



MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 14 October 16, 2023

A meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 14 was held on Monday, October 16, 2023, at East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Avenue.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregory Alvarez	Derrick Donald	Melissa Minnich	Mohammad Razvi
Binyomin Bendet	Sabina Dorvile	Ephraim Nierenberg	Bazah Roohi
Jo Ann Brown	Joseph Dweck	Boris Noble	Nina Sabghir
Edward Cen	Moussa Hassoun	Eric Ost	Joel Siegel
Karl-Henry Cesar	William Hattar	Ornella Parker	Deborah Valentin
Florencia Chang-Ageda	Mordechai Husarsky	Susan Phillip	Corazón Valiente
Yvette Clairjeane	Shahid Khan	Tzvi Plotsker	Dawn-Marie Walker
Steven D. Cohen	Naomi Lipnick	Edward Powell	Glenn Wolin
Elizabeth Denys	Donald Loggins	Barden Prisant	

DISTRICT OFFICE

Shawn Campbell, District Manager
Patricia Olender, Community Coordinator
Sarah Sklaw, Community Coordinator

BOROUGH HALL

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

CITY COUNCIL

Avrohom Malachowski, Office of Councilmember Farah Louis (45th CD)
Taiquan Coleman, Office of Councilmember Rita Joseph (40th CD)

PUBLIC ADVOCATE

Kashif Hussain, Office of the New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

STATE ASSEMBLY

Lisa Derrick, Office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn (42nd AD)

CONGRESS

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

OTHER GUESTS / REPRESENTATIVES

Det. Scott Nuzzi, 70th Precinct, New York City Police Department

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jo Ann Brown called the October meeting to order at 7:05 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 September 11, 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 back on her attendance at consultations, meetings and events including the District Service Cabinet held on October 4, 2023. She thanked Inspector Ceparano and Rob McKenna for their regular participation in the District Service Cabinet meeting. DM Campbell shared that she met with counterparts in Detroit government including Detroit's Department of Neighborhoods.

IV. CHAIR REPORT – Jo Ann Brown:

The Chair recognized representatives from the offices of elected officials and city agencies (see page 1).

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on October 16, 2023, regarding a special permit filed for 1046 East 22nd Street (BSA 2023-24-BZ)

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (26-0-6) to recommend that the application be approved without conditions.

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on October 16, 2023, regarding Community Board 14's recommendations for the New York City Fiscal Year 2025 Capital and Expense Budgets. The Board's proposed priorities are reflected in Community Board 14's District Needs Statement.

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (32-0-0) to recommend the FY 2025 Capital and Expense Budget priorities.

The Chair reported on the Borough Board meeting held on Tuesday, October 3, 2023. Agenda items included a presentation on the Cannabis Workforce Initiative by Local 388, Retail Wholesale and Department Sale Union. There was also a presentation on community partnerships by Serge St. Leger Jr., Senior Director at the Department of Education's Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE). The Chair reiterated Borough Hall's announcement about virtual workshops for Community Board members.

The Chair provided a brief Board Member orientation. She spoke about expectations and responsibilities of Board Members to familiarize themselves with documents such as the City Charter, Board Bylaws, the District Needs Statement and to familiarize themselves with the district itself. She noted that Board meetings and assigned committee meetings are required and public hearings are strongly encouraged. The Chair discussed general conduct and guidance around press and social media and reminded Board

Members to avoid identifying themselves as Board Members at non-board meetings unless asked to do so in an official capacity.

The Chair announced that on Wednesday October 18, 2023, the Executive Committee will convene to appoint a First Vice Chair for the remainder of the current term. The Chair took nominations for First Vice Chair. Nominations were: Karl-Henry Cesar, Shahid Khan, Edward Cen, and Donald Loggins.

The Chair also took nominations for Member at Large, on the chance that the position was left open by the election of a new First Vice Chair. Nominations were: Gregory Alvarez, Barden Prisant, Deborah Valentin, and Florencia Chang-Ageda.

The Chair reported on the groundbreaking for the Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center in East Flatbush. She recognized the instrumental roles played by Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn and Councilmember Farah Louis in securing funding for the center, which will be run by the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Chair Brown and Board Member Edward Powell have been appointed as members of the center's Community Advisory Board, which held its first meeting on October 14, 2023. The center is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

The Chair discussed the opening of applications for Retail Cannabis Dispensaries. Applications have been opened to all interested entrepreneurs. Subsequently, Community Board 14 has received multiple applications for a single location. The Chair discussed the Board's approach to hearing Retail Cannabis Licenses. On the advice of the Executive Director of the Office for Cannabis Management, Board hearings and recommendations will be made primarily by location and secondarily by the applicant themselves.

