

Minutes of Vaad Meeting

פרוטוקול ישיבת ועד

Amutah no. 580040012

Date: 7 September 2026

Meeting: Regular meeting of the Vaad, ahead of the Yamim Nora'im and Sukkot

Present: Ronnie Joss (Chairperson), Jonathan Hoffman, Dani Abell; Daniel Alweis joined during the meeting

Absent (with notice): Matt Brenner (Treasurer)

Quorum: 3 of 5 members present at the outset and 4 of 5 thereafter; quorum (3) satisfied throughout

The Vaad met in the days before Rosh Hashanah, with membership registration recently closed and seating arrangements in hand. Its attention was given principally to how the day-to-day work of the shul is to be organised during the present transition, to the preparations for the Yamim Nora'im and Simchat Torah, and to reaching those members who have not yet registered for the coming year. The decisions formally adopted are recorded first, followed by a summary of the matters the Vaad reviewed and the work now underway.

Decisions adopted

1. **Administrative responsibilities.** The Vaad resolved that the routine administrative functions of the shul be divided among its members on an interim basis, and that it is working on splitting up the areas of responsibility so that the work proceeds with clear ownership. A full list of functions is being prepared so that each may be assigned or, in due course, passed to the shul's administrator.
2. **Simchat Torah.** The Vaad resolved that the arrangements which served the kehilla well last year — each minyan holding its own hakafot and its own kiddush — be retained, and that in addition a shared element be planned in which both minyanim take part together. The form of this is being settled in consultation with those who lead the hakafot in each minyan, and will be announced in advance.
3. **Chatanim.** The Chairperson will consult the Gabbai Rashi regarding the Chatan Torah, Chatan Bereishit and Kol HaNe'arim for the main and hashkama minyanim; the Hashiveinu minyan is arranging its own.
4. **Membership registration.** The Vaad resolved that members of the Vaad personally contact those households which were members last year and have not yet registered, and that any member who submitted registration on an earlier version of the form be seated as requested. Members who are unsure whether their registration has been received are asked to be in touch with any member of the Vaad.
5. **Shul maintenance.** The purchase of additional 50 plastic chairs for the shul was approved to ensure there would be enough for the Yomeim Nerayim. The repairs to the shul's roof, resolved at the previous meeting, have been completed. The Vaad records its thanks to Menachem Sreter, who oversaw the work, for his assistance, and for his donation of selichot to the shul.

Matters reviewed and work now underway

Administration and continuity

Since the shul's administrator stepped back from the day-to-day running of the office, members of the Vaad have taken on a number of her functions between them so that the shul could continue to operate through its busiest season. The Vaad recorded that this has been an interim arrangement, and that it had agreed to consider the administrative role in full once the Chagim had passed. The Vaad records its appreciation to the administrator for the assistance she has continued to provide, and to the volunteers who produced this year's zmanim calendar.

Membership and the year ahead

Registration for the coming year has proceeded well, with many households, both longstanding and newer, having joined or renewed. A number of last year's members have not yet registered, and the Vaad has undertaken to reach each of them personally. The Vaad reviewed, in general terms, the requests

received from members for whom the fee presents difficulty. These have been handled in confidence by the Chairperson and the Treasurer and resolved in every case; the Vaad reaffirms that any member in this position is warmly invited to approach either of them, and that such conversations remain private.

Preparing for the Yamim Noraim and Sukkot

Seating for the Yamim Noraim has been arranged from the registration responses and the seating plan has gone to print. The Vaad reviewed the practical arrangements for Simchat Torah, including the kiddushim, staffing for the day, and the possibility of a shared moment between the two minyanim in the spirit of one kehilla. Members wishing to sponsor a kiddush over the chagim are invited to be in touch. The Vaad also discussed erecting a sukkah at the shul this year and is considering where it might be placed.

Reaching every member

The Vaad noted that some members are not receiving the shul's weekly announcements by email, and that the method currently used to send them is unreliable for a list of this size. A new arrangement is being put in place. In the meantime, any member who has not received the announcements, or whose contact details may have changed, is asked to let a member of the Vaad know. The Vaad is also arranging for administrative access to the shul's accounts and records to be held by more than one person, so that members' requests can be dealt with promptly.

Financial oversight

The appointment of the Vaad's bank signatories, resolved at the previous meeting, remains to be completed at the branch and will be attended to at the earliest opportunity, after which the Chairperson and Treasurer will review the shul's regular commitments and begin preparing the operating budget for the year.

Habayta

The Vaad held a preliminary meeting with Habayta, the organisation that funds and supports communities of those who have made aliyah, providing community, resources and support. The Hashiveinu minyan has been partially funded by Habayta for its programming over the past few years. With the Vaad now representing the whole kehilla of Mitzpe Ramot, the meeting addressed the future of that relationship; the Vaad will explore the matter further after Sukkot.

The Vaad thanks members for the promptness with which so many registered, and for the patience of the kehilla during a period of change, and wishes everyone a ketivah vachatimah tovah and a chag sameach.

Recorded for the Vaad and posted in accordance with the Takanon.