/songwriter who has been creating music for three decades, including the release of 8 albums. Julie's work on social justice gives her music a depth of meaning and relevance that is based firmly in Jewish tradition. We plan to bring Julie Silver here on March 13, 2019. The Federation's granting committee did send me questions about our two budgets, which I addressed in my response. They asked for ways that we could reduce the amounts we asked for regarding daily meal costs, car rentals, airfare, and advertisement. I came up with some manageable reductions. They also asked if Julie Silver could perform in El Paso, and I explained that it would depend on her schedule and if she wanted to do it. They are asked why both our programs were music based. I explained that Julie presents a program of contemporary Jewish music while Rabbi Kanter presents American Jewish history with music as illustrations. He wrote on this for his thesis as history, and I explained that he is a rabbi/scholar and Julie is a musician. I stated that they will present very different programs and reach different audiences. I want to thank Rabbi Karol for his support with my responses.

I am working on tightening up the questionnaire data from all the surveys that we have received for the past two years of grant-sponsored programs so that I have data to share with the Jewish Federation per their request. When I get this finished, I will share it with you as well.

TBE Leadership Workshops: I strongly encourage you to attend!

- On Sunday, December 16 at 2:00 pm in the Social Hall, I will present a workshop on “Leadership Styles and Skills,” and
- On Sunday, February 10 at 2:00 pm, Sue Brown and Ann Berkson will present a workshop on “Exploring our Temple.” Due to Ken Kanter’s presentations on February 8-9, we may move this workshop to later in February.

Film Series

I also encourage you to attend one or more of the Jewish Federation’s Jewish Film Series films at The Alamo Drafthouse Cinema in West El Paso:

Act of Defiance on January 6

Three Identical Strangers on January 20

1945 on January 27

The Insult on February 10