

Temple Israel of Northern Westchester
Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2018

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: Steve Krisky delivered the D'var Torah.

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

Good and Welfare: Mazel Tov to: Lori and Matt Fraternali on the engagement of their son Daniel to Kate Trend; Ellen and Harry Greeley on the birth of their grandson, Hudson, to Derek and Courtney. **Deaths:** Larry Kanterman, past president of TINW; Jack Permut, father of Howard Permut; Selma Brotman, mother of Nadine Schwartz; and Flora Salat, former longtime member and friend to many at TINW.

Spring Fundraiser: The fundraiser will take place on Saturday, May 12th from 7-11 p.m. at Peekskill Central Market. Please look for big-ticket items for live or silent auction.

Hannukah-thon: We have concluded the annual campaign with \$35,283 in total donations received from 206 total donors, of which 39 donors were first time donors. Glen nominated Mark Casso to again chair this fundraiser next year.

Scout Shabbat: Melissa Frey, who is spearheading our Scout Shabbat service, provide an update to the Board. This special service will take place on February 9th. TINW has invited Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and their respective leaders. Scouts of all faiths are welcome to attend and all are invited to come in uniform. Scouts who have earned their Ner Tamid religious emblems will receive this award during the service. Refreshments will follow the service.

Biennial Recap: Glen provided a brief recap. He addressed that his goal was to get TINW members to attend with the hope that the excitement and magic of the Biennial would rub off on all who attended. That happened. Next, Glen asked Steve Samuels, Melissa Frey, Rabbi Pein, Sylvana Trabout, Mark Casso and Cantor Ellerin, to briefly summarize highlights of their experiences. Glen read Arlen Epstein and David Oleners' summary. Each Board Member and Clergy that participated in the Biennial provided a thoughtful recap that demonstrated the thought provoking nature of the sessions that they attended.

Reports:

- **Temple Administrator:** Robin addressed that all Board Members who participate in "Gift-Giving" should please check the bimah to ensure the gifts

are present before the service starts. Our homeless guests were welcomed and fed well at TINW. People were amazing with the amount of food that was donated to feed our guests. Dunkin Donuts Gift cards were provided to the homeless when they left.

- **Education and Youth:** Rabbi Pein spoke about encouraging our families with students from Grades 3-7 to digitally review their Hebrew skills. We are providing parents with websites to review these skills with their children. Sisterhood made a donation that will purchase a digital license for families to use. On February 4, we are starting a Mitzvah Morning in the CJL. Our teachers are engaging in a professional development morning off-site. Our Education Committee stepped in to have parents and students come together for a brief service followed by interactive Mitzvah activities. This will be followed by grade-specific lunches for parents and students. We were recently awarded a grant from the Jewish Education Project for the Shabbat-A Lot, an end of the year Tot Shabbat. Our next multi-generational service is Friday, February 2nd. Pop-Up Parenting Classes are starting February 21st. Next, Ethan Lewis spoke about “Game Night,” which was attended by 20 students. A fundraiser was held and \$200 was raised for Camp Newman, which was impacted by the fires in California. Looking ahead, we have an ice skating event on January 21 at Bear Mountain State Park. Last, Ethan mentioned that three students from CJL are attending trips sponsored by J-Teen to Houston to assist hurricane victims (J-Teen is the organization that Guy is the Executive Director of). Rabbi Jaech provided a generous scholarship to Ethan to help fund his community service trip.
- **Treasurer/Finance:** Steve Rubinstein provided the Finance Report provided by Arlen. We are \$471 away from budgeted pledges. We are \$1500 under our CJL budget. We had 28 new members last year. We have 27 new members this year. We are just under \$20,000 away from where we budgeted. Our Spring Fundraiser will help us to balance our budget.
- **President:** Glen advised that we have a new member, Edward Ginsberg of Fishkill (Friends of the Turcos). The Committee has been formed for the Estelle Linz Award. The award will be gifted at the Instillation Service on June 1st. We have hired Michelle Minoff as our Director of Community Engagement. Comedy Night is on January 20th. Please by your tickets if you haven’t done so yet. Steve Samuels spoke about the “Me Too. We Too” program and encouraged the Board to click on the link that was disseminated to the temple community and join him at this event.
- **Cantor:** Cantor complimented Rabbi Pein on the Josh Nelson concert. We had a great “Return of the Jewdi” program with 8 students who returned from college and participated in a community dinner and stayed for a movie night. We are planning the Brotherhood Service. For Purim, on February 28th, we are performing “Esther, an American Musical,” based on Hamilton.

This will involve our entire music program with CJL participation. Cantor concluded by remarking that he loves Temple Israel very much and so much is being done fantastically.

- **Rabbi:** Rabbi addressed that, like many of us, she is very sad that Cantor is leaving, but that Cantor is going to likely stay connected to TINW. Rabbi is preparing for the Human Rights Trip. Rabbi spoke about the Pop-Up Parenting Program as well as a program concerning the Opioid crisis.

Executive Session: At 8:50 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session. At 9:19 p.m. the Board returned from Executive Session.

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