



Programs & Services Committee Agenda

City of Newton In City Council

Monday, July 12, 2021

6:45 PM: PLEASE NOTE THE EARLY START TIME

The Programs & Services Committee will hold this meeting as a Zoom Meeting on Monday, July 12, 2021 starting at 6:45 pm. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89067109991> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the Meeting ID 890 6710 9991.

Items Scheduled for Discussion:

- #228-21** **Appointment of Rabbi Darby Leigh to the Commission on Disability**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR appointing RABBI DARBY LEIGH, 47 Rokeby Road, as a member of the COMMISSION ON DISABILITY for a term to expire on July 15, 2023.
(60 Days: 08/06/21)

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Krintzman, Chair

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the City of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

#228-21

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May 19, 2021

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

To the Honorable City Councilors:

I am pleased to appoint Rabbi Darby Leigh of 47 Rokeby Road, Waban as a member of the Commission on Disability. His term of office shall expire on July 15, 2023 and his appointment is subject to your confirmation. The Commission on Disability members have three-year terms staggered over the three year period. Rabbi Leigh will be serving the term expiring July 2023.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmly,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02459

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RECEIVED

Application Form

Profile

Darby Leigh
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted]
Email Address

47 Rokeby Road
Home Address Suite or Apt

Waban MA 02468
City State Postal Code

What Ward do you live in?

[X] Ward 5

[Redacted]
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Kerem Shalom Rabbi
Employer Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Commission on Disability: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

As a profoundly Deaf individual I have spent my entire life concerned about issues regarding access for people with disabilities to all that our society has to offer. I am committed to the principle of access for all, not only because of my personal experiences as a person with a disability but also because of a personal moral and ethical stance based on my perception of the inherent dignity and worth of every human being and the potential value of the contributions to society that any individual might make. I have long since been an educator, advocate, and consultant with regards to access for people with disabilities and serving on the COD seems to be a wonderful opportunity to continue to engage in this important work. In short, I am interested in serving on the COD because I believe in its mission, I am deeply committed to it, and I feel that I may be able to hopefully make a contribution to its work. Thank you for your consideration. Kindness, Rabbi Darby Jared Leigh

Master_version_Resume_for_Newon_COD_Rabbi_Leigh.pdf
Upload a Resume

Rabbi Darby Jared Leigh

47 Rokeby Road
 Waban, MA 02468

Education**Reconstructionist Rabbinical College** Wyncote, P.A.

Rabbinic Ordination & M.A.H.L., 2008

Columbia University New York, N.Y.

M.A. in Religion, 2001

The National Theater of the Deaf Chester, C.T.

Professional Theater School Beginning and Advanced Programs, 1997

University of Rochester Rochester, N.Y.

B.A. in Religion with Highest Distinction, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa 1995

Gallaudet University Washington D.C.

Visiting student, 1993-'94, Presidents Scholar Award

Experience

Congregation Kerem Shalom, Concord, MA.

Rabbi, July 2013-Current

The New Shul NYC, NY.

Rabbi, September 2011-2013

Bnai Keshet Montclair, NJ.

Associate/Assistant Rabbi, July 2008- 2013

Rabbi, June 2009-June 2010 (Served the congregation as their sole rabbi during senior rabbi's 12 month sabbatical.)

C.L.A.L. The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership NYC, NY.

Rabbis Without Borders, September 2009-June 2010

Selected to participate in inaugural prestigious network of rabbis with a shared vision to make Jewish wisdom available to anyone looking to enrich his or her life.

C.L.A.L. The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership NYC, NY.

Rabbinic Student Fellow, September 2007-June 2008

Selected to represent the RRC as a rabbinical student fellow. Meet weekly with interdenominational group of rabbinical students for cross-denominational dialogue and learning.

Or HaNeshamah Ottawa, Canada.

