

BHBE Board of Directors
General Board Meeting
Minutes (Michael Kahn)
9/21/2022

Present

Banoff, Carla
Braun, Greer
Buchbinder, Leah
Chodrow, Dan
Clemons, Jon
Diamond, Fran
Dubin, Ira
Goldman, Dianne
Goldstein, Jay
Kamen, Allison
Kay, Susan
Leff, Rochelle
Lehrer, Michael
Lerner, Cynthia
Littmann, Jessica
Meyers, Joan
Miller, Harris
Ost, Harriet
Pellish, Carol
Primack, Harold
Reinglass, Bev
Rodin, Sam

Rosenwasser, Fred
Schneiderman, Gail
Schnitzer Eisenberg, Gail
Sered, Ellen
Swerdlik, Gail
Tannenbaum, Charles

Absent

Bahar, Keri
Bucksbaum, Steve
Goldsmith, Minnie
Greene, Carter
Levey, Judy
Plawsky, Larry
Reynolds, Shoshana
Robbins-Ost, Harriet
Smulson, Robin
Stopek, Helen
Wertheimer, Jennifer

Staff

Crane, Rabbi
Kahn, Michael

- Cynthia called meeting to order 7:32pm
- Gail Swerlik 1st, Joan Meyers 2nd - approved minutes from August
- Rabbi Crane
 - D'var
 - Focus on high holidays
 - Selichot successful - panel of mental health professionals
 - Services led by Rabbi, Rabbi Dickman, Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg, Aaron Frankel
 - Mazal tov to the Clemons family
 - Recent "Littles" events welcomed 35 families
 - Carnival welcomed over 100 families
 - About to launch North Shore "Introduction to Judaism" - consortium of local conservative Rabbis
 - Several upcoming B-Mitzvah celebrations
 - Rabbi Crane is leading song sessions for the Academy community
 - Rabbi Crane is leading a class with Academy families - 10 are signed up
- Cynthia Lerner
 - Paid down \$85,000 of line of credit this past week - leaving about \$98,000 on line of credit
 - It is typical for us to use the line annually
 - In 2020 and 2021 we received PPP loans which limited our need for the line of credit

- Funds
 - Historically kept restricted funds at Byline Bank
 - About 4 years ago many funds moved to Schwab - not approved by board or exec board
 - We have about \$503,000 in endowment fund
 - We have close to \$500,000 in restricted funds
 - We are owed money from some funds and then we can pay off more of the line of credit
 - All of the money is accounted for - moving the money was done out of what was best for BHBE
 - There is a legal process we can follow to allow us to gain access to restricted funds that no longer serve a purpose, we don't have paperwork on or we don't have access to the donors
 - We will start new fundraising after the high holidays
- A number of people signed up to sit on the bima during the high holidays - Cynthia will email you with times
 - If you want to sit on the bima, email Cynthia
 - Thank you to Rochelle Leff for coordinating honors
- Questions
 - Fran D - Is the board supposed to get information about accounts/funds? Are these in one account? Separate accounts? Answer - on the books all is accounted for; some money is merged into one account at Schwab (with good intent - for investment purposes)
 - Fran D - Is there a committee with oversight? This will be created
 - Harold P - we have a real need for a part-time bookkeeper (recognizing financial constraints right now) - we need someone on staff with time to track investments, etc. There are other reasons to have a bookkeeper. Answer - not to be discussed at this meeting (personnel issue)
- Michael Kahn, Executive Director Report
 - Reviewed membership renewals
 - High Holiday Appeal update
 - Thank you to those volunteers who made calls
 - Trent Spoolstra to present re ADL at board meeting 10/26/2022
- Michael Lehrer, Treasurer
 - Reviewed financials
 - We hope to receive more high holiday appeal donations, pay down the Line of Credit and pay our vendors.
 - Michael Lehrer will get a spreadsheet together to show the board our funds.
 - Budget will be looked over.
 - Reviewed positive and negative impacts on the budget
 - Positive impacts
 - Security changes
 - Health insurance changing for one employee
 - Kiddushim - spending less, looking for donations
 - Security grant receivables
 - Office staff changes (possibly)
 - Negative impacts
 - Chicago Chinese Center not renting from us
 - Higher insurance premiums for BHBE

- Unexpected repairs - sound system, streaming equipment
 - Increased cost of goods due to inflation
 - Increased interest rates
- Questions
 - Fran Diamond - Membership dues - we budgeted an increase for this year; we need to be aware of things like this as we budget; answer - this was more in line with what we expected
 - Harold Primack - we have confirmation from state that we'll get \$36,000 from grant
 - Greer Braun - Sisterhood has given over pledge to BHBE
 - Concern that raising membership dues drives people away
 - Concern that we always ask the same people for donations
- Greer Braun - Sisterhood Report
 - Thank you for support of programs
 - Holiday pick up
 - Friday and Sunday - flowers
 - Sunday - challah
- New Business
 - Fran Diamond - each month report from each committee chair in consent agenda
- Good & Welfare
 - Fran Diamond - *Fiddler on the Roof* - excellent
 - Kol Zimrah singers (with Cantor) will be singing before performance of *Fiddler* a week from Sunday