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Brooklyn Community Board 15



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Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday November 19, 2024, 7:00pm

Kingsborough Community College, 2001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY
11235, Faculty Dining Room U112

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Scavo asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence with our holiday season fast approaching for world peace.

PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:

Chair Scavo opened the floor and invited Elected Officials, their representatives, agency representatives and community members to speak:

Martin Gangursky, congratulated Chair Scavo for a recognition she received that was featured in the Bay News. He shared his concerns about overcrowding at the Kingsborough bus terminal which results in pushing at dismissal times. He inquired about putting extra buses in place, but there is no current funding available and so he is hopeful with Congestion Pricing being put into place, that will make funding extra buses available.

Jessica Bergman, a Brooklyn Resident, Healthcare Worker, and Health Advocate spoke about Intro 641 a bill that will create a local law to amend the administrative code of the City of New York, in relation to nutrition standards and beverage options for children's meals served in food service establishments. She stated in New York, one in five children are obese. This is a long-term problem that affects their overall health. Putting these children at risk for conditions like type 2 diabetes, heart disease, all of which makes this an urgent issue that requires immediate action. As a healthcare worker, she supports this bill. She explained that this bill would require that at least two meals on a restaurant's children's menu meet certain nutrition standards and

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direct the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to develop regulations regarding the identification and promotion of the meals that comply with those standards. This bill would also remove flavored milk as a beverage that can be offered with a children's meal at a restaurant and would reduce the serving size of juice offered with a children's meal in a restaurant., She encouraged Board Members and the Community to attend an upcoming Council Hearing on December 2, 2024, at 10:00am.

Morris Massery, spoke about being accosted by a drunk person yelling hateful anti-Semitic words at him, while he was walking with his family in a local park just because he was wearing a yarmulke. He filed a report with the police, but more needs to be done to make residents feel safe in their community. He hopes the Board will push for more protections for preventing these Hate Crimes.

Raisa Chernina once again announced her organization Be Proud, Inc will be partnering with the 41st Assembly District Democratic Club on the 16th Anniversary of their Annual "Toys for Tot"" Drive. The event will be held on Monday December 16, 2024, at Emmons Palace 2265 Emmons Avenue, between 6:00pm-8:00pm. All are welcome, but please bring an unwrapped toy, You must RSVP 347 613-5332, so they know how many toys to expect.

Chair Scavo recognized Christopher Greif from the NYC Transit Rider's Council. Chair Scavo acknowledged Council Member Mercedes Narcisse and Irena Khlenver, Deputy Director of Constituent Services, for Council Member Mercedes Narcisse.

Tyler Reynolds, Project Liaison, for the Manhattan Beach Sewer Main Project stated Hampton Avenue is now completed. We still have about a week and a half of work that needs to be completed at Cass Place, at the intersection of, Shore Boulevard and West End Avenue. He stated they are awaiting Con Edison to move some of their electrical wires underground so they may access the area and complete the work that needs to be done. Con Edison is about 5 weeks away from doing this work and then they can proceed.

Nancy Lulu representing Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez's Office stated she just wanted to encourage everyone to visit their website at brooklynda.org to see the work they have been doing and read up on press releases and indictments. She added I just really want to share our action center's phone number. If there's anything you would like to discuss with the DA's office, a public safety concern or anything else, you could reach our Action Center at (718) 250-2340. And if it's anything that we handle, we'll look into it.

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If it's something that is not within our purview, then we'll advise on who to reach out to. She concluded by wishing everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving, as well as thanking Community Board 15 for all that they do.

Salim Cadet, Constituent Services Representative for Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, stated I'm the actual person you would call and speak to if you ever had an issue with a federal agency. I just wanted to introduce myself, let you guys see my face. I am very approachable. If you have any issues or any concerns, please feel free to reach out to me. He added he had some literature and a couple of business cards he liked to share. He also stated he just wanted to refresh everyone's memory on what exactly we do in the office. So, if you have any issues with Social Security, IRS, Integration passports, USPS or Military Academies, you are welcome to come to our office, we can take some information from you and work directly with the agency to find out what's going on, to resolve the issue. So please feel free to reach out to us. Thank you very much for having me and have a good night. He concluded with wishing everyone a Happy Holiday.

Hunter Rabinowitz, liaison from Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso stated I bring greetings from the BP. He went on to acknowledge that November 11 was Veteran's Day, so if there are any veterans or their families in the room. I want to thank you. And I hope that everyone has a very meaningful Thanksgiving coming up. He added there's a lot going on in downtown Brooklyn. I know we're a little far from here, but some exciting things on Thursday, November 20, Borough President Reynoso is partnering with the MTA to host an open house for their 2025 to 2029 capital plan. It's going to be at Brooklyn Borough Hall from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM and at the event you'll hear from MTA leadership about how the plan will impact Brooklyn, and you'll have an opportunity to speak with MTA experts about the plan. I hope you'll join us to kick off the holiday spirit in downtown on the 26th, BP Reynoso is partnering with downtown Brooklyn Partnership to host a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Albee Square, which is right by the DeKalb Ave. stop on the Q train line at 5:00 PM. The event will include fine music, sweet holiday treats and ugly sweater contest and the countdown to light up the tree. And finally, on October 30th, BP Reynoso partnered with the welder underground to unveil Rapid Max Robot, which is in the park outside of Borough Hall, Brooklyn Borough Hall. It's 18 foot sculpture, welded by young people, which celebrates hip hop and break dancing. He placed flyers on the front desk with upcoming event information.

