



## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 14 May 13, 2024**

A meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 14 was held on Monday, May 13, at the East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Avenue.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Carissa Alphonso	Derrick Donald	William Lesman	Bazah Roohi
Gregory Alvarez	Sabina Dorvile	Donald Loggins	Joel Siegel
Hindy Bendel	Joseph Dweck	Sasha Maslouski	Abraham Treff
Davina Bholanauth	Hatem El-Gamasy	Melissa Minnich	Deborah Valentin
Jo Ann Brown	Jerrell Gray	Ephraim Nierenberg	Dawn-Marie Walker
Karl-Henry Cesar	Susan Hargett	Eric Ost	Kendall Washington
Florencia Chang-Ageda	Lee Harman	Ornella Parker	Glenn Wolin
Yvette Clairjeane	Nodica Johnson	Susan Phillip	
Steven D. Cohen	Erica Phillips Jones	Tzvi Plotsker	
Elizabeth Denys	Shahid Khan	Barden Prisant	

### **DISTRICT OFFICE**

Shawn Campbell, District Manager  
Sarah Sklaw, Community Coordinator

### **BOROUGH HALL**

Antonio Reynoso, Brooklyn Borough President  
Hassaan Chaudhary, Office of Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso

### **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Nancy Lulu, Office of Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

### **CITY COUNCIL**

Brian Grady, Office of Council Member Rita Joseph (40th CD)  
Avrohom Malachowski, Office of Council Member Farah Louis (45th CD)  
Izzy Weiss, Office of Council Member Inna Vernikov (48th CD)

### **PUBLIC ADVOCATE**

Jacob Gold, Office of the New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

### **STATE ASSEMBLY**

Tyesha Allen, Office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn (42nd AD)  
Sydney Renwick, Office of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham (43rd AD)

## **STATE SENATE**

Paurcha Edwards, Office of State Senator Zellnor Myrie (20th SD)

## **OTHER GUESTS / REPRESENTATIVES**

Deputy Inspector Gregory Mackie, 70th Precinct, New York City Police Department

P.O. Michael Joseph, 70th Precinct, New York City Police Department

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

Chair Karl-Henry Cesar called the May meeting to order at 7:01 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.

The Chair recognized Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso and invited him to address the gathering.

The Borough President welcomed and congratulated new Board Members and noted the importance of attendance for meeting quorum and hearing a diversity of opinions. He affirmed Borough Hall's commitment to ensuring city agencies' responsiveness to Community Board requests. He reminded Board Members of upcoming term limits. The Borough President spoke about giving fair consideration to the City of Yes proposals.

### **II. MINUTES:**

Minutes of the April 8, 2024, meeting were approved with edits. 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 on her attendance at community meetings and events. She thanked the Human Service committee co-chairs for a wonderful Nonprofit Roundtable. Multiple local organizations attended the event. She reported on the Borough Service Cabinet, a meeting of the Flatbush Alliance of Neighbors, and meetings of the Future of Community Board working group. She thanked Board Members who filled out the term limit and transition survey from the Center for Urban Pedagogy. She also highlighted a prospective project with Pratt College professors for Department of Design and Construction's (DDC's) Town & Gown program. The DM provided follow up on efforts to place Newkirk Plaza under DOT jurisdiction. She reminded attendees to regularly check the CB14 website for meetings and other pertinent information.

### **IV. CHAIR REPORT – Karl-Henry Cesar:**

The Chair welcomed new Board Members and thanked their outgoing counterparts. He noted that there will be an upcoming new member orientation, date TBA. The Chair noted that Jo Ann Brown had been appointed to co-chair the Housing and Land Use committee and Ornella Parker had been appointed to co-chair the Youth Services, Education and Libraries committee. Chair Cesar reported on the May 7 Borough Board meeting. He noted that the nomination period for borough-wide student awards would close on May 17. The Chair encouraged attendees to review the May 8 Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting in preparation for an upcoming public hearing on June 11 regarding on the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity. The Chair reminded Board Members that the Transition Committee will meet on May 30 at the

District Office. The Chair also provided an update on SUNY Downstate Hospital's operations. The Chair recognized representatives from the offices of elected officials and city agencies (see pages 1 and 2).

