

Temple Israel of Northern Westchester  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 5, 2017

**Call to Order:** At 7:34 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:** Evan Janush delivered the D'var Torah. Lori DePaolo will be doing the D'var for November.

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

**Good and Welfare: Deaths** – Muriel Helbraun, longtime member of Temple Israel; Robert Krisky, father of Steve Krisky; Millicent Aronoff, mother of Mitzi Elkes; David Markowitz, uncle of Stan Wertheimer; Margaret Henderson, uncle of Nancy [SPELLING OF LAST NAME?]; **Refua Shleimah** – Emily Janush (hip surgery).

**Director of Engagement Search Committee Update:** Glen addressed that our job description is posted and Glen read the description for the Board.

**Yorktown Update:** Glen addressed that our tax exemption has been reinstated. Glen further addressed that the Brotherhood has been asked to assist in overseeing the creation of the temple's trail on the property. Richie read a statement from the Land Use Committee, which met to discuss the Yorktown property. The statement is included as an attachment to the minutes.

**Spring Fundraiser:** We are looking for someone to chair the Spring Fundraiser. The current plan is to do something akin to the wine tasting event that we had a couple of years ago.

**Treasurer's Report:** Our pledged amount is \$670K. Last year at this time we had pledges of \$694K. We have 321 total pledges. We had 329 pledges last year. We budgeted for 348 pledges. Our average pledge is \$2080. Religious school fees are just under budget for this year at approximately \$134K. We have 197 students. We are budgeted for 200 students. We have 25 new members. Last year at this time we had 23. We have 61 families who pledged last year, but not yet pledged this year. 19 families have yet to pledge that have kids enrolled in the CJL. We budgeted to raise \$53K from fundraising efforts this year.

**Education Director Report:** Rabbi Pein addressed that we have 197 students enrolled in our CJL and that the CJL saw a drop in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade from last year, but that we are more robust in the lower grades. We had 37 new students enrolled. We do not have a Confirmation class this year. We have permanent staff in place for all classes, including several new staff members that have added new energy and ideas to CJL. We started "Hebrew Through Movement". Ariella Wehrle was trained

over the summer to bring this modality to learn the Hebrew language to our children. On Sunday mornings all students K-5<sup>th</sup> grades are coming to the sanctuary for a whole group Tefilah service with prayers and slides. Our philosophy is to make school more like a camp-like experience and to ensure our children have fun and learn at the same time. Thanks to our Sisterhood, who co-planned our first tot-Shabbat Challah Baking Experience program with 16 adults and 18 children, we had a great first CJL program for tots. Last Sunday, we held a Tot CJL Fall Scavenger and Sukkot experience with 9 adults and 9 children in attendance. Our upcoming events include our first Multi-Generational Class Service of the year (Kitay Hay) on Friday, November 3. On November 17, we will host a Friday Night Family Shabbat Experience for our Tot CJL families, during which we will try to facilitate more adult socializing to help parents become better acquainted with one another. We are also launching Rosh Chodesh / Shevet Achim on Wednesday, October 18. We will have one Rosh Chodesh group and one Shevet Achim group. Our Rosh Chodesh / Shevet Achim Mentors are Judy Kropf and Steve Samuels.

**Youth Group:** Ethan Lewis spoke and discussed how the Youth Group recently gave a “shout out” to all of our members for Brotherhood Sukkah Building. This Monday, we have the Apple picking event and on Sunday we have the Habitat for Humanity event.

**Rabbi's Report:** High Holy Days were awesome. Rabbi Jaech thanked Rabbi Pein for her sermon and thanked Cantor Ellerin for his amazing contributions to our services. Additionally, Rabbi thanked Brotherhood for all that they do with ushering, parking and building the Sukkah. Rabbi also thanked Sisterhood for all that they do, and the Board. Simchat Torah is coming up. An Adult Binei Mitzvah Class is happening. Rabbi is participating in the ENGAGE program – intended to engage baby boomers (giving lecture 10/16 for them in Mt. Kisco). We have had a terrific response to the Civil Rights Trip and the trip is full.

**Cantor's Report:** Cantor spoke and addressed that we all find incredible inspiration in Rabbi Jaech's words of Torah. Cantor also thanked everyone who participated in the services and who made it such a rich celebration, including, but not limited to our choir, service participants, and those that hosted choir participants in their homes. In a couple of weeks, the choir is honoring Jack Judd who is retiring from the choir after 40 years. Cantor is planning music schedules and programming, including Simchat Torah next week. Cantor is also seeking to work with our Boy Scouts on a project called Nehar Tamid.

**President's Report:** We had 1231 total viewers that clicked on the streaming link during the holidays. The most popular service was the Rosh Hashana morning service. 105 people watched the entire service live. A motion was made to accept our 5 new member families, which motion was seconded and all were in favor.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded. All were in favor. The meeting concluded.

