

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

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 22, 2010
MIDDLE SCHOOL 61 AUDITORIUM
400 EMPIRE BOULEVARD, BROOKLYN NY 11225**

Board Members Present

Gwen Carter
Aldith Clarke
Leslie F. Davis
Brian A. Dean
Edmund Fanning
Shelia Foster-Golding
Rabbi Jacob Goldstein
Rabbi Nochum Gross
Tessa I. Hackett-Vieira
Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales
Aron Hershkop
Ruby Hodge
Jannie Johnson
Samuel Marmulzsteyn
Carl B. Morgan
Dwayne Nicholson

Board Members Present

Rosemarie Perry
Myrtle Roberson
Karlene Robinson
Mary Rollerson-Blackett
Eleanor Rollins
Roosevelt Rose
Rabbi Joseph Spielman
Victoria St. Clair
Yvonne Straker
Jacqueline Welch
Evelyn Williams
Maurice Jean-Baptiste
Demetrius Lawrence
Allan Martin, Jr.
Frank Nicholas

Board Members Absent

Robert Agyemang
Jenay Alejandro
Pastor Robert Ambrose
Dion Ashman
Stuart Balberg
Rev. Phyllis Brown
Michael Cetera, AIA
Julian Daniels
Geraldine Dease
Shawn Francis
Theopia Green
Edu Hermelyn
Brenda Hutto-Lucas
Yaakov Y. Katz
Dr. Marco Mason
Romania Roachford
Brenda Scott
Chanina Sperlin

Elected Officials/Agency Representatives Present

Reuven Lipkind – Hon. Eric Adams
Ron Thomas – Hon. Yvette Clarke
Carline Keil – Hon. Mathieu Eugene
Wanda Gebrehinot – Hon. Karim Camara

Debra Lesane – Kings County Hospital Center
Arna Lipkind – Hon. Darlene Mealy
Alfred Chiodo – Hon. Letitia James
Ann Marie Adamson – Hon. Marty Markowitz

PUBLIC SESSION

Representatives from the Department of City Planning will discuss the Car Share Text Amendment – ULURP NO. N100284ZRY – the proposed text amendment would allow car share vehicles to park in parking facilities accessory to residential, commercial and manufacturing use and in public parking lots and garages.

Ms. Sanmati Naik representing the Department of City Planning, informed that the City Planning Text Amendment was not about the concept of car share but rather it is concerned with the regulations to where car share vehicles can park. The proposed text amendment is not new. Car share has been in existence since 1961. The regulations are not clear as to where it is allowed and how much. It is a matter of giving clear directions on how to operate car share in garages and parking lots that serve general parking. This proposal is based on the parking facilities. Generally these facilities found in high density populations and public parking facilities. It is more limited in smaller residential districts and commercial and manufacturing areas. It is not allowed in one family residential district.

Another thing under this proposal, it will be determined whether car sharing will be allowed or not. In residential districts up to 20 persons or 5 depends which is greater. In larger residential facilities up to 10% of the people can be allowed within spaces of 2 or higher.

Benefits of car sharing –

- 60% of the people participating either give up their vehicle or they do not own a car. They don't have to worry about parking in their neighborhood.
- Economically it is more convenient
- It lessens air pollution

Questions and Answers

What is car sharing? How does it work? – It is basically a service to members. It is owned by the members. You can take a car out and return it to the same place of pick up.

What is the difference between a rental car and a car share? The car share is by the hour, you don't have to pay for gas. It does not act as a commercial entity. It is like you own your own car.

Is it the same as a zip car? Yes. This is a zip car

How many spaces are reserved for this service in respective Boards? It is by residential district. It can facilitate up to 40 persons.

Is there a lower limit? There is a lower limit. It allows service for you to 20 persons.

