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TBS COVID Protocols

Dear TBS Family,

Your Board of Trustees (Board) met last week via Zoom. We were grateful that Dr. James Norwood was with us to give an update on the latest Covid-19 science, thus helping us review and revisit our protocols for the High Holy Days and future services at TBS. Based on information Dr. Norwood shared, a review of protocols from over 100 synagogues across the country, and feedback from the Reopening Committee, the Board passed motions describing the new protocols. Please note that these protocols are subject to change -- even on the day of a service -- based on infection rates in our area. The current protocols for all services, meetings, and other functions are as follow:

1. We will hold services both in-person and via Zoom.
2. In-person attendance will be limited to Voting Members in good standing who have been fully vaccinated (two for Pfizer or Moderna or one for Johnson & Johnson) at least 14 days before Erev Rosh Hashanah.
3. Reservations will be required for in-person attendance at all services, including all High Holy Days services, and will be on a first-come/first-served basis.
4. Proof of vaccinations will be required at the time reservations are made. A photo of your card should be sent along with your reservation request and emailed to susanejgoldstein@gmail.com.
5. No children under the age of 12 may attend in person.
6. In-person attendees must wear a mask in the building at all times.
7. When arriving at services, everyone will be required to sign a daily health screening form.
8. Seating will be assigned by a Board member, and families will be physically distanced six feet apart.
9. No singing or chanting during services, and no food will be served after services.

The aforementioned protocols will be strictly enforced. These changes are in line with the majority of other synagogues across the county and scientific guidelines for safe meetings. We all look forward to the day we can all celebrate *Yamim Nora'im*, *Shabbatot*, and *chaggim* together in person. For now, we are focusing on the obligation to save lives -- *pichuach nefesh* -- that is more important than almost all other *mitzvot*.

I apologize to all who have made reservations. Unfortunately, we'll have to start the process again keeping in mind the new protocols.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon, either in person on or the big screen. Stay safe.

L'Shalom

Susan

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