

Jan 28, 1959

THE CHESED SHEL EMETH OF PITTSBURGH

(Hebrew Burial Association)
Meeting of January 28, 1959

Shaare Zedeck
5751 Bartlett Street
Pittsburgh 17, Penna

A G E N D A

1. Opening of Meeting and greetings
2. Reading of the minutes of last meeting.
3. Reports:
 - a. Out-going president, H.B.A.
 - b. Auxiliary President
 - c. Financial
 - d. Secretarial
4. Old Business
5. New Business
6. Installation Ceremonies
7. Remarks:
 - a. New President
8. Introduction of guests:
 - a. Robert I. Hiller
 - b. Rabbi Judah Moses
9. Announcements
10. Good and Welfare
11. Closing.

Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh
Meeting of 1/28/59

The Annual Meeting of the Chessed Shel Emeth of Pittsburgh was held on Wednesday, January 28, 1959 at the Shaare Torah Congregation, 2319 Murray Avenue, Pittsburgh 17, Pa. Present were: Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Nachman, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Kann, Mr. & Mrs. Saul Blatt, Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Bauer, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Abelson, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Schwartz, Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Titlbaum, Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Milch, Rabbi Judah Moses, Mr. William Unger, Mr. Harry Libson, Mr. Bernard Latterman, Mr. Richard Schwartz, Mr. Jacob Ryave, Mr. Maurice Fireman, Mr. Harry Tubes, Mr. Harry Markovitz, Mrs. Harry Seder, Mrs. S. L. Simons, Mrs. M. Roth, Mrs. Jennie Shapiro, Mrs. Ben Edelstein, Mrs. Sam Abrams, Mrs. Nathan Savitz, Mrs. Sarah Goizner, Ben Edelstein, Bert Horowitz and guest speaker, Robert Hiller. Also present was Mr. Leonard Dunn, who expressed regrets over his mother's absence. Mr. Samuel H. Bloom sent a letter of regret for his inability to be with us, as did Mr. Harry Seder and Mrs. Freda Filner.

The Meeting was called to order by President Ben Edelstein at 8:45 P.M. Upon motion by Mr. Edward Sheinberg, seconded by Mr. Jacob Ryave, reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

REPORTS

Grounds Committee - Mr. Edelstein stated that a recent inspection of the Cemetery Grounds, showed them to be intact.

Financial - Treasurer William Unger reported that receipts to date amounted to \$2,620.38. Total disbursements to date were \$2,131.19, and the cash balance as of 1/28/59, was \$489.19. He reported further that the balance in the reserve fund was \$1,800.04 in cash and a \$1,000.00 State of Israel Bond, bringing the total to \$2,800.04. Total assets, comprised of the cash balance and the reserve fund, amount to \$3,289.23.

Secretarial - Bert Horowitz gave a brief report, which is appended herewith.

Ladies Auxiliary - Mrs. Sam Abrams gave a detailed report of the Disbursements made since 6/9/58, which included repairs to the wall of the old Cemetery, repairs on several graves, the walk around the Chapel, erection of 17 tombstones, painting and plastering of the Chapel, amounting to \$1,584.05. She concluded by stating, that as of 1/26/59, cash on hand amounted to \$817.41. President Edelstein accepted this report with gratitude, stating that this is the first time in many years, that a financial report had been rendered by the Auxiliary.

Presidential - Mr. Edelstein expressed deep appreciation to the Officers and Members of the Board for the whole-hearted co-operation he received during his tenure, and concluded by expressing the hope that the Agency would not be called upon too often to render its services in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Sheinberg reported that the Board had rendered approval of the change of the Agency name and that a formal petition was filed to amend the Agency name to the Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh. Upon motion duly seconded, the proposal was unanimously accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

Dispensed with, in order that the Installation Ceremonies might get under way.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Treasurer William Unger was called upon to act as Installing Officer. Old members were discharged from their obligations with the thanks of the Chessed Shel Emeth. Edward Sheinberg was then installed as the new President. President Sheinberg expressed regrets for duplicity of meetings tonight, stating that several other Committees and Agencies were meeting co-incidental with our Annual Meeting. He then proceeded to install the three new life trustees nominated this year, William Unger, Ben Edelstein and Mrs. Freda Filner. He expressed a plea for co-operation with the newly installed Board, and cited the need for faithful attendance at meetings, and expressed the hope that the new Board Members and the women of the Auxiliary would attend funerals as often as possible.

President Sheinberg went on to discuss some of the origins of the Chessed Shel Emeth, and emphasized that the older generation looked upon the work of Chessed Shel Emeth as a pious and Holy task. He expressed the hope that the younger generation would follow in the traditional footsteps of their ancestors, with respect to Chessed Shel Emeth. For the future, Mr. Sheinberg expressed some concern over the need for development of the lower portion of our Cemetery Grounds, so that this portion could be open for burials soon. He expressed extreme satisfaction with the work that the Auxiliary and their friends had performed in the past, and projected the need for considerable capital expenditures, which would be required in the future for Ground development. Although operation funds are received in part from the United Jewish Federation, he emphasized the fact that the Agency could not look to U.J.F. as a source of revenue for capital improvements. He expressed a hope for rebirth of communal interest in the future work of Chessed Shel Emeth. He concluded by making a plea for the fullest measure of co-operation from the Board and the Committee in the many challenging problems which will confront Chessed Shel Emeth this year.

REMARKS

Mr. Robert I. Hiller, Executive Director, U.J.F. was then called upon for the principal address. He expressed satisfaction with the progress made by Chessed Shel Emeth during the past year, and congratulated the Officers and Board Members for their unselfish devotion to our Program. He concluded by pointing out that our new President Edward Sheinberg is the son of one of the Founders of Chessed Shel Emeth.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Rabbi Moses was then called upon, and was followed by the introduction of two new Board Members representing the younger generation, Bernard Latterman and Richard Schwartz. Jacob Ryave, Jacob Titlbaum, H. L. Milch, Richard Schwartz, Bernard Latterman, Maurice Fireman, Arthur Abelson, Harry Libson and Ben Edelstein all spoke briefly.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with the announcement that refreshments were being served, through the generosity of Mrs. Freda Filner, new Life Trustee, who because of illness, could not be present.

HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION

Annual Report

presented

1/28/59

The Hebrew Burial Association, because of the character of its program, has seldom had the opportunity of attracting the attention of the Pittsburgh Jewish Community. Despite this ~~fact~~, it is one of Pittsburgh's oldest Jewish communal groups. Led by a group of dedicated men and women, it has continued year after year in rendering Holy service to the needy, with very little fanfare or notoriety, and that is as it should be.

An Agency with one of the smallest budgets in the Community, its service has known no bounds. The function of the Organization is well-known to all. It provides a dignified and traditional burial to the needy, in order that our co-religionists can be kept out of Potter's Field. This is traditional Judaism. All of this would have been impossible without the selfless devotion of the responsible men and women of our community, who have devoted many days and hours to an unending stream of services, granted for little more than the asking. During the Calendar year 1958, services were made available in fourteen cases, thirteen males and one female.

Nor could these services be rendered without the splendid co-operation received from the Pittsburgh Rabbinat, and especially our Pittsburgh Undertakers, all of whom should be accorded the thanks of a grateful community. Nor would this report be complete without mention of the magnificent work being done by the Ladies Auxiliary of Chesed Shel Emeth, to whom our Agency, to say nothing of the community, owes a deep debt of gratitude. Under the able leadership of Mrs. Sam Abrams, you will hear (or have heard) in more detailed form of the responsibilities they have undertaken in the past and through the years, in order to maintain the Cemetery grounds as beautifully as we find them today. We pride ourselves not only in the Cemetery, but the meticulous care in maintaining the last resting place of the departed, properly planted and suitably marked. To them, we wish to express our deepest appreciation.

Finally, this report would be incomplete without expressing our gratitude to our Board President, Ben Edelstein, and the other Officers and Members of our Board, for their faithful response to our call, when the need for their help arose. For the generous help of the Officers, Members of the Board, and the Ladies Auxiliary, we express deepest appreciation. In closing, mention should also be made of the generous interest and help accorded our group by Mr. Robert Hiller, Executive Director of U.J.F., to whom our Agency can always look for help in time of need.

With the advent of spring soon to come, we look forward with renewed vigor to a year which we hope will not keep us too busy, so that we can devote ourselves to the never-ending process of making needed improvements, and providing the necessary maintenance to our grounds.

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Horowitz
Executive Secretary

BH/hh

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH

January 25, 1961
United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh 13, Penna.

ANNUAL MEETING

A G E N D A

- C
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- ✓ 1. Opening and greetings by President Edward Sheinberg.
 - ✓ 2. Reading of the minutes of last meeting.
 - ✓ 3. Correspondence.
 - ✓ 4. Reports:
 - ✓ a. Out-Going President, H.B.A.
 - ✓ b. Auxiliary President.
 - ✓ c. Financial.
 - ✓ d. Secretarial.
 - ~~e. Nominating Committee~~
 5. Installation Ceremonies.
 6. Introduction of guests & speaker, Ben Edelstein.
 - a. President, Edward Sheinberg
 7. Announcements.
 - ~~a. President, Edward Sheinberg~~

(Refreshments served courtesy of Ladies Auxiliary)
 8. Good & Welfare
 9. Closing

Sam Hanne
Roth

Morry Schuster
Abraham Falcid

THE CHESED SHEL EMETH OF PITTSBURGH
(Hebrew Burial Association)

January 25, 1961

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh 13, Penna.

MINUTES

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The annual meeting of the Hebrew Burial Association was held on Wednesday evening, January 25, 1961 at the United Jewish Federation, 234 McKee Place, Pittsburgh 13, Penna. In the absence of the Board President, Mr. Edward Sheinberg who was taken ill, the meeting was chaired by the First Vice-President Mr. Ernest Nachman. Present were: Mr. Milch, Mr. Nachman, Mr. Markovitz, Mr. and Mrs. Kolb, Mrs. Abrams, Mrs. Shapiro, Mrs. Roth, Mrs. Titlbau, Mr. Stanley Roth, Ben Edelstein, Mrs. Blatt, Mr. Unger, a guest Mr. Sam Horne, and the executive-secretary, Mr. Horowitz.

MINUTES

The reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting held on March 30, 1960 were read and approved as read.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was little correspondence other than a letter to Mrs. Bea Miller, acknowledging receipt of a list of members of the Senior Citizens of I. K. C. who expressed their willingness to serve at our funerals.

REPORTS

President - In his absence, the President prepared a written report which was read by Mr. Unger. In his paper Mr. Sheinberg explored the earlier history of the Organization and traced its beginnings to 1853. This should be called the 107th or 108th Annual Meeting, he said. He also affirmed the reason for the existence of the Hebrew Burial Association by stating that the work in which the Agency is engaged, is the holiest of all Jewish traditional responsibilities.

C
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In tracing earlier backgrounds, he discovered that the first date of record was August 30, 1853 which he found in Deed Volume 112, page 239. For a consideration of \$50.00 this entry shows that a plot of vacant ground on ~~Sewer~~ Road in Shaler Township was deeded to a Congregation. There was no deed of record on the property in the name of Chased Shel Emeth but rather to the original Congregation. However, he said that the sign over the old cemetery grounds indicates an 1853 date. On June 4, 1910 he went on, Judge Josiah Cohen of Pittsburgh's Common Pleas Court, signed an Order of Court granting a charter for Chased Shel Emeth, of Pittsburgh. This was recorded on August 17, 1910 in the Recorder's Office Charter Book Volume 44, page 520. On November 5, 1959 there was further revision in which the Association's name was changed by Amendment and Court Order to the Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh. That was recorded in Colume 77, page 485. He traced the history further by indicating that on May 19, 1913 the Chased Shel Emeth of Pittsburgh by deed recorded, Deed Book Volume 1784, page 58 for consideration of \$2,200.00 purchased a 4.5 acre plot of ground in Shaler Township, now known as our present cemetery. Our records indicate that the first interment there took place on January 31, 1918. As of this writing, Mr. Sheinberg concluded the history, by stating that about one hundred fifty burials took place in the old plot, and there are up to the present, about three hundred forty in the new cemetery portion.

