

MINYAN MONTHLY

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Iyar 5756

LIBRARY MINYAN MEETING MAY 19, 1996 - 7:30 P.M. DORFF-NELSON CHAPEL

MINUTES FROM THE LIBRARY MINYAN MEETING, 12/10/95

Structure of the Library Minyan ("LM")

The LM at one time had bylaws, however, no one knows where a copy is stored.

Presently, LM Child Care Committee, Kiddush Committee and Shiva Committee has merged with TBA. Other LM committees are: Hospitality, Ritual and High Holiday Committee (separate from Ritual Committee).

Library Minyan is primarily a davening group. There was discussion regarding the possible need for more structure and focus.

Proposal Made and Ratified

Ritual Committee

Ritual Committee is autonomous and can make decisions. The Ritual Committee would have a fixed number of members. Only members of the Ritual Committee can vote on ritual issues that are not brought to the kahal to decide. On an annual basis (January), people from the kahal will be given the opportunity to join the Ritual Committee, cut off date for Ritual Committee membership is January 15. One-half plus one of the total Ritual Committee membership would make up a quorum for voting. When an issue is controversial, the issue is brought to the kahal (Temple Beth Am Library Minyan members) for possible study and subsequent vote.

Announcements will be made on Shabbat and in the Minyan Monthly (when possible) regarding an open call for interested Ritual Committee members. Anyone who wishes to be on the committee must inform the chairperson (currently Ronnie Cohen) and offer a sincere intent and willingness to attend meetings.

The Steering Committee Chair of the LM is a member of the Ritual Committee.

Ronnie Cohen was ratified as Chair of the Ritual Committee.

Steering Committee

Alan Broidy was ratified as Chair of the LM Steering Committee. The Chair of the Steering committee holds a seat of the Board of Trustees of TBA.

Other committees will continue to function as they are. If an issue needs to be brought to the kahal, the committee chair will inform the Chair of the Steering Committee, who will then call for a general LM meeting.

Minyan List (Mailing List)

It was suggested that the Minyan List be used as a networking tool. It is to be a mailing list, not a membership list. Suggestions were made to expand the list to include old members who have moved out of the area. Sheryl Eisenberg-Goldman wants to see the mailing list be used to encourage membership growth and retention.

Membership

A Membership chair should be created to reach out to people who have signed up to be on the Minyan List and to those who come to High Holiday Services, but who are not members of the synagogue. The chair would recruit people to be on the committee, do outreach to people on the Minyan List and do membership retention. *This Chair should sit on the Membership Committee of TBA (addendum by editor of MM).*

LM membership criteria was reaffirmed. The LM enforces TBA membership and encourages members to attend regularly and serve the kahal in some capacity, i.e., "PRAY, COME & SERVE".

Associate memberships to TBA are available if you are currently a member of another synagogue. Associate dues are \$650.00/family, \$325.00/single (High Holiday seats included).

It was suggested that Fran Grossman be asked to chair this committee.

Repair of Books

Dina Miller reported that over 100 Chumashim need major work. A Mr. Cohen can repair them, but he needs a committee to help him. In addition, Rosemary Abrami could inspect and repair the books, but it depends on the price.

There is a Prayer Book Fund of TBA's Ritual Committee. All the Siddurim and Chumashim belong to TBA. The Ritual Committee has a line in the synagogue budget for book and Torah repairs. Alan Broidy will inquire at the Board of Trustees meeting of the availability of funds and offer our services if a committee of volunteers is to do the repairs.

Avi Havivi suggested that not too much money be spent on repair of the Chumashim as in a few years the UJ will be coming out with a new Chumash which the synagogue might want to adopt.

People suggested for this committee: Dina Miller, Susie Nickelson, and Chaim Kline.

LIBRARY MINYAN MEETING AGENDA

Continued discussion of structure of Minyan -particularly expenditure of finances-

High Holiday Membership Criteria

Noise Level

Microphone

New Business

Please contact Alan Broidy if you have any additions to the agenda. All agenda items must be submitted before the May 19th meeting.



SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Teri Cohan-Link, Committee Chair

A Shabbaton for fourth through sixth graders was held on March 23, 1996. Erica Drath, TBA's Youth Director, and Ester Friedman, Chair of the Junior Congregation committee, spearheaded what turned out to be a successful event. The committee hopes this will be the first of what will become a regular series for this age group. We are hopeful that we can soon move Junior Congregation into the synagogue building on a regular basis.

The Tot Shabbat program has grown so successful that we are considering dividing the group into two sessions. Tot Shabbat leaders, Natalie Goldberg and Lauren Krinsky, and our inspiring Shabbat and Holiday Programming Coordinator, Sherri Kadovitz, are developing a prayer book for the Tot Shabbat program.

Yasher Koach and thanks to all the committee

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Ritual Committee Decision

• Ritual Attire •

On February 25, 1996, the newly constituted Ritual Committee of the Beth Am Library Minyan met, and discussed ritual attire for the Library Minyan.

The impetus for this topic was the recent decision by the main minyan of Beth Am that all women called up to the Torah are "strongly encouraged" to don a talit, and their long-standing rule that all women called up to the bimah for whatever reason (a Torah aliya, ark opening, g'lilah (Torah dressing), or simply to sit on the bimah) are required to have a head covering.

In our discussion, it was brought out that there are two competing rationales for the determination of proper attire for women in an egalitarian conservative minyan. The first is egalitarianism, which would dictate that since all roles in leading the service, which were traditionally reserved for men, are now available to women, the ritual attire requirements that apply to men filling those roles (e.g., the wearing of a head covering and talit for the leading of services), should apply equally to women. The second is the tradition that women's attire is directed by matters of modesty (tzniut), and under this tradition, only married women are expected to have a head covering, while girls and single women may have their heads uncovered. Furthermore, since traditionally the talit is only worn by men, some women might object to their wearing of a talit for fear of transgressing the prohibition against cross dressing.

The first decision of the committee was to reaffirm the long standing—and only—rule for the minyan as a whole: All males above the age of Bar Mitzvah are expected to wear a head covering.

After considerable discussion, we reached a second decision, whose basic rationale is egalitarianism: all members—male and female—on the bimah whose function is to represent the minyan, namely shaliach tzibbur, Torah or Haftorah Reader, must don a head covering and Talit. It was felt by the committee that people performing these three functions are doing so not in an individual capacity, but rather on behalf of the community as a whole. Therefore, out of respect to the community and to tradition, this traditional attire should be worn.

Part of the discussion centered on whether this traditional attire requirement should also prevail for people called up to the bimah for honors (such as an aliya to the Torah, or an ark opening), and here the committee felt that this would be overreaching. Many individuals so called are guests to the Minyan who might be unfamiliar with such rules, and besides, we felt that these roles did not entail the same degree of "representing the community as a whole" that the roles discussed above did. Thus, the committee decided that men who are called up for an aliya to the Torah, or for Hagbah (lifting the Torah prior to dressing) are expected to wear a talit (a long standing tradition in the minyan, observed even in the dancing on simchat torah) out of respect for the sefer torah. On the other hand, women called up to the Torah, and anyone called up for ark opening, should be given an opportunity to wear a talit (and/or head covering) if they so desire.

The gabbais are responsible for carrying out the above rules, and should see to it that a talit and head coverings are available on the bimah.

Respectfully Submitted, Ronnie Cohen, Chair of the Ritual Committee

SHABBAT CHILDCARE *continued from page 2*

members who have made the new programs possible. Shabbat and Children's Programming Committee: Fran Grossman, Larry Harris, Tara Reisbaum, and Michele Kroetenger-Wolf; Junior Congregation Committee: Joel Grossman, Ester Friedman, Joel Stern, and, Carl Sunshine; Aviva Lebovitz, Sherri Kadovitz, Betty Brasky, Erica Drath, Rabbi Rembaum and Rabbi Netter.

