

VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

①

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel
on 18/1/61.

PRESENT:

Mr. M. ALLEN CHAIRMAN.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Mr. M. Cohen, Mrs. J. Katz, Mr. Mike Shapiro, MR. H. Scher
Mr. S. Davidowitz, Mr. P. Leibowitz and the Hon Secretary
Mr. J. Katz.

....

Minutes of Meeting held 1/12/60 were read by the
Secretary. The Adoption was moved by Mr. M. Cohen and
Seconded by Mr. P. Leibowitz.

RE MINISTER. Applications from Rev. M. Koren Ermelo and
Rev. M. O. Helman Ficksburg were read by the Secretary.
The Meeting decided that the Secretary should put an
emergency call through to Mr. A. Katz, brother of Mr. J. Katz
to find out particulars regarding Rev. Koren and also to
phone either Mr. Klevansky or Mr. Gos also to obtain
information in regard to the two applicants, whereafter an
Emergency Meeting would be held the next day to discuss
the matter further.

There being no further business, the Meeting
closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


CHAIRMAN.

19-1-1961.
DATE.

WYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel
on 19/1/61.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN. MR. M. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: MRS. L. JOFFE. MR. M. COHEN. MR. H. SCHECKLER.

MR. P. LEIBOWITZ. MR. M. SHAPIRO. MR. S. DAVIDOWITZ AND

the Hon. Secretary MR. J. KATZ.

Minutes of Meeting dated 18/1/61 were read.

Adoption moved by Mr. M. Shapiro Seconded by Mr. Z. Davidowitz.

RE REV. KOREN:

The Secretary advised that he phoned his brother in

Yemelo who informed him that Rev. Koren was an exceedingly good

man. He said he was elderly probably 60 or over. Yemelo paid

him £100. a month plus a free house. He was a well to do man and

Mr. Katz's brother stated that his own daughter spoke Hebrew

fluently. Mr. Katz's brother further advised that if Rev. Koren

would leave Yemelo, it would be a great loss to them and he said

Rev. Koren was an asset to their community in Yemelo.

Mr. Katz advised that he wired Rev. Koren as follows:

"Committee interested advise when you can come

for interview our expense".

He sent a reply paid wire but had not yet had the reply.

He also put a phone call through to Rev. Koren but was

unable to contact him. The action taken by the Secretary was

approved of by the Committee.

The Secretary also advised that he had put a Personal

call through to either Mr. Gos or Mr. Klewansky, but was unable to

contact either.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair

CHAIRMAN.

M. Allen

23-1-61

(3)

VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International
Hotel 23/1/61.

Present:

CHAIRMAN: MR. M. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

MR. MAX COHEN, MR. H. SCHECKTER. MR. P. LEIBOWITZ
MR. M. SHAPIRO and the Hon. Secretary MR. J. KATZ.

.....

Minutes of Meeting held 19/1/61 were read by the
Secretary.

Adoption moved by Mr. P. Leibowitz.

Seconded by Mr. H. Scheckter.

....

RE REV. KOREN.

The Secretary advised that he had spoken to
Mr. Klewansky the Inspector of Schools, who informed him that
Rev. Koren was a man probably about 70 years of age and that
he hesitated to recommend him in view of his age, as well as
the fact that he knew him and that he was not the man for us.

The Meeting decided that the Secretary should phone
Rev. Koren and inform him that he should not come to Vryburg
but could meet a delegation of the Vryburg Hebrew Congregation
in Johannesburg shortly, who could then have the opportunity
of meeting Rev. Koren and discussing business.

The Delegation decided upon was:-

Mr. M. Allen, Mr. Max Cohen and Mr. J. Katz and the tentative
date was Monday the 6th of February.

It was also decided that the Delegation should
interview the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, the Board of
Education and the Federation of Synagogues, the Secretary to
make the necessary appointments.

RE: REV. KLITZNER.

The Secretary was to advise Rev. Klitzner who had
applied for the position of Minister, that we were still
undecided, and would advise him within a month or so.

(4)

VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel at 6 p.m. on Tuesday the 7th February 1961.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN MR. M. ALLEN.

Committee Members:

Mrs. A. Lieberthal, Mr. M. Brodovsky,
Mr. P. Leibowitz and the Hon. Secretary Mr. J. Katz

RE: MINISTER.

