

Kesher Israel Board Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2007

Attendees: Rabbi Barry Freundel, Gary Winters, Roz Singer, Al Altschul, Jesse Mendelson, Elanit Rothschild, Suzette Klein, Elana Lederman, Jerome Chapman, Seth Opert, Gamliel Kronemer.

1. Year-End Financial Report (Al Altschul):

- a. Four Key Items in Receipts:
 - i. Total Contributions
 - 1. Overall, came in on target
 - ii. Dues
 - 1. Came in very close to target – as usual, a few people haven't yet paid but Al thinks they will, and will be counted for 2007-2008
 - iii. Total Operating Receipts
 - 1. Very close to budget
 - iv. Non-Operating Receipts
 - 1. Good performance overall
 - a. Al was unsure whether room rental shortfall was due to lack of rentals or breakdown in billing, and will check with office
- b. Key Items in Disbursements:
 - i. Kiddush
 - 1. Shul overspent by \$2000, but caught up because of catering
 - a. Shul Policy on Kiddush sponsorship – 50% to be paid when you sign up, 50% to be paid by the time the kiddush occurs
 - i. Shoshana will continue to work on making follow-up billing more regular
 - b. Was Hashkama kiddush sponsorship price raised?? Gary did not authorize an increase
 - ii. Utilities
 - 1. Utility rates increased greatly in 2007
 - 2. Gary is trying to get Shoshana and the gabaiim to regulate the use of heat and A/C during the week, and its an ongoing problem
 - iii. Salaries & Benefits
 - 1. Went up by a lot this year because some expenses came in higher than budget
 - 2. Almost half of our expense is this line item
 - iv. Ritual Items
 - 1. Cost came in a little higher than budget, but was paid for by Bregstone, so it evened out

- v. Shul pledged that we would pay for Yoel Oz's transportation even when he wasn't on, and he took advantage of that, so we were \$2,500 over
 - 1. Rabbi will talk to YU about having them pay for overage expenses
 - c. The \$22,000 shortfall was funded by excesses from previous years
 - i. Shul accounts are low, and will now have to be built back up
- 2. Fundraising
 - a. Gary reported that Kol Nidre Appeal Evening has been set for September 9 – Sunday between Labor Day and Rosh Hashana
 - i. Susan Ross has volunteered to help us find some of the top donors and solicit them for a specific target
 - b. Also need to focus on encouraging people to become members
 - i. Gamliel suggested every board member should create a mental list of non-members and then send a letter to them
 - ii. Rabbi suggested to subtract membership list from listserv list and send emails to everyone
 - c. We can have a sign-in sheet at mid-week events to try to drum up membership
 - d. Board thought it is a good idea to put a contribution page on the website, as well as a submittable membership page online
- 3. Intern
 - a. We've hired Meir Lipschitz as the rabbinic intern
 - i. Rabbinic Intern Hiring Committee was Elanit R.J, Dave Sloan and Gamliel K.
 - b. One rationale for the hiring was because the shul did not want to back out of the intern-hiring community again (like it did 2 years ago)
 - i.
 - c.
 - i.
 - d. Gary gave a yasher koach to the committee for all of their work on this topic
- 4. Assistant Rabbi
 - a. There was a Board online vote, and the support for hiring Yoel Oz was overwhelmingly supportive
 - i. Position will use the job description penned by Dave Sloan
- 5. May and June minutes approved, pending coda of Yoel's hiring in June minutes
- 6. Friday night Minyan
 - a. We haven't missed a minyan at any of the three, so the board agreed that the times should not be changed

- b. Earliest late minyan will be 7:30 pm, and for a few weeks it will be in the Bayit
 - c. We will place a curtain on the stairs that overlook the mikvah for the beginning of the minyan in the summer
- 7. Board Meeting Times
 - a. May through August – Tuesday nights; September through April - Sunday mornings
- 8. Chairs and Tables for Social Hall
 - a. Suzette Klein said chair samples are not available Gary will make sure Ken is told to be in touch with Suzette.
- 9. Leon has mentioned Michael Oren as a possible speaker. Elanit will speak to Leon.

Meeting adjourned.