



Antonio Reynoso
Borough President

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 12**

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Yidel Perlstein
Chairperson



Barry Spitzer
District Manager

**COMMUNITY BOARD 12
MAY MINUTES**

**HELD ON
TUESDAY
MAY 28, 2024**

**VIA ZOOM
& IN-PERSON
AT COMMUNITY BOARD 12
5901 13TH AVE.
BROOKLYN, NY 11219**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ALEX MUNOZ
ALAN DUBROW
AVROHOM WOLFSON
BENJAMIN KLEINBART
BETH SLEPIAN
CHESKY BLAU
DANIEL KERADNAM
DAVID FRIEDLANDER
DAVID SHLOMOVICH
DOUGLAS JABLON
ELLIOTT SIDDIQUI
GABRIEL SASSON
JACOB ASKAL
JAQUELINE JILL REINIER
JEFFREY DWECK
JOSEPH GROSS
JUDITH OJO-DIAZ
JULES FLEISCHER
LOUIE LIU
MAMNUNUL HAQ
MARIA ARETTINES
MATTHEW MELNICKE
MIRIAM HERSKO
MORDECHAI KATZ
MORDY GETZ
MORRIS SENDEROVICH
MOSHE FRIDMAN
NAFTALI TESSLER
PETER REBENWURZEL
QIWANG HUANG
SAM STOBER
SHARON FUCHS
SHLOMIE RIEGER
YAAKOV KAPLAN
YERUCHIM SLIBER
YIDEL PERLSTEIN

MEMBERS ABSENT

AAMNAH KHAN
ANNA CALI
BERNARD FREILICH
CHAIM SCHNEIDER
EDGAR GLUCK
ELLIE KASTEL
JACQUE FRIEDMAN
JOHN TALMADGE
ROCHELLE ZAMI
SOL WAHBA
WIL FISHER
YEHUDA ROSMAN
YITZCHOK MOSKOWITZ
YONAH MOSES

STAFF PRESENT

BARRY SPITZER – DISTRICT MANAGER
AZIZA TEMIROVA – COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATE

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES

JACOB EISDORFER, REP. BOROUGH
PRESIDENT
ELI SLAVIN, REP. CONGRESSWOMAN
YVETTE CLARKE
AVROHOM MALACHOWSKI, REP. CM FARAH
LOUIS
PINNY HIKIND, REP. COMP. BRAD LANDER
SOYA RADIN, REP. AM LESTER CHANG

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

APPROXIMATELY 10 RESIDENTS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

ADOPTION OF APRIL MINUTES

The adoption of the April minutes was tabled.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Delivered by Chairman Yidel Perlstein

- Memorial Day – Serves as a time to reflect on the sacrifice made by military personnel who gave their lives in service to the country. It's a moment to honor their bravery and commitment.
- Thank you again; we had a successful Lag B'Omer all the celebrations were a success.
- The following day, we had a children's parade, which required a lot of effort from the NYPD and Shomrim.
- The Department of Sanitation ensured that the streets were cleaned after the celebrations.
- On June 18th, there is a Public Hearing for Brooklyn Yards at Amico Senior Center at 7 P.M. It will also be available on Zoom.
- Our June board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 25th.

CITY OF YES FOR HOUSING OPPORTUNITY TEXT AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

The Department of City Planning delivered a presentation on the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity which was followed by questions from the public and members of the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

Venus Scantlebury- Outreach Coordinator of the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board

- Overview of their agency, which independently investigates, mediates, and prosecutes allegations of police misconduct.
- Their jurisdiction includes the use of force, abuse of authority, discrepancies, offensive language, racial profiling, and sexual misconduct.
- In March, they testified at the City Council and asked for an increase in funding. Increasing funding will help fill vacancies within their agency, enabling them to effectively close cases. Lastly, Venus oversees outreach for any upcoming events and workshops that can engage with the community.

Dawla Bek- Assistant Branch Manager Mapleton Library

- ESOL Class Expansion: Brooklyn Public Library recently doubled the number of drop-ins, no registration English classes offered throughout Brooklyn, with support of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.
 - These drop-in classes provide English education for new arrivals in New York and focus on English skills for navigating and living in NYC.
 - Visit bklynlib.org/esol to see all of BPL's offerings, including our conversation groups and English classes that come with job certifications.

