

Congregation B'nai Tikvah

AGENDA

Board of Trustees Meeting

April 3rd, 2006

Florida Gators vs. UCLA Bruins

To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs and traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent Jewish education and community activities for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.

Call to Order	Danny Greenberg
Approval of March Meeting Minutes	All
D'var Torah	Rabbi Eligberg
President's Report	Danny Greenberg
New Business	
Motion regarding Refinancing	Marc Dillman
Old Business	
Nominating Committee	Arie Behar
Status of Programming Revenue	Cindy Gittleman
Status of Litigation	Mitch Frumkin
Other old business	All
Reports:	
Cantor's Report	Cantor Rockman
Financial Secretary's Report	Mark Kasdin
Treasurer's Report	Marc Dillman
Questions on VP reports	All
Auxiliary Reports/Questions	All
Rabbi's Report	Rabbi Eligberg
Good and Welfare	Rabbi Eligberg
Adjournment to Executive Session	All
Executive Session	

Next Meeting: Monday, May 1st, 2006

Minutes from board meeting April 3, 2006
Congregation B'nai Tikvah

Meeting called to order by president Danny Greenberg at 8pm.

In attendance: Arie Behar, Gary Bergman, Arthur Biderman, Bobbi Binder, Ed Birch, Jeff Cadoff, Larry Cohen, Marc Dillman, Mark Jiorle, Mitch Frumkin, Al Garten, Joyce Gerbman, Cindy Gittleman, Dan Greenberg, Mark Kasdin, Ruth Anne Koenick, Linda Kohn, Allison Nagelberg, Aaron Rosloff, Frank Waltzer, Paul Zankel, Cantor Rockman
Guests: Bill Greenberg, Phil Welsner

Motion to accept minutes by Cindy Gittleman.

Seconded by Aaron Rosloff
vote; 13 in favor

Motion passes

President's report:

Budget committee has started meeting. Any ideas for new revenue sources will be greatly appreciated. Anyone who has liner item authority, get that info in.

Strategic membership task force to reach out to people who we have not reached out to yet. Info will be presented at next board meeting.

Capital campaign new round about to get started. To reach out to people that we missed the first time around.

Operation promise this Sunday. Speaker will be presenting. Danny has her bio. Encouraged all board members to attend. Ethiopian woman who moved to Israel.

Thank you went to; everyone who made this past weekend a success, thanked Ruth Anne and her committee. And to everyone whose plaques we dedicated.

Aaron Rosloff for the ark in the bet midrash, it came out beautifully and is a great tribute to Millie.

Thanks to Gary for installing the monitor, it was up and running this past weekend. instructions are on the website.

Casino night committee, it was a terrific success. Raised \$19,000.00. Allusion specifically thanked Gary Warner who worked so hard.

New business:

Motion by Marc Dillman regarding refinancing.

Cancel the existing \$400,000 credit line (interest only) loan. Establish a fully amortizing loan for \$400,000 which will term out at approximately 210 months (October, 2023). Agree to a swap agreement which will fix the interest rate on the loan until its maturity, which will require an independent financial advisor to sign off on the Board's understanding of the swap agreement.

Seconded by: Ruth Anne Koenick

Marc gave background and explained commercial loans. there is no such thing as a 30 year fixed loan for commercial loans. a swap agreement. The bank sells off our interest rate to someone else, it allows us to get the long term rate. There are prepayment penalties.

Vote: 20, no opposed.

Motion passes

Old business:

Arie: nominating committee. Midterm election. Arie would like to get in place who will be the next president. Board should recommend names for the board. Mitch feels that everyone on the executive board is eligible to be president and unless they do not want to serve they should say so.

Cindy Gittleman: status of revenue. Revenue came in at \$2400 for March \$1612 projected for April. Has some contracts.

Cindy presented a cake to Paul Zankel as a thank you for his many years of working on Hakol. Cindy introduced Phil Welsher as the new editor as well as Rachel Rodriguez.

Mitch Frumkin: status of arbitration. Fee was made to American arbitration association. Selection of arbitrators taking place and then moving forward with that.

Bond: items are done that township thought wasn't done. Other items being done. We should see that money soon.

Reports:

Cantor: March adult Torah class has begun and is well attended. There are also more children reading Torah when there is no bar or bar mitzvah.

Sons of Tikvah tour continues. Performed at Somerbrook Purim party. Looking for more opportunities.

Rabbi farewell dinner, being chaired by Cantor and Stacey. Invitations being mailed shortly. Theme is hockey. Ad journal book is a budgeted item and everyone is encouraged to solicit ads. Lewish Sheller is doing the printing for free.

Mark Kasdin - Financial secretary: 435 members, 281 FDPE. 89 on special arrangements.

Marc Dillman: Report distributed and highlights were reviewed. Borrowing heavily into our accounts right now. We borrowed to pay for the roof.

Quick estimates were made at the budget committee and it was determined that we will not have a positive variance at the end of the fiscal year. Budget line items need to be.

Give Marc projected expenses for the remainder of the year.

We did receive our actual electric bill and that has been paid.

