The meeting began at 7:00.

Present: Diane Baxter, Elliot Farren, Michael Griffel, Jeff Kirtner, Bruce Kreitzberg, Reisa Maddex, Julee Raiskin, Jared Rubin, Mindy Schlossberg, Jody Seasonwein, Amy Steckel, Tracy Tessler, Pearl Wolfe, Aura Solomon
Rabbi Ruhi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstien.
Guest: Phyllis Bobrow.

Teaching. Rabbi Ruhi spoke about Maimonides medieval code and laws of repentance, explaining the difference in the actions needed to repair transgressions between people as opposed to a transgression between oneself and God.

Open forum / announcements. Phyllis Bobrow joined the meeting as a guest for open forum. She discussed a proposal received from Judy Boles about bystander/upstander training for Board members and others. Reisa asked if the training could accommodate teenagers and Phyllis said that it probably could, saying that the lowest age limit might depend on the teen. Sixteen and seventeen year olds can certainly handle the training scenarios. Jeff asked if bystander/upstander training would be encouraging to help train ushers and Phyllis thinks that it would.

Jeff reminded Board members to do their High Holiday phone calls.

Executive session.

Rabbi’s report. Rabbi Ruhi said that Talmud Torah is understaffed and getting urgent to complete its staff, especially for 3rd and 5th grades. Rabbi Ruhi wondered if musar might be a theme for TBI next year.

Affinity group discussion. Following the Board email discussion about TBI adding more specific affinity/activity groups and whether events on shabbat are a good idea. Congregants want to connect with other congregants outside of TBI. Some UO football games and basketball games happen on shabbat, but those were popular ideas for new affinity groups. Julee said that the way affinity groups are rolled out by the membership
committee can be important in how the whole idea is perceived by some. Elliott asked if these kind of affinity groups are or should be part of TBI’s mission. Other Board members expressed energetic support for more affinity groups and Rabbi Ruhi said the idea was anticipated and supported by Mordecai Kaplan.

On the question of affinity groups meeting on shabbat, Rabbi Ruhi reminded the Board that TBI does not advertise events that conflict with shabbat, with very few exceptions. Diane Baxter pointed out that any of the affinity groups may potentially meet on shabbat for their respective activities. TBI will facilitate the forming of affinity groups, but it will not be facilitating the details of the activities or meetings. Board members supported the idea of several new affinity groups being rolled out soon. Individual events will not be advertised by TBI.

**Executive session.**

**Theme for the year.** The three themes to vote on are justice, justice shall you pursue; acts of loving kindness for those who are less fortunate; do not separate yourself from the community or connecting/respecting to community. The winning theme is justice.

**Director of community education position.** Reisa will convene her committee before the high holidays. Reisa is considering new places to promote the ad campaign.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08.

Recorded and submitted by Bruce Kreitzberg.