

BHBE Board Meeting Minutes 4/17/24 @ 7:30 PM - Hybrid

Present: Harris Miller, Ira Dubin, Carol Pellish, Steve Buckbaum, Elly Rousso, Gail Swerdlik, Ellen Sered, Rochelle Leff, Shoshanna Reynolds, Irv Zagorin, Carter Greene, Leah Buchbinder, Cynthia Lerner, Marsha Lyons, Fred Rosenwasser, Larry Plawsky, Robin Smulson, Joan Meyers, Fran Diamond, Adam Goldfarb (Zoom), Zvi Tannenbaum (Zoom), Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg (Zoom), Carla Banoff (Zoom), Greer Braun (Zoom), Harriet Robbins-Ost (Zoom), Jessica Littman (Zoom), Jon Clemons (Zoom), Judy Levey (Zoom)

Excused Absence: Minnie Goldsmith, Steve Levin, Allison Kamen, Dan Chodrow

Clergy: Rabbi Crane (Zoom), Cantor Roytman (Zoom), Michael Kahn

Called to order at 7:31 PM

Gail Swerdlik motioned to approve the minutes

Shoshanna Reynolds seconded

The minutes passed unanimously.

Rabbi's Report - Rabbi Crane: Gave his De'Var Torah

Lay led Shabbat will be on Friday, April 19th followed by Shabbat Dinner

Littles in the Big Service on Shabbat Hagadol (The Great Shabbat).

Passover information was passed out last week.

Can appoint Rabbi Crane up until Monday, April 22nd at 8 AM to sell chametz.

Will teach prior to first night of Passover after the morning service.

May 10th, wacky science, Shabbat service and dinner

May 11th, after the Shabbos morning service and kiddush, we will be having an informal discussion about Israel featuring several of our community mental health professionals

Rituals in Transitions continues

Several students are in the Introduction to Judaism course and are continuing on their journey to become Jewish

Cantor's Report - Cantor Roytman:

Kol Tefillah Shabbat is growing; the next service will be at 6 PM on May 3rd with nosh

Yom Haatzmaut celebration and music in the Academy being worked on; the plan is to have a dinner 5:30 to 6:30 followed by a concert by Cantor Roytman and Kol Zimrah, 6:30-7:30 PM

Bnai Mitzvoth preparations are going well.

Visited our members who are living at The Carrington in Lincolnwood.

Marsha Lyons - Nomination Report:

Nominations for 2024-2025

President - Jessica Littmann (year 1)

Executive Vice President - Ken Cohen (year 1)

Treasurer - Adam Goldfarb (year 1 - completed the 2nd year of a 2 year term in previous year)

Ways and Means Vice President - Fran

Diamond (year 1)

Vice President of Ritual and Religious Practices- Harriet Robbins-Ost (year 1)

Vice President of Membership - Shoshana Reynolds (year 1 - completed the 2nd year of a 2 year term in previous year)
Vice President of Education and the Academy - Allison Kamen (year 2)

Recording Secretary - Harris Miller (year 2)
Sisterhood President - Barbara Ungar (year 1)
Men's Club President - Dan Chodrow (year 1)
Immediate Past President - Cynthia Lerner (year 1)

Board Members who will be returning for another term

Steve Levin (year 2)
Elly Rousso (year 2)
Irv Zagorin (year 2)
Carla Banoff (year 3)
Fred Rosenwasser (year 3)
Gail Swerdlik (year 3)
Jon Clemons (year 4)
Rochelle Leff (year 5)

Joan Meyers (year 6)

New General Board Members

Tim Comar (year 1)
Laurie Feinstein (year 1)
Andrea Graham (year 1)
David Greenstein (year 1)
Joan Kripke (year 1)
Stewart Miller (year 1)
David Mogul (year 1)
Gail Schneiderman (year 1)

Thank you to those people who have faithfully served on our board and will no longer be serving:

Keri Bahar
Greer Braun
Leah Buchbinder
Steve Bucksbaum
Ira Dubin
Minnie Goldsmith
Marsha Lyons

Carol Pellish
Larry Plawsky
Bev Reinglass
Sam Rodin
Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg
Ellen Sered
Robin Smulson
Zvi Tannenbaum

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Lyons and Keri Bahar
Nominating Committee Chairpeople

Committee Members

Carla Banoff
Linda Becker
Carolyn Dinofsky

David Greenstein
Harris Miller
Harriet Ost
Elly Rousso
Irv Zagorin

Went over those who will be general board members and on the Executive Board from 2024-2025. This will be announced to the congregation. She thanked the committee for their hard work.

