

Congregation Beth Shalom  
Committee Reports  
December 2021

**Fundraising Report**

Howard Sigal, Fundraising VP

- CBS Fundraiser will be the evening of May 22, 2022.

**House Report**

Ray Rokni, House VP

- **Northbrook Summons!** CBS has been issued a summons to appear on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am regarding failure to pass inspection of our parking lot resurfacing due to ADA and ponding signage. Ponding-Drainage issue has been resolved. Susan has spoken at length with NB facility managers office regarding ADA (Handicap signs), and they understand and sympathize with CBS. Susan and Laura plan to attend the Summons, requesting extension to address the handicap sign issues. We will determine the best acceptable solution for installing the required signs both from cost as well as maintaining the integrity of CBS parking structure (no holes drilled into asphalt). M&J the resurfacing contractor that we used has been contacted, however, they claim that this work was not included in the SOW that they submitted to CBS. We need to determine how to proceed and who is going to pay for completing the work.
- **FEMA grant Projects – CBS has \$98K in Grant**  
While the grant is good through 2024, CBS need to present quarterly reports to maintain status of the grant. Susan has been working on getting quotations and location of blue boxes. Next goal is to submit photos of areas with color coded improvements.
- **Live streaming and Sound System:** We have been requested to have on site support for Shabbat to avoid video and especially audio issues. On site IT support is \$60 per Hour for 10hr minimum. Even @ 4hr minimum, it will be \$250 per shabbat and need \$13K annual budget. Two suggestions are under review.
  - 1- Cost of providing remote user support for congregants – might not solve internal issues but might address some of the congregants' issues and frustrations with their computing and interfaces.
  - 2- Lock down the sound system set up and do not allow outsiders to make any setup changes for events such as concerts.
- **IT upgrades: motion for investment for replacement of two of the CBS switches for a value of up to \$10K – Approved in November Board meeting.** Two switches are on order – Cost of \$5300 is much lower than budget. Expect to be delivered in 30 days.

- **Upgrade to front door entry system** – New system has been installed. Several staff members have apps turned on their phone and can speak to and see who is there and open the doors remotely.
  
- **Maintenance:**
  - **Roof inspection** completed - seasonal clean-up of leaves / drains, recommendations for minor repairs by HVAC units to prevent leaks
  - **Sump Pump:** Need to change backup sump Pump which is not functioning. Received Quotation from Santucci is \$2700 (includes 2" pump and 2 maintenance free marine batteries). Wifi alarm application is additional \$500.
  - **Freezer** - ordered new reach in cooler – 42 Cu Ft \$3,111 includes delivery - about 30 days delivery
  
- **New CBS Signage: Walters and front entrance** – House Committee has received quotations for the replacement of CBS signage located on the Walters Avenue. Inspection of the existing site is that they can use the current foundation for installing new sign. Final selection is a rectangle monument sign with CBS flame and “Congregation Beth Shalom” in CBS fonts. Color of the monuments, color of wordings and flame, size of flame still need to be determined. We will also solicit quotation for the replacement of the front entrance (Circle Drive) sign. A new power line (to the code) will be installed as well. Goal is to have all quotations in by January to make a single motion to the board for approval of the budget. This will be followed by awarding the contract in February to be fabricated and installed by April so that we have new signs on site for the May annual meeting.

## **Finance**

Cheryl Braude, Howard Freidin

- Through October, 77% of membership revenues have been collected. This compares favorably to the 72% collected this time last year.
- YTD school fees collected total \$92.5M, up from the \$71.9M collected last year; collected school fees represent 55% of funds due in comparison to last year's 40% collected figure through October.
- The High Holiday Appeal is still a work in progress. There are a number of larger past donors that have not yet provided pledges. Follow-up is needed in order to ensure budgeted numbers will be met.
- Regarding expenses, YTD High Holiday expenses of \$45.8M trail last year's total of \$59M; final expenses are expected to fall short of the \$82M budgeted for the year.
- October financial reports and Profit & Loss reports also included

## **Membership Report**

Sue Lampert, Membership VP

- Thank you to Lisa Orlov and Deanne Friedman for designing the new CBS YACHAD webpage enabling registration (or adding to a waitlist) for Formed, Forming and New YACHAD Affinity Groups.
- Two new Young Family YACHAD groups formed during the meet and greet we held during Chanukah.
- CBS Connections, providing business and other networking amongst CBS congregants, will be holding events on January 20<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Watch for details in the Bulletin, the Byte and emails.

### **Programming Report**

Randy Samborn, Programming VP

#### **• Past classes/events:**

11/14 Israel in Depth was held with 36 attending *in person* and another 35 screens on Zoom.

11/17 Our first session of You KNEAD this Class was held via Zoom with 36 screens participating.

