

April 20, 2017

OZ Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

(taken by John Blatt)

ATTENDEES:

John Blatt , Miriam Sturgis, Suzanne Brown, Wayne Senville, Sharon Panitch (via phone), Sarah Kleinman, Judy Rosenstreich, Joanna May, Karen Corbman, Rabbi Amy, Grace Oedel

ABSENTEES:

Liz Kleinberg, Jessica Schechter Kane, Abby Rosenthal

GUESTS:

Harvey Klein, Eric Corbman, David Pasackow, Jeff Potash, Naomi Burrell, Gary Sturgis

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES from April 6:

No additional amendments

Motion for approval made by Sarah Kleinman and seconded by Wayne Senville

Motion PASSED

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bill asked for Board approval to allow Treasures to borrow up to \$80K from the Congregant LOC and report this to the Board each month as part of the Treasures Report

The LOC \$80K will be built in as debt repayment in 2017/18 budget; discussion continued with Suzanne/Bill/David

Motion made by John and seconded by Wayne Senville

MOTION PASSED

PRESCHOOL PROPOSAL:

Presented by Grace Oedel

Grace presented the proposal, addressing the Why, What, How, Admin, Apace, Financial Notes, Timeline, Mission Statement and Education Philosophy, Tuition Comparison Rates, Teacher Bios, Budget. NOTE: All of this information is available via Dropbox.

OZ Members are given first opportunity for spots during the first two weeks of registration (early enrollment)

OPEN ITEM: Will OZ members get their registration fee waived? Mixed reaction from the Board on this

Judy R. suggested Grace talk to state senator Ginny Lyons about subsidized daycare

OPEN ITEM: Discussion ensued is we should be getting subsidized – Grace to get addtl details on this and any implications

The preschool will/must be 'revenue neutral without any support from OZ operating fund

Grace said the preschool will be called "OZ Full Circle Pre-School"

Judy R. emphasized of branding

David P. asked about the business plan, and wanted more specifics And how we will control 'hidden costs'

John made a motion for the preschool but the validity of the President making motions was called into question but the by-laws do not state the President cannot make motions; John withdrew the motion for sake of argument/discussion/time

Wayne Senville made the Motion for the preschool approval (see below), seconded by Karen Corbman. Discussion ensued, Judy R. wanted an amendment to make the language more crisp, more discussion ensued and the amendment was rejected.

MOTION PASSED, with one ABSTAIN

The motion as made by Wayne Senville:

"I move that the Board approve to creation of a preschool at Ohavi Zedek, and move forward to seek state approval to found and run a preschool, beginning in Fall of 2017, as described in the proposal submitted to the Board on April 20, 2017. The preschool will be revenue neutral or generate a profit"

CANTOR:

Kochava Kreiger has accepted the 1-yr position of Cantorial Intern effective July 1, 2017. John had successfully negotiated her contract on April 6th; Specifics are personnel and for executive session.

BOARD VISION:

Presented by Sarah Kleinman based upon Board input over the past two months; the vision will reflect what we are work towards in the decisions we make.

ACTION ITEM – Grace: We need to include this in our 'messaging' ... VOICE, website, etc ...

"Ohavi Zedek Synagogue is a vibrant, warm and inviting community where all are welcomed and comfortable participating in spiritual, educational and social offering, embracing our Jewish values of Tikkun Olam, and fellowship (chavurot)."

BUDGET:

Board went into Executive Session @ 8:17P (Judy R., seconded by Sarah) and then out of Exec session @ 8:32P (Bill, seconded by Wayne)

Much discussion on the shortfalls/deficit and ensuring this is conveyed at 6/11 congregation meeting, which was/is the plan; emphasis to be placed upon the amount of funding to be raised via donors/development that are above and beyond our 'regular' donor/donation efforts

Board agreed the message is that in order to maintain service at the same level, with no cuts, then additional funding is needed

We had been in a deficit for the past 5 years (2012) but the Board(s) were unaware until the past 1.5 years

Gary Sturgis made the point that we need to get the message out that we are in a deficit and people should be concerned but not alarmed

MOTION made by Judy R. and seconded by Sarah Kleinman to approve the budget version 04202017 v4.0 as presented to the Board by Bill Miller (Treasurer).

MOTION PASSED, w/ 1 abstain

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Wayne is working on FAIR SHARE Review, beginning phase, gathering info and will be asking for people to be part of the discussion; this will be a work-in-progress this calendar year; no changes will be in place prior to start fo 2017/18 fiscal year.

Judy R has started the initial phase of review of our By-Laws; John asked that we open up the opportunity to others and have the meetings at OZ; it's an opportunity to include members who might be interested in contributing

The next time these items are on the agenda (June) we will need a schedule for completion

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

At the May meeting we will spend a few minutes on the open Board seat and if we have solicited any feedback Secretary position, for now, will remain open and will be covered (rotating) by Board members; no impact to Exec Committee

John begged mercy on the Board for the meeting minutes he was taking ... be gentle when providing feedback!

6/11 Congregation Meeting: discussed some of the planning, agenda, format, an inclusion of the Board members to highlight our "Pause and Reflect" and specific areas such as Development, HR, SOCIAL ACTION, etc This will be the main topic at the May 18th Board meeting

RABBI'S REPORT:

Asked to be on a VPR program with Jane Lindholm, "Women in America"

Last Friday (4/13) was asked to do the opening devotion at the Statehouse in Montpelier

Reminder in the annual Pulpit Swap this weekend

Reminder of the Interfaith Seder on May 3rd at 6P @ OZ

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Has been in conversation with Howie Goldberg from USCJ about Board and Leadership Development training with a tentative date on June 8th @ 5:30P

Howard Center is very interested in renting space from OZ this summer; drop off room as their students do various programs

On-going work with the Hebrew School Tuition Forgiveness program – positive results

Has attended HR Comm meetings and there is discussion about 'at-will' vs. 'contracts' for staff

MOTION to ADJOURN:

@10:20P by Wayne Senville, seconded by Joanna May