

COMMUNITY BOARD 9
890 NOSTRAND AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NY 11225

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON APRIL 24, 2012
MIDDLE SCHOOL 61 AUDITORIUM
400 EMPIRE BOULEVARD, BROOKLYN, NY 11225

Board Members Present

Robert Agyemang
Robert Ambrose
Dion Ashman
Michael Cetera, AIA
Negous Clark
Aldith Clarke
Veta May Clarke
Josette Coicou-Brioche
Edmund Fanning
Charlene Gayle
Rabbi Jacob Z. Goldstein
Theopia Green
Rabbi Nochum Gross
Tessa Hackett-Vieira
Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales
Ruby Hodge
Brenda Hutto-Lucas

Board Members Present

Maurice Jean-Baptiste
Demetrius Lawrence
Samuel Marmulzsteyn
Carl Morgan
Frank Nicholas
Dwayne Nicholson
Rosemarie Perry
Roosevelt Rose
Brenda Scott
Chanina Sperlin
Rabbi Joseph Spielman
Victoria St. Clair
Yvonne Straker
Denise Thomas
Timothy Thomas
Jacqueline Welch

Board Members Absent

Stuart Balberg
Rev. Phyllis Brown - sick
Gwen Carter
Geraldine Dease
Shelia Foster-Golding - sick
Aron Hershkop
Yaakov Katz
Gerald President
Myrtle Roberson
Karlene Robinson
Mary Rollerson-Blackett
Evelyn Williams

Elected Officials/Agency Representatives Present

Alfred Chiodo – Hon. Letitia James	William Boone – Medgar Evers College
Kevin Parris – Hon. Marty Markowitz	Charles Jackson – Hon. Yvette Clarke
Arna Lipkind – Hon. Darlene Mealy	Reuven Lipkind – Hon. Eric Adams

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Jacob Goldstein introduced the new Precinct Commander for the 71 Precinct, Captain Jack Lewis, who replaces Inspector Peter Simonetti. The Chairman said that Captain Lewis is not a stranger to the 71 Precinct; he was once a police officer in the precinct, therefore he is not new to the community.

Captain Jack Lewis introduced himself; he has been with the precinct for two weeks now. He started his career in Brooklyn after completing the Police Academy and did six months at the 71 Precinct then went to the 77 Precinct for five years. Captain Lewis said that his heart and soul is into community policing. He spends a lot of time out in the streets talking to people because he believes that the Police have to be people oriented. "We cannot sit in the Precinct to know where the people are. We have to get out into the streets, talk to the people

who live and work in the community to find out the problems they are facing to be able to come up with solutions.”

Since his arrival he realizes that there robberies are spread out over the community district, for example on Parkside Avenue. One of the other locations involves the robbery of a Jewish girl by someone who made reference to her religion after robbing her. They are still working on that case as well as other cases.

He invited the community to reach out to him and to also speak to Officer Vinnie Martinos in private on any issues. Captain Lewis said he had to leave, but said that his office was across the street (from the school) and people should feel free to come in and talk with him.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Captain Lewis for introducing himself and welcomed him once again to the community.

Consider application submitted by Rainbow Radio Dispatch, Inc., located at 379-389 Troy Avenue, Brooklyn, for the renewal of their For-Hire-Base License, for recommendation to the Taxi and Limousine Commission.

Transportation Committee Chairperson, Mr. Edmund Fanning informed that the committee met with Mr. Grant, President of Rainbow Dispatch, Inc. The company answered all their questions and had no bad history in the community. The committee recommends renewal of the license.

Mr. Stanley Grant, President of Rainbow Dispatch, Inc., said that Rainbow has been serving the community for over thirty years and they would like to continue doing so.

The Brooklyn Museum’s programs have expanded over the years and continues to grow; the role of the museum volunteer has also grown in popularity, purpose and demand. Ms. Lynna Scott Carnegie, Volunteer Coordinator at the Brooklyn Museum shared the many volunteer opportunities at the Museum.

Ms. Lynna Scott Carnegie began by asking “how many of you have visited the Brooklyn Museum? Great!” “How many of you have visited in the past month? Great!” “How many of you know about first Saturdays? How could you not know about first Saturdays of each month?”