He noted that the Hebrew Burial Association has been an affiliate with the United Jewish Federation since its Pittsburgh inception in 1912. He expressed appreciation for the Federation's financial support of the Agency, which he stated has carried out its purpose in accordance with its charter; "The maintenance of a cemetery or cemeteries in accordance with the rights and customs of Orthodox Judaism for the burial of unidentified or unclaimed dead and the dead of indigent families." He stressed the need for development of the unused portion of our grounds since the present area will be inadequate in less than two years. He finally expressed his appreciation to the Board, the Executive Board, to the Secretary and all of the Rabbis and Cantors, Morticians, and the Gabboyim who contributed their services in the past. He concluded his report by expressing his sincere appreciation to the Ladies of the Auxiliary and especially Mrs. Sara Abrams, its president.

Auxiliary - Auxiliary President Mrs. Sam Abrams, stated she had no auxiliary report to render, in the absence of Auxiliary Secretary Mrs. Hirsh. Mrs. Abrams did announce that the annual Auxiliary Card Party would be held at Shaare Tefilah Congregation on Bartlett Street, on Sunday, March 5th. She offered to sell tickets to those who wished to go.

Financial - Mr. Unger reported \$764.20 on hand January 1, 1961 in operating capital. Receipts were \$100.00 from U. J. F., a total of \$864.20. Disbursed for January was \$75.88 with a balance at the end of January in the Operating Fund of \$788.32. In the Reserve Account the balance was \$3,334.27, with the State of Israel Bond amounting to \$1,000.00, making the total assets of \$5,122.59 as of January 31, 1960 and that there was a total gain in assets for the year of \$387.77. Upon motion duly seconded, the financial report was accepted as submitted.

Secretary's Report - The secretary reported that in the Calendar Year 1959, Hebrew Burial Association experienced six cases, whereas for the year ending January 25, 1960, there were only three. He expressed the hope that there would be none this year, 1961, and that the experience would remain sustained in the future.

INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

The chair proceeded to install the new members of the Board, as elected in December.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Sam Horne, a visitor, was introduced for brief remarks.

Mr. Stanley Roth a newly elected member also spoke briefly and offered his services to the organization.

Mr. Horowitz, the secretary expressed the need for a Seal of the Organization for official documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that refreshments were being served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

CLOSING

There being no further business, and upon motion by Mr. Milch, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P. M. and was followed by an excellent "coffee hour", served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Bert Horowitz
Executive Secretary

Report of EDWARD S. SHEINBERG, President of Chesed Shel Emeth of
Pittsburgh--Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh--Annual Meeting
held January 25, 1961 at 8:30 P. M. in the Emanuel Spector Room of the
Federation Building

Since we have tangible evidence that our Organization has been in existence since 1853, we could call this the 107th or the 108th Annual Meeting of our Society. We are all interested in our purpose for existence, our past history, our present status and our planning and aspirations for the future.

Thousands of years ago our people were the first to recognize and worship the one living and true God--that we were made and born in the image of God--and with the firm belief in the immortality of the soul. The body in which that spirit dwelled and returned to Heaven at death, was held in reverence and respect, more particularly among our aged population.

Therefore, the ancient ritual of the burial of the dead has been part and parcel of our tradition from time immemorial to the present day. We remember our Father Abraham, a Nomad, who traveled over many lands, and his concern for a permanent burial ground for his beloved wife Sarah, and thereafter for members of his family, that caused him to purchase the caves at Machtelah. This site represented the first known burial ground of our people.

We remember that Jacob's last plea to his son, Joseph, was that following his death that his remains be brought back and buried in the family plot. We remember that the Lord, out of his great love for Moses, our Teacher, took him up to himself and buried him in the mountains.

Our Rabbis asked "What is the highest form of loving kindness" which is the closest interpretation of Chesed Shel Emeth, and the answer was "The kindness shown to one who is dead". In such acts of kindness, in truth, there could be no motive of reward. From the days of the entrance of our people into the Promised Land and their travels in Diaspora, this tradition with respect to the burial of our dead has been observed with reverence. The activity of Chesed Shel Emeth in our community dates back to a deed

dated August 30, 1853 and recorded in the Recorder's Office of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book Vol. 112, Page 239. This deed, for the consideration of \$50.00, conveyed a plot of vacant ground on Seavy Road in Shaler Township to the Congregation Shaare Shamayim. I could find no deed into Chessed Shel Emeth for this property, but the existing sign over the entrance giving the date 1853 and our use of this ground for burial purposes over the years, has marked and identified it as our Old Cemetery.

On June 4, 1910, Judge Josiah Cohen of our Common Pleas Court signed the Order of Court granting the Charter for the "Chessed Shel Emeth of Pittsburgh", which was recorded in the Recorder's Office of Allegheny County in Charter Book Vol. 44, Page 520, on August 17, 1910. The Amendment to Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh was granted on November 5, 1959 and was recorded in Charter Book Vol. 77, Page 485.

On May 19, 1913, Chessed Shel Emeth of Pittsburgh, by deed recorded in Deed Book Vol. 1784, Page 58, for the consideration of \$2200.00, purchased the 4.5 acre plot of ground in Shaler Township, known as our New Cemetery, and our records indicate that the first interment therein took place on January 1, 1918. There are approximately 150 burials in our Old Cemetery and about 340 in our New Cemetery.

