

BHBE General Board Minutes 2/22/23 @ 7:30 PM Via Zoom

Present: Harris Miller, Bev Reinglass, Rochelle Leff, Cynthia Lerner, Gail Swerdlik, Harold Primack, Joan Meyers, Carla Banoff, Alison Kamen, Carol Pellish, Carter Greene, Dan Chodrow, Dan Meyer, Dianne Goldman, Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg, Gail Schniederman, Fran Diamond, Minnie Goldsmith, Ellen Sered, Larry Plawsky, Ira Dubin, Jay Goldstein, Harriet Robbins-Ost, Leah Buchbinder, Susan Kay, Shoshanna Reynolds, Jessica Littman, Steve Bucksbaum, Michael Lehrer, Fred Rosenwasser

Absent: Greer Braun, Helen Stopek, Jon Clemons, Zvi Tannenbaum, Judy Levey, Sam Rodin, Keri Bahar

Clergy: Rabbi Crane

Staff: Michael Kahn

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM

Gail Swerdlik motioned to approve the minutes.
Joan Meyers Seconded.
All said "Aye." The minutes were passed unanimously.

DVar Torah and Rabbi's Report - Rabbi Crane:

Introduction to Judaism class meets on Sundays.
Talmud class and Psalms class continue.
Third Jewish Mysticism class will take place 2/23/23 in the evening.
Working with Rabbi Dickman and Sam Bolen on youth events.
15 youths will attend a Bulls game this Sunday night.
Another B'nai Mitzvah and an Auf Ruf in a few weeks.
Avi Lesser's red carpet event took place on Feb 11th.
First cohort meeting for future B'nai Mitzvahs. Families are thrilled at how organized it is.
Paper on Jewish Law and Standards is being written by Rabbi Crane.

President's Report - Cynthia Lerner:

National Day of Hate on Saturday, Feb. 25th.
Michael Kahn, Wilmette Police Department, Blue Star Security and the ADL are aware of this situation.

Rental contract is being reviewed with our pro bono attorneys to work on the lease between us and Kol Emeth. We should receive a copy soon.

Executive Director's Report - Michael Kahn:

Will continue to monitor the budget. We are hoping to be okay for the remainder of FY23.

FY24 budget is in process with the Finance Committee. Once ready, it'll be shared.

Minor building leak will be fixed.

Day of Hate on Feb 25th - (Please be aware) - There will be a statement to the congregation via our weekly newsletter. Blue Star Security, WPD and the ADL are aware. No direct threats to our area. WPD will do additional rounds of patrolling. Possible decoy car.

Security and safety protocol was briefly reviewed.

Only parking lot doors will be available on February 25th for Shabbat services and The Little Shop of Lawyers show. Everyone must go to the main door for security reasons. Do not let anyone into the building. Call 911 if you see anything suspicious.

Security protocol modules are online for staff.

We are constantly working on updating our security skills and protocols

Treasurer's Report - Michael Lehrer:

Our budget will depend on fundraisers. The deficit may vary.

The FY24 Budget will be put together and tweaked before being presented to the board.

Membership dues and members will be projected based on passed history.

We are working on a budget that will not include id increasing the dues rate.

We'll gain and lose a few members as projected. TBD

Trying to determine whether the FY24 could provide salary increases to our employees outside those who are contracted.

Also, who will clean the building whether it's still Corvus or our custodial staff, etc.

Can we make the Academy more self-sustaining?

Ways and Means - Larry Plawsky:

Mishloach Manot raised funds by more than 5% compared to 2022.

Gala: June 11th. Details are being finalized. Save the date will go out within the next few weeks.

Ad book materials are being worked out.

Fran Diamond will help with our ad book this year.

New Business: None

Old Business:

The Shabbat Squad is planning for the next event on Friday, March 24th around the idea of welcoming the stranger.

Action Items:

Cynthia Lerner asked the board to let her know if you have any fundraising ideas.

Programs/Events:

March 4th, Purim Spiel

March 5th, Purim Carnival

Families with Littles Purim Celebration and Megillah Reading on March 6th and the following morning, March 7th.

Gala, June 11th

LGBTQ+ Committee will have an event during Pride Month. Also, planning to walk in the Chicago Pride Parade in June and be a sponsor under Keshet for LGBTQ+.

Sisterhood - Joan Meyers:

Sisterhood's Little Shop of Lawyers, Feb. 25th. Doors open at 7:15 PM. Play starts at 8 PM.
Over 100 raffles were sold and over 200 tickets too.

Raffles are online through Thursday, Feb. 23rd. Cash and check on Saturday night, Feb 25th.
Sisterhood Shabbat will be on Saturday, March 18th.

Men's Club - Steve Bucksbaum:

Men's Club Breakfast on March 12th

Evening of March 12th - Tequila and Taco Party

Man of the Year on March 26th at Beth Judea

Jessica Littman posts our events on the BHBE Facebook page. Please send your flyers to her.

Meeting concluded at 8:23 PM.

Next General Board Meeting: **March 22nd, 2023 at 7:30 PM via Zoom**