



MINUTES

October 11, 2022 16 Tishri 5783 7pm

ATTENDANCE: Phil Nordlinger, Ellen Rawicz, Rabbi Briskin, Jon Stevens, Rabbi Goldberg, Brandon Weiss, Helen Berman, Beth McAleese, Ellie Short, Melissa Rubenstein, Jason Cohen, Jeff Cohen, Andy Salsman, Stephanie Kravatz, Cantor Kohlbrenner; Rachel Tyler by phone,

GUESTS (through Golf Outing discussion): Brett Cohen, Todd Leon

ABSENT: Marc Luber, Michael Smolen, Jared Fingerman

I. Welcome & Remarks

- Approval of 9-13-2022 minutes: Motion to approve by Helen Berman, seconded by Stephanie Kravatz, unanimously approved with 1 abstention (Ellen Rawicz)
- Tzedekah – Bring dollar bills when in person
- Board dinners /WoSA Board meeting sign-up sheets – in ShirBoard drive folder
- Reports on ShirBoard drive under 2022-23 Gatherings
- Circle of Giving Fund – Board members are expected to contribute, another way of demonstrating leadership
- Mick Brewer is no longer a Shir Ami employee
- Dvar Torah – Andy Salsman

II. Update on Golf Outing – Brett Cohen, Todd Leon, Rabbi Eric

- May 15, 2023, Philmont Country Club
- Goal: 18-22 foursomes
- Purpose: raise funds for Circle of Giving, opportunity to connect, promote Shir Ami, create replicable event that can grow and have fun
- Overview: breakfast, golf, mahjong/card/board game room, lunch and awards
- Raffle baskets in card/mahjong room, silent auction, 50/50
- Maybe each thing (silent auction, 50/50) supports different specific fund (food bank, etc)
- Research into other area golf outings (Beth Or, Chabad, 2 others) for pricing

- Target key influencers in congregation to bring friends in
- Want to be cognizant that sponsorships that get foursomes include other Shir Ami members, so that supports community building
- Budget is conservative on income and expense
- Needs from board: Feedback on positioning/messaging; web page for signups/sponsorships, promotion for the event, for sponsors: Shiron, email blast, social media
- Committee/volunteer needs is next phase
- Phil to follow up with our insurer to ensure coverage
- Add waiver when people register
- If rain, Philmont will try best to get us out that day, alternate date if not
- Trivia game at each hole of golf course

III. Review of HHDs 5783 –Andy Salsman, Beth McAleese, Rabbi Briskin

- a. Rosh Hashanah
 - i. Consider programming for older kids (6-8th)
 - ii. Like shorter services, good for kids,
 - iii. Younger children service was well attended
 - iv. Diversity of services...non-traditional/traditional, outdoors
 - v. Ritual to explore whether needs to families with kids are met by afternoon at the park
 - vi. Board to consider setting 'goals' for HHD
- b. Feedback about band, some feedback that songs could have been chosen with more purpose; band loud and cannot hear vocals, music was not appropriate for getting into a reflective mood, but would be fine for Shabbat service
- c. Yizkor community speakers was very moving and powerful
- d. Yom Kippur
- e. Ken Standig report discussed security
- f. Ritual committee meeting to be open for HHD feedback, consider sending quick survey/points to consider
- g. Ushers or greeters? Recommendation for next year to have clearer direction as to whether we need greeters (who then return to seats with their families) or ushers (who remain in assigned locations to assist congregants, ask people to be quiet when necessary, etc.

IV. 2022-2023 Goals: Jeff Cohen (see summary of previous strategy discussion)

Committees bring recommended updated goals to Nov. 15 meeting

Growing Spiritually - Andy, Beth, (with input from Rabbi & Cantor)
Learning Together -Stephanie, Ellen (with input from Eric)
Connecting - Jason, Brandon, Jeff

Making an Impact -Marc, Helen (with input from Rabbi)
Admin/Facility -Phil, Michael, Jon

Next steps:

Start/stop/continue have recommendation to go back to committee

Assess whether to change goals

Send in advance of next meeting, vote at 11/15 meeting

V. Director of Operations Report – Phil Nordlinger

VI. Clergy Reports

People want to get involved, how do we get people engaged, what can they do...