We have no records of the first past Presidents of this Organization, but research discloses that a mortgage covering the New Cemetery in the amount of \$3,000.00, was granted by the Washington Trust Company on October 26, 1923 and is recorded in Mortgage Book Vol. 1895, Page 95. It was executed by Jacob Hepner as President. I believe that he was succeeded by Joseph or Jacob M. Friedman, then came Barnet Turets, Joseph Lasday, David Schwartzman, Harry Dunn, ^{Harry Seiden} Max Bress, Bennie Neaman, Charles Sable, William Unger, Ben Edelstein and me. I am sorry that I am unable to give the years these gentlemen served but hope to continue my research and supply this information in the near future.

Chesed Shel Emeth has been an affiliate of the United Jewish Federation in Pittsburgh since its inception 1912. Its annual appropriation covering our maintenance needs have been extremely helpful in carrying on our work and the responsibilities as stated in the purpose of our Charter:--

"The maintenance of a cemetery or cemeteries in accordance with the rites and customs of Orthodox Judaism for the burial of unidentified or unclaimed dead and the dead of indigent families".


The condition and upkeep of the Old Cemetery is an ever increasing concern. The grade is so steep that the old fashioned, heavy and large monuments and heavy concrete bases are constantly shifting and moving downward. Replacing the fallen and broken monuments and bases is but a temporary measure. We are studying the problem and it has been suggested that all the stones be replaced by small uniform markers and while the old inscriptions are still legible, that we erect a large monument in the center of the plot upon which will be inscribed the individual name and date of death for a permanent record on the cemetery grounds and in our office.

Since we purchased the ground comprising the New Cemetery 48 years ago, only the upper left hand corner adjoining the Tifereth Israel Cemetery has been developed. The level portion thereof has been nearly exhausted and at best can be used for only two years. The Cemetery Committee under the Chairmanship of Ben Edelstein have been working on the plans for the development of the large tract of land comprising what we term the lower part of the cemetery. A survey has been ordered and weather permitting should be completed during the spring. Once a proper entrance for the new roadway can be determined, roads can be constructed and grave sites laid out. This ground is fairly level and is large enough to serve the next two generations. The cost of the improvements in the Old and New Cemeteries may well exceed our resources, but the Federation, through its President, Herman Fineberg, and its Executive Director, Robert Hiller, have been alerted and with their cooperation and the support of a sympathetic community, I believe we can meet and overcome all monetary problems.

To my officers and members of our Board of Directors, I take this means of expressing my thanks for their splendid cooperation. Also to our wonderful Secretary, Bert Horowitz, our Rabbonim, Chazzonim, morticians, and our Gabbayim, who have so willingly contributed their services.

Lastly my sincere thanks to our Ladies' Auxiliary. Under the leadership of its President, Mrs. Sarah Abrams, they have faithfully joined the men in attendance at all funerals. They paid from their own treasury the expenditures for the maintenance of the cemetery and have pledged their support to our expansion program. This unity of purpose has made my ^{term} ten years as President a pleasant one, and I thank you sincerely for giving me this opportunity of serving you and this community as the President of your Organization.

Respectfully submitted,



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Respectfully submitted,



Edward S. Sheinberg

COMMITTEE MEETING
UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION

November 2, 1961.

MINUTES

A special committee meeting of the community-wide cemetery group was held at the United Jewish Federation, at 8:00 P. M., Thursday, November 2, 1961. Present were:

Mr. Robert Hiller	Executive Director, United Jewish Federation
Mr. Bert Horowitz	Executive Secretary, Hebrew Burial Association
Mr. Joseph Schwartz	Boh-Nai Yisroel
Mr. Abe Caplan	Beth Shalom
Mr. Chester G. Bandman	Rodef Shalom

The meeting was called for the express purpose of drafting a suitable questionnaire, as suggested by the entire committee at its meeting of August 21, 1961.

Mr. Hiller in reply to an inquiry stated that the general purpose of the over-all committee was essentially to make possible assistance to smaller groups, by drawing from the experience of the larger groups in the community. He also stated that the questionnaire was being developed in order to provide the entire committee with a better understanding of how the respective groups represented on this committee would react to the concept of the proposed committee.

Mr. Schwartz presented a summation of the accomplishments of the first meeting, which he stated seemed to present five basic problems.

1. Perpetual care.
2. Cemetery groups with no synagogue affiliation.
3. Workmen's Circle problem - little capital and fewer workers.
4. The plight of the abandoned cemetery.
5. The case of younger groups in need of cemetery space, but without financial resources to acquire grounds of their own.

Mr. Hiller suggested that the questions to be proposed should contemplate such basic elements as assets, property, caretakers, grounds, memberships, (increasing and decreasing).

Mr. Bandman asked who had contacted what groups in this regard in the past. Mr. Hiller indicated that Federation had received several requests from people, such as a caller who wanted assurances of perpetual care of his last resting place, but who apparently did not believe that his cemetery group could give him positive assurance that they could provide such service; An elderly member of a congregation which seemed to be getting smaller daily, who stated that his organization had cemetery grounds, had a bank balance, and although he was running the affairs of the group, indicated that when he passed on, none of the few remaining members were equipped to continue, where he left off. When it was suggested that new members be taken into the group, the reply was one of general disinterest.

After some discussion, the following were suggested for inclusion in the questionnaire.

1. Name of congregation, local address, and name and address of cemetery if any.
 - (a) Cemetery.
 - (b) Synagogue or organization, if otherwise affiliated.
 - (c) Officers. (Names, addresses and phone numbers.)
2. Does your congregation or organization own, or does it exist for the use of, a cemetery?
3. Is your cemetery affiliated with a congregation?
4. Does your membership show a gradual increase or decrease in membership?
5. Is there a responsible committee or person charged with supervision and execution of your program? If so, list names, address and phone number.
6. Is your cemetery part of a synagogue program, or does it exist as an unaffiliated cemetery? If the latter, is it incorporated?
7. Who holds title to the cemetery grounds, funds and other property? Name, address and phone number.

