

Minutes of Congregation Beth Israel Board Meeting October 7, 2008
Meeting called to order by President Larry Sanders at 8:03 p.m.
Minutes of Sept. meeting were approved.

Rabbi's Report:

Pashat Ha'azinu this week.

Sukkot Services will be on 10/14 and 10/15. Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah services are on 10/21.
Scotch Plains Ministerial Meeting will be held in CBI's Sukkah this year.

President's Report:

Handouts distributed (Board Liaison Lists, Email Addresses, and Finance Report)

Several Board members attended training sessions given by the Leadership Development Institute. Board members should RSVP directly to the United Synagogue office and to Davida for future sessions. Faye reminded the board that there is an incentive for good representation by a synagogue. \$500 will be given to the synagogue that has representation at 7 out of 10 workshops.

Board Liaison calls will begin. Larry will ask several Board Members to start making calls and provide feedback at the next meeting.

Larry asked Davida to put together a list of resigning members and new members. Larry will contact resigned members for feedback as to why they have left and will call new members to welcome them. The website is finished. Board minutes will be listed for viewing.

Committees are asked to take minutes at their meetings and send minutes to Lauren.

The President of CBI is the only person who deals with requests for financial allowances. Due to the economy, this year will be financially difficult for congregants and the synagogue.

A testimonial dinner is being planned for Ira Smelkinson. Volunteers are needed to help. Date TBA.

Youth (USY/Kadima)

Opening picnic was recently held at Tamaques Park. Also had a bagel sale.

Oct. 11th is the opening dance at Terrill Middle School. Chaperones needed.

Oct. 17th Shabbat Service and Dinner planned for 6pm. New member families will be invited.

Looking to recruit new members from the community.

Executive Director:

A Fashion Show fund-raiser is planned for 12/14 and is being co-sponsored by the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation. Will also have a Chinese auction.

Education Director

80 students are registered for the Akiba Academy.

Cookie Dough fund-raiser is going on.

11/2-11/3 is Back to School and Book Sale

New 8th grade curriculum has been provided by the Jewish Federation

Cemetery:

Prior to the price increase on Oct. 1st, 29 graves were sold. After Oct. 1st, 6 more graves were sold.

Currently have 22 graves available for sale. Will review inventory and hope to purchase additional graves.

Finance

Income and Expenses from 7/1/07-6/30/08 were reviewed and showed a slight profit. Will expect a loss this year. It was suggested that income and expenses from the prior fiscal year be distributed as well for comparison.

Currently about \$30,000 under budget from Kol Nidre Appeal compared to last year.

Sisterhood

Membership is down. Efforts are being made to boost membership. A brochure is being developed.
Mah Jong classes are starting. Book reviews continue to be held.
Paid-Up Membership Dinner will be on 11/12 with guest speaker, Alix Strauss.
Plan to hold programs on wellness and Jewish genealogy.

Men's Club:

Program with ex-Yankee Ron Bloomberg coming up on 10/26. Entrance fees are \$20 for those over age 18, and \$10 for those under age 18. Autographs included. Raffles planned. Sponsorships will be available and include dinner with Mr. Bloomberg.
Annual Chanukah Party is being planned.
The Men's Club from the Clark synagogue wants to do joint programs.
The October blood drive was cancelled and will be held in the spring.
Man of the Year event TBA.

Adult Education

Plan to have ethics discussions. New ideas are appreciated.
Plan to hold a Klezmer music event.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Meeting adjourned 8:53 p.m.