

SACRED SPACE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

Dear Kolomites,

In just two days we will enter our new space for the first time together to say the *Shehechianu* – a blessing of appreciation for having reached this day. I want you to know that we will be entering the space still under construction and not as it will appear in its final beauty. Many elements are not yet finished. Please be patient and know that it will all come together in the next few weeks. Until then, we can appreciate the evolution together. Looking forward to Erev Shabbat with you.

Anita Small

Chair, Sacred Space Committee

June 30 ,2011

SACRED SPACE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear Kolomites!

First I wish to thank all of the great packers and movers of Kol Ami! Without you, we would not have been ready for this week's demolition!!!!

It is an incredibly exciting time for all of us! Summer is finally upon us, construction has begun full force and we will soon see our new home! Here is a link to some photos taken by Barry Bernstein at his site visit this week: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/62659967@N07/> . We will try to send you photo updates through the summer so you can follow the progress of our space. Below is a summary of the construction schedule for your interest:

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

Mon 6/13/11 - Mon 9/6/11

Classroom and Art Room

4.6 wks

Mon 6/13/11 - Wed 7/13/11

Foyer and Classroom

7.0 wks

Mon 6/27/11 - Fri Aug 12/11

Sanctuary

10.2 wks

Mon 6/27/11 - Mon 9/5/11

Gym	8.4 wks	Mon 6/27/11 - Tues 8/23/11
Pantry	3.2 wks	Fri 7/8/11 - Fri 7/29/11
Multipurpose Room & Offices	7.4 wks	Fri 7/18/11 - Mon 8/29/11
Youth Room	3.6 wks	Thurs. 7/14/11 - Mon 8/8/11
Final For Art Rm/Preschool//Foyer/Classrm	0.6 wks	Wed 8/24/11 - Fri 8/26/11
Final for Sanctuary/Gym/Pantry	0.2 wks	Tues 8/23/11 - Mon 9/5/11
Post Construction Commissioning/Deficiencies/Project Close Out Documents	5.0 wks	Tues 9/6/11 – Mon 10/10/11

I also wish to update you on our chair quest!

At Friday night's service and at our AGM there was resounding preference for one sanctuary chair that was deemed to be the most comfortable. It was not as high, had a comfortable large seat, light rounded wooden arms and space to put a shelf underneath. We thought our search had come to a close but discovered that the sanctuary chairs must absolutely stack a few high to serve Leo Baeck's needs as well as ours at Kol Ami. The chair we had found does not do this. However, the good news is that we have found a chair that is comfortable like the one the community preferred, has a similar look but is a bit nicer! It also has the light wood finish on the back, rounded wooden arms and will be fully padded. We will likely order a darker fabric to withstand the test of time.

We will continue to update you in the Weekly Voice. Thanks everyone for your chairs feedback as it has helped direct our search!

Anita

Chair,

Sacred Space Committee

MAY 19, 2011

We are now moving into the next phase of development! All tenders for materials that needed a long lag time for arrival have been ordered. On May 23rd the entire tender package will be signed off for remaining materials and labour. We begin planning the packing and moving phase in preparation for construction and will soon appeal to the community for help! Keep your eyes peeled for requests to help during the first two weeks of June!

The construction schedule is as follows:

Classroom construction begins June 13th and finishes August 19th. Saturday June 18th will begin after 3 pm

Construction in all other areas begins June 27th until September 2nd.

After we have moved back in, any “deficiencies” will be attended to after hours and on weekends at times that do not interfere with school and temple activities. Friday evenings and Saturdays construction (if needed) will begin after onegs.

There will be a follow up communication with more details regarding the move and construction in the near future.

We are refining the Judaic design elements in the sanctuary on the windows and ark as well as the prismatic effect from the lightwell and the design of the ner tamid.

This week we host a “COMMUNITY GOLDBLOCKS EVENT” as we wish to SELECT CHAIRS that are JUST RIGHT for as many people as possible.

NOW IS THE TIME TO GIVE YOUR INPUT ON THE CHAIRS!

