



Congregational Meeting Agenda
January 6, 2019, 10:30 am

Call to order	Ziva Raney, President	10:30 am
<p>Henei Mah Tov U'Manayim. How good it is when we sit together in community.</p> <p>Thank you for joining us today for this important meeting of our membership. A year ago, we certainly did not expect to be in search of a new rabbi. But when we found ourselves with a sudden rabbinic transition, we all rose to the occasion, held each other up, celebrated our successes and shared our hearts and souls to meet each other's needs.</p> <p>Today is an important and exciting step forward for all of us in the JRC family! Today is the next step in our journey together as a community and a very exciting one, at that. After many months of some level of uncertainty, searching and hard work...we are ready to vote on our next senior/settled rabbi.</p> <p>It was incredible to see JRC shine through this search process. We demonstrated the values we are so proud of in spectacular fashion and showed our candidates the beauty of our community and the culture of volunteerism we treasure. So many of you came out to meet our candidates through various committees on which you serve and the congregational meet and greets. And your feedback was terrific throughout the entire process. It is so exciting that we can say with utmost confidence that Rabbi Matthew Soffer has overwhelming support from our congregation.</p> <p>So, let's get to it!</p>		

Here is how the next hour will go – As with all of our congregational meetings, this one will be run according to Roberts Rules of Order. In just a moment, Judith & Gary will share with you the report from the Rabbinic Search Committee. At the end of the report, Judith & Gary will make a motion, which will need to be seconded by someone else. At that time, the floor will be open for questions regarding the motion before us today. We have allotted 15 minutes for discussion, as we need to vote before we lose our quorum to Religious School pickup — we'll keep an eye on the time - we must get to the vote no later than 11:15 to stay on schedule.

Marc Joseph has a microphone in the center aisle and we will request that those who wish to speak during the discussion time, please line up there. During your time at with the mic, you can ask one question or make one comment. After asking a question, you can go to the back of the question line to ask another question. We want to be fair so that everyone who wants to has a chance to speak. We will try to keep each person's time at the mic to 1 minute.

Following the vote, we will welcome Rabbi Soffer, who will make some remarks.

We intend to adjourn the meeting by 11:30 and for those who wish to stick around a while, there will be some nosh in the Monsein Community Court where you can say hello to Rabbi Soffer and meet his wife, Nicole Vengrove Soffer.

Before we move on, I want to thank the members of the search committee. As I call your name, please stand, and remain standing, so you can all be recognized for a stellar job.

Members of the committee:

- Search Committee Co-chairs: Judith Ruderman & Gary Tyson
- Emily Berman
- Jason Block
- Gabe Farkas

- Dan Gitterman
- Joyce Gordon
- Miriam Guzzardi
- Lisa Josephs
- Norm Loewenthal
- Amy Newman
- Carrie Norry
- Alex Peroff
- Rachel Roston

Thank you for all your hard work in getting us to this day. Your efforts on behalf of Judea Reform Congregation are greatly appreciated. This was a really great committee.

I'd also like to recognize our fellow congregant & attorney, Richard Vinegar, who is part of the team working on the final contract with Rabbi Soffer.

This is also a great time to recognize our incredible professional team – without whom none of this would be possible. In coordination with our search committee & the Board of Trustees, our staff ensured the details of our search process, and quite frankly the last 10 months of congregational life was seamless and professional. Thank you team JRC!!

Let's start with a blessing – these are the words our Board of Trustees say at the beginning of every board meeting:

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu, b'mitzvotav, v'tzivanu laasok b'divrei kehillah.

Blessed are you God, who commands us to engage in the work of community.

Blessing		10:35 am – 10:40 am
Report of the Search Committee	Judith Ruderman & Gary Tyson Co-Chairs	10:40 am – 11:00 am

INSERT REPORT

We move the election of Rabbi Matthew Soffer as Judea Reform Congregation's senior rabbi beginning July 1, 2019.

Thank you Judith & Gary.

We will now move to discussion.

As a reminder, today the discussion will be focused on the motion before us, not any other synagogue issues. Please line up in the center aisle for the microphone. You may ask one question. After asking a question, you may go to the back of the question line to ask another question. We want to be fair so that everyone who wants to has a chance to speak. We will try to keep each person's time at the mic to 1 minute. And at 11:15, we must move on to the vote, so if you see people behind you wishing to speak, be brief and to the point.

Discussion		11:00 am – 11:15 am
Election		11:15 am – 11:20 am
Remarks	Rabbi Matthew Soffer	11:20 am – 11:25 am
Closing Song	Allan Friedman (Chazack, Chazack)	11:25
Adjourn	Ziva Raney, President	11:30 am