

## **KOL HA'EMEK UVJC BOT**

**Wednesday, July 11, 2018 AT 7:00pm**

**Present:** Sue Berg, Alice Berliner, Debbe Callaghan, Bayle Drubel, Rob Greene, Laura Harris-Hirsch, Matthew Henken, Steven Kantor, Jeff Lubell, Kathy Parsonnet, Rusty Sachs, ,

**Regrets:** Thomas Cochran, Paul Etkind, Gloria Finkelstein, Steven Woloshin

**1. Call to Order at 7:05**

**2. Introductions of new members:** Bayle Drubel, Rob Greene, Laura Harris-Hirsch, Steven Kantor.

**3. Minutes from May 16, 2018 (special meeting) and June 6, 2018:** Approved as written.

**4. Rabbi Transition Committee Report (Jeff):**

- a. Rabbi Mark Melamut starts August 1st. Welcoming events that weekend. He is away ~Aug 10-13<sup>h</sup>.
- b. Yoni Neirman organizing dinners with community members in their homes on Aug 24, Sept 7 and Oct 12.
- c. Plan to continue Eastman Shabbat once he is settled.
- d. Part of our mission is to serve all Jews in the community, not just members. When Rabbinic fees are collected for services for non-members in our geographic area our policy will be for those fees to come back to the congregation. If Rabbi performs services on his own time outside of our area he would keep any fees collected. Gifts of appreciation will be deposited into the Rabbi Discretionary fund.
- e. It is felt there is not enough incentive for people to become members. Laura offered to look into various options. Suggestions under consideration:
  - i. Consider making initial membership less than fee charged to non-members for a life cycle event.
  - ii. Consider if pay for a life cycle event first year of membership is free.
  - iii. Funerals: need to be treated separately
- f. Temporary space plan: The Hillel Rabbi is in Chris' old office. Rabbi Mark will be in Claudia's old office. Chris & Claudia will share Rabbi Boraz's former office.

**5. Treasurer's Report** (Paul not available. Report distributed prior to meeting)

- a. Balance sheet significantly ahead of last year due to sustainability fund.
- b. Need clarification about transfer of money to various restricted funds.

**6. Ruach Committee (Jeff)**

- a. High Holiday Planning: Hillel director has expressed a desire for student services to be less integrated with our services. Once Rabbi Mark arrives will decide with Hillel whether to hold joint or separate services. Classes start after Rosh Hashanah. Will hold family and Tot services. Currently no identified space for a Reform service. This could take place at the Roth Center if we change the time of the Family service.

## **7. Education Committee (Rusty):**

- a. Rusty has agreed to be the BOT liaison. Bayle and Matthew agreed to join Thomas on the committee.
- b. Melissa has proposed a community retreat on Dec 8<sup>th</sup> (last day of Chanukah) at the Hulbert Center. Will include Shabbat service, Havdalah, latka dinner, activities for adults & kids. Option to stay over night. Cost \$40/person (more to stay the night). Consider charging \$18/person with the UVJC covering the rest. Potentially use education funds. This would be under \$1,000 if about 40 attend. The last retreat was not very successful in engaging those not involved with the school. We'll need to plan marketing to entice the broader congregation. Could involve different committees to draw more people and consider offering help with transportation.
- c. Rabbi Mark will supervise Melissa in her role as Education Director. He will be involved with the school in an as yet undetermined way. He has had success growing a Hebrew School and is committed to being involved

## **8. Lunch & Learn**

- a. A coordinator is needed.
- b. Possible fall programming:
  - i. Paul spoke with someone who could speak about Jewish genealogy.
  - ii. Carolyn Gordon will invite UVIP coordinator to speak about immigration.
  - iii. Author of *Life in a Jar* a book about a woman in Poland who saved many people during the Holocaust may be available.

## **9. NH Jewish Federation Film Festival**

- a. The main aim in participating is to foster a relationship with the Federation. We have had low turn out for recent film festivals at significant cost and time spent in preparation. Would like to stay engaged in other ways i.e. Shlichah program. We could also arrange for car-pooling to view the films at other locations.

### **The following motion was made**

*To decline to participate in the NH Federation Film Festival but seek other ways to stay engaged that do not cost as much in money and time. (passed)*

## **10. Social Action Committee (Alice):**

- a. Tzedakah recommendations for the high holidays:
  - i. Israeli organization: Arava Institute. [www.Arava.org](http://www.Arava.org) *The Arava Institute is a leading environmental and academic institution in the Middle East, working to advance cross-boarder environmental cooperation in the face of political conflict. A few UVJC 'adult children' have participated and found it to be life changing.*
  - ii. Local organization: Special Needs Support Center. [www.sns-c-uv.org](http://www.sns-c-uv.org) Located in Lebanon, the SNSC mission is to "help children and adults with special needs, and their families, meet their unique challenges through advocacy and program support."
  - iii. Food drives: The Haven and Claremont Soup Kitchen and Pantry

### **The following motion was made**

*To accept the recommendations of the Social Action Committee regarding distribution*

*of High Holiday Tzedakah financial donations to Aravah and the Special Needs Support Center and food donations to The Haven and the Claremont Soup Kitchen and Pantry.*  
(passed)

- b. High Holiday assignments are in place for SAC related announcements, signage and Tzedakah collection.
- c. Useful Tools for Aging with Dignity Project: This 5 session curriculum, developed by the United Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP), is designed to provide tools for seniors, care givers, and other family members tools to organize their affairs, plan for medical issues, and stay connected to their communities. While it has been successful in other settings, we have had difficulty eliciting interest in our congregation. Those who have expressed interest are all in their 80's and will require help with transportation. The series is being offered on Sunday afternoons beginning on Oct 14<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Immigrant Project: The SAC hosted a dinner with about 11 members with Asma Elhuni the new UVIP coordinator.

**11. Sustainability Campaign (Debbe):** Have reached 70% of goal with several people committing to participate after they learned we had hired Rabbi Mark.

**12. Next meeting:** August 1

**13. Adjournment 8:20**

**2018 Meetings:** BOT: Aug 1, Sep 5, Oct 3

Respectfully submitted  
Susan Berg, Secretary