

RABBI NORMAN LAMM
THE JEWISH CENTER
181 WEST 86TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10024
SCOUTLINE 4-8511

May 31, 1974

Mr. Michael Burak
200 West 86th Street
New York, N.Y. 10024

Mr. Richard Swergold
450 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10024

Dear Michael and Rickey:

I have long been concerned by developments in the neighborhood. The welfare and future of The Jewish Center is inextricably tied up with developments on the West Side.

I feel that it is not enough for us to react, but we must be "on top of things," insofar as neighborhood developments are concerned.

The officers of The Center have asked me to invite the two of you to constitute a committee that will be involved both in the Planetarium Neighborhood Council and in seeking out information about the new construction that is going on in Columbus Avenue, West End Avenue, and elsewhere, which might affect us and potential membership.

A gentleman who does not belong to The Center, but who joins us frequently for services and classes, Mr. Herbert Lauer, has taken the trouble to write to me about some of these matters. Another young man who has expressed an interest in these matters, and similarly joins us for services frequently though he is not a member, is Dr. Stanley Ocken of 107 West 86th Street. He too might be pressed into service.

I am sending you xeroxed copies of the material I received from Mr. Lauer, as well as some of the documents relating to the Planetarium Council.

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I earnestly request of you that you both accept this commission. It involves representing The Center at the appropriate times, keeping in contact with each other with an eye to informing us when we must take action, and what can be done so as to enhance the membership potential of The Jewish Center.

May I count on you for this? Please be kind enough to contact each other and then let me hear from you. Your telephone numbers are as follows:

Mr. Burak - H: 799-2607 O: 516-536-3030

Mr. Swergold - H: TR7-1902

My best regards to your families.

Cordially,

RABBI NORMAN LAMM

NL:cw

Enc.

cc: Mr. Max Stern
Mr. Lawrence Kobrin
Mr. Martin Schwarzschild