

President Richard Werner convened a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, Temple Beth Israel on March 19, 1972. All members of the Board were present, except Larry Goldstone.

The purposes of the meeting were to review the negotiations concluded between the Congregation B'nai Zion and the special ad hoc committee appointed by President Werner, and to prepare a recommended course of action for presentation to our congregation at the forthcoming annual meeting, April 16.

Mr. Neidelman gave the opening Prayer.

After Mr. Werner reviewed the background, and the reason for appointing the ad hoc committee, the minutes of the meeting of the two committees, held March 5, 1972, were reviewed by the Board paragraph by paragraph, a conclusion reached, and a separate vote taken. The minutes of the committee deliberations are included here-with; at the conclusion of each paragraph, the modifications and approval of the Temple Beth Israel Board of Directors are appended in italics.

"For T.B.I. Messers Yanowitz, Werner, D. Rosenblum, I. Rosenblum, and Dr. Cohen."

"For B.Z. Messers Rosenberg, Rosenberg, and Nathan."

"The following points of concern to Beth Israel and B'Nai Zion and a brief trend of the discussion that ensued are included below."

"A. B.Z. requested that all current members be accepted as members of T.B.I. without a building fund pledge. Discussion indicated that all of their members had made pledges to their synagogue in the past and their congregational assets would be ceded to T.B.I."

Discussion concerned with the viability of the assets, and the dues structure. On recommendation of the Committee, motion to accept all current members of B'nai Zion and to accept their congregational assets in lieu of pledges to the Building Fund was approved unanimously.

"B. B.Z. requested that all current members and their minor children to age 21 be granted burial privileges without their having to join or maintain membership in T.B.I. Discussion was lengthy on this point and there was reluctance on the part of some members of the committee at first. Reasons advanced included the ceded assets including the cemetery area, the number of widows whose families had in the past supported B.Z. and certain orthodox members of the congregation who it was felt were being in effect, deserted by B.Z. since they would probably not join T.B.I. on religious grounds as well as practical grounds, (distance to walk, etc.) but who now held cemetery privileges."

With the understanding that B'nai Zion members would be subject to the regulations of the Temple Cemetery Committee, including payment of the Perpetual Maintenance fee, motion to approve paragraph B passed, with dissent.

"C. Those B.Z. members who desire perpetuating an orthodox minyon requested the use of the main sanctuary if no conflict with reform services arises."

With the modification that the Rabbi of the Congregation may reserve his right to the pulpit, motion to approve paragraph C passed unanimously.

"D. A capable Torah reader was requested for Saturday A.M. services to the maximal extent considered practical. In the discussion it became apparent that Mr. Alpern could be brought in for those instances when he could not be available. B.Z. realized that financially we could not provide a paid reader every Saturday and that our Rabbi while he could read the weekly portion did not have the 8-10 hours deemed necessary to practice the entire portion to perfection."

Motion to approve paragraph D, subject to budgetary limitations, passed unanimously.

"E. For High Holiday services (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) an orthodox cantor was requested."

Motion to obtain the services of an Orthodox Cantor for High Holy Day services, subject to budgetary limitations, was passed unanimously.
Discussion concerning maximum fee, and use of other, specified, Temple facilities was rejected as premature.

"F. The possibility of conducting a fully orthodox Bar Mitzvah was discussed by several members of the B.Z. congregation using our main sanctuary for the purpose."

With the stipulation that the Rabbi of the Congregation reserves the right to his pulpit, motion to authorize use of the Sanctuary for an orthodox Bar Mitzvah, on request, passed unanimously.

"G. Requests were made for our Rabbi to provide advanced studies for certain members of the B.Z. congregation and in return these members would assist our Rabbi with the Hebrew studies of many of our congregants. Discussion indicated that the Rabbi was willing to undertake this and welcomed the added Hebrew assistance."

While the Board approved the exchange of talent alluded to in Paragraph G, it was felt that this provision should not be included in the formal Articles of Agreement.

"H. Because of the possible reluctance on the part of a certain few members of B.Z. to affiliate with a reform congregation the B.Z. delegates requested that no time limit be placed on affiliation with T.B.I. and this would include the agreements requested in A & B above. B.Z. agreed to furnish a complete current membership list that would include all of their 'covered' members so as to avoid problems of recognizance in the future."

Motion to accept the special exception set forth in Paragraph H passed unanimously.

"I. T.B.I. was requested to honor those burial plots already sold or otherwise accounted for of B.Z. and a current list of such transactions would be furnished. B.Z. felt that they would be passing on their assets and that their prior contracts had to be honored."

Subject to the regulations of the Temple Cemetery Committee, including payment of the Perpetual Maintenance fee, motion to accept the contractual and contingent liabilities of B'nai Zion set forth in Paragraph I passed unanimously.

"J. B.Z. requested the right to continue, if desired, certain orthodox burial practices. They were informed of our current board discussion concerning T.B.I. present members and were also informed of the fact that T.B.I. did not specify any particular mortician. Discussion indicated that there were no major or minor conflicts in this area, especially since orthodox burial has been only very rarely conducted from the synagogue."

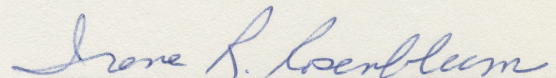
Subject to the regulations of the Temple Cemetery Committee, motion to approve Paragraph J passed unanimously.

"K. It was agreed that B.Z. would cede all of their real estate, synagogue house, and cemeteries, religious objects, etc. to T.B.I." ~~and~~

Motion to accept all assets of Congregation B'nai Zion, both real and personal, passed unanimously.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board agreed to recommend to the Congregation approval of the agreement reached with the Congregation B'nai Zion. This recommendation is to be promulgated to members of our Congregation at least ten days before our annual meeting, April 16.

The meeting was adjourned.


Irene R. Rosenblum, Secretary