Chair Scavo asked if anyone else would like to speak? With no one coming forward she moved on to Executive Session.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Roll Call Attendance was taken by Secretary Allen Popper, with a Quorum present, a motion to adopt the October 29, 2024, minutes was made by Debra Greif and seconded by William Truscio.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Chair Scavo read the Liquor Licenses the Board received for November:

500 Foot Hearing

TENDA ASIAN INC
1734-1736 Sheepshead Bay Rd
Brooklyn, NY 11235

LRJ Brooklyn Holdings LLC
2007 Emmons Avenue, #2011
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Renewal, Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

U Bar & Restaurant Corp,
1114-1116 Avenue U
Brooklyn, NY 11223

Renewal, Wine, Beer & Cider

Lil Anthony's Pizza Corp.
DBA – Anthony's Place
2812 Ocean Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Edo Asian Fusion Inc.
DBA – Edo Asian Fusion
2087 Coney Island Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11223

Renewal, Beer & Cider

Emmons Deli Inc.
1729 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

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New Application and Temporary Retail Permit for Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

IZAKAYA NY INC
DBA – Izakaya Sushi and Lounge
1629 Sheepshead Bay Rd
Brooklyn, NY 11235

New Application and Temporary Retail Permit for Wine, Beer & Cider

Grandma’s Clam Bar, LLC
DBA – Randazzo’s Clam Bar
2017 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Corporate Change

AEON HOSPITALITY INC
DBA – Terra
1716 Sheepshead Bay Road
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Request for All Night Permit New Year’s Eve

Elsa’s Cave Corp.
2320 McDonald Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11223

A discussion ensued about granting an All Night Permit for an establishment that has proven to be a bad neighbor, overserving patrons, and allowing fights and loud disturbances to carry out into the quiet residential streets. With a show of hands, the majority of Board Members agreed that the Board Office send a letter to the State Liquor Authority asking them to deny this request.

Chair Scavo announced the Dining Our Applications:

Dessert Palace Bose Inc.
DBA – Emmon’s Place
2267 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

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Public Safety Committee:

Chairperson Scavo stated she would be giving the Public Safety Committee report this evening.

She stated that our Public Safety Committee meeting was held via Webex on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Representing the 61st Police Precinct was Captain Joseph Antonio, 61's commanding officer. Also present was Detective Lauren Au from the Community Affairs office.

Public Safety Committee members were forwarded the link to the 61st Police Precinct CompStat Report covering the week November 4 through November 10, 2024 (Volume 31, Number 45). Members were also forwarded the TrafficStat Report link as well.

To the CompStat Report, based on the 7 major crime categories, a year-to-date comparison with 2023, overall, the 61 was down 2.86%. We've had 2 murders in 2024, compared to 4 murders in 2023. 14 rapes in 2024, compared to 14 rapes in 2023. Robberies, we're down 15.8%. Felony Assaults, up 12% - 233 in 2024, compared to 208 in 2023, Burglaries, down 22.5% - 145 in 2024, compared to 187 in 2023. Grand Larceny, down 7% - 520 crimes in 2024, compared to 559 in 2023. And finally, Grand Larceny Auto, up 25.1% - 219 crime complaints in 2024, compared to 175 in 2023.

In the category listed as "Hate Crimes", we've had 28 thus far in 2024, compared to 16 hate crimes in 2023.

She added that Captain Antonio reported that the 61 had a vehicle-towing operation that was conducted, towing over 50 vehicles. He also mentioned that he added more foot-patrol cops on a number of commercial strips, including Kings Highway.

Transportation Committee:

Transportation and Transit Committee Chairperson Oswald Heymann stated that last night November 18, 2024, at 6:00pm the Transportation and Mass Transit Committee met virtually with DOT officials via Webex to be briefed on the status of the reconstruction of the East 14th Street pedestrian bridge. He thanked the members of the committee for participating in this meeting and DOT for providing a comprehensive briefing.

He added if you are unfamiliar with this structure, it's located right alongside the B and Q Line tracks over the Belt Parkway from approximately the south end of the Sheepshead Bay Road Station to just across the street from the Bay Academy schoolyard.

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He went on to state that the \$24.5 million dollar project, is set to begin construction in the spring of 2026, and will completely replace the current bridge. The existing bridge will be demolished. The new structure is going to be built a few feet further away from the tracks to make future maintenance easier and the bridge will be fully ADA compliant, as well as sonic compliant. In addition to the ramps, there will be staircases on both sides. Most important, throughout the construction process pedestrian access will be maintained. The majority of the work will be done during daylight hours and noise mitigation techniques will be utilized. At some point during construction some lanes on the Belt Parkway will have to be closed down, but that would be for very short periods of time and overnight. Also, during construction the contractor will be required to station traffic agents on-site to assure safety and a smooth flow of both pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

To accommodate the exit/entrance ramps at the southern end of the bridge, the intersection at East 14th Street and Shore Parkway will be reconfigured – that’s across the street from the Bay Academy schoolyard. While the current two lanes of east bound traffic will be maintained as well the current access to the Belt Parkway, five parking spaces will be lost. Also, on the north end of the bridge two trees will have to be removed, however, funding will be provided to the Parks Department for them to do what they believe is proper to restore the greenery.

He stated finally, construction is supposed to take two years and the life of the bridge is expected to be 75 years.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Allen Popper and seconded by Debra Greif. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

*This is not a verbatim account of the meeting but a synopsis of the main points. *