**Kehillat Beth Israel**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**August 24, 2023**

**In-Person and Zoom**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Sarah Beutel Gillian Koh Victor Rabinovitch

Norm Ferkin David Lyman Jeremy Rudin

Jeff Greenberg Jaimee Mitzmacher Olga Strelchenko

**Secretary:**

Jodi Gitter

**Clergy Present:**

Cantor Jason Green

**Staff Present:**

Jeremy Rosenberg

**Regrets:**

Adina Libin

David Roytenberg

Judah Silverman

1. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**1.1 Call to Order Victor Rabinovitch**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.

**1.2 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest Victor Rabinovitch**

None of the members present declared a conflict of interest.

**1.3 Approval of Agenda All**

**The agenda for August 24, 2023 was approved.**

**1.4 D’Var Torah Cantor Green**

**1.5 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting Victor Rabinovitch**

**1.6 Approval of Board Minutes from Board meeting held on June 27, 2023 All**

**A motion was made by Jodi Gitter and seconded by Sarah Beutel to approve the Board minutes from the meeting held on June 27, 2023.**

**All were in favour. The motion was carried.**

**1.7 Business Arising From Previous Minutes All**

There will be an update about the Rabbi search and Ottawa Talmud Torah in Section 4 of the Board Meeting.

1. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
   1. **Executive Director’s Written Statement Respecting the Status of Staff Salaries and Remittances to Government Jeremy Rosenberg**

Jeremy presented the statement for employee wages to the Board.

1. **REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE**

There were no items for section 3.

**4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT VOTE**

**4.1 Executive Director Report and High Holiday Plans**

**Jeremy Rosenberg and Cantor Green**

Highlights:

* New flooring has been partially installed
* We are at 260 families re: membership renewals
* Yizkor Book donations are on-par with last year
* Yasher koach for a super summertime barbecue
* The Rabbi Search Committee has seen great participation and engagement from membership
* The café in the Simcha Room will be operational once a fridge is procured
* Andrea Wershof Schwartz, along with volunteers, will lead parallel services in a medium-sized tent during the High Holidays
* There will be an upgraded sound system in the Main Sanctuary
* A special Slichot Service is being planned for Saturday, September 9. Wine a desserts will be served.

David Lyman asked about fundraising during the High Holidays. More volunteers will be collecting Yom Kippur pledges this year.

Jaimee suggested that we partner with Temple for the special Slichot Service.

**4.2 OTT and Youth Report Jeremy Rudin and Cantor Green**

OTT Highlights:

* OTT classes to begin after Simchat Torah/Shmini Atzeret
* Will run on Sundays and Tuesdays
* Because of late start, will run into late June
* Teachers are lined up but contracts have yet to be signed; waiting on final student numbers
* Improved communication with parents this year is the goal; Sasha Kathron will be present at drop-off and pick-up
* Monthly newsletters will be shared
* Modest financial surplus from last year; plan this year is to run a modest deficit as Federation’s allocation will be down
* OTT will celebrate its 100 year anniversary this year; fundraising ideas and initiatives are welcome

Gillian asked about the kick-off date. Victor replied that there would be a joint kick-off date with KBI after the chagim.

Sarah suggested that promotional posters for OTT be on display during High Holidays. Jaimee suggested we offer new OTT families a place to pray during High Holidays.

Jeremy Rosenberg to follow up regarding the making of OTT payments with Federation’s discount, simpler.

Discussion ensued about offering new OTT families a place to pray during High Holidays.

Youth Highlights:

* Cantor Green said that the Youth Committee met to get the calendar organized
* A magnet will include highlights
* 37 registrants already for La Ronde kick-off
* Mazal Tov to Jaimee Mitzmacher: New ECRUSY Chair

**4.3 Rabbi Search Committee Report Sarah Beutel**

Highlights:

* We are in the information collecting phase of the process
* There will be: An Informational Town Hall (on September 6), a Congregational Survey (sent out on August 25) as well as Focus Groups
* At the September 27th Board Meeting, the Board will:

1. Review and approve the mission and values section of the application
2. Review and approve the financial terms that must be included in the Rabbinic Assembly (RA) application, based on a recommendation from the Personnel and Finance Committees

* Application to be posted to the RA on October 4
* Selected applicants will be interviewed in November and December
* Candidates with potential will be invited for a visit to the congregation in January and/or February.

1. **REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION OR VOTE**
   1. **Committee Reports As Circulated**

Sarah spoke about the baskets that will be prepared in time for the High Holidays. Distribution date is September 10th. The OKFB website will have all of the information.

1. **IN CAMERA**

**7.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.**

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023.