



MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 14 September 11, 2023

A meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 14 was held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Avenue.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregory Alvarez	Elizabeth Denys	Donald Loggins	Bazah Roohi
Hindy Bendel	Derrick Donald	Melissa Minnich	Nina Sabghir
Binyomin Bendet	Sabina Dorvile	Ephraim Nierenberg	Joel Siegel
Jo Ann Brown	Joseph Dweck	Eric Ost	Gail L Smith
Mechelle Brunson	Yehuda Eckstein	Ornella Parker	Abraham Treff
Edward Cen	Lee Harman	Susan Phillip	Deborah Valentin
Karl-Henry Cesar	Moussa Hassoun	Tzvi Plotsker	Corazón Valiente
Yvette Clairjeane	Mehdi Pourpeikari Heris	Edward Powell	Dawn-Marie Walker
Steven D. Cohen	Shahid Khan	Barden Prisant	

DISTRICT OFFICE

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

CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Farah Louis (45th CD)
Avrohom Malachowski, Office of Councilmember Farah Louis (45th CD)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Nancy Lulu, Office of Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

STATE ASSEMBLY

Sydney Renwick, Office of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham (43rd AD)
Mary Kay Seery, Office of Assemblymember Robert Carroll (44th AD)

STATE SENATE

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

OTHER GUESTS / REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. Michael Joseph, 70th Precinct, New York City Police Department
P.O. Noah Elrowmeim, 70th Precinct, New York City Police Department
Antonio Whitaker, Department of Sanitation

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jo Ann Brown called the September 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.

II. MINUTES:

Minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting were approved with corrections to the addendum. Copies are on file at the CB14 District office and available on the CB14 website.

III. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT – Shawn Campbell:

The District Manager welcomed back board members and recognized the anniversary of September 11th. She thanked Chair Brown for her hard work over the summer. She announced the Borough Service Cabinet meeting for District Managers on September 12. District Service Cabinet meetings will begin in October. The Future of Community Boards group will also resume meetings in October. Budget consultations are underway and hearings have been held with multiple city agencies. District Manager Campbell discussed the Community Boards' new approach to engaging with city agencies on budget matters. She noted the impact of ongoing, citywide understaffing issues on city services and added her hope that Community Boards will be held harmless in future funding cuts. She noted that CB14 will be applying for planning fellows to work on pertinent issues, including those that appear in service delivery cases.

IV. CHAIR REPORT – Jo Ann Brown:

The Chair recognized representatives from the offices of elected officials and city agencies. She thanked the East Midwood Jewish Center for hosting the Board meeting.

The Chair acknowledged the 22nd anniversary of the September 11th attacks. She thanked members of the assembly for their expressions about the passing of board member Duane Joseph.

The Chair reported on the Committee of the Whole's meeting on August 21, 2023, at which the Board's recommendations on the City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality Zoning Text Amendments were discussed. The Committee of the Whole drafted a preliminary position stating a recommendation to approve the text amendment with conditions. The Committee of the Whole came to a consensus on presenting the draft position at a public hearing on September 7, 2023.

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (33-0-0) to suspend the Committee of the Whole.

The Chair invited Councilmember Farah Louis to address the assembly. The Councilmember recognized Duane Joseph's contributions to the community. She shared information about the Department of City Planning's vote on the City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality and the need to hold the DCP accountable for changing the meeting's date and need for increased transparency. She announced that Commissioner Tisch from the Department of Sanitation performed a walkthrough of the community last week with regards to curbside composting. She announced a series of community events. The Councilmember highlighted bills in the City Council and wished a pleasant Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur to those who celebrate.

The Chair announced that Committee Assignments had been distributed. The process of selecting committee members was based on diversity and balanced representation, as well as extending leadership to newer members.

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on September 7, 2023 regarding a special permit filed for 1337 East 24th Street (BSA# 2023-21-BZ)

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (33-0-0) to recommend that the application be approved without conditions.

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on September 7, 2023 regarding a special permit filed for 3199 Bedford Ave (BSA# 2023-27-BZ).

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (33-0-0) to recommend that the application be approved without conditions.

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on September 7, 2023 to invite public comment on Community Board 14's draft comments on the Department for City Planning's citywide zoning text amendment for the City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality N230113ZRY. Community Board 14's draft comments were refined during the Committee of the Whole meeting on August 21, 2023. The Chair noted that the Department of City Planning had held a meeting on September 11, 2023 at which the zoning text amendment passed with one committee member in opposition. The Chair added that she had presented CB14's views on the zoning text amendment at the Borough Board meeting, which were thus included in the Borough Board's recommendations to the City Planning Commission. The document under discussion will inform City Council members when they convene to consider the matter. The recommendation of board members in attendance was to approve the zoning text amendment with attached conditions and recommendations. The Chair thanked the Housing and Land Use committee for their insight and comments on the proposal.