Student Rabbi, August 2006-June 2008

Responsible for leading Shabbat and Holiday services. Work with lay leaders to coordinate and lead other holiday programs. Teach adult education courses. Provide pastoral counseling/presence for the community. Teach B'nai Mitzvah class and work with individual students and families in preparation for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Officiate at life-cycle events. Work with lay leadership, steering committee, and individual committee chairs to support lay-led programs/services & to support organizational structure and functioning.

Hillel at Temple and Drexel Universities Philadelphia, PA.

Rabbinic Educator, Fall Semester 2006

Responsible for formal and informal Jewish education for college students. Led weekly Jewish text studies. Provided rabbinic and pastoral support for students, faculty, and staff.

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah NYC, NY.

Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Intern, September 2004-June 2006

Worked directly with Rabbi Kleinbaum and Rabbi Cohen. Assisted or led weekly and holiday religious services. Responsible for pastoral counseling caseload. Advised and worked with the *Bikkur Holim*

Rabbi Darby Jared Leigh47 Rokeby Road
Waban, MA 02468

committee, (committee that visits those who are ill) 20's & 30's committee, and Feminist Voices discussion group. Taught adult education courses and worked with and advised the Liberal Minyan (prayer group) and the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan.

The Shalom Center Philadelphia, PA.

Rabbinic Intern, February 2004-June 2004

Worked with Rabbi Arthur Waskow on Shalom Center projects including the interfaith Freedom Seder.

The Shefa Fund Philadelphia, PA.

Rabbinic Intern, August 2003-February 2004

Worked with Rabbi Mordechai Liebling in *Torah of Money* department. Wrote shareholder activism resolutions. Researched Jewish texts to support shareholder activism and *Torah of Money* principles. Participated in outreach to foundations and supported their engagement with *Torah of Money* principles.**Pennsylvania School for the Deaf Germantown, PA.**

Shared Reading Project & American Sign Language Instructor, January 2003- June 2003

Met weekly with a hearing family and their deaf child in their home. Provided role model of successful deaf adult for both parents and child. Taught and supported parents in interactions with child including reading stories in ASL. Also taught weekly classes in ASL.

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf: Leadership Adventure Training

L.E.A.P. Facilitator, June 2002

Designed and led week-long leadership training program for approximately 20 oral deaf students from Universities and Colleges around North America.

Sign Language Academy at The New York Society for the Deaf NYC, NY.

American Sign Language Instructor, March 1999- June 2002

Taught students American Sign Language at a variety of levels, from beginner to expert. Led classes of approximately 10 to 15 students on grammar, vocabulary, and Deaf Cultural studies.

Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York NYC, NY.Staff for *March of the Living 2000*, January 2000- May 2000

Coordinated Hand to Heart division of MOTL (program to incorporate deaf students on MOTL.) Organized and taught preparatory classes on deafness, Jewish deaf issues, and Holocaust education. Helped lead NY contingency on the March to Poland and Israel

The New York Society for the Deaf NYC, NY.

Substance Abuse Counselor & Case Manager, January 1999- May 2000

Led therapy groups as well as provided individual counseling and concrete services to Deaf adults in Substance Abuse Treatment Program. Responsible for intakes, assessments, and maintaining client files. Responsible for monthly billing. Attended training courses as required by the program.

The National Theater of the Deaf Chester, CT.

Actor, Workshop Director, Company Deputy, July 1995-March 1998

Performed in speaking and signing roles in NTD main-stage and Little Theater of the Deaf nationally touring productions. Designed, conducted, and reviewed NTD workshops in over 25 states. Acted as communications liaison between company and administrative staff. Resolved internal company disputes and mediated grievances.

Foreign Language Department, University of Rochester Rochester, NY.

Teaching Assistant for American Sign Language Department, September 1994-May 1995

Led 80 students per semester through class-work reviews, language exercises and drills. Reinforced grammatical concepts, answered questions, and taught supplementary vocabulary.

Program

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Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc. Silver Spring, MD.

Assistant to Executive Director, Summer 1994

Maintained and updated TDI computer records and database. Disseminated information on telecommunications issues. Provided customer service to deaf and hearing membership.

