

Temple Beth Sholom
2017 Annual Congregational Meeting
June 19, 2017
TBS Social Hall - about 50 people in attendance

Opening Prayer & Remarks - Rabbi Heidi Cohen

Rabbi Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. She offered a blessing for our congregation and noted that 'Beth Sholom' means House of Peace or Wholeness, Completeness. She reminded us that it is a blessing that we are here for each other and for all parts of Life, giving thanks for our being Jewish and reflecting on all the blessings that we have received in the past year.

Approval of 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes - Andrea Wasserman, TBS President

Andrea called for comments and/or corrections to the minutes from the 2016 TBS Annual Congregational Meeting. No revisions were submitted/voiced. Jerry Rothblum made a motion to accept as presented, and seconded by Soni Sanberg. Asking for a verbal vote, along with a show of hands, the meeting minutes were unanimously approved by all congregants (in good-standing) present.

Outgoing President's Remarks - Andrea Wasserman, TBS President

Andrea expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as president for TBS - it has been an experience of many facets - challenging, frustrating, needing patience, but also very rewarding, uplifting, heartwarming and satisfying. She articulated her gratitude and appreciation to all those on the Board who served with her, especially over the last two years. Andrea recognized each and everyone's value to our community and to enriching our lives. She offered a quote from David Saperstein's book, "Jewish Values in Social Justice", basically stating that in regards to decisions, we have a choice in 'shaping those decisions or to be passive spectators or victims of those decisions... a handful of passionate people can change any community, for good or ill.'

Presentation of TBS Operating Budget - Jerry Rothblum, Treasurer (along with a power-point presentation)

First, Jerry presented remarks and clarifications on the **2016-17 financial final projections** - (reference the current year forecast for numbers):

- income: **dues** adjusted downward, due to the cleaning up of our membership to actual numbers.
 - we had names on the membership roll that had not actually been members for several years.
 - evaluated those that had moved away or definitely dropped, and removed those names.
- income: **donations** adjusted upward, due to additional \$24k received for Memorial Wall.
- income: **miscellaneous** adjusted upward, due to an allowable \$25k interest received from the TBS Fund for the Future.
- expense: **senior staff** (& subsequently **payroll taxes** & related **insurance**) adjusted downward as we had not hired on an Executive Dir. (or interim) for most of the year.
- expense: **custodial staff** adjusted upward due to hours because of extra facility rentals and repair of some damage.
- expense: **building & grounds** adjusted upward due to repair to our school building.

Jerry noted the following:

- facility rentals were a little lower than expected, partly due to our business development staffer had other duties besides the rental recruiting because we did not have an Exec Dir, but this should improve now that we have an interim ED and plan to have a permanent one in place in the coming year.
 - special welcome to Esther Herst as TBS's Interim Executive Director!
- the second fundraiser (besides Annual Gala) that was originally planned, did not take place.

- this year's Annual Gala was very successful and brought in \$10k more than originally budgeted.
- expected operating deficit would probably be about \$38k before transfers.

Second, Jerry presented remarks and clarifications on the **2017-18 proposed budget** - (reference the proposed budget 2017-18 for numbers):

- the current proposed budget shows a deficit (as opposed to the usual 'balanced' budget) because the Financial Committee felt it important to present the budget as realistic. This upholds the ideal of transparency with the congregation and helps the congregation become partners with the leadership in a realistic approach to budgetary forecasts and goals. This also keeps the realism in front of the TBS Board to be aware of and to work on. And also, it is hoped that the congregation will step forward to help the congregation to grow and thus help improve the finances.
- this year - as reflective of the new TBS Membership Commitment form (for "dues") - the line item for dues will be rolled up to include dues, facility maintenance, security & oneg fees going forward.
- re Facility Rentals- we no longer have the French-American School nor Bingo (which is not planned to be restarted). We are still currently renting to the Irvine Hebrew Day School and they will be adding additional rooms for next year.
- Early Childhood Center program is continuing to grow.
- Directors of the Early Childhood Center and Religious School programs (Pam Ranta & Jodi Kaufman) have been doing an outstanding job within their realms. Also noted that they are great at planning and thus they sometimes don't spend all the money allocated for their departments.
- 3 HVAC units will need to be replaced in the coming year - a major repair expense.
- Fundraising program of "Reservations Only" and the "Annual Gala" are now separate line items.

