

**Board of Directors Meeting
May 2, 2005**

In attendance: Janice Baer, Arie Behar, Gary Bergman, Bobbi Binder, Jeff Cadoff, Larry Cohen, Marc Dillman, Harvey Finkelstein, Mitch Frumkin, Al Garten, Cindy Gittleman, Danny Greenberg, Allison Nagelberg, Jerry Kaminsky, Mark Kasdin, Ruth Anne Koenick, Doris Sandrowitz, Harold Schneider, Mark Sherman, Frank Waltzer, Gary Warner, Paul Zankel, Keith Zimmerman
Rabbi Eligberg, Cantor Rockman, Hadas Elami
Guests: Marty Abschutz, Marc Binder, Ben Shapiro

Meeting called to order by President Arie Behar at 8pm

Presentation by Ben Shapiro regarding security for the new building.

Motion by Danny Greenberg:

To allocate \$30,302 for the security system for the new building with an additional \$3,840 to cover maintenance costs.

Seconded by Jerry Kaminsky.

Discussion: Where will the money come from? Dillman: We have \$20,000 set aside to cover these things.

Discussion to be continued after closed session.

D'var Torah by Rabbi Eligberg

Closed session.

Discussion resumed about the security system.

Motion tabled.

Vote to table: in favor: 18, against 1, abstain 0. Motion tabled.

President's report: Group of Israelis visited us for the 5th year. Arie is working on the trip for next year and would like an adult and youth trip.

Budget report presented by Marty Abschutz. We have a deficit for the first time in many years. We do not have the carryover that we have had in the past.

Mitch Frumkin: As of last week, Grant Builders has been ignoring the lawyer.

Motion:

To authorize Jim Stahler to move forward with the litigation against Grant Builders.

Seconded by Marc Dillman.

Discussion: How much will this cost? It will cost a few thousand dollars and there are over \$300,000 worth of legitimate claims. But is there any money for us to eventually get? We will not know until discovery.

We need to file the motion to get any action from Grant Builders.

Arie believes that we have to do this, we owe it to the congregation, that we were cheated. We are over budget because of Grant Builders and need to pursue this regardless of the cost or what we can recover. Arie strongly recommends that we go forward with this.

Vote: in favor 18, against 0, abstain 0. Motion passes.

Ruth Anne Koenick: Wants to bring to board's attention that our congregation needs to support the walk for Israel and the Israel Day Parade. This should be on the synagogue and religious school calendar.

Old Business: Report on Honor's Wall by Mark Kasdin. Mark sent an email to the board outlining the costs. This could cost up to \$20,000. Hoping to order the plaques in June.

Financial Secretary: Mark Kasdin

434 members. 291 fdp equivalents. 86 on special arrangements. By end of August we will lose about 5 or 6 families. One family is behind in dues and other obligations and the child is now taking bar mitzvah lessons. If the family does not answer letters, the child will be pulled from lessons. Mark has given them chances to pay and they haven't.

Treasurer's Report: Marc Dillman.

Handed out reports. Marc highlighted various parts. Refinance will take place after complete the building.

VP Reports: Kasdin.

Was there a school and youth report? How is the search going for the new director? Search committee has met and an ad has gone out. We have not received any responses yet, attributing that to Passover and that we are late in the season. Moving forth on how to get potential candidates. Putting in ads again this week.

Have we had a sense of how people are reacting that Fran is not coming back? Fran has not made a formal announcement.

Therefore, a letter needs to be drafted to the parents assuring them that all programs are continuing and that we are searching for a replacement and the children will be taken care of.

Arie: Can we replace at the same cost?

Jeff: Looked at other ads, we are the lowest wage out there. \$1,500 below the bottom end of ranges that they have seen. There are many factors to consider including number of students. We don't have the lowest number of students, but we certainly don't have the highest. Has there been any consideration to recruiting from within our own school? Committee feels that taking from within our own school is not a good idea.

A letter needs to go out from the congregation to the nursery school.

Danny: We will have a comedy night at B'nai Tikvah for Thursday, June 2. Comedy after minyan. Charging \$20-\$22 at the door with a discount for pre-purchased tickets and discount for seniors.

Arie: When will building be open? Trying to get our CO within 2 weeks. What is going to happen with installation?
There will be a dinner on Friday June 24th.

