

November 16, 2011 LC Meeting

In attendance: Rivka Friedman, Deena Fox, Josh Wilkenfeld, Rachel Bergstein, Gil Landau, Rachel Salzman, Rebecca Murow, Dina Epstein, Reuben Jacobson, Ben Freedman, Avi Kumin, Ariella Kurshan, and Dena Roth

1. Update on membership drive (Josh W)

-Up 3-4% from this point in last year's drive (8-10 people)

-Follow-up with members who designated an interest in a specific area on the membership form

-Avi: we took in about \$78,000 which is up a few percent from last year

-For whatever reason, about 1/3 of those who sign up do not pay at the same time

- Need better prompt system to encourage payment >> follow up to install better automated system

2. HH Feedback

- At end of season, opportunity to look back and open for comments

- DR: The preparation guide by Julia/Ariella was a tremendous help

- JW: is there a way to flag that evening services start very promptly and are relatively short

-Space? AriellaK: nice to have Simchat Torah back in community hall, DF agrees

RF: too much food at night, DR agrees. Falafel might not be a great idea. Maybe don't put food out until after hakafot.

- Davening: more new tunes? More opportunities for speaking/readings in English?

- Follow-up with chinuch to more/different educational opportunities

- Reading of priestly service?

- Shout out to Zvika for the book club – great idea

- Vaeyatayu: consider changing it up participants

- Send thoughts and feedbacks on Jeremy's davening to SC

- Babysitting: less kids come at night, be more explicit with parents about what to expect when kids come/specify which services they are bringing kids

- Set-up: BF came to help Daniel do set-up 30 min before KN and the whole gym was empty

3. Update on 10th Anniversary programming about discussion about Community Pledge project

- Allison Redisch here to talk about anniversary programming:

Dec 10 havdalah kick-off at the Flats at Dupont, party room

Stephanie, Abigail and Miriam/Adam: working on overarching year programs

- Community Pledge: (Stephanie and Abigail) sign-up beginning at the Dec 10 event to do something, e.g. host a meal, wash table clothes, learn to read torah, teach/review with someone else who is learning a skill, sponsor Kiddush, etc. Small or big. Financial or ritual. Idea to have everyone commit to something.

- Venue: will the Flats fit

- Shabbaton: first weekend in February, Szubins are helping with alumni recruitment; double as Community Lunch Shabbat for outgoing SC members, not clear if it will include a Friday night service/dinner

- Shavuot Retreat

- Avi: donations/fundraising target associated with these events?

- DE: was at Independent Minyan Conference and was really struck by the disparity between DCM and other minyanim (We are the 1% . . . #OWS joke).

“Adopt a Minyan” – we’re in our 10th year so maybe we could do something to pay it forward to a new and struggling minyan; pledge an hour or two a week of mentoring to other minyanim in need of consultation

- No Chanukah party this year

Email anniversary@dcm for any suggestions or follow-up

4. Update on LC Composition

-Rachel B: officially there is an administrator position on the LC, but the position as described in the by-laws has changed and the job has been split up among many people (Avi handles checks/paypal, Julia handles weekly announcements, and the monthly calendar has been discontinued).

- Need to vote to remove the position from the LC

- Related discussion of what constitutes an LC position: work in progress, SC will be reviewing things like this

- LC votes to approve removing admin from LC

- Follow-up: need to amend the by-laws

- Connect this convo to the list of pledges – linking volunteer opportunities to admin tasks that need to be handled regularly

5. SC selection committee

- SC nominations close on Friday at noon, nominees will be notified on Sunday, will have one week to consider the nomination before accepting/declining

- Dena Roth, Gil Landau, and Julia Zuckerman will be on the Selection Committee with the 4 current SC members

- Encourage people to consider accepting the nomination, speaking with the SC before declining/accepting, etc. Want to encourage people to engage in the question of whether to be on the SC.

6. Proposal for annual donation to Mechon Hadar

- SC would like to express the Minyan's gratitude to Rabbi Ethan Tucker for his services and teaching over the years by making an annual donation to Mechon Hadar

- Gil: wants to talk to Zvika about formalizing some kind of satellite relationship between educational opps at DCM and Mechon Hadar

Ben: uncomfortable with this idea. Seems to be a conflict between being an independent minyan and then affiliating with an institution

- Convo raises larger question of what DCM's relationship is with Mechon Hadar

-Deena F: regardless, this year, we should make a one-time donation to them

- Rivka: tabling the larger relationship/affiliation question for now, the question is how to compensate/thank for the services provided by Mechon Hadar/Tucker

-Josh W: it's been 2 years since we have asked him how he feel about this, we should ask him again

-Rachel S: against annualizing it until we sort out what our affiliation is.

- Ariella K: suggestion to put a line-item in the budget and discuss it every year

- Amount? \$500? SC came up with \$1800.
- Avi: our annual spending is in the low \$70k range
- Ariella: the gift should be a symbolic member and disassociated with the notion of compensating him for services.
- Avi: I think once you hit \$1k, you've achieved a generous donation.
- Gil: how about one gift to Mechon Hadar, and one personal gift to Ethan
- Rivka: sounds like we need to loop back around with Ethan to see how he feels since our last talk
- Avi: set up a better network for providing our members with access to rabbis in the community to address halachic questions
- Dina :we have a huge amount of indebtedness to the larger community for the services we do not provide (daily minyanim for kaddish-sayers, chametz sales, etc.) We need to be good citizens of this larger Jewish community.
- SC will go back to Ethan and discusses his preferences
- LC thoughts on amount to give Mechon Hadar and/or Ethan:
- LC consensus on a number in the \$1,000 range. SC will discuss with Ethan whether better to give him honorarium or donation to MH. Will revisit annually.

7. Welcoming reminder

- Reminder that there are people who are coming to DCM and are not feeling welcomed, encourage everyone to be more welcoming at Kiddush, get people involved,
- Dina: idea to create "cohorts" of new people, new faces dinner where we connect new people, create a more organized system of integrating people into the community
- Important to engage people, especially those you've seen before but have never met.

8. Budget

Avi: will email all committee heads in next few days to do next year's budget, opportunity to add line-items that are anticipated