11/30 Chanukah Happening --

We put our lit chanukiyot in the window to “**Publicize the Miracle!**” Over 150 members and prospective members supported this all-synagogue program that included:

- Communal candle-lighting and a message from Rabbi Ferratier
- Singing/Chanukah zimriya with the Selah choir
- Hot chocolate/cider and sufganiyot
- Decorating windows
- Creating luminarias

**Special thanks to the BOT members who attended and helped serve hot chocolate and cider and helped monitor the arts and crafts activities for both adults and children. It was a fun and unique way to publicize the miracle of Chanukah!**

**CBS U/ Adult Education -- Upcoming classes in the spring semester:**

**NEW CLASS: L’Dor Vador**

**Instructor: Cantor Steven Stoehr**

**Date:** Wednesdays, January 12, 19, 26\* **(ZOOM only)**  
& Sunday, January 30\*\* **(in person or Zoom)**

**Time:** \*Grandparents: 6:30 – 7:30 pm; Parents: 8:15 – 9:15 pm  
\*\*4:00 – 5:30 pm (everyone together for wine & cheese)

Designed for parents and grandparents of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

**NEW CLASS: Everything Old is New Again: Antisemitism... Ancient Hatred, New Challenges**

**Instructor: Cheryl Banks**

**Date:** Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:00 am

This course will discuss the 2000-year-old roots of antisemitism and its distinct historical memes that have evolved throughout the centuries. We will also explore what the present and future holds for the Jews as antisemitism becomes more and more part of our modern-day society.

**You Knead this Class (February 23, 2022 at 6:30 pm – ZOOM only)** baking class featuring yeast dough recipes and techniques. This session will focus on baking Hamantashen!

**Israel in Depth** (Sundays, 1/16, 3/20 & 4/3) is a look at one facet of Israeli life at each session; this is a joint effort from CBS U/Adult Ed, Men's Club, and the Israel Committee.

**Parshat HaShavua** (Tuesdays, 9:15-10:15 am) is an interesting take on the parsha of the week taught by Cantor Stoehr and various friends from across the country and sometimes from different faiths.

**Jewish News** (Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am) is an in depth look several topics each week that are either local, national, or worldwide.

**Talmud** (Tuesdays, 6:30-7:40 pm) taught by Rabbi Ferratier in English; very accessible even to a new student of Talmud.

**Beginning Yiddish** (Wednesdays, 11:30 am-12:30 pm) is a class in reading and comprehension; any student joining the class at this point would need the permission of the instructor, Gela Altman. This is a joint class with the Chicago Loop Synagogue.

**Tai Chi** (Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 am) is offered for anyone who would like to have a low impact, mindful way to start the day. This is co-sponsored by HAZAK and is appropriate for all ages and activity levels.

**Please be aware that all these classes will be taught next semester and are free to all CBS members. There is a charge of \$50 per semester for non-member friends of CBS. Adult Education and Programming are great ways to encourage members to be involved!**

### **Ritual Report**

Bill Shulman, Ritual VP

- The committee has not had a need to meet. However, we will be developing Ambassador assignments beginning with the new year. We will be including Ritual Committee members and Bar/Bat-Mitzvah parents, which we had not included over the past several months upon reopening. We also will be sending

a new Sunday night opener list to Exec Board members as the current one 'expires' at the end of 2021.

### **School Report**

Robyn Rosengard, School VP

- No written report

### **Social Action Report**

Suzy Hakimian, Social Action VP

- No written report

### **Youth Report**

Seth Shrank, Youth VP

- No written report

### **Men's Club Report**

Steve Lessman, Andrew Wagner Co-Presidents

- We would like to thank all of our members and vice presidents for their help in organizing, helping, and participating in all of our events.

### **Events that have occurred since our last meeting**

- **Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>: Israel In Depth** program featuring **Carl Schrag** speaking on **How Did "Zionism" Become a Dirty Word**
- **Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Erev Thanksgiving** featuring the world-renowned **Jesse White Tumblers**. This event was a huge success with 120 attendees. Here is a video of the Tumblers: <https://youtu.be/1mMEAvm0bE>.

### **Upcoming events**

- **Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> : Israel In Depth** program featuring **Carl Schrag** speaking on **Satire & Standup – Israelis and their biting sense of humor**
- **Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> Men's Club Breakfast**. Guest Speaker. **Justice Robert Gordon**, member of Beth Shalom and Jewish Sports Historian. Topic Jews and Sports.
- **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>: Men's Club Breakfast**. Guest Speaker **Jonathan Eig** Author of the Award Winning Biography **Ali: A Life**.
- **Sunday, February 13<sup>rd</sup>: World Wide Wrap**
- **TBA: Announcements of our Kavod Award and Man/Youth of the Year honorees**
- **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>: Lox Box**
- **Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>: Men's Club Shabbat**
- **Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Men's Club Golf Outing**

Signups for all of our events and lox box ordering are at: <https://cbsmensclubevents.square.site>.

### **Sisterhood Report**

Jackie Zelkowitz, President

- No written report