The following is a description of the Shabbat and Holiday children's programming available at Beth Am. Remember, Beth Am provides these spiritually enriching and safe programs for all children, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. **Children who do not participate in one of the programs below, may not be left unattended during any services, i.e., Main Sanctuary, Library Minyan, Beit Tefila, Or Zarua),**

Temple Beth Am Shabbat and Holiday Children's Programming

Temple Beth Am offers a full-service Shabbat and Holiday program for children ages 6 months through post-Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Designed to provide a safe and spiritually enriching environment, the program offers a wide range of age-appropriate activities. Parents are welcome to join their children in the childrens' programs, or participate in the adult or family service of their choice.

Here are the programs we offer:

Nursery (6 months to 3 years)

Children play in the Temple's well-equipped nursery. Unless informed otherwise by the Child Care Director, they must be accompanied by a parent or older sibling.

Tot Shabbat (3-6 years)

In a service geared to their level of understanding, children enjoy stories, songs, dances, puppet shows, and Shabbat-appropriate art activities. Afterwards, they can play, under adult supervision, in the nursery rooms or in the spacious, well-equipped outdoor area.

Junior Congregation (6-10 years)

Through a combination of prayer, discussion, Torah study, drama, and song, children explore the service in greater

depth, learning new prayers and reinforcing ones already known. A Kiddush always concludes the service, and children occasionally receive a special prize for participating.

Senior Congregation (11-Bar/Bat Mitzvah)

Along with enhancing their mastery of the prayers, children discuss the ideas behind them, test their mastery of Bible facts in the Bible Quiz Club, or hone their Torah and Haftarah chanting skills in the Trope Club. Sometimes the children are treated to a special lunch or Shabbat afternoon activity. This program is a fun way to supplement a child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah training.

Program Guidelines

To ensure the safety of all children, please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Children are encouraged to participate in one of the above age-appropriate programs. If they choose not to, they may not roam about unsupervised - they must be supervised by a responsible adult. They can, of course, attend any service geared to adults or families.
2. The preschool playground is available only for children through kindergarten age. To ensure the safety of all our children, those children over kindergarten age may not use those facilities.
3. The 4th floor roof is available for supervised free-play for children 6 years and older, at the conclusion of Junior Congregation at 11:30AM. Children may not play unsupervised on the roof before 11:30AM.

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

\$299,000

3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms

1700 square feet

Carthay Square on Stearns Drive

6 blocks to shul

Assumable down, 5% down or less.

Leave message for Alan Broidy 213/933-8894

Principals only

LM COMMITTEES/CONTACTS

Steering Committee Chair, Alan Broidy	213/933-8894
Minyan Treasurer Dale Bodenstein	213/937-7443
Torah & Haftorah Reading Val Goldstein Leslie Barnett	310/837-5503 310/838-1477
Gabai'im (Shabbat/Holiday Services and Torah Honors) Alan Broidy Susan Grinel Art Metz	213/933-8494 310/559-6780 310/276-6905
Drashot Rachel Green Cathie Lippman	213/938-8110 213/658-6917
Torah Gabai Henry Morgan	213/935-9831
Child Care Committee Teri Cohan Link Fran Grossman Michelle Wolf Larry Harris	310/204-1401 213/933-5040 213/954-8681 310/556-7778
Hospitality Abby Harris Debbie Abeles	310/556-7778 310/652-1505
Kiddush Amy Rabin, Beth Am Facilities Coordinator 310/652-7353 ext 213	
Membership Michael Rogson	213/939-7889
Minyan Monthly Sandra Braun fax Sharon Williams Michelle Wolf	213/934-3231 213/934-8515 310/838-1316 213/954-8681
Ritual Committee Ronnie Cohen	213/658-8057
Scheduling LM Events-Master Calander Val Goldstein	310/837-5503
Shiva Minyans Contact Beth Am	310/652-7353

HELP WANTED

POSITION AVAILABLE IMMEDIATE OPENING

JM or JF for part-time, high prestige, low income (no income, actually) position with infamous Los Angeles Jewish group. Must know how to read and speak English (no Hebrew required), use a telephone, and be very nice to people (so they will do what you want). Will provide a Jewish calender. All interested parties please contact Val Goldstein, (310) 837-5503 or Leslie Barnett (310) 838-1477. (please see article below)