Chairman Goldstein – we are not talking about a parking lot specifically. This is a Text Amendment that is going citywide. There are 18 Boards in Brooklyn, all 17 Boards accepted car share. Community Board 9 is now reviewing it. There are 59 Boards throughout the City, all 59 Boards will be presented with the Text Amendment by the City of New York.

Ann Marie Adamson – inaudible. Answer – It is all off street parking

Presentation of Awards

Awardees – Micky Joseph, Peter Sugar, Randy Panetta and Lester Siegal – Office of Management and Budget

Chairman Jacob Goldstein introduced the honorees and explained that there are people in government who are unsung heroes. These are the people who make the Government work. They are not the Commissioners, not the Deputy Commissioners but instead the Commissioners turn to these people to get the job done. There are four such persons who as a Board we think deserve to be recognized. They have worked with the Community Boards for many years.

Mickey Joseph, Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget, upon receiving the plaque from Chairman Rabbi Goldstein, replied by expressing that: we are so honored that you are honoring us because what we do is to try to help, that's why we are here. I do the orientation for new Board members and I always say that a budget is the most political choice you can ever make on how you spend the money. We help the Boards to get access into the system. There is also an operating budget which Randy Panetta oversees. It pays for the slide projector, Pearl's salary, and copy machines etc., the things that keep a Board working. We help you in forming the City's budget, formulate your own

budget, keep you honest, to make sure that you don't over spend. We also monitor and advocate for the Community Boards.

This act is so touching that the Community Board would honor us. January 5, 2011 will be 30 years of service to the City of New York. Peter Sugar has served 36 years. He thanked the Board on behalf of Lester Siegal and Randy Panetta who could not attend but who also work behind the scenes to get the job done.

Awardees – Marie Ann Meyr-Carolan, Lily Wong and Laura Dean (Retired) – Office of the Brooklyn Borough President

District Manager Pearl Miles, in presenting the award to Marie Ann Meyr-Carolan and Lilly Wong, explained that these two ladies help with the operating budget, with our purchasing. The District Manager does the paper work. The chairman approves it, and then it goes to Borough Hall where these two ladies complete the job by putting it into the computer, and completing the job.

Marie Ann is the timekeeper for over 20 years. She also processes the paper work when we hire an employee. Lilly Wong has served for 23 years. She ensures all our purchases are processed in a timely manner. They are valuable in the Borough President's Office.

In their reply both Ms. Meyr-Carolan and Ms. Wong expressed their gratitude that Community Board 9 recognized their service. They are happy to serve the Community Boards and to help in any possible way.

Ann Marie Adamson, Borough President Marty Markowitz's liaison to the Community Board, thanked Community Board 9 for recognizing these employees. She added that they do their work with such grace and patience. It is a huge job that they do.

Awardee – Church of the Evangel

District Manager Pearl Miles presented the Church of the Evangel with an award to mark the occasion of the listing of the Church on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Miles explained that a few Saturdays prior the church had a celebration for being placed on the National Register as a historic landmark. Unfortunately Chairman Goldstein could not attend, and she was ill. Tonight we are presenting to them the honor due and to commemorate that historic event. Ms. Miles read the plaque which she presented to the Church of the Evangel Rev. Lisa Robinson. A church representative received the citation and thanked the Community Board on behalf of Rev. Lisa Robinson, who could not attend the meeting.

Crown Heights is Cookin'

The Crown Heights is Cookin' Cookbook is the brain child of the Crown Heights Community Mediation Center, in collaboration with young women from the Crown Heights community, the Crown Heights Jewish Community Council and the UJA Federation of New York, along with numerous volunteers.

The Rev. Ken Brogen introduced the young women who collaborated on the project. Rev. Brogen said that this project helped to break down barriers in the community. The young women are:

Mia – introduced herself as living in the community for only two years. She interviewed people, get their recipes and their stories, they also photographed them. She would never have met the group of girls which she met at the program, if she was not a part of the project.

Mitzi – explained that she met people from different worlds. They bonded with other people, learning their life stories, their culture and together they created a work of art. The experience was great.

