

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board
Ohavi Zedek Synagogue
July 2, 2015

In attendance: Gary Visco, Basha Brody, Jeff Potash, Judy Hershberg, Vivien Brown, David Borsykowsky, Liz Kleinberg, Mitch Cypes, Harvey Klein, Miriam Sturgis, Michael Schaal, Sharon Panitch, Peggy Munro (by telephone)

Absent: Joey Bergstein, Joanna May

Update on dues letter

Dues letter went out today so that people can make their first pledges August 1.

Update on High Holidays

- HH mailing needs to go out next week. Peggy will be the contact person for people needing to negotiate the cost of their tickets. Otherwise, regular requests will go to Tari.
- Reminder: 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah will be open seating (general admission for people holding tickets)
- We need people to coordinate ushers. Tari will be the general contact person. Basha will coordinate for Yom Kippur. We need someone to coordinate for Rosh Hashana. Jeff will contact Jeff Alpert and Ben Klein
- Sharon agreed to be contact person/coordinator for Rosh Hashanah by the Lake. Peter is making arrangements for the program, but Sharon will be in charge of transporting materials to ECHO and will be the head greeter/organizer. Jeff, David, Judy H. and Basha will help.
- Jeff will send out a sign-up sheet for bimah duty on the High Holidays
- Lee Lichtenstein is managing HH honors

Update on Hebrew School brochure

- Naomi has produced a tri-fold brochure with Sharon Panitch and with design help from KSV.
- Would like an initial print run of 500
- Regarding distribution: it would be helpful to send to the PJ library list, but the board identified several problems with that, including that the list contains names of members of other congregations. Gary will follow up with Peggy and with Rabbi Weisman of PJ Library to see if we can work this out in some way.

Staffing Update

- Jeff met with Sharon and Joanna earlier in the week to discuss the Havurah program and to start talking about looking for a replacement for Melanie
- Jeff, Peggy, and Vivien will be negotiating Rabbi Jan's contract. Michael will be the board liaison to Rabbi Jan but will not be involved in contract negotiations.

Other Business

- USCJ has accepted the dues that we have offered to pay and to hold the remainder "in abeyance." The board recommended contacting USCJ to clarify that the remainder will not be collected at any point. Peggy agreed.
- There is an August 15th luncheon in honor of Shirley Rutstein's 96th birthday.

David moved that we go into executive session. Gary seconded.

The board entered executive session at 6:20.

Liz motioned to leave executive session. David seconded.

The board left executive session at 6:58.

Discussion concerning finances and potential audit

- David made a motion that we engage an outside firm to conduct an audit before Peter leaves his position. Gary seconded.
Discussion ensued.
A vote was called. The motion failed.
- The finance committee will be tasked with coming up with a structure to ensure the board and the congregation that the synagogue's finances are in order.

Other other business

- Mitch made a motion that Michael Schaal, as liaison between the board and Rabbi Jan, meet with Rabbi Jan a minimum of every two weeks and report back to the board.
The motion was seconded by Vivien.
The motion passed.
- Basha reminded the board that three members are up for re-election in November: Sharon, David, and Joey

Vivien moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 and we all took the extra two minutes for a short vacation to Acapulco.