

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
The Jewish Center of Princeton  
Thursday, February 16, 2017**

**Board Meeting Attendees:** Naomi Perlman, Fred Appel, Gil Gordon, Helaine Isaacs, Steve Hudis, Michael Bloom, Edye Kamenir, Audrey Straus, Nicole Soffin, Barak Bar Cohen, Susan Kanter, Dina Shaw, Judi Fleitman, Charlene Borsack, Linda Grenis, Ginger Schnitzer (and by speaker phone: Naomi Richman Neumann, Moshe Margolin)

**TJC Congregants in Attendance:** Nira Lavid

**TJC Staff Attendee:** Rabbi Adam Feldman

**1. Call to Order (Naomi Perlman)**

Meeting called to order at 7:37 pm by President Naomi Perlman.

**2. Good and Welfare**

Congratulations to Charlotte Borsack's daughter for her new job in Washington DC.

**3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of Board meeting of January 25, 2017**

A motion was made by Audrey Straus to accept the minutes. Seconded by Steve Hudis. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. President's Report (Naomi Perlman)**

- (a) Jon Shavel taking over day-to-day financial reporting work as replacement of former VP of Finance Jonathan Gershen, who resigned from his position last month. Budget process for next fiscal year is being started now. The Board will see a preliminary budget for next FY in March/17.
- (b) Naomi once again stressed the importance of Board participation in the April 1<sup>st</sup> Soiree fundraiser.
- (c) Naomi provided an update on the upgrading of our electrical infrastructure (all switches, lighting, some parking lot lighting) via PSE&G and a private contractor. No cost out of pocket due to a NJ state subsidy. After year three the shul should be saving approx. \$15,000 per year in electricity costs.
- (d) Re: bathroom renovations to make facilities handicapped accessible: the contractor has measured the spaces, equipment is on backorder. The contractor's schedule to be determined.
- (e) Update on the status of the Hazzan's contract: an offer has been put out for contract mediation.

**5. Clergy Report (Rabbi Feldman)**

- (a) Discussed the recent passing of Hazzan Joanna Dulkin's father-in-law and the support the shul is providing to her family.

- (b) RAF ran through some upcoming highlights on our programming schedule: including the upcoming Men's Club Shabbat, the Egger Shabbaton with a Yale acapella group, Purim, and the Rabbi's upcoming visit to the Princeton Theological Seminary.
- (c) RAF will be joining other member's of the Rabbinical Assembly to visit the small Jewish community in White Fish, Montana, that has been threatened by a local anti-Semitic white supremacist group. It will be a short visit and he will report back on this trip.

#### **5. Working Discussion of Long-Range Plan (Edye Kamenir)**

- (a) Edye led a discussion of the five strategic objectives of the draft Long Range Plan.
- (b) Strategic objective #5, concerning the prospect of increasing efficiencies, included the prospect of a revised Board structure (possibly reducing the size of the Board, separating Board membership from committee chairmanship, etc.).

#### **5. Discussion of Board Structure (Naomi Perlman)**

- (a) A proposal for TJC Governance Restructuring was circulated and discussed. It was noted that under the current structure the President has a great deal of power – he/she appoints the majority of the Board (only the Executive Committee is elected by the congregation), and he/she appoints the Nominating Committee.
- (b) Under the current proposal all members of the Board would be elected by the Congregation..

#### **6. Executive Session**

- (a) Items discussed in this section concern confidential matters – such as (but not limited to) personnel.

#### **7. Adjournment**

- (a) Naomi P. adjourned the meeting at 11:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fred Appel  
Recording Secretary