Marc asked that all vps use his new form when turning receipts in for reimbursements.

VP reports: religious school tuition, 19 families had balanced at the beginning of the year. That number is much higher than in the past. Phone calls were made. Danny and Jeff wrote a letter in February, telling how much needed to be paid. 3 or 4 families then paid. 15 families were told they could not attend religious school if money was not paid. 7 more paid. left 9. 2 had upcoming bnai mitzvot. 1 had lessons about to begin. 1 paid, 1 paid almost all, discussion with the other family. 2 are no longer attending religious school. 4 left, children still going to school. We have had to go in and pull the children, the parents have just dropped the children off and have left. Mark Jiorle suggested that we sell those children on ebay.

Jeff wants us to understand that the membership subsidizes the tuition by 30-35%. If anyone hears discussion that we are forcing certain situations we should explain to people what our financial situation is. We cannot afford to carry these families. They should be paying their fair share that they agreed to pay.

Frank wanted to if we could send these people somewhere for the child to get the education. Cantor feels that these people want to stay here.

Auxiliary reports

Sisterhood. Joyce thanked everyone for buying wine, remember to pick it up. Flower sale still going on, 2 days left. Nominating committee met, slate almost completed.

Ed Birch: men's club. Yellow candles have arrived, as many men that can come would be appreciated. If you can also drop off a big box, the candles need to be sorted by zip code. June meeting will be informal breakfast with Rabbi to roast him. Softball roster is almost full, ours has 22 players. There is a waiting list at this point.

Good and welfare:

Speedy recovery to: Lynn Biderman, Jan Handelman

Condolences to: Lauren Brody on the passing of her father; Arlene Frumkin on the death of her mother Marian Diamond

Mazel Tov to: Beth Miller and Doug Chin on the birth of their daughter Lauren Sarah; Rebecca and Alan Denlow on the birth of their daughter; Bonnie and Gary Kudwit on the bar mitzvah of their son Andrew; Jan and Joseph Herbst on the bar mitzvah of their son Alex; Barry and Janice Kipnis on the auf ruf of their son

Motion to adjourn by Ed Birch;
Seconded by Joyce Gerbman

School & Youth Vice-President Report

April 3, 2006

Nursery School

- The playground will receive a new fence within the next couple weeks.
- Sunday, April 30th is the playground's grand opening. The Mayors of North & South Brunswick will be in attendance as will our state representative(s). Please feel free to come by and schmooze. Talk up the event with congregants and those with Nursery aged children.
- **PLEASE TALK UP THE SCHOOL AND CAMP WITH FRIENDS AS WORD OF MOUTH IS STILL OUR MOST POWERFUL ADVERTISING TOOL.**

Camp Program

- Registration is ongoing.
- **PLEASE TALK UP THE SCHOOL AND CAMP WITH FRIENDS AS WORD OF MOUTH IS STILL OUR MOST POWERFUL ADVERTISING TOOL.**

Religious School

- Operation Promise is scheduled for Sunday April 9th. Please come join us.
- The Ramleh kids will be joining us for the Operation Promise program and then will sit in with the Chai School from 11:00 until noon.
- The Gimel class' "Chocolate" Seder was a success.
- "The Promise Haggadah" is still available...get yours now!

Kadima/USY

- The Purim Carnival was held March 19th. Thank you all for attending. As expected, turnout was good, but a little less than for carnivals held prior to the holiday. We'll push for a date prior to/on Purim this coming year to improve it.
- USY held a youth dinner and service on March 3rd. Congratulations to the youth for leading a wonderful service.
- USY Spring Convention registration is nearly complete. All applications are due by March 8th.
- USY's Kickball Night took place on March 16th, and the USY Dance was on March 18th both were well attended.

College Program

- The Passover packages were put together this past Sunday and went out to the kids today. Kudos to the Youth Commission for their efforts on our children's behalf.

Administration VP Report

April 2006

The LCD monitor was installed in the lobby and became operational in time for the synagogue's dedication ceremony for the new wing donations. Volunteers are still needed to help with the production and maintenance of content.

Beit Midrash

The Ark, donated by Aaron Rosloff is finished and installed . The new reading table cover was donated by the Bar/Bat Mitzvah class of "2005" and designed and constructed by Dotty Cohen.

House & Grounds

Momentary contact switches were installed to replace the keyed mechanism for raising and lowering of the basketball hoops. The Parking lot stripes were corrected and the final construction debris is being removed as per the township requirements to recover our bond.

Budget Committee

The Budget committee is meeting every Sunday to asses how last year's budget fared and to plan for the upcoming year.

Israel Youth Exchange Program

12 Israeli students will arrive Friday, April 7th for dinner at the synagogue with their host families. Activities are planned for their entire stay through Thursday, April 20th.

Religious Activities Committee

We had a record number of attendees at the March family Shabbat dinner and services. There were 56 people at the dinner and over 60 for services. This program continues to grow and attract non-members, as well as current members and is growing in it's multi-generational appeal.

Programs for Yom Hashoah and Yom Ha'atzmaut are in the works. Passover mailing went out to all households which included the form for the sale of Chametz.

