

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

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009
MIDDLE SCHOOL 61 AUDITORIUM
400 EMPIRE BOULEVARD, BROOKLYN, NY 11225**

Board Members Present

Gwen Carter
Michael Cetera
Aldith Clarke
Leslie Davis
Shelia Foster-Golding
Joan Gill
Rabbi Jacob Z. Goldstein
Rabbi Nochum Gross
Bishop S. Hamilton-Gonzales
Aaron Hershkop
Ruby Hodge
Brenda Hutto
Maurice Jean-Baptiste
Jannie Johnson
Yaakov Katz
Demetrius Lawrence
Evelyn Williams

Board Members Present

Denise Mann
Samuel Marmulzsteyn
Allan Martin, Jr
Dr. Marco Mason
Carl Morgan
Frank Nicholas
Dwayne Nicholson
Rosemarie Perry
Myrtle Roberson
Eleanor Rollins
Brenda Scott
Chanina Sperlin
Rabbi Joseph Speilman
Yvonne Straker
Denise Thomas
Jacqueline Welch

Board Members Absent

Jenay Alejandro
Dion Ashman
Stuart Balberg
Rev. Phyllis Brown - sick
Chaz Crowder
Julian Daniels
Geraldine Dease
Theopia Green
Tessa Hackett-Vieira
Gary Marshall
Alice Mitchell – sick
Romania Roachford
Karlene Robinson
Mary Rollerson-Blackett
Roosevelt Rose
Victoria St Clair

Elected Officials/Agency Representatives Present

Hon Mathieu Eugene – David Morisset
Hon Darlene Mealy – Isiah Hall
Hon Eric Adams – Reuven Lipkind
Hon Olanike Alabi

Hon Letitia James – Alfred Chiodo
Hon Hakeem Jeffries – Wayne Keith Williams
Hon Yvette Clarke – Ron Thomas
Kings County Hospital – Denise Peterson

PUBLIC SESSION

Consider ULURP Application #090323PQK, submitted by the Administration for Children’s Services and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Section 197-c of the NYC Charter, for the acquisition of Mosdoth Child Care Center, 420 Lefferts Avenue, Brooklyn, between New York and Brooklyn Avenues, Block 1331 Lot 9, for continued use as a child care center

Chairman Jacob Goldstein informed that the Mosdoth Child Care Center has been in existence for over 38 years. The City leases space for the day care center, the term of the lease is expiring, ULURP requires that the agency has to reapply for lease renewal for the continued use as a child care center.

ULURP Committee Chairperson, Michael Cetera, AIA, informed that the ULURP Committee met and voted to recommend renegotiating the lease providing that the issue with the adjacent lot is resolved.

Ms. Chaya Zaetz, Director of the Mosdoth Day Care Center, said that as far as she knew there is no difficulties in the renewal of the lease, ACS is re-negotiating the lease with the landlord. There is not a question with the renewal of the lease there is an issue with the lot adjacent to the day care center. The issue is that the adjacent lot was being rented by a bus company for parking, and that is illegal in a residential zone. At the present time there are no more buses parked on the lot. The lot is now empty.

Consider Application N090412ZRY – Fresh Zoning for Neighborhood Grocery Stores – a proposed amendment to the Zoning Resolution to promote the development of neighborhood grocery stores and supermarkets in community districts identified as being in high need of additional fresh food retail. The FRESH Program will combine a package of zoning and financial incentives for the development of grocery stores. Both the zoning and the financial incentives apply to Community District 9

Chairperson Goldstein expressed that he believes that this is a great initiative, instead of going out of the district to shop for fresh food, they will now have the same supply in their district/community.

ULURP Committee Chairperson, Michael Cetera, AIA, informed that the committee voted to recommend support for the Dept of City Planning's proposed amendment to the zoning resolution to promote the development of neighborhood grocery stores and supermarkets which will provide the benefits of fresh and natural foods in communities like Community District 9, that are in high need. This will also be an incentive monetary wise for the owners and the community.

Audience member: What are the benefits to the program? Chairman Goldstein – take for instance if you are permitted to build on a hundred square feet, under the new code it will allow extra square footage to carry fresh products, whereas before, you were limited to do that. Now you can expand your store. The proposal has specific guidelines.

Application submitted to the Department of Transportation by Legacy Van Lines to operate a new commuter van authority (number of vans to be used 3) in Brooklyn, service area to include portions of Community District 9

No one from Legacy Van Lines was in attendance at the meeting. District Manager Pearl Miles, informed that this was the second time that this applicant has failed to show up for the scheduled hearings, despite notification.

Representatives from the American Heart Association will inform the community about the organization's first ever Brooklyn Start! Heart Walk, to raise awareness about preventing heart disease and stroke through community building and fund-raising. It will take place on Sunday, October 11th 2009, in Prospect Park. The Start! Heart Walk is held in more than 400 communities nationwide.

No one from the American Heart Association was in attendance at the meeting.

Presentation of Awards

District Manager, Pearl Miles, said that she was reflecting on all the board members she had met and worked with since she has been with the Board and how many of the original board members were not around, some have retired and moved away, many have passed away, including Stanley Harwich, Mr. Hall, and many others.

The District Manager said that in looking back there are only five of the original members that she met when she first started at the board 25 years ago. These members have been serving the board for over 30 years, continuously, no breaks in service. The following board members were presented with plaques for their dedicated service: Rabbi Jacob Goldstein, Samuel Marmulzsteyn, Theopia Green, Michael Cetera, Stuart Balberg.