Lindsay – lived in the community for 17 years. Together they have made the cook book. There will be a party on June 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Representatives from the Department of Transportation will present the proposed intersection safety improvements at Empire Boulevard/Flatbush Avenue/Ocean Avenue, aimed at improving pedestrian safety and traffic flow.

Ms. Hillary Poole of the Department of Transportation Office of Implementation and Safety informed that they were there about a year ago discussing the Empire Boulevard Traffic Calming Project that has since been implemented. They were requested specifically to go back and look at the intersection of Empire Boulevard at Flatbush and Ocean Avenues because that intersection was not included in the project.

The intersection has been studied. This was at Community Board 9's request. There is a need for safe access to the park. The intersection actually ranks in the ninety-nine percentile of high pedestrian crash intersections in Brooklyn. The proposal is to install a split island with concrete which will separate the turn lane, making free movement and align with the intersection, provide free space for pedestrians to stand when they cannot cross the street all at once. There will be one in the north crosswalk and one in the south crosswalk. Trees will be planted. There will be a place for pedestrians to stand if they get caught in the middle of the street especially children in strollers, etc. A curb extension will be installed on Ocean Avenue to slow vehicles crossing over.

It is hoped that the project can begin next month. It will take a couple of weeks of construction. When completed the community will have a beautiful intersection.

Chairman Goldstein thinks it is a well thought out plan. He likes the proposal. This will save peoples' lives. He thanked Ms. Poole for the presentation

Questions and Answers

Inaudible – Thank you for your comment, we will not be removing any lanes.

Ruby Hodge – Driving on Flatbush Avenue, one light is green, on is red. The lights need to be in sync. Answer. Nothing has changed.

Chairman Goldstein – It is a good observation we will defer it to the Department of Transportation. The light needs to be synced.

Representatives from the Department of Transportation and the New York Transit Authority will bring the community up to date on the Nostrand Avenue Select Bus Service (SBS) Corridor, which extends along the B44 Route from Williamsburg to Sheepshead Bay – (Eastern Parkway to Clarkson Avenue, the portion within Community District 9.)

Representing NYC Transit Department of Operation and Planning Dominick McCarthy and Mr. Bob Thompson from the New York City Department of Transportation.

Mr. McCarthy informed that New York City has the slowest bus service in the country. The reason why improving the system is necessary is to increase efficiency and comfort to the residents of New York. A Rapid Transit system is implemented on Fordham Road in the Bronx, First and Second Avenues will be implemented this October, and Nostrand Avenue is planned for mid 2012, there is a study under way for Hyland Avenue in Staten Island.

Based on a study the results was that the bus is in motion 25% of the time the rest of the time the bus is either pulling into the bus stop, loading passengers or at the red-light. This shows that the majority of the time the bus is not moving.

Bus Rapid Transit- some of the elements are transit priority, fare payment, special branding, the safe passenger information, red or terra cotta bus lanes.

The bus service was implemented on Fordham Road in 2008. Overall the service is okay. There is a 20% reduction in travel service overall. Ridership has increased 7 – 8%. There was a before and after survey done. After the survey, it was discovered that 90% of the riders are satisfied.

Plans for the Nostrand Avenue Corridor

The service will begin from the Williamsburg Bridge to Sheepshead Bay, 9.3 miles. It serves 44,000 weekday riders. It is the fifth busiest bus route in the city. The bus currently travels 7 to 8 miles per hour. Community Board 9 residents are dependent on this line; the majority of people use this line.

The B44 will be converted to a “select bus service”. It will make the same connections to subway lines and buses. It will continue to run as it is now. There will be offset bus lanes from DeKalb Avenue to Church Avenue. There will be a traffic priority for the corridor which gives the bus an extended green light and signal to keep going through the intersection.

The entire B44 route will feature three door buses with low floors for easier boarding. This will be patterned after the M15 in Manhattan. With fare collection before riders board the bus, entering through the three doors, helps to speed up the bus service. This can be seen on the Fordham Road line in the Bronx, where the service has speeded up tremendously.

