

Congregation Beth David Board Meeting

MINUTES:

July 18, 2023

(Approved August 23, 2023)

PRESENT:

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Nathan Handelsman, President | 9. Michael Bierman, Secretary | 17. Leah Newman, DaL |
| 2. Art Singer, VP Education | 10. Bonnie Hirsh, DaL | 18. Wendy Askenas, DaL |
| 3. Daniel Kahn, VP Admin | 11. Bonnie Slavitt, DaL | 19. Howard Gannes, Hazak Representative |
| 4. Bill Beyda, VP Finance | 12. Cathy Beyda, DaL | 20. Wendy J. Glasser, Imm. Past President |
| 5. Hanna Firman, Treasurer | 13. Frank Yashar, DaL | 21. Barbara Biran, Dir Ops & Ritual |
| 6. Rivka Shenhav, VP Ritual | 14. Ginny Baird, DaL | 22. Rabbi David Kunin, Senior Rabbi |
| 7. Susan Greenberg-Englander, VP Membership | 15. Irene Spector, DaL | |
| 8. Stephen Schleimer, Financial Secretary | 16. Joseph Bendahan, DaL | |

ABSENT:

- Neil Shapiro, DaL
- Rabbi Nathan Roller,
Rabbi Educator

GUESTS:

- Dov Isaacs
- Zoe Handelsman

1. Welcome & Announcements (Nathan Handelsman)

7:30

- The Board was encouraged to sign up to bring snacks & drinks for a future Board meeting
- The Board toasted to welcome Senior Rabbi Kunin and his wife, Shelley
- Nathan shared a letter from Rabbi Alpert to the Board.

2. D'Var Torah (Rabbi David Kunin)

7:35

3. Good & Welfare (Nathan Handelsman) 7:40

Our Condolences to:

- Len Metz on the passing of his wife, Sylvia Metz
- The family of Daniel Gildenberg
- Dori Jaroslow on the passing of her great-aunt, Judy Beckman

Mazel Tov to:

- Sara Rosenberg and Daniel Sharvit on their son, Julian Sharvit’s Bar Mitzvah
- Michal Strutin and Michael Sinensky on their 30th wedding anniversary
- Debby and David Hoffman on their 34th wedding anniversary

4. Adoption of Minutes from previous General Board Meeting (Nathan Handelsman) 7:42

- The minutes from the June 27, 2023 General Board Meeting were approved as amended.

5. Priority Discussions (Nathan Handelsman) None

6. Q&A on Officer Reports & Announcements (Nathan Handelsman)

a. Administration (Dan Kahn) 7:44

Solar panel replacement n progress.

b. Membership (Nathan Handelsman) 7:43

i) Membership Report & New Member Welcome

Membership Report (Data for June 1-30, 2023)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Membership Units as of June 1, 2023 | 402 |
| Increases (Welcomed in June) | 0 |
| Decreases | 5 |
| Membership Units as of June 30, 2023 | 397 |
| Honorary | 5 |
| Friends of Beth David | 29 |
| Grand Total | 431 |

June Losses

- Gildenberg, Daniel (deceased)
- Hernandez, Gwyneth (moved)

June Resignations

- Fahn, Paul and Maggie
- Katz, Jonathan and Shoshana Wolf
- Tzarnotzky, Rebecca and Uri

Resignations are people who leave by choice;

Losses are people who leave as a result of circumstance (moved, death, etc.)

ii) New Member Welcome 7:45

Wendy Glasser is working on a New Member Welcome brunch w/ Board Members

iii) Volunteer Recognition Chairperson 7:45

Nathan asked for someone to serve as Chair of a committee to recognize volunteers starting after High Holidays.

iv) Rabbi Kunin's meetings with Congregants 7:45

A series of meetings has been scheduled for the Rabbi to meet with small groups of congregants to get to know them and hear their thoughts and concerns.

v) BBQ and Barchu 7:45

Sign ups are open to attend and volunteer for the event which is always a highlight of the year.

c. Finance (Bill Beyda) 7:46

Bill gave the Finance report and an update on the increase to the requested Sustaining Dues.

