

Executive Board 10/28/58

A special meeting of the executive board was held in the home of

vice president Irwin Becker on October 28. Present were Messrs. Duker, Berkowitz, Markowitz, Weiss, Becker, Berliner, Harris, Nissenson, and Mrs. Scott.

Meeting was called to order at 9:15 PM. Purpose of the meeting was to be made known as meeting progressed. It was ruled that minutes of previous meeting be dispensed with.

First order of business was the fact that S. Community YMCA was available for Sunday School purposes. Mr. Becker reported that we had the use of the YMCA if we would furnish them with a release of liability. The matter had been discussed with attorney Emerson Samuels who advised that under no circumstances is the group to give a release from liability as each member is individually responsible unless the group is chartered.

Dr. Weiss suggested that we obtain an O.L.T. policy with liability limits of \$10,000 and \$20,000 per occurrence and \$5,000 property damage. It was thought this would cost about \$28.

Messrs. Becker, Weiss, and Berkowitz were instructed to inform the YMCA we are unable to release them from liability on legal advice and suggest that they accept coverage on an O.L.T. policy of \$100,000, \$300,000 liability and \$10,000 property damage with an option for medical coverage if it can be obtained at a reasonable figure.

The meeting then took up the question of a charter and whether it should be for a community center or a synagogue. To obtain a charter the group must state a name and purpose. It would cost close to \$100 to change the name after it is stated.

Dr. Markowitz reported that the charter involves two legal documents. The one naming the organization requires ten signatures. The second states the purpose and requires sixteen signatures. Any change would require a repeat of the same procedure.

The purpose has been dictated generally as it is to appear in the bylaws. The Board was polled for its recommendations as to whether the group should be a center, a synagogue, or a community. The bylaws are to state that the group is to be a conservative synagogue organization.

The charter is to be voted on by the group before submitting it to the state. By unanimous vote it was decided the charter has to be approved by the entire body before it is to be submitted to the state.

A suggestion that the name of the organization should be subject to approval of the organization, either its present name, S.M. J.C.C., or by name change, was tabled.

Definitions were worked out for the three types of organization:

Community: an organization to be devoted equally to spiritual, cultural, academic, and social needs of the Jewish people residing in the area.

Synagogue: An organization devoted primarily to the spiritual needs of the community with equal emphasis and encompassing social and educational needs for those living in the area.

Center: an organization devoted to social and academic needs of a community, possibly having a place of worship as an adjunct.

The directors then proceeded to vote on a name to be the recommendation of the Board to be submitted to the group for the charter. Three names were voted on. They were Beth Israel Center, Beth Israel Community, and Beth Israel Community Center. The suggestion to include words "Beth Israel" was made by Mr. Nissenson. The Board voted to recommend Beth Israel Center.

The meeting then returned to the question of the Sunday School. The cost at the YMCA is to be \$40 a month, \$7 a month less than we have been paying at the combined Pleasant Mills Borough and Baldwin Community Club buildings. Janitorial cost is to be ascertained. Equipment will not be available for several weeks. This includes chairs and tables.

It was moved and seconded, and passed, that the chairman of the education committee be instructed to put a binder on an O.L.T. policy to cover the school in whatever building it may be situated.

It was decided to cancel next Tuesday night's meeting and to meet November 8 at Mr. Harris' house at 7 PM.

It was decided that in case of a death, the ritual committee is to offer the services of a minyan.

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The corresponding secretary ~~was instructed~~ to send a note or card of condolence.

Mr. Duker presented the treasurer's report showing a bank balance of \$2252.11 as of 10/23.

The site committee reported it had seen 11.5 acres of land on Provost road which it deemed undesirable. It had examined the Ralph Munn rental property which was deemed inadequate, and a 3-acre site on Old Clairton road.

Planning committee suggested that a March event be substituted for the New Year's Eve dance which it recommended be passed. Possibility of a late January dedication dinner was raised. The affair would possibly include a raffle and ad book.

Dr. Weiss reported that he had sent letters to three wealthy individuals who would possibly be interested in contributing heavily to the organization.

The activities and publicity committee reported that its first meeting was held Tuesday, October 21. Present were N. Birnbaum, D. Scott, I. Sherman, S. Solomon, and I. Becker, chairman.

The status of the Get-Acquainted dance was reviewed. The Lithuanian Club has been arranged for at a cost of \$30, the Four Rays, a dance combo, have been signed up at a cost of \$60. Ticket sales have been slow, 22 tickets sold up to the date of the Executive Board meeting. Final commitment on food will be made during the first week of November based on ticket sales.

Sid Solomon and Dave Scott were given the responsibility of arranging entertainment for the evening. Irwin Becker will investigate obtaining door prizes. Mae Rosenberg will be asked to take the responsibility for decoration.

The committee was advised by the chairman of the results of investigation of various restaurants as possible locations for a New Years' Eve party. After considerable discussion the committee felt that a New Years' Eve party not be sponsored by the Center, primarily based on the uncertainty of attendance by members. I. Becker agreed to present this recommendation to the executive board.

Ideas : A brainstorming session was held to encourage ideas for possible future activities. The idea considered most promising for the future, and as a substitute for the New Years Eve affair, was a Dedication Dinner. Details will be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be held Monday, November 10, at Irv Sherman's house.

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respectfully submitted

Saul S. Berliner  
Recording Secretary.