How can we use Sunday mornings??

Engage auxiliaries

For board to consider: what and how are we inspiring people to do things?

VII. Closing Prayer - Rabbi Briskin

Executive Session

MONTHLY BOARD REPORT

NAME: Ken Standig

DATE: 10-8-2022

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Buildings & Grounds

Please provide a summary for the board of what you and/or your committee have been up to since the last meeting. Bullet points are fine.

- B&G committee met by zoom to identify action items and board goals for further consideration.
- Zoom meeting with Phil and Ellie to discuss the path forward for the draft EAP, incorporating JEPP input.

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

- B&G committee meeting (trying for a regular monthly schedule)
- JEPP webinar (should be the last one before training sessions are scheduled)

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

- HH Security: personalized tickets by email, for members and guests, is a good approach. However, when I entered the building at the office entrance (with many others) for KN and YK morning services, there was no one checking tickets. A security guard and a Board member-greeter were there, and someone told us to “check in with Jodi” by the sanctuary. After walking the length of the building to the entrance hall, I found Jodi at a table checking off names on a spreadsheet, amid people walking in every direction past her.

In these times of hyper-security-concerns, tickets should be checked directly at the point(s) of entering the building, with any other activities (coat check, prayer books, food collection, etc.) behind that point. If we have a concern about possible backups of congregants outside in inclement weather as individual tickets are checked, then we should consider alternative secure layouts or technology.

This would be in line with other security improvements and considerations we are making, and should be a welcome, if possibly annoying, adjustment.

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

None.

BOARD REPORT- CLERGY/STAFF

NAME: Rachel Kohlbrenner
TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Cantor

DATE: 10/11/2022

Please provide a summary for the board of what you have been up to since the last meeting. Please include an update on your goals when relevant or indicate activity pertaining to your goals. Bullet points are fine.

- Choir was successfully led by Pamela Lynde throughout the High Holy Days and it was well received.
- Our Young Children's High Holy Day services were put together by Missy and myself with input from both rabbis and were well attended and received by many young families.
- Our new Selichot family experience with Rabbi Goldberg and Rabbi Briskin was a great new tradition that has a beautiful intergenerational component that was meaningful to many and is worth repeating again.
- Our first Shir Sprouts Shabbat of the year was successful as a part of the New Member Shabbat evening with great energy and fantastic attendance and lots of different people connecting especially after the service while getting ice cream and playing on the playground. It was warm environment that people enjoyed.

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

- Choir will begin rehearsing again next week to prepare for our Veteran's Shabbat on November 11th
- Rabbi Briskin, Rabbi Goldberg and I are planning the final details for our Intergenerational Simchat Torah celebration on Sunday morning
- We have our Intergenerational Shabbat service with Consecration this coming Friday with promising attendance from our large 1st grade class.

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

BOARD REPORT- CLERGY/STAFF

NAME: Missy Horrow

DATE: 10/7/2022

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: ELC

Please provide a summary for the board of what you have been up to since the last meeting. Please include an update on your goals when relevant or indicate activity pertaining to your goals. Bullet points are fine.

ELC is doing well and settling into the school year. We have had a really nice turn out at events and services. Shir Sprouts had over 100 people attend and enjoy the ice cream truck and playground after services.

The High Holidays were nicely attended too. The ELC filled the auditorium after Rosh Hashanah for a special oneg and we opened the playground for children and families to continue to be together after all the apples and honey were eaten.

We had a first parents committee meeting that about 25 parents showed up for! (There was a Dad!). Events and committees were discussed and most if not all the slots are filled for the year. I haven't found chairs for this committee so I have been spending a lot of time putting this together.