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (33-0-0) to approve the City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality with the conditions and recommendations outlined in the final draft.

The Chair reported on a public hearing held on September 11, 2023 to hear public testimony by community members with respect to the FY2025 budget recommendations for Community Board 14. The recommendation from board members was to include the comments that have been collected to date and outlined by District Manager Shawn Campbell into CB14's FY25 Budget Priorities.

On a motion, duly made, it was:

RESOLVED (33-0-0) to approve and include the comments received for the FY 2025 Capital and Expense Budget recommendations.

The Chair reported on the Borough Board meeting held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Agenda items included discussion of and vote on the Department of City Planning City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality text amendment. Chair Brown offered CB14's preliminary approval with conditions. The Borough Board voted to approve the zoning text amendment with conditions that are noted in the individual board resolutions submitted to the City Planning Commission (CPC). The Borough Board heard a presentation by the Department of Parks and Recreation on new signage standards. The Borough Board heard a presentation by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority with an update on the Interborough Express (IBX). She added

that the environmental impact study will begin within the next few months, and that the full project completion would likely take fifteen years if determined to be feasible and fully funded. Borough Hall also announced a series of upcoming workshops for community board members.

V. TOPICAL COMMITTEES – REPORTS AND ITEMS:

- A) **Transportation Committee – Co-Chairs Joel Siegel and Moussa Hassoun** thanked previous co-chairs Steven D. Cohen and Edward Cen for their work last year. They reported on planned weekend traffic diversions due to BQE repairs, dates for the closures have not yet been announced. The next Transportation meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. The DOT and MTA will present on the Coney Island Ave/Cortelyou Road intersection and ADA upgrades at Church Ave B/Q station, respectively.
- B) **Housing and Land Use – Co-Chair Gregory Alvarez** noted that he and co-chair Talisha Sainvil look forward to continuing to chair this committee. Their next meeting will include discussion of the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity, a date has not yet been set.
- C) **Human Services – Co-Chair Yvette Clairjeane** noted that she looked forward to working with co-chair **Florencia Chang-Ageda** and committee members in the coming year. The annual non-profit round table will take place in the Spring.
- D) **Community Environment, Cultural Affairs and Economic Development – Co-Chairs Edward Cen and Melissa Minnich** noted that the committee will be addressing the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity and announced the public information session on September 12, 2023.

District Manager Campbell noted that the September 11 hearing on City of Yes for Carbon Neutrality was also broadcast online and is available on DCP's website.

- E) **Youth Services, Education and Libraries – Co-Chairs Karl-Henry Cesar and Eric Ost** noted that dates for upcoming committee meetings will be announced by the office. They also reported that a fund to support and expand the CB14 Youth Conference has been created in honor of Duane Joseph and his dedication to the youth of the community. Information is available on the CB14 and COPO websites.
- F) **Community Safety – Co-Chairs Hindy Bendel and Barden Prisant** thanked Florencia Chang-Ageda for her work co-chairing the committee last year. They noted that dates for upcoming committee meetings will be announced by the office.

VI. AD HOC COMMITTEES:

- A) **CB14 Flatbush African Burial Ground Task Force** – There was no report for the task force.

Chair Brown thanked Mark Moss for filming and live-streaming the board meeting.

VII. PUBLIC SESSION

1. Juana Flores, Brooklyn Public Library, thanked those assembled for their past support in defending the library's budget from cuts. She announced multiple programs and resources including college and scholarship counseling, homework help, and internships for teens.
2. Antonio Whitaker, Department of Sanitation, discussed new curbside composting rules and procedures, which begin October 2, 2023.

3. Nancy Lulu, Office of Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, announced community engagement events. The office will be holding a Hispanic Heritage event on September 28th. She encouraged those with public safety concerns to call the Action Center.
4. Avrohom Malachowski, Office of Councilmember Farah Louis, reported on the Councilmember's back to school giveaways and a DOT neighborhood walk through. He announced upcoming events including paper shredding and housing assistance programs.
5. Jourdan Hicks, a reporter for BK Reader, introduced herself to those assembled and noted that she would be reporting on Community Board meetings across Brooklyn.
6. Samantha Bernardine, Flatbush African Burial Ground Coalition, reported on recent events and concerns related to the burial ground space.
7. Mary Kay Seery, Office of Assemblymember Robert Carroll, announced constituent services evenings at the Brooklyn Public Library and other events hosted by the office.
8. Paurcha Edwards, Office of State Senator Zellnor Myrie, reported on the Senator's summer and back to school events.
9. Marie Antoine Pierre, Carmel's Depression & Anxiety Wellness Foundation, thanked the Brooklyn Public Library for partnering on a summer wellness clinic. She spoke about the Foundation's activities and resources available.
10. Sydney Renwick, Office of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, reported on their backpack giveaway and announced events with the MTA, and My Time, a program for families with children with autism.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:21 P.M.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.