

Summer 2015
5775

B'nai Israel Synagogue

Upcoming Services and Events

June 12
Shabbat Services
7:00pm
(Victor Lieberman)

June 13
Annual Meeting and
Picnic 12:00pm

July 17
Shabbat Services
7:00pm
(Victor Lieberman)

August 28
Shabbat Services
7:00pm
(TBD)

Shabbat Services are
at 7:00pm on noted
Friday evenings

*On rabbi weekends,
we also offer
Torah Study, Adult
Education and
Children's
Education

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President's Message, by Victor Lieberman

Hello, Everybody!

It's not snowing outside, which is as we all know the definition of summer in North Dakota. Time to get out and enjoy the summer sunshine for however many minutes or hours we are privileged to have it present. And your synagogue once again has just the opportunity to fit the bill!

Our annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, June 13th, at Lincoln Park. As usual, since in two-week's time it may already be winter, check the weather report before showing up for guidance on appropriate outdoor attire. As listed elsewhere, food starts at noon, and meeting commences at 1 PM.

A preliminary annual meeting agenda is included in this *Bulletin*. Please feel free to forward agenda items to me or alert other

board members and we'll place you on the menu.

We had a great year just finishing up with student rabbi Ari Naveh, and look forward to the fall with our new student rabbi, Isaama Stoll. I have only recently received her contact information (e-mail) and sent a welcome message to her, but have not yet heard back. More details at our meeting and throughout the summer, I'm sure.

As we normally do, we shall have services once a month over the summer, and hope to catch whatever segment of the congregation is not off to vacation parts known and otherwise. Our next Friday night service will be the Friday before our annual meeting, on June 12th at our normal, 7 PM time. (ish).

Also, this year, our congregation officer elections are for synagogue president and vice president. Currently, the incumbents (myself and Bert Garwood) have agreed to stand for office for an additional 2-year term. If there are others who wish to run, please get in touch with a board member, or come to the annual meeting ready to forward your candidacy before nominations close!

And this final note: we did order new siddur's for the synagogue. These are the updated (more inclusive translations) of the current prayerbook, *Sim Shalom*. The payment's gone in, and we look forward to delivery sometime this summer. Stay tuned!

Victor Lieberman
Synagogue President



Annual Meeting Agenda

Saturday June 13, 2015, 12 Noon – 3 PM (ish)
Lincoln Park

- I. Changes & approval of agenda.
- II. Reading & approval of minutes from previous annual meeting
- III. Nomination & Election of Officers
 - President and Vice President
- IV. Summer Schedule
- V. Student Rabbinic Pulpit News
- VI. Other Rabbinic News
- VII. Membership
- VIII. Treasurer's Report (other financial matters?)
- IX. Tzedakah Report
- X. Member's Comments? Year in Review? Etc.
 - XI. Brief Announcements
 1. Building news?
 2. Other announcements?

Treasurer's Report: Gelt Division

While the state of the synagogue finances is strong, there is no room to rest on our laurels. Every year we use up just a little bit more of our financial assets for the services and fellowship we offer. Those are dollars well-spent any way you look at it. The challenge we have ahead of us is what will we have for the future. Many in the congregation desire more services, a true rabbinic presence, more adult programming, and more community events. All of these are admirable goals and are worthy of consideration.

Yet most of the work is done either by a core of members or those services are paid for from our funds. Honestly memberships are low and demand is high. Most likely these are related. I would call upon all who cherish B'Nai Israel to come to the Annual Meeting and picnic. There you can share and enter into a more meaningful relationship with the congregation and help shape the future of our schul. Not just for now but for generations.

We need your input and your support.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me at linda.baezaporter@icloud.com

Linda Baeza Porter , Treasurer

**B'nai Israel Annual Meeting Minutes
Sunday, June 1, 2014**

Present: Bert Garwood, Linda Baeza Porter, Donna Hastings, Victor Lieberman, Harry Leichter, Barry Milavetz, Judy Milavetz, Susan Raatz, Ruth Leichter, Howard Kossover, Meg Kossover, Jeffrey Powell, Jen Steinbruckner

Agenda: Linda moved to approve the agenda proposed by Victor, Barry seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

Minutes: Linda moved to approve the 2013 annual meeting minutes. Ruth seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

Nomination and Election of Officers: Treasurer and Secretary positions are open, for 2 year term ending in 2016. Linda and Jen are on the ballot, for treasurer and secretary, respectively. Barry moved to close the ballot. Jen seconded. Bert moved to accept Linda and Jen for the positions aforementioned, by acclamation, Richard seconded and the motion was approved.

Judy moved to formally include thanks to Jeffrey Powell for his years of service as treasurer. This was entered into the minutes without objection.

Scheduling: Summer scheduling will include once monthly lay-led services.

Rabbinic Presence: The congregation is set to receive a student rabbi on a "tri-weekly" basis for the upcoming year; this is about 12-14 visits, plus the high holidays. Discussion was held regarding inviting other professional rabbis to visit the congregation for Shabbat weekends.

Education: Discussion was held to cover that we did purchase a curriculum for children, should there be interest in it's use. There were talks about how to best liase with parents and the synagogue board. Some ideas included having a system of the board overseeing a parent-driven system, with a parent on the board. There was interest in seeking a parent with kid(s) active in the current offerings to serve as a board member. Some expressed that there were concerns that providing opinions may inadvertently commit a person to board service. A suggestion was also offered that a nominal fee be assessed to participants in children's education to encourage their commitment to attend scheduled programming, as there were many that expressed interest and only 5 consistent attendees. This presents challenges in lesson planning for those that do arrive.

