

Bet Chaverim Annual Congregational Meeting

June 21, 2016

The following members were present :

Ken Steinman, President	Grechen Schmidt
Melissa Brooks, Vice President	Robyn Alpert
Peter Smith , Treasurer	Ellen Gave
Judith Schainen, Secretary	Carrie Bagatell
Sherwin Alpert, At- Large	Carol Lym
Brian Sher, At-Large	Brenda LaPoint
Rabbi Emily Meyer and daughter, Evelyn	Rhoda Liston
Marie_Anne Harkness	Gene Trosper
Rick Siegler	Nancy Blase
Maya Valladeo Jeffery	Carmi Brooks
Jim Gatlin	
Sandy Gatlin	

Call to Order at 6:45 Pm

- 1) Rabbi Meyer began the meeting with a prayer which was based on Hillel's questions: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am for myself only, what am I? And if not now, when?"
- 2) Goal Review: Ken Steinman spoke about a number of topics:
 - New Members were added: Mark Senk, Monica Kaplan, and Rick and Dina Siegler. We also lost a few: Marian Sofferin , Brian and Christina Sher.
 - We need to increase our membership
 - We did receive a grant from Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle for \$5000.
- 3) Treasurer's Report : Peter Smith reviewed the budget in detail. He compared line items for both the Approved 2015-2016 Budget , the Proposed 2016-2017 Budget , and the Actual Values from July1, 2015 through June 21, 2016. We are still operating at a deficit, but to a lesser degree than during the preceding year. The reader is asked to read the budget for details. A motion was made to approve this budget, and was seconded. After some discussion the budget was approved by a show of hands.

- 4) New Dues Structure for Bet Chaverim: Peter reviewed this with assistance from Melissa. This is a 4 tiered system.

Purposes:

- Provide more flexibility for members in limited financial circumstances, to be members in good standing
- Increase Temple revenue by collecting more dues from members who can afford to contribute
- Enable members to contribute up to their ability, with option to increase contribution if circumstances change
- Attract new members, particularly younger couples

Pledge Levels

- | Level of Membership | Annual Dues |
|------------------------|--|
| • Amudim (Pillars) | \$1600 for single, and \$2400 for family |
| • Shomrim (Guardians) | \$1200 for single, and \$1800 for family |
| • Tomchim (Supporters) | \$600 for single, and \$ 900 for family |
| • Bonim (Builders) | \$ 240 for single, and \$360 for family |
- Dues adjustment may be requested using a Dues Adjustment Request Form, minimum yearly dues in this case would be \$180.

Implementation

- Each member fills out a pledge card at the start of the fiscal year. Members who do not fill out cards become Shomrim by default.
- Quarterly payments (amounts of $\frac{1}{4}$ of annual dues) are due at the end of the second month of the quarter (August 31, November 30 ,February 28, and May 31.)
- Standing of members will be assessed at the end of the second month of the quarter to determine eligibility for discounted events (High Holidays, Passover etc) and to vote in Congregational meetings (Dec/Jan and June)
- Reader is asked to review this plan for further details.

People present agreed that this revision was a good idea.

- 5) Community Involvement and Volunteering : Melissa passed out a form which listed ways in which participation in Bet Chaverim activities was possible to people present , and asked them to fill it out . She then collected the completed forms afterward. She explained the items listed on the form.

6) Possible changes to the By-laws for January , 2017: Ken Steinman mentioned a few topics for consideration:

- Officers on the Board: It is not specified that they should be members of the congregation. This should be voted upon by the Board
- Currently we hold two meetings per year. This is not specified in the By-Laws. Should it be?

Audit of Bet Chaverim Finances: Dave Kaplan (former Board Treasurer) Has offered to do this at this time. In the future we may have to hire a CPA to do this , especially if we are qualifying for a grant.

7) Ratification of 2016-2017 Board was formalized

- Melissa Brooks, President
- Vice President , vacant
- Treasurer, Archie Levine
- Secretary, Judith Schainen
- At-Large, Jack Kornberg
- At Large, Peter Smith
- At-Large, Rick Siegler
- At-Large, Vacant

8) Maya has agreed to take over the Yahrzeit List for the congregation

Barbara Roessler is now Editor of the Bet Chaverim Newsletter

Brian Cohen is interested in working on Hebrew Education for the Temple

9) Announcements

* Marie-Anne announced that the Bet Chaverim Picnic , “Books and Barbecue” would be held on Sunday , July 31, 2016 at Dash Point State Park from 12 to 2 Pm. She also passed out hand-outs about this event.

- Melissa announced that there will be a dinner date at the Mandarin Kitchen in Des Moines on July 8, 2016. More details are to come.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 Pm.

Respectfully submitted

Judith S. Schainen
Board Secretary