See Appendix B for Finance Report and an update on the Annual Campaign

d. Education (Art Singer) 7:52

- Fall Registration for religious school is open - Online / In-person
- There are promotions to attract new students to the school and to Beth David.
- The Summer program has been postponed until next year

See Appendix C for Education Reports

e. Ritual (Rivka Shenhav) 7:56

- High Holiday Prep
- Requesting all Board Members sign up as High Holiday Ushers/Greeters

See Appendix D for Ritual Reports

f. Teen Update (Zoe Handelsman) 8:00

August - December 2023

- Pool Party August 20
- Rosh Hashanah Brunch September 16
- Break the Fast September 25
- Stanford Hillel October or November
- Jane Jacobson (SJ)
- Kabbalat Shabbat with Potlucks Quarterly
- Spaghetti night December 25
- Align with BBYO - need a contact

January - June 2024

- Scavenger hunt
- A teen and youth buddy day with RS
- Purim bake sale
- Will try to cook with women's group but will do our our sales
- Chocolate seder
- Movie nights

7. Old Business **None**

8. New Business

a. Board Member Roles & Responsibilities (Nathan Handelsman) **8:02**

Nathan shared a draft of Board Roles & Responsibilities

See Appendix E for Board Roles & Responsibilities

9. Closed Session **8:32**

Background

In light of the CPI-U for San Francisco/Oakland/Hayward of 2.9% for the 12 months ending June 2023.

Motion

The Board of Directors chooses to exercise its discretion and provide a 3.0% increase in salary for the Administrative Department employees, effective July 1, 2023.

Motion by: Bill Beyda **Second by:** Bonnie Slavitt

Vote: 18 **Yes** 1 **No** 0 **Abstain**

The motion passed.

10. Adjourn **8:40**

Board Meeting Summary

Action Items:

None.

Summary of Board Actions Taken at Meeting:

a. Summary of Motions Passed:

1. Salary increase for Administrative Department employees

b. Policies Adopted:

2. None.

c. Charters Adopted:

None.

Absent at July 18 Meeting

- Neil Shapiro, DaL
- Rabbi Nathan Roller, Rabbi Educator

Absent at June 20 Meeting

- Susan Greenberg-Englander, VP Membership
- Wendy Askenas, DaL

Absent at May 18 Meeting

- Stephen Schleimer, Financial Secretary
- Joseph Bendahan, DaL
- Frank Yashar, DaL
- Leah Newman, DaL
- Rabbi Nathan Roller, Rabbi Educator
- Rabbi Jaymee Alpert, Senior Rabbi

Absent at April 27 Meeting

- Susan Greenberg-Englander, VP Membership
- Rivka Shenhav, VP Ritual
- Hanna Firman, Treasurer
- Cathy Beyda, DaL
- Leah Newman, DaL
- Frank Yashar, DaL
- Neil Shapiro, DaL
- Wendy J. Glasser, Imm. Past President
- Barbara Biran, Dir Ops & Ritual
- Rabbi Jaymee Alpert, Senior Rabbi

Absent at March 28 Meeting

- Hanna Firman, Treasurer
- Rabbi Jaymee Alpert, Senior Rabbi
- Leah Newman, DaL

Absent at February 28 Meeting

- Wendy Askenas, DaL
- Susan Greenberg-Englander, VP Membership

Absent at February 21 Meeting

- Bonnie Slavitt, DaL
- Joseph Bendahan, DaL
- Irene Spector, DaL
- Wendy Askenas, DaL

Appendix A
“Rabbi Alpert’s letter”

Appendix A "Rabbi Alpert's letter"

Dear Members of the Board,

Thank you for the beautiful and unique
Mitzvah - what a thoughtful gift! Danny
and I are looking forward to hanging it in our
new home, and each time we see it we
will think of you and our 5 beautiful years
at Beth David. It is so special to have something
that Jeff Warneck created with me in mind.

Thank you for your partnership and friendship. I
wish you much success in the months and
years to come!

Warmly,
EJA

Congregation Beth David
19700 Prospect Road
Saratoga, California 95070-3352
+1 408 257-3333
<http://www.beth-david.org>

Appendix B

“Finance Report”

CONGREGATION BETH DAVID
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2023

