

TBT Annual Meeting May 28, 2015

I. Liz welcomed everyone

- Informed those present that ballot box was in the back of room, voting would close tonight
- Balance Budget will be proposed. Negotiations with URJ has reduced our debt
- Remodeling will be done in stages, as funds are raised
- New Jewish Educator is Marissa Schriver
- Search for new Cantor will continue, Cantor Michael will serve this year, his Chai year, at TBT
- New By-laws will be developed this year
- There will be an emphasis this year on community with a new Member at Large who will have a portfolio in community

II. Rabbi Lisa

- Welcomed Marisa Schrier as the new Educator
- Wished Rabbi Jordana success and happiness in her new job in Cleveland
- Noted that at the tables there were volunteer sheets for those who wished to volunteer, sign up and get involved
- This year
 - New HHD prayer book Mishkan HaNefesh
 - Summer Shabbat services for Friday nights **6:30** July-August
 - Noted that the work of TBT and its members should be God centered, for the sake of the community
 - Shared sections from several of the confirmands who wrote of how TBT became central to their lives

III. Cantor Michael

- Delighted to be here for this year
- Praised those who were willing to change their direction. He feels the board acted bravely by extending his time at TBT. He looks forward to this year at TBT

IV Joel Goldenberg reported on the budget

- There are printed copies of the budget and it will also be on the Website

- The printed budget shows the years 2012-13, 2013-14, and proposal for this year
- Last year we were in the black, this year's proposed budget is balanced. We had more contributions, gained members, watched our expenses
- There will be no special assessment this year
- When members cannot pay full dues, Joel speaks with them to set a "fair share" dues model
- URJ We had a substantial debt to URJ, Joel has negotiated with URJ our debt down to \$28,000 which will be paid off over 2 years
- We were holding \$12,000 until negotiations and written agreement were completed and will now be sent to URJ
- For those who do not pay full dues, Joel makes the decision on how to distribute dues paid to various categories
- URJ is working on a new formula that will be based on the synagogue's income and not its number of members

There were questions from the members present and responses from Liz, Joel, and/or Sloane

- Patty Thompson felt that Marion Levin-Welch's salary should be listed among professional staff
- Alan Kirschbaum responded that CW can be looked at as a subsidy of TBT and M L-W salary is included there
- Joel asked if Marion would like to speak to the points raised. She did not
- Question was raised about a song leader for TS and where the money would come from. Liz, Sloane and Joel responded that money will come from several sources: TS budget, Cantor Moses Fund, Music Fund, TS Fund. Marissa is looking at candidates for song leader.
- There was a question about Cantor Michael's responsibility to TS as song leader. Liz answered that Cantor Michael is picking up the responsibility for implementing the new HHD prayer book, may help in search for new Cantor. Cantor Michael will serve the whole year, but there may be some overlap of services between Cantor Michael and the new Cantor. Liz asked TBT members to use this year to celebrate Michael's career here.

- Susie Flam asked about fees for using credit cards. Joel responded that we did not in the past charge, but fees from credit cards had reached \$10,000 so we are now charging a 3% fee to meet our costs
- Questions were raised about the membership renewal forms. Joel informed membership the forms will be different this year
- Question was raised about the difference between Rabbi Jordana's and Marissa's terms of employment. Jordana was an independent contractor (that is how her contract was negotiated), Marissa is an employee.
- Clarification that on budget Fund Balance includes value of land and all property of TBT
- CW is the most profitable entity of TBT, earning approximately \$50,000 last year. Board is well aware of this and deeply appreciative.
- From a member came the question of how we get more money, Joel responded more members and fund raising. He asked TBT members to make themselves available to help with membership and fund raising.
- Alan Kirschbaum moved that budget be accepted, Ron Hanock seconded. Accepted

V. Liz announced that all candidates had been elected

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted Judy Fleischman