

CBI Congregational Meeting Minutes

July 1, '04

Meeting was to inform congregants and give them an opportunity to ask questions. We'll be putting together a Frequently Asked Questions List with the answers to keep everyone informed.

Quest: 1. How did we get to this place?

CTI and BTE were looking to create a permanent Conservative Jewish Community for the Merrimack Valley. Merging would keep our memberships strong and enable us the financial backing to provide a full service synagogue.

- CAB was formed to explore possibilities (Congregation Aleph Bet) of forming a new Synagogue.
- Last Tues. was the CAB's last meeting
- Since we aren't ready to elect a new Board, an Interim-Board was formed.
 1. Jim Shinker, Chair
 2. 7 members from each congregation, CTI & TBE, were picked to create an interim board:
Jon Brody, Gil Brown, Alysa Dudley, Howie Flagler, Augusta Ginsburg, Tanya Gould, Eric Kaplan, Rich Maltzman, Sam Poulten, Robin Rose, Sheldon Rubin, Howie Spector, Adele Stavis, and Jeff Tye
 3. This board will sit for six months
 4. These people are assigned the task of getting the committees up and running
 5. Hold elections
- **GOAL**
 1. To have a full-time staff – Rabbi, Office, Ed Director
 2. A new building within the next 18 months-2 years
 3. To have a full service synagogue
- **STAFF**
 1. Religious School Director – Hired, will begin within the next 2 weeks
 2. Senior USY Advisor – Hired
 3. Junior USY Advisor – Have candidates
 4. Rabbi Slavitt will be continuing as our Spiritual Leader
 5. Cantor for High Holidays – Hired
 6. Full-time Office Administrator – Always have someone in the office to answer questions or direct caller to someone who can, pay bills, send out invoices
 - Committee needs to be formed
 - Create job description
 - Place ad

- **COMMITTEES**

1. RITUAL

-The 2 Ritual Committees had been holding joint meetings for 6 months they are now one committee

-High Holidays – The Ritual Committee is presently working on a location to hold Services. They believe they'll be ready to sign a contract soon.

2. EDUCATION - met

3. SISTERHOOD – met

4. SOCIAL COMMITTEE – Held it's first function on June 5th

Will be planning a family BBQ/Cookout at Camp Hadar at the end of the summer

5. FUNDRAISING – need

6. MEMBERSHIP – need

- a. Need to work on Dues structuring

- b. Both CTI and TBE used different approaches in managing their communities. These approaches will be used by the Membership Committee as a frame of reference for creating CBI

7. BUILDING - need

8. COMMUNICATION – Rich Maltzman, Chair

9. PUBLICITY – need

More people are needed

COMMUNICATING with the Congregation:

There will be a monthly meeting to keep the congregation informed.

Dates: Tues. Aug. 10/ Sun. Sept. 12/ Tues. Oct. 12/ Sun. Nov. 14/ Tues. Dec. 14

Meetings begin at 7:00

NEW CBI Website www.bethisraelMV.org

A draft of the new By-laws will be put on the website. Comments, concerning the By-laws, can be sent via the Webmaster to the interim board.

Rich Pike will be placing the Committee Listings on the website for people to sign-up

Quest: Who is handling the Bar Mitzvah Tutoring?

There are 3 options: Rabbi Slavitt and Rena Pearlmuter are both available for tutoring. If the family know of someone else they'd like to use it must be communicated to Rabbi Slavitt to make sure all criteria are met.

Quest: How will payment for Bar Mitzvah tutoring be handled?

Charge is up to tutor.

Quest: Have all of the 2005 Bar Mitzvah dates been set?

As far as the Ritual Committee know all of the '05 dates have been accounted for.

The '06-'07 families have been met with. If anyone missed the meeting please contact Rabbi Slavitt.

Quest: What is happening with the Memorial Plaques that were hanging in the Lowell Building?

The Plaques will be moved to the building in Andover and hung up in the Sanctuary.

Quest: What will the new Membership Dues be?

The dues for the new Synagogue were created by averaging what the members of both congregations were paying. Some people will be paying a little more others a little less.

Quest: When will the invoices be sent out?

The invoices should be going out soon. As we don't have office staff it's difficult to get the invoices out.

We are also looking for a Software package to handle all of the office services. The financials will be placed in this program.

Quest: TBE and CTI are on different fiscal years. How will this be handled?

Congregants from TBE who've paid through Dec. will be credited towards the new invoice.

Quest: Have the funds been merged?

CBI is not incorporated yet. We have lawyers working on the papers. TBE and CTI are still entities.

Quest: Who will staffers be contracting with?

Since CBI isn't a legal entity it can not enter into a contract. Both CTI and BTE are legal entities and can enter into contractual agreements. Once CBI is incorporated it will take over the contracts from CTI and/or TBE.

Quest: Will be advertising for the High Holidays?

Once we know where services will be held and if there's enough room to accommodate non-members, we will decide whether we should advertise.

Quest: Where will the new building be located?

Presently there are a couple of sites that look promising within the 133, 495, 93 triangle. Sheldon Rubin, Howie Spector and Howie Flagler are working on this piece.

Quest: Not everyone has internet access. How can we be sure everyone is kept informed?

Anything of importance that goes out via e-mail will be followed up with a hard copy.

Quest: Are there plans for the Andover building? What if we got a decent offer tomorrow?

The Andover building will be held onto until we are ready to move into a new building.

Quest: Do we need the money from the sale of the Andover building to help pay for land and a new building?

No.

Quest: Can we get a list together of all of the members of CBI?

- On June 30 ownership of Temple Beth El's building changed hands.
- TBE needs to be out of the Lowell building within the next 2 weeks.
- Wednesday people are meeting at the in Lowell to pack up the Library. If you can spare the time please come and help.
- The TBE lines ring at the Lowell site for another couple of weeks. After that calls will be routed to the office in Andover.