

## Kol Ami Steering Committee Meeting 4/11/2021

Attending (voting members): Jane Schulman, Lance Feiner, Erv Walter, Debbie Linick, Jonathan Baumgarten, David Friedman, Judy Greenblum, Scott Winter, John Staren, Toni Popkin, Amber Baum, Collette Major

Non-voting Attendees: Rabbi Gilah Langner, Willa Siegel, Rayna Aylward

Meeting began at 4:00p

Jane explained that we would begin with a confidential proposed budget discussion, with Rabbi Gilah and Willa joining after confidential meeting. Meryl Paskow will not be able to attend today (not feeling well).

Erv Walter presented the proposed draft 3-year budget to the Steering Committee, with confidential discussion following.

Rabbi Gilah and Willa joined at 4:45p

Erv presented the April Treasurer's report

Jane and Willa led a discussion regarding the ark proposal: Would be a commission for Alex Gruss to construct an ark and a Ner Tamid for Kol Ami. The specifications will be as follows:

- Large enough for one regular-size Torah.
- On wheels, with a storage base under the ark.
- With a carved dedication in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah class of 5780 and in memory of our beloved Betsy Greer.
- The Ner Tamid will be battery operated, so there is no tripping hazard. Alex will design the base so we can store the Ner Tamid there.

Question regarding where the 2<sup>nd</sup> Torah will be stored. Answer is in a sturdy, Torah rolling case. Additional question regarding HiHo for second scroll. Answer is second scroll is not really "kosher," and in the future, we will just use the one torah for HiHo ceremonies.

### **Ark proposal approved unanimously.**

Debbie discussed Reconstructing Judaism plenum meeting in Tysons Corner in March 2022 (last one was 3 years ago). Kol Ami and Adat Shalom are the "host" congregations as the local congregations. Suggested to start thinking of what we can do to support (e.g., ushers, host families, etc.). Start thinking about sessions: radical inclusion (both interfaith and different abilities), Pizza and Talmud, and membership growth.

Rabbi Gilah discussed Scholar in Residence idea. Instead of having changing guests throughout the year—have a singular scholar for the entire year for continuity. Needs more discussion in the future, as not wanting to miss out on all the diverse programming from guest scholars.

Rabbi Gilah closed the meeting with a blessing.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20p

Note: Future meeting dates:

May 16

June 6 (Annual meeting)