Dillman questioned Cindy Gittleman's prospect list. This is an active list that changes all the time. These are families who have expressed an interest in the synagogue. They are invited to attend events and want to receive information but are not ready to join yet. Varies around 70 names. Names are removed if they ask to be removed or if mail comes back.

Janice question regarding nursery school registration. How is it going? Harold needs to follow through with Fran to make sure that things are going well. He doesn't have numbers from Fran.

We will be having a week long celebration that will start on a Sunday morning, starting Sept 18th with events being hosted all week by committees. Ending with a thank you the following Sunday for donors.

Questions to auxiliary groups:

Sisterhood: Fashion show on May 18, dinner. Slate of officers presented, we vote on May 15th. Lisa Seidman will be honored as our Eshet Chayil on June 20th.

Men's Club: Candles were sent out, checks have started to come in.
Ball Game scheduled for May 22nd.

50 plus: Nothing to report, not a great turn out at the last meeting.

Calendar meeting is June 23, dates needed by June 15th.

Dr. Kaminker is donating a defibrulator, worth \$2000, and he is holding a training session on May 18th.

Motion to adjourn by Danny Greenberg
Seconded by Ruth Anne Koenick

Congregation B'nai Tikvah Board of Trustees

AGENDA

Board of Trustees Meeting, May, 2 2005

To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs and traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent [Jewish education](#) and [community activities](#) for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.

Call to Order	Arie Behar
Approval of April Meeting Minutes	All
D'var Torah	Rabbi Eligberg
President Report	Arie Behar
New Business	
Report on Budget	Martin Abschutz
Motion regarding litigation "Grant Builders"	Mitch Frumkin
Israeli parade	Ruth Ann Koenick
Motion regarding new alarm system	Danny Greenberg
Old Business	
Report on "Honor Wall"	Mark Kasdin
Reports:	
Financial Secretary's Report	Mark Kasdin
Treasurer's Report	Marc Dillman
Questions on VP reports	All
VP Activities report on upcoming events	Gary Bergman
Questions on auxiliary group reports	All
Good and Welfare	Rabbi Eligberg
Adjournment	All
Closed Session	Rabbi's review
	All

VP Administration Report

House & Grounds

- Thank you to Arie Behar and his company First Property Management for patching the worst of our parking lot potholes, for the cost of the materials alone.
- We are still trying to set up half of the old youth lounge as a permanent chapel. We have permanent pews that are being donated to us – the good news is that all we have to do is pick them up. The bad news is that we have to go to East Rockaway, NY (about 5 miles past JFK Airport) to get them. We have the use of a truck; what we need now are people to help. PLEASE CONTACT JEFF CADOFF OR DAN GREENBERG TO VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME. We will try to arrange for a Sunday morning.
- There will be a presentation at the Board meeting (by Ben Shapiro) of alarm alternatives for the new wing.

Budget

- Budget Committee continues Sunday nights.

Religious Activities

- The siddur dedication service is set for June 10th. Plaques will be put in the new siddurim before that.
- Upcoming programs:
 1. Yom Hashoah program on May 4th. South Brunswick Clergy Association plus CBT will be presenting a remembrance program at CBT.
 2. Yom Ha'atzmaut program on May 11th "A Taste of Israel" featuring Israeli food, snacks, drink and an Israeli movie. There is no charge for this event, but we have asked for RSVPs to help us gauge the amount of food that is needed.
 3. Our first annual Shabbarbeque will held on Friday night, May 27th. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. We are trying to raise more funds by asking people to "sponsor" a grill or a game. The program starts at 6:30 with dinner, 7:15 games and 8pm services. Dress is casual. We will be using the multi purpose room for the games and will be eating outside. We are anticipating a large turnout for this so pray for good weather!
 4. Our final Family Shabbat dinner and service for this season will be on May 20th. We will pick up again in the fall. Attendance at this service has increased this year due to the dinner that is offered at an affordable price.
- All of the Friday night Unplugged services will begin at 6:30 pm.
- Service on May 20th will begin at 7pm; there will be no 8pm service that night.
- The RAC will be opening up a meeting for all congregants to attend who are interested in giving feedback regarding Rosh Hashanah services.

Activities VP Report

Adult Education

Our final featured program in May will be a slide show presentation on Yemenite Jewish Culture given by Ravit Bar-Av who is an Information Officer at the Consulate General of Israel in New York.

Website/Communications

Standardizing the look and feel of the various order forms available on the website for such things as, the Lag B'Omer BBQ, family Shabbat dinners, donation forms, etc. Some automated features

were recently added such as the counting of the Omer which is displayed with the current Gregorian and Hebrew dates on our home page.