Mr. M. Allen advised the Meeting that the Delegation consisting of Mr. M. Cohen, Mr. J. Katz and Himself had interviewed the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, the S.A. Board of Jewish Education and the Federation of Synagogues, without success. He assured the Meeting that Ministers were a very very scarce commodity and the indication of obtaining the services of one in the near future through any of these venues was very unlikely. He advised that the Delegation had met Rev. Koren and discussed matters with him relative to the position in Vryburg.

Mr. Allen said that although Rev. Koren was an elderly gentleman he still seemed very fit and he gave the ~~delegation~~ the impression of being a fine old man.

Taking all things into account, the Chairman said that it seemed as though we had no alternative but to consider Rev. Koren's application.

It was decided that the Secretary should phone .

Rev. Koren and invite him to come to Vryburg to interview the Committee and the Community and to preform a Friday Evening Service with a view to further negotiation, but without commitment.

It was decided that Rev. Koren's expenses would be paid by the Congregation and that they were not to exceed £25.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

M. Allen

CHAIRMAN.

27/8/61

DATE.

(16)

VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel at 5.30 p.m. on 27/2/61.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: MR. M. ALLEN
COMMITTEE MEMBERS MRS. J. KATZ. MR. M. COHEN.
MR. H. SCHECKTER. MR. S. DAVIDOWITZ.
MR. M. SHAPIRO. MR. M. BRODOVCKY.
MR. P. LEIBOWITZ AND THE HON. SECY. MR. J. K.

.....

In opening the Meeting the Chairman welcomes the new Chairlady Mrs. J. Katz and in so doing mentioned that he trusted that she would work in harmony with the menfolk and wished her every success.

Minutes of Meeting held 23/1/61 were read by the Secretary. Adoption moved by Mr. M. Shapiro Seconded Mr. P. Leibowitz and carried.

Mr. M. Allen proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. M. Cohen for supplying his car to the community on the occasion of interviewing the various Boards for the purpose of obtaining the services of a Minister or Teacher.

Minutes of Meeting held 7/2/61 was read by the Secretary. Adoption moved by Mr. S. Davidowitz Seconded by Mr. M. Brodovsky.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

It was decided to hold a meeting within three to four weeks and the Secretary was requested to notify the M.D.A. accordingly.

RE MINISTER

Mr. Allen advised that Rev. Koren was here in Vryburg and performed a Service and gave a Sermon.

Rev. Koren requested that if he came to Vryburg the house must be renovated and he demanded a new bath in the room.

7

-2-

bathroom - and also a garage. He requested a salary of £125. per month.

Cost of transport of his household commodities to be our responsibility.

After much discussion, Mr. Katz proposed that a ^{Special} General Meeting be held ~~to~~ decide the issue. ^{recorded} Mr. Davidowitz ~~agreed~~ and the date set for the ^{Special} General Meeting was Wednesday the 1st of March 1961, after the Purim Service.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Ch air.


CHAIRMAN


DATE

Uryburg Hebrew Congregation

⑧

minutes of General meeting held at the Amiee Lieberthal Guild Hall on Wednesday evening 1-2-1961 at 8:30 Pm.

Rev Minister: Mr Allen, the chairman, informed the meeting that a decision had to be made in regard to the employment or otherwise of Rev. M. Koren.

The chairman mentioned that Rev. Koren demanded a salary of R250-00 per month, free house free lights & water, the renovation of the house - a new bath in the bathroom and the building of a garage for his car.

Mr Max Cohen informed the meeting of a delegation consisting of Mr. Allen Mr Katz and himself which had recently interviewed The S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, The S.A. Board of Jewish Education & The Federation of Synagogues to try to obtain the services of a minister or a teacher for our community. Their endeavours were in vain. Rabbis or ministers and even teachers were a very scarce

(2)

commodity and the committee therefore decided to call a General meeting to decide whether the applicant, Rev Kosen was suitable or not.

The Secretary Mr Katz thereupon advised that since holding our committee meeting new development had arisen.

(a) A letter had been received from The Chief Rabbi, Prof. I. Abrahams of Cape Town advising that a certain Mr Freed of Ndola Northern Rhodesia who was a minister and a teacher was available and recommended that we communicate with him in case he filled our needs.