Mr. Bob Thompson – representing Department of Transportation explained that it is a joint project between the Transit Authority and Department of Transportation. On Nostrand Avenue, outside of Community District 9 there will be three stops. Within Community District 8 and 9 there will be the following stops: St. Johns Place, Empire Boulevard, and Clarkson Avenue. The bus route will be placed one lane outside the curb. The curb will be built to meet the bus lane where the curb will be built to meet the bus stop it will be high. The project will begin in 2012, so there is time to work on the details. The local B44 will run off New York Avenue making all the local stops. The plan for the SBS line is to make service faster. By paying the fare before boarding the bus you can save 25% of the time, for example from Empire Boulevard to Flatbush Avenue one can save 6 minutes.

In planning the project twenty one meetings have been convened to date with elected officials, Community Board 9 representatives and the public about the bus route on Nostrand Avenue and Rogers Avenue. The bus will go down Nostrand Avenue and come back up on Rogers Avenue. By mid 2012 the service should be up and running.

Questions & Answers

Chairman Goldstein – you need to look at the blocks on New York Avenue. The streets are narrow, especially in certain places.

Rabbi Spielman – You need to look at the traffic on New York Avenue. It is difficult to travel on New York Avenue during rush hours.

Jannie Johnson – Are you going to eliminate the B49 on Rogers Avenue, now that the Nostrand Avenue line will return on Rogers Avenue instead of New York Avenue. Mr. Thompson – The B49 will stay as it is. At the stations there will be

special corridors and special markings which will be very clear to let you know that this is the Select Bus Service and this is the local bus stop.

Community Resident – I am seeing that this is a win win for everybody but it is not. People who go to Kings County Hospital will be affected. When the bus gets to Fulton Street instead of turning left it takes a right to Marcy Avenue to compensate those people on that side. One section of the ridership will be affected, therefore as a compensation for that will you consider every alternate local bus stop on Fulton Street instead of making that left turn make a quick right and run down Marcy Avenue. As we work on the project on the local level we will be taking suggestions and making changes where necessary.

Where will we be using Metro Cards and where will we get them from? Answer – There will be Metro Card machines and coin machines.

Chairman Goldstein – If there is a coin machine it means that money will be exchanged. There will always be someone looking for money. You will have to make sure there will not be robbers around to steal.

Mr. Thompson – At the Fordham Road station in the Bronx there is usually many people waiting at the bus stop. The local service will always be there where you can get your Metro card.

Ann Marie Adamson – inaudible. Mr. Thompson – Basically we are not adding any bus route. There are so many things that can fit on one street. It will be one bus lane on Rogers Avenue. However, there are some streets in Manhattan where you have different buses on the same street.

Community resident – How does the bus driver know if you have paid your fare? When you have three doors to enter on the bus? You don't give anything to the driver. You have like an honor system.

Chairman Goldstein – You are assuming that everyone riding the bus is honest? There is no problem in the Bronx. There are routing inspectors on the bus. If you do not have a receipt you are fined one hundred dollars. When it was first implemented, people tried it, they were given a hundred dollar fine. The word gets around. Mr. Thompson – It works better on the regular bus where there is no police, people get on at the back door without paying. With this service you will get checked.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Thompson for their presentation.

Presentation by Ms. Mav Moorhead, NYH20, INC, on the threat to the New York Watershed and New York City's drinking water, from companies proposing to use Hydraulic Fracturing/Horizontal Drilling (a hazardous chemical based high powered water drilling technique) to drill for gas.

Mr. Chuck Moorhead and Mrs. Mav Moorhead representing NYH20.

