

**Congregation Beth Shalom
Committee Reports
January 2020**

Fundraising Report

Ray Rokni, Fundraising VP

- We are truly excited to host Rabbi Melman's 18 years of service celebration which is on Sunday April 26th from 5 to 8pm. As we have announced before this will be CBS annual fundraising event with Dinner, Entertainment and Tribute Book. We will also have an exciting Raffle prize for this event.

Fundraising Committee is making great progress in planning and executing this event. You have already received our congregation wide email announcement earlier in December. By early February, our congregants will receive invitations to participate and sponsor this event. Solicitation letters to Jewish organizations, Jewish businesses and local businesses will also be mailed in early February. Our 1st announcement is released and will be published in February JUF news. In addition, thanks to Deann, we will be engaged in a publication campaign of this event; announcement will be made to Jewish and local publications as well as city- and state-wide offices.

Beside your participation and sponsorship of this event; we also can use your help and welcome you participation as a member of the fundraising committee. We need more help for organizing and managing the day of the event. Please contact me if you are interested to be part of our fundraising committee.

- Please help raise money for CBS by purchasing gift cards for your everyday purchases. It is easy and convenient, and you will receive an e-mail notice when your cards have arrived at CBS. Orders can be picked up in the same week if received by Monday.

House Report

Laura Shulman, House VP

- **Parking lot**

Have spent \$405,000 of budgeted 450,000 and will finish with some landscaping and lighting improvements in the spring. Remainder of money will remain in Hineynu for other projects.

- **Security Enhancements**

- Security improvements are continually be incorporated and reviewed. We intend on issuing a letter to the congregation soon to let them know some of the basic measure we have taken without sharing specifics. We also want them to be able to feel "safe" in our "home" CBS.

- New door handles will be on the sanctuary and social hall and kitchen doors and some hold open closures will replace kick stops.
- Hired security and police procedures are being reviewed.
- Security personnel are in the building only for security job reasons; they are not to be door openers and foyer greeters/attendants.
- We will be setting up some additional training for all Lay Leaders and Ambassadors in the next months and identifying some possible volunteer roles especially for Shabbat.
- **Repairs**
 - 2 heat exchangers need replacing, one in each of the 30 ton social hall units; to be installed week of Jan 13; under \$5000/exchanger. These are units that would cost over \$60,000 to fully replace.
 - New ovens ordered for Melman parsonage; heating element stopped working.
- **Capital Reserve report**

The asset life schedule has been updated and shared with Financial Committee for budget use.

Financial Report (see attached)

Cheryl Braude, Jim Donnenberg, and Majorie Maxwell

Membership Report

Randy Samborn, Membership VP

No report.

Programming Report

Ellen Grossman, Programming VP

- SAVE THE DATE! Sunday January 26th- Please join us for the Congregation Beth Shalom JUF Brunch this year. We have a terrific speaker. Yaakov Katz is the editor-in-chief of the *Jerusalem Post* and the author of his recent book *Shadow Strike – Inside Israel’s Secret Mission to Eliminate Syrian Nuclear Power*. The book has received great reviews and they say it reads like a “thriller”. He is also originally from Chicago. Our chairs are Debbie and Bruce Bell and Jill and Glen Roter.
- The Havdalah, Dinner and a Movie was canceled last Saturday night January 11, 2020 because of weather.
- Still working on another speaker from the last Spring.

Ritual Report

Howard Freidin, Ritual VP

No report.

School Report

Alan Zelkowitz, School VP

No report.

Social Action Report

Sara Weinstein, Social Action VP

- Special December Collections:
 - Many new **toys and gift cards** for holiday drive for JCFS were collected this month.
 - We are still collecting new or gently used **Adult Coats/hats/gloves/scarves** for a Drive for Momma Chef's Soup Kitchen at Congregation K.I.N.S.

Please Drop off in the lobby box by December 31st

- Field Trips to various charities around the community such as Bernie's Books, Feed our Starving Children, Ronald McDonald House and Cradles to Crayons are in the works. Let me know if you would like to participate or have other locations you would be interested in.
- Last month I spoke at the BOT meeting and told you about a new SA Project**

Hunger Free Northbrook would like volunteers to help students in our community who are food insecure with supplemental food items for lunches for the weekends and holidays. I am very excited to share that we delivered 24 food bags to a school in Northbrook last week! Thank you to the very generous members who participated in this exciting project!

Contact me if you would like to participate on an individual or monthly basis or would like more information. This could also be a great way to include children or grandchildren in a Social Action project. BOT members should have received an email with the link to sign up after last months meeting. If you didn't receive it or have questions, let me know.

Youth Report

Dan Sher, Youth VP

No report.

Men's Club Report

Steve Elisco, President

- There were no programs over the winter break and unfortunately, the January 12th breakfast and "To Your Good Health" program, "Keeping the Rhythm: Sleep and Circadian Wellness as We Age" was cancelled due to the weather forecast at the time the decision had to be made. This program will be rescheduled.
- The Man of the Year Committee selected the 2020 Honoree, and an announcement will be made shortly.
- At our January 15th Board Meeting, we elected the members of our Nominating Committee, who will begin preparing our slate of officers for the Executive Committee as well as Board Members. They will also be reviewing proposed amendments to the Men's Club By-Laws for presentation to the membership for approval.
- We are currently in the most active period for Lox Box solicitation. If you have not ordered your boxes yet, you will receive a call from one of our Men's Club Callers. If you would like to order your boxes on your own, you can do so in one of the following ways:
 1. Order online at <http://cbsloxbox.square.site/> - you can pay online using credit card using this secure website. If you would like to pay by check, choose the option to pay by check, and we will contact you with payment instructions.
 2. Fill out the paper form. Attach a check for payment. If you would like to pay by credit card, we will email you an invoice, which can be paid thru our secure Square website, from your computer, mobile phone, tablet, etc.
- Upcoming programs are as follows:

January 19th: This is the fourth program in the "Israel in Depth Breakfast Series", led by Carl Schrag. The topic will be "The Rainbow of Israeli Society". With people who hail from 100 different countries and cultures, Israeli society is one of the most diverse in the world. We'll delve into the reality of a country that is home to people who hail from Russia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea, and followers of religions that include Judaism, Islam, Christianity, and more.

January 26th: Join us for the annual JUF Brunch. Come hear distinguished speaker Yaakov Katz who is The Jerusalem Post's editor-in-chief. He previously served for close to a decade as the paper's military reporter and defense analyst.

February 2nd: World Wide Wrap. Join your Men's Club and congregations around the world as we teach the mitzvah of wrapping tefillin. The World Wide Wrap unites men, women and children in prayer. This year we shall be experiencing "Davening in the Dark", a heightened sensory approach to the morning service. This program begins at 8:30 AM.

February 9th: Israel Across the Generational Divide. This is the sixth and final session of the Israel in Depth series. Polls show that support for Israel

remains strong among Americans in general and American Jews specifically, but there's no denying that millennials view the Jewish state through very different lenses than their elders. How can we understand these different perspectives, and what can we do about them?

Sisterhood Report

Robyn Rosengard, President

No report.