

The City of New York
Brooklyn Community Board 15



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DISTRICT MANAGER

Monthly Board Meeting - Minutes

May 24, 2022 -Webex Conference

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairperson Scavo announced that the item on the Agenda the Presentation by the School Construction Authority for P.S. 206 has been postponed until our Tuesday, June 21, 2022, Board Meeting.

Chairperson Scavo introduced Mr. Ronnie Tawil, Chair of the Zoning Committee, who would run this part of the meeting:

Mr. Tawil explained the procedure for the Public Hearing and proceeded to call the representative.

BSA 2022-26-BZ 1418 Shore Boulevard
South side of Shore Boulevard between Langham Street and Mackenzie Street

This application is filed pursuant to Section 73-622 of the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York, as amended, to request a special permit to allow the enlargement of an existing single family residence located in a residential (R3-1) zoning district.

The Board received 0 letters of support and 0 in opposition.

Questions from the floor came from neighbors, one was concerned about how much the house was being expanded. She currently enjoys a slightly skewed view of the bay. How close will the house be expanding outside of her side entrance since they currently share an adjoining fence. Lyra Altman representing the homeowners stated the house was expanding leaving a 24 foot rear yard. It is currently a 34 feet rear yard, she explained that they are

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allowed to leave 20 foot rear yard, so going back about 10 additional feet. Is the home being expanded for a single family, yes, it is. Concerns about a multiple unit complex going up were expressed and alleviated. The other neighbor was concerned with the time frame of demolishing the existing home, how long will it take? And how long the rebuild will be upon completion of the entire home? Will their neighboring home remain safe during construction? Lyra Altman assured them that the homeowners are very mindful of safety and that the Department of Buildings closely monitors work and will ensure safety protocols are in place and a temporary construction fence will be constructed. They were also concerned about the impact it will have on their shared driveway with the construction fence going up. Can the construction fence be placed safely, but still allow them access to park their car? They explained that when they bought their home decades ago, they were under the impression nothing could be placed on that shared driveway and are upset to learn otherwise. Lyra Altman will get back to the neighbors with their inquiries after consulting with the architect and exchanged phone numbers with them to speak further tomorrow to address their issues. Lastly, a statement was made that with all the sewer, gas and electrical work currently taking place in Manhattan Beach having this home under construction simultaneously is an added concern. Lyra stated no work will take place this summer.

A motion was made to approve by Ed Chalom and seconded by Mitchell Shpelfogel.

A Committee Vote was taken, 9 yes, 3 no and 0 abstention. The motion passed the committee. A full board vote would take place in Executive Session.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:

Chair Scavo stated with the rising Covid-19 infections rates and the City being put on a high health alert, that in conjunction with our By-Laws she has consulted with the Executive Board, and they are recommending that the June 21, 2022, Board Meeting remain virtual on Webex. She made a motion that we stay virtual for the June 21, 2022, Board Meeting and it was seconded by Debra Greif. A roll call vote was taken with 37 in favor and 0 opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

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

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Chair Scavo called upon Carol-Ann Church, Director of Community Boards for Brooklyn Borough Hall who sent greetings and stated she was honored to be here and was merely here to observe and introduce our new Borough Hall liaison, Hassaan Chaudhary. Chair Scavo asked Hassaan Chaudhary to speak, he stated that after a long hiatus due to Covid, Borough Hall will be sponsoring in person events again and looks forward to seeing Board Members at these events. One of the upcoming events they are hosting is an Interfaith Breakfast on June 15th. He would appreciate the Board's help in sharing the invitation with our local Pastors/Imans/Rabbis and any other religious leaders in the community. He placed the information in chat. They can RSVP at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOL5fcg8DS39RUnp7> He can be reached at hassaan.chaudhary@brooklynbp.nyc.gov

Chris Greif from the New York City Transit Riders Council stated that the reduced fare OMNY card is coming in June and that he shared the information with the Community Board Office for those interested. You can click <https://reducedfare.mta.info/omny-registration/> Chris stated that it's Memorial Day weekend. Subways for the Monday Holiday will run on a Sunday schedule. He reminded everyone to please be safe and mask up.

