

**Kehillat Beth Israel**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
 December 11, 2025



**PRESENT:**

|                 |                   |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Ralph Anzarouth | Arryn Mills       | Judah Silverman  |
| Tina Azarin     | Jaimee Mitzmacher | Olga Strelchenko |
| Adina Libin     | Janice Pleet      | Sheldon Wiseman  |
| David Lyman     | Jeremy Rudin      |                  |

**ZOOM:**

|                |             |              |
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| Jeff Greenberg | Gillian Koh | Emma Mallach |
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**REGRETS:**

**Secretary:** Janice Pleet  
**Clergy Present:** Cantor Jason Green  
**Staff Present:** Yaron Starosta

**1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

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|  | <p><b>1.1 Call to Order</b><br/>                 The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM</p>  | Jaimee Mitzmacher |
|  | <p><b>1.2 Approval of Agenda</b><br/> <u>A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by Arryn Mills to approve the agenda for December 11, 2025.</u><br/> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>   | All               |
|  | <p><b>1.3 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest</b><br/>                 Adina Libin declared a conflict of interest on matters pertaining to the proposed new rabbinic intern.</p>   | All               |
|  | <p><b>1.4 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting</b><br/>                 Miriam Levitin (interment rights)      Sol Shabinsky      Tracey Kronick<br/>                 Lewis Goldberg                                  Irving Slone</p> | Jaimee Mitzmacher |
|  | <p><b>1.5 Membership</b><br/>                 1 new member and 1 new associate member households / member units since last report<br/>                 0 terminated households / member units since last report</p>  | Jaimee Mitzmacher |
|  | <p><b>1.6 Approval of the Board Minutes from October 30, 2025</b><br/> <u>A motion was made by Jaimee Mitzmacher and seconded by Janice Pleet to approve the minutes of October 30, 2025.</u><br/> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>  | Jaimee Mitzmacher |

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|   | <b>1.7 Business Arising from Previous Minutes</b><br>No business from previous minutes.   | All                        |
| <b>2.0 D'VAR TORAH</b>                                  |   | Cantor Green               |
| <b>3.0 REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION</b>                 |   |                            |
|   | <b>3.1 Consent Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● President's Report</li> <li>● Executive Director's Report</li> <li>● Cantor's Report</li> <li>● DYEP's Reports</li> <li>● MERCAZ Report</li> <li>● Youth Committee Report</li> <li>● Rabbi Search Committee Report</li> </ul>  | Jaimee Mitzmacher          |
| <b>4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT A VOTE</b> |   |                            |
|   | <b>4.1 Update on OTT / Youth Programming Committee Chairs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● draft job description for Interim Director of Youth Programming</li> <li>● conduct an exit interview with departing Director, participants - Personnel Cttee, Youth, and OTT, results reported to ED and President, then to Board</li> <li>● Position will be part-time until June 30th, then become full-time in July</li> <li>● Programming between now and July may be one program per month</li> <li>● Where should the new position be posted?</li> <li>● Collect feedback on programming from parents</li> <li>● Youth Director normally reports to Rabbi but will have oversight by the Cantor and President in the absence of a Rabbi</li> <li>● Status to be updated January 2026</li> <li>● Incumbent OTT Director will hold 30 minute check-in meetings with each family</li> <li>● A survey for OTT families is coming out soon</li> <li>● There was mixed feedback on the Chanukah party held on Dec 14th - lessons learned?</li> </ul> | Gillian Koh / Emma Mallach |
|   | <b>4.2 "Keep the Lights On" Appeal Proposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal to do a chanukah fund-raising push</li> <li>● Increased operating costs not a compelling reason, therefore focus on a specific project           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) flooring in Simcha Room? b) heating and security upgrades?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Agreed on need for increased fundraising revenue</li> <li>● AJA50+ has mentioned donating funds towards flooring in Simcha Room, possible "matching" Campaign with them, or perhaps with Minyannaires</li> <li>● Benefit of 2025 tax receipt</li> </ul>  | Yaron Starosta             |

