

Temple Beth Zion Beth Israel Sisterhood

Planning Meeting NOTES

For Monday, November 4, 2024, 6:15pm - ZOOM ONLY:

<https://bzbi.org/event/sisterhood-monthly-planning-meeting-4/2024-11-04/>

- I. Welcome - Attendees: Sharri H., Jill F., Sharon W., Judy H., Bev C., Phyllis B., Sheila D., Rena F., Susan Z.
 - A. **Next meetings ON ZOOM only**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83617554985?pwd=TmtGcXpnZHZKMkZmRGRpWm52bjd0QT09> Passcode: BZBI
 1. **Monday, December 2, 6:15pm - Zoom Only**
 2. **Monday, January 13, 6:15pm, Zoom Only**
 - B. **BUY FROM GIFT SHOP**
 - C. **THANK YOU from Eileen, who broke her arm: Please express my heartfelt gratitude to our BZBI Sisterhood for the generous and thought[ful] gift card to Harper's Garden. I look forward to enjoying using it very soon ❤️ Eileen**
- II. Gift Shop Report - changing things over for Hanukkah; next Wed., Israeli vendors coming to synagogue - list in econg. Sanctuary and in Chapel from 2-7pm, Nov 13. We will try to purchase from them.
 - A. Having a table at preschool Hanukkah sale on Wed., Dec. 11, 6-9pm - we will have a table in Kahaner. Economics-pay \$50.
 - B. Wine Sales - we were down to 8 bottles and we ordered 5 cases to tie us over to the spring. Advertised when people register for first Friday Shabbat.
 1. First Friday Shabbat - more wine purchased
 2. Preschool Hanukkah Sip n' Shop - they will probably purchase what they need directly from the distributor.
 - C. Helpers: Seena, Judy T., Deena, Nina - Bev reached out to them and Seena helping this Wed.
 - D. Passover Candy - order update. Rachel L. on top of it.
- III. Tikkun Olam Report
 - A. Israeli Vendor Fair at BZBI from 2-7pm on Wednesday, Nov. 13.
 - B. Bethesda Project - the sock, hat, glove, scarf, new men's underwear, small size toiletries, and backpack drive for the Bethesda Project will be starting in early December. Is sisterhood willing to support some donations?
 - C. JRA - we would like to do this one Sunday a year. Upcoming JRA dates from their calendar that might work for us (Jan 19 is MLK, they are always very busy). SH has reached out to them.
 1. Sunday, Feb 9 (Purim items)
 2. Sunday, March 23 (Passover items)

- D. (ongoing) Sima Stitchers - 1 on 1 - Eileen happy to teach individually. Also a knitting group meets at Weitzman from 11am-2pm on Fridays to knit hat liners for IDF soldiers.
- E. (future) Period Product Packing through JRA - 4x per year; Eileen will find out dates, maybe we can go once (if they are still doing this and if not, to JRA). Packing during the week.

IV. Membership Report - new member Phyllis B.

*Reminder: someone does not need to be a member of BZBI to be a member of our sisterhood

- A. Database (note: need decisions by Jan. 8 , 2025 who is a member) - Sharon W.; shulcloud Leslee hasn't been entering, they are not there. New members - 17 members not in shul cloud. Sharon W. to follow up with Leslee.
 - B. New Member update - Judy H., new members of shul but no new sisterhood members in the last month; Jill making calls.
 - C. Birthday Greetings update
 - D. Committee Interest update - Susan Z.
- V. 2024-2025 Program Year (began July 1, 2024) - note that Julia is now also in charge of Programming at BZBI
- A. Fall Soiree - **Philly Jewish Film Festival movie "Bad Shabbos" on Saturday, November 16 @7:30pm, Weitzman, reception afterwards.**
 - 1. Buy your tickets - it is likely to sell out.
 - 2. Zelda Greenstein coordinated. RSVP here so she knows you are coming. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeBxFnGhXRaJat92GM_YbcR3HmMV6zbriCiSyJrpg6wnVqXgg/viewform
 - 3. We will meet in lobby - time tbd. Reception at Weitzman afterwards, so no separate drink and snack; we will meet at the reception to talk about the movie a bit
 - B. ECE Sip n' Shop on Wednesday, December 11, 6-9pm
 - 1. We can help spread the word.
 - 2. Bev is helping with a table to sell gift shop items.
 - 3. They asked to purchase wine. Will connect them with Bev.
 - C. Winter Soiree
 - 1. Possibly January event - Harriet Levin - Lone Soldier Event -online - Harriet is coming to Israeli event at BZBI.
 - 2. Ilana Trachtman's movie will be shown alone at the Weitzman Feb 2 or 3.
 - D. Spring Soiree
 - 1. JTS Trip - April 2025 update. Wed., April 23 (after Passover) or Thursday, May 7. Esta continues to work on trying to receive an answer from JTS.
 - E. Future/On Hold Programming Ideas
 - 1. Pickle-making class by Esta. Checking with Rabbi Abe since it was his idea.

