

Minutes from board meeting June 6, 2005

Meeting called to order at 8pm by president Arie Behar

In attendance: Janice Baer, Arie Behar, Bobbi Binder, Jeff Cadoff, Larry Cohen, Marc Dillman, Harvey Finkelstein, Mitch Frumkin, Al Garten, Cindy Gittleman, Joyce Gerbman, Danny Greenberg, Allison Nagelberg, Mark Kasdin, Ruth Anne Koenick, Harold Schneider, Frank Waltzer, Gary Warner, Paul Zankel

Hadas Elami, Rabbi Eligberg

Guests: Marty Abschutz, Marc Binder, Alan Kane

Agenda being changed. We will go through the entire meeting and save the budget for last.

Motion to accept minutes by Harvey seconded by Gary

Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstain

President's report: Arie heading up Rabbi search committee. This has been formed, first meeting is June 15th. We will be meeting every week through July 21st. There will be 2 focus groups that the entire congregation will be invited to. There is a 70-page book that we have received about how to go about the search. Members include a cross section of our congregation. Hopefully by end of July the questionnaire will be completed as well as the application. Then we will be put out as a congregation looking for a Rabbi.

New Business:

Alan Kane gave a brief history of the Israeli passport program. This was created 10 years ago as a way to encourage our high school students to go to Israel. Also as a way to jump-start the Chai School program. There is money there that is being under utilized. Alan would like to see this money used for our exchange program, not just USY/Federation.

Motion by Danny Greenberg:

The Passport to Israel Program shall be revised to provide a one time use \$600 subsidy to member's children participating in a BTIYEP sponsored trip to Israel. Said subsidy will not be contingent upon compliance with the previously existing enrollment, administrative, savings, travel time frames, graduation requirements, and other restrictions, which have only served to discourage the congregation's youth from visiting Israel.

Seconded by Janice Baer.

Discussion ensued.

How will this be funded in the future? As it is used it is being diminished. Alan feels that the number of kids going is pretty small.

Vote: in favor 12 opposed 0, abstain 3

Motion passes

Old business:

Report on honor wall. Committee met and should get proposals within the next week. Should be wrapped up by the end of June. Has board allocated and or approved money for this?

It will be less than \$20,000. This will be a modern piece of artwork. This money also includes the individual plaques and installation. This money will come from the construction budget.

Reports: Financial secretary, Mark Kasdin  
443 member families. 289 FDPE. 94 on special arrangements. About 20% of our congregation.

Treasurer's report: Marc Dillman passed around his report and highlighted issues. Same concerns and positive variances still exist.

VP reports were sent out via email and distributed at the meeting.

We should be filing complaint this week with regards to our lawsuit.

We have several viable candidates for the nursery school and will be interviewing next week.

Still waiting for building inspection. Hoping to get temporary CO by next week. We may be able to hold the congregational meeting in the multi purpose room.

Hadas reminded everyone that she needs dates by the 15th of June. Calendar date meeting has changed still needs to be rescheduled.

The congregational meeting will be on June 23rd. First part will be a constitutional meeting. Letters are being sent tomorrow.

Janice Baer announced that Laura Waksman will be the new chair of the social action committee.

Raffle tickets for Giant season tickets will be here soon and Gary is looking for people to sell them.

Auxiliary Reports: Sisterhood fashion show 2 weeks ago, very successful. Installation is this Friday, includes a dinner. Eshet Chayil honoring will be on June 20th at the Doubletree hotel, Lisa Seidman.

Men's Club: 2 softball teams were formed. One team has a winning record. Thanked everyone for participation in Yom Hashoah candle program.

Ruth Anne thanked Bobbi for Shabbarbeque.  
Israel parade was a success. Rabbi should be thanked. We had 25 people attend. We were the only congregation from Middlesex County that participated.

Budget presentation.

Passed around presentation; added that the numbers were used based on 292 FDPE not 300. Outreach committee will not need \$500 and that money can be used in our budget.

Questions were asked regarding the proposal, especially the issue of combining the nursery school and religious school director into one position as education director. Arie

wanted everyone to know that Anne has not agreed to this yet and no money has been talked about. She was sounded out only and has not rejected this proposal and may be considering it. The numbers are all assumptions.

Motion to use \$500 from outreach fund and \$7,000 from religious school grant fund to be used in the operating budget for the coming year.

Vote: in favor 17, against 0, abstain 0.

