



## MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 14 March 13, 2023

A meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 14 was held on Monday, March 13, 2023, via Webex.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Waqil Ahmed	Joe Dweck	Melissa Minnich	Talisha Sainvil
Gregory Alvarez	Sofia Francis	Ephraim Nierenberg	Joel Siegel
Jo Ann Brown	Moussa Hassoun	Boris Noble	Abraham Treff
Karl-Henry Cesar	Mehdi Pourpeikari Heris	Eric Ost	Deborah Valentin
Florencia Chang-Ageda	Mordechai Husarsky	Edward Powell	Corazon Valiente
Yvette Clairjeane	Duane Joseph	Barden Prisant	Glenn Wolin
Steven D. Cohen	Shahid Khan	Bazah Roohi	
Elizabeth Denys	Naomi Lipnick	Nina Sabghir	

### DISTRICT OFFICE

Shawn Campbell, District Manager  
Sarah Sklaw, Community Coordinator

### BOROUGH HALL

Eileen Mullaney-Newman, Office of Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso

### CITY COUNCIL

Daniel Heredia, Office of Councilmember Farah Louis (45th CD)  
Troy Olson, Office of Councilmember Inna Vernikov (48th CD)

### MAYOR'S OFFICE

Anastasia Yaskova, Office of Mayor Eric L. Adams

### DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Judith Destin, Office of Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

### STATE ASSEMBLY

Lisa Derrick, Office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn (42nd AD)  
Raul Rothblatt, Office of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham (43rd AD)  
Mary Kay Seery, Office of Assemblymember Robert Carroll (44th AD)

### STATE SENATE

Sharon Fuchs, Office of State Senator Simcha Felder (22th SD)

## **CONGRESS**

Eli Slavin, Office of Representative Yvette Clarke (9th CD)

## **OTHER GUESTS / REPRESENTATIVES**

Alvin Berk, Chairman Emeritus, Brooklyn Community Board 14

Deputy Inspector Bruce Ceparano, 70th Precinct, NYPD

Detective Scott Nuzzi, 70th Precinct, NYPD

P.O. Michael Joseph, 70th Precinct, NYPD

Narinder Chawla, Flatbush Branch, Brooklyn Public Library

## **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Jo Ann Brown called the March meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Chair read the opening statement outlining the policies and procedures pertaining to Board meetings under the applicable statutes of New York State, the Charter of the City of New York, the Board's Bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order. Quorum was present.

## **II. MINUTES:**

Minutes of the February 13, 2023 meeting were approved. Copies are on file at the CB14 District office and available on the CB14 website.

## **III. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT – *Shawn Campbell:***

The District Manager reported that she had submitted CB14 budget priorities to City Council budget hearings. She also testified on behalf of the Future of Community Boards Working Group at a City Council Government Operations Committee hearing. The subject of her testimony was the need for a baseline budget increase for community boards. The DM joined her colleagues in a meeting with the Civic Engagement Commission to discuss the need for language access support.

Ms. Campbell attended the Community Education Council (CEC) District 22 legislative breakfast, and the Kings County Health Center legislative breakfast. She announced Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn's upcoming event at Brooklyn College and Congresswoman Yvette Clarke's plan for a meet and greet in the district in early May, date TBA.

She encouraged board members to pick up youth conference flyers from the office and help spread the word.

## **IV. CHAIR REPORT – *Jo Ann Brown:***

The Chair recognized Deputy Inspector Bruce Ceparano, Commanding Officer, 70th Precinct, who addressed those assembled. He spoke about the arrest of an individual who had been responsible for a burglary pattern. He noted that mailbox fishing was still an issue and suggested that people bring mail containing checks directly to the post office.

The Chair recognized representatives of elected officials. She asked board members to volunteer to represent the board on the Brookdale University Medical Center's community advisory board. Interested and willing members were asked to contact the district office.

- A) The Chair reported on the public hearing with respect to City's preliminary budget statement and the register of CB14 budget requests for FY 2024, which took place just prior to the board meeting.  
**On a motion duly made it was resolved (29-0-0) to approve CB14's letter of comment as presented by the District Manager.**
- B) The Chair asked for a motion to allow 2nd Vice Chair, Steve Cohen, to cast a single vote for the slate of Executive Committee members, who were nominated at last month's meeting and were unopposed.  
**On a motion duly made it was resolved (29-0-0) to allow Mr. Cohen to cast the ceremonial vote. The executive committee was thereby elected to serve through March 2024.**
- C) The Chair reported on the Borough Board meeting which took place on March 1, 2023. There was a presentation by the Army Corps of Engineers on the New York Harbor strategy to address coastal flood risk assessments and storm impacts. The plan is available on the CB14 website and the public comment period is open until March 31. The Chair encouraged everyone to look at the substantial proposals.
- Also on the Borough Board agenda was a presentation by Dana Sharmesh from Incitu, an augmented reality visioning tool that can be used to understand proposed developments using ZOLA and DOB data.
- The Borough Board bylaws were also discussed as they have not been updated since 1977. The expectation is that a bylaws committee will be appointed after a preliminary legal review.
- D) The Chair discussed the finalization of the street co-naming criteria, which was discussed at the February meeting and distributed to the board prior to the March meeting.  
**On a motion duly made it was resolved (29-0-0) to adopt the street co-naming criteria for future applications and public hearings.**

