

**Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors
January 17, 2019
Simcha Room
Minutes**

Present:

Ilana Albert-Novick	Jay Amdur	Mordechai Brodt
Jane Ehrenworth Shore	Jodi Gitter	Joel Sachs
Kivi Shapiro	Judah Silverman	Harvey Slack
Harland Tanner	Eric Weiner	Helen Zipes (via Facetime)

Secretary:

Jonathan Meijer

Clergy Present:

Rabbi Eytan Kenter
Rabbi Deborah Zuker

Staff Present:

Rena Garshowitz

Regrets:

Cantor Jason Green	Lorne Goldstein	Stuart McCarthy
Betsy Rigal		

1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Call to Order and Welcome **Jane Ehrenworth Shore**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

1.2 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest **Jane Ehrenworth Shore**

None of the members present declared any conflict of interest.

1.3 D'var Torah **Rabbi Kenter**

**1.4 Moment of Silence to commemorate those congregants
who have passed away since the last board meeting** **Jane Ehrenworth Shore**

Franceen Shier
Rosa Lamont

- 1.5 Approval of the Agenda of January 17, 2019 Jane Ehrenworth Shore

A motion was made by Harvey Slack and seconded by Jodi Gitter to approve the agenda.

The motion was carried.

- 1.6 Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors for December Jonathan Meijer

A motion was made by Jonathan Meijer and seconded by Eric Weiner to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors for the meeting held on December 20, 2018.

The motion was carried.

- 1.7 Business arising from Minutes or submitted reports Jane Ehrenworth Shore

No business arose.

2.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 2.1 Update on written statement regarding remuneration Jay Amdur

Following last month's question regarding the reading out of the Executive Director's written statement regarding remuneration, Jay informed the Board that, since the statement is now sent in advance by email to Board members, it can be deemed read, and the ED no longer has to read it out loud.

- 2.2 Executive Director's written statement respecting the status of staff salaries and remittances to government Rena Garshowitz

Rena noted that the statement had been mailed to the Board and asked if anyone had any questions. None were raised.
(Please find the written statement in **Appendix A.**)

- 2.3 Monthly Financial Statement (November 2018) Jay Amdur

Jay presented the Financial Statement for November 2018. (Please find the statement in **Appendix B.**)

Jay asked all the heads of the committees and working groups to submit, at least one week before the March Board meeting, a request for allocation of funding (a budget) for the next financial year. The requests should be reasonable and sufficiently detailed. The requests for money may not all get fully approved, however

the Finance Committee will work from the submitted requests to draft a budget for the April Board meeting, with the view of presenting a final budget at the May Board meeting.

Jonathan asked how committees and working groups can determine the custodian costs for events so that such costs can be budgeted. Jay answered that they should ask Rena for the custodian costs of after-hours events, while events taking place during core hours do not need to include such costs.

3.0 REPORTING OPTIONS WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE

3.1 Torah for Tanzania

Rabbi Kenter

(Please find the article “The Man who Leads the Jewish Community in Arusha, Tanzania” in **Appendix C.**)

Rabbi Kenter reminded the Board that the shul has too many Torah scrolls for the available spaces in the arks. When *Sofer on Site* came to assess our Torah scrolls, they mentioned that they had been contacted by a community in Arusha, Tanzania, who need a Torah scroll. Since KBI is the congregation with the second largest known number of Torah scrolls in North America, *Sofer on Site* naturally thought that we might be in a good position to donate a scroll.

Rabbi Kenter has been in touch with the community leader to discuss what might be involved. There are two components to the conversation:

- 1) The Torah scroll is an asset to the Congregation and the Board would have to agree to donate it;
- 2) There is a great opportunity to establish a connection. In addition to there being a community in Arusha, the Abayudaya (a community practicing a form of Conservative Judaism) are only a 13 hour drive away in Uganda. Instead of only shipping a scroll, there would be the opportunity to establish a meaningful connection with these communities, and to get to know them and their story.

Rabbi Kenter would love to have a couple of working group chairpeople to help put together such a mission. The intent is for the donation of the Torah scroll and the accompanying mission to be at net-zero cost to the shul, including the cost of repairing a Torah.

A motion was made by Helen Zipes and seconded by Mordechai Brodt that one of KBI’s Torah scrolls be donated to the Mayanot Yehudim community of Arusha, Tanzania.

The motion was carried.

3.2 Other business raised by any Director requiring Board decision or authority

No other business was raised.

4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT VOTE

4.1 OVH discussion update

Rabbi Kenter

Rabbi Kenter came to an agreement with Rabbi Teitelbaum of the Ottawa Vaad Hakashrut (OVH) whereby the kitchens would be under Rabbi Kenter's supervision except when events require OVH supervision. The launch date for this arrangement is targeted to be in March or April, in time for Passover.

(Please find the Rabbi's Statement in **Appendix D.**)

4.2 Other business raised by any Director

1) Youth working group

Jodi Gitter

Jodi reported that Jackie Luffman analyzed the membership numbers, and would like to present her report at the beginning of the next Board meeting.

5.0 REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION OR VOTE

5.1 Building our Future

Eric Weiner

Eric presented the *Building our Future* Working Group report to the Board. (Please find the report in **Appendix E.**)

The two or three lead gifts have not yet been nailed down, but once they are, the rest of the congregation will be asked to donate as well.

Eric also presented a draft of the brochure that will include the case statement to the potential donors. (Please find the brochure in **Appendix F.**)

5.2 Other business raised by any Director

No other business was raised.

6.0 EVALUATION OF THE MEETING

This item will be taken out of future meetings' agendas.

7.0 IN CAMERA

8.0 NEXT MEETING – Thursday February 28th, 2019 6:30 PM

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Jonathan Meijer, Secretary

Date of approval

APPENDICES

The following appendices follow this page, in order:

- Appendix A: Statement respecting the status of staff salaries and remittances to the government
- Appendix B: Financial Statement for November 2018
- Appendix C: Article “The Man who Leads the Jewish Community in Arusha, Tanzania”: see <https://jewinthecity.com/2018/07/the-man-who-leads-the-jewish-community-in-arusha-tanzania/>
- Appendix D: Rabbi Kenter’s statement regarding KBI kitchens
- Appendix E: *Building our Future* Working Group report to the Board for January 17, 2019
- Appendix F: Draft brochure for *Building our Future* campaign