

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2002

Attendees:

Janice Baer
Arie Behar
Gary Bergman
Marc Dillman
Jerry Edley
Hadas Elami
Rabbi David Eligberg
Harvey Finkelstein
Mitch Frumkin
Madeline Gaynor
Dan Greenberg
Cyndi Kleinbart
Ruth Ann Koenick
Cantor Bruce Rockman
Harold Schneider
Mark Sherman
Gary Tinkel
Keith Zimmerman

Not Attending:

Elliott Danto
Larry Cohen
Cindy Gittleman
Naomi Jackenthal
Jerry Kaminsky
Mark Kasdin
Jodi Marcou
Gary Warner

Non-Board Guests

Mark Binder
Ed Guttenplan
Jeff Schwartz

Call to Order [Mitch Frumkin]

Meeting called to order at 8:04 PM by Mitch Frumkin.

Guests

1. Ed Gutenplan
Partner, Wilkin & Gutenplan, East Brunswick.
Handout distributed explaining difference between compilation, review and audit, and indicated that

we have selected an audit.

Question [M. Gaynor]: As of what date will the audit be? July 31st, 2001.

Question [G. Tinkel]: Do you look at other checkbooks besides the temple checkbooks? Possibly.

Question [M. Dillman]: Please define “material.” An amount at which you would draw different conclusions. Usually 3 %– 5%.

Dvar Torah [Rabbi]

From the book of Samuel (II Samuel 6:1-19): “A Fruitcake in Every Pot”. The Text talks about bringing the Ark into Jerusalem. The mood is very celebratory – the crowd feels good and excited.

Why does the text talk about *everyone* being there? To get everyone to buy in to the concept. To unite the people. It’s an indelible moment in the lives of the people.

How can our congregation benefit from working or celebrating together? Establish a ruach. What upcoming event can benefit from this? Building the new wing.

After the ark was move, David offered all men & women bread, fruitcake and wine. Why? Bring home your share. Anyone who was there got to take something home. Everyone was an equal partner à everyone got the same thing.

What gift could we give to members along a similar line?

Rabbi passed out checks in the amount of \$18 (with the payee blank) from his discretionary fund for each board member to donate to our favorite tzedakah.

Approval of Minutes of June 2002 Meeting [All]

Correction: Page 2 à Comment by J. Edley à should read, “a map *signed off by DEP review*, we should be okay.”

Motion for Approval of Minutes [moved by H. Schneider, H. Finkelstein]. Approved [13 yes, 0 no, 2 abstention]

Presidents report

1. There had been discussion at previous Board meetings about having an installation for the new Board. We scheduled it for last Friday – only 6 people showed up. Rabbi’s prepared program was wasted. Very disappointing.
2. Expansion: Mark Kasdin is not here, but we got report today from Barry Wasserman that the person handling our inspection (at the state) has been named. They asked for additional info, which is being done.
3. Yesterday was the Executive Board meeting. Elliot Danto resigned as VP/Activities. Mark Kasdin will make a recommendation for a replacement.

Vice-Presidents Reports

Ways & Means [M. Sherman]

- Spoke to Rachel Shaneson about the scrip program. She is doing a great job, and wants to keep doing it, but she needs help from the Board. She is looking for 1½ hours per person per month. Needs to cover at least a 3-hour period each Sunday.
- Found chairperson for big fundraiser à Gary Warner. At least 2 new members will also be participating.

Activities [M. Frumkin in lieu of E. Danto, who resigned – see above]

- Bill Greenberg & Marci Finkelstein will probably get involved in membership.

Guests (cont'd):

2. Jeff Schwartz:

Here to report on Cantor's installation, which was held June 9th. There was a dinner, followed by mincha, then the program, then maariv and finally a reception.

It was very moving. Thanks you to the Board, to Arie, to Ruth Anne, to Stacy and to Elliot for helping bring it about.

On the financial side of it, we had appropriated \$2,045 for the event in January. We ran a little over budget. The total spent for the event was \$2,483.

The reason we went over was because we comped more people than we thought we would. Moved [H. Finkelstein, second by J. Baer] to allocate an additional \$438 to cover the additional amount. Motion carries [12 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain].

