

**BETH EL CONGREGATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023**

The following appear at Beth El: Audrey Wolff, President; Eileen Bloom, Financial Vice President; Herb Dreiseszun, Facilities Vice President; Barry Becker, Treasurer; Charleen Holt, Secretary; Alana Berrett, Ari Hoffman, Bill Tuttle, Gail Ulan

Staff present: Rabbi Stein Kokin, Alicia Moskowitz, Executive Director

Board members present via Zoom: Brad Ostrow, Jose Tafla

Board members absent: Kim Mertens, Education Vice President; Danny Witenstein, Sara Zilversmit

Staff absent: Susan Finks, Interim Talmud Torah Director; Joanie Charnow, Preschool Director

6:35 pm Audrey calls the meeting to order.

Rabbi gives a D'Var Torah.

Audrey says that Joanie thanks us for the gift.

BY LAWS:

Charleen reports that the By Laws Committee recommends we change Article VI, Section 7 which currently states:

- e. Newly elected Board members shall take office immediately upon election.

To:

e. Newly elected Board members shall take office on June 1 of the year elected.

The reason for this change is to have the Board terms coincide with the fiscal year of Beth El.

This change would result in all current Board members serving an additional month.

The matter is discussed.

Charleen moves and Alana seconds the motion as stated above. The motion is passed with all yes votes and one abstain by Ari.

RABBI'S REPORT:

Rabbi gives a report on the conference she and Alicia attended in Baltimore and the Dorot Programs with Elijah. Elijah has obtained a grant from United Synagogue.

RITUAL:

Ben Cooper is working on getting our Torah scrolls repaired. February 26 will be the commemoration and celebration of the scrolls from Czechoslovakia at the Arizona Historical Society.

Cantorial Soloist Jesse Grossman-Giordano will be giving the sermon on December 30 while the Rabbi is on vacation and Daniel Rosen will be leading the service.

Cantor Nissim will be at Beth El to celebrate Purim with us.

FINANCIAL:

Audrey's letter to generate money for security has raised \$9100 to date and more money is expected.

Alicia and Eileen explain the Life & Legacy program. The matter is discussed. Herb suggests we have Kelly McDowell come and talk to the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Alicia reports that the Environmental and Historical Preservation has been approved starting with the Preschool cameras and new doors in the Pavillion and lounge. Also, health benefit enrollment will be completed in January to move the benefits enrollment period away from High Holiday time. Provide "playground" space in the sanctuary family room for more children in services and to engage. Formalize and make our more volunteering program more meaningful.

The furniture obtained for Ukraine refugees is now gone forever.

FACILITIES:

Herb reports that the air conditioning is still working. We will be replacing a number of switches.

Audrey says the new roof contract from Renco. which was approved at the last Board meeting, will be paid by the Endowment Fund in the amount of \$160,000 and the balance by Beth El. The Endowment Fund will only pay for the roof.

7:47 pm Herb leaves the meeting.

SOCIAL ACTION:

Mitzvah Day is December 25.

Audrey states that all Board members should be aware of all the events at Beth El.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

These events are as stated on the agenda,.

NEW BUSINESS:

Eileen moves and Bill seconds to approve the November minutes as presented. The motion is passed with all yes votes and one abstain by Alana.

Good and welfare.

8:09 pm The meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charleen Holt
Secretary
Beth El Board of Directors