## V. TOPICAL COMMITTEES – REPORTS AND ITEMS:

- A) **Youth Services, Education and Libraries – Co-Chairs Ornella Parker and Eric Ost** noted that their next meeting will take place in September, after the summer recess. They announced that the Department of Parks and Recreation is still hiring youth for the summer and noted that Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) continues to recruit worksites for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). The Chairs also highlighted the Parent University portal for parents of school children.
- B) **Community Environment, Cultural Affairs and Economic Development – Co-Chair Melissa Minnich** reported on the April 18 committee meeting. The Department of Parks and Recreation presented on the Let's Green NYC volunteer program. Paige Kloss, Fund for the City of New York Planning Fellow for CB14, presented on their work about flooding in the district.
- C) **Housing and Land Use – Co-Chairs Gregory Alvarez and Jo Ann Brown** reported on the May 8 committee meeting. Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) presented on Code Enforcement, emphasizing that the process is tenant driven and relevant information is available on HPD's website. The Department of City Planning presented on the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity proposed zoning text amendment in advance of the upcoming June 11 public hearing on the topic. The Co-Chairs reminded Board Members that public testimony can be submitted to the CB14 office. They encouraged those hoping to learn more about Housing and Land Use to review the Lunch & Learn series on the topic, which is available on CB14's YouTube Channel.
- D) **Transportation – Co-Chair Joel Siegel** announced an upcoming meeting on June 4. The committee will hear a presentation on the Coney Island Avenue and Cortelyou Road intersection. The second presentation is TBA.
- E) **Community Safety** –Chair Cesar recognized Deputy Inspector Mackie and P.O. Joseph from the 70th Precinct and invited Deputy Inspector Mackie to address the gathering.
- Inspector Mackie reported on crime statistics in the precinct. He provided tips on avoiding property crimes, fraud, and mail theft.
- Co-Chairs Hindy Bendel and Barden Prisant** announced the May 22 Community Safety Meeting. FDNY will present on fire safety education and the District Attorney's office will present on human trafficking. There will also be a presentation on programs and services for justice involved youth. The Co-Chairs also announced the 70th Precinct Community Council meeting on May 29.
- F) **Human Services – Co-Chairs Florencia Chang-Ageda and Yvette Clairjeane** thanked those who attended and participated in the Nonprofit Roundtable, including board members and Wayne Rosenfeld of EMJC, for hosting the event. The next committee meeting will take place after summer recess.

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

## VII. PUBLIC SESSION

1. Emma Mamula, Brooklyn Public Library, Kensington Branch, announced library programming and services, including expanded ESOL classes and an Older Americans Month celebration.

2. Caroline Pierce, Davita Dialysis Services, announced the closure of two Brooklyn centers, Midwood Dialysis and Mapleton Dialysis, by August 5. Current patients have been informed of the closure.
3. Paurcha Edwards, Office of State Senator Zellnor Myrie, announced upcoming events sponsored by the State Senator, including an Immigrant Resource Fair, housing assistance, and extended office hours.
4. Kendesley Jean-Louis and Vanessa Juliette Mathieu, YMCA English Program, discussed studying English and learning about civic participation in New York City. They highlighted neighborhood issues and challenges that can be addressed through local government.
5. Tyrone McDonald, NHS Brooklyn, announced their annual Housing Resource Fair on June 1 at Brooklyn College.
6. Nancy Lulu, Office of Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, encouraged the public to be aware of cryptocurrency scams and reported on a drug takeback event.
7. Avrohom Malachowski, Office of Council Member Farah Louis, highlighted recent City Council hearings and announced upcoming events and services sponsored by the Council Member's office.
8. Brian Grady, Office of Council Member Rita Joseph, announced upcoming events and services sponsored by the Council Member's office, including maternal health and wellness workshops and housing assistance.
9. Jacob Gold, Office of the New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, announced the upcoming State of the People event on May 22.  
DM Campbell thanked the Public Advocate for his advocacy on housing issues, including facilitating a panel on the Grenfell Tower fire.
10. Stephanie Delia, Little Haiti, BK, introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the organization and announced a series of upcoming events, including a neighborhood cleanup and graduation event.
11. Tyesha Allen, Office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, reported on a successful community shredding program and announced upcoming events.
12. Sydney Renwick, Office of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, announced upcoming and ongoing programs sponsored by the Assemblymember, including a summer reading challenge.
13. Venus Scantlebury, Civilian Complaint Review Board, highlighted the agency's jurisdiction to investigate allegations of police misconduct. She spoke about the agency head's testimony before City Council and announced Know Your Rights workshops.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:29 PM.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.