Also: we approached some of larger donors who are behind on their pledges for the new building. One indicated that they are working on it. Another said that he wants to donate stock.

K. Zimmerman: what about smaller donors? They weren't called.

Vice-Presidents Reports (cont'd)

Education [H. Schneider]

Not much. Youth commission has met. Toby Ehrlich & Adrienne Ross will co-chair. Oversees Kadima & USY.

Administration [A. Behar]

- High holidays coming fast. Asked Mark Binder & Larry Cohen to chair everything inside the sanctuary. They are gathering names for honors. Please talk to them. Marty Abschutz will be in charge of everything outside the sanctuary. Security, ushers, etc. We have policemen in the budget. Possibly guards inside the building as well.
- We are changing the format of all the solicitations at services.
- We have started the process of looking for an assistant to the clergy. Ad was in home news. Will also be in Jewish State. We will use the process established by John Wolf.
- Cyndi Kleinbart looking at procedures of room rentals, e.g., putting on musicals, etc.
- Motion [by A. Behar, second by M. Sherman]:

As stated in our by-laws we are required to have Board approval before into any contract with a value of more than \$2,000. Therefore we request Board approval to enter into a lease agreement to lease two machines. The first is the Mailing System Office Right and the second is the Mailing System W-650. These units will allow us to process mail more efficiently, including folding, stamping, assigning bar codes, prints addresses and envelope stuffing. The total monthly cost of these machines is \$313.00.

- G. Bergman: how does Hadas feel? We need this. It is most cost effective.
- A. Behar: bar codes reduce the postage. Pitney Bowes says we'll save \$2K. Hadas: we will save money, but we don't know how much.
- K. Zimmerman: maintenance? Included.
- G. Tinkel: size? Relatively small. Each one about the size of a printer.
- J. Baer: is there security? It's not a postage meter.
- R. Koenick: how long an agreement? 5 yrs. Penalty for early? Don't know.
- M. Dillman: What staff is needed to use this? Nobody new.

- J. Edley: Generally P-B leases have cancellation penalty. But you can always upgrade without extending the lease.
- M. Gaynor: can we get a 1-year trial? No.
- H. Finkelstein: What recourse do we have if it breaks? It will be replaced.
- Motion Called [by K. Zimmerman, second by J. Edley] Unanimous.
- Motion Passes [Unanimous].

Financial Report [G. Tinkel]

- 441 members. 307 Dues Paying Equivalents. 75 on special arrangements.
- 13 families have paid no dues. Instead of sending a drop dead letter, we are having a membership person call to ask why they don't want to be members anymore.

Treasurer's Report [M. Dillman]

- Written report distributed as of June 30th. Please disregard the large gap in nursery school – this is a reporting gap – there are three months of income and expenses not recorded.
- \$746K in various accounts; \$620K in encumbered funds. The \$131K in unencumbered funds will drop to about \$50K by end of the year.

Men's Club [J. Edley]

No meeting until September. Organizational meeting will happen soon.

Sisterhood [R. Koenick]

As President of Sisterhood, will also be board representative. In the process of planning for the year. Budget and planning meetings will be happening soon. No meeting in September – the first meeting with the new board will be on Monday.

50+ Club [M. Gaynor]

Good attendance during summer; very successful theater party.

July 23rd – catered luncheon and entertainment.

Request again, please supply names of potential members. Club events are open to all, including nonmembers. Must be Jews. It is a good membership opportunity to unaffiliated people.

G. Bergman: why are we open to other shuls? Why does East Brunswick come here? They don't have groups there.

New business.

M. Binder. Can we have a motion that all meetings begin with 7:30 minyon. Sure. Reformulate language to make sure people are aware of minyon at 7:30.

Good & Welfare. (Rabbi)

- Hamakom Y'nahem: family of Hope Peter's father
- Refuah Shlemah: Stacy Kasdin & Amanda Dillman
- Mazel Tov: Marcie Winiarz on her Bat Mitzvah

Meeting went into closed session at 9:38 PM.