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

Children will add decorations to the Sukkah and are getting excited to have programs and meals in the sukkah.

An upcoming learning program with Rabbi Eric is planned for Simchat Torah for our pre K and K Challah Sales and Hot Lunch fundraisers have begun and we are planning a Hanukkah/Family Fun Night for the beginning of December

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

OCTOBER BOARD REPORT

NAME: Jason Cohen

DATE: October 10, 2022

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Engagement Committee

Please provide a summary for the board of what you and/or your committee have been up to since the last meeting. Bullet points are fine.

- Hosted a successful new members dinner on September 16. About 65 new members plus another 20-25 from the clergy, board members, committee chairs, staff, and auxiliaries. Special thank you to Jodi, Shanika, and Jodie for helping plan a successful event and for Rabbi Briskin, Cantor Kohlbrenner, and Rabbi Goldberg for honoring our new members.
- Co-hosted with the religious school committee, the first Meet, Greet and Treat on the morning of Sunday, October 2 for religious school parents. About 30 attended.
- Delivered about 50 yahrzeit candles to members who have lost loved ones in the past year to light on yizkor. A special thank you to Donna DeSantis, Debbie Rosenthal, Jeff Cohen, Risa Kane, Ellie Short, and Jodi Friedman for helping with deliveries.
- Hosted another Listening Session in the afternoon of Yom Kippur on October 5 with about 10 members attending.
- Delivered welcome baskets to 12 new members in the past month.
- Delivered newborn onesies to 8 members in the past month.

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

- At the New Member Dinner, 8 new members signed up and requested to have a buddy. 3 new members signed up and were interested in getting more involved. Will follow up with these members.
- Meet Greet and Treat sessions are scheduled for the first Sunday morning of every month through May. Next event is on November 6.
- Would like to host another new member event in November or December on a Sunday and incorporate Karen Briskin's tallit leaf project.
- Will be scheduling 22-23 kickoff engagement committee meeting in late October with current members, auxiliaries and a few new members.

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

BOARD REPORT- Executive Director

NAME: Phil Nordlinger

DATE: 10/11/2022

Please provide a summary for the board of what you have been up to since the last meeting. Please include an update on your goals when relevant or indicate activity pertaining to your goals. Bullet points are fine.

- **High Holy Days**
 - **Operations were smooth in all facets (maybe too cold in the sanctuary)**
 - **No reported issues with sound system, parking lot, sanctuary logistics, greeting/ushering,**
- **Renovations to family Life Center almost complete (waiting on countertop and sink to be installed 10/18)**
- **Working on dates for security training with JEPP**
- **Accepted resignation of Mick Brewer as engagement and programming staff member**
- **Contiuning to investigate additional investment opportunities including short term CD's and Treasury Bills**
- **Ameritex clothing collection bin installed on site**

Circle of Giving pledges and donations to date: \$90,290

New households since July 2022: 13

Resignations since July 2022: 26

Shir Ami Strategy Discussion 2022-2023

Self assessment of 2021-2022 Goals: (Green = we accomplished our goals; Yellow = we accomplished of our goals; Red = we did not accomplish our goals)

Learning Together – Mostly Green

Connecting – Yellow/Green

Making an Impact – Foodbank Green; all else Yellow

Administration/Facilities: Strengthen Shir Ami Long Term Value Prop – Red; Secure Financial Stability – Green; all else Yellow

Growing Spiritually – Yellow

Start / Stop / Continue Exercise

Start:

- Post-B. Mitzvah Retention (engagement committee to assess next steps)
- Retain Members @ Transition Points in Life (engagement committee to assess next steps)
- Engaging Dads/Men (engagement committee to assess next steps)
- Identify Subgroups for Outreach (marketing committee to assess next steps)
- Amplify value of being part of Shir Ami (marketing committee to assess next steps) How can SA be a priority for congregants?
- Expand Footprint in Bucks County (Who does this part?)
- Identify underrepresented communities (marketing committee to assess next steps)
- Celebrate successes (consider adding this as a board meeting agenda item)

Stop:

- Surveying – just talk to people (Consider all board members should speak with at least one member who is new to them each month)
- Filling the calendar just to fill the calendar (Phil to assess next steps)
- Belittling ourselves (agreed!)
- Creating obstacles for others (agreed!)
- Focusing on “labels” (agreed!)