Chuck Moorhead is an Architect in New York City; about two and a half years ago he worked in the Riverhead area on land use systems of the Upper Delaware region. It is that part of Delaware which separates New York from Pennsylvania. It is about a hundred miles from here. It is a beautiful river valley. He worked in the region for about nine to ten years on land use issues. About two and a half years ago he heard the term Marcellus Shale for the first time in a meeting in the upper Delaware. The Marcellus Shale is a geologic formation that produces the largest supply of natural gas in the country. "It is not in Alaska, it is not in the Middle East, it is not in the West, the Marcellus Shale which is a rock formation that goes across the southern tier of New York State, the State of Pennsylvania, part of West Virginia and Ohio. There is a process to extract this gas because it is so deep below the surface. It is called horizontal hydraulic

fracturing. In the process they have drilled a mile down to extract the gas. Then they take three to five million gallons of clean water; mix it with sand and about two hundred to three hundred chemicals, many of which are toxic. This toxic brew is a propriety product of these energy companies designed by Halliburton. The use of these chemicals and pumping it into the ground is exempt from the "Clean Air Act", the Clean Water Act, and the Sewer Fund Act by the 2005 Bush-Chaney Act. This process has a green light to go forward. When you pump this toxic water into the ground seventy percent never comes back up but stays somewhere in our hydraulic system. Thirty percent comes up as hazardous waste, highly radioactive.

This process has been going on for seven or eight years out west in about thirty-two states which are often poor communities in Wyoming, Utah, etc. People are getting sick, their children are getting sick. In some areas there are drillings near to their wells because they do not have public water systems as we do. The water is discolored. You can almost light it on fire. You can Google Gas Line and see the process and what is happening in the states. Across New York State there would be twenty or thirty wells that will be drilled. They could be there for twenty or thirty years. They will be turning the upper Delaware into an industrial area.

Chuck and his wife Mav have been working with a group called NYH2O. It is a citizen group which has been around for about eighteen months going to Community Boards asking the Boards to write letters or formulate resolutions to Governor Patterson and to the Department of Environmental Conservation asking them to stop the process, not only in the New York City Watershed but also elsewhere across the State of New York.

The New York State Assembly is about to go on recess. We are asking for a moratorium on the project. There are however many people who are getting rich, they would like the project to continue. Mr. Moorhead would like the community to call their representatives or write letters asking for them to support the moratorium on the drilling.

Mav Moorhead – informed that they have in their possession about forty-six resolutions from Community Boards stating that they would like a ban on this particular process. For it to be effective we have to show that we are in danger. They are putting chemicals in the ground; these are cancer producing chemicals underground. The other percentages that come up out of the ground are radioactive. These radioactive materials are being injected into our water supply systems.

Business Session

The Business Session began at 9:10 p.m. Present were 31 members.

Minutes

The minutes of May 2010 Community Board meeting was presented for correction and adoption. A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Sam Marmulzsteyn and seconded by Gwen Carter. The minutes were adopted.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Pearl Miles made two announcements on behalf of the Borough President's Office. Ann Marie Adamson from the Borough Presidents office would like to inform all Board members of the swearing-in ceremony for all Brooklyn Community Board members which will take place at Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street on Monday, June 28, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. there will be registration followed by the swearing in ceremony at 6:00 p.m. The orientation will cover Basic Land Use, Conflict of Interest and other workshops.

The Borough President is inviting the community to celebrate the 5th Annual Caribbean American Heritage Month on June 20, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Ms. Miles further informed that the budget process has begun for FY 2012. Chairs should indicate if they would like to meet with the different agencies at Borough Consultation on the Budget. Please let her know to prepare in advance.

Chairman's Report

Rabbi Goldstein began by asking the newly appointed Board members to stand, and be recognized by the community. There are six newly appointed members. The Chairman is looking forward to working with them.

Acknowledgements

The Chairman acknowledged Ann Marie Adamson representing Borough President Marty Markowitz, Carline Keil representing Councilmember Mathieu Eugene, Alfred Chiodo representing Councilmember Letitia James, Anna Lipkind representing Councilmember Darlene Mealy, Reuven Lipkind representing New York State Senator Eric Adams and Ron Thomas representing Congress member Yvette Clarke.

