



Minutes of the May 8, 2018 Board of Trustees Meeting

Present: Seth Charatz, Rina Chessin, Leslie Crane, Allison Fogel, Gerald Gamm, Abraham Glazer, Dan Glowinsky, Scott Green, Marc Haas, Emily Krohn, Jill Liberman, Lisa Maas-Vangellow, Adrienne Markus, Merle Markus, Sara Ressler, Matthew Ryen, Aviva Schochat, Lisa Silverstein, Martin Spokony, Tammi Steinberg, Jeff Stolberg, Lisa Tellem

Excused: Debi Brenner, Howard Goldberg, Pauline Kovalsky, Amy Libenson, Marcia Nabut, Martin Presberg, Susan Rothenberg, Todd Stein

Staff: Rabbi Leonardo Bitran, Debbie Zeger

Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM.

D'var Torah

Rabbi delivered the Dvar Torah concerning the Book of Leviticus. Last Shabbat, the Bat Mitzvah girl spoke how Shabbat concerns the present - the here and now - and the importance of making connections in the present. She suggested we protest technology. She requested the audience put down their phones for the rest of Shabbat. Rabbi suggested that we all put our phones down for all of Shabbat. He would settle for half a day. The here and now is what we need and what we should want. The Rabbi's children are embracing Shabbat. As a start, Rabbi challenged the board to put down devices from Friday at dark – to Saturday morning at 8:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2018 Board Meeting was made by Tammi Steinberg. Merle Markus seconded the motion.

Corrections: None

Motion passed.

Membership Update

There was one resignation:

David Zarkowsky

There was one death:

Judith Alderman

Personnel Update

TBE is welcoming Randall Levin as our new Hazzan as of July 1. There will be welcoming activities.

Thanks to the work of the Youth and Family Education Search Committee. Jody Dietz has been hired permanently as the Director of Limmud.

Finance Report – Budget Vote

Marc Haas gave the Finance Report. He thanked the Finance Committee for their work over the year. He introduced the budget for 2018-2019 followed by a Q&A session:

Q. What is happening with Keshet?

A. Next year there will be an additional class for 2 year olds and the Camp enrollment has increased from last year.

Q. Will there be an increase in dues or are there more members to account for the increase in dues dollars?

A: There will be a dues increase.

The Farash Foundation was thanked for their continued generosity and support.

Debbie and her staff were also thanked for making prudent financial decisions throughout the year.

Scott Green commended Marc for his leadership.

A motion to accept the budget was made by Lisa Tellem and seconded by Rina Chessin. Motion passed.

CJE

Matt Ryen presented a concept called the Center for Jewish Education (CJE). The thought is to create something by TBE but will benefit the whole community. A person would be hired to focus on engaging Jews wherever they may be in their Jewish journey. That individual would help guide them connecting more deeply with Judaism. This is a person, situated in TBE, but would focus on connecting with all of the other agencies, organizations, and unaffiliated Jews in our community. This person would go to camps, JSL, JCC, and especially at TBE.

There has been discretionary money put away year after year that could be used for this.

Debbie Zeger was at the USCJ and went to a session about an experiment with University of Pennsylvania Hillel. They developed a new model to create a parallel brand which would keep the base while getting new people interested in Judaism. Hillel found it was a revenue source as well. People gave money to the second "brand". Debbie recommended we need to change up how we do things and how we engage people.

There was a discussion and Q&A that followed including:

Rina Chessin shared that Mike Uram came to Federation and provided a workshop discussing engagement. He calls this Disruptive Innovation.

Rabbi Bitran mentioned The Well (MeetYouAtTheWell.org) founded by Rabbi Daniel Horowitz at Temple Israel in Detroit. The Well offers a parallel organization led by a Rabbi doing engagement.

Gerald Gamms shared that Chaplains on college campuses do not sit in their chapels, they are out on campus engaging the students.

Matt Ryen requested the Board authorize the Officers to continue looking into this concept and to bring in some people to interview. This is currently not in the budget for 2018-2019 and would cost approximately \$100K.

Q. How do you go about looking for that person?

A. Matt acknowledges it would be a unique person. Martin Spokony shared that through the searches for an Education Director and Hazzan we found some interesting people. In that process we did find people that might fit in this role.

Q. Is this a one year commitment?

A. We may need to extend a multiyear contract but we need to take this one step at a time.

Q. How could a person from out of this community be effective?

A. There was a discussion concerning building a set of metrics which would identify what success looks like. The first 6-8 months would give us some answers about effectiveness.

Q. Can we apply for any grants for this?

A. Farash wants us to do something transformational. We need to show that this idea is a paradigm shift for TBE and after year one we could apply.

A motion was made to authorize the Officers and Executive Director to pursue a person for an initial 18 month position to create the CJW concept. In addition, to permit the spending of \$150K additional dollars for this concept which would be added to the 2018-2019 fiscal year budget.

Rina Chessin made the motion – Leslie Crane seconded the motion.

Yes – 20

No – 1

Motion passes.

Nominating Report

Dan thanked Lisa Vangellow for her service. He thanked Marc Haas for his service and hard work and stated that Michael Phillips will be the new treasurer.

Dan thanked the following Board members who have served their terms:

Scott Green

Eric Brant

David Dworkin

Lisa Pelta

The Nominating Committee included Linda Cornell Weinstein, Matt Ryen, Sara Ressler, Sonya Charatz, and Bruce Green.

Dan thanked Martin Spokony for agreeing to be President and thanked our returning officers:

Gerald Gamm

Debi Brenner

Sara Ressler

Matt Ryen

Abe Glazer

Congratulations to our new incoming board members: Roberta Feldman, Irwin Goldberg, Nancy Krieger, Jason Reynolds, Adam Saks, Evan Spindelman and Allison Warren.

Presidents Report

Hazzan Retirement Weekend is June 29-30. There will be a Friday Night Live service and dinner plus Shabbat morning service and Kiddush in his honor. The board was asked to help sponsor the Kiddush. Debi Brenner and Ellen Rosen are coordinating the weekend celebration. As part of the celebration they are looking for individuals to provide memories for a book which will be created and given to the Hazzan. Please send your memories to the office.

There is a Golf Tournament on August 6th which is co-sponsored by TBE and TBD. Evan Spindelman and Alan Ginsburg are asking for significant board involvement.

Good and Welfare

Temple Emmanuel might be getting space at TBK.

Condolences to Martha Green for the loss of her mother Betty Lavender.

Mazel Tov to:

Brett and Amy Shulman - 30 year anniversary

Lee and Brenda Moss – 50 year anniversary

Ron and Joy Plotnik – 25 year anniversary

Pearl Ostroff – 95th birthday

Helen Levinson – 90th birthday

Carol Rosenberg – 90th birthday

Dan Glowinsky's daughter, Michelle, finishing her schooling for Pediatric Dentistry and travelling to Hawaii for a conference.

Tammi Steinberg's daughter, Elissa, who graduated from Pitt.

Congratulations to Sisterhood for a successful conference.

Thank you to Seth Charatz for his service!

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Maas-Vangellow and Debi Brenner.