(b) Mr. Klewansky, inspector of Hebrew Schools, had phoned advising that a certain Mr Chinn or Zinn was immediately available on a temporary basis as a teacher only at a salary of £75 or R50.00 per month.

after much discussion, the meeting resolved

(a) To reject Rev. Kosen's application

(b) To engage Mr. Chinn

with immediate effect at a salary of R150.00 per month
(c) To immediately contact Mr Freed with a view to negotiate business. The Secretary was directed to proceed in the matter with undue delay.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Chairman

M Allen

13/6/61



VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDRESSED TO

CON. SECRETARY

P.O. BOX 208,

VRYBURG, C.P.

.....19.....

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel at 6 p.m. on Tuesday the 4th April 1961.

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN MR. M ALLEN.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: MR. M. COHEN. MR. H. SCHECKTER.
MR. S. DABVIWOTIZ. MR. M. BRODOVCKY.
MR. P. LEIBOWITZ AND THE HON SECRETARY
MR. J. KATZ.

.....

Minutes of Meeting held 27/2/61 were read by the Secretary
Adoption moved by Mr. M. Brodovcky, seconded Mr. H. Scheckter.

RE MAGEN DAVID ADOM.

It was decided to postpone discussion on this subject until the next Committee Meeting.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 13/4/1961.

It was decided to hold a Special Service at 6.30 p.m.

Mr. Max Cohen was delegated to speak and Mr. Mike Allen would approach Mr. Chien also to Address the Community.

RE RABBI NAIFELD.

A letter was received from the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies advising that Rabbi Naifeld would visit Vryburg on Tuesday April the 11th:-

- (a) It was decided that he would interview the children at 3.30 p.m.
- (b) A Maariv Service would be held at 6.30 p.m.
- (c) A Special Meeting would be convened at 8 p.m. in the Hall at which Rabbi Naifeld would address the Community.

YOM HAATZMAAT.

It was decided to celebrate the 13th Anniversary

for the State of Israel on SUNDAY the 23rd of April in the Simon Lieberthal Guild Hall in the form of a Banquet at 7.30 p.m.

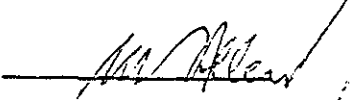
Each family to bring their own refreshments & food. The Congregation to supply the liquid refreshments.

Mr. Katz offered to have the hall decorated. Mr. Max Cohen offered to arrange the full programme

RE MR. LAMATYOF.

It was decided that the Secretary write to Mr. Klewansky to ask whether the services of Mr. Lamatyof were still available and if so to enquire what salary he would command and all other relefant details such as date when he could be available to start, if suitable, and also to try and arrange an interview, the object at present being to further negotiations.

There being no further business the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


CHAIRMAN. 13/6/61.

DATE: _____

VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the International Hotel on Tuesday the 13th June 1961.

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN MR. M. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mrs. Z. Katz, Mr. Z. Davidowitz,
Mr. H. Scheckter, Mr. M. Brodovsky,
Mr. P. Leibowitz and the Hon. Secy, Mr. J. Katz.

.....

Minutes of Committee Meeting dated 1/3/61 were read.

Proposed: Mr. Z. Davidowitz, Seconded Mr. H. Scheckter.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held 4/4/61 were read.

Proposed: Mr. Z. Davidowitz, Seconded Mr. H. Scheckter.

.....

RE MR. LAMATYOFF. The Secretary advised the Meeting that Mr. Lamatyoff had gone to live in Israel and was therefore out of the question.

RE: M.D.A. It was decided to postpone this matter until the next Committee Meeting once again.

RE: HEBREW EDUCATION: MR. CHIEN.

Mr. Allen advised the Meeting that he had spoken to Mr. Chien to establish whether he would like to stay on in Vryburg. He also said that it seemed that the children were making excellent progress in the Hebrew School. The question arose as to whether we wanted to keep Mr. Chien on.

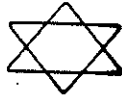
The Secretary advised that he had also spoken to Mr. Chien who informed him that he was happy with the children and with the Community, and it seemed that Mr. Chien would be content to stay on at a higher salary. This was merely the Secretary's impression from the discussion.