Criteria for chair selection:

1. A comfortable chair to as many people as possible.
2. A nice looking chair to go with the design of the sanctuary.
3. A chair that is stackable and can fit in our storage room beside the multipurpose room.
4. Sized to fit the number of people we require in the sanctuary.
5. The first 130 chairs in the sanctuary near the bimah will have space to store prayer books and chumashim/ Torah commentary and may have arm rests.
6. The remaining chairs will not have place for book rest or arm rests but will have the same basic design as the first 130 chairs so everyone feels part of the same congregational space.

THE COMMUNITY “GOLDBLOCKS EVENT” IS SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

Tuesday, May 24 6:30pm - 7:30 pm - Anita Small and Norm Rosenblum's home - 77 Brookshire Circle, Thornhill, ON

Thursday, May 26 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - TKA office

Monday, May 30 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - TKA office

PLEASE COME SEE HOW THE CHAIR FINALISTS FEEL TO YOU AND GIVE US YOUR INPUT!

Looking for future comfort,

Your chair (pardon the pun)

Sacred Space Committee,

Anita Small

asmall@mac.com

905-886-9773

Sacred Space Committee Update

APRIL 13, 2011

In my last update I stated that we were deciding on materials so that Dalton Construction Managers could prepare the tender package by March 18th. Committee members met over the March break to review designs and finalize materials selection. This was to allow us to approve the material tenders three weeks later on April 11th. This has been done on time! We have signed off on the wood for the millwork (and there is much of it) as well as the wood floor. We are on schedule for material arrivals in time for construction! The lobby will have a tile that is safe for the school children and beautiful for us. It looks like Jerusalem stone.

In keeping with our community vision document, we have finalized coat closets for the lobby, bookcases for prayer books, and a counter for weekly handouts (with a chest for kipot).

We are now working on Judaic designs for the narrow windows that flank the main doors to the sanctuary as well as artistic ark handles and Ner Tamid. The committee has decided on Judaic symbolic designs combined with Hebrew calligraphy in significant phrases that reflect our values and identity as a community. The windows are being designed with stylized Hebrew calligraphy wafting into the heavens. We selected the Hebrew phrases with our new Rabbi Micah Streiffer.

1. הרות רוא

(THE TORAH IS OUR LIGHT –ark handles)

2. וריש הל' ריש שדח

(SING OUT TO G-D A NEW SONG –windows to the entrance of the sanctuary from the lobby)

3. קדצ קדצ פדרת

(JUSTICE JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE –windows to the entrance of the sanctuary from the multipurpose room/ chapel)

The three phrases taken together represent the three pillars of Judaism:

1. Torah (study)
2. Avodah (prayer)
3. G'milut chasadim (caring for others/ doing justice)

The 2nd phrase also reflects our love of “song” as a community (whether with the choir, the cantor, instrumentation or interpreted signs)

4. שרופה תכוס מולש ונילע

SPREAD OVER US A CANOPY OF PEACE – above the counter with handouts and kipot to the left of the sanctuary doorway. It is representative of peace as well as community.

5. מלכ דגנכ הרות דומלת.

AND THE STUDY OF TORAH IS EQUAL TO THEM ALL – lobby entrance to the school and temple. This reflects a key value of Leo Baeck as well as of our TKA community.

We are also designing a memorial plaque out of glass. The board has just approved it this week and so we are making space for it inside the sanctuary. It will be subtle, but in a place of respect with room to grow as needed by our Temple community.

We have been coordinating with Leo Baeck and are beginning to plan for packing and moving – more details to follow. This is really happening folks!

We will continue to post updates in the Weekly Voice so you can follow our progress.

Please do contact me or any member of the Sacred Space Committee with any questions you may have.

Warm wishes and Chag Sameach!

Anita Small,

Chair, Sacred Space Committee

905-886-9773

Weekly Sacred Space Update March 9, 2011

Thank you to the many Kol Ami members who came out to the Town Hall Meeting on March 1st to learn about the Sacred Space designs and timelines. There were some good questions and much support for the designs and work of the committee. Thank you – it keeps us going!!

