

Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MAY 22, 2018
AUDITORIUM, MIDDLE SCHOOL 61
400 EMPIRE BOULEVARD, BROOKLYN, NY 11225

Board Members Present	Board Members Present	Board Members Absent	Board Members Absent
Patricia Baker	Mattijs Limberger	Taungela Ambroise	Carmen Martinez
Stuart Balberg	Scott Mathews-Novelli	Rev. Douglas Banks	Patricia Moses
Fred Baptiste	Musa Moore	Rabbi Yaacov Behrman	Amy Pinkerton
Simone Bennett	Vivia Morgan	William H. Boone, III	Mary Rollerson-Blackett
Warren Berke	Beverly Newsome	Greg Darby	Rabbi Menachem Shagalov
Augustine Blackwell	Riel Peerbooms	Norabelle Greenberger	Aishah Smith
Ben Edwards	Pia Raymond	Henry Greenidge	Rabbi Chanina Sperlin
Rosemarie Evering	Unella Rhone-Perry	Rabbi Nochum Gross	Rabbi Joseph Spielman
Tessa Hackett-Vieira	Rashidah Siddiqui	Bishop Hamilton-Gonzales	Anthony Taylor
Olushangun Holder	Rabbi Joseph Spielman	Aron Hershkop	Eve-lyn Williams
Linda Beth Lawson	Joyce Stewart	Daniel Ingvoldstad	
Francisca Leopold	Debbie Timothy	Louis Johnson	
Michael Liburd		Menachem Margolin	

Elected Officials / Agency Representatives Present

NYS Senator Jesse Hamilton
NYS Senator Jesse Hamilton, Reuven Lipkind
Assemblywoman Diana C. Richardson – Tavia Mapp-Deterville
Assemblywoman Walter T. Mosley – Joshua Board
Majority Leader Cumbo – Arna Lipkind
NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer – Josue Pierre
NYC Commission on Human Rights, Beth Miller

PUBLIC SESSION

Call to Order

Chair Musa Moore called the meeting to order at 7:22pm and welcomed attendees.

Treasurer Warren Berke read the Community Board 9 Rules of Conduct into record.

New York State Nurses Association

NYSNA argues that nurse staffing is insufficient to provide quality services to patients, with nurse to patient ratios of 1:14. This has led to nurses working excessive hours, including necessary overtime. This may result in greater risks of patient death and nurse fatigue. There is proposed “Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act” (A. 1532/S. 3330) that will create specific minimum staffing ratios based on the need in the specific areas (such as intensive care); there are currently no mandated standards. Standards in New York State do not meet what is required for quality services.

There is a draft resolution that NYSNA asks CB9 endorse passage of this legislation.

FDNY

Did not appear.

Fenimore Street Block Association Rezoning Co-Application

Michael Liburd, ULURP Chair: This is in regards to a rezoning application to the south side of Fenimore Street, between Bedford and Rogers Avenues. This is to zone the area from R6 to R2 to address historical deed restrictions that contemplated single family homes and will prevent predatory purchases. If successful, these kinds of applications may be a way to protect the district, block by block.

CB9 is a co-applicant for rezoning. The Fenimore Street Block Association Subcommittee completed its pre-application recently. It is ready for submittal. There was no quorum at the full ULURP Committee meeting to consider the Subcommittee application, but attendees believed the application was sufficient. The re-zoning application may be considered today for Board approval.

Questions & Comments

Question: What is the difference between R2 and R6 zoning?

Answer: R2 cannot build outside the current footprint, a detached single-family home. R6 can expand well beyond the current footprint, with high density multifamily developments.

Question: What is the process?

Answer: There is first a pre-application process, which is considered by the Department of City Planning. Then there is a 7-month period for consideration of the formal application.

Proposed Street Co-Naming (Rogers Avenue & Empire Blvd N.W. Corner)

This is in regards to a co-naming application in honor of *Jean-Jacques Dessalines*, one of the leaders of the Haitian Revolution.

