

## **Policy on Issue Positions**

## Policy:

The primary mission of Bet Aviv is to attend to the spiritual needs of its congregants through worship, counseling and education; to provide an environment for development and continuation of Jewish culture; to provide social action for the benefit of the community; and to provide social opportunities for its Jewish constituents. Although not a part of its primary mission, there may be critical circumstances where it is appropriate for Bet Aviv, as an organization, to formally take a position on an issue of concern to the members of the congregation, or to facilitate a gathering of individuals related to an issue. It is the Policy of Bet Aviv that such positions or actions may be taken consistent with the Procedures below, PROVIDED:

- 1. No position or action may be taken that is inconsistent with Bet Aviv retaining its IRS 501(c)(3) status.
- 2. The Board considers the sentiments of the entire congregation with respect to the issue, is sensitive to the position of the minority, and takes into consideration the potential for divisiveness within the Congregation before taking any action.

## Procedures:

- 1. For purposes of this Policy, "Facilitation" shall include the leasing of any space under the Bet Aviv Meeting House Agreement, the leasing of any other space, any transportation or any equipment in the name of Bet Aviv, the expenditure of any funds from the Bet Aviv treasury (whether direct or pass through), or the use of Bet Aviv's tax exempt status for purchases.
- 2. A position on an issue of concern, or facilitation of a gathering on such an issue, shall be by email, text or other writing to the President. The President shall assess the time sensitivity of the issue and may either refer the matter to the Executive Committee or proceed directly to the Board in the manner provided below.
- 3. If referred by the President and approved by the Executive Committee, or if the President makes a direct referral, the request shall be considered by the Temple Board at a meeting of the Board that may be regularly scheduled or set special. Special meetings may be limited to single issues, in the discretion of the President. Electronic conference

services (telephonic or video) may be utilized for a special meeting. However, approval shall not be by way of electronic polling following only written distribution of the request. Advanced notice of anticipated consideration with a copy of the Executive Committee Resolution shall be provided where applicable and available. Board members shall be accorded a full and fair opportunity to be heard at the meeting. Written comments from non-Board members, if any, shall be considered. Non-Board members may be heard in the discretion of the Chair.

- 4. A position on an issue or approval of facilitation shall be effective with approval of 2/3 of the full Temple Board. Proxies that entrust one Board member's vote to another Board member shall be permitted, provided that a majority of those present and voting approve the action.
- 5. Facilitation requiring application of this Policy and Procedure shall include any action described as facilitation above by any group affiliated with Bet Aviv or any group authorized to lease space in the name of Bet Aviv for rental rate purposes. Such groups are free to take any action they see fit without approval if Bet Aviv is not a lessee or responsible for the affiliate's actions for the particular event or position in question, either directly or indirectly. Failure to obtain advance Board approval where such approval is required may result in loss of affiliate status, loss of rental privileges under the Bet Aviv Meeting House Agreement, or other appropriate sanction as determined by the Board.

Adopted: March 21, 2017