Continue

- Maximizing building / outdoor space (building/grounds committee to assess next steps), e.g. renovating Shalom Hall to increase event revenue
- Small Groups (Rabbi Briskin/Jay Cohen/Jeff Cohen to assess next steps)
- Social connections and encourage members to meet each other (consider an engagement-related action for each committee)
- Board meetings / members to participate in person with intentionality (fingers crossed there are no more pandemics)

- Volunteerism: “give” time / energy/etc...not just money (philanthropy committee to assess next steps)
- Be more intentionally strategic (Ellie to consider how to keep this top of mind)

OCTOBER BOARD REPORT

NAME: Helen Berman

DATE: 10-9-22

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Pastoral Care (Chesed)

Chairpeople: Helen Berman and Harriet Paley

Please provide a summary for the board of what you and/or your committee have been up to since the last meeting. Bullet points are fine.

The Pastoral Committee has been on a bit of a hiatus for the last few months, but we are regrouping. We last met in April and discussed the following:

- Expanding committee – 5 new members have joined committee, as a result of eNews request
- Establishing sub-committees by activity, and setting priorities –
 - Waiting on office to confirm meeting date this month
 - Helen and Harriet meeting with Rabbi 10/13 re: committee responsibilities
 - Soliciting information on congregational needs
 - Coordinating with WOSA and Ritual to see where overlaps may be
- Establishing an easy way for congregants to tell us about the good/bad things happening in their lives, so we can acknowledge/help – Phil is creating a form to put on the website. We will then promote this as a way of communicating with us.
 - Meals
 - Cards
 - Calls
 - Visits
 - Rides (To synagogue only, not doctors or other appointments)
- Encouraging Chesed donations
- Working with clergy on best ways for committee to assist with pastoral needs

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

Planning is beginning...

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

There used to be notebooks that were passed down from one committee chair to the next with notes on committee responsibilities, calendar, activities, forms used, sample flyers, etc. Do these still exist?

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

Rabbi's Report

Board of Directors

October 11, 2022

- Completed tasks (since last meeting):
 - High Holy Days
 - Launch of Confirmation Class Year
 - Brunch and Learn in my Sukkah (11 people attended yesterday)
 - Met with Tikkun Olam chairs to strategize and prioritize the year ahead

 - Was invited to speak in front of the Newtown Twp. Board of Supervisors to share a Jewish perspective of Women's Reproductive Rights in connection with a resolution passed by the board affirming Newtown Twp. as a place where these rights will be upheld.

- Upcoming projects in the weeks ahead:
 - Working with Rebecca Kaufman to launch first round of small groups (empty nesters, and parents of second graders).
 - Working with Ritual Chairs to distribute a High Holy Days evaluation (to find out what worked, what didn't, and what needs to be improved).
 - Working with Sukkah hosts to prepare for this weekend's "Sukkah Crawl."
 - Launching iEngage Israel course at the end of the month (Lifelong Learning, class meets monthly, and is a combination of asynchronous and synchronous learning)
 - Working with Andee Losben and Arthur Krauss (RAC-PA liaisons) on voter registration and get out the vote efforts in the next few weeks,

specifically sending postcards to folks (through RAC-PA's sources) reminding them to vote.

- Recruiting for upcoming men's trip to Israel.
- Early planning for December 2023 intergenerational family trip to Israel.
- Coordinating Nefesh Mountain visit, Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19
- Scheduling 2025-2026 b.mitzvah dates.