After lengthy discussion Mr. H. Scheckter finally proposed that his salary be increased to R180-00 per month.

This was seconded by Mrs. J. Katz and carried unanimously with effect from the month of July.

1961
14

MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



VRYBURG HEBREW CONGREGATION

COMMUNICATIONS
SUBMITTED TO
THE SECRETARY

P.O. BOX 208,

VRYBURG, C.P.

27/11/1961.

19.....

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Vryburg Hebrew Congregation held in the Simon Lieberthal Guild Hall on 26/11/61 at 8 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: MR. MAX COHEN

In opening the Meeting Mr. Cohen extended a hearty welcome to everybody present, and apologised sincerely for the absence of Mr. Mike Allen, who was unable to be present due to urgent business.

Mr. Cohen said he was sorry to see such a small attendance. He thought that in view of the damaging remarks by the helm of the State against our Jewish People, our Community would rally together. He felt that the Jewish people must reunite themselves and on an occasion like this was sorry to find a number of Jews absent from the Meeting.

Mr. Cohen also apologised for the absence of our Treasurer who had recently undergone an operation and was away on recuperative holiday. He thereupon called upon the Secretary to read the Minutes of the last General Meeting held 13/11/60.

The Secretary thereupon read the Minutes.

The Adoption was moved by Mr. Davidowitz, and seconded by Mr. Jack Cohen.

The Chairman then gave his Report. He said that he was going to read what Mr. Allen had handed him, in respect of his Annual Chairman's Report. Apologies were made by Mr. Allen for his absence.

The Chairman mentioned that in last year's Report he recollected urging the necessity of obtaining the services of a Rabbi for our Community, but our efforts were not successful, and the spiritual needs of the Community

1961

(15)

even to the conducting of the High Festival Services enabled the Members and youth to observe these Holy Days of Prayer in a solemn atmosphere.

Of greatest concern to us was the Educational problem of our children, and we were very fortunate to procure the services of Mr. Chien whose devotion and guidance and education of our youth resulted in a highly commendable report from the Inspector, Mr. Klewansky.

The Financial statements reflecting the affairs of our Congregation were distributed amongst members, and he only wished to refer to the satisfactory surplus for the year of R1779-86 which enabled the Committee to place the sum of R1000 on Fixed Deposit. This surplus was largely due to the Ladies Society who contributed a very substantial amount, and he expressed thanks to the Chairlady Mrs. Zara Katz and all her members.

The Chairman also remarked that he was fully aware of the constant hard work the collection of funds entailed, and that our Ladies have, for the past number of years, been our most important member, and therefore requested that for the good of the Community, their efforts should not lessen and so assist the Community in meeting their many commitments which could very easily in the future be in greater proportion.

Mention was made of the I.U.I.A. Campaign which was launched here by Dr. Morton Berman, and which was very successful.

Special thanks was expressed to his Vice-Chairman and Committee Members for their constant co-operation in all communal affairs, and also special thanks to the Secretary and Treasurer for their very capable and efficient services.

Thanks too were expressed to our Hon Auditors, Messrs. Hoek Wiehan & Kros, for their compiling of the Financial Statement and a letter of thanks to Mr. van Rensburg was requested to be sent.

Our young Shammus Mervyn Lieberthal was congratulated for the efficient manner in which he carried out his duties during the year.

The Chairman concluded his report, hoping that the ensuing year would be more successful than the year under review.

The Adoption of the Chairman's report was proposed by Mr. P. Leibowitz, and seconded by Mr. J. Hummel, and unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

In the absence of Mr. Shapiro, the report was read by the Secretary.

1961 (16)

apathy, and he hoped sincerely that the Ladies would pull themselves together for the good of the Community and work together as well as they had always done.

He also paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman Mr. Mike Allen, with whom it was always a great pleasure to work.

He also thanked Mrs. Fay Cohen for her invaluable assistance and stated that without her his task would have been most difficult, in fact virtually impossible. He was very grateful to Fay.

He thereupon asked Mr. Max Cohen if he would kindly continue in the position as Chair for the evening, as we did not have a Secretary available to take the Minutes down.

Mr. Cohen Accepted and the Meeting continued.

