

**Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7PM**  
**Via ZOOM**

**I. Call to Order- 7:02**

**II. Text Study- 7:03**

- Blessing for text study
- Shared a video with music to prepare us for Yom Kippur (Leonard Cohen Sonny Rollins -*Who by Fire*)

**III. Attendance-7:14** D. Sieger, J. Sieger, J. Duckhorn, L. Stickley, R. Damanti, H. Buxbaum, A. Cohen, D. Bass, S. Lieberman, A. Lazorchak, A. Gordon, MC Lasko, J. Schneider, J. Anderson, Rabbi Gruber, guest: T. Brancato absent: C. Nail, F. Miller (late 8:24)

**IV. Acceptance of Minutes- 7:15** Accepted

- Jordan asked about them going out earlier (will work on this)
- After approved Lisa sends to Tom to post on website

**V. Rabbi's Report- 7:17**

- Things are moving along; article was published and got positive reviews
- Good comments after Rosh Hashanah services.
- Opening day for Hebrew school seemed to have gone well.
- Still working on ways to make connections with everyone to establish a better sense of community, but we are off to a good start.

**VI. President's Report- 7:19**

**Shabbat Services**

- *MaryCat assisting Lisa to create new SignUp Genius (still in progress)*
- Dan in the processes of having EC and BOT to take a role in participating in the various committees. That individual will report back to the board. (the committee chair will report to the EC/BOT member to share that information with the rest of the board. The EC/BOT member does not need to be at the committee meeting-they only need to reach out to the chair to get an update)
- Discussion about better communication between committee members and the board; an example was shared of a particular incident that prompted this suggestion.
- Committees need to speak up if they need help or assistance with something. Especially if they are new to the position.
- Reaching out to the community is going virtual/digital. Committee members need to know how to promote events through various media platforms (facebook, instagram, twitter, newspaper, etc)

**VII. Treasurer's Report - 7:45**

All good with PPE.

Moved 2K back into savings

**VIII. Vice President of Finances Report – 7:46**

- In good shape!

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**IX. Membership Updates- 7:46**

- Kinderman's only new family

**X. School Update- 7:48**

- First day went very well, started as 1 big group then everyone went into breakout rooms. Jo visited different classes, teachers used the new program.
- Found one snafu, classes choosing their Hebrew classes for Sundays-if they choose this but they need to have an alternative date as well.
- Looking at some 8th graders to help the teachers (madrichim)
- In lieu of children's program, Jo made activity boxes that families had to register for- In the box were several different activities for kids to do that revolved around the holidays.
- Jo created a Youtube channel where kids must first sign up to view the channel, and then can view different activities, members reading stories etc.

**XI. Old Business- 8:03**

- HH service went smoothly, kudos to Jodi, Tom and crew for their hard work!
- Suggestion to not read all of the names at YK like what was done at RH
- Compliments on the graphics during services.
- Rabbi looking for feedback on the length of services for HH~ Did the service run too long?
- Rabbi hopes that the community felt a sense of connection during the services.
- Slight hiccup with the blowing of the shofar; it was a technical issue only!
- Jordan complimented that our service was the only one where he saw a prayer book. He was also surprised that the Shofar was blown at RH services. And he commented that we were one of the only ones that did not use/show a Torah. Lastly he commented that it would have had more impact if the Rabbi and the Cantor would have been in the building together.
- Dan shared that in part the reason was that since we didn't know where we'd be by the end of September, and to keep it safest for everyone that services were done with Rabbi and Cantor would do their portions from their homes.
- Jordan commented that he and others were a little disappointed that the haftorah was not read in Hebrew. It was explained that nobody wanted to read the Hebrew, it was a time sensitive issue, and Rabbi added that almost nobody would understand the portion if read in Hebrew.
- Anne heard from several members (empty nesters) that they loved the RH services!

**XII. New Business- 8:27**

- **Returning to the UU?** Probably won't happen until next year (2021). It is cost saving.
- Amy has Hyatt's mitzvah coming up in October and does want it held at the UU.
- All agree that moving forward services should continue to be held virtually as well as in person.
- Rabbi shared some thoughts about using a projector or two as well as his laptop to make sure that everyone is included.

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**XIII. Good and Welfare-8:34**

**XIV. Adjournment- 8:42**