8. How many burials has your group averaged per year, during the past five years?
9. What is the nature of your maintenance program? Do you employ a full or part-time superintendent, caretaker, and do you have other employees? Names, addresses and phone numbers.
10. What is the potential capacity of your presently usable burial grounds?
 - (a) Number of unused grave plots.
 - (b) Do you have grounds suitable for future expansion?
11. Does your group have? (check one).
 - (a) Ample grounds for foreseeable future needs? _____
 - (b) Do you have more grounds than you will require? _____
 - (c) Will you require additional grounds for future use? _____
12. Does your group have endowment or reserve funds to assure proper maintenance of graves, lots and grounds, and other cemetery property?
13. Does your organization have a responsible committee to assure proper management of endowment funds to take care of graves, grounds, and other cemetery property for the next 25 years?

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Horowitz,
Executive Secretary

Handwritten:
11/14/61
needed

November 14, 1961

Mr. Robert Hiller
United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Dear Mr. Hiller:

You will find attached six copies of the preliminary draft of the minutes and questions, which were formulated at the November 2nd sub-committee meeting. You will recall that this committee proposed that the questions be mailed to those present, for review and editing. It was also decided that this process consume no more than two weeks, so that the final draft could be mailed to the entire group in advance of our next meeting.

I have made no attempt to place any of the questions in a suitable general category. I thought perhaps you might want to do that, in editing my minutes. Nor have I made any attempt to consolidate questions of similar nature. Here and there, I have taken the liberty to suggest the inclusion of names, addresses and phone numbers, to assist us in compiling adequate listings.

Please call me if there is any question.

Sincerely,

Bert Horowitz
Executive Secretary

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chesed Shel Emeth)

January 30, 1963.

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh 13, Penna.

A N N U A L

M E E T I N G

A G E N D A

1. Opening - Greetings.....Edward S. Sheinberg ✓
2. Minutes - Correspondence - All Business.....Accept Motion to Dispense
3. President's Report.....Edward S. Sheinberg
4. Greetings.....by Exec. Secretary, Bert Horowitz
Mrs. Sam Abrams, President, Auxiliary
5. Introduction & Installation of Officers.....Edward S. Sheinberg
(Dismiss all but President Unger.
Turn chair over to Unger.)
6. Greetings.....Incoming President, William Unger
7. Greetings.....Chairman of Annual Meeting, Ben Edelstein
8. Introductions of Other Guests - Remarks?.....William Unger
(Hiller - Bronner?)
9. Vocal Selections.....Cantor Murray Gold
Temple B'Nai Israel, McKeesport
10. Address.....The Honorable Judge Benjamin Lencher
President Judge Allegheny County Court
11. Vocal Selections.....Cantor Murray Gold
12. Announcements, Additional Introductions and
Acknowledgments.....William Unger
(Committee - Refreshments).....Ladies Auxiliary
13. Closing.

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chased Shai Smith)

GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING

December 8, 1963

At the home of: Bernard Letteman, 2093 Beechwood Boulevard, Pittsburgh.

MINUTES

A meeting of the Grounds Committee was held at the home of Bernard Letteman, on December 8, 1963. Present were: Bernard Letteman, Chairman, William Sager, Nathan E. Snader, Maurice Fireman, Morris Flan, and the Executive Secretary, Bert Horowitz.

The engineering plans submitted by Milton Justh was studied and discussed. After detailed explanation, the plan received unanimous approval and it was recommended that this be submitted to the Board of the Hebrew Burial Association for acceptance, at the next meeting.

It was also unanimously agreed that the recommendation calling for removal of the gate post from its present location and re-setting it at a spot away from the present retaining wall, likewise be submitted for approval of the Board.

WATER - The committee recommends that the following be looked into.

1. - The feasibility of placing an electric pump on the present well in the chapel be studied, and to determine whether water levels in the well will supply sufficient water for the chapel's needs and for water in the grounds.
2. - To look further into the possibility of tapping the present water main to supply water to the chapel.
3. - To look into costs of extending the present main on Regina Street, at the lower end of the chapel, and bringing a line into H. B. A. grounds.
4. - The grounds Chairman is to pursue further a meeting with the rabbi, in order to secure their final decision on the manner in which the old grounds will be treated.
5. - A discussion with the rabbi, to determine their final disposition towards the suggestion of flush markers.

ANNUAL MEETING

It was decided that the Annual Meeting would be held at the United Jewish Federation, 234 Mellon Place, Pittsburgh 13, Pa., on Wednesday, January 29, 1964. Chairman Maurice Fisman was asked to make contact with Rabbi M. V. Goldblum, of Beth Shalom Congregation. The Executive Secretary was asked to secure the services of Cantor Murray Gold, who did such a splendid job at last year's meeting. The secretary was instructed to ask Mrs. Abrams and the Ladies Auxiliary to provide refreshments, as in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

Best Horowitz
Executive Secretary

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chesed Shel Emeth)

December 18, 1968

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

R E G U L A R

M E E T I N G

A G E N D A

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Minutes of Last Meeting
3. Correspondence
4. Reports
 - a. President
 - b. Auxiliary
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Secretary
 - e. Grounds Committee
 - f. Nominating Committee
5. Old Business
 - a. Election of Officers and Board Members
 - b. Adoption of the Amended By-Laws
6. New Business
7. Announcements
8. Good & Welfare
9. Closing

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chesed Shel Emeth)

December 18, 1968

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Hebrew Burial Association was held on Wednesday, November 27, 1968, at the United Jewish Federation, 234 McKee Place, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213. Present were: Mrs. Jennie Ainisman, Louis Baseman, Rudolph Bauer, Maurice Fireman, Paul Green, Nathan Grumet, Mrs. Toni Kalmann, Edmund Kann, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kolb, Edward Sheinberg, Martin Stern, Ralph Weiss, Morris Wolf, President Nathan Snader, and the executive secretary Bert Horowitz.

The meeting was opened at 8:25 P. M. Minutes of the previous reading were read and corrected to read; Ralph Weiss present instead of Sofie Wikes as reported. Correspondence was then read and approved.

