

Minutes from board meeting  
Congregation B'nai Tikvah  
September 6, 2005

In attendance: Arie Behar, Gary Bergman, Arthur Biderman, Bobbi Binder, Jeff Cadoff, Larry Cohen, Marc Dillman, Mitch Frumkin, Al Garten, Joyce Gerbman, Cindy Gittleman, Danny Greenberg, Mark Kasdin, Steven Katz, Ruth Anne Koenick, Linda Kohn, Allison Nagelberg, Mark Sherman, David Spivak, Frank Waltzer, Gary Warner, Paul Zankel

Rabbi Eligberg, Hadas Elami

Guests: Elliott Danto, Rachel Shaneson

Meeting called to order by president Danny Greenberg at 8pm.

Motion to accept minutes from August meeting by Al Garten, seconded by Mark Kasdin.

Vote; in favor; 13, against 0, abstain: 1

Motion accepted.

D'var Torah by Rabbi Eligberg

President's report: Barry Mael will not be joining us tonight because of a scheduling problem. He will join us at another time.

Danny thanked everyone who made our new building look the way it does. Gary Bergman, Hadas, Ann Kanarek, Phyllis Denenberg, maintenance staff.

The Finkelsteins have left our synagogue. Harvey's position will be filled tonight.

**Motion** by Mitch Frumkin:

To accept the nomination of Mark Jiorle to the board of directors

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

**Motion passed**

Gary Tinkel will be leading the feedback committee.

Passport to Israel committee has come up with a change of language.

Elliott Danto made a presentation.

United synagogue has set up a site for victims of Katrina. The link is on our website. There are also some specific synagogues that are listed. See Danny for that information. Solomon Schechter in East Brunswick is doing a clothing drive for victims. Rabbi is also in touch with a friend who is a rabbi in the area and will give us more info.

Our USY is also looking to organize a clothing drive.

Danny would like to do our phone calls for our appeal on Oct 16th and encourages everyone to participate. The exact time to be announced.

Danny introduced Lisa mason, our new activities marketing person. This is a part time 20 hours per week position.

Rachel Shaneson: scrip presentation. Committee has already met. Assessment will not be given this year. Web orders will now be accepted.

Monday, Sept 19 Rabbi Eligberg will be installed as President of NJ region of rabbinical assembly. Dinner and dessert.

Danny passed a sheet around regarding the qualifications of the Supreme Court nominee. A president of a synagogue sent out the handout. Danny wants to know how we as a board feel about it. Board agrees with the statement.

Presentation by Jeff Cadoff regarding Junior Congregation requirements.

**Motion:**

I move that the repercussions for non-fulfillment of Junior Congregation Attendance Requirements be formally enforced as follows:

Any student who does not fulfill the Junior Congregation Attendance Requirements of their current Religious School Grade Level:

- Shall be held back in current Religious School grade level.
- Religious School graduation will be withheld until completion of all Junior Congregation Attendance Requirements.
- If in their B'nai Mitzvah year shall receive the minimum aliyah (one for B'nai Mitzvah and one for parents) and no additional aliyah/honors during their B'nai Mitzvah.

Due to the impending start of the new school year, the following requirements apply to all students who did not fulfill their Junior Congregation Attendance Requirements last year:

- Shall complete those requirements this year in addition to the requirements of their current religious school grade. All remaining prior year services shall be attended at Congregation B'nai Tikvah.
- Students in their B'nai Mitzvah year shall complete their remaining services from prior year and a pro-rated number of Junior Congregation services prior to the B'nai Mitzvah, or receive the minimum aliyah and no additional aliyah/honors during the B'nai Mitzvah as noted above.

Seconded by Ruth Anne.

Discussion followed. There are 19 students who did not fulfill all of their requirements. Of that, 11 still have outstanding requirements after follow ups.

Vote: in favor: 11, against: 7, abstain: 1

**Motion passes**

**Motion** by Gary Bergman:

Move to make an exception to the policy of requiring a clean criminal background check for all employees in the specific case of a proposed new maintenance person.

Seconded by Mark Sherman

Discussion: Ed Malino has a maintenance person he wants to hire. This person has a police record for trashing a place he used to work at. He is bi-polar and was off the medication at the time. He has since been on his medication with no further incidences.

Vote: In favor: 2, against: 17, abstain: 2

**Motion defeated.**

Mark Kasdin: Honor wall. Materials were ordered a few weeks ago. Just did proof reading. \$1800 or greater contribution will be included. Plaque information for \$10,000 or more, about half will be ready by opening day.

Steve Katz asked that we give his son, Matt, some direction as to how he wants to hold his opening presentation for the Holocaust garden.

Passport to Israel

**Motion by Jeff Cadoff**

To accept the revised language to passport to Israel program as presented by the committee.

Seconded by Mark Kasdin.

Arie feels that the language to include the program with the Israel consulate is not a reasonable thing.

Danny will let Keith know that we need to have another meeting and perhaps Arie needs to be there. The language should be clearer.

**Motion withdrawn.**

Financial secretary: 444 members, 298 fdpe. 80 on special arrangements. 53 members right now will not be receiving HH tickets. This is about the same as past years.

Marc Dillman: Treasurer's report was passed out for review.

Refinancing options: Two weeks ago met with Bank of America who holds our current mortgage. They are not adverse with making conversion to a longer commitment. They will not call for the \$400,000 loan when November comes, and would consider making this a larger number.

VP reports:

Additions: Jeff Cadoff - The contracts for the preschool teachers were written differently this year than in previous years. Their salaries were higher than was reported. \$10,000 in additional salaries was given that should not have been. The teachers were notified and 5 of them were ready to walk out this morning. We will be honoring those contracts. Arie feels that we should not honor those contracts. Ruth Anne feels that we should honor these, the mistake was ours.

Mark Sherman looking for support for our casino night.

The nursery school will lose money this year. It's a tough year since it's a transition; we need to see how Phyllis does with advertising next spring. Student teacher ratio has changed and that affected us also.

Auxiliary reports:

Sisterhood: Opening meeting this Sunday, speaker, Holocaust survivor. Bingo is the event for Spirit Week. Opening of our gift shop will occur during spirit week.

Men's club: They have asked the head coach of the Women's basketball to join us during spirit week. Oct will be sukkah building. Softball team did well in the c division. They have a shot at the playoffs. 25th season of the bowling league. Moving to Midstate lanes, starting in October 22nd trying to get Cub Scout pack off the ground.

Cindy: Opening day celebration is quickly approaching, we need board support.

Good and welfare, Rabbi Eligberg:

Speedy recovery to:

Neysa Bibel, Barney Cohn, Bernie Binder, Mark Kaufman, Wade Liebowitz,  
Rob Robison, Ruth Rosen, Herb Feldman

Condolences to:

Alan Kane on the loss of his mother, Joyce; Tammy Zimmerman on the loss of her grandmother.

Mazel Tov to:

The Rogoves – Michael's Bar Mitzvah, The Yelos – Matthew's Bar Mitzvah,  
The Zadjuras – Michael's Bar Mitzvah, The Dantos on Nicole's marriage to  
Josh Cohen, Mark and Brenda Sherman on their 19<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

Motion to adjourn by Gary Bergman

Seconded by Ruth Anne Koenick