Debra Greif spoke about the half marathon that happened on Saturday May 21, 2022, being very disruptive this year in that they were blasting music along the route. It was not considerate of the residences such as hers they passed by and the fact it was on the sabbath it was very disrespectful to those who observe in our community. She could not hear herself think in her apartment it was so loud and she taped it. If they seek a permit next year, she wants the organizers, to be denied if they continue allowing music to be blared along the route.

Mariya Markh representing Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein's office wished every mom a belated Happy Mother's Day, every father a Happy upcoming Father's Day, and a Happy Memorial Day. She stated for residents of the 41st AD the Assembly Member had free take home Covid test kits she is looking to distribute to please call her office or stop by to pick up one. On Tuesday 6/07/22 from 10:30am-12:00pm the Metrovan will be outside the Assembly Member's office located at 3520 Nostrand Avenue to conduct transactions to refill your metro reduced fare cards. On Wednesday June 8th, the Assembly Member is hosting a free shredding day. You can register or inquire for more information at 718 648-4700. She is planning a future shredding day in September as well.

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Lenny Markh, Chief of Staff to Assembly Member Steven Cymbrowitz, stated they too are giving away free Covid testing kits to residence of the 45th AD to please stop in or call to inquire about receiving one. He announced a Hold the Date, June 26th, 2022, because after a couple of years break (due to the Covid pandemic) they are looking forward to the return of the Sheepshead Summer Stroll. They are looking to make it a family friendly event and invite the community to participate and any agency who would like to have a table can please email MarkhL@nyassembly.gov To reach their office call at 718 743-4078 or email cymbros@nyassembly.gov

Stanley Kaplan as a follow up to his concern for \$1 vans cruising along Flatbush Avenue, stated he has now noticed many of those vehicles carry out of state license plates like Pennsylvania. He pondered if people in Philadelphia are plagued with \$1 vans with New York license plates.

Zoya Shpigelman, Legislative Assistant, representing Councilman Ari Kagan's Office sent her prayers to the family's impacted by the mass shooting in Texas today. She stated it was nice seeing Chair Scavo at the Mayoral Event Eric Adams sponsored for the Russian-American speaking community the other day. She stated that Councilman Kagan with the summer months approaching supports extra funding to secure more police in southern Brooklyn. Their office number is 718 373-9673 and email zshpigelman@council.nyc.gov

Michael Benjamin from Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office stated her office credo is a "reason to be of service". She is sponsoring many upcoming events and instead of reading them all to you, he encouraged everyone to please sign up to receive her mailings at senatorpersaud@gmail.com or call 718 649-7653

Ed Jaworski, Executive Vice President of the Madison-Marine-Homecrest Civic Association stated they had a very informative meeting about sanitation concerns, and he learned that the once 45 page booklet the DSNY used to give out on sanitation practices is now a compacted folded leaflet you can download at <https://www1.nyc.gov/dsny>

Stephannia Cleaton, Government Relations Manager for Kingsborough Community College stated she was pleased to announce that this year's 57th commencement exercise will take place in person on Thursday June 16, 2022, starting at 11:00am.

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Sergey Chuprik representing Comptroller Brad Lander stated the Comptroller is planning to host some Town Halls on Sanitation throughout the City and is having one on Tuesday June 7th we are encouraged to attend. He will share that information with the community, as it becomes available. He shared his email information in chat: schupri@comptroller.nyc.gov

Ken Lazar, Liaison for the Office of Community Engagement & Programming for the Department of Buildings was excited to announce a new, New York City Department of Buildings Commissioner was appointed, Eric Ulrich and a Brooklyn Borough Commissioner, Reda Shehata. He added that they are looking forward to their leadership of the department.

