

The Temple Beth Israel Long Range Planning Committee

The long range planning committee discussed what is probably the major problem for the Temple in the years ahead: That of growing smaller gracefully; the problem of increasing difficulty in meeting budgetary needs due to declining membership numbers and the inflation of dollar costs.

On the revenue side of the discussion, the committee recommended the following:

- 1.) That Temple revenues be raised largely by the total implementation of the fair share dues plan; preferably without the use of bingo, gimmicks and special fund raisers.
- 2.) That the Temple is close to the limit of potential income through dues and cannot continue to increase expenditures.
- 3.) That the Temple consider asking the Shenango Valley Jewish Federation for an increased allocation.
- 4.) That the Temple board consider conducting a professional census type study to help determine future trends for Temple planning.

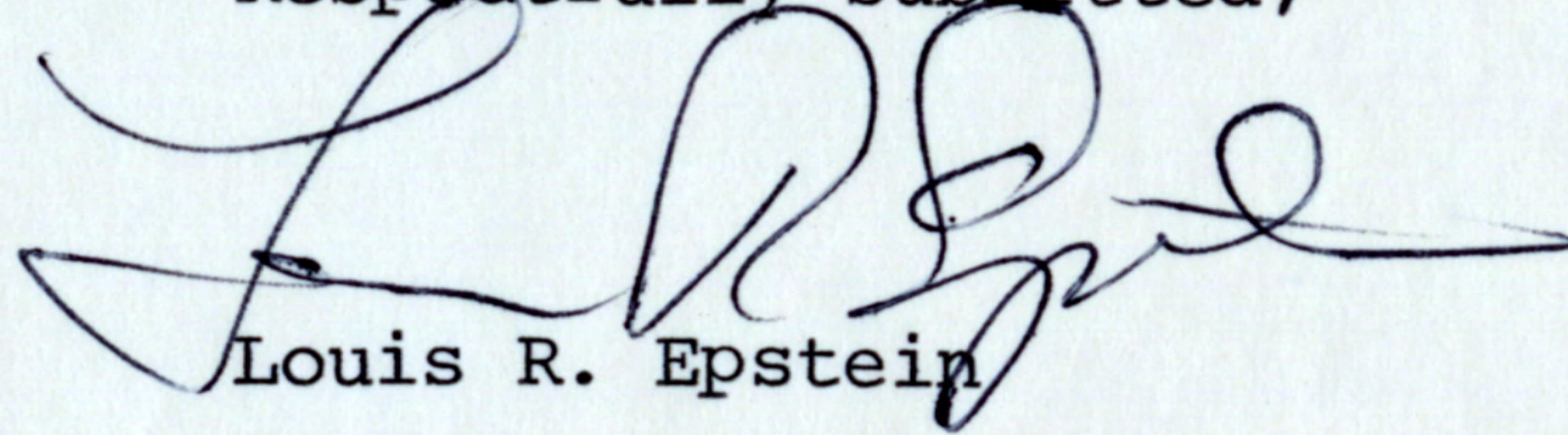
On the expenditure side, the committee recommended the following:

- 1.) That we shift our priorities in terms of services to the congregation to an older age group because of the shift in the average age of Temple members and that we consider the problems involved in a shrinking enrollment in the school system.
- 2.) The committee recognized that the two large expenses in the budget are the building and the Rabbi and since the Rabbi and choir are in the committee's estimation a vital part of the inspiration in the religious service, we should turn our attention to reducing costs on the building.
- 3.) Building expenses are skyrocketing because our present building is 30 years old and requires an increasing number of repairs and because of rising energy costs. The committee realized that we have a number of options which ought to be explored:
 - a.) Sell the building and share the building with another congregation.
 - b.) Share our building with another group or congregation.
 - c.) Use modules at our present building, closing other portions in order to reduce the energy and maintenance costs. The total building might be required on certain occasions such as the High Holidays but on regular Friday nights and for the maintenance of the schools, only small parts of the building are necessary. The committee recommended that the board

should consider having an engineering study done on the building to recommend its conversion into modules.

In general, the committee is saying that the Temple must look ahead and plan for a smaller population, project potential sources of funds to meet the needs and rising costs and adjust to changing shifts in membership numbers and ages.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis R. Epstein