

From: Congregation Beit Hillel of Flatlands
To: All our members and congregants
Date: July 27, 2020 (effective until newer version is published)
Subject: **Requirements for Reopening Cong. Beit Hillel – Phase 2**

Please read ALL these requirements carefully. **By coming to shul, you agree to adhere to all of these requirements.** These requirements will be strictly enforced and those who violate them will be asked to leave, as uncomfortable as that may be. While this may seem onerous, rude, and insulting, these requirements are needed for the safety of the congregation and is the only way we will be able to keep our doors open at this time. The Coronavirus has taken a devastating toll on the world and on our community in particular – it has not gone away and we may only continue to remain open in a safe and responsible fashion. Our intention is that we will reevaluate these restrictions as time goes on based on medical advice.

Who may and may NOT attend?

- If you are older than 60 or if you have a medical condition, please consult with your doctor regarding whether it is advisable for you to come to shul.
- Boys under 13 are only permitted if they are able to sit next to a responsible adult for the duration of the davening and wear a mask the entire time.
- Anyone with a cough, runny nose, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, loss of sense of smell or taste may NOT attend. This should be obvious. If you show up to shul with any of these symptoms, you will be asked to leave.
- Likewise, if anyone in your household exhibits any of the above symptoms, STAY HOME.
- If you have had Covid-19 or have been in contact with someone with Covid-19, STAY HOME unless and until you are certain you are Covid negative (as per CDC guidelines, it has been 14 days symptom free or you have tested negative). **Since we are dealing with a reality that one person can *Chas V'Shalom* infect an entire shul, these precautions are absolutely necessary. We cannot be lenient when it comes to *Pekuach Nefesh*.**

What is required of you while attending?

- A mask must be worn at all times, from entering the building until exiting the building. When minyan is in the backyard, a mask must too be worn the entire time while on the shul grounds. NOTE: your mask must cover your face and nose. Do not remove your mask in shul. We know it is uncomfortable but it is necessary for the safety of all congregants. If you are unclear about how to properly wear a mask, see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.
- At least **6 feet** must separate individuals at all times (people who live in the same household may sit together, e.g. father and son). This is the case whether davening indoors or outdoors.
- When entering, please look for an empty spot that is at least 6 feet from anyone else. At this time, we will not tape off seats, but will reevaluate if that is deemed necessary. The wall separating the shul and social hall may be opened to allow for better spacing between individuals. On Shabbos, that means that women would need to enter the shul from the side entrance on Avenue L so that they do not walk through the men's section.

- Please stay in the same place through davening. Do not walk around.
- Consider bringing your own siddur especially for outdoor davening. If you use one from the shul, consider using the same siddur every day and leave it in your spot.
- To the extent a kiddush is served, please allow for adequate spacing at the designated kiddush tables. Please continue to wear a mask when getting up from your seat.
- The *baal korei* will be the one to remove and return the Torah. Those receiving *Aliyos* should stand on the opposite side of the glass partition at the Bimah and look on as the *baal koreh* reads. Please do not kiss the Torah. There will be only short *mi shebeirachs*.
- Please use hand sanitizer or wash your hands before entering the shul. Freddy will be wiping down common surfaces on a daily basis.