

# Emanuel Synagogue Security Committee

## Status Report – 13 Feb 2022

### Background

The security committee was tasked to review a security assessment report (Threats, Vulnerabilities, Risk Assessment) issued by SCN (Secure Community Network). The assessment was conducted on Oct. 19, 2021, by John Colangelo (Community Security Director for Jewish Greater Hartford). This report identified 59 security vulnerabilities, which have been consolidated into twenty (20) issues, many of which are common issues that exist in multiple areas (example: inadequate security camera coverage, inadequate exterior lighting, etc).

The security committee is currently working on defining the feasibility and cost of addressing ten (10) high priority issues, with the remaining ten (10) issues to be resolved in a second round.

Some examples of High Priority issues:

- uncontrolled access to parking lot
- close proximity of vehicle parking to building façade
- lack of barriers to prevent impact of vehicles to school children or to groups gathered for outdoor events held in the parking lot
- insufficient locks for “safe spaces”

Meetings are held by Zoom hosted by Kobi Benita every two weeks, with 12 to 14 participants at each meeting.

### Meeting, Jan 12, 2022

The committee reviewed a list of 59 vulnerabilities identified in the SCN report, consolidated into 20 common issues. Actions to investigate were assigned for a number of issues.

### Meeting, Jan 26, 2022

The committee reviewed solutions for 10 high priority issues, with an extensive discussion on perimeter security. Action items from the meeting included the need to prepare estimates of feasibility, cost, and time frame for various options to address improved security of the parking lot and the building.

### Meeting, Feb 10, 2022

The committee reviewed illustrations and costs estimates for various perimeter security and/or parking lot security solutions. Consensus recommendations of specific solutions to be proposed to the Board for perimeter security are being deferred until all other issues have been disposed of.

As planned, the committee reached consensus on which projects should be included in the expected upcoming application for the 2022 FEMA grant program, recognizing that implementation of any security changes funded by a 2022 FEMA grant will not take place until the second quarter of 2023. Currently, the two projects selected for the FEMA grant application are: (1) upgrade of the security camera system and (2) replacement of the main entrance doors from the parking lot entrance.

Of the 10 priority issues, 4 issues are open for further investigation, 4 issues have been closed, and the remainder are issues related to decisions on perimeter security.

## **Topics for Upcoming Security Committee Meetings**

### Meeting, Feb 24, 2022

The committee will discuss the 10 secondary priority issues and determine actions required to evaluate solutions.

### (First) March Meeting (date TBD):

The security committee will reach consensus on a path forward for the 10 secondary priority issues, including those projects to be included in the application for the 2022 FEMA grant program, if any.

### (Second) March Meeting (date TBD):

The security committee will review and discuss a draft report to be delivered to the Executive Committee covering recommendations for implementation of necessary security upgrades, including those identified for application for a FEMA grant.

### (April/May) Time Frame (date TBD)

The security committee will review and incorporate comments from the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees so that a final report on the SCN Security Assessment can be prepared as a record document.

## SECURITY COMMITTEE 2022

Alan Goodman  
David Epstein  
Elysa Graber-Lipperman  
Gary Mendal  
Hilda Slivka  
Joel Kent  
Ken Simon  
Kirk Hipps  
Kobi Benita  
Rick Lasker  
Stuart Mahler  
Thomas Mastronarde  
John Pitigoff  
Howard Smith  
Marshall Soltz  
Mark Jacobson