

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

BOARD MEETING

Thursday March 20, 2025

Attendance: Stephen Ducar, Linda Tavano, Kenny Webman, Helena Shapp-Dossey, Don Dossey, Steve Dubner, Casey Flancbaum, Edward Barnett, Rabbi Dennis, Greg Eftimie, Brandi Hunter, Karen Rhodes and Howie Watt.

Call to Order

Stephen Ducar

Meeting was called to order at 7:09

Opening Prayer

Rabbi Geoff Dennis

Review and approval of the Minutes

Linda Tavano

Helena Shapp-Dossey moved to accept the January 2025 minutes, Kenny Webman seconded, and the motion carried.

President's Report

Stephen Ducar

Once again thank you to Brandi and Howie for the Rabbi's 25-year event and fundraiser. It was an awesome event. Presently, fundraising account is at \$75,642. In addition, Sisterhood has volunteered to contribute \$2,000 to help purchase new chairs for the sanctuary. Rabbi would like to contribute his thoughts to the chair selection for a bit more ergonomic chairs easier to manage and take up less space. Less maintenance is always great. Steve will get with Kenny, Don and Rabbi on the chairs. We have almost enough money for Air conditioner work to take place. There is a poster in the lobby for Mitzvah Magic. Steve will update it with current funds.

VP Report

Stephen Dubner

Putting together a policy for use of Facebook postings. Once it is edited, he will get it out. He has reviewed people not coming back to the board next fiscal year (Helena, Karen, Linda, Casey, Don, Greg). Brandi agreed to take the Executive VP role. Howie will take VP Fundraising. Amy is going to take VP Ritual. Steve Ducar will talk to some people about filling in open positions.

Rabbi's Report

Rabbi Dennis

1. We are getting an intern from Hebrew Union College. She is a fourth-year student, Gretchen Johnson, from DFW. Her housing is set, and she receives a stipend. CKA just needs to help feed and entertain her. It is an opportunity for us to interact with her. She will be here all summer. She can help Rabbi with services and rebuilding religious school and with life cycle events. She can also help Helena with tutoring and trope, etc.
2. Rabbi wants to help any congregants who do not yet have Hebrew names for their children. He would also like to learn to make Ketubot for families that do not have them.
3. Rabbi oversaw a couple of B'nai Mitzvot over the past two months.

4. He completed Intro to Judaism course.
5. He completed Elementary Liturgy Course for adult B'nai Mitzvot.

Treasurer's Report

Edward Barnett

Working on next year's budget. Starting with 3% increase in expenses without increasing income.

Daily Balances as of 3/21/2025:

PayPal: \$5,186.88
Givebuttr: \$1,345
Fundraising Account Total: \$75,642.04
 Mitzvah Magic \$31,205
 Prior Funds: \$44,437.04
Youth Group: \$966.33
Cemetery Account: \$56,229.19
General Checking: \$37,421.26
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund: \$3,396.84
Playground Savings: \$9,031.80

Committee Reports

Committee Chairs

Building

Don Dossey

1. The Fire Department required some repairs. Don is working through the items. He replaced one exit sign so far and there are some bulbs in the sanctuary which require replacing. He put out yahrzeit plaques and leaves. He replaced the lock set on the portable building, so we now have a key. We now have a new mailbox post and mailbox. We had a tree removed with the help of Gary Jacobs for possible interference with electricity and damage to building.
2. Presently the air conditioning in kitchen is not working but opening the rollup door is keeping it cool. Steve suggested replacing the 3 units on larger flat roof section with 2 and maybe one being larger. The unit outside the kitchen, in Onegie Hall, is also down. It's not cooling. Don says the kitchen may be ok, but the Onegie Hall unit does need replacement.
3. Currently looks like the security project will be going forward. Steve will follow up with Security Committee. Waiting on funds from FEMA so hopefully it doesn't get hung up.

Membership Support

Greg Eftimie

Nothing to report.

Communications

Melissa Hart- Absent

Education

Casey Flancbaum

1. Having a difficult time finding a replacement so she is suggesting branching education into three different roles. One having curriculum; one being day to day operations; and one the Board VP. The two new positions would feed info into Board VP.
2. It is also difficult to find and keep teachers. They want to be paid at least \$12 - \$15/ hour. Currently getting \$30 per session. We have a new kindergarten teacher, Sydney.

Youth Programming

Casey Flancbaum

BBYO seems to be the more popular choice than NFTY now. It is a way for our kids to meet other Jewish kids outside of Flower Mound. It also helps with leadership skills. It does not interfere with going to Greene Family Camp. Kids apply at end of 8th grade and participate through high school. We need to see if there is a BBYO representative who will come to CKA to present to students.

Ritual

Helena Shapp-Dossey

1. Purim was last holiday. Rabbi put together a fantastic spiel and actors did a great job.
2. Amy is excited about taking on Ritual next year. Helena will still help if needed.
3. Casey has put together a simplified program for High Holy Day choir. Casey will talk to Toby Rotman about taking it over. There were 6-10 rehearsals this past year. Music is now very simple. Casey has piano recordings she will provide.

Cemetery

Kenny Webman

1. Committee approved a marker and a headstone.
2. Arleen and Kenny are doing preplanning and designing an upright tombstone for their sites.
3. Kenny signed a quick claim deed for plots that were donated back to us.
4. New flowers will be going in by the garden.

Fundraising

Vacant

Membership Recruitment

Karen Rhodes

No new members since last meeting.

Tikkun Olam

Brandi Hunter

1. Several collections going on – She Supply (Feminine hygiene products).
2. Snack drive is going well, Timber Creek Elementary is very appreciative. They asked about some mentoring too. Brandi thinks this would be great hands-on opportunity.
3. Casey and Brandi are still talking about a Temple mitzvah day in the spring.

Review Old Business/ New Business and Action Items/ Follow-Up:

1. Broken glass door. Company doesn't want to make a replacement door for the broken door. Steve Ducar will investigate the possibility of a film to keep the glass in place.
2. Need decision regarding raising member fees to help meet the 2025-2026 operating budget. Steve presented an increase that the Executive Board has discussed. Raising dues approximately 3% to cover new insurance cost and raising building cost to \$375. The Board believes the dues increases proposed are minimal and are still not enough to cover the expenses budgeted for next year. Steve will come back with another proposal and call an interim Board meeting in preparation to present at the annual meeting.

Kenny Webman moved to adjourn the meeting, Edward Barnett seconded, and the motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Next Meeting Board meets virtually on May 29, 2025 @7pm. Link is on the CKA calendar.