

TJC Board Meeting 10/30/25

Present:

Lew Gantwerk

Ed Simon

Warren Mitlak

Heidi Joseph

Edye Kamenir

Abigail Rose

Jerry Neumann

Judy Kutin

Len Grossman

Rachelle Simon

Jen Black

Moshe Margolin

Louise Sandberg

Abbye Cornfield

Suzanne Esterman

Lynne Ross

Beth Katz

RAM

Joel Berger

7:05 Lew called the meeting to order

I. Chavurat Chesed Presentation

Pam Zaifman, Martha Friedman, and Edye presented.

Pam: We're here to discuss the refresh of the Chavurat Chesed committee.

Edye: Mission to cultivate a caring connected community supporting members during lifecycle moments and times of need. The program has existed for years but we are trying to create a more comprehensive

program, generating awareness, “more givers”, connecting with people in need.

Now we have meal trains, friendly visits, caring drivers, Shiva support. We staff a phone line and email to match donors and people in need. It's a two sided marketplace-Need to recruit volunteers and inform requestors of available support. Need to increase awareness of both. Especially targeting 85+ yo congregants.

Warren: We don't have a dedicated Chavurat Chesed fund. You might want to look into that.

Pam: There was some money from the judaica sale that we will seed that fund with. Also, we get support from the Rabbi Tucker Lifecycle fund.

Martha: We are now xt 208 on TJC phone number.

II. Review, comments regarding High Holidays

Jerry: Thanks to professional staff and clergy, everybody. Over 175 slots of honors were filled. Thanks to Ed and Joel for filling usher slots.

Joel: Acknowledge Moshe who made people feel welcome.

We issued over 1400 tickets. We have over 1000 seats.

Abigail: Acknowledge Rabbi for inspiring sermons.

Edye: I felt a sense of community. I loved having the kids involved.

Heidi: Kudos to Rabbi and Avi and Joel for making everything go so seamlessly.

General agreement that the holidays went very well.

III. Annual Fund Discussion

Lew: It is important to say we have 100% of board members contributing to the Annual Fund.

Joel: \$302k in 23-24, \$316k 24-25, so far this year \$178k with the average gift going up. We budgeted \$325k this year. The trend is good but we want to reach our budget goal.

Lew: We've been discussing how we will reach out to larger donors who haven't given yet.

IV. Board Members - the peoples representatives

Lew: I've asked Joel to make a list of 20 congregants for each member to connect with. Maybe call them once a month. They will be your group. I'm hoping it will help people feel like we care about them. We can answer their questions and make them more aware of what's going on here.

Joel: Color coded spread sheet. Green gave to the annual fund, light blue 90 and up, pink new member.

Lew: We will let the congregation know that a Board member will be reaching out to them.

Moshe: It's a way for them to give you feedback.

Moshe makes a motion to approve last month's Minutes. Abigail seconds. Minutes approved.

V. Good and Welfare

Judy: Three education plugs: There are more than 160 students in RS. Sat 11/22 is Shabbat L'kulanu with programming for all, not just services. 12/20 mid Hanukkah Saturday night will be the biannual game night.

Louise: Letter going out on what we can do now that the administration has cut benefits. Winter coat drive starts 11/21. Munchies for Mensches. Day of Chesed for MLK day.

RAM: Simon Pankove has been running the Men's Chevre Kidisha. Men's group does not have enough volunteers.

Also, if you know anyone who has a need, is not getting a paycheck, tell them to come to me.

Joel: We can work with people on dues and payment. We are happy to help anyone who has difficulty paying. They just have to come to me.

VI. Executive Session

Lew: I've appointed a committee to evaluate the Rabbi. We will decide about renewing her contract. I meet with them on Tuesday. They will interview Board and EC, staff, congregants. Chair Andrea Gaynor, Religious Affairs representative Jane LeGrange, Len is the trustee Moshe and Brad are Board members, Lana Sambol, Alison Politziner, Michael Shapiro, past President Robin Persky and Michelle Bellows. Goal is to get done by the end of December so negotiations between attorneys can begin.

A subset of the Corner lot committee will meet with the township again. It's a long process. We hope to have more specifics in the November meeting. The Governance committee report will be distributed so it can be discussed at the next meeting.

8:25 Meeting Adjourned