Kehillat Beth Israel
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2026

PRESENT:

Ralph Anzarouth	Arryn Mills	Judah Silverman
Tina Azarin	Jaimee Mitzmacher	Sheldon Wiseman
David Lyman	Janice Pleet	
Emma Mallach	Jeremy Rudin	

ZOOM:

Gillian Koh	Olga Streltchenko

REGRETS:

Jeff Greenberg	Adina Libin

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 7:00 PM	Jaimee Mitzmacher
1.2 Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Sheldon Wiseman and seconded by Ralph Anzarouth to approve the agenda for April 23, 2026. All were in favour. The motion was carried.	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 N/A	Jaimee Mitzmacher
1.5 Membership 0 new households / member units since last report 0 terminated households / member units since last report	Jaimee Mitzmacher
1.6 Approval of the Board Minutes from March 25, 2026 A motion was made by Janice Pleet and seconded by Tina Azarin to approve the minutes of March 25, 2026. All were in favour. The motion was carried.	Jaimee Mitzmacher

	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 ● President's Report ● Executive Director's Report ● Cantor's Report ● Interim OTT Director's Report ● Interim Youth Director Update	Jaimee Mitzmacher
4.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION BUT WITHOUT A VOTE		
	4.1 Building and Lands Committee Presentation ● The Board was given a status update on the Security, Safety and accessibility (SS&A) project. ● KBI is awaiting final approval of the City of Ottawa permit to complete the replacement of the sanitary and storm sewers, as well as the water main. ● Once completed, the remaining grading, paving and cement work will be finished (all before the High Holidays) ● While the new perimeter fencing has been installed, we are awaiting final Canada Community Security Program (CCSP) grant approval before proceeding with the purchase and installation of gates at the entrances of the property. ● To increase the security of the existing fencing, the addition of strategically placed concrete bollards/posts and barriers is being considered. ● Other work being considered is: a) the replacement and installation of security film on the windows, b) the replacement and reinforcement of the main entrance, chapel and office entry doors, and c) additional landscaping to beautify and secure the property. ● Requests for Proposals (RFP) and CCSP grant proposals will be prepared that cover the above planned work. ● As far as outdoor lighting is concerned, a grant request will also be prepared. One complication is that the grant only covers lighting that is physically attached to a building. There may be other lighting requirements for the outdoor areas that will require free-standing light fixtures, and there is no funding planned for this.	Jay Amdur

	• The services of the independent architectural firm that was used for the SS&A project can be used to provide a full assessment of the building, and to advise on any additional proposed changes to the interior. • One of the biggest challenges facing the BLC is the high capital expenses associated with the work they propose; the Coldrey property is an older structure and performing renovations to an older structure is almost always an expensive proposition. • One of the lessons learned over the past four years is that projects of an operational nature tend to be completed more quickly, while capital projects tend to move more slowly and require larger financial investments. • The approved budget for the SS&A project remains sufficient to complete all remaining in-scope work. However, it does not include funding for the additional proposals currently being advanced by the BLC. A defined funding strategy for these new initiatives will, therefore, be required before any related work can proceed.	
	4.2 Rabbi Transition Plan • We are planning a full transition plan to properly support Rabbi Rose's family as they leave their home in Winnipeg to move to a new city, new home, new schools, and a new shul. • The transition plan will include a focus on logistics, congregational and community integration. • We will welcome our new spiritual leader and his family in a welcoming and respectful manner.	Arryn Mills
	4.3 Clergy Arrangements for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur • Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl has agreed to again be our Rabbi for the High Holidays this year • Cantor Green will reach out to confirm Andrea Wershof and R. Charlie Schwartz's availability to lead auxiliary services in the Chapel as they have done in previous years	Jaimee Mtizmacher
	4.4 Nominating Committee Presentation • The Nominating Committee is responsible for determining the slate of potential new members of the Board • This year, the Committee is focusing on the identification of recruits, and the development of other congregation members to become candidates in the future by involving them in committee work • Challenges: ○ Transitioning the time of year to hold the election of officers to align with most common practice in the Conservative movement	Jeremy Rudin

- Would like to get have proper succession planning with a Vice President on the Board who within a two year cycle, will become the new President
- Best practice is to first ask congregants to volunteer on committees, to learn KBI’s governance, practices and expectations, and transition to Directors and Officers on the Board

5.0 REPORTING WITH DISCUSSION AND VOTE

5.1 Nominating Committee Appointments

Jeremy Rudin

- The Nominating Committee is comprised of a Chair (usually the previous President), two current Board members, and two non-Board congregation members
    - Recommending Jeremy Rudin to be the Chair of the Nominating Committee (as past President)
    - Recommending Board members Gillian Koh and Olga Streltchenko to sit on the Committee
    - Recommending non-Board members Ilan Shapiro and Amichai Wise to sit on the Committee