Motion passes.

Motion by Mitch

To raise dues by 5%

Seconded by Cindy

11 for, 3 against, 1 abstain

Motion passes

Motion by Mitch

To have 2 directors in place as per the second slide, scenario 6 (5% increase)

Seconded by Danny Greenberg

Vote: in favor 15, against 0 abstain 3

Motion passes

Arie encouraged everyone on the board to attend the congregational meeting and show their support for the budget.

Mitch raised the point that questions will be raised regarding the cost of the new building and the fact that FDPE has dropped so significantly. We should be prepared to answer these questions.

Jeff Cadoff

Motion:

To discuss with Ann Kanerek immediately to assume interim director duties while we continue our search for a nursery school director until someone else is hired or until we decided that this will be one position.

Seconded by Mitch Frumkin.

Is there going to be monetary compensation for this?

Concern that Fran may be inappropriate at the graduation. Harold says that she wants to end professionally and feels that it would be wrong to have her leave before graduation.

Vote: in favor 18, opposed 0, abstain 0

Motion passes

Good and welfare by Rabbi Eligberg:

Speedy recovery:

Mollie Cohn, Phyllis Edley, Dave Greenfield, Rob Robison, Phil Simon

Condolences:

Dennis Kessler and Bruce Kessler on the death of their father Julius, Beth Mehler on the death of her father

Mazel tov:

Richard and Michelle Fliegelman - son Harris' bar mitzvah; Mark and Patti Rosen – daughter Healthier's bat mitzvah; Marc and Bobbi Binder – daughter Becca's bat mitzvah; Frank and Laurie Waltzer – Son Daniel's bar mitzvah, Jeff and Stacey Cadoff – naming of daughter Hannah; George and Renee Redeczky – birth of daughter; Gwen and Phil Simon – birth of granddaughter; Steve Levin honored as NJ Family Physician of the year; Cantor Rockman and Sons of Tikvah honoring by Federation

To the following graduates:

College:

Stacey Kasdin, Rachel Kane, Jordana Koffler, Blair Kaminsky, Steve Halpern

High School:

Matt Biderman, Amanda Dillman, Gary Marx, Elyse Ross, Mara Gittleman, Mollie Herman, Josh Baer, Leah Behar, Adam Feinstein, Seth Frumkin, Josh Kober, Samantha Rudin, Kenny Smith, Amy Wolf, Julie Stevens, Brad Barksdale, Noam Brown, Stephen Dworkin, Daniel Gonchar, Julie Gordon, Michael Grodzinski, Sara Koenig, Shane Spigner, Yonatan Heit

And to all of our Chai school and Hei class graduations

Rabbi will be installed on September 19th as president on NJ region of rabbinical assembly.

Arie thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as president during these past two years.

Motion to adjourn by Ruth Anne

Seconded it by Janie Baer.

Board went into closed session

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

JUNE 2005

### 1. CHAI MEMBER'S CLUB:

The Chai Member's Club is an established membership group with 138 families. The first event , a social mixer was well received by its members and future planning of events is underway.

### 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 recognition will be 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. There is a steering committee being formed to attack this issue. Anyone who feels they can help should contact [membership@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:membership@bnaitikvah.org)

### 5. THE OPENING CELEBRATION OF THE NEW EXPANSION:

Membership will work in coordination with the other committees and groups in the synagogue to make the opening an exciting event. It will take place Sept. 18-25<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the week long celebration is: UNWRAP YOU SPIRIT - FIND THE CENTER!

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the spirit committee should contact Cindy Gittleman at [Cindy.Gittleman@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:Cindy.Gittleman@bnaitikvah.org)

THANK YOU,  
CINDY GITTLEMAN

Mitch Frumkin  
Past President  
Monthly Report May 2005  
Date of Report: June 3, 2005

**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	100%
3. Electrical	100%
4. Plumbing	100%
5. Windows and Exterior Doors	100%
6. Fire Protection System	100%
7. EIFS (stucco exterior)	100%
8. Steel studs and drywall	100%
9. Miscellaneous iron work	100%
10. Ceilings	100%
11. Bathroom partitions	100%
12. Flooring (except MP room)	100%
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%

At this point the building is essentially complete and we are going through the process of obtaining the Certificate of Occupancy. So far we have passed inspection for the electrical, plumbing, fire protection and heating and ventilating. The only two approvals that we still need are from the building inspector and the site engineer (including the Freehold Soil Erosion Commission). The building inspection should take place in the next week or so along with the soil erosion. In regards to the site work we still need to make a repair to the sanitary sewer tank which was installed incorrectly by the original plumber. This should be completed in the next week.

