

Board of Trustees Meeting

August 10, 2017

Temple Beth Israel

The meeting began at 7:05.

Present. Richard Argosh, Michael Griffel, Jeff Kirtner, Nina Korican, Bruce Kreitzberg, Jessica Lambright, Justine Lovinger, Reisa Maddex, Geraldine Moreno-Black, Bella Moses, Nathan Philips, Julee Raiskin, Jared Rubin, Rabbi Ruhi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein, Mindy Schlossberg, Aura Solomon, Amy Steckel, Pearl Wolfe.

Minutes approval. June minutes were approved.

Rabbi report. Rabbi Ruhi said that TBI's lay leadership is ready for their roles in her absence, including during high holiday services. She singled out Richard Argosh for showing particularly noteworthy leadership during this time. Rabbi Ruhi asked Board members to commit themselves to attending multiple services during her maternity leave and thereby support the work of lay leadership volunteers.

Executive director report. Nina discussed factors contributing to TBI's \$70,000 end of financial year surplus, including a successful auction and cost control over some of the largest expenditures.

Financials/dues model. Amy discussed the committee she is putting together to study and discuss dues models with the congregation. The committee will include Amy, Nina, Jeff, Judy Boles and probably a fifth person.

Talmud Torah.

Fireplace proposal. Justine and Julee are leading the effort to design an appropriate fireplace for the north wall of the social hall. A fireplace in the social hall might become a gathering place for smaller groups to casually socialize in ways that the rest of the building does not offer. Costs for the fireplace options are still being gathered and considered.

TBI theme for the year - hachnasat ha ger - welcoming the stranger. Board members individually wrote ideas suggesting actions that might be taken up this year at TBI, by

the Board or by the community, to welcome outsiders. Board members then voted on all the suggestions. The top three ideas were: 1) invite neighbors to TBI for a simple gathering, a “block party,” “tea and cookies” or Tu b’shevat. 2) reaching out to past members to invite them to participate, meet the rabbi, etc. 3) recruit less active congregants to get involved in a short term event. Mindy said that this year’s theme will be incorporated into Talmud Torah, Rabbi Ruhi’s services and a high holiday d’var.

Executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10.