

**Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225**

**Minutes of the
Executive Committee
Tuesday, January 19th 2016**

Attendance:

Demetrius Lawrence – CB9 Chairman
Evelyn Williams – CB9
Foster Henry – CD9 resident
Karen Fleming – CD9 resident
Alicia Boyd – CD9 resident

Jacqueline Welch – CB9
Patricia Baker – CB9
Simone Bennett – CB9
Denise Mann – CB9

Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm.

Setting the agenda for the January General Board meeting

Chairman Lawrence reminded the Executive Committee that the Public Comment period was moved from the end of the business session to now the end of the public session.

It was discussed that since we lost quorum at the general board meeting during the month of December 2015, we weren't able to vote on various agenda items. The following items will be voted on at our January 26th 2016 meeting: NYC Smoke Free Housing and Maple Street Community Garden; these groups are requesting a letter of support from Community Board 9. The incorrect Bridge Project vote which took place in 2013 needs to be corrected to reflect the correct vote from Simone Bennett and the revised Community Board 9 Rules of Conduct also needs to be voted on.

Chairman Lawrence informed the Executive Committee that the following (3) three board members will receive a courtesy letter requesting an explanation for their (3) three or more consecutive absences from regular board & committee meetings: Ms. Kenya Sollas, Rev. Douglas Banks and Rev. Phyllis Brown. According to Article 5.5 (a) of the by-laws of Community Board 9 states "an appointed member may be removed from the Board for cause, which shall include substantial non-attendance at Board or Committee meetings.

The Community Board 9 office and Chairman Lawrence received a letter from NYS Senator Hamilton requesting a representative from the Empire Study Group to present results of their preliminary study to address key community concerns regarding the plans for Empire Boulevard between Flatbush Avenue & Rogers Avenue. The group was originally schedule to present in December 2015, but wasn't prepared to do so and requested to present in the month of January 2016. Professor Thomas Angotti, Director of Urban Planning and Community Planning at Hunter College will be conducting the presentation. It was agreed by the Executive Committee that the group will present their presentation for ten minutes.

New Business

It was brought to the attention of the Executive committee that during the ULURP Committee meeting which was held on October 6, 2015, Chairman Michael Liburd formed a subcommittee to discuss changes to the ZQA/MIH contextual zoning amendments and formulate questions and objections to present to the NYC

Department of City Planning. Now since the subcommittee was dismantled and no longer functioning, Ms. Alicia Boyd felt that she was apart of the regular ULURP Committee. Chairman Lawrence consulted with Andrew Gounardes of the Brooklyn Borough Hall Legal Council on the issue, to see if Ms. Boyd was entitled to be a member of the regular ULURP Committee once the subcommittee was formed. We were informed that one is not automatically appointed to the regular ULURP Committee once the subcommittee was discontinued. Ms. Boyd stated that she feels disrespected and wanted to be placed on the ULURP Committee.

Community resident Karen Fleming attended the Executive Committee meeting and requested for the removal of Transportation Committee Chairman Tim Thomas. Ms. Fleming submitted a letter and other documents supporting her request for Mr. Thomas' removal for inaccurately recording of the voting status for the Empire Boulevard project at last year's Transportation Committee meeting. It was agreed that Chairman Lawrence will contact Tim Thomas to arrange for him to answer to the allegations and request an understanding of what actually took place before the full Board. A motion was made and seconded that Chairman Lawrence would reach out to Mr. Thomas and ask him to table the revote on the Empire Boulevard Project construction at the upcoming January 20th meeting until the Executive Committee was able to find out if there was ever an original committee vote on this matter and since it wasn't reflected in the September 2015 and October 2015 minutes. In addition, the Executive Committee wanted to give Mr. Thomas an opportunity to address the Executive Committee regarding the request of his removal.

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

Chairman Lawrence requested to reconvene the meeting at 8:30pm. After receiving the proper motion by Simone Bennett and seconded by Patricia Baker the meeting was called to order. Chairman Lawrence discussed that it was unacceptable of the recording secretary Stuart Balberg being unable to submit the general board minutes in a timely manner and failing to attend the Executive Committee meetings. It was discussed that we may need to request that someone on the Board to record the minutes as a back-up. Chairman Lawrence will have another discussion with Mr. Balberg and present this issue before the full Board at the next general meeting.

Meeting was adjourned again at 8:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Demetrius Lawrence
Chairman
January 25, 2016