REPORTS

President - President Snader welcomed Mr. Wolf, one of the nominees, and expressed the hope of seeing him elected and his presence at future meetings. He also mentioned receipt of a letter from Mr. Al Mellman, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, which bore a petition on behalf of Soviet Jewry, and urged all present and their friends to sign the petition, since it is the JCRC's belief that when received by the Soviet government the petition would have considerable weight.

Auxiliary President - Mrs. Kolb, in the absence of Mrs. Abrams, stated that there was nothing new to report for the auxiliary. The treasury balance, she said remains the same as reported at the last meeting. Operating Account - \$214.61. Reserve Account - \$4,100.00. State of Israel Bonds * \$5,000.00. Total Balance.....\$9,314.61.

Treasurer's Report - In the absence of the treasurer, the secretary read the following report:

Operating Account: - On hand November 1, 1968.....	931.78	
Receipts, UJF.....	200.00	
	<u>1,131.78</u>	
Disbursed for November.....	180.00	
Balance, November 30, 1968		951.78.
 Reserve Account: On hand November 1, 1968.....	 3,570.44	
Balance, November 30, 1968		3,570.44
 State of Israel Bonds:.....	 3,000.00	
Total Assets, November 30, 1968		<u>7,522.22</u>

Secretary's Report - Mr. Horowitz, the executive secretary, announced the forthcoming UJF Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 4th, and urged everybody present to make an effort to attend. He also announced the U.J.A. Meeting which was being held in New York City on the 12th, 13th, and 14th, and urged those present to consider going to that meeting, in view of the excellence of the program and the speaker, who was scheduled to be General Moshe Dayan, of Israel. He concluded his report by announcing six Mini missions to Israel. He stated there would be six weekly trips, starting with the middle of December and running into the end of January, open to all who wished to go. Costs are \$690.00 person, everything including the flight, hotel, meals, etc. included.

Grounds Committee Report - Since Mr. Edelstein is away on vacation, no grounds report was rendered.

Nominating Committee Report - Mr. Fireman was then called upon to give a nominating committee report. The following names were placed in nomination:

Executive Board

Nathan Snader	President
Joseph Kolb	1st Vice-President
Nathan Grumet	2nd Vice-President
Edward Sheinberg	Treasurer
Bernard Latterman	Assistant Treasurer

Jacob Titlbaum	Gabbai
Morris Goldstein	Gabbai
Mrs. Sam Abrams	Auxiliary President
Ben Edelstein	Assistant to Executive Secretary
Bert Horowitz	Executive Secretary
Gerald Soroker	Ex-Officio

(Joseph Kolb was nominated 1st Vice-President - and Nathan Grumet was nominated 2nd Vice-President, for a one year term. All other officers were nominated for a one-year term also.)

LIFE TRUSTEES

Mrs. Sam Abrams
Samuel H. Bloom
Mrs. Ida Dunn
Ben Edelstein
Morris Goldstein
Mrs. Joseph Kolb
Ernest Nachman

Mrs. Fannie Schugar
Harry Seder
Edward Sheinberg
Jacob Titlbaum
Leon Tolochko
William Unger
Mrs. Sofie Wikes

ONE YEAR TERM

Mrs. Jennie Ainisman	5551 Centre Avenue	15232	441-0268
Rudolph Bauer	2341 Eldridge Street	15217	421-6449
Milton Engel	5636 Forbes Avenue	15217	521-2040
Maurice Fireman	5535 Kamin Street	15217	521-0578
Charles Glick	5543 Baywood Street	15206	441-3005
Paul Green	1654 Denniston Avenue	15217	421-6643
Saul J. Hineck *	6633 Reynolds Street	15206	661-6411
Bernard Latterman	2093 Beechwood Boulevard	15217	421-0868
Stanley Levine	2432 Marburry Road	15221	242-7785
Hyman Shapiro	5915 Phillips Avenue	15217	421-5133
Nathan Snader	2123 Shady Avenue	15217	421-2048
Mrs. Jacob Titlbaum	5723 Darlington Road	15217	421-9757
Joseph Stein	1017 Elizabeth Street	15221	271-2093

* - New member

TWO YEAR TERM

Jacob Bloom *	5556 Covode Street	15217	421-1546
Mrs. Samuel Bloom	6500 Lilac Street	15217	421-5620
Mrs. Ben Edelstein	2853 Beechwood Boulevard	15217	421-7311
Allan Goppman	111 Schenley Manor Drive	15201	644-5619
Nathan Grumet	1330 Simona Drive	15217	471-1205
Edmund Kann	5821 Darlington Road	15217	421-8095
Nathan Katz	5837 Beacon Street	15217	421-6015
Murray Levine	400 S. Homewood Avenue	15208	371-0313
Mrs. Gussie Mallinger	1132 N. St. Clair St.	15206	362-1374
Harry Markovitz	1102 Standard Life Bldg	15222	261-6745
Mrs. Sadie Schwartz	5673 Hobart St. Apt 9	15217	421-6913
Mrs. Jennie Shapiro	5806 Margaretta St.	15206	661-6982
Ralph Weiss	5562 Hobart St.	15217	421-4603

* - New member

THREE YEAR TERM

Sam Abrams	2311 Sherbrook Street	15217	421-1990
Louis Baseman	3831 Beechwood Boulevard	15217	421-9458
Nathan Cohen	2145 Wightman Street	15217	421-3212
Emil Davis *	3871 Beechwood Boulevard	15217	421-4550
Abraham Faledor	2414 Fifth Avenue	15213	682-5500
Morris Flam	5515 Stanton Avenue	15206	361-0644
Morris Friedman	5461 Beacon Street	15217	421-9734
Mrs. Toni Kalmann	4026 Beechwood Boulevard	15217	521-0724
Joseph Kolb	4101 Murray Avenue	15217	521-2875
Morris Spatter	JHA, Brown's Hill Road	15217	521-5900
Martin Stern	2330 Tilbury Avenue	15217	521-3167
Nathan Weiner	5636 Forbes Ave., Apt 4B	15217	421-6281
Morris Wolf *	5562 Hobart Street	15217	521-2220

* - New members

President Snader commented that Jacob Bloom, one of the nominees, was a devoted member of the Senior Citizens, of which he is now secretary. He indicated that Bloom was quite active and would be a welcome addition to the HBA Board. He also greeted Mr. Wolf again, and then stated that Mr. Wolf would likewise be a welcome member of the HBA Board. He extended congratulations to Mr. Fireman and his committee for a splendid job.

