



The City of New York  
**Brooklyn Community Board 15**



**ERIC ADAMS**  
 BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**BILL DE BLASIO**  
 MAYOR

**THERESA SCAVO**  
 CHAIRPERSON

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

**LAURA SINGER**  
 DISTRICT MANAGER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019

**OFFICERS**  
**RONALD TAWIL**  
 FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
**RAISA CHERNINA**  
 SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
**JACK ERDOS, ESQ**  
 TREASURER  
**ALLEN POPPER, ESQ**  
 SECRETARY

DOUGLAS BALIN	SHARI KAPLAN
JUDY BARON A	HOWARD KATZ A
ALAN BENDEL	JACK KISHK
RONALD BIONDO	JAY LIEBERMAN
CLIFF BRUCKENSTEIN	LEONID MARKH
RABBI MELVIN BURG	MORRIS MISSRY A
EDMOND CHALOM	VINCENT NOCELLA
LINA CHEN	CHICK PALLOTTA
MARGARITA CHENEY	ALLEN POPPER
RAISA CHERNINA	THERESA SCAVO
MARC COHEN	JOSEPH SHAMIE A
DR. ALAN DITCHEK	VICTOR SHINE
JOSEPH DORINSON A	MITCHELL SHPELFOGEL A
JOHN DOUGLAS A	PEARL SIEGELMAN
EDMOND DWECK	AL SMALDONE
MORRIS DWECK	MARK TAUB
JACK ERDOS	RONNIE TAWIL A
MARGALIT EWART	IRA TEPER
ROBIN FIDLER	ALEC TEYTEL A
ROBERT GEVERTZMAN	SAM TSANG
DEBRA GREIF A	LINDA WADE A
MORRIS HARARY	RICHARD WARNER
OSWALT HEYMANN	ELI ZAMI
INNA IDELCHIK A	
EDWARD JAWORSKI	



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**LAURA SINGER**  
DISTRICT MANAGER

**Monthly Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**December 17th, 2019**

**OFFICERS**  
**RONALD TAWIL**  
FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
**RAISA CHERNINA**  
SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
**JACK ERDOS, ESQ**  
TREASURER  
**ALLEN POPPER, ESQ**  
SECRETARY

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Scavo thanked everyone for making this year's "Toys for Tots" drive a great success. Your generosity topped last year's donations, which would have made the late Councilman Lew Fidler very proud.

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Chairperson Scavo introduced Mr. Ira Teper, Co-Chair of the Zoning Committee who would run this part of the meeting:

Mr. Teper explained the procedure for the Public Hearing and proceeded to call the representative for the first item on the Agenda:

BSA Cal. No. 853-53-BZ / 2402/16 Knapp Street  
Southwest Corner of Knapp Street and Avenue X

This is an application filed pursuant to Section 11-411 of the "Zoning Resolution" or "ZR", which seeks to extend the term of the variance for an existing automotive service station and accessory convenience store previously granted the Premises, which expired on October 23, 2019.

No questions were raised from the floor.

The Board received 0 letters of objection and 0 letters of support.

A motion was made to approve by Allen Popper and seconded by Robert Gevertzman.

A Committee Vote was taken, 10 yes, and 1 abstention for cause. The motion passed the committee. A full board vote would take place in Executive Session.



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**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Chairperson Scavo introduced the first registered speaker.

Ms. Reeves Eisen representing Senator Andrew Gounardes' office shared that the Senator was off enjoying his honeymoon having recently been married. She extended his well wishes for a Happy Holiday. She added that the Senator recently attended a state tax roundtable and hopes to play an active role, with hopefully some good tax news for us all, in the new year. The Senate Session will begin again up in Albany on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Ms. Iliana Alaverdova representing the Kings Bay Library reported that the library was modernizing its facility and streamlining their checkout process with new kiosks and self-checkout machines. She supplied flyers on the back table with events and services the library is providing to the community and invited everyone to please help themselves to the information.

Ms. Nancy Lulu from District Attorney Eric Gonzalez' Office sent Holiday Greetings from the Brooklyn DA. She spoke about the DA seeking a partnership with the community's civic groups to collaborate and form ideas so we may all have a safe, thriving and successful community. She provided the DA's newsletter and information on the back table. Ms. Lulu also shared the DA's hotline to report quality of life issues, or anything else the DA needs to look into using their hotline at 718-250-2340 or website,

Mr. Martin Gangursky stated the community still has MTA issues, especially our train service. He added although he's officially retired, he understands what a hardship this is for all those who commute to work. He will continue to advocate for better service.

Mr. Jahi Rose from the Civilian Complaint Review Board stated they are seeking feedback from the Community on policing in the neighborhood. So please share your thoughts, concerns or experiences at an upcoming meeting they will be sponsoring in Coney Island at Coney Island's Surfside Gardens at 2923 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street, on January 8, 2020 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. If you would like to contact him directly, he provided his number, which is 917-208-9320.

Mr. Lenny Markh, Chief of Staff for Assemblyman Cymbrowitz' office, sent Happy Holiday Greetings to the Community from the Assemblyman.

