

Meeting of the Board of Ohavi Zedek
August 27, 2015

Present: R. Joshua, R. Jan, Miriam Sturgis, Michael Schaal, Sharon Panitch, Jeff Potash, Basha Brody, Harvey Klein (trustee), Liz Kleinberg, Vivien Brown, Judy Hershberg (trustee), Sue Schein (guest), Mitch Cypes, Peggy Munro, Joanna May, Gary Visco, David Borsykowsky (remotely)

Motion to accept minutes from July and August at Sept. mtg. made by Basha.
Seconded by Michael. Passed.

Financial Report

Bottom line is that we ended last fiscal year with approximately a \$15,000 shortfall, according to Peter.

Membership pledge accrual is "fair" to date. Vivien and Tari will work together to contact people who have not renewed. All board members are reminded to submit dues pledge forms and High Holiday seats.

Vivien will follow up with Adamczyk family re: membership. An oversight involving the family was brought to our attention by Rabbi Small.

High holiday income: we are behind where we were this time last year. Will probably miss our number again. Other High Holiday-related numbers (newspaper ad, Book of Life) are looking good.

There was some discussion of the advisability of continuing to use Peachtree as bookkeeping software. Peggy advocated a switch to Quickbooks. This was tabled for the moment.

Peggy reminded the board that a \$15,000 shortfall on a \$1M budget is not statistically significant. We should look at the number and figure out where we're falling short, but there is no need for panic.

Presentation by Sue Schein re: transparency

Largest issue is regarding mural. There is concern in the congregation about its cost. She recommends sharing more information about financing the mural and the final numbers. At this point, it looks like there are significant overages.

At this time, there are no more scheduled repairs to the mural until money is raised.

Sue recommended sharing a message with the congregation as soon as possible that we will hold a town meeting about our finances. Board will set a date in October.

Motion to accept the wording of Bernard Hershberg's Bequest

Jeff distributed copies of Bernard Hershberg's amended will, as provided by his daughter Amy. Jeff explained that Bernard "Bucky" Hershberg asked the board to make a formal motion to accept the specific terms of the bequest, for the record, even though it is not technically necessary.

Michael suggested that there should be a way to preserve minutes in perpetuity so that future generations can understand where the money has come from.

Mitch wanted to make sure that we include that we accept and and express the Board's deep appreciation for the bequest.

Peggy moved to accept the wording. Vivien seconded. Passed unanimously.

High Holiday Update

People are moving forward with their tasks. Basha is in charge of Yom Kippur, Jeff Alpert is in charge of Rosh Hashanah.

Vivien will create a sign-up genius sheet online. Board members should sign up for 1-hour slots sitting on the bimah.

Jeff is putting together a brochure to welcome newcomers. He would like board members to be stationed at doors to welcome people.

Search for permanent administrative director

Vivien shared the job description for an administrative director as constructed by the committee of herself, Miriam Sturgis, and Mike Kanarick.

Discussion ensued regarding specifics of the job description, including job title. The committee will take comments under advisement and proceed with advertising the job opening.

Executive Session

Basha moved going into executive session. Gary seconded. The board went into executive session at 8:00 p.m.

The board discussed a personnel issue.

Liz moved to move out of executive session. Mitch seconded. The board left executive session at 8:25.

Rabbinic Search/Rabbi Amy Visit

The search committee will be meeting on Sunday. There is much less agreement on the search committee about whether to recommend her than there was with Rabbi Jonah.

Vivien reviewed the numbers and some comments from the online survey. Board members had the opportunity to give their feedback about Rabbi Amy.

Jeff will report back to us after the search committee's meeting this coming Sunday, 8/30/15. If necessary, there will be a special meeting of the board after the search committee makes its recommendation and references are checked.

Basha moved that we adjourn. Gary seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:42.