

EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT - DECEMBER 2022

As we close out 2022, I will attempt to recap some of the House Committee projects, some completed and some which are ongoing.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

In late 2021, NAA, through the Town of West Hartford and State of CT, approved funding for repairs to the high efficiency boilers and (low efficiency) heating system. With the donations received from Avangrid (parent company of CT Natural Gas) and from Keystone Leasing, we were able to make these repairs, just in time for our new tenant.

With the FEMA 2021 funding approval, which actually came in 2022, we have replaced all the exterior lighting and installed an emergency PA system, which is now integrated with our office phone system. As designed, every room in the building can be quickly notified from any synagogue office phone in the event of an emergency. Due to John Colangelo's expert security guidance, we have been able to reduce our training costs, and are in the process of reapportioning these funds towards replacing our outdated access/intercom/non-visual system. This work should be complete in 2023.

Among other projects we have successfully completed, are our first full year under solar power (very successful - thanks Tom).

Replacement of the Auditorium badly rusted-out water cooled evaporator with a new, state of the art, more economical unit.

Replacement of 22 skylight domes in the sanctuary.

Replacement HVAC units for the Sanctuary and Koret Hall are on order.

Air conditioning of our school building with the help of the Children's Museum through the installation of 16 highly efficient heat pumps.

Purchase of a new storage building (thanks Tom).

Replacement of the driveway entrance and exit signage.

Installation of a heat pump H/AC unit in our kitchen, with the help of the Minyanaires and Rick Lasker.

The school building is completely occupied, with the Museum occupying the lower level and now open to the public. There are additional repairs required to the existing pneumatic control system and thermostats after the building was vacant for two years, and they are being performed as part of synagogue responsibility.

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

NAA We have received approval for \$10,000 to be used towards installing more efficient air conditioning in the Sanctuary and Koret Hall. Announced donor is Keystone Leasing.

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FEMA 2022 AWARD - We have been awarded \$150,000 to be used for security improvements. Tom Mastronarde is heading the project, which includes a cell phone service extender for the entire building, video camera replacement and exterior security improvements for the Meeting/Playground Area near the school.

PROJECTS:

ELECTRONIC YARZEIT DISPLAY IN SANCTUARY AND CHAPEL - On Order. Don Miller is coordinating purchase for the Ritual Committee, and the House Committee will coordinate installation.

SANCTUARY AND KORET HALL Replace Rooftop HVAC Systems for Sanctuary and Koret Hall. Equipment is on order, and delivery and installation is expected for Spring of 2023.

MEETING/PLAYGROUND AREA - Plans are being formulated to create an outdoor Recreation/Gathering area near the existing playground. Reesa has formed a committee to develop the scope and costs, and is interviewing landscape architects and designers for budgeting purposes. Tom is obtaining quotes for submittal to FEMA for the security improvements which will be needed to secure the area. Possible fund raiser by selling engraved paving bricks for the walkway or patio. While this is not a House Committee project, we will assist Reesa and Tom in whatever way we can.

SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN SCHOOL BUILDING AND SYNAGOGUE - Additional locks and security devices have been completed in the school wing, designed to keep the Day Care and Museum visitors from entering the synagogue proper. Cost has been added into the lease payments.

Thanks to Joseph, Juan, and Derek for their hard work throughout the year.

Thanks to Kobi, Joseph, Rick, Tom and Alan for your project management skills. We welcome additional assistance and expertise on any House Committee project.

Thanks to Joyce Hyde and Adobe for managing the grant proposal process, and for using her computer skills to fill in the many, many blanks.

Happy Holidays to All.

Howard Smith, Chair

Emanuel House Committee