Chairman Goldstein expressed his joy in serving the community, remembering the days when he had to babysit his children at board meetings. He lives in the community and looks forward to continuing to serve the community. He has seen good times and bad times. He has seen the time when Flatbush Avenue to Union Street went up in flames. Today it is difficult to get an apartment in this area. Collectively the community is doing well.

Also presented with a plaque was Richard Vilabrera, CITI Youth Map Technician, who has been serving the board for the past year as a trained map technician, provided free of charge by the Municipal Art Society. Richard is an aspiring Architect.

BUSINESS SESSION

The business session began at 8:05 pm with 33 members present.

Minutes of April 2009 Meeting

The minutes of the April 2009 meeting was presented for adoption. A motion was made by Gwen Carter and seconded by Rosemarie Perry to accept the minutes as presented. Minutes were adopted.

Minutes of May 2009 Meeting

The minutes of the May 2009 meeting were presented for adoption. A motion was made by Eleanor Rollins and seconded by Carl Morgan to accept the minutes as presented. The minutes were adopted.

District Manager's Report

District Manager, Pearl Miles, reported that the proposal submitted by the board in response to Design Trust RFP for a Fellowship, passed the first hurdle by being accepted. She was working with Michael Cetera and other partners – Council on the Environment and Cooper Union – for further development of a plan of action to be submitted to Design Trust by the July 13th deadline. Following that we have to make a face to face presentation to the Design Trust jury on July 29th to present and answer questions as to why we should receive the fellowship.

Committee Reports

Health and Social Services Committee – Myrtle Roberson

The committee will participate in Kings County Hospital Center's annual health fair on Saturday, June 20, 2009. They also plan to invite Dr. Gerald Deas to come to the board meeting to speak on health issues affecting the community.

Public Safety – Rosemarie Perry

The committee plans to review the public safety related items in the FY 2010 Capital budget requests. Discussion will focus on acquiring funding to purchase or lease property for parking for the 71 Precinct's vehicles.

Community crime statistics: murder increased by 20%; rape increased by 100%, robbery increased by 35%; felony and assault decreased by 8%, burglary decreased by 13%, grand larceny increased by 26% and arson by 14%.

Housing Committee – Gwen Carter

Members of the Housing Committee have been involved with the Neighborhood Housing Services on a foreclosure prevention task force along with Erasmus Neighborhood Federation and Community Boards 5, 14, 17 & 18. The board is represented on the task force by Gwen Carter and Brenda Scott.

There is a free NYC Tenants Rights Housing Clinic every Tuesday from 4:30 to 8:30 pm at 305 Broadway (corner of Duane) suite 201 in New York City. The clinics are hosted by volunteer Attorneys from Sokolski and Zekaria, PC. They address issues such as eviction, not getting repairs, heat, hot water, and for being overcharged in rent regulated apartments. Their phone number is 212-571-4080.

Transportation Committee – Eleanor Rollins

A meeting was held on June 6 only two members attended. Chairperson would like feedback on the new empire Blvd designed to slow traffic and beautify the street. There are concerns that the island would have an adverse effect on commercial traffic making deliveries. Anyone with concerns please contact the committee to discuss the issues.

Parks, Recreation and Culture – Michael Cetera

A meeting was held to begin the process for the master plan for the Clove Road site. The plan is to come up with ideas on what could be the future of Clove Road. For example, could it be a park, a place where people could sit? Educational? Should a building be erected for that? All these ideas will be discussed in the planning stage.

A forum for the community is being considered for the fall to obtain more input on what's best for the site.

Chairman's Report – Rabbi Jacob Goldstein

Dr. Marco Mason, standing in for Chairman Goldstein who had to leave for an important family responsibility, reported that the month of June is celebrated as Caribbean Heritage Month. There will be a day-long celebration tomorrow at Borough Hall. He is coordinating a symposium for the day, also there will be a press conference, concert, shows and a film, there will be booths outside. The event will last from 9:00 am to 9:00pm. The festivities will culminate on Friday at the Crystal Manor with a gala. Dr. Mason will be an honoree at the event.

Nominating Committee – Maurice Jean-Baptiste

The committee canvassed members of the board regarding their interest in running for office on the community board. All offices are unopposed. Chairperson cast one vote for the office of Secretary. The Secretary, Shelia Foster-Golding cast one vote for each of the following offices: Chairman – Rabbi Jacob Z. Goldstein; 1st Vice Chairperson – Dr. Marco Mason; 2nd Vice Chairperson – Joan Gill; Treasurer – Carl Morgan; Member at Large – Jannie Johnson; Member at Large – Eleanor Rollins.

Voting Items

ULURP Application #090323PQK – motion to support the application from Agency for Children’s Services for continued use of 420 Lefferts Ave, Brooklyn as a day care center, made by Michael Cetera and seconded by Gwen Carter. Vote – yes -19, no – 0, abstention – 1.

Application #N090412ZRY – motion to support proposed amendment to the zoning resolution to promote the development of additional fresh food retail, was made by Eleanor Rollins and seconded by Gwen Carter. Vote – yes – 19, no – 0, abstention -1.

Dr. Mason wished all a great summer.

Ms. Miles wished everyone a safe summer and asked that members call the board office with any concerns over the summer.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Joan Gill and seconded by Rosemarie Perry. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Shelia Foster-Golding
Secretary
September 15, 2009