The hope is to also have a plaque or statue in the area commemorating his achievements.

Applications for NYSLA Licenses

Lakeside Brooklyn LLC, d/b/a Bluestone – 171 East Drive, Prospect Park

Renewal application for liquor, beer, wine and cider. Affiliated with the skating rink in the park. It has been in business for 4 years. No issues with FDNY or law enforcement.

DJ Oyster Inc. d/b/a Bluebird – 504 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225

Renewal application for wine, beer and cider. In business for 6 years. Indoor and outdoor seating. The hope is to increase private parties. There were no issues with FDNY or law enforcement.

Public Comment Period

Elected Official & Government Agency Comments¹

Josh Pierre, New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer

- To address affordable housing issues, the Comptroller released a report on how short-term rental housing has affected communities such as Community Board 9. The report argues that CB9 has seen over \$8MM in rent increases due to this industry by creating housing scarcities.
- The Comptroller's Office is researching the effects of legalizing marijuana in NYC. There would be tax revenue increases as well as decreasing incarceration and arrests.
- Community Action Center: 212-669-3916.

The public can also call the Department of Housing Preservation and Development for matters regarding illegal short-term rentals at 718-739-6400.

Reuven Lipkind, representative of NYS Senator Jesse Hamilton, 43rd District

Joshua Board, representative of NYS Assemblymember Walter Mosley, 57th District

- There is legislation proposed for crisis training for NYPD officers in response to the recent police shooting.
- There is legislation proposed to eliminate income-source discrimination on rentals.

Arna Lipkind, representative of NYC Councilmember Laurie Cumbo, 35th District

- For participator budgeting, Medgar Evers funding won the voting for computers and smart boards. Ebbets Field school will get funding as well.
- There is proposed legislation for improvements for mother and pre-natal service access.

Beth Miller, Commission on Human Rights

- The Commission is a resource to combat discrimination, including housing and employment. There is a community action center at 425 Chapel Street. The public can also call 311 and ask for the Commission on Human Rights.

NYS Senator Jesse Hamilton, 43rd District

- There are housing legal services Monday through Friday at the district office.
- There are too many homeless shelters that happen as a result of too few affordable housing, which is hurting students and people seeking employment, among other issues.

Public Comments

Ednu Moshite, Fenimore Street Block Association: Community Board 9 member-participation is vital, especially in light of vital votes such as the zoning application vote.

Constance Lesold: The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has ceased its free day, against tradition and the public interest in accessing park space. An organization (The Committee of 100 to Make the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Free Again) has formed to allow access, restore funds and support public gardens.

Warren Berke: There was a recent opioid conference that went very well. The Brooklyn DA, doctors and service providers were present.

Pia Raymond, Creating Legacies: Flatbush Entrepreneur Project is beginning to provide legal services to people with small businesses, especially commercial leases and business contracts.

Melanie Lewis: On June 26 there will be an event commemorating the 42-year crossing guard on President Street who is retiring.

¹ Elected Official & Government Agency comments are only included in the minutes when speakers discuss matters involving the agenda, specific issues in the community or events taking place following the likely passage of these Minutes at following month's meeting.

BUSINESS SESSION

Roll Call

Roll was duly taken, with 22 Board Members present, not comprising a quorum. (23 Board Members are required.)

Committee Reports²

Public Safety Committee – Patricia Baker, Chairperson

- FDNY presented at the May 2018 Committee meeting to discuss the increase in fires throughout the City. There is also legislation passed by the City Council (not yet signed by Mayor) that require landlords to install auto-closing doors by 2021 that prevents fires. FDNY is also inspecting hydrant pressure, which is an issue in the summer when people are using the hydrant. They are also inspecting stoves that require special nozzle closings.

Chairman's Report

The Nominating Committee has instructions for asking Board Members if they are interested in running for positions.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 9:26.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Mathews-Novelli
Executive Secretary
June 3, 2018

² Mentions of meetings and forums taking place before the next Board Meeting may not be included in these minutes.