· Ongoing projects:

- Circle of Giving solicitation
- Outreach to new members
- Pastoral care (calls, visits)
- Check-in with some recently resigned members

OCTOBER BOARD REPORT

NAME: Beth McAleese

DATE: 10/10/2022

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Ritual Committee

Please provide a summary for the board of what you and/or your committee have been up to since the last meeting. Bullet points are fine.

-Ritual collaborated with Clergy and was a touchpoint for those participating with Honors and following through on ensuring communications and presence HHD.

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

-Ritual Committee is planning to send out an email to existing Committee members and identify new members and hope to meet in the next 2 weeks.

-Ritual Committee is planning to meet with RS regarding b-Mitzvah for increased collaboration.

-Ritual Committee is scheduling regular meetings with Clergy.

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

-Thanks for this team's contributions, presence, and time in making a meaningful HHD for our community.

-Discussion of HHD:

-Feedback received

-Highlights

-Considerations

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

-None

BOARD REPORT- CLERGY/STAFF

NAME: Eric Goldberg

DATE: Board Meeting 10/11

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Rabbi/Director of Education

Please provide a summary for the board of what you have been up to since the last meeting. Please include an update on your goals when relevant or indicate activity pertaining to your goals. Bullet points are fine.

Religious School Update

1. Religious School is in full swing! Over the past month we have had classes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (unless we were celebrating Rosh HaShanah or observing Yom Kippur). Our students have been flexing their creative muscles with various art projects that were on display during High Holidays and will continue to be visible as people come into Shir Ami throughout the year. We have also been singing our hearts out at Tefillah/Song Session and deepening our connections to Israel, living a Jewish life and each other in the classrooms.
2. Our Intergenerational Selichot program on Sunday 9/18 was very successful. It was great for our kids/families to participate and see Selichot 'in action.' Pictures of this event are available on the Shir Ami Religious School Parents Facebook page. Please let me know if you would like me to invite you to the page so you can see all that we are doing.
3. We had a wonderful 6th-10th grade Parent/Student BBQ on Wed. September 21st. A special 'todah rabbah' to all who helped BBQ/serve (Stan Cohen, Alan Rosenberg, Dave Elkin, Jon Stevens, Shelly Cohen, Religious School Committee, and many others). We had over 100 people with us and it was a great opportunity for parents/adults to connect with each other.
4. A special 'Todah Rabbah' to Ferne and our SHAFTY teen leaders for their hard work and dedication in planning, developing and carrying out our Family programming at Tyler Park and Shir Ami for the holidays.
5. Our first 'Meet, Greet and Treat' for Religious School Parents took place on Sunday October 2nd. It was a rainy day, but that did not stop many parents from

coming to join us. 'Todah Rabbah' to Jason Cohen, Jeff Cohen, our Religious School Committee, Rabbi, Cantor and Ferne for making everyone feel welcome and connected.

6. Our first 2nd Grade Family Gathering took place this past Sunday (10/9). We had 18 families join us for a morning of getting to know each other better, learning from Rebecca Kaufman (our Rabbinic intern), joining us for Tefillah/Song Session and getting to shake lulu and etrog in the sukkah with their children.
7. Looking ahead: a) we will celebrate Sukkot all week, both indoors and outdoors (check out the balloon sukkah in the Sanctuary if you have not done so already) b) have our synagogue-wide Simchat Torah celebration this coming Sunday (10/16) — see you there!, c) Blessing of the Pets on Sunday 10/30 and d) our first B/Mitzvah Retreat on Saturday 11/5.
8. Regarding masks/COVID protocols, Religious School is following Shir Open's decisions.
9. Planning continues for our '22-'23 Israel Teen Adventure (Tiyul). Ferne Levy and I are excited to travel with 25 teens to Israel this December. We have our next meeting this coming Sunday (10/16) after our synagogue-wide Simchat Torah celebration. All families have been invited to join us for our celebration.

