

**Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors
March 22, 2021
Zoom Meeting
Minutes**

Present:

Ilana Albert-Novick
Jay Amdur
Yossi Bokhaut
Mordecai Brodt

Norm Ferkin
David Lyman
Victor Rabinovitch
Jeremy Rudin
Judah Silverman

Donna Straus
Harland Tanner
Eric Weiner
Madelaine Werier
Helen Zipes

Secretary:

Jodi Gitter

Clergy Present:

Rabbi Eytan Kenter
Rabbi Deborah Zuker
Cantor Jason Green

Staff Present:

Elisheva Brantz

Regrets:

None

1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Call to Order and Welcome

Judah Silverman

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

1.2 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Judah Silverman

None of the members present declared a conflict of interest.

1.3 D'var Torah

Rabbi Eytan Kenter

1.4 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting **Judah Silverman /**

Jean Rivier
Graciela Steinberg
Jackie Gorenstein

1.5 Approval of the Agenda of March 22, 2021 **Judah Silverman**

A motion was made by Helen Zipes and seconded by Yossi Bokhaut to approve the agenda.

All were in favour. The motion was carried.

1.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors held on February 22, 2021 **Judah Silverman**

A motion was made by Jodi Gitter and seconded by Erik Weiner to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors for the meeting held on February 22, 2021.

All were in favour. The motion was carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors held on March 4, 2021 **Judah Silverman**

A motion was made by Jodi Gitter and seconded by Jay Amdur to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors for the meeting held on March 4, 2021.

1.7 Business Arising from Previous Minutes **Judah Silverman**

Yossi asked if the monies were received from the CBSO application. Elisheva replied that they had been received.

2.0 REPORTING OPTIONS WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT VOTE

2.1 Visioning KBI Post-COVID **Rabbi E. Kenter/J. Silverman**

- Judah presented various questions such as:
 - How do we want to engage with our congregants post-COVID?
 - What is the direction of KBI?
 - What's important?

He asked that the Board enter "breakout rooms" to discuss the following four areas:

- Lay Engagement/Leadership/Membership
- Technology and Its Role Moving Forward

- Ritual: Services, Life Cycle
- Demographic Group Programming
- Breakout rooms were created and discussions ensued. Some key highlights included:
 - Develop lay involvement as that distinguishes KBI from other shuls.
 - Make it easier to join.
 - Evoke a sense of pride in our shul (egalitarianism, being on a committee, etc.)
 - Continue making direct phone calls to reach out to members.
 - Live streaming has been a most welcome addition to the shul's offerings. It has been excellent for simchas as the focus is more on the mitzvah.
 - Create alliances with other organizations to expand our reach.
 - There is a longing to "go back to the way things were" – a nostalgia for being in the pews. However, the pandemic has encouraged us to be innovative. How to reconcile? Offer parallel services (in-person and live stream) to meet the needs and wants of all demographics.
 - How to make the space bright and accessible for all?

2.1 Other Business raised By Any Director

- None

3.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS

3.1 Executive Director's Written Statement Respecting the Status of Staff Salaries and Remittances to Government

Elisheva Brantz

- Elisheva presented the statement for employee wages to the Board.

3.2 Monthly Financial Update

Jay Amdur

- The January and February updates were presented.
- We are tracking as expected.
- The special fundraising campaign has raised \$91,000. Jay thanked those involved in securing this very important funding for the shul.
- Building occupancy costs are tracking under budget, which is helping our overall financial position.
- Programming and administrative costs remain on budget.

3.3 Budget 2021-22

Jay Amdur

- The time has come to begin preparations for next fiscal year's budget.
- Committee chairs were asked to review their current and planned expenditures and to submit their proposed budgets to Elisheva within the coming few weeks.

- Jodi asked about the Board providing a budget, rather than committees asking for funds. Jay and Judah replied that this would be difficult as Finance does not know what each committee needs.
- Jay will be sending to the Board the list of the funds available for use within the next few days. Committee chairs are asked to take these funds into consideration when planning their needs for the coming fiscal year.

4.0 REPORTING OPTIONS WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE

4.1 Any other business raised by any Director requiring Board decision or authority

- None

5.0 REPORTING OPTIONS WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT VOTE

5.1 Signage Donation

Judah Silverman

- Six large signs with the new KBI logo and colours were anonymously and generously donated by a congregant.

5.2 Update on the Committee on Committees' review

Victor Rabinovitch

- Victor provided an update on the status of the Committee review currently underway.
- The review sub-committee has met with two committees thus far. More meetings are being scheduled and the gathering and compiling of ideas and suggestions continues.

5.3 Other business raised by any director

- Rabbi Zuker mentioned an upcoming Women's Retreat that will feature movement, prayer and cooking
- Norm Ferkin mentioned that the *Life and Legacy* list now has 25 donors.

6.0 IN CAMERA

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 29 at 7:00 PM.