

## **AGM NEW PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

### **MARLA FRANK-DAVIS**

Good evening, my name is Marla Frank-Davis and for the last two years I have worked closely with an amazing group of people under the leadership of Mark Levine.

We have worked together as a team tirelessly behind the scenes to bring about changes and solve many issues that have impacted our building, our cemetery, bookkeeping and administration, all while navigating a pandemic and the challenges that it has brought.

Our amazing board and working groups have continued to work hard via email, zoom and telephone and have done an exceptional job. All have worked closely with our clergy to create a cohesive, welcoming, and inclusive atmosphere of connection despite these difficult times.

I would like to thank Haim Goldstein, Yves Apel and Josh Roshwerg for all their hard work over these past two years. As they step down from the board, we look forward to continued connection through their participation in working groups and task forces.

As the newly elected board and it's working groups move into the next term, we look forward to, God willing, continuing to ramp up the opportunity for in-person services and community events. The isolation of the pandemic has taken a toll on many, and we are very grateful for the efforts of Rabbi Cohen, Cantor Baruch and our Director of Religious Education, Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison, who have continued to create thoughtful opportunities for worship and programming.

I am thrilled that the majority of the board is continuing, and I can honestly say it is a privilege to be able to again work with such an incredibly dedicated and talented group.

Gillian Burman, Ginny Levine, and Liora Malka are exceptional women who I have come to appreciate and respect so much.

Bill Shugar has brought his analytical and thoughtful approach to the Board, and will continue to do so as Secretary, while spicing it up with his fabulous sense of humour !

I welcome back Joshua Kaufman who is passionate and innovative, and I look forward to working with Sue Passow, Ettan Romm and Aaron Walsh, all of whom add a fresh perspective and new energy.

As Mark mentioned, there has been a lot of amazing work done and I cannot thank him enough for his tireless energy, focus, and the incredible wealth of experience that he has brought to our community. Mark is incredibly high spirited and passionate, and we have been fortunate that he has brought his determination, hard work ethic, and expertise to bear in helping us streamline and reinvent many of the bureaucratic and administrative processes of this organization. I look forward to his continued support as I try to fill some very large shoes, both literally and figuratively.

I am grateful that Mark has agreed to continue to mentor me as president, and to that end I would like to talk a little bit about the goals and objectives for the next few years.

The first goal, and something near and dear to my heart, is succession planning. Not since my days being mentored by Steven Demby has there been a plan in place to encourage both veteran and new members of our community to take up the mantle of leadership so that we can flourish for another 170 years. To that end, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Ginny Levine, and the members of this board will strive to create a program of leadership development and succession planning.

There is, of course, our ongoing work with the different task forces and working groups, including but not limited to Cemetery, Human Relations, Kehila and Bikkur Cholim, Social Action, and, of course, our Finance working groups.

We will be re-establishing our Rabbinic Liaison Group, and Ritual working Group

Mark has outlined the situation which we will find ourselves in over the next 5 to 10 years. We will need to find strategies to offset these challenges and mitigate these burdens for future Temple generations.

The ShulCloud Task force, under Bill Shugar, has begun to stream-line the way we use ShulCloud and will continue to bring about changes that will allow this program to be used to its full potential for both members and staff....Bill no pressure...

I am very excited about the challenge of bringing the Beth Jacob community and the Temple Anshe Sholom community together. The task force that has been created to facilitate communication and meaningful dialogue with Beth Jacob, with the assistance of an experienced facilitator, will, I'm certain, start us on a straight and steady path toward uniting our Jewish communities. Through cohabitation and continued development through the sharing of resources and common interests, we will assure a bright future for our two communities and for the next generation.

Member participation, now more than ever, is crucial !  
There are many opportunities to get involved on any of the working groups, please consider getting involved and lending your input, time and expertise to help make TAS great for our community.  
I look forward to working together over the next two years to help create the best possible Anshe Sholom. Thank you.

*Moadim L'simcha.*