Lifelong Learning (LLL) Update

1. The 22-23 Lifelong Learning year has gotten off to a good start with our High Holiday focused 'What Do Prayers Mean?' series. Rabbi led the first session on 9/1, Cantor the second on 9/8 and myself on 9/15. Classes were held hybrid.
2. In October we have the following Lifelong Learning Events:
 - a. Thursday October 13th: When Life Gives You Etrogs (led by Rachel Lesser and Me) Join author, baker and Shir Ami family member Rachel Lesser as she shares family stories and the very special recipe to Suzi's Lemon Bars, perfect for Sukkot! Rabbi Eric will also share the special connection between the etrog, Israel and, literally, what keeps us alive.
 - b. Wednesday October 26th: iEngage (led by Rabbi Briskin) — This innovative new course explores the pivotal events of 1947 and 1967 as key moments when Zionism

unleashed new thinking about the meaning of Jewishness for generations to come. The course engages Jews in an open and pluralistic discussion about issues of Jewish identity, peoplehood, ethics, and theology, as they relate to nationhood, land, sovereignty, Jerusalem, occupation, and moral red lines.

- c. Thursday October 27th: Jerusalem Through the Eyes of the Poet (led by Rebecca Kaufman) — Explore Israeli poetry from the pre-state period through today to understand how poets related to Israel (the land, her cities, her peoples). What do their words, subjects, religious references, and styles teach us about the Israel they aspired toward and knew?

3. In addition, Batel has agreed to continue teaching adult Hebrew, which begins on October 26th. We have planned the courses for Wednesday evenings, with the idea that perhaps parents of our 6th-10th graders may join the class given that their kids are already in Religious School at that time.

Additional Items

1. Continue to make daily birthday and anniversary calls.
2. Continued pastoral care calls, emails and texts
3. Officiated at life cycle events.
4. High Holiday service participation, including giving an Erev RH sermon. Would love to hear what you think and look forward to bringing Israel to Shir Ami and Shir Ami to Israel in 5783!
5. Speaking of Erev RH, it truly was an honor to write music/lyrics and play with our amazing Shir Ami band! I cannot tell you what a pleasure it has been to collaborate with Michael, Jeff, Jay, Matt, Dave, Yale, Rabbi and Cantor. I look forward to Hanukkah Rock Shabbat on December 16th!
6. Continued planning for the Shir Ami Golf Outing taking place May 15, 2023. Todah Rabbah to Brett Cohen, Todd Leon and Marc Luber for all of their incredibly hard work and dedication.
7. Collaborating with Rabbi Briskin in the planning of a Men's Israel Trip taking place in February 2023.

8. Led a Women of Shir Ami 'Israeli High Holidays Cooking' Program on Sunday 9/18. We made a special Rosh HaShanah cocktail and salad in addition to learning all about foods connected to the new year from both Ashkenzic and Sephardic traditions.

As always, do not hesitate to be in touch should you have any questions or want to know more. I can best be reached via phone/text (856-359-5758) and/or email (egoldberg@shiramipa.org)

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

Nothing specific, but please know that we would love to see board members any time at Religious School! Thank you for all of your support!

BOARD REPORT- CLERGY/STAFF

NAME: Ferne Levy

DATE: 10/09/2022

TITLE OR COMMITTEE:

Please provide a summary for the board of what you have been up to since the last meeting. Please include an update on your goals when relevant or indicate activity pertaining to your goals. Bullet points are fine.