## V. TOPICAL COMMITTEES – REPORTS AND ITEMS:

- A) **Community Environment, Cultural Affairs and Economic Development – Co-Chair Barden Prisant** presented on the committee's February 23 meeting. Lauren Elvers Collins spoke about the merger of the Flatbush Avenue and Church Avenue BIDs. Edward Cen represented the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection and spoke about NYC's licenses for tobacco and electronic cigarette sales. He noted that many store were selling these and cannabis products without the required licenses and discussed enforcement challenges. Mr. Cen also spoke about the many free tax prep options available in the city. Mr. Prisant encouraged everyone to attend the next committee meeting on March 28.
- B) **Youth Services, Education and Libraries – Co-Chair Karl-Henry Cesar** reported on the February 27 planning meeting for the 16th Annual Youth Conference scheduled for April 3 at Brooklyn College. He encouraged board members to volunteer to post flyers and assist on the day of the event. Mr. Cesar thanked COPO, Yvette Clairjeane, Patricia Olender and Sarah Sklaw for translation assistance. He also thanked event Co-Chair Duane Joseph for his planning assistance.
- C) **Community Safety – Co-Chair Florencia Chang-Ageda** reported on the committee meeting at which Venus Scantlebury from the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) presented an overview of complaints that CCRB will consider and the process for bringing cases through the process. Jill Cornell from the Office of Emergency Management presented on emergency preparedness and CERT teams.
- D) **Transportation – Co-Chair Steve Cohen** reported that representatives from DOT presented the Citibike station expansion plan for the district, which will install docking stations further south to

Cortelyou Road. Feedback included concerns about the higher number of stations on Beverley compared to Cortelyou Road and a wish for stations further south of Cortelyou, on Newkirk and Foster. DOT representatives confirmed that they would take that information back. Mr. Cohen also reported on MTA's bus redesign meetings. Feedback included concerns about moving express buses off of Cortelyou Road and onto Beverley Road and changes to the B103 downtown Brooklyn route. Support for a B55 to JFK was expressed by many. He also noted that the Prospect Park Alliance held a meeting about work on the East Drive Road and noted some of the changes to the layout of the drive.

- E) **Housing and Land Use – Co-Chair Gregory Alvarez** encouraged the assembly to participate in the April 18 committee meeting to hear from the Brooklyn Borough President's Land Use representatives about the Brooklyn Comprehensive Plan.
- F) **Human Services –** No report.

## **VI. AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

- A) **CB14 Flatbush African Burial Ground Task Force –** No report.

## **VII. PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Mary Kay Seery, representing Assemblymember Robert Carroll, announced upcoming events in the Assemblymember's district including a town hall and a cleanup day.
2. Eli Slavin, representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, announced plans for a meet and greet in the district and encouraged everyone to use their website and office as a resource.
3. Tahisha Solages, One Brooklyn Health, announced numerous events taking place during the month of March, which is National Nutrition Month.
4. Raul Rothblatt, representing Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, announced an art fair in the Assemblymember's district. He noted that landlords are not permitted to reject Section 8 vouchers. He shared the Assemblymember's committee appointments and invited local groups to use the district office for meetings.
5. Judith Destin, representing the Office of the Kings County District Attorney, Eric Gonzalez, spoke about office initiatives, programs and services.
6. Lisa Derrick, representing Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, announced upcoming events including the Women of Distinction ceremony at Brooklyn College. She noted that District Manager Campbell would be among the honorees.
7. Julie Mardin, New Yorkers 4 Wired Tech, expressed their opposition to 5G installations.
8. Theodora Scarato, Environmental Health Trust, expressed their opposition to 5G installations.
9. Narinder Chawla, Brooklyn Public Library, Flatbush Branch, spoke about the many valuable programs, services, and resources available at the branch.
10. Bazah Roohi, American Council of Minority Women, announced a food distribution for the Ramadan holiday on March 24.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:24 P.M.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.