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Putting on another hat, as a representative of the 41<sup>st</sup> AD Democratic Club he thanked the Community Board for their charitable “Toys for Tots” donations. He was overwhelmed with the generosity shown this year and reiterated that Councilman Lew Fidler would be proud. He also singled out and thanked, Board Member Raisa Chernina, for her support in helping with organizing the Russian Speaking Community’s “Toys for Tots” donations.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A Roll Call Attendance was taken by Allen Popper, Secretary; with a Quorum present, Chair Scavo asked for a motion to adopt the Minutes of the General Board Meeting from November 26, 2019.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Rabbi Burg and seconded by Al Smaldone.

### **DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT:**

District Manager, Laura Singer, stated that the New York City Fire Department put out a preparedness bulletin stating that the top 5 causes of accidental fires in New York City (in 2018) are: Electrical Malfunction, Smoking, Candles and Other Open Flames, Heating System and Cooking Carelessness. The top 3 causes of fire deaths in New York City (in 2018) are Candles and other Open Flames. Electrical Malfunction and Smoking. More than 70% of fatal fires occur in homes without a working smoke alarm. Ms. Singer reiterated, so please be careful this Holiday Season. She wished everyone a wonderful, safe and happy Holiday.

### **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:**

#### **“LIQUOR LICENSES”**

#### **RENEWALS FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:**

The Butcher’s Steakhouse Inc.  
Bistro 613 Steakhouse  
816 Avenue U  
LSN: 1306358  
EXP: 12/31/19

Gerritsen Beach Catholic Club Inc.  
2882 Gerritsen Beach  
LSN: 1010833  
EXP: 02/29/2020



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Friends of Columbus Council Inc.  
3051 Nostrand Avenue  
LSN: 1010832  
EXP: 2/29/2020

Chairperson Scavo encouraged everyone to reach out to the office with any complaints on problematic locations.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### Health Committee:

Dr. Alan Ditchek, Chair of the Health Committee spoke about the importance of taking care of one's health during the Winter months. The first thing that came to his mind is what our mother's told us, bundle up and wear your hat, your scarf and your gloves. Dr. Ditchek said but as a physician he wanted to add the importance of getting a flu shot, especially as this year's flu has been the earliest outbreak in 15 years. Getting a flu shot is particularly important in the 65 and older range. Dr. Ditchek also pointed out the different variations of the flu and the many mutations. He went on to say it is also important to get a pneumonia vaccine and described the many varieties of pneumonia inoculations. He added that you should discuss with your doctor before getting the pneumonia vaccine, but that everyone should get their flu shot yearly.

#### Consumer Affairs:

Mr. Edmond Dweck reported that the Community Board received a late notice of a sidewalk café license renewal and sent out notice to his committee who he thanked for their prompt responses.

Unenclosed Café License Renewal for Dessert Palace Bose, Inc. located at 2267 Emmons Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

Mr. Dweck informed the Board that the Consumer Affairs Committee voted to approve the renewal application.

Mr. Dweck made a motion to approve seconded by Pearl Siegelman. By a show of hands, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application.

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### Public Safety:

Chick Pallotta, Public Safety Chair reported that the Public Safety Committee meeting was held at the 61<sup>st</sup> Precinct on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. Representing the 61<sup>st</sup> Precinct was its' Commanding Officer Captain Gaby Celiba. Also present from the Community Affairs unit was Detective Sam Shaya and Police Officer Lauren Au. In the seven (7) major categories of crime complaints the 61<sup>st</sup> precinct was down 4.6% in the year-to-date statistics, according to the CompStat Report.

Mr. Pallotta, stated that Captain Celiba wishes to remind us all that when you are filling up your gas tank at the pump, do not keep your vehicle running when you step inside to pay. This can result in a car theft, in fact two thefts were reported recently and that is exactly how they occurred. He also stated that Captain Celiba extends to all a happy and safe holiday.

### Transportation and Transit Committee:

Mr. Oswald Heymann, Chair of the Committee, reported that a Transportation Committee was held on Monday December 9, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Board Office, to discuss with the MTA their plans for changing and revamping existing bus routes with their Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign, Fast Forward. The plan would start every bus route from a blank slate to devise an accessible, safe and more efficient approach to the system. The project will be handled in phases. The first phase was taking community input via an online survey that was recently closed, but if anyone on the Board would like to share any thoughts or opinions still, please reach out to the Board Office, who will share them with the MTA representatives. Part of that first phase is a review of existing conditions, which will be available by the end of the winter. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase, scheduled for Spring 2020, will follow with a draft report of existing and possible changes and in the last phase, they will share their findings with the community for community feedback and disclose the final plan.

### Zoning Committee:

Mr. Ira Teper reminded everyone that the Zoning Committee voted 10 in favor and 1 abstention for cause.

BSA Cal# 853-53 BZ/ 2402/2416 Knapp Street

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existing automotive service station and accessory convenience store previously granted the Premises, which expired on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

A motion to approve was made by Robert Gevertzman and seconded by Pearl Siegelman.

The vote was: 35 yes, 0 no and 1 abstention for cause. The motion is approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

Chair Scavo extended greetings for a Happy and Healthy Holiday.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Lenny Markh and seconded by Vincent Nocella at 7:46 P.M.