

Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 January 8, 2026



PRESENT:

Ralph Anzarouth	Jaimee Mitzmacher	Olga Strelchenko
David Lyman	Janice Pleet	Sheldon Wiseman
Arryn Mills	Jeremy Rudin	

ZOOM:

Jeff Greenberg	Gillian Koh	Emma Mallach
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REGRETS:

Tina Azarin	Adina Libin	Judah Silverman
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Secretary: Janice Pleet
Clergy Present: Cantor Jason Green
Staff Present: Yaron Starosta

1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM	Jaimee Mitzmacher
1.2 Approval of Agenda <u>A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by Olga Streltchenko to approve the agenda for January 8, 2026.</u> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u>	All
1.3 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest None of the members present declared a conflict of interest.	All
1.4 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting Murray Garceau (former associate member / stepfather of member) Anita Levine (mother of member) David Marcus (brother of member) Teri Levine (member)	Jaimee Mitzmacher
1.5 Membership 2 new households / member units since last report 0 terminated households / member units since last report	Jaimee Mitzmacher

	<p>1.6 Approval of the Board Minutes from December 11, 2025 <u>A motion was made by Janice Pleet and seconded by Arryn Mills to approve the minutes of December 11, 2025.</u></p> <p><u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	Jaimee Mitzmacher
	<p>1.7 Business Arising from Previous Minutes No business from previous minutes.</p>	All
2.0 D'VAR TORAH		Cantor Green
3.0 REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION		
	<p>3.1 Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● President's Report ● Executive Director's Report ● Cantor's Report ● Interim OTT Director's Report ● AGM Minutes 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT A VOTE		
	<p>4.1 Ritual Committee Annual Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Currently studying the language of the Yom Kippur Mincha Torah Reading with members of the Pride Committee, led by Dr. Jon Mitzmacher ● Studied the various aspects of our Shabbat morning service to see how we maximize congregational touchpoints, without unnecessarily lengthening the service. Reviewed triennial cycle as part of the study. No motivation to adopt ● Held a Tzitzit workshop to enhance and repair the congregational Tallitot ● Studied various aspects of burial in the New Traditions section of the Osgoode Cemetery, as well as various issues relating to halachic burials ● Sorted through thousands of articles to clean out the Genizah area in the basement. Genizah items were prepared for burial ● Launched a Shiva leadership team ● Initiated rosters for Service Guides, Sermons, Shabbat Morning study ● Future initiatives include making prayer and ritual participation accessible to more people and increase participation of congregants in services on Shabbatot and Chagim ● More volunteers are needed to complete twice daily minyan services ● Suggestion for KBI to have a Chesed committee (further discussion needed on this topic at a future meeting) ● Cantor Green is the first contact for a family when a death has occurred ● Consider greater connections for OTT students into KBI 	Ralph Anzarouth

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historically, KBI is a conservative synagogue with traditional rituals. To attract more members, the Board may want to consider evolving to various practices to balance traditional and progressive trends. Possibility of music in services should be explored Comments from members are indicating that KBI's haimish and warm approach to services is appreciated 	
	<p>4.2 Rabbinic Search Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though the Rabbi Search focus groups were a lot of work, the committee has received a lot of good feedback, and has a good understanding of who our congregation is There have been quite a few applications received One candidate will be invited for a visit in February The committee will continue to work through applications with the hope of bringing a second candidate for a visit 	Arryn Mills
	<p>4.3 10-Year Celebration of KBI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Spring has offered to help with the 10-year celebration but wants Board guidance Question: "What could/should this celebration look like?" One consideration is that there still seems to be tension between the two amalgamated congregations Logistical questions: budget, funding, who will be involved in the Event planning committee, programming, food, entertainment, etc Event to possibly take place in November 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
5.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE		
	<p>5.1 JMG Osgoode Transfer Approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A question was raised about members currently owning plots in the traditional area, but wanting to switch to a New Traditions plot. Answer: Arrangements will be made to reassign plots to meet members preferences The congregations will be advised promptly of the new policy and the availability of these new plots <p><u>A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by Olga Streltchenko to authorize Jaimee Mitzmacher to enter into the Kehillat Beth Israel and Congregation Machzikei Hadas Re-Allocation Agreement dated January 2026.</u></p> <p><u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	Liney Bronstein

<p>5.2 Operating Policy to Vet External Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New policy to have proposed External Speakers vetted before the event proceeds to the planning stage needs to be communicated to the congregation and all committees <p><u>A motion was made by Olga Streltchenko and seconded by Sheldon Wiseman to approve the proposed Operating Policy to Vet External Speakers before speaking at KBI.</u></p> <p><u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	<p>Arryn Mills</p>
<p>5.3 Confidentiality & Social Media Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All signed policies will be uploaded on Sharepoint <p><u>A motion was made by Arryn Mills and seconded by Ralph Anzarouth to approve the proposed policies for Confidentiality and Social Media.</u></p> <p><u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	<p>Arryn Mills</p>
<p>5.4 Terms of Reference template</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Committee needs to review their Terms of Reference document, and then adapt it to the approved formatting template • The Board will review all Committees' updated Terms of Reference at the February 26 Board meeting <p><u>A motion was made by Arryn Mills and seconded by Janice Pleet to approve the Terms of Reference template.</u></p> <p><u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	<p>Arryn Mills</p>
<p>6.0 NEW BUSINESS</p>	
<p>6.1 Other Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on a design for a KBI t-shirt to gift families at a bris or a baby naming • Other ideas to design KBI swag for other occasions • Discussion to finalize membership fees structure earlier in the calendar year so the office can start the High Holidays process earlier • Discussion about separating the Board's installation from the AGM to install the Board in June while the AGM will remain in November after the end of the fiscal year <p>6.2 Parking Lot Items for Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beth Shalom Memorial plaques • Staffing part-time Youth Director • Results of Chanukah appeal • High Holiday survey results 	

- OTT family survey
- Chesed Committee

7.0 Good and Welfare

8.0 In Camera

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 PM.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2026; in person if possible with Zoom option.