Ms. Carnegie informed that she was the Volunteer Coordinator at the Brooklyn Museum. Before this there was an open volunteer program that was not structured in the way the Library wanted it to go, so now they are building a volunteer core group of volunteers in which there are some specific volunteer opportunities. There is a need for volunteers, sometimes for one or up to five days. It could be to stuff envelopes for big events; answer phones, etc. there are opportunities that are available in different departments, for example, someone might be needed to work in the archives.

Then, there is the Tutorial Department where they need people once or twice per week. There are museum pieces that are put up for sale. If they are not sold, they are put up on eBay. They would need someone knowledgeable about eBay to do work in that area; they should be able to take pictures of the items, know how to post them on eBay, answer the queries, calls, etc.

This year they are building their program for the future. If you have every gone anywhere and someone said to you “Hi, welcome, we need you” that makes you feel special; you feel glad that you have come to that

place. That is the Brooklyn Museum. We pride ourselves as an international institution that has its roots in the community. Anyone thinking of pursuing any of the opportunities mentioned here tonight please give us a call at 718-501-6347 or the website www.brooklynmuseum.org click on the volunteer link.

Questions and Answers

What about internship programs? Go to the volunteer line to apply. That would be the Education Department. There are several teen programs and educational programs for which we urge you to apply. There are family programs; school programs, where teachers can take the children; there are guided tours. For those students who do not have an Art program in their schools and are interested in a specific form of Art, call the Museum and we will be willing to help them.

I meant volunteer for credit. Yes, they can become interns. When the volunteers need academic or vocational credits, they can become interns. Internships are available through the Education Department; there are also non-credit internships.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Ms. Scott Carnegie for bringing the information to the community and expressed that we are fortunate to have such an institution in our midst.

Representatives from Brooklyn Housing and Family Services present information on the services provided in the areas of Lead Poisoning Awareness; Fair Housing ; Evictions; and other Landlord/Tenant issues

Brooklyn Housing and Family Services representative, Mr. Jonathan Goss, informed that the organization was formerly known as the Flatbush Tenant Council which was started in 1971 by Borough President Marty Markowitz. The organization provides services throughout Brooklyn; they are a not-for-profit organization and are funded to provide services to the residents of Community District 9. The services are free and they work on tenant issues, landlords' rights, tenants' rights, housing court; processing paperwork for applications to the Dept of Finance, senior citizens, information on the free services they provide can be found in the back of the auditorium.

Many people are not aware of the laws regarding lead paint. Local laws regarding lead paint that were in effect since 1970 have been changed. Now if a child lives in an apartment that is found to have lead paint, the landlord will be taken to court.

There is also a foreclosure prevention program for homeowners, where they can negotiate with the bank for modification of the loan. Appointments are Saturdays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm; the office number is easy to remember #TENANTS.

Chairman Goldstein said that there is lead paint in older buildings and the agencies should be contacted. Literature is in the back. The chairman thanked Mr. Goss for his presentation.

Community Clean-UP

Mr. Timothy Thomas informed that there were very colorful posters in the back of the room put out by PLG Civic. They are reaching out to the Community Board, Prospect Park, the Botanic Garden, neighborhood organizations, block associations, merchants, to join together in the effort to clean up and beautify Flatbush

Avenue from Grand Army Plaza to Lenox Road and the side streets. It is an ambitious project; they hope to have over 100 volunteers. You can read more about it in the flyer. This event is planned for May 12th, hope everyone can come out and join in the activities.

Also the Environmental Committee has also been working with them, as well as with the Flatbush Avenue and the Nostrand Avenue Merchants Associations, PLGNA. He applauds the work they are doing. This weekend they will be cleaning up Nostrand and Flatbush Avenues. Please pick up a flyer in the back and join us.

Chairman Goldstein thanked Mr. Thomas for the report.