This week and next, we are deciding on materials so that Dalton Construction Managers can prepare the tender package by March 18th, we can approve material tenders three weeks later on April 11th and Dalton can place orders on April 12th. This gives us the lead time needed for material arrivals in time for construction!

This week, several of us visited a stone quarry company to select a beautiful stone for our Torah reading table and ark base – we have never seen so many slabs of natural stone under any roof! We return this week with wood samples to determine our final stone selection and meet at the architects next week to select lighting, flooring and wood samples that all go beautifully together and with the stone.

We of course will continue to keep posting updates in the Weekly Voice and welcome you to ask questions of any of us on the committee as the plans crystalize.

Warm wishes to our great community from your Sacred Space Committee,

Anita Small, Chair

Sacred Space Update February 17, 2010

We continue to meet weekly as a group as well as in smaller groups to accomplish action items between meetings. We have completed the schematic design phase of our project based on the community visioning exercises and have presented the plans to the board. Dalton Construction Management is refining the project costs based on the schematic design approved. We expect the budget to be confirmed before our town hall meeting in March. We have begun the interior design. Our meeting on February 16 focused on the sanctuary interior, Ark design, Torah table and bimah. We also had much loved discussion about chairs! We reviewed woods, stones, etc. and look forward to sharing everything with you at our town hall meeting.

Do come to the Town Hall Meeting and see our community Sacred Space plans to date!

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011

Place: Sanctuary

Time: 7:30 pm

Your Sacred Space Committee,

Anita Small (Chair), Aron Katz, Barry Bernstein, Dan Cohen, Emily Paikin, Heather Baker, Heather Bibas, Irwin Katz,

James Sidlofsky, Janice Schierau, Jeff Bornstein, Karen Paikin, Lynda Levenstein, Mark Wolpert, Rhona Charney, Shelley Yampolsky

Leo Baeck Representatives on the Committee: Amy Sieger, Jonathan King

Sacred Space update –February 3,2011

This week we met with acoustic engineers and continued to work on the schematic designs of our spaces with Larkin Architects and Dalton Construction Management Firm. We are pleased to have representation from Leo Baeck so that we can proceed quickly now as needed. Over the next week we will confirm our schematic plan so that Dalton can provide a cost estimate and ensure we remain in budget. We are also visiting several synagogues this week to learn from their experience related to a few items. We then move into our more refined design development.

The Sacred Space Committee is pleased to announce a Town Hall Meeting for the TKA community on Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30 pm at Leo Baeck.

Larkin Architects will present our design plans to date and we will detail our schedule from now until the completion of the project. We hope many members will attend. We look so forward to sharing our progress based on our community visioning with you.

You can contact us any time -

Anita Small, Chair

905-886-9773

Your Sacred Space Committee

Sacred Space Update Uodate January 27, 2011

The Sacred Space Committee interviewed construction management firms last week and unanimously agreed to select Dalton to work with. Dalton is a family owned business in existence for 70 years, standing by their work ethic and reputation. They have much experience with non-profit organizations and therefore, working with committees. They have worked on projects with tight time frames and within spaces being used during construction like ours. They were most professional, exuding confidence in completing the task on time, in budget and with assurance of quality. They will devote their top concept estimator for this project. This week we met with both Larkin Architects Ltd. and Dalton Construction Management Firm to continue to delineate our plans so that the construction manager could begin to price work to be done and develop the budget in keeping with our stipulations. Of course we will keep you posted and will soon announce the community town hall meeting date to share the plans. Onward and upward!

Anita Small on behalf of your Sacred Space Committee!

