

**Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors Meeting
September 5, 2025
Minutes**

Present:

Ralph Anzarouth
Sarah Beutel
Norm Ferkin
Gillian Koh

Adina Libin
David Lyman
Jaimee Mitzmacher
Janice Pleet

Jeremy Rudin
Sheldon Wiseman

Zoom:

Jeff Greenberg
Arryn Mills

Victor Rabinovitch
Olga Streltchenko

Secretary:

Jaimee Mitzmacher

Clergy Present:

Cantor Jason Green

Staff Present:

Yaron Starosta

Regrets:

None

1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Call to Order and introductory remarks

Jeremy Rudin

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

All

A motion was made by Sarah Beutel and seconded by Sheldon Wiseman to approve the agenda for September 4, 2025.

All were in favour. The motion was carried.

1.3 D'Var Torah

Cantor Green

1.4 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest

All

None of the members present declared a conflict of interest.

1.5 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting

Jeremy Rudin

- Howard "Jerry" Torontow - member
- Christopher Flower – member
- Harvey Glatt (was not a member – had plots in AI/BS section)
- Edith Landau - associate

1.6 New Members

Jeremy Rudin

- Ulrike Bahr-Gedalia & Michael Gedalia
- Joel Diener
- Sheldon Posen & Maxine Miska

1.7 Members Who Resigned

Jeremy Rudin

- Shelley Rothman – moved to Toronto to be with kids/grandkids
- Andrew McGregor & Iris Arnon – are joining Temple for the HHDs (they became associates)
- Michael Kalin & Tejaswinhi Srinivas – Went to Machzekei
- Chuck & Bonnie Merovitz – Attending Ottawa Torah Centre (OTC)
- Myra Wein & Micah Sienna – Left KBI

1.8 Approval of the Board minutes of June 25, 2025

Olga Streltchenko

A motion was made by Olga Streltchenko and seconded by Gillian Koh to approve the minutes of June 25, 2025

All were in favour. The motion was carried.

1.9 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

All

- Membership Dues update
 - 529 total households; 300 renewed, 229 outstanding
 - 18 “members no tickets”; 6 renewed, 12 outstanding
 - 91 associate members; 37 renewed, 54 outstanding, 7 resigned
 - Requested to have membership dues structure approved by January with dollar amount by April to process High Holiday information in a more timely manner

2.0 Reporting with Discussion and Without Vote

2.1 Nominating Committee Report

Victor Rabinovitch

- Committee met 4 times
- Committee had extensive conversations with volunteer leaders
- Discussions included views on aspects of KBI Board governance, influencing the thinking and decision of the committee: executive officers vs. members at large, committees participation, relationship between committees and the Board,
- One Member-at-large remains to be confirmed to have more time to consider availability

2.2 BLC Report

Eric Weiner (guest)

- Construction in front has begun, including new fencing
- Concrete barriers will be strategically aligned with the fence as a second layer of protection
- Waiting to pave to work around water table and drainage issues
- City has been a good partner helping us push through our needs
- 3 week pause during the holidays will start Sept. 15
- Everything should be done by November 10: paving, lined parking, concrete, exterior lighting,
- Current estimates are now 1.477 M, over the 1.3 M budget, due to unforeseen issues, additional city permits and upgrading to more expensive fencing

2.3 High Holiday Planning

Cantor Green / Sasha Kathron

- All clergy and staff are in place and ready to go
- Rabbi Charlie will be assisting youth again
- Ritual committee will connect to set up cleaning tallitot and silver
- Honours have been given
- Norm is coordinating gabbi notes
- Choir will be performing from the accessible bimah
- Brochures and tickets are ready to be mailed out; web version live on the website by early next week
- S'lichot includes Havdallah
- Baruch Frydman-Kohl comes Sun., Sept. 21
- Office is working on Sukkot and Simchat Torah
- Organizing 2 Break Fast locations for congregants to gather, South End and West End; renting out space and synagogue is providing food, \$9 / \$18 family offset by grant
- Sukkah hop at Jaimee Mitzmacher and Jeremy Rudin's house
- Youth programming will be similar to last year; copy / past logistics from last year
- Programming broken down by 3 age groups: tots, grades 2-5, grades 6-8
- USY students are encouraged to participate in the service or volunteer with the youth programming
- Tashlich at Westboro Beach and apple picking / tashlich for youth in Kanata
- Partner with PJ Library for pre-Simchat Torah event for young families with pizza bagels

2.4 Rabbi Search Committee Report

Arryn Mills / Jon Mitzmacher (guest)

- Intent is to run a transparent process
- In person town hall scheduled for September 15
- Dedicated space on KBI's website for updates on the search process
- Over a dozen requests to be on the search committee
- Plan to announce committee at the town hall and designate each member with specific tasks
- USCJ process: portal opened on Sept. 1, we are targeting Oct. 1 to post our application, for 4 months our process is exclusively with the RA posting, after 4 months we can request a waiver to take the request outside of the RA, reasonable to expect 3-5 viable candidates,
- Committed to not settling; if no match emerges this cycle the board can consider interim solutions

3.0 REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION OR VOTE

3.1 Committee reports as circulated, if any

All

Reports received without discussion:

- Director of Youth and Education Programming Report

3.2 Other business raised by any Director

All

No additional business was raised

3.3 Review of Board Agenda for year

Jeremy Rudin

- October: Financial update: Q4, review of audited financial statements (if needed), rabbi search report
- November: review of audited financial statements (if needed), AGM

4.0 IN CAMERA

4.1 Personnel Committee Report

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 PM.

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2025; in person if possible with Zoom option.