

**COMMUNITY BOARD 9  
890 NOSTRAND AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NY 11225**

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON JANUARY 25, 2011  
MIDDLE SCHOOL 61 AUDITORIUM  
400 EMPIRE BOULEVARD, BROOKLYN NY 11225**

**Board Members Present**

Robert Agyemang  
Jenay Alejandro  
Pastor Robert Ambrose  
Dion Ashman  
Stuart Balberg  
Rev. Phyllis Brown  
Gwen Carter  
Aldith Clarke  
Julian Daniels  
Leslie Davis  
Geraldine Dease  
Edmund Fanning  
Shelia Foster-Golding  
Shawn Francis  
Rabbi Jacob Z. Goldstein  
Rabbi Nochum Gross  
Tessa Hackett-Vieira  
Edu Hermelyn  
Brenda Hutto-Lucas  
Maurice Jean-Baptiste

**Board Members Present**

Jannie Johnson  
Demetrius Lawrence  
Samuel Marmulzsteyn  
Carl Morgan  
Frank Nicholas  
Dwayne Nicholson  
Rosemarie Perry  
Myrtle Roberson  
Karlene Robinson  
Eleanor Rollins  
Mary Rollerson-Blackett  
Rosevelt Rose  
Brenda Scott  
Chanina Sperlin  
Rabbi Joseph Spielman  
Victoria St. Clair  
Yvonne Straker  
Denise Thomas  
Jacqueline Welch  
Evelyn Williams

**Board Members Absent**

Michael Cetera  
Brian Dean  
Theopia Green  
Aron Hershkop  
Yaakov Katz  
Dr, Marco Mason  
Romania Roachford

**Elected Officials/Agency Representatives**

Hon Marty Markowitz-Ann Marie Adamson  
Hon. Yvette Clarke – Ron Thomas  
Hon. Eric Adams – Reuven Lipkind  
Hon. Darlene Mealy – Arna Lipkind  
Kings County Hospital – Debra LeSane

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**PUBLIC SESSION:**

**Ms. Becky O'Neill, External Relations Associate, Achievement First Charter Schools will present a brief overview of the Achievement First schools in the community along with information on how to enroll children.**

Ms. Becky O'Neil informed that Achievement First Charter Schools consists of ten schools. There are three are in Crown Heights. There are also elementary, junior high, and high schools in Central Brooklyn. The school is built on the college preparatory type model. They believe in high standards and high performances. The K-5 schools are free, public schools enrolled by lottery. The lottery is in progress, children are being accepted for this coming fall term. Applications are available at tonight's meeting or online at [www.achievement.org](http://www.achievement.org). Everyone is welcome to check out the schools. Open school days are forthcoming on Saturdays, there are flyers available.

Inaudible question – We occupy a school space so that building is packed, half is the middle school and the other half an elementary school.

Inaudible question – Our school serves K-12. The application is for K-8 then there are the 9-12 in the high school. The 9-12 grades are located at Pacific Street.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Ms. O'Neil for her presentation to enlighten the community on the Achievement First Charter Schools.

**Representatives from the Department of Design and Construction will present the plans for the project HWKC1019 – Reconstruction of Eastern Parkway from Grand Army Plaza to Washington Avenue – construction work scheduled to begin spring 2011.**

Mr. Wasamy Fahmy, representing HAKS Engineers, addressed the scope of work for the project. The scope is to replace the old trunk water main with 10 inch pipes. Why is this being done? The existing structures are very old. They are unable to meet the demands of the future.

Pedestrian walkway will increase, be improved by separation, there will be more green areas, benches, etc. Basically the job will begin in spring 2010. It will last for three years. Completion in September 2012. In general the construction hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM. On some occasions work will be done at night and on weekends Friday nights to Monday morning 5:00 AM. For the main road, operation will depend on traffic. There will be connections basically from Grand Army Plaza to Washington Avenue, as well as some of the side streets as well.

The field office is located at 250 Flatbush Avenue. You can ask questions as well as see the plans. Brochures will be available for the project. Scott Payne of Hacks Engineers is the CCL for the project. Any questions contact him.

There will always be pedestrian access to buildings. This will be maintained at all times. MTA bus stops if necessary will be detoured; in that case the community will be informed in advance. Certain operations will be noisy. They will try to minimize the noise. Uniformed New York Police Department Traffic Agents will be assigned. Loading docks access may be restricted

Water main interruptions will be a part of the project. Notices will be given in advance. Individuals with special needs should contact the CCL. Rodent control will be put in place prior to the start of the project.

## **Questions and Answers**

Chairman Goldstein – Has the contractor been selected? Yes, they are Difazio Industries

Chairman Goldstein – Washington Avenue to Grand Army Plaza is a tight-squeeze area from east to west, will you adjust and take into consideration as you see traffic back-up from the narrow streets coming out of Eastern Parkway? Yes, there will be several traffic agents stationed on the job to help work out the problems, even if it means stopping to let the traffic go by.

Chairman Goldstein – Can I make a recommendation? On the north service road side of the street you could remove parking. If you really want to control traffic you would probably want to look at one side of the street to remove parking.

Secondly, what are you doing with the circles? That is a separate project under Department of Transportation. Chairman Goldstein – When will that take place? It will be done over the summer. Chairman Goldstein – So this will be done as one big construction project? Yes. Chairman Goldstein – I appreciate that.

Ruby Hodge – At Washington Avenue there are places like the doctor's office will that area be accessible to pedestrians? Chairman Goldstein – It is out of our area. Mr. Fahmy – That entire area has been surveyed. We have a list of all the special places, including schools, hospitals, libraries, etc. All these areas were given special consideration in the scope of the project.