Media/ Publicity

<http://www.jweekly.com/article/full/67818/dynamic-deaf-rabbi-bringing-message-of-inclusivity>

<http://www.myjewishlearning.com/elcms/jewniverse/deaf-shema.shtml>

Channel 13's MetroFocus: *Too cool for Shul: High Holidays With NYC's Hippest Rabbis.*

Daniel T. Allen, 9/25/11. Re-printed 9/27/11. The Jewish week New York. Julie Wiener.

<http://www.thirteen.org/metrofocus/metrolife/too-cool-for-shul-high-holidays-with-nycs-hippest-rabbis/>

http://www.thejewishweek.com/news/short_takes/hip_holy_days

NBC Television: *A Place For All: Faith and Community For Persons with Disabilities.* Producer

Divva Communications. Scheduled to air Nov./Dec. 2010/11

<http://divacomms.com/aplace>

New Jersey Jewish News: *Synagogues join to celebrate gay pride month.* Johanna Ginsberg,

6/30/10.

<http://njewishnews.com/article/metrowest/synagogues-join-to-celebrate-gay-pride-month>

New Jersey Jewish News: *Gay rights advocates score Democrats at Rally.* Robert Wiener, 2/14/10.

<http://njewishnews.com/article/statewide/gay-rights-advocates-score-democrats-at-rally>

New Jersey Jewish News: *Taking the 'Dis' out of Disabled.* Ron Kaplan, Features Editor. 12/23/09.

<http://www.njewishnews.com/article/lifetimes/taking-the-dis-out-of-disabled>

ABC Television: *A Place For All: Faith and Community For Persons with Disabilities.* Producer

Divva Communications. 2009-2010

<http://divacomms.com/aplace>

The Montclair Times: *Deaf rabbi brings dynamic voice to Montclair Synagogue.* Tanya Drobness

7/08.

New Jersey Jewish News: *Deaf rabbi greets opportunity to bridge worlds.* Johanna Ginsberg,

7/24/08.

<http://njewishnews.com/njnn.com/072408/mwDeafRabbi.html>

The Jewish Week, New York: cover/feature story: *Hear O'Israel.* Carolyn Slutsky, 6/6/08.

RRC World Wide Web Site. *Spotlight: Rabbi Darby Leigh.* 2005-Current.

www.rrc.edu

Jewish Exponent: *Deafness Doesn't Hinder This Student's Quest* Ryan Teitman, 1/25/07.

<http://www.jewishexponent.com/article/11952/>

PBS World Wide Web Site: *Sound and Fury, Voices of Deafness.* 2010

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/soundandfury/culture/voices-leigh.html>

The New York Times: *'Peer Gynt' With Sound and Without.* Anna Kisselgoff, 10/28/97.

<http://www.nytimes.com/1997/10/28/arts/dance-review-peer-gynt-with-sound-and-without.html>

Variety: *Peer Gynt Review.* Taylor Markland 10/6/97.

Presentations/ Publications

Scholar in Residence at JCC CA . 2/28/13-3/3/13

Author/Blogger www.huffingtonpost.com/religion.

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Author/Blogger www.PopJewish.com.

Teacher/ Guest Lecturer *Academy for Jewish Religion*. Bronx, NY. 6/19/12.

Teacher/Speaker *Collegiate Leadership Internship Program*. NYC, NY. 6/6/12.

Teacher/Presenter *Congregation Beth El*. Bennington, VT. 5/5/12.

Teacher/Presenter *Congregation Kol Ami*. White Plains, NY. 5/2/12.

Teacher/Presenter *Temple Beth Or*. Township of Washington, NJ. 1/31/12.

American Sign Language interpretations of songs & prayers.

www.RitualWell.org

<http://www.myjewishlearning.com/elcms/jewniverse/deaf-shema.shtml>

Teacher/Presenter *Congregation Kol Ami*. White Plains, NY. 1/4/12.

Teacher/Presenter *Reconstructionist Rabbinical College*. Wyncote, PA. 9/1/11.

Teacher/Presenter *Urban Mitzvah Corps*. New Brunswick, NJ. 7/26/11.