Mr. Bauer raised some questions about retention of absentees, and it was explained that in many instances despite absences, they were valuable members of the Board because of the facilities they were able to extend to the Board and the access to various supplies which we purchase from time to time, and which they have been supplying at substantial savings to the Association.

Mr. Snader then opened nominations from the floor for officers. Hearing none, he opened the nomination for board members. Hearing none, the nominating committee report was accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

The secretary was then asked to render a second reading of the amended By-Laws, which were read without any comment or further changes. The question of adopting the By-Laws was then raised, and since the new by-laws provide for a special meeting for their adoption, it was decided that since the new by-laws had not yet been adopted, the provision calling for a special meeting for adoption be waived, and that final presentation and adoption of the by-laws be made at the next Board meeting on December 18th. Mr. Grumet moved that Article VI Section B of the by-laws requiring a special meeting for its adoption, be set aside, and waived. This motion was seconded by Ralph Weiss and was unanimously adopted. The Board was authorized to present the by-laws for acceptance at the December 18th board meeting. Mr. Horowitz recommended that the composition of the nominating committee under the by-laws reflect the addition of a lay person. This was authorized.

Mr. Bauer protested the fact that the secretary had not written to the Chief of Police when the issue was raised, and indicated that this was a mandate from the board. Mr. Horowitz stated that he had been called by a number of people, suggesting that we review this mandate, and that the board withhold submission of this letter. Mr. Bauer felt that since this incident which brought about the question of the letter had long since passed, that there would be no purpose in writing a belated letter, and moved that the authority to write this letter be rescinded and that no letter be written. This was seconded, and was adopted unanimously.

The secretary was directed not to write the letter.

GOOD & WELFARE

A number of people spoke under Good and Welfare.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Horowitz
Executive Secretary

BH/co

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chesed Shel Emeth)

July 29, 1970

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Hebrew Burial Association was held on Wednesday, May 27, 1970, at the United Jewish Federation, 234 McKee Place, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15213. Present were: Mr. & Mrs. Sam Abrams, President Maurice Fireman, Mrs. Toni Kalmann, Edmund Kann, Joseph Kolb, Mrs. Joseph Kolb, Mrs. Gussie Mallinger, Mrs. Jennie Shapiro, and the Executive Secretary, Bert Horowitz.

The meeting was opened at 8:40 P. M. by President Fireman. Minutes of the meeting of April 29, 1970 were read and approved as read. Correspondence including a request from the United Jewish Federation for submission of 1970-71 budget was read.

President - Mr. Fireman after greeting those present expressed gratification for the fact that we had no funerals during the previous month.

REPORTS

Auxiliary President - Mrs. Abrams reported that the Auxiliary held one meeting since last month and had little to report excepting progress. Mrs. Kolb reported the Auxiliary treasury balance was as follows:

State of Israel Bonds	\$6,000.00
Reserve Account	4,079.55 (Same as last month)
Operating Account	<u>822.82</u>
Total Assets	\$10,902.37

Treasurer's Report - In the absence of Mr. Sheinberg, the Executive Secretary read the following report:

Operating Account - on hand May 1, 1970.....	1,052.91
Receipts, UJF.....	<u>320.00</u>
	1,372.91
Disbursements.....	<u>232.01</u>
Balance, Operating Account May 31, 1970.....	1,140.90
Reserve Account - on hand May 1, 1970.....	5,292.15
Balance, Reserve Account, May 31, 1970.....	5,292.15
State of Israel Bonds - as of May 31, 1970.....	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS - End of Fiscal Year	9,433.05

Secretary's Report - In the absence of Grounds Chairman, Martin Stern, the Secretary gave a combined report. He stated there were no funerals during the previous month. He asked that the question of removal of the Mazeltov grave again be considered, along with a number of other matters which should be disposed of before the fall season. He gave a progress report on the repairs which we have undertaken and advised that the balance in the Reserve Account is insufficient to meet those costs. He asked the Board to consider adding to the existing Development Account, since the cost of repairs cannot be met from the Operating Account. He suggested that the Auxiliary should consider transfer of a matching amount to funds in the Development Account. He concluded by stating that Mr. Stern had called to advise his inability to attend because of another pressing engagement. In conclusion the secretary asked that the Board select a definite date for the Unveiling Program, since they originally designated either August 30 or September 13.

OLD BUSINESS

Following a brief discussion it was moved and seconded that August 30 be designated as the date for the Unveiling Program. The motion was passed unanimously.

The question of moving the Mazeltov grave was then discussed at considerable length. It was pointed out that when the chapel is ultimately cleared from the grounds, that area would lend itself nicely to additional grave space, and if the Mazeltov grave was left undisturbed, it could then become the anchor spot from which additional grave sites could be planned. It was therefore decided to leave matters as they are and reconsider this question at an appropriate time in the future.

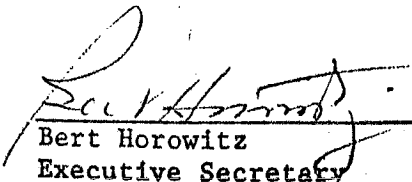
Our present policy of finishing off grave sites with myrtle, was then opened for discussion. The grounds keeper had recommended that we discontinue the practice of mounding the grave site and topping it with myrtle, a practice which he considered expensive. In the interest of economy, he recommended a flush type grave which would lend itself for ease in maintenance. After some discussion, it was decided to dispense with future use of myrtle and to finish off the grave by a simple mound covered with grass.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved and seconded that both the Auxiliary and the Burial Association contribute \$1500 each to the Development Fund. The motion was passed unanimously. The secretary then presented the 1970-71 budget in the amount of \$2860, which showed no increase over the previous year. It was moved and seconded that the budget be submitted in the amount of \$2860. The motion was passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Bert Horowitz
Executive Secretary

8/19/71

THE HEBREW BURIAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(Chesed Shel Emeth)

United Jewish Federation
234 McKee Place
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of the Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh was held on Wednesday, May 26, 1971, at the United Jewish Federation, 234 McKee Place, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213. Present were: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kolb, Mrs. Toni Kalmann, Martin Stern, Rudolph Bauer, Nathan Snader, Nathan Weiner Paul Green, Board President Maurice Fireman, and Executive Secretary Bert Horowitz.