Community Resident – What about hiring from the community to work on the project? The contractors are Defascio Industries you can contact them. They will be at the site or contact the office at 250 Flatbush Avenue.

Community Resident - If dirty water is coming into the houses from the construction site who should we call? Call 347-457-5362 the CCL office.

Community Resident - During the construction will subway service be impacted? No.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Mr. Fahmy for his presentation.

## **BUSINESS SESSION**

The business session began at 7:40 pm with 40 members present.

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the December 2010 meeting were presented for correction and adoption.

Ruby Hodge would like to add a thank you to Ms. Joan Gill for her contribution of donuts to the December Christmas party.

Correction page 3 \$63 million not \$763 million.

Motion to accept the minutes with the necessary corrections was made by Dwayne Nicholson and seconded by Ruby Hodge.

## **DISTRICT MANAGERS' REPORT**

Ms. Pearl Miles extended New Years 2011 greetings to all and wished everyone a happy prosperous year. She then informed the meeting of the following:

- Clove Road Archeological Dig – the controller has approved the change order to do the dig on Clove Road. Sometime in the spring she hoped the project will begin.
- The Speaker of the City Council and the Brooklyn Council members will continue their public hearings on the Blizzard of 2010. The hearing will be held at Marine Park Intermediate School, I.S. 228, 1925 Stewart Street, Brooklyn; Wednesday, January 26 2011 at 6:00 pm. Public transportation includes B2, B31, B44, and B100. Anyone interested in testifying at the hearing or need further information, call 212 788-5613.
- New York State Senator Eric Adams will conduct a forum on Sunday, January 31, 2011 at 10:00 AM at the Torah Hall, 885 Eastern Parkway between Albany and Troy Avenues. The forum is open to

everyone. Topics include "your rights when stopped by the police". This is in response to a WABC Channel 7 segment that uncovered questionable police practices in Crown Heights and other documented practices of police over-reacting.

- Town Hall Meeting by Controller John Liu "The Power of the Audit". One will learn about the who, what, where, when and why there is an audit, Wednesday (tomorrow) January 26, 2011 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Brooklyn Public Library in the Dweck Auditorium.

## **COMMITTEES' REPORTS**

### **Economic Development – Jenay Alejandro, Chairperson**

Ms. Alejandro reported that the committee met on January 18, 2011. The plan is to meet the third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be on February 15, 2011. At the next meeting the discussion will be centered on the objectives of the committee. The next step will include meeting with the local merchants and business owners to identify the needs of the community. An effort will also be made to invite members of the community to join the committee.

### **Youth Service Committee – Dion Ashman (see written report)**

Review of last year's Youth Services activities including the annual youth speak-out at Medgar Evers Preparatory School and the "Generation Not Deferred" mentoring program that has become a derivative of the Youth Speak-out with the participants of Medgar Evers College Prep. Discussed Community Board 9's budget related matters for the youth of the district and focused on a youth center where people can participate in all kinds of activities, educational, recreational and independent living. Also the upgrading of Community Board 9's resource directory which was produced in 1991.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Rabbi Goldstein reported on the following:

Eastern Parkway will be undergoing reconstruction. Many people use Eastern Parkway, they need to be aware that their lives will be impacted for two years. They need to make concessions to find alternative routes.

During the blizzard the union got even with the elected officials, in return he believed that they got even with him. His street, Montgomery Street was the last one in Community 9 that was plowed. The plow passed through on Thursday after the snow had already turned into ice.

The Chairman asked the elderly to be careful shoveling snow during the winter. If you are strong and healthy, please help your neighbor make a path out, if they are unable to do so.

The Chairman would like to thank Demetrius Lawrence for making the effort to attend the meeting after his operation.

Condolences to Myrtle Roberson who had death in her family.

There are cards in the back of the room for 2011 alternate side parking rules and the dates they are in effect. Please take one for your convenience.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The chairman acknowledged the following:

Ann Marie Adamson – representing Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz; Reuben Lipkind – New York State Senator Eric Adams; Anna Lipkind – Council member Darlene Mealy; Ron Thomas – Congresswoman Yvette Clarke; Debra Lesane – Kings County Hospital Center

### **Removal of Board Member**

Action to remove board member Romania Roachford for non attendance at community board and committee meetings for six consecutive months was placed before the board. Ms. Roachford failed to respond to the board in spite of letters sent to her requesting an explanation for her absence. Motion for removal for non attendance was made by Edmund Fanning and seconded by Demetrius Lawrence. Voting: Yes – 36; Abstentions – 6. Romania Roachford is removed from the Board. The Borough President's office will be notified in writing of the action taken. Community Board 9 now stands at 48 members

The Chairman said that the budget crisis is real. He hopes to bring the City Council members to a meeting here sometime after they look at the budget again regarding the numbers they come up with. The years of plenty are gone, we are now experiencing the seven years of lean.

Ann Marie Adamson made the following announcements:

- Members who received reappointment letters are asked to return them as soon as possible
- Borough President Marty Markowitz will be hosting a Valentine's Day party on February 14, 2011 at the El Caribe Catering Hall, Strickland Avenue in Brooklyn to honor couples married for 50 years or more. Among the couples being honored are our own Joan and Elisha Gill.

Chairman Goldstein thanked all for attending tonight's meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by Jannie Johnson and seconded by Jacqueline Welch. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

**Respectfully submitted**  
**Shelia Foster-Golding**  
**Secretary**  
**February 17, 2011**