

Minutes for Wed., June 20, 2018 meeting of the RCA Executive Committee

Attendance: Gershon Albert, Daniel Alter, Hanan Balk, Shalom Baum, Gedalyah Berger, Saul Berman, Binyamin Blau, Nesanel Braun, Mark Dratch, Josh Flug, Shaanan Gelman, Aaron Glatt, Shlomo Hochberg, Ira Kronenberg, Leonard Matanky, Elazar Muskin, Ariel Rackovsky, Yerachmiel Seplowitz, Gil Student, Eliyahi Teitz, Reuven Tradburks, Howard Zack, Michael Zylberman

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Rabbinical Council of America, held by conference call, on **Wed., June 20, 2018**, President Elazar Muskin in the chair, and Reuven Tradburks acting on behalf of the secretary, the following items were decided:

Elazar Muskin, President, reported on the fine quality of the Convention and on the new initiatives in our membership emails of weekly divrei Torah from officers, the continuing of sharing of best practices, and the book review offering. He outlined plans for webinars on "What we need to know of Biblical Criticism", an initiative to further support pre-nup use. He reported on the success at the Convention of the new Rabbinic Leadership Award presented to Howard Zack and the success of the fundraising effort from that dinner. He addressed the process undertaken in the recent announcement on separation of illegal immigrant families and the internal debate due to the moral and political nature of this issue.

Reuven Tradburks reported on the Chief Rabbi's announced protocols of acceptance of Batei Din for conversion and gittin and the support of the rabbanut of the GPS and the BDA.

Elections. Daniel Alter reported on the smooth functioning of the Elections. He reported: The RCA Constitution says that there should be four VP's from different regions. It does not state what those regions are or delineate the exact parameters of any regions. It is clear to us that the intent was to ensure a geographic diversity of leadership. At some point in time these regions were identified but not clearly delineated. As a result, this is the second time that an Elections committee has allowed a VP nominee based on a liberal interpretation of the requirements. We recommend that the officers look at this issue and come up with a plan that ensures regional diversity as desired in the Constitution, while at the same time giving the nominating committee the flexibility to choose the most appropriate leadership for

the RCA.

Convention. Thanks to Zev Spitz and Michael Whitman, Chairmen on the recent Convention. The Convention received good feedback both on content and the feeling of camaraderie. Next years Convention will be May 20, 21, 22.

The meeting was adjourned.