The meeting was opened by President Fireman at 8:30 p.m. He apologized for cancellation of the meeting of April 28th, which he stated was due to a community wide rally celebrating Israel's independence, held that night at Beth Shalom Synagogue. Mr. Fireman stated further that a regular meeting could not be conducted since no quorum was present. He agreed, however, to hear committee reports, but again indicated that no formal business would be conducted, unless one other board member arrived.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read, with the following corrections:

1. Mrs. Mallinger, and not Mrs. Shapiro as reported, was ill.
2. According to Mr. Stern, the discussion on the status of agency insurance was also omitted from the minutes, and these were ordered added.

With the above two corrections, the minutes stood approved as read.

Correspondence, including a letter from K. C. Neuman asking a variety of questions about the proposed sale of our cemetery grounds, was read.

REPORTS

Auxiliary - Mr. Kolb, in the absence of Mrs. Abrams, gave the following financial report:

Operating Account	\$ 184.24
Reserve Account	3,700.00
State of Israel Bonds	<u>7,000.00</u>
	\$10,884.24

Grounds Chairman's Report - Mr. Stern reported that the old chapel has finally been dismantled. He added that the structure had to be torn down, because it was partially destroyed by fire. According to police, it was started by 4 teen-age boys, later apprehended by the police. He then added that he had given the police

department assurances that the agency would not prosecute the boys. Mr. Stern then disclosed that prior to the fire, a nearby resident had offered to tear the structure down for the sum of \$350, plus the rights to salvage all of the building materials such as bricks, etc., which survived the blaze.

He reminded those present that the grounds keeper had asked for \$600 to do this work previously, but had never gotten around to it. Mr. Reiss was advised by Mr. Stern of the \$350 offer, and took the question under advisement before the neighbor, one William Brack, 316 Rogina Street, could be engaged to destroy the building. The fire intervened, and as soon as this became know to Mr. Reiss, he immediately tore down and leveled the remains to the ground.

The grounds chairman then asked for the status of the Neuman offer to purchase part of our burial grounds. Mr. Stern stated that some of the headstone foundations were in disrepair and several stones were tilted. He asked for approval to enable him to get this work under way.

Treasurer's Report - In the absence of Mr. Sheinberg, Mr. Snader gave the following report:

OPERATING ACCOUNT

On hand April 1, 1971	\$516.24	
Receipts April	0.00	
May	<u>500.00</u>	\$1,016.24

Disbursements

April	227.28	
May	<u>252.28</u>	
		<u>479.56</u>

Balance - OPERATING ACCOUNT 5/31/71 \$ 536.68

RESERVE ACCOUNT

On hand April 1, 1971	4,377.44	
Receipts - April		
Bank Interest	48.90	
Ben Goldberg	25.00	
S. Polonsky	<u>5.00</u>	<u>78.90</u>
May		<u>0.00</u>

Balance - RESERVE ACCOUNT 5/31/71 4,456.34

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS - AS OF 5/31/71 3,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS - 5/31/71 \$ 7,993.02

DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

On hand 5/31/71	<u>975.04</u>
	<u>\$ 8,968.06</u>

Secretary's Report - Mr. Horowitz stated that he had received correspondence from the Unemployment Compensation Bureau of the State, which matter was taken care of by telephone. The HBA does not come within the purview of the Unemployment Compensation Act.

Regarding Beth El, he stated that in his letter, Mr. Neuman asked a variety of questions regarding the tract of ground under consideration. He reported that the letter was cleared with the President, who authorized a reply.

The Secretary then reported receipt of an inquiry regarding burial of a person whose son was married to a non-Jew, and who insisted on placing his father to rest in a non-sectarian cemetery. Mr. Horowitz reported that the remains were received by a non-Jewish undertaker, and that when he called in an effort to effect a change in the son's plans, he, the son, hung up after having told Mr. Horowitz in effect, to mind his own business.

Mr. Horowitz reported that at the insistence of the UJF, a tentative budget for fiscal 1971-72 was submitted to Federation with a covering letter indicating that the figures were developed by the President in conference with the Executive Secretary. Since no increases were requested, it was deemed appropriate by the President to submit the budget without the Board's approval.

Mr. Horowitz concluded his report by stating that he planned to retire from his commitments to the Jewish War Veterans as well as the United Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh. Moreover, as soon as it became feasible, he planned to seek release from his assignment as Executive Secretary of the Hebrew Burial Association of Pittsburgh.

Old Business - Mr. Kolb stated that Blank Bros., undertakers, had the names of those buried on grounds dating back to 1929. He also indicated that Schugars and Burton Hirsch have similar records, and suggested that the Secretary find time to go through these archives in the interest of perfecting the HBA records of those interred in its grounds.

Mr. Stern stated that he lacked information on the proposed sale of the grounds to the Beth El Congregation, and he felt that the Secretary should keep him apprised of progress.

The question of repairs to the old cemetery grounds again arose. It was suggested that a bid for repairs to the wall at the grounds should be the first project to be considered. The Board was reminded that this repair had been authorized in the past, and the names of the committee should be checked out and the old committee reactivated. Several other questions relating to this repair were asked but all agreed that the wall should get first consideration. Mr. Fireman again suggested that the grounds committee secure bids on the wall repair and bring them in for consideration at the next meeting.