

Board of Directors Meeting  
May 24, 2005

Meeting called to order by President Arie Behar at 8 pm

In attendance: Janice Baer, Arie Behar, Gary Bergman, Bobbi Binder, Jeff Cadoff, Larry Cohen, Marc Dillman, Mitch Frumkin, Al Garten, Cindy Gittleman, Joyce Gerbman, Danny Greenberg, Allison Nagelberg, Mark Kasdin, Ruth Anne Koenick, Mark Sherman, Frank Waltzer, Gary Warner, Paul Zankel  
Rabbi Eligberg, Hadas Elami  
Guests: Marty Abschutz, Marc Binder, Mark Roller

D'var torah by Rabbi Eligberg

Presentation of budget by Marty Abchutz

Arie looking for consensus from the board regarding what is presented. Items have been added which make the short fall worse than last meeting.

Marty reviewed each item line by line as board reviewed a confidential analysis of the 2005-2006 budget.

(To be noted that the top prize for bingo remains at \$1,000.00 as it has been for years.)

Motion by Danny:

To accept the proposed budget items that need board approval that are listed with a YES on the budget opportunities with the exception of the Kane endowment.

Seconded by Ruth Anne.

Amended motion to exclude Bingo and shomrei tikvah for house and grounds.

Motion withdrawn by Danny.

Motion by Danny:

To use the nursery school special fund for certain expenses.

Seconded by Mitch.

Discussion: Can board use the nursery school money? Yes. Dillman explained that the money is there and we have access to it while leaving money for the nursery school for their equipment, etc.

Vote: In favor: 14, abstain 0, opposed 1

Motion passes

Motion:

Take \$2700 from the outreach fund.

Seconded by Mitch

Discussion: Fund came from grant to outreach to families that have intermarried families. This money was received more than 5 years ago, can we use the money this way? We can funnel this money into programming so that the money is being used close to the way that it was meant to be.

Vote: 10, against: 4, abstain 0 motion carries.

Motion:

Use shomrei tikvah appeal for house and grounds direct expenses.

Seconded by Jeff Cadoff.

We would be asking for an additional \$10,000 for this fund for people to donate to. It is hoped that those people who are members of shomrei tikvah will increase their pledge and that more people will become members. Jeff Schwartz needs to be brought into this. There have been no programs recently. There have never been more than 10 families that have contributed to this fund.

Vote in favor 10, against 5, abstain 1. Motion passes

Motion:

Look to current balance of shomrei tikvah for roof repair and phone system for current and next year for a total \$18,000

Seconded by Ruth Ann.

Vote: in favor 15, opposed 0, abstain 1

Motion passes

Motion:

To move \$5,000 from Sinnreich Fund to the operating budget.

Seconded by Mitch.

This money was meant to be used to enhance the library, the money has not been used for years. We already have a library fund. The family is no longer members.

Vote: In favor 16. Motion passes

Motion

To reserve the last row of permanent rows of the sanctuary, 36 seats for all of the high holiday services for \$75 each.

Seconded by Mitch

Discussion: Janice: This can be a huge fundraiser. Will this disrupt those people who usually sit there?

Kasdin feels that policing that during the HH will be difficult and this isn't what our synagogue was founded on.

Rabbi: Weigh benefits against the losses before we decide to do this for the small amount of money that will be raised.

Ruth Anne: Opposed and offended by this concept. Larry: we are not set up to do this.

Vote: in favor 0, opposed 18. Motion defeated

Motion:

To look at bingo as a fundraising opportunity to add \$10,000 to next year's budget.

Seconded by Ruth Anne.

Gary Bergman: Doesn't feel that it will work. It will be run as a loss at the beginning because prize money needs to be given out regardless of how much is brought in. The floor will be ruined. Equipment needs to be purchased. Smoking must be prohibited

Ruth Anne, we were looking at ways to get money from outside sources.

Vote: in favor 0, against 18

Motion defeated.

Discussion about changing the way that we account for registration fees.

Amendment to Motion by Mark Sherman that we account for the religious and nursery school tuition as well as the registration on a cash basis.

Seconded by Frank Waltzer.

Arie is totally opposed to this motion. Feels that the registration fee is dangerous enough and that he doesn't want us to account the same way for tuition.

Dillman: This just makes the numbers look good on paper. There is no new money that has been found, we will have a deficit budget.

vote: in favor: 3, against: 14 abstain 1. Motion defeated

Consensus to switch accounting for registration fees to a cash basis which is about \$22K

informal vote: for 6, against 12

\$17K religious and \$5K from nursery school:  
no one in favor.

Disussion about having dues paid up front and increasing dues by \$20 and if you pay up front you don't pay the \$20, otherwise, you will be billed \$5 per quarter. This needs to be worded correctly when it is presented to the membership.

Eliminating the clergy assistant position.

Who can handle this work?

Kasdin not comfortable with paid staff being in the room for this discussion.

Danny would like to know what the assistant does:

Rabbi: Correspondence, free time up to do other things, helps coordinate programs, b'nai mitzvah stuff, schedule calendar.

We need to tell the congregation that there will be an assessment related to the Rabbi search, the number will be determined in the future.

consensus: unanimous

Moving to closed session for budget.

Discussion to eliminate staff bonuses as a budgeted item. school, hadas, roz and michele.

consensus 15 for, opposed: 1, abstain 2

Program director pays his own way. This represents \$20 per hour for 20 hours per week.

consensus: in favor: 18

Dues increase: possibly 3% but the budget committee cannot say what that will be. Mark roller would like to get an idea from the board about how much the increase can be. Gary Warner feels that 5% is enough. Arie agrees.

consensus to cap at 5%: 13 for, against 0, abstain 3.

Elimination of clergy assistance: Mitch feels that this is a step backwards. How can we do a search without having this position available to our incoming Rabbi?

Vote: in favor: 0, against (keep position) unanimous.