

## Meeting of the Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees

February 20, 2020, 6:00 PM

**Trustees Present:** Joanne Turnbull, Steve Haydu, Michael Mandel, Dee Cook, Luke Duddridge, Jeff Lewis, Nan Rubin, Lynn Zeemont, Ruth Rubin, Pearie Bruder, Martha Roditti, Rabbi Larry Karol (ex-officio)

**Trustees Absent:** Cheryl Decker, Barbara Berger

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

Call to Order: Joanne Turnbull - 6:00 PM

Invocation: Rabbi Karol

Acceptance of Minutes: - Luke Duddridge moved to accept, Michael Mandel seconded, all approved.

Rabbi's Report: update on religious school, attended training by the Israel Trauma coalition, informed board about Rabbi's email spoofing

Treasurer's Report Luke Duddridge moved to accept, Nan Rubin 2nded.

Currently in good standing with about \$28,000 in the bank (including \$10,000) borrowed from investment account.

No Committee Reports

### Old Business (6:15-6:45)

- Financial Support for August, September B'nai Mitzvot – tabled until next meeting
- Safety Gear Orientation – Ned will talk to Mark to see when he can set this up. They plan to schedule 2 orientations. Mark & Dave Decker handling submission of invoices for reimbursement. Joanne will follow up.

### New Business (6:45-7:15)

Transition Report

- Approval of Application to Hebrew Union College for student rabbi (**Vote**).
  - Luke Duddridge moved to send the application, Michael Mandel seconded, all approved.
- March 20<sup>th</sup> will be a lay-led service and the Board of Trustees will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. The temple will invite representatives from the Jewish

Federation of El Paso, at which time we will present them with 2 framed photos of our Synagogue as a thank you for their support.

- Strategic Planning: 2020 Focus Groups, Congregation Surveys –
  - Joanne Turnbull presented a list of questions to be addressed by the congregation, there was some lively discussion. Concerns raised included the need to include the entire congregation in the process, through a series of meetings, each targeting a particular question, and using surveys to reach congregants that are unable to attend the meetings.
    - Questions include:
  - Should we maintain our URJ membership? – Martha will look into getting data.
  - In order to begin to consider afford a full-time rabbi we need a minimum of 140 members

We need a Marketing plan for the temple, - the membership committee used to do some of the marketing by reaching out to new members, and ensuring that they received the information about the temple that would help them get the most out of their membership.

The Annual Meeting was discussed – what do we need to address at the meeting.

Who will be part of the planning task force: Nan, Luke, Steve, with Cheryl and Joanne.

- Financial Graphs for Congregational Meeting (Lynn) and Arthur Berkson are going to work on graphs for financials.
- Info about student rabbi – calendar with schedule and costs.
- Meeting should be upbeat, include a brief presentation of the year's activities
- Upcoming work the congregation needs to accomplish in the coming year
  - Temple Beth-El policies need to be written and accepted
  - Temple By-Laws need to be reviewed for possible changes
  - Open meetings to discuss questions about how we would like the temple to move forward, and who we are as a congregation.

There will be an emergency meeting about the post Rabbi Karol bar mitzvahs.

Martha would like to put together an ad hoc marketing group/outreach, find out what kind of organizations our members are involved with.

Temple Keys – Door was left unlocked, key holders must be vigilant and ensure that someone with a key and code locks up when everyone leaves.

Calendar – Pearie & Steve will meet to discuss how best to manage the office calendar and Google calendar to ensure completeness.

Rabbi's retirement celebration – Jeff Lewis updated the board. The Rabbi would like his family to come so it needs to be during the week. June 11<sup>th</sup>. 7-10 was chosen. The event will be here at the temple.

**Guests:** (7:15-7:30)

Diane Fleishman – Holocaust exhibit

An exhibition called Holocaust By Bullets will be traveling through New Mexico. Temple Beth-El will work with the City of Las Cruces to bring it here, it will be on display at City Hall. We will be a cosponsor, and responsible for providing speakers, presenters and docents and help with set up and tear down. This will happen in May. Luke Duddridge and Steve Haydu would like to be involved. Diane Fleishman is the point person.

Meeting adjourned 7:36pm. Luke moved to adjourn the meeting, Steve seconded.

**Next Meeting:** March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6pm