Presenter at Gallaudet University, Washington D.C. 11/10.

Presenter at *Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning ROUTES: A Day of Jewish Learning*. Washington D.C. 3/7/10.

Presenter at *Northern NJ Region of Hadassah Education Day*. Whippany NJ. 10/14/09.

Conference Rabbi/Presenter *Jewish Deaf Congress Convention*. Princeton, NJ. 8/13-17/08.

Scholar in Residence at *Columbia Jewish Congregation*, Columbia MD. 1/18/08-1/20/08.

Scholar in Residence at the *National Technical Institute for the Deaf*, Rochester NY. 3/07.

Published Commentator *A Guide to Jewish Practice: Ethics of Speech*. 2006

Published Paper, "And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped (Isaiah 35:5) An Examination of the Cochlear Implant From a Jewish Bioethical Perspective." RRC's website, Spring 2005.

Re-published on **MyJewishLearning.com** world wide web-site.

Plenary Speaker at **International Jewish Deaf Congress** Convention, 7/11/03.

Presenter *Congregation Beth Israel of Media PA*. 5/16/03.

Panelist: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Discussing cochlear implants, 1/14/03.

Presenter at *Reconstructionist Rabbinical College*, student body and community affiliates. Presented on Deafness & Jewish deaf issues, 11/12/03.

Presenter at R.R.C. Faculty & Administration. Presented on Education, Deafness & Jewish deaf issues, 9/3/03.

Leadership/**Elected Positions (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)**

President of the Rabbinical Student's Association, 12/06-12/07

Vice President of the Rabbinical Student's Association, 1/05-1/06

Representative to Liaison Committee, 9/04-9/05

Representative to *Keshet* Committee, 9/03-9/04

Representative to *Gesher* Committee, 9/02-9/03

**Honors/
Awards**

Jewish Reconstructionist Federation 2011 Honoree. Ohel: Together Under One Tent

Sheldon Williams Leadership Award, "for Assuring a World Without Limits" Center for Hearing and Communication (NY) 2009

Invited to join Cambridge Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals: Honors Edition 2007

Driesen Prize in Science and Judaism 2005

Whizin Prize in Contemporary Ethics and Judaism, runner up 2005

Ziegelman Scholarship recipient 2002- 2007

Wexner Graduate Fellow Finalist 2002

Berger Scholarship recipient 2000

Employee Recognition, New York Society for the Deaf, November 1999

Phi Beta Kappa 1995

Summa Cum Laude, University of Rochester (NY) 1995

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Highest Distinction, Religion Department University of Rochester (NY) 1995
 Elected to Kideans, the senior honor society of the University of Rochester (NY) 1994
Golden Key National Honor Society, 1994. Vice President of local chapter at the University of Rochester (NY)
The National Dean's List, 1995
Who's Who Among Students In American Universities and Colleges, 1994-'95
 Deans List for all semesters of Undergraduate attendance, University of Rochester (NY) 1991-'95
President's Scholar, Gallaudet University, Washington D.C. Fall 1993 & Spring 1994.
 Deans List for all semesters at Gallaudet University, Washington D.C. Fall 1993 & Spring 1994.
 First Place Winner, The MacDougall Creative Writing Awards Contest Gallaudet University, D.C. 1994
 First runner up, The Isaac Davis-Chester Dewey Prize oratorical competition at University of Rochester, (NY) 1993
 First runner up in National oratorical competition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students at the Capitol, Washington D.C. 1991
 Third Place in the North American Open Poetry Competition 1994
 Alexander Graham Bell Association Academic Scholarship recipient 1991
 New York League for the Hard of Hearing Scholarship recipient 1991
 Selected for Coaches' Award. Given to the athlete who shows the most determination, Commitment, morale, and support regardless of personal athletic accomplishment; The Dalton School (NYC) 1991

Skills/Interests Creative writing in English & American Sign Language, Proficient in Hebrew, Expert Snowboarder, Juggling fire. Performed rock songs in ASL for Jane's Addiction & Twisted Sister