

The Constitution Revision Committee met and proposed several changes, corrections, deletions and additions to the CBT Constitution. Major among them is the removal of many items to be migrated to a set of By-Laws, presently non-existent but to be established by the Board, where changes can be made to various operational matters without having to go through a Constitution amendment process. The committee also noted that the present Constitution has not been followed explicitly (some examples of which include congregational meeting in July, Vice-Presidential portfolios, committee responsibilities, etc.) Although done for good reasons, these leave the door open for adversarial actions from disgruntled members, who can claim selective interpretation. Whatever the final Constitutional changes adopted by the Board, and approved by the membership, the new documents should be followed to the letter. We suggest that the Board might wish to appoint a Parliamentarian (either a Board member or not) to assure compliance with Board actions to the new Constitution.

Below is the Revision Committee rationale for the proposed changes. Any additional changes that have been made to the Constitution and NOT noted with a 'reason for recommended revision' have been made strictly for grammatical reasons and purposes of consistency.

ARTICLE, SECTION, SUBSECTION	REASON FOR RECOMMENDED REVISION
Article IV, section 2 (General)	The term 'married couple' is used throughout this section. Given today's reality, how should 'significant others' living in the same household be addressed? The Revision Committee is forwarding this to the Board for resolution, and has no recommendation.
Article IV, Section 2, a	Non-dependent children living at home should apply for individual membership. Limiting office eligibility encourages diversity of opinion and experience. (The latter amendment is to be grandfathered.)
Article IV, Section 2, c. 1	Editorial (grammatical) change
Article IV, Section 2, c. 3	There have been no honorary memberships to CBT offered, so the need for this subsection is questionable. Additionally, the phrasing would allow full membership to those of other faiths. On these bases, we recommend deletion
Article IV, Section 3	Delete pass , replace with decide in order to allow for possible rejection of application. The time constraint has been added to assure fairness to all applicants, so as not to allow a drawn-out process.
Article IV, Section 4	Given today's electronic connectedness, paper copies of the Constitution (which none of the members of the revision committee had received upon joining CBT) should be available to those members who request one from the office. All others can access this document from the CBT website.
Article IV, Section 5	Add ¾ to clarify. Given the seriousness of suspension or expulsion of a member, it was felt

	that such actions should only be taken with a very heavy majority of the Board in agreement.
Article VII, Section 1A	It was felt that the December meeting was redundant, especially as many of our senior members winter away from home. Any highlights, important information, etc. that need to be communicated can easily be disseminated either electronically and/or mail.
Article VII, Section 1A.1	This allows for presentation of independent nominations, a point that was not clear in the present document.
Article VII, Section 1A.2	Submission of the budget to the membership is not enough; it must be approved by the membership.
Article VII, Section 1B.7	This allows for the chazzan's report.
Article VII, Section 1C	Editorial revision in light of proposed changes.
Article VII, Section 3	It was felt that this revision not only reflects today's reality, it also is a financial benefit to CBT. It allows those members who are not digitally connected to continue receiving notification via mail. Please note that the term electronic text is open, and does not limit future communications to email only.
Article VII, Section 4	Editorial changes only.
Article VII, Section 5	This allows members to participate remotely if they have sufficient means.
Article VIII, Section 1	Made the committee/groups responsible for appointment of person to Nominating Committee, as opposed to the presiding officer.
Article VIII, Section 2	Allows those who have remote access to cast a ballot with the vote teller (obviously an open ballot, but restricted to vote teller).
Article IX, Section1	Establishes a numerical value for Board members, needed for quorums and when percentage voting is mandated (e.g., Article IV, Section 5, and Article IX, Section 3).
Article IX, Section 3	This was added to grant more flexibility in financial matters to the Board, in order to take advantage of financial instruments that may bring in more revenue, but which must receive super-majority approval before implementation.
Article IX, Section 6	Has been clarified to read "At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a quorum for voting shall be by simple majority. No matter may be decided upon by the Board of Directors except by

	majority of the members unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution or any other governing documents of the Board.
Article IX, Section 12	This was added for 2 main reasons: it allows the Board to rapidly change items in the By-Laws (which presently do not exist), without the necessity of undergoing Constitutional revisions, and, as can be seen below, removes operational (tactical) matters from Constitutional (strategic) ones.
Article X, Section 5, a,b,c,d,e	These have been deleted, and replaced with wording that allows the Board to determine the portfolios of the Vice-Presidents, along with their responsibilities to oversee committee functions.
Article X, section 10	We believe that there has been discussion in the past at General Membership meetings regarding the time frame for presentation of the Auditor's report to the Board. As presently constructed, there is no time frame specified for the report to be presented to the Board, only that it be made available to the Congregation within 6 months of being presented to the Board. We bring this matter to the Board for clarification and resolution; the Revision Committee has no specific recommendation.
Article XI, Section 3	Editorial
Article XI, Section 4	The present wording implies that the membership may vote on the Rabbi's contract, which it doesn't, and potentially also may vote on halachic matters (it can't).
Article XII, Section 2	Again, a serious matter requiring 19 votes for dissociation.
Article XIII, Section 2, a-aa	Removed to the By-Laws to allow flexibility without need for Constitutional change.
Article XIV, Section 1	Utilization was added so that there is no question about who is financially responsible for the opening and upkeep of the gravesite, etc.
Article XIV, Sections 2, 3	Have been revamped to move these issues to the Board via the By-Laws, allowing for easier changes as circumstances arise. As presently worded, they are unclear and open to misinterpretation.
Article XV, Section 1	Editorial- wording in the beginning should actually be any of the following .