



**THE REFORM TEMPLE  
OF ROCKLAND**  
*Brighter Together*

Benjamin A. Sharff  
*Rabbi*

Sally L. Neff  
*Cantor*

Ronald S. Mass  
*Rabbi Emeritus*

Adrian Modansky  
*President*

Brad Zicholtz, RJE  
*Director of  
Congregational  
Learning*

Susan W. Caminez  
*Executive Director*

## Special Permit Application Narrative

January 30, 2020

The Reform Temple of Rockland was formed by the merger of two Rockland County temples; Temple Beth EL of Spring Valley and Temple Beth Torah of Upper Nyack. The official decree from New York State was granted on March 10, 2015 by then Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, Thomas E. Walsh II.

All assets of both congregations were transferred to the newly formed Religious Corporation. The land and building of Temple Beth EL were subsequently sold and the congregation now resides at our current location in Upper Nyack.

Currently we have approximately 340 member families comprised primarily of residents of Rockland County. Members reside throughout the County traveling from as far as Suffern, with a small percentage of families from New Jersey.

The Temple is governed by a Board of Trustees, presided over by the President and meets monthly to pass resolutions and make policy. We employ a small administrative staff to conduct business affairs and attend to daily activities. The Executive Director manages the staff, interacts with the congregation and reports to the President.

We have a full-time Rabbi and Cantor that attend to religious affairs and oversee all social action related activities. Religious services are held Friday evenings from 7:30PM until 9:30PM and Saturday mornings from 9:00AM until 11:00AM and at various times throughout the year as the Jewish Calendar dictates.

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We also employ a full-time Director of Congregational Learning who directs our school. The school consists of 7 classrooms with a capacity of between 20-25 students each and are used for teaching purposes. They meet according to the following schedule.

Kindergarten through 3rd grade meet on Sunday from 9:00AM until 11:30AM. Fourth through 6th grade meet on Sunday from 9:00AM until 11:30AM and on Tuesdays from 4:45-6:00 PM. In addition, 7th through 10th grade meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 PM. We currently have 69 registered students.

We have one main sanctuary and two large social halls plus several meeting rooms used for various activities for both member and non-member events. The sanctuary has a capacity of 282 people and the social halls have a capacity of 125 people each. Large events by outside groups are available for rent and occur no more than 2 times a month.

A local church rents several classrooms and the social hall three times a week. They meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00PM until 10:00PM and Sunday from 12:00PM until 5:00PM. In addition, Nyack Hospital rents about 80 parking spots on Monday through Friday from 7:00AM until 6:00PM, while they are constructing their new emergency center.

We interact regularly with the Clarkstown Police Department to insure that our building is as safe and secure as possible. We have sponsored "Active Shooter Training Classes" for our staff and members of our Congregation. We employ security guards during most events and activities and have upgraded our entrances and exits to provide a heightened level of security. There are 19 security cameras surveilling the property and parking lot.

Attached to this package are all documents required for a special permit.

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Respectfully submitted,

REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jeff A. [Signature]*  
BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBER