

Meeting of the Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees

July 16, 2020, 6:00 PM

Trustees Present: Cheryl Decker (President), Lynn Zeemont (Vice President), Michael Mandel (Treasurer), Steve Haydu (Secretary), Jeff Lewis, Marieka Brown, Nan Rubin, Bryan McCuller, Barbara Berger, Martha Roditti, Ruth Rubin, Dee Cook, Joanne Turnbull,

Guests: Luke Duddridge, on behalf of the Mitzvah team

Standing Items (6:00-6:15 PM)

Cheryl Decker called the meeting to Order 6:05 pm

Martha Roditti did the **Invocation**

Acceptance of Minutes for May and June: Martha Roditti moved to accept Michael Mandel seconded, May 2020, June 2020 minutes were accepted unanimously.

Luke – requests a separate checking account for the mitzvah team, a line item for donations to the team to help people. The board is unwilling to create another bank account for a temple committee currently, so there was a motion to add a line item for the Mitzvah team. Upon review of the P&L statement, it was noted that there already is a line item for the mitzvah team.

There was extensive discussion and Q&A about the finances, budgeting, committee funding, etc. Request was made that financial procedures need to be documented.

Marieka requested that we have written procedures regarding how the the funds are organized and how money is managed procedurally. Marieka and Pearie agreed to be on a committee to get the procedures on paper.

Treasurer's Report (Michael Mandel & Lynn Zeemont) – Profit and loss statement presented. Lynn highlights the fact that the current dues billed, is something less than \$91,000, last year we brought in around \$119,000 in membership dues. 6:49 we are still discussing the treasurer's report.

Lynn moved and Michael seconded that we make Robert French an honorary member of Temple Beth El. We also decided to that some of our long-time members become honorary members: Barney & Ruth Sugarman, Klim Maling, Lila Ziegler, these were all approved under the initial motion.

Committee Reports

Religious Practices Committee – Bryan:

- Jewish Federation is working on a program to get ipads or tablets for people that need them to join services on Zoom.
- Rabbi Sofia discussed what she has in mind for the Shabbat's that she is with us: Thursday night, Friday night service, oneg discussion after the service, Torah study on Saturday, and Active involvement Saturday afternoon, and Sunday school.
- Sofia suggested that the service should be shorter, since it is on Zoom. Amalia is willing to perform before yom kippur services, kol nidre on violin. Also mentioned finding a creative way to do Tashlich, since we will not be gathering.
- Discussion of Yizkor booklet – and as a fundraiser it is beyond the purview of the rpc. Who's responsibility is the booklet is it fundraiser, or religious practices. Could we do something virtually? Marieka asked how we convey ideas to the committees so that good ideas can be acted on. Pearie volunteered herself and Ruth to learn how to do the Yizkor book and do it. Lynn said she thinks the Rabbi would be happy to help.

Adult Education – Ned and Rabbi Sofia will discuss possible programs. Sofia suggested programs dealing with mental health during the pandemic. Joanne proposed the idea of more groups like the short story group, like a movie discussion group. Nan suggested that committee reach out to other groups like the league of women voters and do some collaborative events.

Membership (Martha Roditti) – had a possible member, Mark Siegel, he won't be a member right now because they are moving. They are looking into his mother rejoining and Cheryl is reaching out to Elaine and Pat now that they can become members. They have a list of one-time members. Martha will send it out the list to the board to see if we can get some of them back.

Sisterhood (Dee Cook) – Dues are still \$36 send dues to Lynn Zeemont.

Mensch club (Jeff Lewis) – Dues are paid up. Breakfast was planned with groups of 5, there was one meeting, but then when the indoor dining option ceased, so has breakfasts. Other programming is mostly on hold, while we wait on the virus to ebb.

Religious school update (Pearie Bruder) – The Religious school committee consists mostly of parents. More of a council than a committee. Decided to implement an administrator. Hired Marlene Benz \$2500 salary for 27-29 session religious school year. School will be all Zoom. In person events will be held when they become possible. Teachers this year will be Diane Fleishman, Beth Tierney, Ruth Rubin is doing music, and Sofia Zway.

Vote: Michael Mandel moved that the board accept the committee reports, Martha Roditti seconded, reports approved unanimously.

Transition Team Report (Joanne) - The transition is in 3 phases, we are now in phase 2. Joanne clarified that the grant we received is for expenses for the transition process, it pays for our student rabbi, and can be used for other transition related items, such as a facilitator for upcoming focus groups.

- Rabbi Sofia's first service with us will be on August 14th, and on August 9th there will be a Zoom Meet and Greet. Joanne Turnbull will invite questions for Sofia in advance. There will be invitations in the Adelante.
- Sofia would like to have some chat time with the congregation before the service, not recorded or streamed.
- Motion made by Joanne Turnbull for Adult Education, Mitzvah (ad hoc), Finance, and Religious School become/or blend with standing committees. Motion was seconded by Lynn. All approved.
- Nan asked if the Finance team will be involved with putting together the processes involved in temple finances. Further work will be done to clarify who is documenting and what the standard procedures should be in tracking finances and keeping the temple membership informed.

Old Business (6:15-6:45)

- The list for Board member sign up for doing announcements at Friday services is on Google Docs. There was a question about how many announcements there are. The point is not so much the announcements but the presence of a board member at each service. (Marieka suggested the board member may want to do the prayer for our community on Friday nights)
- We have Jeanne Brown will be on the phased reopening committee, and Cheryl is reaching out to Nancy Bergman, and Mark Saltman. This committee will plan and prepare for phased reopening.
- Board orientation is coming in August – date is not yet determined Aug 16th, Aug 23rd, Sep 6, are they dates that will be given to the nominating committee to select from.
- All funds earned by religious school, that is not spent within the year is retained in the Religious School Fund.
- Phased reopening committee is being formed – Jeannie Brown has agreed to be on it!

New Business (6:45-7:15)

- Federation is offering via zoom, estate planning (Temple as beneficiary) workshop and a grant writing workshop. We can schedule something like this after the High Holidays.
 - Nan pointed out the importance of these sorts of donation options now, as our traditional fundraisers are in hiatus at this time.
- The Mensch club has offered to assist Rabbi Karol in moving his things out of the Temple office.

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Next Meeting: August 20, 6:00PM