

## Steering Committee Minutes, May 11, 2015

Convened by phone at 8.10

### Attending:

Rayna Aylward  
Elizabeth Lower-Basch  
Willa Siegel  
Herb Cooper-Levy  
Emily Greco  
Toni Popkin  
Don Kraus  
Sharon Sterling  
Lynda Erinoff  
Mindy Rudell  
Jane Petkofsky

Herb read a poem to set the tone for the meeting.

Motion to approve the agenda -- moved and seconded. Approved without objection.

Minutes from March meeting -- moved and seconded. Approved without objection.

Community coordinator report was presented in writing (attached)

Nominations -- Don Kraus -- Presented the slate (attached).

There are some new members. Note that outreach chairs will step off of steering committee in order to save their volunteer time for outreach work-- will provide written reports, or recruit another Kol Ami member to participate in the committee and act as the liaison to steering committee.

Recommends that the nomination committee continue to work to ensure that all the chairs are filled, although the formal role is to identify candidates for the steering committee only.

Note that fundraising and strategic planning committees are both still open. Fundraising -- need clarity on what we're funding for.

Slate accepted for recommendation to the community.

Brief discussion of survey -- will send reminder on Friday.

Review of budget -- Erv was not able to join call. Members should send any feedback to Erv and Rayna so that the proposed budget can be presented at the community meeting.

Rabbi Search committee -- In addition to the survey, there will be community meetings to explain and discuss the rabbi search process. We don't have time for extensive discussion at the annual meeting, so this will give people more time to talk. Set for June 14 and 28

Ritual committee will be proposing dates for the first half of calendar year 2016.

Outline of issues around live streaming of services -- steering questioned whether there is really a need for this, and whether it would diminish attendance. Will raise overall question of accessibility at community meeting or through other means. Are there people who would like to attend, but have transportation or other barriers that we could help overcome?

High holidays planning meeting -- May 17. Need to remind people of the event.  
Would be helpful to share lessons learned from last time-- will be posted on the website.  
Include a quick survey at the meeting -- how important are different aspects of our services?  
Not focused on the logistics, but more on the big picture of what we want services to look like. Rabbi Gilah will attend.

Brief discussion of volunteer budget -- Elizabeth will revise to reflect the input provided by email.

Kol Amite of the year -- some back and forth on whether recognizing some people would make others feel less valued. Rayna requested input offline.

Given the late hour, agreed that it would be helpful to have another meeting before the Community Meeting on June 7 -- after the survey results were in. Set for June 1, 8.10 pm, by phone.

## Community Coordinator Report

**Administration-** I continue to do the routine administrative tasks:

1. Inputting the Master Calendar through the end of the summer to the website
2. Posting JCEP reports and homework assignments to the website home page.
3. Gradually bringing every page of our website up to date.
4. Keeping the closet orderly.
5. Checking on supplies.
6. Coordinating with the UUCA about our use of their facilities.

### Inreach

I plan to follow up individually to encourage a response from those who haven't responded to the expanded Membership Directory and provide that Directory in electronic form by the Community Meeting in June.

### Outreach

1. I published 3 weekly issues of *The Kol Amite*. Issues now only include the This Weekend, Upcoming, Simchas and Yahrzeit features in the body of the email, with the entire issue, including images, accessible via a PDF attached to the email.
2. Moving *The Kol Amite* to Constant Contact would cost \$15 per month (after two free months). Moving *The Kol Amite* to Mail Chimp costs \$10 per month.
3. Using Constant Contact would improve the look of *The Kol Amite*, but would not solve our communication problems occasioned by the use of Yahoo. The solution to those, I think, is to establish a Google group that I would administer. That would not involve any additional fee, just work in setting it up.
4. As there would be a great deal of work changing over, the time to do this (if there is space in the budget for this additional expenditure) would be the summer.
5. Hannah Spiro and Ein Lanu Z'man, the Klezmer band made up of Hazzan Elisheva Dientsfrey of Agudas Achim and other members of that congregation, will perform a December 12 Chanukah concert at Etz Hayim. Focusmusic will manage the concert, which is now jointly sponsored by Kol Ami and Etz Hayim.
6. FYI: The UUCA will become the fifth Focusmusic location, starting with a July 31 show.