Temple Beth Sholom

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

16 Board Members & Staff in attendance (in person and on Zoom):

Mike Winston

Jeff Altshuler

Steffanie Belasco

Rachel Benson

Arnold Sugarman

Karen Warren

Shani Boone

Mary Gonzalez

Jeff Merkow

Joyce Mogabgab

Lori Griffin

Cindy Grossberg

Barbara Swartz

Mitch Cohen

Jason Weissberg

Rabbi Sharon Sobel

Called to order at 7:05

Opening Blessing

Check in with everyone

D’var Torah- Rabbi Sobel

* Information about France and government changes
* Israeli judicial system information- fighting for democratic country; there is a lot of threatening to various minority groups
* Tie in to Torah portion- gathering in groups to build a democratic society
* Encourage people to buy Israeli products, go to Israel, now is the time

Approval of January minutes

1. First Steffanie, Second Joyce
2. No discussion no changes
3. motion passed unanimously

Treasurers Report- Jeff Altshuler

* Making board meetings meaningful, we want to move financial information up in the meeting- make it a priority
* Budget Committee meeting to discuss additional preschool classroom. Recommendation was to present it to the board.
  + Recommendation to complete the renovation to Classroom 5 and possibly 11. Motion to approve up to $20,000 as an improvement project for ECC.
  + First-Jason, Second-Mitch
  + Discussion- regarding which room will be renovated. The money comes from the ECC budget.
  + Motion passed Unanimously
* Financial highlights
  + Kessef will be getting back to Jeff soon (Complete February package and Jan-March complete package)
  + Dues are up from last year
  + Preschool is Up from last year
  + Rentals is down from last year
  + ECC preliminary budget for next year- there will be a budget committee meeting next week
  + Finished with Mesa- submitted application. Asking for $611,000- predicted to get this money. Government has 5 years to audit TBS
  + SVB issue- although we do not have money there, we do bank with local banks. Budget Committee members felt we need to look at how we can invest cash and use other vehicles to be as safe as possible with our money.
  + Many thanks given to Jeff, Harvey and everyone who is putting in countless hours at the Temple working on finances.
  + Discussion of if the board should approve the movement of cash into buying Treasury bills, however history is that the treasurer and budget committee along with the executive director make the decisions on where TBS money is invested or placed.
  + Q2 prediction is $128,000 deficit, which is lower than expected ($220,000 deficit was what was predicted last year).
  + Discussion of dues changes- security cost will be added to total dues
  + Discussion to change “Kavanah Members” to “Rabbi’s Circle”

Executive VP report- Rachel Benson

* Thank you to those who are adding board reports to slack
* Social Action needs-
  + bring new books for Ronald McDonald House
  + Can the Shevu’on newsletter rotate based on dates- items at the end of the newsletter don’t get seen as much- discuss with Jill
  + Calendaring of Events- we need to be mindful how many events are on the same day. We need to calendar community events such as Women’s philanthropy Board from the Federation, so we are aware and don’t over schedule on dates when our members can show up to community events.
  + Mara sent an email about sending in a form for calendaring events
* Membership needs-
* Membership feels that their committee is always responsible to manage events- they recommend getting a programming person. Discussion that at the beginning of the year events are divided and discussion of what committees are running which programs
* Discussion on how to solve the problem and come up with a proposal. Rachel, Steffanie, Rabbi, Karen, Barbara and Shani will meet to come up with ideas.
* Membership Needs an accurate up to date membership list including ECC families. Many members on shul cloud are no longer members of TBS
* Leadership and governance wants to create updated job descriptions. Responsibilities of a board member- please add to this and update/modify to make accurate. Please take your position and update it by the next board meeting. Mike will send everyone their job description digitally

Executive Director Search Update

* Pam is helping in the office as needed
* Susie Amster is willing to come in as a consultant- very part time. Not as an interim director, but helping with membership, dues, consulting with the search for a new ED.
* Jason has graciously accepted to lead the ED search committee
  + Committee has met
  + Have talked to 4-5 candidates (they vary in location)
  + Panel interviews will happen next
  + Then engaging with the Rabbi into the process, then the board will get feedback
  + Jason would like to broaden the candidates by advertising on linked-in, etc.
  + Mike W., Lori G., Jeff A., Joyce M., Mitch C., and Andrea W. are on the committee

Cantor/Educator Search Update

* Job posting put out in January
* One interesting prospect at this point
* It is very hard to find a Cantor/educator

Presidents Report

* Congregational meeting scheduled June 14th- all materials due May 31st
* Nomination slate needs to be sent by May 17th (also our board meeting)
* Slate needs to be ratified by the board before May 17th
* Ratification of nominating committee by the board
* Ratification of the budget by the board
* Bylaws state that the Nominating chair should be named 4 months before the congregational meeting
* Nominating committee should be 3 board members and 3 non board members
* Please put all committee meetings on the calendar even if off site/zoom
* Chai Times has politely declined having their Shabbat dinners at TBS
* Membership renewals out by May 1st
* Wants to do a bylaws update for the congregational meeting (how the board can be structured)
  + Mitch offered he and Jack to work with Mike W. on the wording

Rabbi’s report

* Wants to make the website more user friendly
* She is following up with prospective members
* Wants to have a meeting with B’Nei mitzvah families for date selection

Fundraising report

* Gala 4/29- please come to the Gala- it is our big fundraiser
* host and come to reservation only events
* reservation only paperwork has been sent out. Please fill out if willing to host an event
* we already have underwriting, not sure how much
* dinner, dancing, live auction

New Business

* Wording for events- for alcohol free times at family events- discussion- we want it to be a safe place but we don’t want to be the alcohol police- let’s keep our eyes open and can address as necessary
* Shabbat greeters update
* April 15th at 4:00 Alex Shih Bar Mitzvah- nice to have people there
* Shir Joy Shabbat March 24th at 7:00
* Preparing for Passover look on the calendar
* Community seder 2nd night

Old Business

* none

Meeting adjourned 9:32

Respectfully submitted by Shani Boone, TBS Board Secretary