Bikkur Cholim

The committee, chaired by Sheryl Olitzky, arranges visits to congregants who are ill or hospitalized. Please, if you know of anyone who may be in need, contact the synagogue office.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

1. CHAI MEMBER'S CLUB:

The opening event for the Chai Member's Club will take place on May 15th. It will be a social evening to kick off this new membership group. 136 families will be invited to attend. The hope is to keep our members active who have been longtime members of the synagogue.

2. TEE SHIRTS:

B'nai Tikvah wear was well received this year and will continue to be sold. Come the Spring we will begin to sell again on Sundays, but tee shirts can always be requested for purchase on the website.

3. PROSPECT LIST:

Membership keeps and active up-to-date list of prospective members who have shown an interest in B'nai Tikvah. For a copy of this list to invite to a synagogue event, please contact Cindy Gittleman.

4. "A VERY SWEET ONEG SHABBAT" : Membership will host the Friday night Oneg Shabbat on June 24th to say "Thank You" to the many, many members of our synagogue who have helped over the past 25 years keep B'nai Tikvah full of activity and community spirit. This invitation will be in the May Hakol and combined with the 2005 Installation of new Officers for the synagogue.

5. MARKETING PLAN:

There has been some opening discussions about how to approach external marketing for the synagogue in a more cohesive manner. Volunteers are needed to develop a steering committee to discuss this important issue.

THANK YOU,
CINDY GITTLEMAN

Mitch Frumkin
Past President

Construction:

In order to give a better idea of how the construction has been proceeding I have prepared the following list of the primary contractors and their percentage complete along with a commentary regarding the project schedule and any anticipated extras. Also presented is a list of work still not under contract.

Current Status of budgeted items:

1. Masonry	100%
2. HVAC	99%
3. Electrical	99%
4. Plumbing	100%
5. Windows and Exterior Doors	100%
6. Fire Protection System	99%
7. EIFS (stucco exterior)	90%
8. Steel studs and drywall	100%
9. Miscellaneous iron work	100%
10. Ceilings	100%
11. Bathroom partitions	100%
12. Flooring (except MP room)	95%
13. MP room flooring	100%
14. Painting	99%
15. MP Room door	99%
16. Classroom accordion door	100%
17. Barrier free lift	100%
18. Gas line	100%
19. Basketball hoops	100%

As you can see, the building is rapidly approaching completion. It is hoped that by next months report I will be able to say that we have received our Certificate of Occupancy and are using the building.

Feedback Committee

The Feedback Committee has not met as we have not received any feedback from the Congregation although we have been advertising in Hakol.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has met a number of times and will be presenting the following slate at the Congregational Meeting for the next Executive Committee. We are meeting again at the end of April to work on our recommendations for the open Board positions. If anyone has any suggestions, please let me know.

Proposed Slate for EC

President	Dan Greenberg
VP Administration	Gary Bergman
VP Activities	Cindy Gittleman
VP School and Youth	Jeff Cadoff
VP Membership	Ruth Ann Koenig

VP of Ways and Means Monthly Report

Supermarket Scrip & Retail Scrip: Marc Binder is doing a good job leading the charge on selling the scrip. It is not a job to be done by one person. We need to get more help, please volunteer. We are making money despite the issues.

The Event: Next years event is only around corner. Start thinking about how we can make next years a successful event. Please come and talk to either Gary Warner or myself on you can help.

GIANTS RAFFLE: Irwin Millinger will be kicking off a raffle in early June. We will have 2 45-yard line NY Giants seats for the season that we will be raffling off. Each chance will cost \$50.00 are break even is about 41 ticket. Please line-up potential buys. It is a great opportunity for any Giant fan or football fan.

Printer Cartridges: We are collecting ink jet cartridges. There is a box in the office please just drop them off. We have sent in a box and are sitting on several new boxes to be sent out. CBT will receive \$2.00 per cartridge. We have received several hundred dollars so please keep on bringing in the cartridges.

E-Bay: We are officially ready to start listing items on E-Bay. Bonnie Kudwitt is our point person at this time. If anyone is willing to help we would appreciate your efforts. Start looking around to find anything that would be sellable on E-Bay. Please bring it into the office. Thanks VM for your support!!!!!!

REFINANCING: We are waiting for the C.O. before we continue on.