The Chairman acknowledged Connie Leshold, a long time friend who keeps everyone honest.

Committees' Report

Health and Social Services, Dwayne Nicholson, Chairperson (see written report)

Highlight – Meeting was held on June 9th. A tour of Kings County Hospital and the conference room dedicated to the late Marjorie Matthews who was instrumental in getting the City to undergo the reconstruction of Kings County Hospital. Discussed plans for the joint Health Fair on October 2, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to be held at Kings County Hospital. Discussed the hospital services provided to the community and the closing of two clinics in the hospital.

Public Safety Committee, Rosemarie Perry, Chairperson (see written report)

Highlight – Review the status of Public Safety related items in Community Board 9's FY 2010 Capital Budget Requests. There was a meeting on Friday, June 11, 2010 with Councilmember Mealy to discuss the 71 Precinct and firehouse budgets. Presentation by the New York City Fire Department on the responsibilities as first responders in emergencies, medical, electrical, water, steam, structural collapses, hazardous materials and terrorism. There was also a discussion of the need for a back-up generator at the firehouse on Rogers Avenue and Maple Street. Report by the 71 Precinct officers Sergeant Michael Falk, Police Officers Ramos and Kistoo on crimes in the district and the actions taken.

Voting Items

The Department of Transportation's proposal on major safety improvements at the intersection of Empire Boulevard, Flatbush Avenue and Ocean Avenue. Motion to accept the proposal was made by Rabbi Nochum Gross and seconded by Demetrius Lawrence. Discussion none. Voting: YES- 29, NO-1, ABS – 0. Motion accepted.

Car Share Text Amendment – ULURP# N1284ZRY to propose a Text Amendment to allow car share vehicles to park in parking facilities accessible to commercial and manufacturing use and public parking lots and garages. Motion to accept the ULURP item was made by Eleanor Rollins and seconded by Ruby Hodge. Discussion none. Voting: YES – 22, NO – 2, ABS – 5. Motion accepted.

Resolution on threat to New York Watershed and New York City drinking water by companies proposing to use hydraulic fracturing type of drilling with higher power technique to drill for gas. Motion was made by Ruby Hodge to support a moratorium and to oppose the drilling for gas within New York City and New York State that will be harmful to our drinking water supply system, the motion was seconded by Carl Morgan. Voting unanimous. A letter will be sent to Governor Patterson and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Election of Officers – Nominating Committee

Officers were asked to vacate their seats. The following nominees were unopposed:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Chairperson | Rabbi Jacob Goldstein |
| First Vice Chair | Dr. Marco Mason |
| Treasurer | Carl Morgan |
| Secretary | Shelia Foster-Golding |
| Second Vice Chair | Demetrius Lawrence – incumbent Joan Gill was not reappointed to the Community Board |

One vote was cast for Secretary Shelia Foster-Golding. The Secretary then cast one vote for each of the unopposed offices.

Board members voted by written ballot for two members from those running for Members-at-Large - Jannie Johnson, Eleanor Rollins and Roosevelt Rose. The results were as follows: Jannie Johnson 25, Eleanor Rollins 17, Roosevelt Rose, 13. Members-at-Large: Jannie Johnson and Eleanor Rollins.

Full Executive Committee members are: Rabbi Jacob Goldstein - Chairman, Dr. Marco Mason - First Vice Chair, Demetrius Lawrence - Second Vice Chair, Carl Morgan - Treasurer, Shelia Foster-Golding - Secretary, Jannie Johnson - Member-at-Large, Eleanor Rollins - Member-at-Large.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Nominating Committee Chairman Maurice Jean-Baptiste and members Yvonne Straker, Gwen Carter, Frank Nicholas and Samuel Marmulsteyn for their service.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Gwen Carter, seconded by Jannie Johnson. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.