

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

**Date:** 7 Shevat 5786 | January 25, 2026

### Present

Alex Pomson, David Yammer, Mimi Kahn, Yehuda Elstein, Yossi Urbach, Moti Kehat, Yona Honel, Chava Sklair

### Agenda

1. Review of previous minutes and implementation status
2. Discussion with the Tzedaka Committee representative
3. Accessibility Project
4. Membership Directory
5. Other Business

### Discussions and Decisions

#### 1. Review of Previous Minutes

##### *Transition to a Single Bank Account*

Yehuda reported that he and Moti are still reviewing the new software following the transition to the new accountant. It appears that the software will enable a move to a single bank account.

##### *Takanon Tefila Committee*

Yossi reported that the matter has been delayed and that he intends to convene the committee as soon as possible.

##### *Assistant Gabbais on Weekdays*

(Second Shacharit minyan, Mincha and Maariv)

Alex reported that several congregants were approached and all agreed willingly.

Second Shacharit minyan: Moti Kehat, Chaim Shkalim

Mincha and Maariv: Yoel Cohen, Chaim Shkalim, Stephen Shaw

This arrangement appears to have had a positive effect, and the conduct of the services has improved. It was proposed to add Ben Lifshitz as an assistant gabbai for the Shacharit service.

#### **Decision:**

Moti will contact Ben Lifshitz and arrange keys for all additional assistant gabbais. Ben agreed.

## **2. Meeting with Rebeca Zarobnik – Tzekaka Committee Representative**

Rebeca reported that the current members of the Tzedaka Committee are Yehudit Rivlin, Yael Lehman, Yael Lehman, and Rebeca.

The Tzedaka Committee operates independently in its decision-making, and all decisions are kept confidential.

The committee provides one-time donations of up to ₪4,000 per individual (or, in some cases, once a year donations). In rare cases, this amount is exceeded. Payments are made directly to the service provider, not to the recipient.

On average, there are approximately five requests per month, with annual donations totaling about ₪200,000.

Funds come from donations by community members and guests to the Tzedaka fund, as well as from the pushke (charity boxes) in the synagogue and from the minyanim at the Frankfurter House and Derech Hevron, thanks to the assistance of Yossi Berdugo.

Most referrals currently come from welfare organizations, with a smaller number from community members. Menachem Zer Kavod is currently the sole liaison with welfare agencies, and it was noted that additional members should be recruited to liaise with other relevant organizations.

Half of the pushke funds are donated to a project managed by Zehava Taub, which provides food baskets to approximately fifteen families in need. Since two neighboring synagogues have begun transferring their pushke funds to our charity fund, increasing support for this project is being considered.

Alex thanked Rebeca for her work and suggested that the board review the information at the next meeting and consider offering future assistance.

## **3. Accessibility Project**

Chava reported on developments since the previous board meeting.

Discussions were held with Steven Drucker to obtain an additional cost estimate. Steven committed to providing another proposal.

Clarification was sought from Michael Gillis regarding municipal funding. A positive response was received: the budget remains available, though procedural steps and documentation must be resubmitted. Michael committed to handling this.

A meeting was held between Chava, Alex and Yehuda to review budgetary considerations and potential fundraising within the community for carrying out this project. Additional items must be clarified before a final decision.

A meeting of the Planning – Accessibility Committee was held, including Rebeka Zarobnik, Diane Rosenshein, David Yammer, and Chava Sklair. Design aspects were reviewed, and upgrade suggestions were forwarded to Steven Drucker for revised cost estimates.

**Decision:**

The matter will be revisited at the next meeting after additional information is gathered.

The target completion date for the project is by Rosh Hashanah, preferably one month earlier.

**4. Membership Directory**

The Rav requested that this matter be advanced. Due to time constraints, the discussion was postponed to the next meeting.

**5. Other Business**

Yehuda proposed issuing official minutes for the bank including the following decisions:

Authorization for the accountant to access the bank accounts for monitoring purposes only, without authority to perform transactions.

Authorization for signatories to convert foreign currency into shekels within the bank account. Such conversion may be performed by a single authorized signatory.

**Decision:**

The board approved issuing the minutes and the requested authorizations.

**Recorded by:**

Chava Sklair