2. Challah Cover or easy Judaica project - Penny Bernick - challah making cover or Judaica piece come with kids or some younger members might be interested (email Aug 14). Susan Z. said that Penny is an artist and she said we can do things at BZBI - we'll bring clay and make mezuzah. And focus on an evening or afternoon and have an event where it can be in our own home and she will teach us, fire it, and we can use it. A day-time pop up event possibly.
 3. Wandering Fighters Self Defense and Empowerment Class - didn't discuss rescheduling from cancellation in Spring 2024 (\$36) - Arielle reconnected. Interest? Not much.
 4. Bingo - last time, people seemed very interested, but a huge lift - was great 5-6 years ago. No license needed. Maybe tied in with Purim. Judy sent list of vendors from her daughter. This is on hold.
- VI. Treasurer's Report - Judy H.; rec'd checks shul owed us for dues and gift shop thru Sep. Checking \$4,643.79; Gift Shop \$4,3023.99; MM \$4,4065.12; CD \$10,139.28. Paid for the wine – over \$800 that is already included in the balance. Money from dues - \$15@ is sent to women's league.(note: next CD maturity date Jan. 12, 2025).
- VII. Board of Trustee or Executive Director Report
- A. Harvey F. interim ED is here M, T, W.
 - B. ED hiring progress - narrowed it down to 2 people
 - C. Rabbi's Abe contract will end in June 2025.
- VIII. Communications Report
- A. Julia will place us in the Thursday e-cong before each Monday Planning Meeting
 1. Missed this week's and now we have our own email list-Sharon W.
 - B. Need a liaison to manage
 - C. Newsletter to sisterhood-only members - have a rough draft to Julia - no additional progress
- IX. Torah Fund/Women's League Reports - Pins have come in already for benefactors. Theme is Am Yisrael Chai.
- A. TF Shabbat 2025 - Saturday, May 3, 2025 - explanation of what is Torah Fund. Women's League includes synagogues all over the world. Goes to scholarships at all the seminaries - 5 in the conservative movement. NY, LA, Jerusalem, Germany, Israel. Scholarships for students. Has refurbished the library at JTS. Other projects. Part of trip is to see what Women's League has funded.
 1. Trying for all female torah readers, aliyot, and lead musaf - it is a double parsha though.
 2. Speaker - Mark Hirsh - he might not be available May 3? - He had three dates. Once was the Shabbos of Mother's Day, not good. He is going to see if he can rearrange his schedule and come on May 3. Lead a discussion after kiddush. And also do something Sunday morning.

3. TF Letter will be sent out at the end of Nov. to all female BZBI members - last year over 400 letters and we raised over \$5k. This year our goal is \$4k - letter will go out end of next week bc Alesandra is going on a 2-week vacation so had her help send it out before her vacation.
4. Torah Fund Founder's Day - Sunday, November 17, 10:30am, Temple Sinai - This year there is a charge \$40 registration fee. Talk to Judy H. if you want to go. Flyer: [Torah Fund-Founder's Day 2024 flyer.pdf](#)

X. New Business

A. 2024 Survey results related to sisterhood - how do we move Satisfied to Very Satisfied and Neutral to Satisfied?

1. Strongly dissatisfied - 0%
2. Dissatisfied 4.03% (6)
3. Neutral 14.77% (22)
4. Satisfied 14.09% (21)
5. Very satisfied 8.72% (13)
6. N/A 58.39% (87)
7. Comments
 - a) Wish there were more Sisterhood activities
 - b) Not necessarily sisterhood but - As we soon have a functional kitchen, I would love to see real use of it, Cooking to have meals frozen to deliver for those sick, recovering from illness, or with a new baby. Cooking classes for certain holidays, Kiddush cooking/prep groups. I would also love to see Quizzo night return, and/or other social events such as that. (paint night at shul- pick a Chamsa or other Jewish design, or wine glasses at Passover, etc),

******NEXT EVENT - PHILLY JEWISH FILM FEST MOVIE "BAD SHABBOS" (COMEDY) (SATURDAY NIGHT, NOV 16, 7:30PM) RSVP [HERE](#) SO ZELDA KNOWS THAT YOU ARE COMING. ******

****Next Meetings****

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