

Chadeish Yameinu  
Board of Director Meeting  
October 19, 2008  
Sukka at the Garden  
3070 Prather Lane, Santa Cruz, CA

Minutes

Attending Board Members: Howie Schneider (President); Batya Kagan; George Lewis (Secretary); Barbara Nicoara; Jan Leininger (Treasurer); Joe Katzman; Eugene Markowitz; John Byrne; Linda Byrne; Michael Yosef; Rabbi Eli Cohen

Opening Nigun - Howie Schneider

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Board Meeting of September 21, 2008 were approved.

Financial Report:

Jan Leininger went over the financials for the past month. She noted that dues are in line with budget projections. Expenses are as expected. An Anonymous donation of \$7000 has been made which improves our fiscal position for the year. High Holidays income to date slightly exceeded budget projections. High Holidays expenses are not yet finalized. The report was approved.

Rabbi Contract Renewal

Discussion was held related to Reb Eli's Independent Contractor's status. Concern over the financial effect of classifying him as an employee was expressed. The contract which specifies Reb Eli is an independent contractor was approved. Eugene Markowitz will do further research into the independent contractor/employee situation. Jan Leininger will contact our insurance company regarding the cost of worker's compensation insurance.

Review decided terms of Adult Ed by Reb Yitz Miller

The report prepared by Joe Katzman was reviewed with no action. Linda Bryne clarified that she would have voted no on the proposal if she was told of the potential of co-mingling of funds.

Consider goals and obligations of CY Board to our community, and our Rabbi.

Board members gave the following comments:

Need to have all information available to membership

Need to be responsible for our actions

Members need contact person on Board to express concerns, and discuss issues.

Members need way to contact Board Members on the website, suggested email addresses and phone numbers.

Broaden means of Communication

Have Board spokesperson.

John Bryne will bring a proposal back to the Board for consideration at the November Board Meeting

## School Communications

Carl Pechman, who has been designated as the School representative to the Board, was present to discuss the school. He made the point that the CY school was unique in that the students enjoy the school. Currently there are 8 in the 9-10 year old classes, which is current capacity with at least 2 additional youths asking to attend, and 8 in the 11-12 year old classes, which could accommodate up to 13. Carl requested that he be made aware of the date of the High Holiday review. Eli will send the information.

## Date of Annual Meeting

Eugene Markowitz requested that the Annual meeting be moved to June in order to allow for better planning for the coming fiscal year and not to conflict with planning for High Holidays. The Board approved the setting of the annual meeting for sometime in the first two weeks of June. This Item will be set for the February Agenda.

## Membership Report.

Current paid membership is 74 with 9 new members. Approximately 30 members have not renewed. There was some discussion as to the completeness of the last membership list sent out by Shira. Howie will verify the list. The Finance committee will be contacting those who have not renewed, and those non-members who registered at High Holidays.

## Structure of Future Board Meetings

Joe Katzman presented his plan for the structure of future Board Meetings. The goal of the plan was to spend less time on minor issues and allow time for spending on larger issues facing the congregation. It breaks down the meeting into 5 key sections.

1. Orientation and Accountability,
2. Immediate Business.
3. Task Reviews and Thanks.
4. Strategy and Governance.
5. Task review and close.

The plan revolves around all items on the agenda being presented by a written report presented to the Board by e-mail prior to the meeting. The Board expressed concern over various items of the proposal, and made comments as to alternatives. Joe will make a modified proposal to the next Board Meeting.

## High Holidays Report

The Board expressed a desire to send a thank you to all of the volunteers who made the High Holidays a great success, and to the First Congregational Church for being such a supportive host. A proposal was approved to make the Second Shabbat of December a Volunteer appreciation Shabbat. Anonymous sponsorship for the cost of this the second Friday Shabbat service has been committed.

## Finance Committee

Jan Leininger reported that the Finance Committee had a successful first meeting and recommended that all items related to finance be referred to the committee.

Request for sponsorship of Kabbalistic drumming class by Eli Shirim Lester

Due to a lack of specific details and times for the classes, the Board was not in a position to sponsor, but voted to endorse the classes, allowing them to be advertised on our event list, in order that all in our community will receive information about the classes.

Agenda Items for the next agenda:

Fund Raising Committee; Role of Finance Committee; Goals and Obligations of CY Board; Policy on endorsement, co-sponsorship and sponsorship of events; Communications with members; Date and place for Retreat; Sidurum/Cy School; Thank you to Volunteers; Thank you to First Congregational Church; Structure of meetings. The next Board meeting will be held on November 16. 2008 6:00 PM at the Aptos Fire Station.

Closing Nigun - Howie Schneider