

**BETH EL CONGREGATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023**

The following appear at Beth El: Audrey Wolff, President; Eileen Bloom, Financial Vice President; Ben Cooper, Ritual Vice President; Herb Dreiseszun, Facilities Vice President; Charleen Holt, Secretary; Ari Hoffman, Brad Ostrow, Danny Witenstein

Staff present: Alicia Moskowitz, Executive Director

Board present via Zoom: Alana Berrett, Rich Cohen, David Goldfarb, Jose Tafla, Sara Zilversmit

Board members absent: Kim Mertens, Education Vice President; Barry Becker, Treasurer; Greg Harris, Past President; Heather Baker-Mushkatel, Gail Ulan

Staff absent: Rabbi Nitzan Stein Kokin; Nanci Siegel Manson, Talmud Torah Director

6:40 p.m. Audrey calls the meeting to order.

Joanie says that the Preschool fundraiser this year will also include a Family Fun Run. The event will be on Sunday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The funds raised will be used to revamp the playground. There will also be a silent auction and any donations will be appreciated. There are two new teachers at the Preschool, Katie Ostrow and Jasmine.

6:49 p.m. Joanie is excused and leaves the meeting.

### **FINANCIAL:**

Alicia and Barry report we currently have in the bank: Midfirst Bank: \$24,980.25; Northern Trust Operating Account: \$232,100.54; Northern Trust Securities Fund: \$497,807.69; Accounts payable are \$6,400.

The payroll issues should be done by Friday.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Alicia says that the ceiling repairs in the meat kitchen are complete and the roof in the northeast corner will be repaired after the rain is done. The issue with the payroll direct deposit issue with Quikbooks is being addressed by Nina and Northern Trust. The budget for the next fiscal year is being worked on by herself and Nina and a Budget Committee Meeting will be scheduled in early March. There is a Security Community Network webinar and the link is on the report. Ann Polunsky and Alicia are working on applying for the new round of Homeland Security Funding using last year's bids and updating the prices. The projects include: New doors for Youth Lounge and Pavilion; bollards in front of main entrance and school entrances; security cameras for Preschool; replace Preschool's east-side fence and gate; key fob system for Talmud Torah; and raise the height of the west wall with steel bar fencing. Currently we have 271 member families. We have 17 new member families this fiscal year. The Membership Committee is forming a 60s single group and are working on other outreach and programs.

### **RITUAL:**

Ben reports that the Search Committee has received several more applications for the part-time Cantor/Cantorial Soloist position. A contract has been entered into with Jessie Grossman for her to serve as the Cantorial Soloist twice a month, birthday and anniversary Shabbats. On March 1 we should be able to order the new Siddurum.

### **FACILITIES:**

Eileen reports on the flooring for the Social Hall. She spoke with Rick from Sonora and Home Depot. It was decided that we would not use carpet squares but rolls of carpet.

Eileen moves that the Beth El Board approve up to \$35,000 to replace the carpet in the Social hall; Charleen seconds.

The matter is further discussed.

It is decided that Eileen will obtain bids on other floor surfaces.

#### **BY-LAWS:**

The Endowment Committee would like authorization to use our 501(c)(3) for the United for Ukraine Committee. This would allow the Endowment Committee to hold any funds for them, if and when received,

Eileen moves that the Endowment Committee hold funds for the United for Ukraine if and when any funds are received; Herb seconds. A discussion is held. Herb withdraws his second. The motion is seconded by Ari. Additional discussion continues. The motion is passed with all Board members voting yes and Herb voting no. This matter will be re-evaluated.

#### **SOCIAL ACTION:**

Sara reports that the warm clothing drive was very successful. Their next project is the Kosher for Passover food drive on Sunday, March 26.

They also are asking everyone to drop off boxes of macaroni and cheese. The boxes can be used as gorgers for Purim and then donated.

Future events include: April 23, making sack lunches; and May 21, water drive.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Alicia would like to contact Jewish families in the west and northwest areas and show them what Beth El has to offer.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Audrey reminds everyone about the security training videos that are available online.

Audrey is looking for one or two people to become the Executive Vice President(s) for the coming year.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Ben moves and Brad seconds to approve the January minutes as presented. The motion is passed with the exception of Alana who abstains.

Rich states he was told that the grounds at the Beth El Cemetery are in bad shape. Alicia will contact Eli about this.

7:55 p.m. Alicia is excused and the Board goes into Executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Charleen Holt  
Secretary  
Beth El Board of Directors