Sacred Space Committee Update January 20, 2011

I am delighted to announce that the Leo Baeck liaison to our committee is Amy Sieger, Leo Baeck board member, parent and TKA member. On her working committee is Jonathan King, Leo Baeck Parent and architect with HOK architects; and Eric Petersiel, Leo Baeck Head of School. Their collaboration with the Sacred Space Committee means we can move along quickly and simultaneously build relations with Leo Baeck as we go. I have already met with Amy and have connected with Eric and Jonathan. We will have representation from Leo Baeck at our Sacred Space Committee meeting on Feb. 1, 2010. The engineer and potential construction managers visited Leo Baeck last week with our architects. This week we interviewed construction managers to make our selection by the end of the week. We are refining initial design plans presented by Larkin Architects to incorporate the visioning of the community and to ensure it is doable from a technical perspective. We will soon send an announcement for a town hall meeting likely for the beginning of March to share designs and get your feedback. Looking forward to it.

Anita Small

Chair,

Sacred Space Committee

Sacred Space News Update January 13, 2011

In my last update I shared that our community visioning report is available for members by contacting the office. I will summarize a few key elements here to wet your appetite. From an overall look and feel standpoint, all groups mentioned finishings of light natural woods, stone and glass with natural light

showing through. There was consistency on main elements ie. one beautiful entry to the sanctuary, sanctuary seating in petal formation around the central moveable bimah, focus on the aron kodesh (arc), bringing the light and outside in, making the gym contiguous with the sanctuary in look and feel. From a function standpoint, all groups mentioned the need for comfortable seating, superb acoustics and audio/visual systems, adequate storage, sound-proofing and accessibility. While members expressed desire for an enlarged lobby, some felt it was essential while others did not. We are beginning our work with Larkin Architects and to select a construction manager. We also now have a liaison to our committee, Amy Sieger, from Leo Baeck. She has a sub-committee of two leaders from Leo Baeck. We are very pleased to welcome Amy on our Sacred Space Committee. Amy is on the Leo Baeck Board of Directors and is a member of Kol Ami. I will continue to keep you posted and welcome your comments.

Warm wishes,

Anita Small

Chair

Sacred Space Committee

Sacred Space News Update January 6, 2011

Dear Kolamites -

We have much good news to share. Before the winter break, as scheduled, we selected the architect to work with for the design of our Sacred Space. Our committee was unanimous in selecting Larkin Architects Limited and the board has supported this selection. They have much experience with sacred space development and numerous awards. Their lead architect on the project, Roberto Chiotti, founding partner, has both an architectural degree and a Master of Theology with a specialty in Theology and Ecology and is LEEDTM (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited. Larkin Architects has an excellent track record in working under tight timelines. We had a unanimously positive response to their presentation, to their exceptional designs and to their personal exchange with our committee. Their proposal included a solar powered ner tamid, unique architectural feature allowing natural light to enter the sanctuary and large inviting doors making the design of the sanctuary flow into the adjacent large space. We have begun to meet with them and expect to call a town hall meeting to share design plans with our TKA and Leo Baeck community in February.

We have also completed the community visioning sessions and submitted our report to the board and to the architects. Please feel free to contact the office for a copy of this report for your interest. Next steps will entail prioritizing and refining our community wishes as we move forward. Please feel free to

contact us at any time and stay tuned for announcement of our town hall meeting with the architects in February.

Sacred Space News Update Thursday December 2, 2010

We have developed the criteria for evaluating the four top architect candidate proposals and for the interviews next week. The four finalists proposals are due to us by December 6th. Our committee interviews the candidates on December 7th and 8th and core committee members will conference call with the architects again on December 13th for any follow up questions. The Sacred Space Committee will then meet on December 14th to make its recommendation to the board for architect selection. We are on schedule to select the architect before the winter break!
HaPpY cHaNuKaH!

Sacred Space News November 25, 2010

Last week we sent out the Request for Proposal to our four top architect candidates. All four architectural firms replied affirmatively. This week they each met with Sacred Space Committee members Barry Bernstein and Heather Baker for a tour of our future spaces in the Leo Baeck building and will submit their RFP response and meet with the committee before Chanukah is over. Yes, the figurative "light" is bright in our sanctuary as Chanukah approaches! We are now assembling all your responses from the visioning exercises and will keep you posted - there was much agreement throughout the community.

Any comments or questions - just contact us.

Chag Sameach for next week!