Jack Kishk spoke about a Federal Bureau of Investigation Program for High School students being offered 7/12/22-7/22/22. If anyone knows of a High School student interested in a career with the FBI and would like more details, they can contact him for more information.

Bridgette Ingraham from Coney Island Hospital spoke about some rebranding and exciting changes taking place at Coney Island Hospital. The new name for the hospital will be NYC Health + Hospitals South Brooklyn Health with its new 11-story building will be named after U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Ms. Ingraham stated Justice Ruth Ginsberg was an icon to equitable treatment and they felt being a Brooklyn resident she embodied what they hope to emulate in equitable care at the hospital. The hospital services 875,000 New Yorkers and includes a new elevated, expanded Emergency Department. Surgical Suites, Radiology Department, Cardiology Department along with 80 private care rooms on the 9th and 10th floors having panoramic city views. She added they have a dental suite and behavioral care floor. They look forward to servicing the community with compassion, dignity, and respect regardless of income.

Cliff Bruckenstein stated that the ignored moving violations and parking violations throughout the community have become unacceptable and out of control and he would like to see more enforcement. He is witnessing commercial vehicles parked on residential streets overnight, motorized vehicles not obeying the law, running lights, and not wearing a helmet and he would like to see more agents placed throughout our community enforcing regulations.

Kerri Malave, Community Relations Director, from Assemblywoman Jaime Williams office in chat shared her contact information 718 252-2124 located at 5318 Avenue N. Please reach out with any concerns. Email is malaveK@nyassembly.gov

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Levan Bochorishvili representing Metroplus Health Plan sent greetings in chat. His cell is 646 989-0601 email: bochori@metroplus.org

Shani Audain from LiveOnNY stated she was very interested in working with all in chat. Her email is saudain@liveonny.org

Sabrina Dieujuste in chat sent greetings from Council Member Farah Louis, and shared contact information District45@council.nyc.gov 718 629-2900 , office 1434 Flatbush Avenue. The City Council will be holding a public budget hearing tomorrow. You can submit written testimony until 5/31. For details <https://council.nyc.gov/testisfy/>

Flore Baptiste from the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence spoke briefly stating they provide free services for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, sex trafficking and gender based violence. Her information she placed in chat 212 788-2870 and fbaptiste@endgbv.nyc.gov

Larisa Boas representing Shorefront Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island shared in chat they are in the midst of recruiting for a Community Health Work Team that will be providing services in zip codes 11223, 11224, 11229 and 11235. They would love to hire people from the community, if you know anyone that would be appropriate, please have resumes sent to l.boas@jccgci.org A fill list of positions can be found on their website <https://www.jccgci.org/who-we-are/careers/>

Evens Prosper from the office of Council Member Mercedes Narcisse stated she is sponsoring a mammogram screening event on June 15, 2022, in front of their office located at 2424 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11234.

Anthony Besada stated he is experiencing quite a bit of quality of life issues with local businesses not being good neighbors. He has one restaurant not disposing of their garbage properly, obstructing the sidewalk for pedestrians. He asked if their liquor license comes up for review can we bring up the sanitation as an issue to not renew it. He also complained about a tire shop using the residential street for their business.

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 Chair Scavo, with a Quorum present, a motion to adopt the April 26, 2022, minutes was made by Mitchell Shpelfogel and seconded by Robert Gevertzman.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

MAY 2022 LIQUOR LICENSES:

Liquor Licenses for Board Meeting May 24, 2022

Renewal Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

IRG Realty Corp
d/b/a Fuji Hana Restaurant
512 Avenue U
Brooklyn, NY 11223

New Beach Bar LLC
2722 Gerritsen Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11229

2255 Emmons Café Lounge Inc
d/b/a Opera Café Lounge Inc.
Brooklyn, NY 11235

The Gather Inn Again, Inc
2718 Gerritsen Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11229

New Application Wine, Beer & Cider

Shinjuku NY Corp.
d/b/a Shinjuku
1664 Sheepshead Bay Road
Brooklyn, NY 11235

New Application Liquor, Wine, and Cider

Casa Marias Restaurant Inc
1962 Coney Island Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11223

New Application and Temporary Retail Permit

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FFG Services Corp
Pizza D'Amore
3003 Avenue U
Brooklyn NY 11229

Chair Scavo stated if you know of any issues with any of these establishments, please let the office know so that we can reach out to the State Liquor Authority.

