

Presidential Matters

by Steve Aronowitz



While all of us are anxiously awaiting court approval regarding the consolidation – and we expect a positive decision soon – the consolidation committee continues to plan for our future. Here's a brief look at some of issues we have addressed:

We have been interviewing candidates for office manager. Several outstanding individuals have expressed interest in being part of our team. We will be meeting finalists on Monday, June 17th. The committee determined that an architect and contractor would be necessary for us to make wise decisions concerning construction, including removal of the stage, placement of plaques from both Oakland and Little Neck's lobby at the rear of the ballroom, and the renovation of the lobby. We will interview at least three architects and three contractors, providing reports to the Board of Trustees for its ultimate approval. We will commence work as soon as possible, but given the uncertainty of when the judge will finally grant official approval, the myriad of B'nai Mitzvahs next year and the needs of the public school tenant, realistically this may not occur until next summer. We requested submissions of logos for Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, receiving one design. Now is the opportunity to add your artwork by submitting your design to the temple office. We interviewed companies and received renditions of signage for the front of our building. We will continue to seek samples, bringing our findings to the Board.

The co-presidents have joined the Northeast Queens Temple Presidents' group, discussing with our counterparts strategies to strengthen the Jewish community in the area. The kick-off event is a Shabbat BBQ at Lake Success Jewish Center on Friday, June 14th. Details are in this newsletter. An RSVP is necessary as food needs to be ordered. Aware of demographics resulting in declining enrollment, our school leaders have looked to other synagogues, hoping to bring resources together, with the goal of furthering our religious education program. We are addressing two expiring contracts; first, the Cantor, and secondly, the religious school director. Both contracts will expire within the next few months. The contract with the Cantor requires approval of the general membership; the school director's contract must be approved by the Board of Trustees. We will be installing new windows throughout the building, lowering our heating bills significantly. This project will be completed during the summer 2013.

We share your excitement, anticipating the official approval of the consolidation. We will notify all members once a court decision has been reached; hopefully, we will be speaking soon!