

MINUTES, KOL AMI NVRC COMMUNITY MEETING, Jan. 23, 2011

After an opening prayer and introductions of those present, the President's report noted that it has been generally a good year for the Community. The Rabbi's mentioned in her report that she has received good feedback on new things tried, including different types of Shabbat services, engaging new members. She has spoken to the B'nai Mitzvah to be held on March 12 and April 30th. She invited the Community to suggest topics for adult education. She indicated that she was available for counseling, to be contacted by email or telephone. She gave an update on Richard Ruth's condition. She mentioned the loss of Mark Weissenbloom, the first Kol Ami member who has died. She brought up the idea of starting a Chevrah Kedusha, so that the community could care for its own members. She mentioned the continued need for supermarket gift cards, and for support of the discretionary fund.

The treasurer's report included a table of the 2010/1011 Kol Ami Operating budget, and highlighting of some of the significant items on the table.

The ritual committee report indicated that all members of the committee were working together, planning 6 months out for services, identifying service leaders and kinds of services to be held. Descriptions of the service are received from service leaders, as well as an evaluation and reporting back with information (including attendance). It remains to be seen whether the Shabbat babayit policy recently approved will function adequately. The Committee has prepared information for service leaders on prayers that need to be included when there is a minyan, and those which should not be included in the service without a minyan. The Committee is involved in strategic planning, including identifying goals.

The children and family program and services includes 30 children, 3 teachers, with two upcoming bat mitzvahs, and planning an annual Hanukah and purim party. The School is progressing well, with 21 kids are enrolled, in several groups.

The revised Kol Ami Strategic Planning Program Audit form was presented and distributed. Feedback on the form is requested. It will be approved at the June annual meeting. There is a need to know what Rabbinic services and resources are needed by different programs, in addition to what each program is doing and would like to do. This is essential for strategic planning decisions. A development committee, including outreach, membership and fundraising, still needs to be set up.

A description of the Care and Comfort Program was distributed, including a listing of specific responsibilities of the new Program. It was suggested that all information received about social service agencies and sources of support in the broader local community be centralized in one list, which would be used by new members of the Program, as well as sent to the Rabbi.

The Kol Ami NVCR Draft Members Volunteer Policy was presented and distributed. Feedback from the community is requested on the policy, which will be formally approved at the June annual community meeting. It was suggested that a definition of what “hosting” means be included in the policy. Adding the phrase “who is capable” in the second paragraph after “each adult member...” was also suggested, as well as using “one or two” in the first bullet after “hosting of...”.

Under “New Business” it was announced that the Dines family will coordinate the logistics of the second night seder on April 19th. They will need help with this. Starting a new scholar in residence program, as a memorial for Mark Weisenbloom, will be explored by the Rabbi, Mindee Weisenbloom and a small committee of interested members. The idea has been endorsed by Mindee Weisenbloom. The committee will decide who to bring, and what the budget implications would be. The idea will be formally voted on at the June annual meeting.

A new possible Tikkun Olam project was presented, helping out with preparing and serving a dinner and breakfast for 50 people at a near-by shelter. A call for those interested in participating in the project will be made to determine whether there is enough support in the community to carry through on the Project.

The Hebrew reading class, part of adult education, will participate in a Shabbat service on January 28th, and the second in the series of adult education courses is set start on Feb. 6th.

The date of the annual meeting was announced as Sunday, June 12th from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

(Prepared by Susan Freiband, Secretary, 1/28/2011)