Jerry then fielded a few questions from the floor:

- re dues levels: this year the "Rabbi's Circle" is being replaced with a different 'higher level of giving' program called "*Kavanah* of the Heart" (reference the new TBS Membership Commitment form)
- re religious school vs religious celebrations: these are totally separate areas and don't have any correlation with each other for budgetary purposes.
- pending the approval of the new TBS Board of Directors, new signers on the TBS checking account will be:
 - President - Jack Holmes
 - Treasurer - Harvey Grossberg

Budget Vote: Jerry Rothblum completed the presentation of the TBS Proposed 2017-18 Budget.

Harvey Grossberg made a motion to accept as presented, and seconded by Michele Shugarman. Asking for a verbal vote, along with a show of hands, TBS Proposed 2017-18 Budget was unanimously approved by all congregants (in good-standing) present.

Presentation & Election of the Slate of Officers and Directors - Michele Shugarman, Nominating Chair

Michele thanked the members of the Nominating Committee and noted that there are three positions still unfilled, so to let her know if one has a possible candidate. She then presented the slate as follows:

President -	Jack Holmes
Executive Vice President -	<i>open</i>
Secretary -	Bonnie Wenneberg
Treasurer -	Harvey Grossberg
Director Financial Development	<i>open</i>
Director Fundraising -	Melanie Pollak

VP Membership -	<i>open</i>
Director Membership -	Stacy Nagel
Director Communication -	Mitch Cohen
VP Worship -	Michele Shugarman
Director Social Justice -	Gary Holloway
VP Education -	Matthew Griffin
Brotherhood President -	Lewis Siegler
Sisterhood President -	Lori Glasky
Immediate Past President -	Andrea Wasserman

Arnie Shugarman made a motion to accept as presented, and seconded by Cindy Grossberg. Asking for a verbal vote, along with a show of hands, the proposed slate of TBS Board of Directors for 2017-18 was unanimously approved by all congregants (in good-standing) present.

Discharge of Duties of current TBS Board of Directors - Rabbi Heidi Cohen

Rabbi Cohen gave a huge thank you to all staff (administrative, school, custodial & Cantor Reinwald) for the tremendous job they do for all of us at TBS and keeping us functioning so well. She reminded us of the sacred work done here in partnership with the Board, lay leaders, clergy and congregants all together. She gave a special thank you to those stepping off the current Board, mentioning each specifically and their wonderful and appreciated qualities, and blessing them for the future. Each was presented with the book "Unscrolled", a compilation and creative celebration of writings by 54 writers and artists who wrestled with Torah.

- Special recognition to Andrea Wasserman as outgoing president for her guidance and wisdom as TBS navigated our "return and renewal" after our devastating fire (Feb, 2014)

Installation of new TBS Board of Directors - Rabbi Heidi Cohen

Rabbi Cohen called up the members of the TBS Board 2017-18 and installed them with a blessing and words of encouragement, reaffirming that the work of our Temple Board is sacred work and sets the foundation for our community's and the Jewish future.

Incoming President's Remarks - Jack Holmes, President 2017-18

Jack expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Board, and President Andrea Wasserman in particular, for wisdom, advice and action; and reminded us that congregant involvement is critical to our success.

He stated that Board members are guided by *kedushah* (holiness) in promoting the synagogue's mission of sustaining Judaism, as well as to do what is right and good in the sight of the Eternal. He believes we are on a solid foundation and the sacred work ahead will be fun and challenging.

Jack affirmed that with the recent restructuring of our Board, we can refocus on our core mission of policy development and fiscal oversight and that this is an opportunity to explore new avenues of fundraising and financial growth as well as to develop the best membership model and amazing programming, and to develop and grow personal relationships.

Jack made a personal commitment to do his best to support the temple in its mission to make TBS a center for Jewish worship, life, learning and connections. He pledged to continue the work of creating, renewing and solidifying TBS operations, structure, membership, volunteerism, and all its sacred efforts.

Jack declared, "It is truly an exciting time to be a part of the TBS family."

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bonnie Wenneberg, incoming Secretary (2017-18)

- substituting for Jeff Winston (who was out of town), Secretary (2016-17)