

EXPLORING A WASHINGTON HEIGHTS ERUV

Meeting on Lag b'Omer 5748 -- May 5, 1988 at YU's Tannenbaum Hall

Present: Rabbis Ellis Bloch, George Finkelstein, Barry Freundel, Shlomo Kahn
Mordechai Schnaidman, Hershel Schachter

Unable to attend: Rabbis Yosef Blau, Abraham Gross, Ralph Neuhaus

Rabbi Freundel reported on feasibility of Eruv, primarily utilizing existing installations. Area: Dyckman (from Harlem River to Riverside Drive) but excluding Fort Tryon Park (technical difficulties), south to 165th Street, east to Harlem River Drive, north to Dyckman Street.

Concern raised about leaving out Fort Tryon Park as well as areas north and south of projected site. Decision to go ahead for now and possibly expanding at a later date.

Discussion ensued about involving two important segments: YU and K'hal Adath Jeshurun.

Re: YU -- fear of opposition by Rabbi Lifshitz who holds that Agudath HaRabbonim has banned the Eruv. It was thought that a letter written by Rav Moshe Feinstein (in possession of Rabbi Berman) would satisfy this concern.

Other suggestions: to approach Rabbi Blau; Rabbi Lamm

Re: KAJ -- fear of opposition by Rabbi Schwab. Possibly his previously publicized negative view was for Manhattan Eruv, not one which is local and can be regularly inspected by "our" people.

Suggestions: approach Rabbi Glucksman or Rabbi Posen; approach Rabbi Steinberg;* consensus: to approach Rabbi Gelley. Possibility voiced to "go it alone" but concern was raised about who is "majority" in area.

Permission must be obtained from city. Suggestion to get in touch with Stanley Michels.

Eventually, a finance-committee is to be established.

Immediate action:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) review site | Rabbis Freundel and Schachter |
| b) approach Michels | Rabbi Finkelstein |
| c) obtain letter | Rabbi Schnaidman |
| d) approach Rabbi Gelley | Rabbi Schnaidman |
| e) prepare literature | Rabbi Kahn |

Next meeting: Thursday, 10 Sivan/May 26 -- 3:30 PM Tannenbaum 312

*Rabbi Peretz Steinberg, Young Israel of Queens Valley