

30A Mensch Club Meeting June 9, 2025

Meeting was held at the Chanticleer Eatery with the following members in attendance: Lon Goodman, Bill Ashkinazi, Fernando Arce, Jeff Margaretten, Matt Kunin, Jeremy Bedzow, John Lebowitz, Blake Brooks, Jacob Clark, Steve Clark and Steve Dwyer.

An update was provided indicating that there were six new members to the Club bringing the total to 27. A discussion ensued regarding membership in the Club for nonmembers of the Shul and it was confirmed that the Club's Constitution provides that individuals may join the Club without the requirement of joining the Shul. It was also noted that non-Jews were welcome to join the club. However, non-Shul members are not eligible to be either directors or officers of the Mensch Club.

The discussion then turned to a debrief on the recent golf tournament. Lon noted that there were 24 total players and that he believed that the tournament raised approximately \$6,000. However, as Jeff Kunin is out of town, we will need to wait for his return in order to confirm the exact amount raised. Lon provided information on our partner charity for the tournament, Caring and Sharing, for the new members. The next topic was how to divide up the funds. It was noted that after all expenses and a donation to Caring and Sharing, the remaining funds would be split 75 percent to the Shul and 25 percent to the Club. With respect to the donation to Caring and Sharing, Lon noted that they did not bring any golfers or sponsors to the tournament but did procure auction items. It was also noted that the Director and her husband attended the tournament and assisted in checking in golfers and assisted throughout the day.

A variety of suggestions were made with respect to how to divide up the funds, ranging from percentages to each entity as well as a specific donation to Caring and Sharing with the balance divided between the Shul and the Club. Jeremy suggested that the donation to Caring and Sharing should be a multiple of Chai given that we are a Jewish organization. Suggestions ranged from 100 to 200 Chai. With the final number of funds raised still uncertain, no final conclusion as to how to distribute the funds was agreed upon.

Bill informed everyone of the upcoming bowling event in conjunction with the Sisterhood that is scheduled for July 12 at Uncle Buck's at Destin Common. Other possible events discussed included a poker night, potential speakers and a Jewish film series. It was agreed that Bill would reach out to Sowel House to reserve the venue once a quarter for a Jewish film series.

Lon indicated that officer elections need to take place as they are already overdue pursuant to the By-Laws. While it was not discussed at the meeting, the By-Laws also call for the election of three Directors, with the Board of Directors for the Club consisting of those three Directors and the four Officers of the Club as the voting members. All Directors and Officers must be members in good standing of both Sea Shul and the Mensch Club and serve for one year terms. Jeff raised the issue that it might make sense to stagger the terms of Officers and Directors in order to create some continuity as opposed to the potential for complete turnover in any given year. There appeared to be some consensus that this would be a good idea, though it appears that the By-Laws would need to be amended to do so.

Jeremy suggested that the Mensch Club should take the initiative to provide gifts on behalf of the Schul to bar and bat mitvah such as a prayer book or a mezuzah. This could be done in partnership with the Sisterhood. He also volunteered to organize a Minyan Club of volunteers to sit shiva with families in the greater Jewish community that have lost a loved one.

There was no treasurer's report due to Jeff being out of town. The previous meetings minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting as adjourned.