| | Jun 23 | Budget | \$ Over Budget | Jul '22 - Jun 23 | YTD Budget | \$ Over Budget | Annual Budget |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Income | | | | | | | |
| 10 - Ritual | 13,960 | 3,508 | 10,452 | 62,409 | 62,600 | (191) | 62,600 |
| 20 - Religious School | 19,272 | 1,715 | 17,557 | 40,525 | 38,050 | 2,475 | 38,050 |
| 30 - Adult Ed | 5 | - | - | 440 | 100 | 340 | 100 |
| 40 - Admin | (34,632) | 1,500 | (36,132) | 179,116 | 18,000 | 161,116 | 18,000 |
| 50 - Youth Group | 588 | - | - | 588 | - | - | - |
| 60 - Programs | 5,174 | 6,280 | (1,106) | 24,195 | 14,200 | 9,995 | 14,200 |
| 70 - Finance | 33,896 | 31,350 | 2,546 | 790,647 | 908,500 | (117,853) | 908,500 |
| 80 - Board of Directors | 2,840 | 3,072 | (232) | 246,290 | 281,000 | (34,710) | 281,000 |
| 90 - Staff Costs | 208,209 | - | - | 208,209 | - | - | - |
| Total Income | 249,312 | 47,426 | (6,916) | 1,552,419 | 1,322,450 | 21,172 | 1,322,450 |
| Expense | | | | | | | |
| 10 - Ritual | 17,160 | 11,137 | 6,022 | 140,316 | 163,530 | (23,214) | 163,530 |
| 20 - Religious School | 62 | 521 | (459) | 37,584 | 52,187 | (14,603) | 52,187 |
| 30 - Adult Ed | 200 | 0 | 200 | 1,273 | 5,000 | (3,727) | 5,000 |
| 40 - Admin | 15,900 | 16,578 | (678) | 386,864 | 242,112 | 144,752 | 242,112 |
| 50 - Youth Group | (800) | 0 | (800) | 927 | 2,000 | (1,073) | 2,000 |
| 60 - Programs | 1,852 | 4,150 | (2,298) | 29,427 | 34,850 | (5,423) | 34,850 |
| 70 - Finance | 1,264 | 62,667 | (61,403) | 34,114 | 103,006 | (68,892) | 103,006 |
| 80 - Board of Directors | 6,541 | 27,250 | (20,709) | 41,305 | 56,000 | (14,695) | 56,000 |
| 90 - Staff Costs | 117,788 | 71,653 | 46,135 | 875,216 | 867,203 | 8,013 | 867,203 |
| Total Expense | 159,966 | 193,956 | (33,990) | 1,547,026 | 1,525,888 | 21,138 | 1,525,888 |
| Net Income | 89,345 | (146,530) | 27,074 | 5,393 | (203,438) | 34 | (203,438) |

CONGREGATION BETH DAVID
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2023

