

Congregation Beth Shalom
Committee Reports
September 2021

Fundraising Report
Howard Sigal, Fundraising VP
• No written report

House Report
Ray Rokni, House VP
• **Preschool** - School officially opened this week after on-site inspection, school received 6 months conditional license.

Memorial plaques: Library memorial plaque is completely installed and populated. Thank you to Maria for overseeing this project. It truly adds a dignified display of CBS commitment to our families. A temporary Ner Tamid is displayed with plaques until a more permanent display is provided and installed.

Live streaming: Sound Planning has completed installation of the Sound and Video systems in CBS. We have been streaming with our new system for most of month of August. There have been several video interruptions which are primarily due to operator and learning of the new system. Plan is to be fully operational for high holiday streaming services. There will be operator on site managing the camera system for the high holiday.

Sump Pump: Following power outage on July 28th there has been several sump pumps alarms. It is determined that the backup sump pump needs to be replaced. We are waiting for 2nd quotation. The cost will be in ~\$3K range.

Seal Coating: Suburban Seal Coating \$8,835 is selected to complete this project. This was approved by the board in August meeting. They are scheduled for September 9th and 10th

New CBS Signage: Walters and front entrance – Sub-committee formed with Neil (Lead), Dan Sher, Howard and Bill - we do have a set of designs. In addition, we have selected several sign manufacturing companies. The sign companies complete the full project - from design, fabrication, and installation. Next step is to ask the sign companies for site visit to determine the proportion size of the sign and assess the location for quotation process. We will bring the proposals to the House and then to the board for approval. Considering the state of the foundation, it is not clear if we can install the new sign on existing foundation or they need to pour a new foundation. Due to the scope of the project, it is estimated that installation of new CBS sign will be in Spring of 2022.

Men's Club Torch award display - Men's Club is looking to install 9 plaques that have been awarded to Men's club over the past several years. House

Committee is reviewing all of the open wall areas with possible relocation of some of occupied areas in order to identify an appropriate place.

Commissioned Wooden Benches - Joshua Clarkweiss is a former CBS family member. He has contacted our clergy for designing and providing an art piece of a bench with Hebrew letter as a base. Cantor Stoher has requested review of this proposal with the House Committee. The Committee is looking to identify a location within the walls of CBS for these two benches. Possible locations discussed: in front of tree of life, within the memorial Plaque alcove, within the walls of the library.

CBS School Mitzvah project - Butterfly Garden – Lisa Orlov is planning to create a butterfly garden this fall within CBS outdoor area as part of the high school environment project. Jill Olefsky will provide guidance and her experience to this project.

Finance

Cheryl Braude, Howard Freidin, and Marjorie Maxwell

- No written report

Membership Report

Sue Lampert, Membership VP

- Happy to report the following membership numbers:

Member Households (as of 9/1/21): 1060

New Members in the past twelve months: 36

- Includes:
 - 23 joining this FY (since 7/1/21)
 - 14 with young children
 - 4 newly married
 - 5 re-joins

We look forward to engaging our new members and making them feel part of community.

New YACHAD Affinity Groups are continuing to be formed, once leaders/facilitators are identified for the many interests of our congregants.

Please let Lisa Orlov know if you, as lay leaders of CBS, are willing to facilitate conversation in a YACHAD group of an activity you enjoy.

Membership is working with Leann and Lisa on **Sukkot @ Home** (a fun and creative pandemic alternative to Sukkah Hop) on September 25, 2021 from 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom. Please spread the word – your participation is welcomed!

Programming Report

Randy Samborn, Programming VP

• **Sukkot @ Home** Join our community for Sukkot @ Home via Zoom from 7:15 to 8:30 pm on Saturday, September 25. Please register in advance to receive the Zoom login and tune-in from your sukkah or just outside, weather permitting. We'll have Havdalah and Kenny Lyonswright of Jewish Rock Radio will perform, along with contests, giveaways, and more.

Loan your sukkah If you have a sukkah you are not using this year and would like to loan it to a congregant who will use it this year, please contact Leann or Lisa.

