

CONGREGATION KOL AMI
BOARD MEETING
Thursday September 19, 2024

Attendance: Stephen Ducar, Linda Tavano, Kenny Webman, Helena Shapp-Dossey, Don Dossey, Steve Dubner, Melissa Hart, Greg Eftimie, Karen Rhodes, Rabbi Dennis

Call to Order Stephen Ducar
Meeting was called to order at 7:07

Opening Prayer Rabbi Dennis

Review and approval of the Minutes Linda Tavano
Meeting minutes from July Board meeting were approved.

President's Report Stephen Ducar

1. New Treasurer, Edward Barnett. Steve is re-working closing assignments. Please send him any vacation dates.
2. Our building insurance: We must cure issues identified in last inspection to get building insurance. This includes damage to gutters and roof cap along asphalt roof. Estimate is about \$1400. Steve has asked for gutter estimate. Don suggests painting roof cap instead of replacing it. Don recommends getting a quote from gutter company for screens too. Steve will ask. Policy is paid through end of next month. Only other option is self-insurance. This is not a viable option for us. Board approved replacing gutters and painting roof cap.
3. Reminder for all to try to be respectful of all our members. Considering the current political climate, refrain from making comments that others may not agree with. We don't want to make others uncomfortable.

VP Report Stephen Dubner
Needs volunteers to check people in for High Holy Days. Steve Ducar and Melissa Hart volunteered.

Rabbi's Report Rabbi Dennis
Rabbi is back from Sabbatical.

Treasurer's Report Vacant

Committee Reports **Committee Chairs**
Building Don Dossey

1. Security plan for HHD – will have a list of ticket holders to check people in. There will be a Policeman at front entry in case there is any issue. Note will go out before services recommending women leave purses at home and that we have a right to search them. Bob is recording all the security training programs and will recommend anyone running meetings/using building watch the training. Also – do NOT leave front door open.
2. There seems to be a problem with front door not locking. Don will check it out.
3. Don is tightening up light bulbs in sanctuary.

4. Landscaper is working on flowerbeds.
5. Will put something in the blast about when we will set up sanctuary for High Holy Day services. (Will probably happen next Sunday at about 12:30 - 1:00 after Sunday school.)
6. There was a question about Sanctuary chairs losing their fabric. Right now, we don't have funds to repair sanctuary chairs. We can arrange worn chairs to the back. Or place them on the side where choir was. Perhaps we have a member(s) who can help re-upholster the damaged chairs. New chairs might be just as cheap as a reupholster. Another suggestion is to purchase seat bottoms to screw in.

Membership Support

Greg Eftimie

Nobody has requested support. Greg has reached out to those members he was aware of.

Communications

Melissa Hart

Melissa is reaching out to people who had events so she can put it out on Social Media sites She has some items posted successfully.

Education

Casey Flancbaum - Absent

1. With feedback from parents, we decided to move back to the typical 8th grade class set up. Rabbi secured two teachers, and they had a great first day last week. Class ends at 11:30 so students will still be able to pursue any interests that they identified over the summer during the 11:30-12:30 hour.
2. Enrollment is lower than last year but already showing better attendance numbers than last year.
3. Sarah Thornton has taken over Cafe Kol Ami for the year.

Youth Programming

Casey Flancbaum - Absent

Will be a Fall regional event for NFTY.

Ritual

Helena Shapp-Dossey

1. Getting everything ready for High Holy Days. Have been diligently working on the services. Have about 90% responses so far from honors.
2. Childcare set up is in the works. Waiting to see how many people sign up for childcare.
3. HHD Music:
 - We have a small choir singing four pieces, the rest of the music will be soloists.
 - There will not be a hired pianist, just a couple of pieces played by congregants.
 - We are still spending \$0 on music for the year.
4. HHD Children's Services:
 - Both services will be prerecorded and available to parents on our congregation YouTube page.
 - Services have been audio recorded and video will be done this weekend so they will be ready soon.

Cemetery

Kenny Webman

1. Confirmed with Kacy that no stones should be removed from graves effective yesterday through a week after Yom Kippur. Kenny will verify that there is a place to set the stones.

2. There is a dead tree that needs to be replaced this Spring. Will be a tree that is better for the location.
3. There are currently 26 unsold plots.

Fundraising

Vacant

Membership Recruitment

Karen Rhodes

All new members have received a letter from Karen. One showed up to get a new member goody bag. (Bag has: Mezuzah, challah, grape juice, candles, and calendar) Others have not responded yet. Karen will follow up.

Tikkun Olam

Brandi Hunter - Absent

1. Kicking off HHD food drive. Info will be in this week's blast. It would be helpful to know some suggested items that the pantry might want that are not commonly provided.
2. Looking for new Tikkun Olam people to join for more engagement.

Review Action Items and Adjourn

New items.

1. Rabbi has a new medical tracking watch.
2. Robin tore her meniscus and was unable to travel during sabbatical, so they had to postpone their 40th wedding anniversary Italy trip. Rabbi requested to move the trip to after Pesach and before Shavuot. (Apr 21- May 5)

Action Item Follow-up:

1. Rabbi's contract was signed in 2006 to 2016 and extended via letter to 2026. We have a copy of which stated Rabbi could submit a letter requesting an extension. We are responsible for paying for the Rabbi and his family's insurance.
2. Health Insurance – Rabbi signed up for Medicare so we can put the previous cost of his insurance to Rabbi's salary to be used for a plan from ACA. Only Rabbi and Robin are on the CKA provided insurance now.
3. The Board voted on Rabbi's vacation request for 21 April – 5 May. Motion by Kenny, Second by Karen. Motion is approved.
4. Brandi is working a 25th anniversary dinner for Rabbi to be held in January. Cost will be about \$75 per person. It includes a fundraiser that Howie Watt is setting up. (It will help buy new AC units) Plus we have other fundraising in the works: Quiz night and Toby suggested another concert.
5. Brand new refrigerator was donated. Steve sent a thank you note out and let the Board know that he is happy to send thank you notes to congregants as appropriate.
6. Are we still sending birthday and anniversary cards to congregants? Helena has not been able to do that recently. Greg and Melissa both volunteered to help.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Next Meeting

Board meets virtually on November 21 @7pm. Link is on the CKA calendar.