

MINUTES, KOL AMI STEERING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL,

March 8, 2012, 8:15 p.m.

PARTICIPANTS: Rabbi Leila G-B, Brit R., Don K., Susan F., Erika F., Elizabeth L-B, Lance F., Mary K., Ed B. (late)

The agenda for the meeting was approved, with no additions or changes. The minutes of the Feb. 7, 2012, conference call meeting were approved with no additions, corrections or changes.

The treasurer's report indicated that this is a slow period, not much activity. In general things are on track. There have been no requests outside of what has been budgeted. Some dues have been received, as well as the bill from the Unitarian Church. Three classrooms are being used for JCEP, while only two were budgeted, so this will be reflected in the budget. There is money (\$500.00) in the budget to buy books, Machzors and mourners' books. Notes will be sent out to B'nai Mitzvah families relating to the policy on contributions to cover community expenses in this area. Space will be an issue next year, but right now there is nothing new relating to this issue. We will be informed by the Church when a change occurs.

The Kol Ami Service cancellation policy was discussed. The text was revised to eliminate the word "travel" (first sentence), and the policy formally approved with this revision. In order to comply with the policy, calls to the president, then vice president should be made by 6:30 p.m., so that there is time to get the cancellation information out.

Don announced that Adam West has agreed to be part of the nominating committee. The committee will start the process the week of the 19th, The first step is to contact those currently on the Steering Committee to see what they want to do, if they want to stay in their current position.

In relation to Passover planning and promotion it was formally announced that Debby Linnick will coordinate the second night seder. She has already contacted Laura to see what has been done, and to go over notes. There will be a registration splash page and calendar. The physical arrangements with the Church are OK. The potluck page has been set up. The seder can be used as an outreach activity. In this connection, it is important to remember to invite the Church to the seder. Amy will indicate who to contact and send the invitation to. The seder also should be promoted by sending information to the person at the Federation who handles the list of local seders. Part of the outreach budget can be used to promote the seder. An initial email about the seder sent out to the community resulted in a good response of those intending to come..

Under committee reports, Brit reported for adult education that Richard will reschedule sessions with Rabbi Leila, getting the spring schedule out. The adult Bnai Mitzvah class is progressing well, with a recent visit by Carolyn Gray. Participants have been given parshas, and are finishing the Hebrew book. Don indicated that an adult B'nai Mitzvah policy is still needed,

even though some people may not agree. Don will speak to these people after the policy is developed. The Ritual Committee will review the policy. The idea is to adapt the policy relating to kids bar/bat mitzvah, as well as clarify the expenses and responsibilities. Rabbi Leila indicated that there are three adult education sessions outstanding. There are four Shabbat dates available for these. One of these is Gabrielle Jawers Bat Mitzvah. The other dates will be used to discuss an important new reconstructionist book by Rabbi David Teutsch, *GUIDE TO JEWISH PRACTICE*, volume 1, *Everyday Jewish Living, A Reconstructionist Approach*. Participants will buy the book, read sections and discuss them. The specific dates, Saturday May 19th, Sunday, June 3 (5 p.m.), and Saturday, June 16th, were decided upon. The adult B'nai Mitzvah class will be involved in this activity, especially on the Sunday in June. Each of the three sessions are free standing. Adult education needs to prepare a blurb to be put on the website and calendar.

Erika reported for the Children and Family Program and Services about the upcoming Purim event. It is not really an RSVP event. A notice appeared in "This Week", and another will be sent out. A hiking and camping activity may be planned for near Lag B'Omer in May. Erika and Hope are working on this.

There is still a need for someone to step up to work on fundraising. Lance reported for outreach that in the future the brunch event will be promoted during HH and held afterwards. Ed indicated that even though there were no outside people attending the brunch, it was a wonderful event. He thanked Rabbi Leila for providing an educational aspect, for talking about the history of reconstructionism. Rabbi Leila indicated that it may be time again in the life cycle of the community to do work with the life cycle of reconstructionism. She would like to see Adult education and the Weisenbloom fund used to bring a scholar in. She will work with adult education on this and bring the results to the Steering Committee. JCEP should also work with reconstructionism, so that it is included for the kids.

The ritual committee has invited service leaders to discuss issues raised at the last community meeting. This followup activity will be held March 25th at 3 p.m. at the Church.

Mary indicated that strategic planning needs budget information. She raised the issue of how to articulate bringing information from committees into the budget. Don, Mary and Elizabeth will talk and coordinate efforts in this area, including setting a timeline. It's clear that one committee's activities affect another. With more activities and programs more outreach work is needed.

The next Steering Committee conference call meeting will be Monday April 16th at 8:15 p.m.

Prepared by Susan Freiband, Secretary, 3/13/2012