



Congregation Beth Shalom
of Brandon

Congregation Beth Shalom Annual Meeting
May 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President, Hank Mart, at 10:00 AM. A certified quorum of 34 family units (23 % of our membership) was established.

D'VAR TORAH: Rabbi Torop gave the D'var *Torah*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Brian Zuckerman motioned to approve the minutes from the May 2012 Annual Meeting. Sandee Pelk seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Amy Weinstein reported that the Religious School focused on three things 1-Torah, 2- prayer , 3- loving kindness. Every student maintained their studies and had good attendance. All the students were promoted. The school runs smoothly in part due to the parent association –wonderfully co-chaired by Natasha Rieger and Jeff Shaw. All the teachers work hard. See full report filed separately with the Secretary.

RABBI'S REPORT: Rabbi Torop reported that we had a busy year of Life Cycle events: 4 baby naming/Bris; 8 B'nai Mitzvah: 5 Confirmation Students, 1 wedding: 3 deaths of members. During the 2012-2013 fiscal year we expanded the capacity of our building and enhanced its usefulness by creating a library/conference room, upgrading the kitchen and expanding our office space. We held our first annual Nosh Fest. A CBS singles group was created. All Jazzed Up was our biggest fundraiser. The membership grew by 20 family units. During the 2013-2014 fiscal year we will host a Scholar- in-Residence and have a retreat in February. Rabbi Torop thanked the following people

- Amy Weinstein and Karen /Blanchard for their tireless devotion to the Religious School.
- Sandy Santucci for enhancing our Shabbat services with her Cantorial talents.
- Keren Vergon for the outstanding job she does tutoring our B'nai Mitzvah students
- Mags Oldman for stepping in as Office Administrator
- Ann Stuck for her bookkeeping skills.
- Everyone who did any kind of volunteer work for the Temple
- Hank Mart for being President of the Board of Directors

See full report filed separately with the Secretary.

BALLOT PROCESS: Kevin Frye, chair of the Nominating Committee explained the ballot process. Other members of the Nominating committee are: Anna Brubaker, Sheila Fishman, Jeff Shaw and Natasha Rieger.

The 2013-2014 Slate of Offers was presented to the congregation and unanimously approved: Michael Barnett, Treasurer; Toby Koch, Secretary; Yuval Freinckle, Scott Hopkins and Seth Dugan, Members at large. The following people are in their 2nd year of a two year term, no vote is needed: President, Hank Mart; 1st Vice President, Steve Slavkin; 2nd Vice President, Errol Fishman; 3rd Vice President, Cynthia Goldstein-Hart; Members at Large, Brian Slater, Zsa Lobel and David Friedman.

SIGNING OF THE COVENANT: since all the Board members were not able to be at the meeting, signing of the Covenant was postponed until the June Board meeting.

STATE OF THE CONGREGATION REPORT: Hank Mart thanked his wife Donna and son Daniel for their support. He thanked Rudina Richter for the great job she has done as Membership chair. Twenty families joined last year. That set a record for the most families joining in one year. He thanked mile Newman for his years of service as Publicity Chair and welcomed our new Publicity chair, Renata Greenfield. Hank also thanked Cynthia Goldstein- Hart for coordinating the volunteers for I Am Hope Café. Hank said that there were three themes last year

1. Serving for a purpose-the renovation of the building
2. Reaching In/Reaching Out- there were many activities
3. Fiscal Stability –an outside accounting firm audited our books.

All Jazzed up and Fantasy Football were successful fundraisers.

For the coming fiscal year we are changing the perception on how we support the congregation. Instead of using the term “dues”, we will be using “commitment”. We will be adhering to the Member in Good standing policy outlined in the Bylaws. Big events next year are: the Scholar in Residence, All Jazzed Up, the retreat and Nosh Fest. More renovations will be done: the 6th and last classroom to be renovated, the parking area, storage, the administrative area. There are still naming rights available.

RECOGNITION: Hank presented Sandy Santucci with a gift for her 20 years of service as our Cantorial Soloist. The following families were recognized for their naming rights donations: Errol & Sheila Fishman - classroom; Gerald & Judith Pliner - classroom; Daniel Mart - building the pergola; Stephen & Anna Feldman - classroom, David & Rudina Richter - classroom; Peter & Diane Jacobson - kitchen & sanctuary chairs; Eric & Carolyn Miller - the library; and the Brian & Martie Zuckerman and Jim & Sandee Pelk for refurbishing the sanctuary.

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TREASURER'S REPORT: Jeff said that he is happy to end his term of office with the temple's finances in a positive state. Last year was a difficult year. The economy in the Tampa Bay area negatively affected families in our congregation.

2012-2013 fiscal year

- We renegotiated our MUMs dues. By the end of next year we will be current.
- In 2009 our mortgage was \$355,000.00 as of the end of June it will be \$90,000.00
- The All Jazzed Up fundraiser did well and helped increase our income.

The Audit

- No theft or fraud was found
- \$40,000.00 of aged dues was written off to bad debt. They recommended that we do a better job collecting dues.
- We have a \$90,000.00 debt next year. One suggestion is to refinance as a 5 year loan. That will lessen our monthly payment and we could use the money for capital improvements. The problem is that there is a cost for refinancing

2013-2014

- Three years ago we made budget cuts, including salaries. This year all our salaried employees will be "made whole".
- Mitzvah Day and Break the Fast were financed by donations. Now there is a budget for those committees.
- In prior years the Building and Grounds budget was cut to the bare minimum. Now that money has been freed up we will be able to make some improvement. For the 2012-2013 fiscal year we diverted the monthly Building Fund assessment to the General Fund. It was fiscally necessary. In 2013-2014 we will be able to resume putting the assessment towards the Building Fund. We need to put money aside for a roof and new air conditioner. They are both aging.

Questions

Q Arlene Slater At the 2012 Annual meeting and in the minutes from said meeting we were told that the mortgage would be paid off by 2013

A Jeff Newman As a result of the audit we learned that there were two loans. One would be paid off the other still has time on it.

Q Arlene Slater Do we have a \$90,000.00 loan?

A Jeff Newman We do not have a mortgage. The Jacobson's used collateral to help us pay off the mortgage. \$180,000.00 was paid down. The JCC owes us \$90,000.00. We will still owe \$90,000.00. We still need some building improvements. The last classroom is too small. It needs to be renovated. We need to increase our parking. We can take out a loan for \$35,000.00.

Q Arlene Next year is the fourth year of the Building Fund assessment. Including the \$90,000.00 we owe adding the \$35,000.00. That is \$125,000.00. How many years is the loan?

A Jeff Neman. Five years.

Jeff concluded by saying that" financially the future is bright. The Future is you. Everyone needs to give their commitment to the temple."

ALL JAZZED UP Zsa Lobel reported that in 2012 the All Jazzed Up fundraiser made \$26,000.00. In 2013 we expect to make \$40,000.00 and in 2014 we expect to make \$50,000.00. \$40,000.00 is 14% of our budget. See full report filed with the Secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 AM

Recorded any written by Toby Koch