

Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 January 29, 2026



PRESENT:

Ralph Anzarouth	Jaimee Mitzmacher	Olga Streltchenko
Adina Libin	Janice Pleet	Sheldon Wiseman
David Lyman	Jeremy Rudin	
Arryn Ketter Mills	Judah Silverman	

ZOOM:

Jeff Greenberg	Emma Mallach
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REGRETS:

Tina Azarin	Gillian Koh
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<p>Secretary: Janice Pleet Clergy Present: Cantor Jason Green Staff Present: Yaron Starosta</p>		
<p>1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS</p>		
	<p>1.1 Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Jaimee Mitzmacher</p>
	<p>1.2 Approval of Agenda <u>A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by David Lyman to approve the agenda for January 29, 2026.</u> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u></p>	<p>All</p>
	<p>1.3 Call for Declaration of Conflict of Interest None of the members present declared a conflict of interest.</p>	<p>All</p>
	<p>1.4 Moment of Silence to Commemorate Those Congregants Who Have Passed Away Since the Last Board Meeting N/A</p>	<p>Jaimee Mitzmacher</p>
	<p>1.5 Membership 1 new households / member units since last report 0 terminated households / member units since last report</p>	<p>Jaimee Mitzmacher</p>
	<p>1.6 Approval of the Board Minutes from January 8, 2026 <u>A motion was made by Janice Pleet and seconded by Arryn Ketter Mills to approve the minutes of January 8, 2026.</u></p>	<p>Jaimee Mitzmacher</p>

	All were in favour. The motion was carried.	
	1.7 Business Arising from Previous Minutes No business from previous minutes.	All
2.0 D'VAR TORAH		Cantor Green
3.0 REPORTING WITHOUT DISCUSSION		
	3.1 Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● President's Report ● Executive Director's Report ● Cantor's Report ● Interim OTT Director's Report 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
	3.2 President's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Capital Jewish High School ● DYEP interim / permanent posting 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT A VOTE		
	4.1 Communications Committee (CC) Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There was a discussion about the several mandates of the Communication Committee (CC). In order of focus, these include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ advising and assisting KBI Board and staff in the communication of important and/or sensitive messages, and ensuring the consistency of the messages across all platforms. This is especially important in cases where a situation arises where a sensitive and clear message is required in a short period of time. ○ reviewing and proposing an update of the KBI website (ready for funding to implement), ○ investigating the best ways for KBI to communicate through social media ○ creating a policy for the use of Social Media, and monitor the metrics of traffic ○ working with KBI staff, committees and Board members to create surveys which are used to measure congregant satisfaction with various KBI activities and programs, and ○ providing editing and proof-reading to the KBI office staff and/or Board members to ensure distributed information is properly written ○ The CC has a wish-list of new projects they would like to undertake 	Kate McGregor

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CC is also working on strengthening their relationship with office staff, and is looking forward to working more with other committees. • The importance of having the facts correct on all documentation distributed to congregants was stressed. 	
	<p>4.2 Security Advisory Committee (SAC) Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past, the focus of the SAC was mostly on mitigating impact from potential security risks, and preventing incidents (mitigating and managing). The SAC now wants to look at continuity of community service (prayer services, school, communication with congregants, etc), and recovery plans in case of major incident. • Security procedures are prepared for the High Holidays (HH), now, the focus is on documenting security procedures for the daily activities that take place at KBI • This process is slow because protocols are complicated • Want to have a High Holiday security plan in place earlier this year than last • There will be grant funds available for HH security training • In 2025, the SAC applied for a Federal CCSP (2025) grant to cover high holidays security and training. We are waiting on final approval of the funds. • For 2026, the Building and Lands Committee (BLC) is applying for a Federal CCSP (2026) grant to cover BLC related security upgrades. • In addition, Yaron applied for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$10K from JFO to match the 2025 CCSP grant ○ \$10K from JFO to match the 2026 CCSP grant ○ \$10K from the Province of Ontario for a security grant to offset the cost of the front doors. 	Howard Cohen
	<p>4.3 B'nei Mitzvah Standards Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed B'nei Mitzvah Standards update is a summary of the information in the B'nei Mitzvah Handbook, accessible through the "Celebrate" tab on the KBI website. • This summary is meant to help communicate and enforce the long-standing standards for the B'nei Mitzvah program. • While every Jewish child should have the opportunity to celebrate a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, there are six core requirements, all of which need to be met to allow a child to celebrate at KBI: being Jewish, the family being members in good standing, enrollment in a Jewish education program, attendance at services, a Mitzvah project (communal involvement), and attendance at B'nei Information sessions. • The level of completion of the core requirements, and the "readiness" of the student, are used in the determination of the appropriate service for each 	Ralph Anzarouth / Cantor Green

	<p>student: those being Shabbat morning, Shabbat afternoon/evening, or a Monday or Thursday morning service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the B’nei Mitzvah cohort at KBI is increasing year after year. • The Cantor has implemented a system to record the attendance of B’nei Mitzvah students at Shabbat morning services. • There will be further conversation on the Tuesday afternoon program after the B’nei Mitzvah satisfaction survey is finalized and sent out to families with recent simchas. • There was a suggestion that the standards should also include the responsibilities of the parents and the student. • The Governance and Communications Committees will review this new policy to ensure it meets KBI standards for content and format. 	
	<p>4.4 CBSOLF Memorial Plaques Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions continue with members of the CBSOLF regarding the requested display of CBSO members memorial plaques somewhere in the KBI building. • A discussion took place regarding several possible locations already identified as potential new homes for these plaques. Opinions are many and varied. • The Buildings and Land Committee will discuss proposed options, and possibly additional ideas, at their next meeting later this month, and report back to the President of the Board. • Several other possible issues with the fulfillment of this request were noted. 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
	<p>4.5 10-Year Celebration of KBI Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President of the Board asked whether anyone on the Board was willing to take on the Chair position and/or oversee a 10-year anniversary celebration of the KBI amalgamation. • A Board member is considering taking on this responsibility, and has committed to report back to the President of the Board to see if we can move forward to start organizing the event. 	Jaimee Mitzmacher
	<p>4.6 Rabbinic Search Update (RSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rabbi Search Committee (RSC) advised the Board that a suitable and qualified candidate for the Rabbi position has been identified, and has accepted our invitation to visit Ottawa for the weekend of February 26th for an opportunity to meet the Board and the congregation, and to participate in various activities and services. • There will be several opportunities for congregants to meet the candidate over that weekend. • The Board confirmed their position to uphold the standards of USCJ / RA when considering candidates. 	Arryn Mills

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Other Issues

- The Chair of the RSC asked whether the Cantor or the Chair of the Ritual Committee could provide the committee with a list of schools for Rabbis that are recognized by KBI as acceptable schools from which rabbinic candidates can be graduates.

5.2 Parking Lot Items for Next Meeting

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6.0 Good and Welfare

7.0 In Camera

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026; in person if possible with Zoom option.