

Israel Discourse Advisory Committee Charge

Charge: The purpose of the committee is to assure compliance with the Israel Discourse Policy in all Israel-related programming conducted by Judea Reform Congregation and in other Israel-related matters that may come before the Congregation. The committee will make binding determinations as to compliance with the Policy, including the achievement of openness to a wide range of perspectives in Israel-related programming and adherence to a respectful character within individual programs and all congregational discourse relating to Israel. Guided by the Policy, the committee may also make non-binding recommendations for modifications in programming or positions on other Israel-related issues so as to provide a more balanced, respectful approach to discussion of Israel. The committee may from time to time make recommendations to change the Israel Discourse Policy to clarify its application; the Board of Trustees at its discretion will vote to approve, modify or reject these proposed policy changes. The scope of the Israel Discourse Committee includes all areas of Judea and therefore will replace the Israel Advisory Panel that was previously consulted on Israel programming by the Adult Education chair.

Approach: The Israel Discourse Committee will be notified of proposed Judea-sponsored Israel-related programming and other matters related to Israel by committees chairs, the rabbi, staff, and volunteer leaders. At its discretion, the Israel Discourse Committee will take up discussion where there is possible conflict with the Israel Discourse Policy, where there is potential for controversy, or where there is an apparent imbalance in programming. Although it will generally function in response to these notifications, the committee may choose to initiate discussion of Israel-related programs or to suggest possible Israel-related programming where circumstances warrant. The committee will conduct business through periodic meetings and email. Its meetings will generally be limited to members of the committee. The committee will function through consensus decision-making in which, guided by the Israel Discourse Policy, members will develop, and agree to support, decisions in the best interest of the congregation.

Committee Structure: As defined by Board policy, this is a provisional (“ad hoc”) committee created by the President of the Board of Trustees. The committee will serve for 18 months, which may be extended by the Board for an additional 18 months, after which the committee may be terminated or converted into a standing committee. The committee will be comprised of seven to nine members including a chair appointed by the President of the Board to Trustees plus the Rabbi and President as ex officio members. The committee will be comprised of congregants having a broad range of perspectives on matters related to Israel. All members must agree to support the Israel Discourse Policy.