<u>A motion was made by Arryn Mills and seconded by Sheldon Wiseman to appoint the proposed members to the Nominating Committee to serve until the next election for Board Members or Officers.</u>

<u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u>

5.2 Yom Kippur Mincha Discussion

Ralph Anzarouth

- The process undertaken to determine whether to use Leviticus 18 or 19 in the Mincha Yom Kippur torah service, was described. Leviticus 18 describes some taboos that can be and have been uncomfortably experienced by some members of the congregation.
- Both Leviticus 18 and 19 are included in our Machzor for this reason.
- Leviticus 19 represents ethical action, justice, love of our neighbours, communal healing, and re-entry into relationships.
- The decision of the group studying the question is to use Leviticus 19. It is grounded in the values of K’vod HaTorah and K’vod Habriot.
- After a few cycles, a review of this decision will be made, and if required, the question will be reviewed again.
- In the potential situation where Rabbi Rose disagrees with this decision, further learning and discussion will be required.
- This change will be implemented during the Pride celebration in June.

	A motion was made by Ralph Anzarouth and seconded by David Lyman to endorse the Ritual Committee's recommendation to adopt Leviticus 19 as the Torah reading for Yom Kippur Mincha beginning September 2026. All were in favour. The motion was carried.	
	5.3 Dairy Kitchen Renovations ● It has been recognized that the dairy kitchen requires a mini-makeover including: a new stove, freezer, sink, and either replacement of the wooden work tables or a stainless steel cladding for the current tables. ● There is a $320K fund set aside in the Lily and Max David Kitchen Fund to cover kitchen maintenance and refurbishment. ● A kitchen designer with commercial kitchen experience was asked to come to KBI to inspect the state of the kitchen and make suggestions. The report identified several suggestions, categorized as core requirements, upgrades and additions, consulting and optional elements. ● In order to action this proposal, the kitchen would be shut down for a week, and possibly longer if unexpected delays and surprises. If necessary, this could be done during a time of year with lower traffic, like the summer, to minimize disruption. ● To follow proper governance, two more proposals will be obtained before the project may proceed, but this proposal gives the Board an understanding of general expenses that will be needed to complete the project. The Board will receive regular status reports. ● To meet immediate needs, a 6-burner stove will be purchased prior to any formal decisions by the Executive Director on future renovation plans to accommodate larger upcoming events. ● Considering options to improve lighting and electrical outlet access while mitigating asbestos. ● A "Kitchen Shower and Brunch" is scheduled for May 24 which will include an Amazon gift registry of approximately fifty items to procure many required items for the kitchen. Required items not donated during this event will be purchased with funds from the Lily and Max David Kitchen Fund, up to the $75K limit identified in the motion below. A motion was made by Arryn Ketter-Mills and seconded by Tina Azarin to authorize the Executive Director to spend up to $75K from the Lily and Max David Fund, a fund designated for the maintenance and refurbishment of our kitchen, to pay for the dairy kitchen renovation improvements with regular updates to the Finance and Audit Committee, and the Board.	Yaron Starosta

	<u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u>	
	5.4 Withdrawal from Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation Account ● OJCF has noted that they now require a formal motion to be passed by the Board to withdraw any funds. ● Our annual budget contemplates the use of over $250K in income from the Endowment Fund (managed by the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation (OJCF)) to help fund operations. ● In an email exchange on April 15, 2026 the Board agreed to transfer $250K from the Endowment Fund to our operating bank account to cover ongoing operating expenses. ● The $600K for the construction bond is expected to be ready for May 4th, while the $250K for funds for the operating account is expected to be available on May 7th. NOTE: The Governance Committee Chair asked for a copy of the revised Agreement with the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation regarding the process to request the withdrawal of funds. <u>A motion was made by David Lyman and seconded by Jaimee Mitzmacher to transfer $250K in funds from the Endowment Fund to KBI's operating bank account.</u> <u>All were in favour. The motion was carried.</u>	Yaron Starosta
6.0 NEW BUSINESS		
	6.1 Other Issues ● 10-Year Celebration - A Board member has agreed to take the lead on organizing the 10th year anniversary celebration, and has put together a committee of four people. A possible date for the celebration in April 2026 is now being considered to give more time to plan and to allow the Rabbi time to transition and better appreciate the celebration. Due to the time of year and sundown in April, this will be a Sunday event. ● There will also be recognition of the actual amalgamation date, possibly a Shabbat service with a special Kiddush at the end of June, where all previous Presidents of the two shuls would be invited to attend and participate. ● Counting of the Omer	
	6.2 Parking Lot Items for Next Meeting ● Membership model & pricing ● Name tags	

7.0 Good and Welfare	
8.0 In Camera	
9.0 Adjournment	
	The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM. The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026; in person if possible with a Zoom option.