

Temple Beth Sholom
Board of Directors Meeting
February 21, 2018

TBS Board Room - 14 in attendance

Attendees:

Jack Holmes, Pres.
Mitch Cohen
Lori Glasky
Matthew Griffin
Harvey Grossberg
Gary Holloway
Stacy Nagel

Lew Siegler
Andrea Wasserman
Bonnie Wenneberg
Rabbi Heidi Cohen
Cantor Reinwald
Ruth Irving
Jodi Kaufman

Absent:

Melanie Pollak
Michele Shugarman
Pam Ranta

Meeting called to order: 7:03 p.m. - Review Agenda / Opening Blessing - led by Jack Holmes

1. D'var Torah - Rabbi Cohen

- Rabbi read "Prayer in the Aftermath of a Tragedy", written by Rabbi Joe Black (Temple Emanuel, Denver, CO), the day after the horrific Parkland, FL school shooting (on 2/14/18).

- It concludes with:

May those in this room who have the power to make change, find the courage to seek a pathway to sanity and hope.
May we hold ourselves and our leaders accountable.
Only then will our prayers be worthy of an answer.

- Rabbi will be leading a group of our TBS teens to L'Taken Social Justice in D.C. to speak with our representatives / legislators.

2. Presentation of prior Board meeting minutes - Bonnie Wenneberg

- January, 2018 Board meeting minutes were reviewed - minutes MSP as written.

3. President's Report - Jack Holmes

- As congregants are currently being contacted re serving on next year's TBS Board, Nominating Committee business/update will be discussed further at the March Board mtg.
- Re the Czech Torah scroll restoration by the congregation- per Alan Shebroe we need a couple more helpers: a videographer on 3/4 & a helper on 3/5.
- Update on negotiations re leasing classrooms to Irvine Hebrew Day School- very close to finalizing a deal with them which would include a rent increase and inclusion of CAM charges (common area maintenance- ie: custodial, utilities, etc). Also, may do a two-year lease, instead of a one-year.

4. Board Reports -

(1) Mitch Cohen - Exec VP (& acting Dir of Communications)

- Re: message board in living area- it is now updated to be able to be controlled remotely and kept up-to-date and linked to 'cloud'. (Technology tool for this was donated by Mitch & his wife Kathy).
- Mitch met with Randi Noell & Nancy Fidel re congregational survey- believe that we need to get a wider range of demographic respondents.
 - will do another survey and try to target our 'younger' (30-55 age) congregants.
 - they have a specific plan to be able to get all demographics to respond.
 - will promote during summer and get people to respond in a two-week time frame around the High Holy days.

- Re: dues & renewal- the Partnership Committee has reviewed the Commitment Form and cover letter to be mailed to congregants and is being finalized.
 - the cover letter will highlight and bring attention to TBS's 75th anniversary.
 - the deadline scheduled for mailing out is May 1, 2018.
 - committee encourages TBS to send a 'Thank You' to everyone who joins, regardless of \$\$ amount.

(2) Matthew Griffin - VP of Education

- Main goal has been to create an environment where both the pre-school and the religious school exist in a collaborative and professional environment.
- (Pre-school Dir) Pam is actively working on enrollment for next year and has been successful in those efforts.
- Matthew and Pam will be working on ideas and planning for continued campus improvement and intelligent, sustainable growth - including how we can increase our capacity.
- (Religious school Dir) Jodi has taken opportunities to engage with students that are aging out of pre-school and would enter the religious school.
- Jodi has also been working with Stacey Silberman to create a more flexible and attractive Camp Sholom, especially more flexible time slots for those who are also engaged with other activities.
- TBS Purim Carnival is fast approaching and we need to further our underwriting process- please help if you can.
- Matthew is pleased that an expectation of communication, collaboration, and creativity is flourishing.

(3) Stacy Nagel - Dir for Membership (w/ Andrea Wasserman contributing)

- Asking for assistance (just before the holiday) in making "Hello for Passover" calls to our congregants.
- New member dinner scheduled before the 3/16 Shabbat service ("Denim & Diamonds") will be an opportunity for them to meet clergy, staff, and Board members on a more personal level.
 - dinner @ 6:15 and service @ 7:30.
 - the Denim & Diamonds Shabbat on Friday, March 16th is the 75th day of TBS's 75th year.
 - will honor our congregants that are 75 years and older.

5. Executive Dir Report - Ruth Irving

- There will be a TBS calendaring mtg on Mon, 3/5 in the Admin Conf room - Board members invited to attend - as the calendaring is done, will be addressing several issues, ie:
 - are we reaching all our different demographics, etc.
 - are we being mindful of the number of events each week, etc.
 - are we including all areas and auxiliaries.
- Re: the bathroom near the board room - the tile is getting done tomorrow (2/22) & hopefully all repair work will be finished.
- Next budget mtg is scheduled for tomorrow (2/22).
- Ruth is working on a letter to go to congregants re the Admin restructuring and other important items.

6. Financial Report - Harvey Grossberg (**reference written Treasurer's Report**)

- 2Q forecast now shows just a deficit of \$58k, instead of the \$112k deficit at 1Q.
 - Admin restructuring saves approx \$20k/year.
 - Preschool 2Q forecast of salaries is lower than 1Q.
 - ECC has had a higher than projected income.
- Planning to present and to vote on a new budget at the Board mtg in April.
 - It needs to be approved to bring to the congregational mtg in June.

7. Fundraising Report - Ruth Irving (for Melanie Pollak, absent)

- Several items re TBS 75th:
 - '75 for 75' Campaign- goal is to have each individual person in every household donate \$75 and they will get to put a leaf on the TBS tree of life.
 - 75th Anniv celebration dinner on March 23 celebrating Shabbat and will have special guest of the president of URJ, Rabbi Rick Jacobs (who grew up at TBS)- goal is to have (limit of) 75 people at \$75 each sign-up for the dinner.
- Working on the Micro Brew Tasting fundraising event, currently scheduled for 4/28.
- Finalizing Czech Torah project- no donation is required to write in the Torah, however everyone will be offered 'giving' levels if they wish to donate in honor of this simcha.

MISC NOTES:

1. Bonnie Wenneberg:

- high concern re security at TBS which seems to be ineffective with the front and side gates often being unlocked and unsupervised by security team.
 - after discussion around the Board, decision made to set-up a task force to set policy & procedure, and to review existing policy.
 - immediate Board support to keep gates locked at all times and to have a person available to stay at gate if it needs to stay unlocked (ie: for events) - this will need to be addressed during budgeting discussion to allow for additional funds needed.
- related that there is a negative marketing aspect of having the current picture that is on the TBS website home page- it is the TBS building and as lovely as that is, it looks empty and cold and not the image or feeling we are working at getting across to the community about TBS.
 - suggested that as soon as possible, get 'happy people' pictures on that page to depict the warm, spiritual, welcoming, and engaging community that is here. Get pictures to Ruth who will handle it.
- have great regard for the 'white paper' that Esther Herst wrote for TBS upon finalization of her work with us and strongly believe we, the Board, ought to review it together, section by section, so as to incorporate those items to benefit TBS and eliminate potential problems that Esther brought up.
 - idea presented to take 5-10 minutes at each Board mtg hence and review a section until complete.

8. Good & Welfare

Meeting Adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Wenneberg,

TBS Board Secretary