V. TOPICAL COMMITTEES – REPORTS AND ITEMS:

- A) **Transportation Committee – Co-Chairs Joel Siegel and Moussa Hassoun** reported on the committee meeting held on September 27. The Committee heard presentations by MTA representatives regarding the Church Ave B/Q Station ADA, including platform elevators, upgrades to boarding areas, platforms, sidewalks and stairways. There will be periodic full station closures to facilitate the upgrades, and the estimated completion is late 2025. Representatives from DOT presented three design options for the Cortelyou Road and Coney Island Avenue intersection. DOT will come back to the Board at a future date after considering community input. The Co-Chairs also announced an upcoming meeting on the Interborough Express (IBX).
- B) **Community Safety – Co-Chair Barden Prisant** announced the upcoming committee meeting on October 24 at 6:30pm. Co-Chair Prisant reminded attendees of the 27th Anniversary Memorial Service for Lieutenant Federico Narvaez at the 70th Precinct Station House.
- C) **Housing and Land Use – Co-Chair Gregory Alvarez** announced the upcoming committee meeting on November 1 at 6:30pm, which will focus on the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity zoning text amendment.
- D) **Community Environment, Cultural Affairs and Economic Development – Co-Chairs Edward Cen and Melissa Minnich** announced the upcoming committee meeting on November 8 at 6:30 with DSNY and New Yorkers for Parks. They announced that the Shirley Chisholm recreation center will be holding an open house on October 24 from 5:30-7:30.
- E) **Youth Services, Education and Libraries – Co-Chairs Karl-Henry Cesar and Eric Ost** announced a committee meeting on November 30 at 6:30pm. They reported on a Neighborhood Advisory Board meeting held at the Flatbush Library.

District Manager Shawn Campbell added her appreciation for PS217, and their work with families at the migrant shelter, the school has been a key point of connection for those families. She also thanked Moe Razvi of COPO, and the district office staff for stepping up to assist the families in shelter.

- F) **Human Services – Co-Chair Yvette Clairjeane** announced the committee meeting on November 20 at 6:30pm. She also announced that Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn will host a Domestic Violence Awareness event on October 26.

VI. AD HOC COMMITTEES:

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

Chair Brown thanked Wayne Rosenfeld and the East Midwood Jewish Center for hosting the board meeting.

VII. PUBLIC SESSION

1. Rakhi Bhattacharya, Brooklyn Public Library, Midwood Branch, announced Brooklyn Public Library initiatives related to Banned Books week, including its Books Unbanned Initiative and the Freedom to Read Advocacy Institute, co-hosted with PEN America. Additionally, BPL hosted events throughout the borough to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and has increased translations of its own materials. She also announced the return of the Ready Set Kindergarten program.
2. Lauren Elvers Collins, Church-Flatbush Community Alliance, announced a successful neighborhood beautification day over the weekend. She noted that the annual free community luncheon will take place on November 23, from 12-2pm next to Kings Theater. The meal will be prepared by students at Erasmus High School and is sponsored by Kings Theater and Stop & Shop, CM Rita Joseph, and the Flatbush Development Corporation. The organizers are looking for volunteers and ingredients.
3. Stephen Thomas, Melitta Campbell, and Alix Egalite, BTTM & DRUM, spoke about DRUM's Cure Violence work, their canvassing of the neighborhood, mediation, work with public, and job placement. Melitta Campbell and Alix Egalite discussed the safety of the intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Glenwood Road.
4. Eli Slavin, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, spoke about their office's efforts to assist U.S. citizens in the Middle East, as well as other services offered by the office.
5. Lisa Derrick, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, spoke about the groundbreaking and upcoming open house at the Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center. She spoke about the Community Advisory Board for the site. She also announced a domestic violence awareness event being hosted by their office.
6. Taiquan Coleman, Councilmember Rita Joseph, provided contact information for the office and announced that the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) van would be at the office on October 23. He requested that attendees make an appointment. He also announced additional health, education, immigration, and benefits assistance provided by the office.
7. Steven Cohen reminded attendees of Election Day on November 7 and early voting.
8. Avrohom Malachowski, Councilmember Farah Louis, thanked Chair Brown and Board Member Edward Powell for attending the Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center opening. He thanked CB14 for helping to promote HPD On The Go on November 10. He also announced other services and upcoming events.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:31 P.M.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.