President's Report/Security Report - Cynthia Lerner - Thanked those on the committee. Best to advertise to the public to show that we're a vibrant and active community. Security guards are hired for all services, days when the Academy is in session and events. Security needs are adjusted based on the program/event.

External items will have vague information online with a drop box that will provide additional information. Internal will have all information available. Important to have traffic for events such as the Rummage Sale. Congregants should check their Thursday emails. Non-congregants can email us. (High click through rate on emails.)

Cynthia motions to approve the security report

Leah Buchbinder seconds

It passed unanimously.

Important to get all events on the calendar with a schedule throughout the year.

Status of the Building: News about the building - contract still being worked on by attorney. Then, once signed, we'll get \$200,000. 60 days of due diligence starts.

Attorney David Cohen (congregant - pro bono) went over the contract with the Wilmette Park District.

Wayne Caplan -Has begun the search for our new home. Communication on committees for moving, etc.

Executive Director's Report - Michael Kahn: Thanked the clergy, employees and committees for all their hard work. Building and Grounds: All fire issues were resolved except the sanctuary/Spak drapes, which don't meet fire inspections. Sewage backup in the parking lot was rodded by the plumbers. Arturo made the emergency calls. Water jugs and water coolers are being added because the drinking fountains are too expensive to repair. On behalf of Allison Kamen: Two more Sundays left. May 19th will be the year end party for the Academy by Men's Club and Sisterhood. Working with Hedva with the Academy calendar.

Treasurer's Report - Adam Goldbarb: Will make budget and costs easier to understand on the balance sheets. Will end the year with a loss of over \$300,000. Looking for ways to cut costs. Once the building is sold, \$100,000 in rent will go to the Wilmette Park District. Line of credit balance was \$0, but now at \$25,000. Membership renewal season should help. An email will be sent.

Ways and Means - Larry Plawsky: Gala June 9th - Blue Suede Shul. Zelda's will cater. Registration and advertising sponsorships. Easier to plan the event. Sponsorships going well. Fran Diamond - discussed advertising in the ad book. \$150 for half - \$300 for a full page. Can buy tickets, do sponsorships and add to the tribute page online. Personal ad can be added. FAQs are on the website. Details will be sent to the board. Please follow the link on bhbe.org.

Constitution - Leah Buchbinder: To reflect the constitution of today's congregation. Thank you to the committee for all their hard work. Proposal to have the constitution ready to be voted on at the BHBE congregational meeting in May. Now to be for "two adults of the Jewish faith living together" or one that's not Jewish with a Jewish adult rather than "husband and wife." A non-Jewish individual cannot be

President or Vice President. We encourage members to be on committees. Not just on the board. Important for committees to send reports. Recording Secretary will be liaison to the committee chairs and they will report to the board twice a year. Important to build up interest in taking up a leadership role.

Sisterhood - Greer Braun: Rummage Sale raised- \$11,000 There is in a Lox box on May 19th, co-sponsored by the Men's Club

Men's Club - Steve Bucksbaum: May 4th is Men's Club - cholent Yellow candle distribution on May 5th. Gala rama raffle. Help with Academy BBQ.

Membership - Shoshanna Reynolds: Working to have new members attend the gala. One prospect from Introduction to Judaism class will become a member. Will look into membership incentives for new members.

Ritual - Robin Smulson: Need someone to fill in for Ritual Chair on Wednesday during Passover while she's unavailable to fill in.

Recording Secretary - Harris Miler: Kulanu Committee to meet with Rabbi Crane and Michael Kahn on Zoom to plan future events.

No New/Old Business

Fran Diamond motioned to adjourn

Shoshanna Reynolds seconded

Meeting ended at 8:59 PM