

NEW YORK CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY  
165 East 56 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10022

PL 1-4000

Meeting of the Planning Committee  
for the October 2nd Simchat Torah Rally  
Tuesday, August 26, 1969 - 10:30 A.M.

David Geller - Presiding

M I N U T E S

PRESENT: Abe Bayer, NCRAC; Jacob Birnbaum, SSSJ; Pinkas Dain, AZC; David Geller, AJCommittee; Rabbi Louis Ginsburg, NCSY/UOJCA; Rabbi Jacob Goldberg, NYBR; Janet Goller, AJCongress; Mel Klarfeld, B'nai B'rith; Martin Lapan, JLC; Arthur Rosenbluth, B'nai B'rith; Isaac Seif, Farband, Labor Zionist Order.

The following decisions were reached:

I. The title of the Rally will be Simchat Torah Celebration for Soviet Jewry.

II. The Celebration will be held at the Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 47th Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues - on Thursday, October 2, 1969, at 6:30 P.M.

III. The basic agreed-upon format would be:

- a) Introductory remarks by Rabbi Norman Lamm
- b) Greetings from Mayor Lindsay, Sen. Javits and Sen. Goodell
- c) A major address
- d) Songs and dances

Several names were suggested for the key speakers and entertainers. These included Sen. Edmund Muskie, Arthur Goldberg, Arthur Miller, Theodore Bikel, Elie Wiesel, Sen. Abe Ribicoff; Eli Wallach, Jan Peerce.

IV. posters will be distributed to various geographic locations in the city, from which they will be distributed to local synagogues and schools.

The members who attended the meeting agreed to arrange for 3-5 people to assist in this distribution, and to make personal appeals to rabbis and teachers to publicize the October 2nd Rally.

Rabbi Jacob Goldberg agreed to "follow through" and see to it that the New York Board of Rabbis does all it can to bring it to the attention of its membership and their congregations.

Herman Brown of the AJCongress will be asked to work with Rabbi Geffen, Jacob Birnstein and the Queens Council on Soviet Jewry.

V. It was suggested that because several invited youth leaders were unable to attend this meeting, that a special meeting for youth directors and youth leaders be convened.

Rabbi Louis Ginsburg was asked to contact the youth directors and through them some of the youth groups, including those associated with the North American Jewish Youth Council.

Abe Bayer too, agreed to contact the representatives of the NAJYC (who will be assembled for a convention during Labor Day.

Martin Lapan of the Jewish Labor Committee agreed to contact the appropriate people in those labor unions associated with the JLC and urge them to publicize and support the Rally.

VI. It was decided that all Jewish organizations who are presently involved in radio and TV programming will be asked to make a special announcement and/or schedule a special program relating to Soviet Jewry

In addition it was agreed that ads would be placed in the NYTimes, Village Voice, Cue, New Yorker, Anglo-Jewish press, Yiddish press and college newspapers.

VII. Jacob Birnbaum of the SSSJ made several valuable suggestions concerning the use of bands and small choral groups which are associated with the various youth groups. He also volunteered to assist in contacting the various youth groups and urging their participation.