

JCCO BOARD MEETING

Report by Strategic Committee on Rabbinical Staffing

November 6, 2007

I. ACCOMPLISHED (in October)

- Committee formed and has conducted 7 working meetings
- Completed Charter & Action Plan (see attached document)
- Completed and Sent out a Letter to the Community as an introduction and preview of our plans (see attached document)
- Met with Rabbi Jay to get his perspectives and ideas; and had a follow-up meeting to communicate our draft plans and schedule
- Provided updates on our progress to Board liaisons David Uri & Marlis Beier
- David Multz met with the Rabbi and President of a small congregation in North Carolina to gather relevant information
- Scheduled our first Community Forum to take place on November 13th from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Shalom Bayit (information communicated in our Letter, as well as in a separate e-mail to the membership)
- Developed set of "Ground Rules" for our Community Forums to hopefully help keep these sessions focused on the topic & issues at hand; and to encourage respectful dialogue (see attached document)

II. PLANNED

November 2007

- Prepare and conduct first Community Forum (11/13) so that we can personally share the proposed process, and get questions and feedback on the approach
- Develop questions & topics:
 - For our contacts with other congregations
 - For our researching affiliation
 - For our dialogues with members
 - For our Survey (initial ideas)
- Start contacting other congregations
- Start gathering information on costs & affiliation
- Start discussions with members, gathering their inputs on Rabbinical staffing information

December 2007

- Prepare and conduct second Community Forum on Rabbinical needs and desires from the congregation
- Continue development and refinement of Survey questions and topics
- Complete contacting other congregations and evaluate the information received
- Complete the investigation on costs & affiliation and evaluate the information received
- Prepare and conduct third Community Forum for sharing information gathered from other congregations and on costs & affiliation; and to get feedback from the congregation
- Continue discussions with members

January 2008

- Prepare and conduct fourth Community Forum on the Survey to be presented to the membership
- Complete discussions with members
- Complete development of Survey
- Send out Survey to the membership and follow-up to get responses
- Start evaluating Survey responses
- Start developing assessments, options & recommendations

February 2008

- Prepare and conduct fifth Community Forum on preliminary Survey results
- Complete evaluation of Survey responses and develop assessments, options & recommendations
- Prepare preliminary Committee Report to the Board and conduct informal review
- Finalize Committee Report for formal presentation to the Board at March's meeting (3/4/08?)

III. ISSUES, CONCERNS, NOTES

- Committee is concerned that we will be able to establish the necessary trust from the congregation in order to have an open dialogue and information exchange on the subject of Rabbinical staffing
- Committee is concerned that we can accomplish all these tasks in the short time frame we have remaining