



The City of New York Brooklyn Community Board 15



ERIC ADAMS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR

THERESA SCAVO
CHAIRPERSON

LAURA SINGER
DISTRICT MANAGER

Monthly Board Meeting - Minutes **November 26th, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Scavo reminded anyone looking to donate to the Toys for Tots drive, to please see her after the meeting.

OFFICERS

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

GENERAL BOARD MEETING:

PUBLIC SESSION:

Chairperson Scavo introduced the first registered speaker.

Topics Discussed:

Martin Gangursky stated the community seemed on “lock down” the trains were not running for several weekends and late nights, Homecrest Park is closed for renovations as well as the Sheepshead Bay Library. He stated he attended the Brooklyn Bus Redesign meeting at the Brighton Beach Library but felt it was difficult to express his views, having been passed from one MTA representative to another and did not like the computer survey portion of the event. He stated he doubted his concerns were taken seriously. He ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Christopher Greif representing the New York City Transit Rider’s Council spoke about the Bus Redesign Forums and the Holiday Nostalgia Rides on Sundays in December, providing flyers on the front table with more information. He also stated that Brooklyn Family Support Service Advisory Council is having the reduced MetroCard Bus in Community Board 15 at the Homecrest Library on 2525 Coney Island Avenue on December 9, 2019 from 12:00pm-2:00pm.

Stanley Kaplan spoke about an upcoming free winter concert performed by The Kingsborough Musical Society Chorus on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 4:00pm inside the King’s Chapel, located at 2702 Quentin Road. He stated they are having a restaurant raffle. Please come down and support this group. He provided flyers with the information throughout the room.

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Maurice Kolodin discussed the Shorefront Coalition's recent sponsoring of a turkey give-a-way event at Masbia Kitchen with a donation of 18 kosher turkeys expected to feed 250 people. Their next event will be to give away turkeys to the needy in Community Board 13 from West Brighton and Coney Island. He also mentioned an upcoming meeting they are jointly sponsoring with the MBCG, MBNA and Senator Gournardes on Monday December 2, 2019 at 7:00pm inside PS 195 to address the Opioid and Vaping crises affecting our community.

Al Smaldone, President of the Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Association spoke and stated that, his group meets the first Monday of the month usually at 7:30pm, but wanted to reiterate the importance of this upcoming meeting on Monday December 2, 2019 at 7:00pm to learn about the effects of vaping and hear from experts to help you make an educated choice on whether it is safe for you to use. He understands many people feel vaping has got them away from their tobacco habit, but there are other risks they should come out to hear about, especially when it comes to our younger people who are drawn to these products. He also mentioned that the renovations to the Manhattan Beach Park Dog run are progressing nicely. He reminded everyone as it is a community park; they are actively seeking people to help them volunteer to maintain it and asked for anyone planning to use the park to please consider signing up to volunteer with either Shari Kaplan or himself, to keep it the Best Dog Park in Brooklyn.

Allan Rosen spoke about his 40 plus years in the community and how he was responsible for the redesign of the bus routes in southern Brooklyn back in 1978. He expressed his concern for the MTA's current plan and lack of foresight they showed in redesigning the other boroughs, like Queens. He has again designed new plans he is willing to share with the community and asked anyone interested to please contact him at brooklynbus@verizon.net

Jay Lieberman spoke out about how angry he was to learn that the Marlboro Houses in Community Board 13 are without gas service since October 2019. He was concerned that children will not only, not have proper Thanksgiving meals, but a warm nutritious meal for breakfast before school. Living with microwaved food is unacceptable. He encouraged the Board to reach out to those who oversee NYCHA to get these repairs immediately expedited.

Dennis Futoryan spoke about the current NYC Heating Laws and how as a lawyer he doesn't feel they are adequately written and too vague to provide

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enough heat for those tenants residing in apartment buildings. Between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit; and, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., the inside temperature is required to be at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit. He stated 62 degrees is just too cold, especially given this community's wind chill. He stated he is cold as a younger man and can only imagine how unbearable it is for a senior. He encouraged the Board to lobby our elected officials to clarify and update the heating regulations.

Leah Moses representing Councilman Treyger's office stated that the Councilman worked with NYPD in the 61st Precinct to get illegally parked cars off our streets. They have been successful and he will continue to monitor the situation. Councilman Treyger also actively fought to get National Grid to end their moratorium on providing and restoring gas service to the district. He is hopeful now that National Grid is agreeing to provide service again, the back log of requests will begin to get the attention they need. The applications are well into 2021 and a long term goal must be developed.

Nancy Lulu from District Attorney Eric Gonzalez' Office introduced herself and sent greetings from the Brooklyn DA. She spoke about the DA's hotline and provided information on how to report elder abuse, quality of life issues, or anything else the DA needs to look into using their hotline at 718-250-2340. She stated you can remain anonymous if you choose. She provided information on the front desk and business cards for anyone seeking assistance. She ended by wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Stephannia Cleat, Governmental Liaison for Kingsborough Community College opened by saying the college President, Claudia Schrader, wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She also stated the College will be closed November 28th through Sunday December 1st and that classes will resume on December 2nd. She spoke about a campaign that will be hosted Tuesday, December 3rd called CUNY Tuesday in an attempt to raise 50 thousand dollars to help support CUNY students. More information and donations can be made by visiting www.cunytuesday.org

Reeves Eisen representing Senator Andrew Gounardes' office also spoke about the upcoming Vaping and Opioid meeting being held on December 2, 2019 at 7:00pm at PS 195, inviting everyone to attend. She also added that Senator Gounardes was able with his colleagues to secure just over 12

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million dollars to renovate Marine Park (5.6 million he secured, 4.5 million from Councilman Alan Maisel, one million combined from Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein and Assemblywoman Jamie Williams and another one million from Borough President Eric Adams.) Most importantly Senator Gournardes convinced the State to release the money immediately, and not go through a two year scoping process. The project should break ground in an expedited 3 years as opposed to 5 years.

