

June 30, 1969

Dear Haverim,

I am doing something now that in some ways maybe I should have done a while ago, but didn't.

I've had it. As of when I leave for Israel, I quit all special responsibilities for administration, public relations, and fundraising for the Havurah. Frankly, I'm sick of doing all this crap work, having no time for most of the things that are important to me (including things within the Havurah) - and then being told by others that I'm usurping things, etc.

Perhaps much of my "leading" things has been a bad kind of ego trip; I'm honestly not sure. If that is true, that's all the more reason, for me and for the Havurah, why I should pull out of all these roles.

Speaking objectively, there are other people in the community who can do things like this just as well as I. Many people can share in the administration; as to fundraising and publicity, I'd say that Michael, Jim, Joel, Everett, Steve Mitchell and others could do just fine.

In practical terms, this immediately means the following:

1. I will no longer answer any correspondence except that which is addressed to me personally. I suggest someone be put in charge of that for the rest of the summer; Anita will be glad, I'm sure, to work with whoever it is. If no one takes over, the mail will remain unanswered.
2. Someone should be in charge of contacting people and coordinating moving, repairs on the house, work there by us and others, etc. (I'll complete the purchase deal, as that's something I've started.)
3. If the community wants a new bulletin and course list, someone should get to it. The old one is of course badly outdated.
4. Someone should have complete overall responsibility for seeing that courses get started, Hebrew tutorials set up, etc etc.
5. As to fundraising, I'll be happy to maintain the contact with any sources I've already gotten to know (eg Hershberger) only if and when asked to do so by the new person in charge of fundraising.

The same goes for speaking on the Havurah and other PR activities.

6. It's my feeling that we will at this point need a co-ordinator for the rest of the summer. I would personally suggest that people in Boston and Palmer somehow get together and set this up; I do not feel it would be right for me to call or organize such a meeting.

7. While in Israel in late July and early August I had planned to set things up for a possible year there for Havurah members the following year. Zalman and I had talked about this: we had thought of some time on an interesting Kibbutz, work in an Arab village, some Yeshivah study, and some private study with a few interesting individuals. I will go through with this planning, if there are no objections. Let me hear any suggestions during the next couple of weeks.

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Please understand that my commitment to the Havurah is in no way diminished. Please understand too that this is not some childish shtik which ends in my being asked to continue. I have REALLY had it. I believe there is enough of both ability and dedication in the Havurah so that things can go on very well without my constantly rushin in and taking over. I'm sick of that, and I know I'm not the only one who is...

Peace



If there is no objection, Hethy and I would like to take the library as our area of responsibility next year.