**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.

A change to the Bylaws definition for the feedback committee is being proposed at the meeting in June. The proposed wording change is as follows.

The current description in the Bylaws is as follows: **“Feedback Committee** - This committee shall facilitate communications between members of the Congregation and the Rabbi and between members of the Congregation and the Cantor and shall report semi-annually to the Executive Committee. The committee shall consist of four to six members appointed annually by the President.”

The proposed wording is as follows: **“Feedback Committee** – This committee shall facilitate communications between members of the congregation and the Synagogue staff including the Clergy and shall report semi-annually to the executive committee. The committee shall consist of four to six members appointed annually by the President.”

### **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee has met a number of times and will be presenting the following slate at the Congregational Meeting. I would like to thank all members of the Committee who worked extremely hard on this slate. They include Janice Baer, Jennifer Shapiro, Lynn Biderman, Steve Katz, Tammy Zimmerman and Doris Sandrowitz.

#### **Nominating Committee Nominees for Board of trustees 2005-2006:**

Dan Greenberg .....	President
<b>Arie Behar .....</b>	<b>Past President</b>
Gary Bergman .....	VP Administration
Cindy Gittleman .....	VP Activities
Ruth Anne Koenick .....	VP Membership
Jeff Cadoff .....	VP of School and Youth
<b>Mark Sherman .....</b>	<b>VP Ways and Means</b>
	(1 year term)
Marc Dillman .....	Treasurer
Paul Zankel .....	Trustee
Allison Nagelberg.....	Trustee
Mitch Frumkin.....	Trustee
	(1 year term)
David Spivak .....	Trustee (new)
Linda Kohn.....	Trustee (new)
Alan Garten .....	Trustee (new)
Arthur Biderman.....	Trustee (new)

#### **Returning for 2<sup>nd</sup> year term (not up for vote):**

Frank Waltzer.....	Assistant Treasurer
Mark Kasdin.....	Financial Secretary
<b>Bobbi Binder.....</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
Harvey Finkelstein.....	Trustee
Gary Warner.....	Trustee
Larry Cohen.....	Trustee

**I also would like to remind everyone that the BOT Installation dinner is scheduled for Friday June 24 at a cost of \$18 per person. Hopefully everyone will attend !!**

**VP Administration Report  
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

Personnel

Nursery Director Search Committee continues reviewing resumes and scheduling interviews.

House & Grounds

- REPEAT ANNOUNCEMENT: 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.

Budget

- Budget Committee has had an extremely difficult and onerous task this year. The final product will be presented at the meeting. Huge debt of gratitude to the committee for spending many late nights (and early mornings). Many thanks to Marty Abschutz, Marc Binder, Marc Dillman, Hadas Elami, Ruth Anne Koenick, Mark Roller & Dave Teicher

Religious Activities

- May saw a lot of events for the Religious Activity Committee.
  1. The Yom Hashoah program was attended by area clergy as well as congregants and others from the community.
  2. Yom Ha'atzmaut included a taste of Israeli food and music, followed by the viewing of an Israeli movie.
  3. The Shabbarbeque was attended by 115 people and was a huge success.
  4. The last Family Shabbat service until the fall was held, with 40 people in attendance. This program has proven to pull in families with young children because a dinner is served at a reasonable cost.
- The introduction of our new Siddurim will take place on Friday night, June 10th.
- Upcoming holidays have been planned for.
- Coverage for the Rabbi as far as D'verei Torah for Friday nights and Saturday mornings is now in the works for when he is away in July.
- We have begun to look at the High Holidays as far as services and chair people.

## VP Activities

Very little to report this month other than we're having an extra Adult-ed meeting at my house on Wednesday, June 8th. Some congregants have suggested a few new (great) ideas for next year and we want to get a jump on it.

Also a reminder to everyone about the Calendar meeting in June and to please get your orders in for the calendar fundraiser.

<http://www.bnaitikvah.org/calform.html>

VP of Ways and Means Monthly Report

**June 6, 2005**

**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 have already sold item and started making money. 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. Look in your cabinets, garages and draws for item you do not want any more. Please bring it into the office. Thanks VM for your support!

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