

TJC Board Meeting 3/19/26

Present:

Joel Berger
Lew Gantwerk
Rachelle Simon
Polly Strauss
Len Grossman
Heidi Joseph
Warren Mitlak
Judy Kutin
Dina Shaw
RAM
Abigail Rose
Brad Bailey
Moshe Margolin
Lynne Ross
Louise Sandburg
Beth Katz
Diane Guvenis
Fred Appel
Edye Kamenir

7:05 Lew called the meeting to order

Check-In - how are we?

RAM: About two years ago we inventoried our Torahs. We got an anonymous donor to fund repair of our holocaust Torah. It has been repaired and we will be reading from it. Plus, another Torah has been repaired. We were approached a few months ago by the Kurshan family who wanted to give a gift to honor their parents. They have donated a new lightweight Torah to us. Our old lightweight one was very difficult to read from.

Financial Report

Warren: Update on a few projects. We're moving banks to JP Morgan. We paid off the TD Bank mortgage early ~\$88k. Joel and I are working on the budget and hope to have it for April. If you plan to have any significant expenses next year, let us know now. We had ~34 restricted funds and 4-5 have been consolidated. The Life and Legacy Endowment fund has a policy written in 2018 but it's not clear about how we can use the money. Linda Meisel and Naomi Richman and I are working on a clearer policy. We're looking into third party money market funds, not just CDs.

Air Conditioning update

Joel: Proposal of replacing AC units a few months ago. Two companies bid on it. One requires >\$60k deposit, other requires none. Hoping for approval but nothing will happen until next fiscal year. 8/10 units on this building and 1 unit on the school building would be replaced.

Heidi: Is there any security concern with these units?

Joel: We have units on the roof already. I'm not really concerned.

Abigail: Does it make sense to pursue this now when we're looking into changing the building.

Joel: They can be moved off the building. We would save over \$180k to do this now.

Edye: Any down time from installation?

Joel: The two newest units are the Sanctuary and Social Hall and the quietest time is in the summer.

Dina made a motion to approve. Heidi seconded and motion approved unanimously.

Fundraiser

Lew: Fundraiser to support and thank all the security organizations. First responders, Princeton police, JFed security, etc. Some money taken in will go to these organizations. We are making a picture of our Ner Tamid and a framed poster will be given to each security team member.

Joel: The postcard invite went to the printer today. Sponsorship levels on the website. \$72 entry fee includes a raffle. Klezmer band in the lobby. Email blasts will start soon.

Policy Review

Lew: We need to create a policy manual, so we don't need to ask each time. My priority is to work on moving Governance forward first.

Governance

Lew: We need more people to look at the committee recommendations and relevant bylaws that would need to be changed and how to move forward. Continuity is an important issue.

Increasing Board member attendance at TJC events

Lew: We want the Board to attend all these events. It sends a message.

New Business, Old Business, Good and Welfare

Moshe: What happened to the name badges?

Joel: They didn't work. People took them home. They needed to be realphabetized.

RAM: There is a family in our community that has donated an ambulance for Magen David Adom. It will be here 4/11 for a ceremony.

Moshe: Speaker Lior Sternfeld will speak on Between Iran and Israel Tuesday, 4/28 7:30.

Louise: We've been delivering food to our refugee families in Trenton for our families who are terrified to leave the house.

Judy: We met our goal for RS enrollment. We like the idea of different committees involved in Shabbat L'kulanu. The children are much more involved in the services.

Joel: Next week Great minds. 4/15 Yom Hashoah program. Other upcoming events include a program at Princeton Garden Theater. Prof. Nat Fisch is scheduled to give a talk. JCW 6/9 Kosher Ethiopian Restaurant in Harlem.

RAM: There were some High Holiday changes. Young couples holding Torah scrolls. Last year's B'nai Mitzvah leading a part of the service. Back up singers. Any other ideas to keep high holidays fresh?

Polly made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Moshe seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Moshe makes a motion to adjourn and Len seconds.
8:04 Meeting Adjourned

Executive Session