Library Committee

Purpose

The Library Committee will support Beit Am's Librarian with the goal of overseeing that Beit Am's library collection continues to meet the needs of Beit Am members.

Members

The Librarian, who is appointed by the Beit Am President in consultation with the board, will select the other committee members. Committee members shall include people with expertise in the library sciences and scholars in areas related to Jewish studies. The Board member holding the portfolio for Adult Education will be an *ex officio* member of the committee. The newly formed committee will meet weekly to resolve the issue of an overabundance of books, and then meet monthly to keep the library in working order.

Roles

The Library Committee will

1. Develop best practices for keeping Beit Am's library fresh, relevant and useful to its members, utilizing the expertise of members who work in library sciences.
2. Support the Librarian in preserving existing and adding new library materials, utilizing the expertise of members who have religious, historical and other scholarly interests in our collection.
3. Screen book donations to determine which should be added to our library collection.
4. Obtain new materials, for example by seeking them from Jewish book groups and by purchasing new materials through the Library Fund.
5. Ensure that those library materials that are important from a Jewish perspective, but that are not useful to members (and for which we lack available shelf space), are placed at Jewish institutions or other libraries whenever possible.
6. Explore options for raising monies for the Library Fund, including sales of higher-value books that committee members do not think warrant including in the Beit Am library collection (e.g., duplicates).
7. Offer "give aways" to members from time to time, to move older materials and to keep the collection fresh.
8. Work to encourage use of the library, by promoting new materials and creating rotating displays of selected materials.
9. Bring members' attention to particular sections of library material through Beit Am's newsletter and What's Up.
10. Modernize the "check out" system by developing a digital record of the current library, and regularly updating it as materials are added and replaced.

Adopted 10/17/2019