HAFTORAH AND TORAH COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Minyan is in need of a new coordinator to assign Torah and Haftorah readings for each shabbat. Leslie Barnett and Val Goldstein have been co-coordinating for nearly two years. As of June 1, 1996, neither Leslie nor Val will be available to continue because of other commitments. It is a very important job in the Minyan. This is a position that requires no knowledge of Hebrew and is a way for a new member of the Minyan to get to know other Minyan members. It can also easily be shared by several people. Again, neither Leslie nor Val will be available as of June 1. Please contact Leslie 310/571-3680 (*work*) 310/838-1477 (*home*) or Val 310/837-5503 if you or any one you know might be interested in helping out.

.....
• THE NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT MINYAN
• WILL BE ON
• FRIDAY, MAY 10 6:15 PM
• AT THE HOME OF
• AVI HAVIVI/DEBBY SCHMIDT
• 6642 MOORE DRIVE
• (213)930-1348
•

ON ANNOUNCEMENTS

To the editor:

Having some limited pull with the Minyan Monthly editor, I am taking the opportunity to recall for all of us Minyan policy concerning announcements.

Few Minyan traditions are more sacrosanct than announcements, and fewer traditions are more subject to abuse. Any one of us who has been involved in helping "run" the Minyan (a concept used in the loosest sense of the word) will agree that it is often difficult to convince Minyan members to assist in leading services, reading Torah, presenting drashot, or providing any of the many services that are necessary to the services which we enjoy. At the same time, anyone and everyone feels free to share a variety of announcements.

The Minyan is, and should be, marked by acceptance and tolerance. Consequently, we universally allow announcements which we often regret in hindsight, and rely on our members and fellow travellers to restrain themselves. In order to assist this tradition, the Minyan decided on a number of guidelines:

- ◆ Announcements should be brief
- ◆ Announcements should be geared to community, and not personal statements or diatribes
- ◆ No "commercial" announcements (e.g., business opportunities)
- ◆ Political announcements are discouraged, except when they have an immediate and important impact on the Jewish community
- ◆ No drashot (on the other hand, the Minyan welcomes drashot at their designated time and place)
- ◆ No solicitations for funds, contributions, etc., except as sanctioned by the Minyan leadership

The Minyan has numerous venues for publicizing events and issues, including the Minyan Monthly, placing appropriate leaflets outside shul, and other opportunities.

Bob Braun

TREASURERS REPORT

Thank you for the following contributions to the Library Minyan:

- Baruch Link, *for a Torah Aliyah.*
Joel and Susan Stern, *in honor of the birth of their daughter, Anna.*
Leon and Anne Kramer, *for a Torah Aliyah.*
Jules Kamin and Cathie Lipman, *in memory of Barry Rosenblatt's mother and Diane Landau's stepfather.*
Susan Mishler, *in honor of the birth of Shifra Harris, daughter of Larry and Abby Harris.*
Beatrice and Merle Kame, *for a Torah Aliyah.*
Jack and Helen Kornbluth, *for a Torah Aliyah.*
Baruch Link, *for a Torah Aliyah.*
M.Martin and Sylvia Kaplan, *for A Torah Aliyah.*

The LM has sponsored three Shabbat Kiddushim in the past three months. We welcome donations towards the Library Minyan Kiddush Fund. Please send your contributions attention "Kiddush Fund" to Dale Bodenstein (see address below).

OUR HOUSE DEDICATION JUNE 16, 1996

Join fellow members of the Library Minyan in honoring Marilyn and Sigi Ziering and in celebration of the dedication of "Our House". The goal of the Library Minyan is to include in the ad journal a quarter page congratulatory message. We will express our thanks and offer our good wishes on behalf of the entire Library Minyan. Of course, we hope this is in addition to any personal messages you might already be placing in the ad journal.

We welcome any size contribution towards this goal.

Please send your contributions towards this effort attention "Ad Journal" to:

Library Minyan
Dale Bodenstein, Treasure
1121 South Spaulding Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90019