



AGUDAS ACHIM SYNAGOGUE VISIONING SESSIONS - TOWN HALL NOTES

The following notes are a general record of the items discussed at the May 23, 2021, Visioning Session (Number 1). The notes have been compiled and categorized for clarity and are not in sequential order as they were brought up in the meeting. They are in no order and only stand to create a record of the items discussed so that we can continue to build on these subjects:

- The vision of the synagogue as a “Third Place” could include:
 - Flexible use rooms that allow for the potential utilization of:
 - The religious school additional classrooms
 - Family use spaces to provide programs while people are on site during religious school sessions.
 - Revenue generating programs for members of the larger Jewish community, and possibly even non-Jewish public.
 - These flexible rooms must contain some version of the following separations and connections:
 - Connection to the religious school
 - Flexible but secure connection to the sacred spaces, i.e. this barrier must be able to be made to be open to provide open connection, but must also be made to be able to provide a fully secure barrier for the sacred spaces.
- The vision of the synagogue with regard to connectivity:
 - The following categories should be considered when evaluating spaces and their connection to other spaces:
 - Visual connection
 - Audio connection
 - Odor connection
 - Secure connection
 - The vision of the synagogue is that it should provide a connection to the community which was generally defined as the immediate Jewish membership of the synagogue, then the greater Jewish community, then lastly the general non-Jewish community.
- The social action committee provided a few suggestions for future projects and spaces that could further the social action agenda:
 - Spaces to facilitate the direct donations including additional storage space. It was suggested that these spaces also have some sort of visibility to act as an additional advertisement for the donations program.
 - Signage that could be installed in the parking lot to facilitate parking lot donation services.
 - Additional meeting spaces to help organize donation operations.

We will discuss Accessibility at our next meeting and inclusion as we procedure further in this process.



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Homework Assignment: Mark Yoo Architect suggested a homework assignment for members attending the visioning sessions:

- Generate a laundry list of different spaces that could be used to address the needs specified above. Each of these spaces should be given a general size i.e. "How many people should it fit?", and number, i.e. "4 classrooms."
- Please bring the list to the next visioning session, so that we can start to generate a list of rooms with occupancies that might satisfy the needs of the vision. If you are unable to join us for the next meeting, email your list to Barry Nove at bnove@agudasachim-va.org.