VICE CHAIR:	MR. MIKE ALLEN
SECRETARY	MR. MIKE SHAPIRO.
TREASURER	MR. J. HUMMEL.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

MR. MAX COHEN. MR. HAROLD SCHECKTER. MR. P. LEIWOWITZ
MR. Z. DAVIDOWITZ and the Chairlady of the
Vryburg Jewish Ladies Society (Ex Officio).

Mr. Max Cohen proposed that another lady member be elected to the Committee in addition to their Chairlady who was a member ex officio.

Mr. Cohen's Proposal was seconded by Mr. H. Scheckter.

Mr. Davidowitz proposed that this should not be done as it was not necessary. *Mr. Cohen's proposal was defeated.* **SECONDED** by Mrs. Leah Cohen
SHAMMUS: MERVYN LIEBERTHAL.

GENERAL: Mr. Davidowitz mentioned that the tenant of the Congregational House complained that the house was in urgent need of repair, and unless these repairs were undertaken they would have to vacate the house one of these days.

It was decided to leave this matter for the attention of the incoming Committee.

RE HEBREW SCHOOL CLASSES.

Mr. Chien said that he was here approximately eight months, during which time the Committee had not send any member to the Hebrew School classes to see what was going on and to watch the progress. Mr. Chien appealed to the incoming committee to interview the Hebrew School periodically.

The Treasurer in presenting his accounts of the Financial Year said that the position seemed apparently healthy, and the reasons for this were that we did not employ a Minister, and that the house provided an Income of R45.00 per month. It could be seen therefore that we should not be lulled into a false sense of security even though we spent less this year and at the same time increased our income.

It should be observed that subscriptions and donations were both down.

The Ladies Society had excelled themselves in their Bazaar last year, and he wished to thank them for their splendid efforts.

The year ended with a surplus of Income over expenditure of R1779-86.

R1000 had been invested with the Standard Bank at an interest of 5½% per annum.

After discussing the cash account, he was pleased to state that we were left with a credit balance of R451-96 in the Bank.

Membership stood at ~~R357.00~~ ³⁵ plus two non-resident members, an increase of two over the previous period.

Mr. Shapiro in his report expressed grateful thanks to Mr. J. Katz who helped him considerably during the period he was away.

The Adoption of the Treasurer's Report was moved by Mrs. Leah Cohen, Seconded by Mrs. Z. Katz and accepted unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Before calling for nomination, Mr. Max Cohen paid tribute to Mr. Mike Allen for the tenure of his office as Chairman for ten years, during which time he had worked hard and very conscientiously. He had to inform the Meeting that Mr. Allen had informed him that he would not be eligible for Chairman this year, but would be prepared to accept another position.

He also paid tribute to Mr. Katz the Secretary who had always been active in communal affairs for many many years, and thereupon called for nominations for the position of Chairman.

MR. J. KATZ was nominated, and accepted.

In accepting nomination, Mr. Katz thanked the Meeting for having nominated him, and mentioned that he hoped that he would have the co-operation of the Ladies Society to assist him, as our previous Chairman *had*.

There seemed to be certain discention at the moment or

1961

Mr. Cohen and Mr. Katz explained that perhaps the committee were wrong in this respect to some degree, but they had been in touch with the Hebrew School Inspector for a long time before they were eventually able to bring him to Vryburg to inspect the Classes. He assured the Committee that the welfare of our children was not overlooked but was under the impression that it was much more beneficial to have the Hebrew School Inspector examine the Hebrew School Classes and to obtain the report from him, but if Mr. Chien so desired that Members of the Educational Sub-Committee should periodically go up to the Hebrew School Classes, the matter would be considered.

Before concluding, Mr. Max Cohen once again dwelt upon the affairs of the Jewish Ladies Society, and urged that the women must meet again after the holidays and continue to do the wonderful work which they have always done. He stressed most emphatically that it would be a calamity if their work failed as the Congregation needed the Ladies Society very badly. He said it ought to be a pleasure to participate in any welfare work. The Ladies had the time to do it and it was only a question of re-organization. If there was any dissention then it must be overcome and the work should proceed as it had in the past. He pleaded with the Ladies Society that they once again reorganise themselves and felt confident that in the future there would again be the excellent co-operation which they always enjoyed.

With that, the Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

DATE.