Special service schedule for Passover is posted on the website.

VP Membership
April 2, 2006

I mailed out 90 + flyers about upcoming events and the brochure from the JCC to the prospect list

I mailed 40+ HaKol's to the more recent additions to the prospect list.

Each new member since last Purim received a purim basket from the membership committee.

I continue to send notes of "mazel tov" and notes of condolence to members experiencing life cycle events.

We will be having a new member welcome for everyone who has joined since last July. The date is Friday, May 5. I'll also put an ad in the paper for prospective members and begin planning a series of additional prospect events to take us through the summer.

I am beginning to learn more about *Bikkur Holim* and will put out an email to the membership to see who is interested in being part of this newly formed group.

I've also continued to call prospective members who have asked for membership information and those that contact me through our website.

Ruth Anne Koenick
VP Membership

VP ACTIVITIES REPORT

April 2006

HAKOL:

We are so pleased to have two new editors for the Hakol. **Phil Welsner** will be Layout Editor and **Rachel Rodriguez** as Communications Editor. We wish them great success in their new positions and will give all our help and support.

ADULT EDUCATION:

Second Session of "The Curious History of the Biblical Passover"
Presented by Azzan Yadin **will be rescheduled for late April.**

Sunday, April 23rd - Special Multimedia presentation on
"The Comedian Harmonists"

Co-sponsored by Men's Club, 50+ Group & Chai Member's Club

Weds. May 10th - Open Planning Meeting for next year. All invited

Adult Education Committee would like to acknowledge the generosity of Mark and Judy Roller and Bernie and Ruth Adler for donating funds to purchase equipment for speakers and presentations.

BT ATHLETICS:

Men's Open Court Basketball continuing in April. Tuesday nights 8-10 pm. Non-competitive pick-up game.

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE:

The Father/Daughter dance held **Sunday, March 26th was a huge success.** Much thanks goes to the committee - Marla Cukor, Batya Mendes, Serena Blackin, and to the kitchen help, Stacey Rockman (and Raffi), Jodi Eligberg (and Yoni) and Sherry Valan. There were 27 families in attendance, 53 people in all.

JCC PROGRAMMING:

NEW JCC ACTIVITY BROCHURE is out for spring.

Sign ups in classes for Yoga and Jazzercise, with certified instructors.

BIGGEST LOSER CONTEST:

Weight Watcher Meetings are being held in the new wing presently on thurs. mornings with a nighttime meeting soon to come.

In an effort to promote health and fitness, as well as to bring the larger community into our facility, **Danny Greenberg is leading the way** in our Biggest Loser contest with other houses of worship. Danny has already lost 15 pounds! To encourage Danny along the way, and to raise money for the shul, myself, Jeff Woller, and Danny himself will be donating \$5.00 for every pound he loses. Others are welcome to join in! Either by joining WW or sponsoring Danny. Contact Lisa Mason in the office for more details.

Thank You,
Cindy Gittleman, VP Activities

VP of Ways and Means

April 03, 2006

Rabbi's Dinner: We had our first meeting and we a large turnout. Cantor and Mrs. Rockman will be co-chairing the event. Beth Schurman is working on the tribute book. Please contact them or myself if you can help. The tributes are coming in from members but please try to get support from everyone else. For everyone who secures \$750 of tributes will receive 2 tickets for the dinner on June 8th.

Supermarket Scrip: Rachel Shaneson and her committee are working hard. They have already sold just under \$130,000 worth of scrip which will raise almost \$6,000. They are continuing to do a great job. Please think of using script for gift and charitable donations.

The Event: It was a huge success. We raised about \$19,000, had fun and created a positive in the community. Thank you Gary Warner, Allison Nagelberg, Jeff and Ashley Woller, Tammy Zimmerman, Nancy Zankel, Larry Cohen, Al Garten, Joanne Gorelick, Al Woller, Barbi Kilcoyne, Brenda and Arielle Sherman, Caryl Greenberg and everyone who helped out that night.

Printer Cartridges : We are collecting ink jet cartridges. There is a box in the office please just drop them off. We have sent in a box and are sitting on several new boxes to be sent out. CBT will receive \$2.00 per cartridge. We have received several hundred dollars so please keep on bringing in the cartridges.

E-Bay: We have many items listed from old magazines to new Judaic items. Bonnie Kudwitt is our point person at this time. If anyone is willing to help we would appreciate your efforts. Start looking around to find anything that would be sellable on E-Bay. Look in your cabinets, garages and draws for item you do not want any more. Please bring it into the office. Thanks VM for your support! We have made over \$800.00 and many things are listed. Please keep donate your unwanted and unneeded items.

Entertainment Books: We are done with sales. We have sold about 75 book.

HomeNews: Working with the Home News on a new fund raiser \$17.00 a subscription. Contact Susan Blake at Sblake@thnt.com 732 565 7432 Ref ASBBTNC

Giants Raffle: Irwin Millinger is submitting paperwork to North Brunswick . He needs your help. Please call him!

Please help with all of these programs!!!!!! Help balance the Budget!!!!!! Keep our dues as low as possible!!!!!!