

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

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

Trustees Absent: Cheryl Decker (President),

Guests: Cherri Hudson-Brown, Francine Feinberg

November 19, 2020, 6:00 PM

### Standing Items

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President Lynn Zeemont at 6:05.

**Invocation:** Martha Roditti gave an invocation, Lynn Zeemont shared a reading.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Lynn moved to accept the minutes, Nan asked for corrections to the minutes and the minutes were accepted as amended at 6:09.

Treasurer's Report:

Temple has approximately \$30,000 in the bank. Profit & Loss Statement is attached. Nan moved to accept the Treasurer's report, it was accepted unanimously. 6:11 PM.

### Committee Reports

- Religious Practices Committee (RPC) report by Cherri Hudson-Brown. Rabbi Barry Leff will lead the service on Friday November 27<sup>th</sup>. Rabbi Leff has retired to Las Cruces, and is interested doing some Rabbi work for the Temple. Student Rabbi Sofia Zway will do the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday service, and Rabbi Karol will lead a Shabbat/Hanukah service on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Cherri will also reach out to the assistant rabbis in El Paso. Cherri also expressed the importance of finding a rabbi that is a good fit for our congregation.
- Sisterhood report by Lynn Zeemont. 37 currently paid members, they are reaching out to others regarding dues. Also, Lynn is working on getting an art professor in to do a program for the Sisterhood, or the entire congregation. The Sisterhood receives a newsletter from the Women of Reform Judaism that will be emailed on to all the Sisterhood members.
- Religious school report by Pearie Bruder. The religious school manages itself independently of the Temple. Planning for the religious school and its curriculum is established during the summer.
- The communication committee still needs some help with the temple social media presence. Pearie suggested asking the temple youth to get involved with keeping us up to date on social media.

**Vote:** Approve Committee Reports approved 6:59

## Transition Team Report – Joanne

- Transition Report by Martha Roditti. The reports of all 3 focus groups will appear in the monthly Adelantes, beginning with the focus group about the Rabbi search. The board agreed with the findings of the focus group and will hold off on doing a rabbi search this December, and develop a plan for the future, in preparation for finding a new rabbi.
- There has been a committee of 5 established to review the temple constitution and bylaws, members include: Joanne Turnbull, Wendee Lorbeer, Susan Michaelson, and Jack Greenspan.

## Old Business

- Reminder to sign up to do announcements at Friday night services.
- Status of temple in preparation for reopening to in person services.
  - Lynn reports that Dave Decker has obtained a quote to upgrade the temple air filtration system, as we get closer to reopening the temple we will proceed with that.
  - Pearie has a contact with equipment for disinfecting the temple before and between use.

## New Business

- Alison Mann would like to apply for a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso (JFGEP) to purchase a memorial plaque for the Brick Garden and possibly a shade covering for the area.
  - Marieka suggested that we put out the information that grants are available if congregants have ideas to apply for a grant for something for the temple community. An article will be inserted in the Adelante. As Alison Mann is the JFGEP liaison for the temple, she would be the initial contact to submit grant ideas to.
  - Pearie Bruder moved to approve Alison Mann's request to prepare and submit a grant request to the JFGEP for a Holocaust memorial plaque and shade covering for the Brick Garden at the temple.
    - Discussion as to whether we should approve this grant without other people being able to provide input. – The Federation will accept multiple proposals. Board agreed that Alison should move forward with the grant proposal and prepare an article for the Adelante (7:23 PM).

Exec session to discuss new members – Steve moved that we go into executive session to discuss potential new members, Nan seconded. Moved into exec session at 7:25 PM

Moved out of exec session at 7:26 PM.

- The board voted unanimously to accept Jerry & Jody Nachison as new (reinstated) members of Temple Beth El.

Adjournment: The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Haydu, Secretary