

8/3/15 CKI Board Meeting

President Joe Rosenfeld called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Present: Education Director Heather Baumann Tratt, Sue Johnson, Dick Johnson, Ken Jacoby, Paul Glaser, Elise Kleinman, Rochelle Fosco, Risa Cohen, Suzy Zemel, Maureen Rosenfeld, Liza Bachrach, Chuck Gauthier, Joe Rosenfeld, Gale Jacoby, Marcy Tremmel, Nancy Zimmerman, Chuck Zimmerman, Dan Marshall

Sue Johnson introduced our new education director Heather Baumann Tratt.

Heather: Conversations took place prior to the Board meeting at dinner to shape school, etc. Maybe have "Board day" on a Sunday. Hope to make some small changes, like add group davening on Sunday mornings. Heather lives in Hoffman Estates. Got here through someone she knows who knows Rabbi. Currently works full time at West Suburban Har Zion as early childhood director. Jewish education is changing and going to the community and making it more accessible.

Approval of June 1, 2015 minutes: Moved by Ken Jacoby, seconded by Suzy Zemel, approved.

Richard Kruth Treasurer Report

Last year deficit \$16,336, this year surplus \$5,925.

Questions:

Is 103 membership number correct? Answer: that is how many people pay dues. May have members that pay zero.

Discussion:

Is membership number correct.

All members should pay something.

How many are not paying anything and have kids in school. School tuition only covers about 50% of school costs, which is okay if they pay dues. Answer: all parents are paying something for dues.

Asking for clarification on the numbers. Will be looked at.

Projected expenses less than last year, where are the changes?

2 items: Equipment Repair \$200 and Elgin Chamber Commerce \$195. Software upgrades \$500.

Eliminated unsolicited line on Fund Raising.

Aliyahs and High Holiday donations are combined

Motion to approve 2015-2016 budget: moved by Ken Jacoby, seconded by Marcy Tremmel, no further discussion, Passed unanimous

Paul Glaser Ritual Committee Report

Start planning the following year as the High Holiday services are ending. October and November collect comments from membership. Late October, after Simchat Torah, Ritual Committee meets and then again in June. Get permit for Taschlich Service to use the park. July start meeting with Rabbi on details such as ark opening times, etc. and arrive at a schedule. With same Rabbi, not too many changes from year to year. Wall closed for Erev Rosh Hashanah. Kol Nidre start 6:15 p.m. done around 8:15-8:30. Yom Kippur 9:30-2ish, Yizkor 12:30, no break. Neilah around 5, end around 7-7:15. Once schedule done, honors are assigned. Usually repeat from year to year. Around 9/1 will send out honors letters. 9/6 will have the sanctuary turnover. Team effort. Will put eblast if kid coming and would like honor, notify Paul.

Gale Jacoby Vision Report

Written report passed out and discussed (follows at end of minutes).

New Business:

Fundability purchased the new computers. We should consider another blitz to inform people of what Fundability is. Currently have approximately 5 families participating. It would be good to get more support for this, especially from the Board.

Announcements:

Challah

New Year Greeting

Sisterhood Dues

Sisterhood Survey

Donations for HH flowers

RSVP and donations and babysitting for HH

Stairs formed out, but no concrete available because of I90 construction. Hope to get concrete soon.

And running sidewalk from parking lot to front door.

Can do brick liners later if wanted

Motion to adjourn made by Risa Cohen, seconded by Paul Glaser, meeting adjourned.

Vision Committee Report 8/2/2015      Vision Committee met 7/29/2015

**CKI Vision Statement:**

CKI is a sacred Jewish community striving to meet the needs of our congregation through lifelong learning, embracing diversity, building community, meaningful observance.

**Purpose of Committee:**

- Keepers of the Vision
- Present recommendations relevant to the Vision and continued growth of CKI
- Research and present current trends in religion/synagogue
- Brainstorm relevant concepts
- Be forward thinking

**Direction:**

Our current vision statement is still relevant and the Congregation, Board and Rabbi all appear to be unified in concept.

Although we have made much progress and while CKI is currently on solid ground, we should not simply sit back idly but must continue to take steps to insure future growth externally and increased participation internally.

**Growth:**

Over the last few years, we have grown, membership numbers are up, school numbers are up. But we must continue to find ways to achieve growth internally and externally. To encourage internal participation, phone calls and personal contacts. Recognize subtle difference between publicity and marketing.

Publicity:

- Need a chairman/committee
- Word of Mouth
- "Sun City"
- Target age group over 45
- Provide for and target groups with different needs (Stop us vs. them mentality)
- Weekly newspaper announcements about services in newspaper religion section
- Visibility in newspapers biweekly
- Visibility in Chicago area Jewish media, such as JUF, Chicago Jewish News
- Consolidate emails

Marketing:

- Increase visibility
- Image
- Wording (need consistent wording to describe ourselves to be used by both lay and paid staff and in all publicity, Vision Committee can work on this)
- Investigate possibility of local college internship to devise our marketing strategy/campaign

**Leadership:**

- Need Leadership Training for both experienced and novice leaders
- Each Board member should serve on at least one committee
- Lighten the Presidential volume of responsibilities by designating to others
- Consider 1-year terms of office

- Recognize relationship of growth and leadership
- Have sign up sheets at Break the Fast (Vision Committee)
- Provide information packet for new Board members (Vision Committee)
- Consider annual Board training for new Board members
- Atmosphere at Board meetings must make people feel comfortable, use words people understand, make sure newer Board members understand discussions.
- Consider rotating different leaders to lead Board meetings, perhaps the different executive board members, agenda still determined by President
- Send President and V.P. for outside training
- Try to procure free internal leadership training through Big Tent Judaism or JUF (Vision Committee)

**Finances:**

This topic was tabled for a future meeting. Only the following points were made:

- Fundraising can also be a marketing opportunity
- Investigate outside/communal fund raising
- Men's Club will coordinate Garage Sale next year
- Need to consider suggestions from Olitsky's book such as:
  - Terminology for dues
  - Identify dues as being something different
  - Make people more aware of expenses and budget
  - Investigate ways to show value of money given to synagogue
  - Review the book