Glenda Silva sent greetings from Borough President Eric Adams office. She provided flyers and newsletters for upcoming events and past events to make the community aware of some of the projects and initiatives the Borough President is working on. She mentioned an upcoming Annual Interfaith Breakfast being held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 8:30am at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

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

Laurie Auguste from the Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement stated they are aware of the growing problem of short term rentals in our communities and are here to help if you suspect someone is running an illegal rental. She would be in the back if anyone had any questions for her. She said that reports could be made via 311 or to the Community Board, and that the community could also visit the Office of Special Enforcement website via www.nyc.gov

Sam Chuprik representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries spoke about nominating a young person in High School or College for the U.S. Service Academy, there is still time. He provided information in the back of the room and although the deadline states December 4th, it's a soft deadline. He also provided flyers in the back for affordable housing resources. He mentioned the Congressman will be hosting another Town Hall at the New York Aquarium's Education Hall to discuss Quality of Life issues on December 14th. He doesn't have all the details yet but stated he will make them available to the Community Board's office to share as soon as the information becomes available. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving from Congressman Jeffries.

Eileen O'Brien representing Councilman Maisel reiterated that the Councilman did provide 4.5 million dollars in funding to renovate Marine Park. She added that the Councilman recently met with DDC to discuss the upcoming sewer and sidewalk work project taking place to reconstruct parts of Gerritsen Beach. She ended by wishing a Happy Thanksgiving to all.

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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 (with the correction of the spelling of Chris and Deborah Greif's last name) of the General Board Meeting from October 29, 2019.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Jay Lieberman and seconded by Robert Gevertzman.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

"LIQUOR LICENSES"

NEW APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:

1724 Red Crab Inc.
Red Crab Juicy Seafood & Bar
1724 Sheepshead Bay Road

RENEWALS FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:

JEF Enterprises Inc.
Red Lounge
2394 Coney Island Avenue
LSN: 1144346
EXP: 12/31/19

2204 Elias Corp.
Zamaan
2204 Avenue X
LSN: 1290166
EXP: 12/31/19

METHOD OF OPERATION CHANGE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:

Donsel's Bar & Grill
Towne Café

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2602 East 15th Street
LSN: 1012672
EXP: 2/28/21

**ALL NIGHT PERMIT FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER
LICENSE:**

Elsa's Cave Corp.
Lounge Bar Cave
2320 McDonald Avenue
LSN: 1251686
EXP: 8/31/21

Chair Scavo stated an All Night Permit for New Year's Day would be a danger to this community. She stated allowing people who are drinking all afternoon into the evening to continue to do so into the early morning hours, could only prove a recipe for disaster. She reported that Community Board 15 stood with our 61st Precinct and wrote a letter to oppose this license request.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety:

Chick Pallotta, Public Safety Chair reported that the Public Safety Committee meeting was held at the 61st Precinct on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. Representing the 61st Precinct was its' Commanding Officer Captain Gaby Celiba. Also present was Police Officer Lauren Au of the Community Affairs unit. Year-to-date from the CompStat Report, the 61st Precinct was down 6.2% in the seven major crime complaint categories. Captain Celiba reminds residents to make sure that their vehicles are locked, which will reduce break-ins. The Captain wishes all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

NEW BUSINESS: Board Member Morris Harary expressed his concerns over the "Hotel Project" on Avenue T and Coney Island Avenue . He stated he did not see why a hotel was needed and he, as well as others in the community, have expressed their concern that this will become a homeless shelter. Chair Scavo stated that she recently attended a meeting, organized by Councilman Treyger's with the project's owner and the owner stated he

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had identified a need for the hotel in the area and that he runs approximately 20 other hotels and none have become a homeless shelter. Chair Scavo who lives near the location, stated if I have family come in for Thanksgiving this week, I don't have enough space to house them, a nearby hotel may be what the community needs. Chair Scavo stated that the plan is "as of right" and will not come before the Board. The project she stated from memory because I do not have the plans before me, is approximately 4 floors, about 89 rooms and 6 parking spots as allowed by zoning regulations. The owner was willing to place in writing that this property will be a hotel and not a homeless shelter as some have speculated.

Board Member Al Smaldone expressed his concern that Congressman Hakeem Jeffries never holds a Town Hall in Community Board 15, it's always in Community Board 13 and he would like his representative to bring that concern back to the Congressman. Although, Community Board 13 is entirely in Congressman Jeffries district and Community Board 15 has a small part, Representative Sam Chuprik stated he will relay the concerns to Congressman Jeffries.

Chair Scavo reminded everyone again about donating for Toys for Tots and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Howard Katz and seconded by Debra Greif at 7:48 P.M.