

Kol Ami Steering Committee meeting notes 4/12/18 (conference call)

Attending: Lynda Erinoff, Ted Joseph, Rabbi Gilah Langner, Jon Baumgarten, Jane Schulman, Mike Linick, David Sidransky, Anne Salzberg, Erv Walter, Herb Levy, Harriet Epstein, Eric Rosenberg

The agenda was approved.

The minutes from the February 11 meeting were approved.

- 1) Harriet Epstein gave the report for the Care and Concern Committee. The committee is sending out cards to members who are ill or grieving.
- 2) Lynda Erinoff read an email from Elenor Hodges about the picnic on April 29 for Lag B'Omer at Lubber Run Park. The picnic will be from 4:30-6:30 and will be in place of JCEP.
- 3) Herb Levy gave the Community Coordinator's report. The Kol Amite is getting a lot of opens (50%) and click-throughs (10%). The Passover community seder was well attended, and almost half of attendees were not members. The written report follows:

Outreach

1. I drafted an ad which ran in the Washington Jewish Week about our Community Seder, as well as reaching out through J Connect.
2. I also invited the UUCA to the Community Seder.
3. 26 of the 60 Seder attendees were not members. This represents 12 potential member units. 2 of these were UUCA folks, 6 have attended past Seders of High Holidays or both and 1 is an out-of-towner. Significantly, 3 represent folks who attended a Kol Ami event for the first time, including the two families with kids.
4. New contacts were added to our Outreach email list and shared with the Membership Committee.
5. I published the March and April Outreach newsletters via Constant Contact.
6. I posted photos of a number of events to our Facebook page.
7. I was in touch with MetroStage to arrange for an ad that I designed that will run in their Deb Filler "I did it my way" show.

Inreach-I published 4 issues of *The Kol Amite* in February, 4 issues in March and one so far in April.

- 4) Erv Walter gave the Treasurer's report. The written report follows:  
Treasurer's Report – For Period Ending April 9, 2018

Cash – Our cash balance on April 9, 2018 is \$31,787. This compares favorably to our cash balance on March 31, 2017 \$30,659. Additionally, we have \$4,000 in the Weisenbloom Fund and \$400 in the Ark Fund.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund - The current balance in the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund (RDF) is \$2,523. The RDF had a beginning balance of \$1,156 as of July 2017. The RDF has disbursed \$1,850 and received \$3,217 through April 9, 2018.

High Holidays – We received \$8,702 for this year's High Holiday services. Last year we received \$8,440 through December 31, 2016.

Donations – We received \$8,670 in Donations, Challenges, Celebrations, & Rabbi’s Professional Development. This compares favorably to last year. Through March 31, 2017 we received \$6,286.

Expenses – We are within budget and current on payables. One item of note is the \$1,000 for a computer reimbursement. This has been charged to the Administrative Expense and Supplies. This expense was not budgeted and consequently has caused an overage in expense vs budgeted for this line item.

JCEP – All invoices for JCEP tuition have been paid.

Cash Flow – It is projected that we will end the fiscal year (June 30, 2018) with a cash balance of at least \$9,313.

Other – To date we have received \$42,291 in membership dues and have outstanding \$312. Last year through December 31, 2016 we received \$42,255 and had outstanding \$100.

We received our insurance renewal for the period 05/06/2018 – 05/06/2021.

Membership	FY2018	FY2017	FY2016	FY2015
Family	31	33	34	32
Individual	22	21	20	21
Friends	2	1	4	3
Rabbi	1	1	1	1
Totals	56	56	59	57

5) The Steering Committee approved the change in title for Herb Levy to Administrative Director.

6) The Committee gave approval for a group including Harriet Epstein to read a play at the UU during JCEP. Herb Levy will try to find an available room.

7) Mindy Rudell sent this update for the Children & Family Committee by e-mail.

- JCEP initial planning for next year -- We are incredibly fortunate that Shana, Erin, Steve are planning to return next year to teach JCEP (woo hoo!) Zach would like to talk about how to vary the curriculum for his cohort of students, and it sounds like he too is willing to continue teaching if we can figure a few things out. Eric plans to step down after many years. He reached out to Jason Weiss to ask if he might be willing to teach the beginner Hebrew class, and continue the approach of having the teen teachers.

- Preliminary calendar - We have a first cut at a JCEP and Children's holiday calendar for 2018/19.

- Dayna agreed to continue assisting with JCEP coordination.

8) Mike Jawer sent this update for the Ritual Committee.

- The Healing Service was held March 17. It was a wonderfully moving service with contributions from any number of congregants, but especially Joan Goldfarb, Tess Goldfarb (mature beyond her years), Toni Popkin, Susan Freiband, and Erin Bueno de Mesquita.

- Guest clergy: Reb Lisa Levine led a Shabbat morning service distinguished by her voice and guitar on Feb. 24; Rabbi Joe Berman led a pre-Pesach service on March 24 marked by the themes of freedom and justice. On April 28, Cantor Hasha Perman will guest lead the Shabbat morning service; there will be music and a Torah reading.

After services June 2 will be a community discussion of avenues for non-Jewish members of Kol Ami to participate in ritual life. This subject was discussed by Rabbi Gilah and the Ritual Committee on Feb. 11. In recommending that Kol Ami hold a community meeting, the Committee desired to make clear that we wish to continue being the inclusive community that we are. I'll coordinate with Rabbi Gilah in putting handout materials together. These will be shared with Ritual and Steering before being finalized or circulated.

9) Debbie Linick sent this update for the Membership Committee:

Mindy and I began discussions about advertising for a Tot Shabbat coordinator. I need to draft up a job description by the end of the month

We may plan another Growing Jewish Families partnership event over the summer and will do a review of how the buddy system worked this year. I will send anniversary congratulation letters to the families celebrating their 1st year with Kol Ami

- Membership also participated with the nomination committee helping to think about ways to involve newer members in more leadership roles. One idea was to talk with JCEP about involving 3 newer families in helping to plan one of the holiday events with a seasoned veteran in the coming year.