Treasurer's Report: Formal report to be submitted. Congregation finances are "where we would hope to be". There are 29 paid membership units. Recommendation is

for the finance committee to meet during the summer. Pesach event produced a slight profit.

Tzedakah: The tzedakah report is also to be submitted. The high holiday food drive resulted in a "packed car", which was brought to the pantry on 8th Avenue. There are plans to hold this event again in the fall. Reviewed that five entities each received \$100 donations, The Arc, 3rd Street Clinic, Head Start and the Listen Center.

For the upcoming, several charities to donate to were discussed, including Head Start, Habitat for Humanity, Global Friends/New Americans, Meals on Wheels, and CVIC. Offering these 5 charities \$200 each was proposed.

Meg will join the tzedakah committee. There is \$1000 unspent for the year ending. The committee will decide based on the aforementioned suggestions.

The board discussed that additional funds can always be allocated upon approval, for different kinds of giving. For the 2014-2015 year, Bert moves to allocate \$1500 in tzedakah for local charities. Howard seconded.

Discussion included the notation that CATCH would be a separate contribution, and that these funds would be spent at the discretion of the tzedakah committee. The motion approved without objection.

A bit more discussion ensued regarding two whom the congregation should donate, and the Anti-Defamation League was a noted party. Ideas for charities and organizations to receive donations should be submitted to the board.

Other Business: Linda noted that the Associate Vice President of Diversity will soon begin their duties at UND. She recommended the board visit with that individual to establish introductions and initiate a conversation.

Building Concerns: Bert will complete some minor repairs, Victor will call contractors regarding the foundation, stairs, and outdoor entry floor covering. Bert recommended roof drains be examined, and conversation of water issues with respect to the building took place.

Linda moves that Bert contact and oversee needed replacement of sidewalk along Cottonwood Street. Richard seconded the motion, which was approved. Jen moved that we improve the exterior concrete and add sidewalk at the rear of the building. Linda seconded.

Discussion was held, motion was approved. Discussion was held regarding floor covering for downstairs closets.

Other Business: Richard expressed thanks to the officers of the board. Existing decorative pictures and plaques were discussed.

Adjournment: Victor moved to adjourn, Bert seconded, motion passed without objection.

Yahrtzeits



Elizabeth Ann	Bochkareff	Tammuz 2	George	Lee	Av 1
Fannie	Goldberg	Tammuz 2	Sophie	Panovitz	Av 2
Miriam	Heller	Tammuz 4	Harold	Pollman	Av 3
Anna M.	Singaloff	Tammuz 4	Paul "Pay-She"	Krotik	Av 9
Celia	Cooper	Tammuz 6	Harold	Pollman	Av 15
Gladys	Paletz	Tammuz 7	Solomon	Braunstein	Av 21
Clair	Sherwood	Tammuz 8	David	Kessler	Av 24
Anna	Dinner	Tammuz 10	Morley	Palay	Av 26
Sam	Gershman	Tammuz 11	Arthur	Kushner	Av 30
Arm	Frankel	Tammuz 15	Mordechai	Dickel	Elul 1
William	Bannack	Tammuz 16	Lillian	Gutnik	Elul 2
Isadore	Papermaster	Tammuz 16	Freda	Cooper	Elul 4
Ida	Schwartz	Tammuz 16	Pesach	Gull	Elul 4
Dorothy	Cooper	Tammuz 17	Arthur	Banick	Elul 6
Golda	Schwartz	Tammuz 17	Eddes	Greenberg	Elul 6
Ethel	Heller	Tammuz 18	Julius	Stern	Elul 9
Harry	Gershman	Tammuz 19	Havim	Glazer	Elul 12
Barbara	Siegel	Tammuz 23	Beverly	Seglin	Elul 12
Samuel	Stern	Tammuz 26	Anna	Brand	Elul 13
Bernard	Podell	Tammuz 27	Ethel	Rosenberg	Elul 14
Jacob	Gull	Tammuz 28	Hank	Kushner	Elul 16
Rose	Palay	Tammuz 29	Harry	Greenberg	Elul 22
			Fred	Phillip	Elul 24
			Dorothy Banick	Grossman	Elul 28
			Michael	Rubin	Elul 29



B'nai Israel Annual Meeting and Picnic

Saturday, June 13

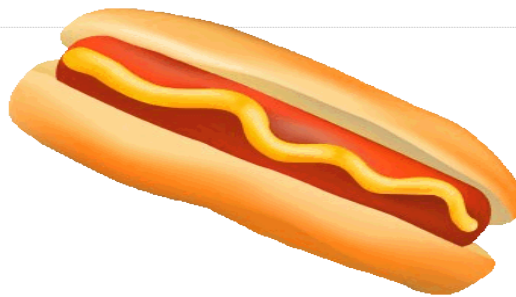
Lincoln Park, Shelter #2

12:00pm lunch, 1:00pm meeting

Please bring: a pareve (non-dairy) dish, your desired beverage**, outdoor chairs



Synagogue will provide hot dogs & buns!



In the event of inclement weather, keep an eye on your email and social media for updates to location!

**non-alcoholic please, in accordance with park guidelines