

Hello NFTY Central West!

As we enter into the new year, I am looking to assemble a constitutional review committee! If you are not familiar with what this will be, here is some info about myself, Asefah, and the committee itself!

My name is Jacob Cohen. Last year I had the privilege of being on Regional Board. During my time on Regional Board I had the incredible opportunity to team up with two other Regional Board members to bring Asefah back to this Region. For those who do not know, Asefah is a business meeting that most NFTY Regions and NFTY on a North American level hold during some of their events. During Asefah, any member is allowed to submit a piece of legislation designed to either update or add to that region's constitution or affirm NFTY's stance on an issue, to be voted on by the Temple Youth Groups, NFTY CWR at Large and the Regional Board. However, many years ago, NFTY CWR stopped holding Asefah and, therefore, removed an opportunity for participants at any leadership level to have a lasting impact on our region.

This changed during this past year, when we were able to hold Asefah at Spring Conclave 2019. As we had not held Asefah for some time, our constitution has become extremely out of date. Therefore, the premier piece of legislation that was voted on was a resolution to form a Constitutional Committee to update NFTY CWR's Constitution. This legislation was passed unanimously and I have now been tasked with assembling this committee! I am looking for 7-9 NFTY CWR members who are interested in working with me to completely update our constitution to reflect the way that our region runs today!

Questions:

Q: What's Asefah again?

A: Asefah is a business meeting that will be held twice a year, at the first and third regional events. During Asafeh, TYGs, CWR at Large and Regional Board members vote on pieces of legislation that can be either resolutions/affirmations about specific stances that our region takes or updates/additions to the constitution.

Q: Wait! Does this mean that our region has a constitution?

A: Yes! Every NFTY region and NFTY as a whole have constitutions that are designed to assist in their governance and retain consistency in how they operate. This constitution is supposed to be a living document, regularly updated during Asefah! However, the NFTY CWR Constitution has not been updated in some time and no longer reflects how the region runs in many aspects

Q: Will serving on this committee exclude me from any other opportunities in NFTY CWR?

A: No! Members of this committee can still serve on Cabinet, TYG Board and/or any other leadership opportunities that come up during the year!

Q: Who do you want to join this committee? Am I qualified?

A: We are looking for 7-9 NFTY Central West Members who are passionate and excited about our region and its governance, and are interested in taking on a larger leadership role in the year to come. The only qualification is that you are a member of NFTY Central West Region. We want to make sure that this committee is diverse and represents all levels of leadership in our region! From participants to TYG board members to Cabinet Members, we are hoping to find members from all walks of NFTY life!

Q: What will this committee be doing? What type of commitment will it be?

A: Our committee will be working through our Constitution's 12 articles and 13 by-laws to update the terminology to reflect the current state of the region. While we have not

figured out all of the details yet, the commitment will most likely be 1-2 calls per month during Fall 2019 and Winter 2020, with work to update specific sections in between the calls!

Q: Does our Constitution really even need updating? How much has our Region changed since the last time it was updated?

A: Yes, this constitution REALLY needs updating! Since our last update, our leadership structure, event titles and themes, schedule, rules, procedures, Regional Board positions and more have all changed over time!

Q: Where should I go with more questions?

A: Please feel free to reach out to me at jkcohen626@gmail.com or, if you will be attending Camp Newman this summer, come find me! I will be a CIT and will be more than happy to answer your questions in person!

Q: How do I apply for the NFTY CWR Constitutional Committee?

A: Please use this link: <https://urjyouth.wufoo.com/forms/s1uh64hg1n5jlx/>

Thank you so much for your interest,
Jacob Cohen