

LM Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – 7/2/24

Attendees: Joel Elkins (chair), Howard Fredman, Jules Kamin, Russell Cohen, Jim Rogozen, Fran Grossman, Ben Richards, Rachel Bernstein, Jennifer Low (guest)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Reports from members
 - a. Education (Jim) – Torah Morsel addition to the Weekly Update is proceeding nicely, but we still need contributors. Aaron Asher is preparing a Lunch & Learn for some time in August (date TBD).
 - b. Ritual (Ben) – Joel Grossman, Bob Braun and Ben will be coordinating the High Holydays services. Spots are already filling up quickly (for example, musafs are already full).

Twelve luachs have been ordered for the upcoming year to be distributed to gabbais and coordinators who require.
 - c. Membership (Russel) – Dodger game is coming up. 27 tickets sold (two more than expected, so 2 seats might be a couple rows above or below). Other events that were successful: Oscar-viewing party, March Madness pool, mini-golf for 20s/30s.
 - d. Social (Fran) – There have been many donations for kiddushes, and Ronna has done a great job offering diverse menus. Sometimes donations come in too late to be applied for the particular earmarked kiddush, and so that extra money is use for other kiddushes (for example, we donated \$250 to the Novoseller kiddush and \$500 to the kiddush for graduation Shabbat).
 - e. Gabbaim (Howard) – After many years of being asked, it looks like Henry Morgen is finally willing to be a gabbai. He will be a welcome addition.
 - f. Communications (Rachel) – She and Russell are making progress bringing in and retaining young people with 20s/30s only events. Another possible event would be a Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner at a private home (One Table may help underwrite.) Everyone thought that was a great idea.
 - g. Finance (Jules/Joel) – The three funds (General, Chesed and Outreach) all have healthy balances.
- III. Empty Positions to be Filled
 - a. Torah Reading coordinator – Alisa Shudofsky has replaced Stan Goldstein

- b. Drash coordinator – Susan Laemmle and Mickey Rosen are stepping down but have completed the calendar through November. The Committee discussed potential replacement(s) whom Joel will approach. (In the past, the coordinator has also been available to provide guidance, but that is not necessarily part of the job description. Jim and Ben volunteered to help in that capacity if the new coordinator does not feel comfortable to do that part.)
- c. Ohel Patuach/DPL – Essia has stepped down from Ohel Patuach, and Michelle Wolf and Deb Blum have stepped down from DPL. Both those positions can be whatever the new coordinators make of it. It was suggested that these positions be combined and that more Kabbalat Shabbat/Friday night dinners be set up. People might feel more comfortable attending one of these than asking to be hosted. Fran agreed to fill the Ohel Patuach position just for the holiday season.
- d. Rosh – Joel's term ends in February. Members of the Steering Committee were asked to consider the job or to suggest a prior member who might be interested in and right for the job. Joel agreed to write up a job description and approximate number of hours per week the job entails.

IV. Chapel Refresh

In the coming year, the Dorff-Nelson will be undergoing some sort of refresh, the extent of which is still to be determined. This will certainly include new carpet, and possibly refinished or reupholstered pews. The LM ad hoc committee suggested that the bima platform be removed, assuming Pressman Academy (which shares the space) is okay with that. We are also looking into how to preserve the Wanda Peretz ceiling mural. As for the memorial plaques, there are a number of suggestions, and a decision will be made once all input is received. Jim also said the lights are better but still not bright enough. Incoming TBA president Jacque Jacobs has tasked Jennifer Low with coming up with recommendations for this project.

V. Low Aufruf

The Lows asked to host an aufruf for their daughter and her fiancé in a joint service led by the Library Minyan. (The wedding will be in Washington, D.C., and this will be the opportunity to celebrate with the community.) The date of August 17 was long ago coordinated with synagogue. This worked out well because there was no bar/bat mitzvah that week and many of the clergy would be gone anyways. The issue was that some people will have an issue with the

livestreaming (the chatan's family will want to participate from the East Coast). It was suggested that, even though Library Minyan was taking on the leadership of the service, an alternative minyan be organized for those who would prefer that option. The service would be timed to conclude at about the same time that the aufruf part of the main service was starting. Everyone would be invited to a celebratory joint kiddush. Jim volunteered to coordinate the hashkamah minyan.

VI. Meeting adjourned