Nominating Committee:

Chairperson Scavo announced that Robert Gevertzman who received the second most votes for Nominating Committee Chairperson, would be covering for Edmond Dweck Chairman of the Nominating Committee who was unable to attend this evening.

Robert Gevertzman announced:

The Officers:

For Chairperson: Theresa Scavo was the only name submitted- The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the floor, the nominations for the office were closed and the Secretary Allen Popper cast the one vote needed.

For First Vice-Chairperson: Ronald Tawil was the only name submitted- The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the floor, the nominations for the office were closed and the Secretary Allen Popper cast the one vote needed.

For Second Vice –Chairperson: Raisa Chernina was the only name submitted- The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the floor, the nominations for the office were closed and the Secretary Allen Popper cast the one vote needed.

For Treasurer: Jack Erdos was the only name submitted - The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the floor, the nominations for the office were closed and the Secretary Allen Popper cast the one vote needed.

For Secretary: Allen Popper was the only name submitted- The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the Floor, the nominations for the office were closed and Robert Gevertzman cast the one vote needed.

The Nominating Committee recommendations for Executive Committee were as follows:

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Edmond Chalom
Dr. Alan Ditchek
Edmond Dweck
Robert Gevertzman
Morris Harary
Francis Chick Pallotta
Mitchell Shpelfogel
Pearl Siegelman
Richard Warner
Eli Zami

The floor was opened for nominations, with none from the floor, the nominations for the office were closed and the Secretary Allen Popper cast the one vote needed.

Public Safety Report:

Our monthly Public Safety Committee meeting was held via Webex on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 5:00pm. Representing the 61st Police Precinct was its Commanding Officer, Captain Derby St. Fort. In attendance from 61st Community Affairs office was Detective Sam Shaya and Police Officer Lauren Au. And now the CompStat report of the 61st Police Precinct for the week dated 5/02/22 through 5/08/22. Here's the year-to-date statistics, comparisons January 1, 2022, through May 8, 2022, with the same time period January 1, 2021, through May 8, 2021; Crime complaints, up 67.48%. The breakdown is as follows: No murders; rape down 80%; robberies up 50%; felony assaults, up 15.7%; burglaries, up 33.3%, grand larceny, up 102.2%; and grand larceny auto, up 177.3%.

To satisfy a request by Board Members regarding a newly-listed, sub-category on the Comp Stat- that of "Hate Crimes". Year-to-date, hate crimes in the 61st Pct is up 233.3%. To put that in perspective, actual numbers: 3 hate crimes committed in 2021 compared to 10 hate crimes committed in 2022.

To answer a question asked by Board Member Allen Popper regarding the breakdown of burglaries. Captain St. Fort said for the past week: 9 commercial burglaries occurred and 8 residential burglaries.

The Committee continues to monitor quality-of life- issues and to those who addressed some concerns this evening, he encouraged them to attend the monthly Public Safety Committee and share those concerns with the committee and precinct directly so they can be properly addressed.

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Zoning Committee:

BSA 2022-26-BZ 1418 Shore Boulevard
South side of Shore Boulevard between Langham Street and Mackenzie Street

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A motion to approve was made by Debra Greif and seconded by Allen Popper. The vote was 24 Yes, 9 No, 2 Abstentions. The motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Chair Scavo announced the dismissal of the Nominating Committee. She thanked all who served on it.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Allen Popper and seconded by Debra Greif. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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