

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING 2019-2020

September 25, 2019

BUSINESS:

1. Annual Food Drive during High Holidays benefitting Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry - Susan Weill and Joyce Greenhaus--Need people to volunteer at pantry

Food Drive also benefits the Community Center of Northern Westchester

1A. Community Center of Northern Westchester-

A. New liaisons Barry Kopleff and Dena Lampert - always can volunteer there as well

2. HURRICANE Dorian - Gary Cohn

A. Tzedakah Box Collections, Rosh Hashonah through Yom Kippur

B. Actions by TST until now

C. Actions going forward

3. Emergency Shelter Partnership or ESP- liaison for this is Enid Linden and the week we host the homeless (Nov.4-10) is run by Enid Linden and Rebecca Roban

Sparkle for A Cause at Crabtree Kittle House October 23. Richard to detail.

TST week is November 4th, reply to Enid Linden or Rebecca Roban

4. AFYA, the organization that rescues unused medical products destined for the trash and sends them to areas of need in the world and disaster areas such as the locations of recent hurricanes.

GUEST SPEAKER - Danielle Butin Founder of AFYA--afyafoundation.org

A. Need a new liaison.

B. Brainstorm this initiative to get more volunteers to go.

5. Puerto Rico wrap up Gary Cohn

6. Mitzvah Day ...November 24th - Wendi Silverman and Stacey Simensky our MD Champions

8. Passover Seder for Persons with Disabilities in conjunction with WJCS, April 2020- Stacy Topalian/Stacey Simensky

9. A-Home - Liaison is Jim Evans

10. Thanksgiving Meals- Gary Cohn - 2800 last year

A. Need to identify more institutions to help or individual families in need.

B. More donors and volunteering is open to the community

C. Need new people to be Floor operations leaders to be intermediaries between Gary/Rich and all the volunteers

D. Need a morning crew to help set up early due to my decaying body.

11. Christmas Meals- Richard - 1400 last year

A. Need to identify more institutions to help or individual families in need.

B. Need people to be floor operations leaders like Thanksgiving.

C. Need a morning crew to help set up early due to my decaying body.

12. St. Bartholomew's Soup Kitchen Richard

- A. Sunday Dinner - Need to continue in memory of Stu Finkelstein, had two successful meals this past year
- B. Coat Drive - they always need winter coats

13. Shul Stitchers- Karen Newman

- A. Dates for Knitting Sessions
 - 1. JCCMW, October 7th, Nov. 4th, Dec. 2nd ALL at 10:30AM
 - 2. TST Shul Stitchers - October 14th, Nov. 11th, Dec. 9th ALL at 10:30
 - 3. Greenburgh Hebrew Center Shul Stitchers- Oct 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19 All @ 1:00PM
 - 4. Mt Kisco Shul Stitchers (UJA ENGage Offices) - Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16 All @1:00PM
 - 5. Shul Stitchers meets on the second Monday of the month, at 10:30, in the Bridal Suite. One does not have to attend the monthly meeting to participate. Knit/Crochet at home and drop items off at the Main Office.

14. New Initiative - Donating old computers, laptops, tablets, etc. to those who have no technology (3rd world countries) - Dan Taplitz to speak and will be the point person/receiver/distributor of the old technology for this initiative.

15. Temple Community Garden - Co-Chairs - Sharon Reiner & Andy Cheung vegetable tzedakah given to local food pantries as well as parcels for congregants' enjoyment.

16. Religious School Activities tie in - Jessica Herrmann Director of Youth Engagement and Experiential Learning

17. Dorot- Rose Colonna - visitations to the elderly in Northern Westchester, Holiday package delivery, identify elders who need visitation and socialization, identify those who are willing to visit.

18. Temple Beautification - past and future activities, Liaison to be Danny Siegel

19. Group Home, Ossining, NY Landscape work at first private group home in NYS, in Ossining - past and future actions. Richard Leroy

20. Other activities

- A. Midnight Runs, New Director of Youth Engagement & Experiential Learning - Jessica Herrman and Gary Cohn
- B. Brotherhood Blood Drive - Jack Zitomer
- C. Sisterhood breast cancer awareness walk - Jill Seraita
- D. Caring Community - Harriet Zeller and Karen Sabath
- E. Interfaith Mission to The DR in conjunction with Bridges to Community Previously led by Rabbi Jason, Gary Cohn, our Director of Youth Engagement and Experiential Learning (newly appointed Jessica Herrman) and others

21. ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

- A. Beautifying the ECC/Religious School playground
- B. Donations to Social Action Fund
- C. Create an initiative and find a point person for work at the southern border of the USA
- C. Need someone to be point person for Rosh Hashanah evening for Developmentally Disabled the most minimal time commitment there is, one evening per year!!!
- E. WE WELCOME NEW IDEAS, ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES....

We have identified several needs for Social Action at TST above and beyond that which we are already doing and staffed for:

- A. Point person to lead efforts around the issue of immigrants and immigration at the border of USA and Mexico**
- B. Point person for Rosh Hashanah meal for persons with disabilities to work with WJCS, extremely minimal time commitment, really a snack rather than a meal after a Rosh Hashonah service led by the Rabbi. Preparation for one day once a year.**
- C. Need liaison for Emergency Shelter Partnership . Helpful for the ESP co-chair to be able to go to inrequent meetings in the mornings, very infrequent.**
- D. AFYA - Need Point person to create regular visits to rally volunteers to help sort and pack medical supplies for disaster areas. TST goes to HQ in Yonkers one time per month on a Sunday morning though other times may be possible. One congregant working on this already. AFYA is in Yonkers.**
- E. NEED MORE PEOPLE TO STEP FORWARD IN GENERAL. CAN ALWAYS USE PEOPLE TO HELP WITH TEMPLE GARDEN, THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS MEALS, ROSH HASHANAH, DOROT, BLOOD DRIVE, Temple Beautification, Shul Stitchers AND POINTS A,B,C,D ABOVE.**

