

Presidential Matters

By Steve Aronowitz



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:
JANUARY 11, 2016**

**TOPIC: HOW WE ARE ADDRESSING YOUR
SECURITY CONCERNS**

The great Cantor, Joshua Shron, once stated, “A synagogue can have the most vibrant, the most dynamic, the most charismatic Rabbi and Cantor – but it’s the members who make the difference!” As we welcome 2016, I hope you will make a commitment to join in one more synagogue activity than you did last year. Like any initiative, the number of individuals who recognize its value and participate determines its success.

Recently, there is one issue that stands above all others within our congregation. I hear about it from temple members, whether attending occasionally or regularly, whether at the temple or in the community, in person or by phone or email. It is the concern for our safety and the steps we are taking to ensure that our members, employees, and visitors are safe in our synagogue. There is nothing I take more seriously!

I know you share my concern and that is why you will want to be at the **General Membership meeting on Monday, January 11, at 7:45 p.m. The program will begin as we recognize the services of the NYPD’s 111th precinct**, responsible for patrolling the synagogue area. Each time I have contacted the police department to ask for support, a patrol is dispatched. Sometimes, it is a walkthrough; other times, a police car is parked outside the entrance. It doesn’t matter what the activity, I’m never asked for details to determine importance; it’s simply a request that is responded to 100% of the time. Commanding officer, Capt. William McBride, will join us to receive a plaque recognizing the efforts of his department.

Your attendance at this meeting confirms this topic as a priority for each of us. We will also outline the steps we are considering as part of an upgraded security plan.

At the congregational meeting that will begin at 8:15 p.m. and conclude no later than 9:30 p.m., a financial report will be made and the congregation will have the responsibility to approve the budget.

I look forward to seeing you on the 11th as I am certain you recognize the importance of the temple’s finances as well as the security issues.