

**Temple Beth-El
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 16, 2021**

Present: Nan Rubin (President), Lynn Zeemont (Vice-president), Michael Mandel (Treasurer), Wendee Lorbeer (Secretary), Marieka Brown, Dee Cook, Diane Fleishman, Steve Haydu, Cherri Hudson-Brown, Jeff Lewis, Bryan McCuller, Martha Roditti

Absent: Pearie Bruder

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM.

An invocation on Wisdom was read by Martha Roditti.

The agenda was approved with the addition of a Buildings and Grounds report.

Marieka Brown moved and Bryan McCuller seconded a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried.

Finance Report was given by Michael Mandel. A donation of \$10,000 was given by an anonymous donor. While it is unrestricted, the donor would like the money to be used to help with the search for and hiring of a rabbi. The money will be invested in a money market. Profit and Loss documents had been distributed. The answer to a question regarding the decrease in the Religious School tuition line was answered that the school has fewer children this year. It is a “small but mighty” religious school.

Old Business

After a discussion concerning moneys to be forwarded to Tanah Hemingway's family it was decided to table any decision until more information is available.

Rabbi Search. Nan Rubin indicated that the search committee is almost complete and that while most have agreed to serve several have yet to commit. She expects the committee to be finalized by the weekend. The application is almost complete and Nan is asking for anyone who wishes to read it for feedback to contact her.

Bylaws Review. Nan Rubin stated we need to reopen the process so we can move forward with an updating to be consistent with how we now function. Steve Haydu and Martha Roditti volunteered to work on this with others.

Board Nominations will be coming in the spring and we need to be thinking about this.

JFFF. Since no one has volunteered to coordinate this major fundraiser perhaps a meeting of those who had major roles in the past could help solidify a plan to have a modified event or small events to capture some of the feel and to keep the event in the general community alive. There was discussion regarding the difficulties of crowd control and security in holding an event outside. Nan Rubin will check with Francine Feinberg to see if a meeting can be held of the past coordinators and team leaders.

Cell Tower Lease. Michael Mandel reported that there is the opportunity to sell, in perpetuity, the space where our towers are now for a fixed payment as opposed to our current lease. The Finance Committee wanted to report this to the board as it looks into more details.

Religious Practices Committee. Cherri Hudson-Brown's report was previously emailed. She added that the December 4th Chanukah Shabbat service was wonderful thanks to the use of space heaters loaned by some families.

Marieka Brown told that in-person services need a welcome greeter to help with people signing in, wearing masks, and preparing wine and challah. This led to a discussion of the need for more help in general.

The Tech Team. They need more people to help with technology. Steve Haydu indicated that there had been the plan to have a college student helping but with Covid that hadn't happened. Nan Rubin indicated she will follow up with the person who had looked at the sound system. Marika Brown said people are tired and can't do it all. It was suggested that in an effort to serve the needs of all we are perhaps doing too much and that when a service is in person the Zoom component need not be interactive. Steve Haydu will write an RFP for our needs and solidify how we will handle Zoom services.

Ways and Means. The Night at the Auction scheduled for January 29, 2022 has been postponed until it is deemed safer. Please continue to send in donations so we are ready to go when we can.

Social Action/Adult Education. A good workshop was held at the noon gathering for Cuerteto Latinamericano including a presentation of the history of the synagogue. Those who attended the concert really enjoyed it.

Religious School Committee Report. Diane Fleishman's report was previously submitted via email. School is closed until after Winter Break. A new student has been added and that things are going well. She added that the students are great!

Regarding Buildings and Grounds. On behalf of the Mensch Club, Jeff Lewis reported that members are putting down rubber mulch in the playground area soon. There will be a more extensive Buildings and Grounds report next month.

Sisterhood is scheduled to present the Shabbat Service March 18 with 13 people volunteering to participate. Cynthia Herber is scheduled to be in charge.

Martha Roditti moved and Bryan McCuller seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Wendee Lorbeer.