



TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

First Congregation of Canadian Reform Judaism

169th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, September 22nd, 2019

6:30 PM in the Mandell Auditorium

Attendance is on file at the Temple Office.

1. Welcome - Virginia Mendes da Costa

2. Invocation - Cantor Paula Baruch on behalf of Rabbi Jordan Cohen who was unable to attend due to illness. Cantor Baruch gave a blessing for taking care of our public institutions.

3. Approval of Minutes from AGM held Aug. 26th 2018. - Motion by Virginia Mendes da Costa. Seconded by Steve Arnold. Motion passed.

4. President's Report - Virginia Mendes da Costa - (copy on file). Virginia reflected on her five years of service. She mentioned that the highlights of the past five years are included in the Bulletin. The focus of the past year was the development of the new governance model along with associated changes in the by-laws to allow the implementation of that new governance model. She stated that she hoped the future governing style of the new Board would be "transparency and inclusiveness". She drew attention and expressed her personal dismay to the issue of a member in good standing being "dissuaded into withdrawing an application putting his/her name forward". She thanked everyone who had worked with her over the five years. She stated that it had been an honor and a privilege to have been the president.

5. Rabbi's Report - Rabbi Cohen absent. No report.

6. Program Director's Report - Cantor Paula Baruch. (Digital copy on file). Cantor Baruch summarized her goal to engage congregants through partnerships. She listed the underlying values of TAS: including loving kindness and learning. She thanked the Staff of TAS, the Rabbi, the Religious School Educator, the out-going President, volunteers, Deborah Sisterhood. She wished everyone a Shana Tova.

7. School Report - Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison. (Digital copy available).

Dora-Ann thanked the Education Committee, Rabbi Cohen and Cantor Baruch. She welcomed back former educators to the Staff for the coming year. Rabbi Cohen will be teaching the confirmation class of students. She encouraged sponsorships for the snack program. She listed new initiatives and programs for the upcoming year.

8. Financial Report - Joel Feldman. (Budget and Financial Statements available on file).

Joel explained the Financial Statement. He felt more optimistic than 2 years ago and looked forward to the fundraiser in the Spring. He responded to questions from the attendees about the increased line of credit and the integration of funds from the Sisterhood into the general fund. Joel replied that the funds raised from Sisterhood functions have always been included

with the general fund. Virginia clarified the reason for the increase in the line of credit is that the membership dues do not cover the extent of expenses.

9. Approval of the Actions of the Board. Motion by Donald Hill. Seconded by Lorraine Cohen. Motion passed.

10. Presentation of Budget - Joel Feldman. This year a surplus in the budget is predicted (although this is predicated on the success of the fundraising event in March 2020). Joel explained the reasons for the surplus of \$21, 501.

11. Appointment of Auditors - (Paul Kwiatkoski Professional Corporation) Motion made by Michelle Gunn. Seconded by Laura Cattari. Motion passed.

12. Election of Trustees - See attached file. Lorraine Cohen spoke, representing the Transition Team. She explained the election process. Ballots were distributed. Discussion was held regarding the democratic process and election rules. Some concerns were expressed regarding the application of a congregant that had been submitted 14 days prior to the AGM and who was not on the proposed slate. Yves Appel responded to the expressed concerns. He emphasized that the applicant "was not bullied; rather encouraged to carry on in a leadership position of a working group". Comments from a few of the meeting attendees were that the process was not the one agreed upon at the Special General Meeting, and that the slate was "hand-picked". Lorraine responded that the Task Force had done their "task" presenting a multi-dimensional talented slate that would move forward immediately "henceforth from the AGM date". She added that all congregants at the AGM had the right to express their views through the vote process.

The new slate was asked to stand individually so that all congregants attending the meeting would be able to identify them. It was stated that their printed biographies were available for information.

A closed voting process took place. Ballots counted: 66 votes cast, 55 (83%) were in favor of the slate, 11 were against. The slate was passed. Lorraine thanked all and said that the installation date and notification of the results of the election would be included in the bulletin.

13. New Co-Presidents' Address - (available on file) Yves Appel spoke about the difficulty getting people "on board" and is grateful to those who have volunteered. He thanked the Rabbi for his guidance and the congregation for supporting the co-presidents and Board mandate. Mark Levine added his comments mentioning a 90-day plan. He thanked Yves for joining him as co-president. Yves and Mark presented out-going President, Virginia, with a plaque representing a Pathway to Peace Brick in honor of her years of service.

14. New Business - nil

15. Good and Welfare - Sandy Weddum wished the new slate well. Virginia announced that Elections Canada has encouraged all to vote on October 21st.

16. Closing Benediction - Cantor Baruch gave a blessing to close the meeting.

Adjournment - 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Katz Loewith