



Young Israel of Jamaica Estates
83-10 188th Street
Jamaica Estates, NY 11423

5 Adar II, 5779
March 12, 2019

Dear Member,

I am excited to share with you that earlier this evening, the results of our Rabbinic Selection Survey were reviewed together by myself, Gerry Zahtz, and Jay Lisker as well as two of our permanent board members, Mark Bienstock and Jerry King, who are not members of the Rabbinic Search Committee. While we had two exceptional candidates, Rabbi Dov Lerner was the clear choice of the community. He was the preferred choice of more than two thirds of the survey respondents.

I will therefore be directing the Contract Committee to immediately engage with Rabbi Lerner to finalize an agreement. The Rabbinic Search Committee has already contacted both candidates to let them know the community's decision.

Thanks once again to both our Rabbinic Transition Committee and our Rabbinic Search Committee who have put in an enormous amount of work and done an outstanding job in bringing us to this point!

I would also like to personally thank Rabbi Hochberg for his counsel and guidance throughout this process. His wisdom has proven to be invaluable as always, and indeed feedback from the candidates regarding communication with Rabbi Hochberg was excellent as well.

As a reminder, once Rabbi Lerner and the Contract Committee agree upon terms, the next steps will include the approval of the Board of Directors on March 27th and then a General Membership meeting on April 2nd to ratify the contract. Of course, these dates are tentative and dependent on the timing of the Contract Committee.

Finally, I would like to thank the entire membership for your continued engagement in this essential process. Attendance during our candidate visits included overflow crowds and nearly everyone who received an electronic survey invitation responded. Please continue to stay engaged and plan to attend the General Membership Meeting in April.

Thank you for your continued support and participation!

Respectfully,

Sam Herskowitz
President