| | Jun 30, 23 | May 31, 23 | \$ Change | Jun 30, 22 | \$ Change |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Checking/Savings | | | | | |
| 1001 · Operation Ca Bank & Trust | 315,596.61 | 48,801.74 | 266,794.87 | 138,481.46 | 177,115.15 |
| 1002 · Market Affiliate | 49,281.07 | 97,991.31 | -48,710.24 | 257,245.73 | -207,964.66 |
| 1003 · PayPal Account | 0.00 | 280.00 | -280.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1004 · Petty Cash - Admin | 1,529.50 | 1,549.50 | -20.00 | 554.60 | 974.90 |
| 1006 · Smith Barney Parent Acct. | 1,124,191.00 | 1,251,205.01 | -127,014.01 | 1,011,283.78 | 112,907.22 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 1,490,598.18 | 1,399,827.56 | 90,770.62 | 1,407,565.57 | 83,032.61 |
| Other Current Assets | | | | | |
| Prepaid Insurance | 22,503.00 | 0.00 | 22,503.00 | 0.00 | 22,503.00 |
| 1200 · Due From Addison Penzack JCC | 2,200.00 | 2,200.00 | 0.00 | 2,200.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Current Assets | 24,703.00 | 2,200.00 | 22,503.00 | 2,200.00 | 22,503.00 |
| Total Current Assets | 1,515,301.18 | 1,402,027.56 | 113,273.62 | 1,409,765.57 | 105,535.61 |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | |
| 1601 · Building Cost | 10,298,935.40 | 10,298,935.40 | 0.00 | 10,298,935.40 | 0.00 |
| 1602 · Office Equipment / Furniture | 149,179.82 | 149,179.82 | 0.00 | 149,179.82 | 0.00 |
| 1603 · Signage | 28,131.65 | 28,131.65 | 0.00 | 28,131.65 | 0.00 |
| 1604 · Sound Equipment | 28,513.30 | 28,513.30 | 0.00 | 28,513.30 | 0.00 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 10,504,760.17 | 10,504,760.17 | 0.00 | 10,504,760.17 | 0.00 |
| Other Assets | | | | | |
| 1605 · Property Value | 2,200,000.00 | 2,200,000.00 | 0.00 | 2,200,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Assets | 2,200,000.00 | 2,200,000.00 | 0.00 | 2,200,000.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 14,220,061.35 | 14,106,787.73 | 113,273.62 | 14,114,525.74 | 105,535.61 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | | | | |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | 85.00 | 4,868.95 | -4,783.95 | 1,976.25 | -1,891.25 |
| Credit Cards | 21,043.99 | 9,250.76 | 11,793.23 | 7,419.54 | 13,624.45 |
| Other Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Deferred Solar Income | 5,100.00 | 0.00 | 5,100.00 | 0.00 | 5,100.00 |
| Deferred Endowment Grant | 33,275.93 | 0.00 | 33,275.93 | 0.00 | 33,275.93 |
| Endowment Fund Loan | 82,230.66 | 82,230.66 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 82,230.66 |
| 2210 · Payroll Liabilities | 4.80 | 0.00 | 4.80 | 62.11 | -57.31 |
| 2400 · Prepayment on Account | 157,352.57 | 144,927.03 | 12,425.54 | 158,841.29 | -1,488.72 |
| 2500 · Expenses Reimbursable | -1,700.00 | 0.00 | -1,700.00 | 0.00 | -1,700.00 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 276,263.96 | 227,157.69 | 49,106.27 | 158,903.40 | 117,360.56 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 297,392.95 | 241,277.40 | 56,115.55 | 168,299.19 | 129,093.76 |
| Total Liabilities | 297,392.95 | 241,277.40 | 56,115.55 | 168,299.19 | 129,093.76 |
| Equity | | | | | |
| 3000 · Named Fund | 498,662.09 | 496,894.82 | 1,767.27 | 481,833.53 | 16,828.56 |
| 3100 · Organizational Restricted Funds | -1,983.46 | -1,983.46 | 0.00 | 814.00 | -2,797.46 |
| 3200 · Special Purpose Fund | 34,936.13 | 46,952.87 | -12,016.74 | 46,174.74 | -11,238.61 |
| 3300 · Restricted Funds Ritual | 22,195.18 | 52,188.88 | -29,993.70 | 69,630.83 | -47,435.65 |
| 3400 · Unrealized Income | 8,944.13 | 891.60 | 8,052.53 | -6,746.80 | 15,690.93 |
| 3500 · Unrestricted Net Assets | 13,352,640.00 | 13,352,640.00 | 0.00 | 13,352,640.00 | 0.00 |
| 3600 · Retained Earnings | 1,880.25 | 1,880.25 | 0.00 | -91,237.77 | 93,118.02 |
| Net Income | 5,394.08 | -83,954.63 | 89,348.71 | 93,118.02 | -87,723.94 |
| Total Equity | 13,922,668.40 | 13,865,510.33 | 57,158.07 | 13,946,226.55 | -23,558.15 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 14,220,061.35 | 14,106,787.73 | 113,273.62 | 14,114,525.74 | 105,535.61 |

Appendix C

“Education Reports”

Adult Ed Zoom Meeting
June 15, 2023, at 2:05 p.m.



Attendees: Ginny Baird, Paul Freudenthal, Dori Jaroslow, Ruth Kohan, Miriam Marr, and Sheryl Rattner.

Minutes: The minutes from May 23, 2023 were approved.

Old Business

Modern Musical Midrash with Rabbi Roller: Rabbi Roller will present a second session on Leonard Cohen on June 27th. We will ask the Rabbi for suggestions about scheduling a program in the fall.

Book Group: On June 10th, the book group discussed *The Third Daughter: A Novel* by Talia Carner, led by Lori Cinnamon, with 11 participants. The next discussion on July 8th, *My Own Words: Ruth Bader Ginsburg*, with comments by two law professors, which will be led by Miriam. Miriam reported that all of the selected books have discussion leaders except for *Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence* by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, which is scheduled for October 14th.

Carol Salus: Carol Salus, who has spoken on Zoom for Adult Ed before, has suggested several topics that she could present. We decided on Degas, which includes his art and reaction to the Dreyfus affair. Miriam will ask Carol if she is available September 10 or October 22.

Sigalit Ur: Miriam reported that Sigalit Ur's discussion about *Conversations between Jews and Gentiles in the Talmud* could possibly be scheduled in the fall.

CBD Board Update: Ginny gave an update on what is happening with the Beth David board.

