

President Board Report: 3-21-19

2019 Julie Silver Event, Wednesday, May 15

Julie Silver will be performing on Wednesday, May 15, at 7:00 pm here at Temple Beth-El. I need volunteers to help with the following: Publicity for the e-Blast, The Bulletin, the LC Sun-News, and the Jewish Federation's Jewish Voice; possibly a radio spot (need to find out how much that will be), someone to send out an email to people to bring refreshments and a crew to set up and clean up, people at the admission table to collect the entrance fee of \$10, get people to sign in, and to hand out the surveys that need to be completed and collected, and greeters and ushers to make people feel welcome and to help seat them. We will also need the Rabbi to open the event with a brief welcome and introduction. In addition, we need you all to attend and participate in the supporting roles I've mentioned, if you're in town. Who can help and what are you willing to do?

Security Concerns

Mark Saltman has set up an event with the Las Cruces Police Department here at TBE on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 pm, and I need you all to attend and get other TBE people to attend. LCPD will be coming to present information on how to act during an Active Shooter situation. They will provide training and information. We need to publicize this in the Adelante and in eBlasts. We should also all bring refreshments, and we should all attend. That would be much appreciated.

TBE Annual Congregational Meeting: Thursday, May 9

We need all Board members to attend the Thursday, May 9 Annual Meeting. We will prepare a booklet, like we have for the past couple of years. It will include an Agenda, the Minutes from the May 10, 2018 meeting, President's Report, Rabbi's Report, Annual Committee Reports, and TBE Programs and Accomplishments. The Program for the night will include a Welcome by the President, the Rabbi's Invocation, reading of last year's Minutes by the Secretary, the President's Report and Recognition of the Board, the Rabbi's Report, the Treasurer's Report, the Introduction of the Board of Trustee Candidates, Voting, and Announcement of Results. It is possible that our phenomenal Secretary, Jeff Brown, may not be able to attend due to his wife's upcoming knee replacement. In that situation, we will need someone else to read last year's minutes and to take accurate minutes of this Annual Meeting that will be save and read at next year's Annual Meeting.

Nominating Committee

Due to our very active and vital Nominating & Leadership Committee, we had no difficulty getting 5 people who volunteered to be on the Board for the 5 openings. The five members who have volunteered to be on the slate for the new Board include: Steve Haydu, Barbara Berger, Nan Rubin, Martha Roditti, and Lynn Zeemont. These people are amazing congregants and will be wonderful additions to our new Board.

The Swastika in New Mexico History and Culture

On Sunday, March 10, Dr. Richard Meltzer, a retired historian from UNM, spoke at TBE on the history of the swastika. He talked about the completely different meaning it has in New

Mexico compared to being a symbol of extreme hate and barbarism under the Nazi regime in Germany. His presentation was sponsored by the NM Jewish Historical Society and the Historical Society of New Mexico's Speakers Bureau. It was a very interesting presentation. Thank you to the History Committee and Chair Jeff Brown for all your work on this interesting event.

Purim 2019

Celebrated on Wednesday, March 20, the Purim dinner, carnival, and Purim Schpiel was a great event with an excellent turnout. Many of our religious school students and their parents attended and participated in the Purim Schpiel, written by Stuart Kelter, and performed by Stuart Kelter, Leora Zeitlin, Amalia Kelter Zeitlin, Mark and Stephanie Singer, Monika Kimball, Susan Lapid, and many of our religious school students—Mia Berkson, Hannah Saltman, and many others who played ensemble roles. Thank you to everyone involved. You did a wonderful job! Thank you to Rabbi Karol for the excellent guitar accompaniment.

JFFF

The 6th Annual Jewish Food and Folk Festival is only a 2 ½ weeks away. Please make sure you are volunteering and spreading the word. Please buy tickets and give them to your neighbors, co-workers, and friends to get them to attend. This will be another phenomenal event!

Passover

The first night Passover Seder is April 19, and the TBE Sisterhood is again sponsoring the second night Seder at Picacho Hills Country Club on Saturday, April 20. The flyers and sign-up sheets are being mailed to all congregants, so you should get yours soon. I hope you all attend. It has been a wonderful event each year.

Financial Concerns and the Rabbi

I want to thank you all for attending our emergency Executive Session at my house on Thursday, March 14. We had a serious discussion and a good outcome. A small group of us met with Rabbi Karol on Monday evening, March 18 at 6:00 pm at my house. The group included Patrick Quinn, Michael Mandel, Cheryl Decker, and me. We presented the Rabbi with a letter and an Addendum to his Contract, proposing that as of January 1, 2020, he move to a half-time role for half-time remuneration. We discussed the situation and outcomes, and the Rabbi was amenable to our proposals. He called Rhonda, and she suggested that they mull it over for 24 hours. On Tuesday, the Rabbi contacted us and said he would accept our Addendum and terms. A letter was written and will be sent to the congregation, signed by the Rabbi and me. We are prepared to send the letter out immediately. At our May 9 Annual Meeting, we will briefly address the changes to the congregation, due to the financial situation, and let them know that the Board made a fiduciary decision to maintain a Rabbi and to save some funds at the same time. It was the best decision we could make, considering the financial position we are in. We will also be creating a Transition Committee that will include the Rabbi and help us move forward.