

BHBE Board Meeting Minutes - 8/23/23 - In-Person and on Zoom

Present: Harris Miller, Gail Swerdlik, Dan Chodrow, Jon Clemons, Cynthia Lerner, Bev Reinglass, Elly Rousso, Marsha Lyons, Steve Bucksbaum, Robin Smulson, Irv Zagorin, Fred Rosenwasser, Joan Meyers, Larry Plawsky, Minnie Goldsmith, Adam Goldfarb, Rochelle Leff, Carla Banoff, Gail Schnitzer-Eisenberg, Jessica Littmann, Allison Kamen, Carol Pellish, Ellen Sered, Harriet Robbins-Ost (Zoom), Jay Goldstein (Zoom), Zvi Tannenbaum (Zoom), Steve Levin (Zoom)

Excused Absence: Greer Braun, Judy Levey, Ira Dubin

Clergy/Staff: Michael Kahn, Rabbi Crane

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM

Dan Chodrow motioned that the minutes be approved.

Gail Swerdlik seconded.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Rabbi's Report - Rabbi Crane - Gave his De'Var Torah

Hosted approximately 65 people for Families with Littles at Rabbi Crane's house.

Sarah Rodin led Israeli dancing, pizza for dinner.

Planning the upcoming school year with Hedva Yitzhak.

Also, planning adult education classes for the year.

Driving on Shabbat papers were both passed by Jewish Law and Standards.

Rabbi Pamela Barmash, Professor at Washington University, will be the Teibloom Scholar-in Residence Nov. 3rd-5th. Professor Barmash will speak Friday night after Shabos Dinner, Shabbos morning, and Sunday morning at the Men's Club breakfast.

President's report - Cynthia Lerner: She thanked most board members who have renewed their membership. It would be appreciated if board members can support the fundraisers.

Past President's Shabbat and plaque dedication will take place on August 26th.

Board drop in on Sunday, August 27th will include writing postcards to Kentucky residents who have not registered to vote. Sandwich making and a blood drive potentially at future gatherings.

Jessica Littmann, Michael Kahn, Carter Greene, Arthur Braun, Jay Goldstein and Cynthia Lerner are on the Real Estate Committee. After reviewing the responses to our RFP, we chose SVN Realty. They will donate 20% of their brokerage fee back to BHBE.

The to accept the Real Estate Committee's report: 28-1 accepted the report.

Michael Kahn - Executive Director's Report: 80 additional members registered and 30 more joined the academy. \$160,000 given for financial consideration.

Kulanu event after the high holidays (they meet a few times a year). Opportunity to learn from the ADL. The congregant would run the virtual workshops and minimum of two sessions.

We switched from SAFE/FIS to Bill.com (Kesef).

We did a building walking tour and discussed security/emergency procedures.

\$39,000 for sanctuary ceiling repairs and roof was patched. Roof needs replacement. Additional ceiling repairs were done plus the HVAC unit in the attic failed (asbestos was required to be removed around the unit). We're waiting for a quote on the unit. We have seven HVAC systems throughout the building. Sound system is not working. Possibly needs to be replaced. Might need to rent one.

Nut free policy: Announcement emailed to congregation regarding our nut policy. We are not a nut free building. We won't buy anything with nuts for congregational events.

Treasurer's Report - Adam Goldfarb: Met with Kesef to close the books on the previous year. We are operating at a loss (no final number yet). Used \$200,000 of the Employee Retention Credit to pay off the majority of the line of credit. Should have official numbers in September.

Sisterhood Report: Buy the Maums, Challah, new years greetings. Rummage Sale was successful.

Men's Club - Steve Bucksbaum: Need volunteers to cook hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill at Shabbat in the Shade on August 25th. Please join Men's Club. Men's Club breakfasts are listed online.

Vice President's Report - Jessica Littmann - Need volunteers at Shabbat in the Shade. To go Shabbat dinner program being prepared for Rosh Hashanah. Also, transitional year-long programming around Jewish rituals. How to modernize our customs. Working on 2024 fall retreat. Will continue to use Facebook page for social media. Working with HIAS. Need some volunteers for our art display in the rotunda.

Jay Goldstein: Constitution update after the high holidays.

Academy: Allison Kamen: Need to get more people in. Excited to work with Hedva Yitzhak. Donation fundraisers with Affy Tapple (last day is Sept. 1st for ordering) and gym shoes.

Larry Plawsky - Ways and Means: Reach out to those who haven't donated to the high holiday appeal. Move up campaign so we can start new campaigns. Call Jackie to ask how much you donated last year. Request everyone increase donation by 10%.

Marsha Lyons: Email Jackie regarding Yitzkor book.

Robin Smulson - Ritual Committee: Please respond to high holiday emails for Aliyahs.

Old Business: Rabbi Crane and Cantor Roytman will visit BJE monthly on Friday mornings.

New Business: Live Stream link must be accessed by asking the office, checking the BHBE News or logging into our secure website. It'll no longer be on our public website.

Meeting ended at 8:52 PM