

Congregation B'nai Tikvah – Board of Directors Meeting - 6 February, 2012

*Board members attending: Gary Bergman, Gary Wesalo, Renee Juro, Andy Ross, Linda Fellen, Ben Gottesman, Michael Weiss, Bill Greenberg, Rob Blackin, Jeff Cadoff, Mark Kasdin, Lauren Cohen, Marcie Kfare, David Cukor, Jeff Schwartz, Doug Smoller, Wayne Gotnchar, Aaron Rosloff,*

*Also attending: Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman, Lynne Weiss-Marshall, Danny Greenberg*

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Bergman at 8:00 p.m.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as submitted.

Rabbi Wolkoff started the discussion with some thoughts about the 10 commandments. Noting how the first five commandments are focused on G-d's relationship with people while the second five focus on peoples' relationships with each other, the rabbi described how the commandments reflect parallel approaches to life in Judaism. He said improving our relationship with G-d leads to better behavior with people just as improving our understanding of other people increases our understanding of divinity.

In the president's report, Bergman said the vice president for activities, Mirah Becker, had resigned. Renee Juro, who is currently a trustee, has agreed to fill the remainder of Becker's term if the board consents. That would leave an opening for a new trustee. Bergman said Phil Welsher had expressed interest in filling the opening on the board.

Ben Gottesman moved (David Cukor seconds):

**Move for Renee Juro to be vice president for activities, filling the unexpired terms resulting from the resignation of Mirah Becker.**

The motion passed by a vote of 20 in favor, none opposed.

Linda Fellen then moved (Koenick seconds):

**Move for Phil Welsher to be trustee, filling the unexpired term of Renee Juro as Trustee.**

That motion passed by a vote of 16 in favor, none opposed and two abstaining.

Mark Kasdin, financial secretary, reported 391 member families in the congregation as of the end of January. He also reported there remained about \$125,000 of dues, religious school, building fund and other fees that was more than 60 days past due as of January.

The treasurer, Gary Wesalo, said dues collection fell off sharply in January. He said the budget was now mostly even with projections after previously having more room for comfort. Income from the caterer and the nursery school has been exceeding budget projections.

Wesalo summarized some aspects of the recent auditor's report. He suggested a review of auxiliary accounts ought to be undertaken soon. A committee is in formation to explore whether the current mortgage could be refinanced economically at lower interest rates.

For house and grounds, Cukor reported the heating in the sanctuary has been repaired. It is yet to be determined if some of that spending will be covered from Shomrei Tikvah funds.

For education and youth, Jeff Schwartz said a mid-year review is planned for the new religious school director/

For membership, Marcie Kfare seeks a brainstorming session about revitalizing the marketing committee.

For ways and means, Jeff Cadoff reported on the planning toward the Casino night fund-raiser on March 31. He also submitted a written report.

Aaron Rosloff discussed progress toward a new group to replace the former 50-Plus club. The new name for the group will be the B'nai Tikvah Daytimers.

There was a discussion regarding the resignation of Mirah Becker from her post as vice president, activities, and from the board. Rabbi Wolkoff shared his perspective on the situation. Several board members also contributed their views.

Cantor Rockman informed the board of plans to move the Rejoice festival date because of frequent conflicts with, among other things, the High Holidays in September. The plan for 2012 is to hold the event in December. That timing will keep the event in compliance with the terms of certain grants. Rejoice would move to a Spring date the following year.

Howard Hoffman introduced a motion (Koenick seconds) regarding access to bank accounts for the new leadership of the youth activities groups:

**Move to authorize Jeff Schwartz, Linda Goodstein and Ruth Schindler to have authority to sign banking documents specific to the USY and Kadima groups accounts at TD Bank with the proviso that these accounts be transferred to Bank of America within 60 days.**

The motion passed by a vote of 16 in favor and none opposed.

Motion to adjourn by Jeff Cadoff (Koenick seconds).

### Ways and Means

We have received a \$24 check from Laughing Devil Comedy Club in Long Island City, NY. This was compensation for selling tickets to their Christmas Eve & Christmas Night shows.

As previously noted, the main fundraising event is a "Viva Las Vegas Casino Night" scheduled for March 31st, 2012. The event will start around 8:00 pm, and feature gambling tables, food, open bar, a silent auction and journal. The event is being chaired by Rob Blackin (Thank you Rob!) with substantial aid from many others.

We are still in need of volunteers for many tasks, so please feel free to contact Rob or myself to lend a hand. **The committee especially needs folks willing to 'pound the pavement' soliciting donations and ad journal entries.** Any contribution, large or small, will be appreciated!!

Thank you,  
Jeff Cadoff