Budget: Paul reported that our budget for the year was \$5000. We've spent \$1073 so far this year, leaving us with \$3927

Nadia Ragozhina: Nadia, a London-based journalist with the BBC news, discussed her book, *Worlds Apart: The Journeys of My Jewish Family in Twentieth-Century Europe*, a story about her ancestors on Sunday morning, June 11, 11:00 a.m. Paul said the Zoom discussion went well. It was not a large group but those who attended, enjoyed it a lot. We have a link to the Zoom recording, which expires in 60 days. Nadia's book is not available in the local libraries. Paul suggested having Nadia present another topic, such as zero waste and sustainable living.

Sheila Peltz Weinberg: Sheila will discuss her new book, *Let Us All Breathe Together: Prose, Poems, Practices* on June 25, 11:00 to 12:30. Her fee is \$250. Paul will introduce the speaker. Miriam will host the Zoom discussion.

The Jewish News of Northern California (The J) Speakers: Because the speaker, Alix Wall, hasn't been available for personal reasons, Ruth has postponed contacting her. The possible dates are September 10, October 22, November 5, and November 12.

Scholar in Residence (SIR): Louis Newman doesn't want to discuss a theme for the weekend until we can bring the new rabbi into the conversation. Miriam put the event on the calendar for the December 2 weekend.

Jewish Cookbook Series: We can start with *BUDMO! Recipes from a Ukrainian Kitchen* by Anna Voloshyna, possibly on a Monday evening in January.

New Business

Oscar Israelowitz: Barbara Biran received an email concerning a Zoom program: *From Gold Rush to Hollywood and Everything in Between*. We need more information about the speaker and his programs.

Next Meeting: July 20 at 2:00. p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:30 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by Ginny Baird.

Education July 2023

Rabbi Roller is at Camp Ramah this week and unable to attend.

Education Highlights July 2023:

- Religious School online advertising has not produced results so we are looking at a more personal marketing approach and will reserve online ads for festivals and carnivals, etc.
- We have contracted with Iris Bendahan as a Religious School teacher, Marketing and events coordinator for the upcoming year. She will be dedicating her efforts to working with us and can contribute her wealth of contacts and community goodwill to help us improve enrollment and engagement.
- Rabbi Roller will be working at a Camp Ramah session and will promote our RS. He is also working to actively promote our school to the Yavneh community. There are various opportunities in the near future where we will distribute promotional ads and goods to gain community awareness.
- Honeygrams are being prepared and will be distributed at BBQ and Barchu.
- Zoe Handelsman is creating a working calendar for teen events for the upcoming year. Rabbi Roller will be there to help promote and support the teen programming that she is leading. The main fundraiser will be a spaghetti dinner served by the teens as has been successful in years past.
- Adult Ed is postponing their Scholar in Residence discussion pending input from the incoming Rabbi Kunin. All other programs are continuing apace.
- We are working to schedule and integrate a program on Consciousness and AI with expert(s) and Rabbinical commentary/counterpoint as part of a grant that we received. We plan to announce the date once the details are worked out.
- The first day of RS is Sunday, Sept. 10th with planned kickoff/showcase/fundraiser for the Religious School. Magic Act, Music and Food with Jewish teachings on the theme of magic. Open to the community it will be a chance to showcase the school.

Respectfully,

Art Singer

Education Vice President

Appendix D

“Ritual Reports”

Ritual Report July 2023

Last month we gave a nice send off to Rabbi Berkowitz and Rabbi Alpert that left us. Services in the first two weeks of July continued smoothly with the help of Rabbi Roller and our roster of volunteers. We are all looking forward to the coming Shabbat to welcome Rabbi Kunin and Shelly into our community and to start bringing the rabbi on-board with regards to the various activities that may require his attention. Not the least - we have worked out most of the details for the coming High Holy Days and hope that the Rabbi will sign-off on the plans.

Appendix E

“Board Responsibilities”

Commit to Jewish Values and CBD Mission and Values

Personal Commitments

- Honor confidentiality
- Presume trust and demonstrate trustworthiness
- Show respect for others and their contributions
- Assume best intentions of others
- Listen openly and allow others to speak
- Be a mensch
- Challenge things, not people

Active Board Membership

- Speak to and stay on topic
- Support CBD financially
- Encourage diversity of opinion
- Disagree, then commit
- Be present
- Become informed and prepared
- Talk toward decisions
- Ask for help – we're a team
- Execute on commitments
- Focus on positive outcomes
- Act as a leader

Community Presence and Visibility

- Act as an ambassador to community at large
- Consider your role always, not just at CBD
- **Invite people to CBD**

Engage in Life of Congregation

- Actively participate in synagogue life
- Represent the Board to congregation in presence and conduct
- Strive for constant improvement
- **Reach out to members (old and new)**

← Spread the word →