

Temple Israel of Northern Westchester  
Board Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2017

**Call to Order:** At 7:33 p.m., Glen Wolland called the meeting to order. The names of those in attendance are included by reference within the list of attendees.

**D'var Torah:** Norman read the D'var Torah that was written by Jen McLaughlin. June, Rabbi Pein

**Acceptance of Minutes:** A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and all were in favor.

**CJL Update:** Rabbi Pein provided an update about experiential learning that has been taking place regarding the Spring holidays of Purim; Passover; and Yom Haazmaut. We have a specialist coming to do Krav Maga, a form of karate that originated in Israel. We received a micro-grant from the Jewish Education Project. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Seniors Graduation Party to honor the seniors graduating from high school. The seniors wanted a forum to speak with younger students about why they wanted to stay in the CJL all of these years. The seniors are making a video to show the younger students. We will have the event catered. We have seen a gradual increase in our participation of tots in the CJL. The CJL programs on Sunday, which revolve around a holiday, are well attended. We applied for a PJ Library grant. If accepted, we will become a site for young families to receive free Jewish books. TIPSy is up and running, thanks to Betsy Deckert. They just had a chocolate Seder. Our TIPSy service is on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Spring Fund Raiser:** Joe Dropkin provided the update concerning A Very Pleasant Evening. 137 seats tickets thus far. We are putting up more signs. We should reach our goal of 200-225. We are seating people on a first come basis. Approximately 50 raffle tickets have thus far been sold. Joe encouraged every board member to sell and buy raffle tickets. Cantor encouraged all board members to pay tribute to Eddie in the program with a tribute line. Glen spoke about honoring Eddie at the Gala with an honorary Lifetime Membership at TINW. All board members supported this honoring Eddie as proposed.

**Bylaws Amendment:** Glen addressed the proposed changes to the Bylaws to reduce the size of our board, which Barry drafted. A motion was made to approve the minutes as such proposed amendments were presented. The motion was seconded and all were in favor with one abstention.

**Nominating Committee:** Lori presented the two proposed slates for officers and trustees (one slate proposed if the amendments to the Bylaws are passed, and one slate proposed if the amendments are not passed). A motion was made to approve the two alternative proposed slates, which was seconded and all were in favor.

**Good and Welfare:** **Mazel Tov** to David Sperling for getting his book published, *Ve-Eile Divrei David*.

**Deaths:** Murry Altsher, father of Beth Casso, Sheldon Kohn, father of Judy Falk, Franca DeBeer, mother of Dan DeBeer, Susan Cymbler, mother of Alan Mandelbaum, Beverly Davis, dear friend of Bruce Appelbaum and Liz Panken, Kenneth Toepfer, father of Kate Permut, Agnes Keleti, cousin of Peter Szendro, Martin Kramer, father of Jim Kramer. **Refuah Shleimah** to Sue Feir; Florence Speyer; Susan Butterfass

**Learning Tool Survey:** Evan addressed the Learning Tool Survey and the fact that 40% of our temple membership has responded as of this date. Glen urged everyone to have their significant others complete the survey.

**Sign: “Our People were Refugees Too”:** Rabbi Jaech asked that TINW place a HIAS banner on our building. The board discussed whether TINW should place the above-quoted sign on our building. Glen’s plan to approve the temporary sign was “awesome” and all were in favor.

**Yorktown update:** Glen has had several meetings with the Assessor and with Michael Bogin, who is acting as our attorney. Recently, Glen met with the Assessor at the Yorktown property to assess that the structure is not habitable, and, therefore, TINW should be assessed as having undeveloped land. While we are working to address the assessment issues, the application for TINW’s tax exemption is being submitted. This plan must include a plan to use the property in a manner that has been duly approved by our board. Glen addressed a narrative and a schematic plan for a nature and prayer trail, which was presented for viewing to the full Board of Trustees. Following this extensive presentation, a motion was made to accept the plan and formally propose our religious prayer and nature trail to Yorktown. The motion was seconded and all were in favor.

**Rabbi’s Report:** Rabbi was in Atlanta for the Central Conference of Rabbis convention in America in Atlanta. It was the best conference that Rabbi has ever attended. Temple Israel was recently on the front page of the Croton Gazette for the Interfaith event that we had in which stories of immigration were shared. Rabbi is participating on April 20<sup>th</sup> in a book signing with Steve Cony as part of a county-wide Lunch and Learn series. Rabbi will speak at the Brotherhood Lecture on April 27<sup>th</sup> discussing “Carnal Israel”.

**Cantor’s Report:** Rehearsing for TIPSYS’s Shabbat. So much happened in March. Wonderful Purim Shpiel. The Glee Club and Selah participated in our 5<sup>th</sup> Shabbat Program. We have a strong core of young singers that hopefully can serve as a recruitment tool. We had a successful 6<sup>th</sup> grade Havdalah program. This gave Cantor and Rabbi Pein the chance to interact with the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders. We are looking forward to the “A Very Pleasant Evening.” The Brotherhood choir will be rehearsing in the next few weeks to get ready for May 12<sup>th</sup>.

**President’s Report:** Glen spoke about the Interfaith event that took place this past Sunday. Glen also addressed that the Estelle Linz award will be given out to Carolyn Kunin. Norman Newman has graciously accepted Glen’s offer to take over the Adult Education Committee.

### **Executive Session at 9:00 p.m**

**Treasurers Report:** Arlen provided the report and the proposed budget for ’17 – ’18. Steve Krisky motion was made to approve the budget as presented by Arlen, with the modifications discussed. That motion was seconded. All were in favor. The proposed budget will be presented at the Congregational Meeting scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Adjournment:** Evan moved to adjourn, which was seconded and all were in favor at 9 PM.