

**BETH EL CONGREGATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023**

The following appear at Beth El: Audrey Wolff, President; Kim Mertens, Education Vice President; Herb Dreiseszun, Facilities Vice President; Charleen Holt, Secretary; Alana Berrett, Brad Ostrow, Bill Tuttle, Gail Ulan

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

Board present via Zoom: Ari Hoffman, Jose Tafla, Sara Zilversmit

Board members absent: Eileen Bloom, Financial Vice President; Barry Becker, Treasurer; David Goldfarb, Danny Witenstein

Staff absent: Nanci Siegel Manson, Talmud Torah Director; Joanie Charnow, Preschool Director

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

Rabbi gives a D'Var Torah.

Each person present introduces themselves and presents their good and welfare.

Audrey proposes the following to be her vice presidents:

Eileen Bloom, Financial Vice President
Kim Mertens, Education Vice President
Charleen Holt, Secretary
Herb Dreiseszun, Facilities Vice President

Barry Becker, Treasurer

Herb moves to approve the vice presidents as proposed by Audrey; Brad seconds. The motion is passed unanimously.

Audrey further states that Steve Nathan will be the Ritual Chairperson.

FINANCIAL:

Alicia says for Barry reports that there is currently \$293,278 in the bank. In the Northern Trust Treasury Bills there is \$503,689. Currently payables are in the amount of \$3,200.

Alicia explains the 2023-2024 budget.

Herb suggests a five percent increase in dues.

The matter is discussed as well as increasing the security fee due to the rising cost of hiring law enforcement officers.

Alicia informs that there are 269 families as of today.

Herb moves to increase the dues by five percent. There is no second; therefore, the matter is closed.

Charleen moves to increase the security fee to \$150 per year; Alana seconds. The motion is passed unanimously.

Gail moves to suspend the By-Laws to pass a budget in the negative; Brad seconds. The motion is passed unanimously.

Gail moves to pass a negative budget; Brad seconds. The motion is passed with all board members voting in favor of the motion and Herb voting no.

Gail volunteers to be part of the fund raising event. Danny previously agreed to do so.

RITUAL:

The cantorial search committee is ready to start interviewing for a High Holiday Cantor.

While Rabbi Stein Kokin is on vacation from June 6 through July 13, Rabbi Traee Rosen and Rabbi Robert Eisen will be available for any pastoral emergencies.

There will be no Saturday evening minyan in the summer.

Daniel, David and Jessie will provide Shabbat service coverage as usual.

SOCIAL HALL FLOORING:

Herb and Alicia provide an update on the project.

The Preschool sand pit will be removed in the next three weekend artificial grass will be put in its place. The cost for this project is covered by a grant.

A new wireless telephone system in both building will be installed.

SOCIAL ACTION:

Sara reports that the Social Action Committee will have a water drive on Sunday, May 21. All donated water will go to the Arizona Friends of the Homeless.

Alicia says that volunteers from Beth El Women's League and USY will go to the Kosher Pantry this Sunday, May 21.

Other events are as stated on the agenda.

EDUCATION:

Alicia states the Preschool infant room will be applying for a grant in the amount of \$125,000 to make improvements. They are in the process of gathering the necessary information to proceed.

Alicia further informs that Nanci Siegel Manson will be retiring the end of September after Yom Kippur. Gail says that the ad for her replacement was posted yesterday and all the current teachers are staying. They are looking to increase the Talmud Torah enrollment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Audrey states the board's expectations. On Sunday, August 20, will be an in-person only board meeting. This is a tentative date.

7:50 p.m. Kim is present.

SUNSHINE FUND:

Charleen provides information on how the Sunshine Fund works and encourages everyone to donate.

Audrey thanks Kim for picking up the pizza.

Brad moves to approve the minutes as presented; Gail seconds. The motion is passed with all yes votes and Alana abstains.

8:02 p.m. Rabbi and Alicia leave the meeting and the board goes into executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Charleen Holt
Secretary
Beth El Board of Directors