CBS U/Adult Ed fall classes will begin in October. Classes we have so far for first semester are:

- Israel in Depth
- Talmud
- Parshat HaShavua
- Jewish News
- Yiddish

More classes and individual sessions are added frequently, so please check the CBS website and weekly emails often.

Distinguished Speaker Series We are actively seeking community partners to join us in condemning white supremacy and violent extremism by co-sponsoring a timely and compelling fall Distinguished Speaker event at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14. StandWithUs Midwest, Techny Towers Conference and Retreat Center, Bright Star Church Chicago, and St. James Church Chicago have already joined us and will co-promote a virtual conversation about the premier legal effort to hold accountable hate group leaders and organizations responsible for the 2017 violence in Charlottesville, Va. Amy Spitalnick, executive director of Integrity First for America, will detail the organization's efforts behind a lawsuit scheduled for trial in late October in Federal Court in Charlottesville. The plaintiffs are Charlottesville victims who were injured; the defendants are two dozen neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and hate groups responsible for planning and orchestrating the violence.

The Programming Committee met on Aug. 26 to begin planning future events.

Ritual Report

Bill Shulman, Ritual VP

- No written report

School Report

Robyn Rosengard, School VP

- The first weeks of Hebrew School have been going very well.
We are looking for online teachers.
Our enrollment is 186

Social Action Report

Suzy Hakimian, Social Action VP

- Jill Olefsky will be collecting "fall season" candies to be sent to the Illinois National Guard and Fill a Heart for kids. There will be a collection box in the foyer until November 14. See the shul bulletin for more information

October is once again a time to "Bless our Pets" a collection box will also be available for items need by local pet shelters, See the article in the bulletin for more details.

The ARK food collection is going on now and through Yom Kippur. Fill those bags with canned food and get them to CBS. We proudly collect more food each year than any other local organization! Something to be very proud of.

Paper bags! We all have them! Get them over to Jill Olefsky to be used by Vernon Township food collection. Feel free to add canned food to those bags as well.

The Mitzvah Committee is always hard at work, making calls, driving folks to appointments, shopping for food for the Northfield Food Pantry. Fern Roseman is always looking for more help both in donations and physical support.

Hunger Free Northbrook is looking for donations and help creating bags for the food insecure children of local Northbrook children. Please reach out to Leatte Gelfeld for more details

There is just so much always going on behind the scenes! Our standing committees are always caring for our community. See the Shul website for more.

Youth Report

Seth Shrunk, Youth VP

- No written report

Men's Club Report

Steve Lessman, Andrew Wagner Co-Presidents

- The CBS Men's Club had a busy month of September with our first Sunday Breakfast on September 19th which featured Dr. Steve Zaacks doing an excellent presentation on heart health. Our Steaks in the Sukkah Opening Dinner

on September 23rd was a great success, and we thank David Schuster for his commentary on our sports teams.

Our upcoming events include:

- Sunday, October 10th: Men's Club Breakfast featuring Dr. Gary Grad speaking on Israel's Role in Global Cancer Research.
- Saturday, October 16th: Combined Men's Club and Sisterhood social event: An evening of entertainment with music, interactive entertainment and dessert.
- Sunday October 24th: This year's first Israel In Depth program featuring Carl Schrag speaking on Beyond Lockdowns and Unrest: Is It Time to Travel to Israel Again? Breakfast will be included.

Our Board and Past Presidents were all placed on various committees to help with the day-to-day workings of our Club. We would like to thank our Men's Club Board for all their hard work in making our events successful.

Sisterhood Report

Jackie Zelkowitz, President

- Our Opening Luncheon will be on Wednesday, October 13th. We are very fortunate to have Susan Abrams, Chief Executive Officer of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center as our featured speaker. That weekend, Saturday, October 16th, Sisterhood and Men's Club have a wonderful joint program planned. The New Tradition Chorus will open the evening followed by a program of Interactive Game Show Trivia. On Wednesday, November 3rd, we will host Jewish Book Month Author, Fern Schumer Chapman, along with discussion facilitator, Judy Levin. All events will be offered in person and via Zoom.

Please save the date of Sunday, November 7th, for our Annual Holiday Boutique. We will be having lots of exciting vendors. It will be a great time for all of us to get our holiday gifts.