Anthony Loum -Branch Manager of the Mapleton Library

- City Budget Cuts: Mayor Adams' Executive Budget was released last month and contains almost \$60 million in library cuts, including over \$16 million in cuts at BPL
- Proposed cuts will severely impact our operations at BPL branches, including:
 - Further reducing the days of the week, if they are open, many branches will be reduced from six days to five days of service.

- Decreasing spending for essential materials, programs, and collections.
 - The budget will be decided in June, so there is still time to add your voice in support of libraries. Visit investinlibraries.org to add your support!
- Last month's meeting, still searching for a relatively small site that can serve as a satellite location for Library Patrons to pick up their materials placed on hold from the Mapleton and Ryder Branches. If anyone, including elected public officials, knows of any place that can accommodate such a request, please let Anthony know. You can always find his contact information on the Community Board.

Raphael Schweizer- Small Independent Business Advocacy

- Small business advocate: If you operate a small business, there's no guarantee your lease will be renewed, and there are no restrictions on how high the rent can increase.
- Runs a small business that takes people to various comic bookstores around the city. Since there aren't many of these comic bookstores in the city, something needs to be done to protect small businesses. Assistance with setting up social media accounts could help businesses step up their online presence.

Laura Smith:

- The issue concerns affordable housing.
- There is a problem with street cleaning because of the boulders at the corner of East 2nd Street between Church and Beverly Road.
- The sanitation workers can't clean the area due to the boulders. It is filled with water, muck, and garbage, serving as feeding grounds for rodents and causing traffic congestion.
- Weekly cleaning is supposed to occur, but it doesn't happen due to cars being double-parked, people not moving their cars, and the presence of the boulders.
- Reached out to Councilmember Hanif's offices about this issue, but the Department of Transportation says that the boulders have to stay.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Delivered by District Manager Barry Spitzer

The District Manager had a few items to mention:

- Thanked the police department, fire department, and the Shomrim for the amazing job they did for Lag B'Omer. There were 41 Lag B'Omer celebrations this year because of Israel's shutdown of this year's celebrations. Everything went smoothly.
- There were no incidents, and everyone had a good time.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, REPRESENTATIVES & AGENCIES

- **Soya Radin representing Assemblyman Lester Chang**
 - Rain barrel giveaway on June 23, located at Fort Hamilton Parkway between 56th and 57th streets, from 11 am to 3 pm.
 - Free summer membership to Plant Fitness for high school students from ages 14 to 19. Membership begins on June 1st and ends on August 31st. Visit the website for more info: planetfitness.com/summerpass
 - For more information, call the office: 718-236-1764 or stop by at 6904 Fort Hamilton Parkway.
 - Assemblyman Lester Chang sends his warmest regards.

- **Avrohom Malachowski representing Councilmember Farah Louis**
 - Councilmember hoped everyone had an enjoyable Lag B'omer and Memorial Day.
 - Councilmember introduced a new bill that would require annual inspections of steam radiators in apartments and common areas where a child under six resides. The inspections would be mandatory if the owner suspects any issues with the radiators, and owners would be required to have an inspection report for the radiators themselves. Owners will face civil penalties if they fail to comply with these requirements.
 - Councilmember wished regards for celebration of Yom Yerushalayim and Shavuot.

- **Eli Slavin representing Congresswomen Yvette Clark**
 - All their information is on their website: Clarke.house.gov.
 - They handle all federal issues, and individuals can reach out to their office for assistance. Office number: 718-287-1142.
 - Reminded everyone to ensure their passports are updated and valid for traveling.
 - Encouraged individuals to reach out to the office if they are traveling within the week and need assistance with their passport.
 - There is a satellite office at 13th Avenue and 48th Street in the office of Assemblyman Eichenstein. Eli is available there every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Call their number to make an appointment for assistance.
 - Thanked everyone for their time and wished everyone all the best.

Old Business:

Beth Slepian – Board Member:

- Wants to bring the community together to have a meeting to resolve the boulder issue.

New Business: No New Business

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted by: Aziza Temirova