

Presidential Matters



“Summertime and the livin’ is easy” ... opens the famous “Summertime,” song composed by George Gershwin. It stands to reason that those lyrics aptly fit a July edition of our Temple Talk newsletter.

Relaxation and staying cool may be the best descriptors for all of us, but I thought that while you’re staying inside, I would share some of the doings’ at your synagogue.

In the next week, you will be receiving detailed information about the progress of consolidation and sale of building discussions. The committee continues to be in communication with potential partners. Please understand this process takes time

A new board and slate of officers will be presented to the trustees within the next few weeks. A Nominating Committee is just about ready to meet, led by Debbie Sosman.

The Rabbi's current contract will be expiring and the Negotiations Committee has been formed and will be convening a meeting with Rabbi Yaffe within the next two weeks.

Of particular note, the Calendar Committee, under the able direction of member, Dawn Singer, met on June 24 and maybe, projecting cooler weather, put out plans for upcoming events:

As usual, Debbie Sosman, president of Sisterhood, has put out an ambitious calendar that includes a Challah Bake, Pizza in the Sukkah, a Film Presentation, "Jews in Hollywood", a Joint Comedy Night, co-sponsoring with other synagogues on August 7th and a Sisterhood Women’s Seder. Certainly, I want to include the efforts of Men’s Club president, Ron Ullmann. He and his crew handled the chef work for a great barbecue just one week ago.

You read all of this and you wonder, why are we even considering a consolidation. I’m no different. But as Bob Dylan wrote, “...the times they are a-changin’.

We know change isn’t necessarily a bad thing. For over 70 years, our synagogue has been a place where people feel at home. Wherever we are, that shouldn’t change and that is, as always, up to us. Consider how so many members of Oakland embraced and were embraced at Little Neck. Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center is the home for so many. The faces may change a bit – some move away - but the heart of our community MUST stay strong – familiar and welcoming.

Wishing you a joyful and relaxing summer.