

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
December 9, 2015

Board members in attendance: Abby Rosenthal, Marv Greenberg, Judy Rosenstreich, Basha Brody, Sharon Panitch, Liz Kleinberg, Wayne Senville, Sarah Kleinman, Michael Schaal, Miriam Sturgis, Gary Visco, Harvey Klein (trustee), Judy Hershberg (trustee), Sheindel Kane, Joanna May

Staff/Clergy: R. Joshua, R. Jan, R. Amy, Naomi Barell

Other congregants: Michael Bukanc, Vivien Brown, Peggy Munro, Lila Shapero, Eric Corbman, Karen Corbman, Deb Lashman, Miriam Mayer, David Hershberg

D'var Torah-R. Joshua

Introduction-Liz

Focused on moving forward, being respectful.

Executive Session

Basha moved that we go into executive session.

Michael Schaal seconded.

The board went into executive session at 5:57.

The board discussed personnel issues.

Judy moved to exit executive session.

Michael seconded.

The board moved out of executive session at 6:45.

Discussion and Process re: Board Presidency

Michael moved to accept Jeff's resignation and express deepest gratitude for his work.

Judy seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sharon moved to accept Leon's resignation.

Basha seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Liz proposed having an interim president, 60-90 days. She does not have the capacity to take on presidency, interim or otherwise. She advocated looking at alternative models of presidency, including co-presidency, delegating more responsibility to vice-president, etc.

Michael indicated that under certain conditions he would be willing to consider taking on the position.

Basha pointed out that bylaws are very open about the role of president.

Gary and Basha pointed out that we may not need to change the model. Vivien and Jeff chose a particular level of involvement that could conceivably change through delegation.

General conversation ensued about re-evaluating roles. Wayne pointed out that this re-evaluation could take months, rather than weeks.

Naomi Barell urged to board to take action sooner rather than later for the sake of the morale of the staff.

Liz called a straw vote on whether we support having a president who will serve until November 2016 rather than an interim president. Board indicated that this is our preference.

- Liz will send out a letter to previous board members letting them know that if they're interested, they should contact Sharon
- Simultaneously, we should call people that we want to ask personally
- People should submit name to Sharon by Monday 12/14
- Candidates should attend Thursday meeting or submit a short bio and paragraph about why they would like to assume the presidency

Conversation ensued regarding this process. It was suggested that we don't look to fill the presidency but to elect the president from among existing board members and just fill the board seat via the regular procedure for filling a seat that was vacated early. This would involve an appointment by the board rather than election by the congregation.

Michael made a statement regarding his desire and vision for the presidency.

Judy moved that the board of directors elect Michael Schaal to serve as president of OZ effective immediately. The term would run through the annual meeting in November, 2016.

Gary seconded.

Discussion followed.

Gary called for a vote.

Michael Schaal was approved unanimously as Ohavi Zedek's next president.

Michael assumed the presidency at 9:41 p.m. at which point Liz gladly passed the gavel.

Michael gave an acceptance speech.

Miscellaneous Business

Michael requested that one board member be a liaison with the staff. Gary volunteered.

Director search meeting will take place December 10 at 5:30.

Sharon will generate a Signup Genius online for bimah duty.

Lila Shapero noted that the Fern Hill presentation slated for next week's regular board meeting could possibly take less time.

Treasurer conversation was tabled until 12/17 meeting.

Wayne moved to adjourn.

Basha seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:51.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Panitch, Board Secretary