

Minutes from the Temple Beth Israel Board Meeting
May 5, 2016 7:00 PM

Temple Beth Israel - 29th and University, Eugene, Oregon

Present: Richard Argosh, Maram Epstein, Scott Fellman, Michael Griffel, Bruce Kreitzberg, Jessica Lambright, Justine Lovinger, Geraldine Moreno-Black, Rabbi Ruhi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein, Nathan Philips, Jared Rubin, Mindy Schlossberg, Aura Solomon, Craig Starr, Amy Steckel, Pearl Wolfe

Regrets: Nina Korican, Jeff Kirtner

Agenda

- Opening Blessing
- Torah study
- Minutes from the April 14, 2016 TBI Board Meeting
No comments. **Action:** Unanimously approved.
- Staff Reports submitted in the Board Meeting packet sent to Board. Below are highlights made during the meeting.
 - Rabbi – Highlighted the following items:
 - TBI Second Night of Passover Seder with, 108 people attended.
 - Talmud Torah Seder +150 people attended
 - 4 upcoming B’nai Mitzvot
 - Lay-leader service training this summer
 - Membership Task Force completed 4 meetings and gathered feedback.
The Task Force plans to draft a proposal for discussion and reaction.
 - Executive Director – No report, Nina is away.
 - Talmud Torah – Jessica highlighted the following items:
 - Talmud Torah Passover Seder went well.
 - Jessica is working to develop a survey for Talmud Torah parents.
 - An email was sent to Talmud Torah parents with a summary of Dr. Stern’s Consultant Report for Talmud Torah and sharing that the full report, prepared without personal and personnel information, is available through the Talmud Torah website.
- Conestoga Hut Update - A resident moved in three weeks ago. Ritchie Weinman is the TBI liaison. The Tzedakah V’Chesed Committee will be offering food and assisting with rides and be a resource. St. Vincent DePaul does not provide case-management.

- Finance Update - Will receive financial reports/statement next week and have information then. No Finance Committee Meeting in May.
- Review of Congregational Meeting Agenda
 - Discussion & Vote on 2016-2017 Proposed Budget
 - 1) The Rabbi will provide an Overview of the Congregation
 - 2) Financial Report
 - 3) 2016-2017 Budget Proposal
 - Proposed By-Laws revisions
 - (An email will be sent to the Congregation with the proposed By-Laws revisions.)
 - By-Laws will be discussed and likely voted upon at Congregational Meeting.
 - Update on Membership Task Force
 - There have been 4 meetings.
 - 6 emails with feedback have been received.
 - Committee will be sharing what they have heard so far and providing more opportunities for input.
 - Discussion on Israel Program Task Force
 - A representative from the Task Force will report and share what the Task Force have been doing and their plans.
- Report of Reconstructionist Plenum
 - Craig reported that at the Reconstructionist Plenum on May 1, 2016, a voted was taken on a resolution regarding inclusiveness (the resolution passed), and two other policy items were discussed, requested to be discussed by Congregations, and will be voted on in the Fall. The two items are: Israel and Declining financial support of the Reconstructionist movement. Craig asked the Board for input regarding what input to give to the Reconstructionist Movement about the two items: Israel and Declining financial support of the Reconstructionist movement, and guidance on how Craig should vote. A link to the Plenum agenda and handouts for the meeting, including the Israel Resolution and Gender/Sexual Identity resolutions is here: <http://rrc.us6.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=e8dc2f2d9405f4a028431548a&id=8d21f5d19e&e=f5022a9fc5> . A link to the Green Paper on financial support and alternative dues models that are being considered is here: <http://rrc.us6.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=e8dc2f2d9405f4a028431548a&id=f91b650ef6&e=f5022a9fc5>

- Compensation for Lay-Leaders Discussion
 - Nathan met with Richard Argosh and Tova Stabin, Chairs of the Tefillah U'Minhag Committee. They recommended that the Finance Committee and Board decide if the Lay-leaders should be compensated.
 - The Board agreed that it should be a Board recommendation, regarding the policy of whether or not Lay-leaders should be compensated and the Finance Committee could make a recommendation regarding financial resources.
 - An option is to hire other professionals, both for religious services as well as other functions, counseling, teaching, etc.
 - The Board asked for information regarding what are the Reconstructionist movement's views on this and what other congregations do.

- Strategic Planning
 - Mindy reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had its first meeting where the 5 key areas from the Board Retreat were shared.
 - Strategic Planning Committee is working to have a plan of action by end of summer.