BUSINESS SESSION

The business session began at 8:00 pm with 29 members present

Minutes of the March 2012 Meeting

The minutes for the March 2012 Meeting were tabled due to the illness of the Board Secretary.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Pearl Miles made the following announcements:

- Councilmember Mathieu Eugene is sponsoring a health fair at Middle School 2, Parkside and Nostrand Avenue, on Saturday, April 28th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Screenings include for Cancer, Diabetes, HIV Testing, Nutrition information, etc. For more information call 718-287-8762.
- The New York Legal Assistance Group will be at the Crown Heights Mediation Center, 256 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, on May 15th, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. To make an appointment call 718-773-6886.
- Anyone not currently working and who may be interested in working in the Television and Film Production Industry can receive free training by industry professionals. The training is for two years and upon completion participants will receive job certification. The program is in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Media Entertainment Programs. There is no fee for the training. To be accepted you must be 21 years old, not currently employed, have a driver's license; if you do not have a driver's license you will be provided with assistance in obtaining one; must be a resident of New York City. If you have a job or are in school you do not qualify. This is a full time assignment and one does not have to have previous knowledge of the industry. Information sessions are every Monday at 1:00 pm sharp at 621 DeGraw Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217; you do not need to make an appointment. Jobs in the industry will be at entry level, but people can advance after working two years.
- Senator Kevin Parker is having his 5th Annual Prom Dress Give Away on Saturday, April 28, 2012, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Tilden High School, 5800 Tilden Avenue, Brooklyn, between 58th and 59th Street. Dress give away is on a first come first serve basis.

- Borough President Marty Markowitz and Deputy Borough President Sandra Chapman invite all women and their families to a Financial Liberty dialogue in celebration of Mother's Day, at Borough Hall 609 Joralemon Street on Tuesday, May 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Bring the children, they will be taught how to save.
- Nancy Katz and Seeds in the Middle invites children 5 to 12 years old to participate in Youth Soccer. Volunteer coaches and parents are also welcome. The program will take place at Hamilton Metz Park. There will be boys' only teams and girls' only teams. Fees are \$50 per child payable in cash or money order. For further information contact seedsinthemiddle@gmail.com or call 917-756-4202.

Committees' Reports

Transportation Committee – Ed Fanning (see written report)

- Progress being made with sidewalk survey;
- District Manager and Committee Chair surveyed the Bike Share locations; majority of locations acceptable, four locations deemed not feasible; questions about Eastern Parkway locations;
- Reviewed for-hire base renewal application;
- Lincoln Road at Washington and Flatbush for review by DOT
- Co-naming the portion of Washington Avenue from Eastern Parkway to Lincoln Road "Mary Pinkett Avenue" Since 2005 the bill was passed and was signed into law by Mayor Bloomberg, yet to date no signage has been installed. The committee recommends that the Board send a letter to Council members James and Eugene requesting that the request be made to DOT to manufacture the signs and that they be installed.
- Next meeting May 7th in the Community Board office.

Health and Social Services – Dwayne Nicholson – the agenda for the meeting was tabled due to lack of a quorum.

Chairman's Report

- September's Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 23rd, due to the Jewish holiday of which falls on the Tuesday, which would have been the regularly scheduled meeting date.
- The Chairman acknowledged Reuven Lipkind representing Senator Eric Adams, William Boone representing Medgar Evers College; Ann Marie Adamson has left the Borough President's office and Kevin Parris is here representing the Borough President tonight;
- Reminded the audience to share the information about the job training announced by the District Manager with anyone they knew would benefit;
- Lien sale – the City will sell your lien if you owe taxes, water or sewer bills and do not settle or enter into an agreement. There are meetings that will show you how to handle these matters – contact the Borough President's or Council member Mealy's office.
- The Nominations Committee members are: Maurice Jean-Baptiste, Chairperson, Gwen Carter, Frank Nicholas, Sam Marmulzsteyn, and Yvonne Straker. The committee will be canvassing members regarding their interest in serving as an executive member of the board.

Voting Items

Rainbow Radio Dispatch For-Hire-Base License – Motion to recommend renewal of the license was made by Ed Fanning and seconded by Ruby Hodge. Vote: 32- yes; 0-no; 0-abstentions.

“Mary Pinkett Avenue” – Motion to send letter to Council members Mathieu Eugene and Letitia James requesting that the street name sign for “Mary Pinkett Avenue” be manufactured and installed was made by Ed Fanning and seconded by Theopia Green. Voting was unanimously in favor of the motion.

The Chairman wished everyone a happy spring.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Rosemarie Perry and seconded by Nochum Gross. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Shelia Foster-Golding
Secretary
May 22, 2012**