Your Sacred Space Committee,

Anita Small

Chair

905-886-9773

asmall@mac.com

Sacred Space News November 18, 2010

By this Shabbat, we will have completed all sacred space visioning exercises with the community including a congregational session with the Torah study group, all committees and the choir. We will summarize the results and share it with you and with the architects upon hiring. We have received 13

responses to our Request for Qualifications from architectural firms for our Sacred Space project. From the many wonderful submissions we received, we have selected four architects to receive a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Sacred Space Project. We expect to select the architectural firm by December, 2010. Our appreciation to the TKA community for your great input on our shared vision to create sacred space. Much appreciation as well to the Sacred Space committee for the RFQ phase of our work and to Janice Schierau in particular for her exceptional skills in working with the committee on the RFQ and RFP submissions. We will keep you posted weekly as always.

Your Sacred Space Committee,

Anita Small, (Chair, 905-886-9773 or asmall@mac.com)

Janice Schierau (Core Team), Barry Bernstein (Core Team), Heather Baker (Core Team), Heather Bibas, Rhona Charney, Irwin Katz, Emily Paikin, Lynda Levenstein, Mark Wolpert,

Jeff Bornstein, Dan Cohen, Aron Katz, Karen Paikin, James Sidlofsky, Shelley Yampolsky.

Sacred Space News November 11, 2010

This week we will finalize our selection of architects from the many submissions we received in response to the Request for Qualifications. The few architects we select will receive a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Sacred Space Project. We expect to select the architectural firm by December, 2010.

All Visioning Exercise results from the TKA community and committees will be collated by the end of November for distribution to our TKA community and for submission to the Architect upon hiring. Initial results have been incorporated into the RFP so that architects have a good sense of our expectations for the space.

We are also working with Leo Baeck to establish signage as soon as possible that identifies both Leo Baeck and Temple Kol Ami at 36 Atkinson. Our identity will be clear from the street for new visitors to the building.

Below is a list of all members of the Sacred Space Committee. Please feel free to approach any of us with ideas! You can always contact us through me, Anita Small, Chair, 905-886-9773 or asmall@mac.com.

Anita Small (Chair, Core Team)

Barry Bernstein (Core Team)

Janice Schierau (Core Team)

Heather Baker (Core Team)

Heather Bibas

Jeff Bornstein

Rhona Charney

Dan Cohen

Irwin Katz

Aron Katz

Emily Paikin

Karen Paikin

Lynda Levenstein

James Sidlofsky

Mark Wolpert

Shelley Yampolsky

Sacred Space News November 4!

We have received many wonderful submissions in response to our Request for Qualifications from Architects. This past week we have also met with many Temple Kol Ami committees for your visions on creating sacred space. So far we have met with the Torah Study group and Shabbat morning service crowd, the Youth Group, the Social Action committee, the Choir, the Adult Education Committee and teachers. We plan to reach every temple committee. If you have any feedback you would like to give us please do contact us – we welcome your input!

Contact: Anita Small – asmall@mac.com 905-8869773

Sacred Space News October 29

We have learned recently, that several members thought that the changes you see to our sanctuary are our final renovations! I wish to let everyone know that these are our minor temporary improvements while we are in the process of planning our permanent home at Leo Baeck with community visioning and architect renovations to create a truly sacred space for us all! What you see is the result of diligent work and light hearted fun from 24 members over the summer. If you like these minor temporary improvements, wait until you see the real change as we transform ourselves and our space together!

Update: This past week we distributed our Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to Architects. This will be followed by Request for Proposals (RFP) and then Architect selection. We are simultaneously meeting with you, the congregation, to get your input on what you would like to see in our new sacred space. This input began with our Community Visioning Exercise with Richard Vosko on October 8th. Over the next few weeks each TKA committee will be visited by me and another Sacred Space Committee member to do your own visioning exercise for our space. We hope to get as much input as possible to share with the architects. Thanks to everyone for your great ideas! We look forward to meeting with you!

Contact Anita Small

asmall@mac.com
905-886-9773