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|   | <p><b>4.3 Rabbinic Search Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● One application has been received so far (which is similar to other synagogues' searches at this point in the process); interview to take place on Dec 18th</li> <li>● On Dec. 11 received waiver from RA for wider audience access to job posting</li> <li>● Last focus group happened on Dec 11th, only about 70 members attended focus groups in total</li> <li>● Will prepare a "short job poster" for Jewish Jobs, and various seminaries</li> <li>● It is still early in the job change process for Rabbis - still expect to get more applications as candidates' first choices do not come through</li> </ul>   | Arryn Mills       |
|   | <p><b>4.4 10-Year Celebration of KBI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● David Spring is considering Chair of a committee to plan the event</li> <li>● Question whether the 10 Year Celebration could happen in conjunction with the installation of a new Rabbi; looking at possible Fall date after the High Holy Days</li> <li>● Looking for celebration ideas from Board members</li> </ul>   | Jaimee Mitzmacher |
| <b>5.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE</b> |  |                   |
|   | <p><b>5.1 Appoint KBI Representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jewish Memorial Gardens: Leon Bronstein, Judah Silverman</li> <li>● MERCAZ: David Roytenberg</li> <li>● Immediate Past President: Jeremy Rudin</li> <li>● Signing Officers: Adina Libin, David Lyman, Jaimee Mitzmacher, Jeremy Rudin</li> </ul> <p><u>A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by Olga Streltchenko to appoint the above mentioned KBI representatives.</u><br/> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>   | Jaimee Mitzmacher |
|   | <p><b>5.2 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Statement 2025-2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● See a realistic income and expense picture, but some adjustments to be made</li> <li>● Security work done by Chain Rock came in slightly lower than expected grant</li> <li>● Security costs are increasing</li> <li>● Legal costs are higher than anticipated but coverage of legal costs incurred by Mediation/Arbitration with previous rabbi are covered by our insurance</li> <li>● "Development" should be top of to-do list - income from fundraising should be more, or increase dues</li> <li>● Grant proposal for \$10,000 for security costs just completed</li> <li>● \$40,000 for legal fees is unrealistic</li> </ul> <p><u>A motion was made by David Lyman and seconded by Sheldon Wiseman to approve the 2025-2026 first quarter financial statement.</u><br/> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p> | David Lyman       |

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| <p><b>5.3 Rabbinic Intern – Sue Potechin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adina Libin recused herself from this conversation due to her personal relationship with Sue.</li> <li>● Position to run from Jan 5th to June 30th for 40 to 60 hours of monthly service</li> <li>● This will include Shabbat programming for youth</li> <li>● Responsibilities will include Life cycle events, pastoral outreach, daily and Shabbat service leadership, B’Nei Mitzvah support, sermons and teaching, and assisting with youth and adult education programming</li> </ul> <p><u>A motion was made by Ralph Anzarouth and seconded by Olga Streltchenko to approve the appointment of Sue Potechin to be KBI’s rabbinic intern from January – June 2026. All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p> | <p>Ralph Anzarouth</p> |
| <p><b>6.0 NEW BUSINESS</b></p>  |                        |
| <p><b>6.1 Other Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recognition of the conclusion of Jon Mitzmacher’s role as Rabbinic Intern on Dec 13th</li> </ul>  |                        |
| <p><b>6.2 Parking Lot Items for Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Confidentiality, Conflict of Interest, and Social Media Policies (after review from Governance Committee)</li> <li>● Jewish Memorial Gardens - vote on New Traditions proposal</li> <li>● Staffing of PT Youth Director position</li> <li>● Chanukah Appeal results</li> <li>● Feedback from High Holiday Services survey</li> <li>● OTT / Youth survey results</li> <li>● Lessons learned from Chanukah party feedback</li> <li>● Revise By-Law re: signing officers to remove signatory power from retiring Board members</li> </ul>  |                        |
| <p><b>7.0 In Camera</b></p>   |                        |
| <p><b>8.0 Adjournment</b></p>   |                        |
| <p>The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.</p> <p>The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2026; in person if possible with Zoom option.</p>   |                        |