- Sr. Shafy board members were greeters for both high holidays. However, our main task was to lead very meaningful programs for Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur. The k-5th graders had a great time and all of our teens were excellent leaders!
- Sr Shafy board of 17 teens had a bonding retreat at the Bucks County Sheraton Hotel from Sept 30-Oct 1st. We had so much fun with activities/games throughout the night. Our focus was on leadership, listening, teamwork, following directions, learning how to work with different personalities, and strengthening friendships. We spent an hour at the pool and spent most of the very late night (or early morning) hanging out. Breakfast and wrap up were in one room before leaving at 8:45am.
- Sr. Shafy spent the most beautiful day at Spring Lake beach. Swimming, playing, eating.. so much fun we didn't want to leave!
- Bonim (5&6th) had dinner and havdalah at Mt. Fuji hibachi on Sept 24th (11 kids)
- Chalutzim (3&4th) had havdalah and movie night at Shir Ami on Sept 24th (21 kids)
- K2Club (k-2nd) had a welcome breakfast before RS. (35 kids)
- K2 Club celebrated sukkot by having lunch and making bird feeders for their sukkah (or tree) and we added one to our Shir Ami sukkah!!

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

- Two Sr Shafy board meetings this month,
- Sr. Shafy board will be putting some fundraisers in place
- Chalutzim has a pizza and pumpkin event on Oct 16th
- Bonim has a movie and pumpkin painting night on Oct 22nd
- Ronald McDonald therapy dogs are coming to Shir Ami RS on Oct 30th
- Hanukkah hop DJ is already booked!
- SAVE the Date for the SHAFY flea market on April 16, 2023!!

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

If you have any documents that you would like to include with your report, please email them with this form.

OCTOBER BOARD REPORT

NAME: Helen Berman

DATE: 10-9-22

TITLE OR COMMITTEE: Tikkun Olam

Committee Chairs: Barbara Roth and Essie Cherkin

Please provide a summary for the board of what you and/or your committee have been up to since the last meeting. Bullet points are fine.

The Tikkun Olam has several concurrent efforts in progress. Each has a congregant leader.

- Food Drives – Marc Luber – **New goal 15,000 pounds this year, many donations have come in**
- Education Fair Funding – Janis Bader
- Social/Racial Justice – Janis Bader - **Planning to continue reading books on this topic**
- Political Activism (Get out the vote) – Arthur Kraus and Andee Losben **Get Out the Vote Session was held Yom Kippur afternoon, post card writing session planned soon**
- Coat Drive for Afghans/Ukrainians – Stan and Shelley Cohen – **Drive is a general clothing drive to benefit JFS. Flyers have been sent to the congregation and donations are coming in**
- Biblical Garden improvements – **Barry and Stacey Groder interested in leading this effort, action waiting on discussions re: goals for the garden**
- Providing support to the Buffalo community impacted by the recent Tops tragedy – Ron Smolow – **Ron has circulated a proposal for how local congregations can collaborate with the groups in Buffalo to help**
- Re-establishing college connection – promote importance of voting – **Initial email went to first set of students to wish them Happy New Year, solicit mailing addresses and provide information on absentee voting. Responses are being received.**

Under discussion:

- Expanding political activism (RAC priorities)
- Congregational education on current topics, such as the BDS movement
- Road clean-up

We are currently compiling a list of congregants involved across all of the Tikkun Olam efforts, as a first step in expanding the committee and its activities. – **List is created and will be used to keep people informed and to solicit participation for activities.**

Please list and describe any upcoming initiatives and/or events.

Committee leadership meetings and general committee meetings are being scheduled for this month to start organizing with committee leadership and general membership.

Yom Kippur Food sorting and labeling is scheduled for October 23rd and 30th.

Are there any items that the board needs to discuss or actions that the board needs to take at this time? If so, please specify the question, topic and/or required action.

There is an interest in cleaning-up plantings, repairing dedicated benches, and improving the Biblical garden. Discussion and decisions are needed to determine direction/plan. Will it remain a “Biblical” garden, or be converted to plants that are better suited to our climate? Will it be moved/extended into other parts of the property – closer to the front, on the other side of the parking lot. Will outdoor meeting spaces be created? How will it be funded? Does this really fall under Tikkun Olam, or should it be part of Building and Grounds?

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