

Temple Israel of Northern Westchester, Board Meeting Minutes,
November 1, 2018

Call to Order: At 7:37 p.m., Glen Wolland announced that we had a quorum and called the meeting to order. The names of those in attendance are included by reference within the list of attendees.

D'var Torah: Alan Brott delivered the D'var Torah for November. December, Arlen Epstein and January, Melissa Frey.

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

Good and Welfare:

Refuah Shleimah: Emily Janush, Gary Turco, Sylvana Trabou

Deaths: Sarah Pek, grandmother of Michelle Lewis, Joseph Gordon, cousin of Amy Hersh, Arthur Sternberg, father of Faith Kasanofsky

Mazel Tov: Barbara and Andrew Blumberg on the marriage of their son, Erik to Arielle Sperling.

Recap of October Board Retreat: Take-away phrase: "participation is not engagement"
Need to focus on chosen goals and work on them for multiple meetings. Executive Board will focus on choosing goals for Board discussion and follow-up.

Security Post Pittsburgh: Glen queried other presidents and found responses "across the board." We are grateful to the Croton Police for providing visible presence in the days after the Pittsburgh shooting. The Board needs to provide a unified response to concerns of congregants; we have two bullet proof doors at our entrances, we have 24/7 camera access, we have motion sensors and panic buttons in classrooms and some interior walls are concrete block walls with exit doors from the rooms on the exterior wall. We will have another walk-thru with security consultants and we plan to apply for any grants that will help us upgrade to vestibules near the entrance doors. General discussion followed the President's report.

Membership: Sylvana presented outreach concepts as well as a Membership Team welcoming document with some structure concerning meeting others with similar life cycles and activities to share. A discussion ensued concerning membership, in-reach, outreach, and our efforts to further reform Judaism to the community. Michelle Minoff was praised for the manner in which she is fulfilling her role as the Director of Community Engagement.

Reports:

Temple Administrator: Database launch November 5th. New system interactive with congregants. Michelle Minoff and Robin delivered new member welcome baskets.

Education: Rabbi Pein and her staff personally called all new families in the CJL to welcome. Rabbi Pein and Jack Eisinger listed numerous activities for tots, CJL students and high-schoolers upcoming in October and November.

Rabbi: During sad, tense times our rabbi spoke to how we must come together. The morning after the Pittsburgh shooting, members were invited to come to TINW for CJL tefilla followed by a discussion. Based on needs identified in that discussion, she will arrange to have the ADL come in to offer a program about countering anti-Semitism. Rabbi Jaech is also very involved in accompanying potential immigrants to their ICE check-ins.

Cantor: The Choir will be participating in services on November 9 (Kristallnacht), and November 18 (Interfaith.)

The Cantor will also be in New Rochelle on November 17 with other cantors for "A Night of Music."

President: We would like 100% Hanukah-thon participation from the congregation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm