COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING - APRIL 17, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Felina Backer Denise Gourdine Nancy Walby
Sallie Viola Bennett Tomas Hernandez, Jr. Valerie Woodford
Barbara Bieber Aryanna Holder Grace Zwillenberg

Greg Borruso
Roosevelt Boursiquot
Gardy Brazela
Andrenia Burgis
Eugene Burshtein
Terri Cadet-Donald
Carryl

Terri Cadet-Donald David Price
Jamaal Carryl Elaine Reid
Lucina Clarke Violine Roberty
Paul Curiale Michelle Sealey
Marie Delus Victoria Stennett
Maria Garrett Robert Tracey

GUESTS:

Laurieane Isaac Canarsie Library
Alex Tretiak Canarsie Library
Aaron Soriano Canarsie Library
Karl Henry St. Cyr Canarsie Library
Tomi Marshall Area Resident
Naomi Lehrer Area Resident
Cathy Dews Area Resident

Michael Benjamin Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D.

Calvin Sennon Area Resident

Harold Jones Canarsie Community Development Inc. (CCDI)

David Shaeffer Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19th S.D.

Mark Partnow Area Resident
Dr. Jacky Cody Area Resident
Linda Steinmuller Canarsie Courier

Megan Kleinman LSA Recovery Inc. (Interborough Developmental & Consultation Center)

P.O. Thomas Podd 63rd Precinct P.O. Samuel Maria 69th Precinct

Roshelle Nelson Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.

A. Sinesi Mill Island Civic
Julius Stukes Area Resident
Candice Purdie Area Resident
Andrea Moniguette Area Resident

Brit Byrd Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso

Maxine Gordon Area Resident

Jonathan Marable Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Sandra Gilmour 59th A.D. District Leader R

Yolette Toussaint Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41st A.D.

Hon. Farah Louis Council Member, 45th C.D.

Sabrina Dieujuste Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45th C.D.

Ann L. Area Resident
Sara Hendricks Area Resident
Kimberly Coke Area Resident
David Phillip Area Resident

Steven Etienne Nycecity Corp d/b/a Society House

Maria C. Willis Area Resident
Shari Andrews Area Resident
Michael Martin Area Resident
Vaughn Mayers Fireleaf, LLC

Zakiya Besson Area Resident/Canarsie Lions Club

Hon. Mercedes Narcisse Council Member, 46th C.D.

Saye Joseph Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse 46^{th,} C.D.

Rob Muzeuchin Marine Park Community Association

A. Calise Area Resident
Arlene Area Resident
B. Lawrence Area Resident
Candy Assanah Area Resident

Christina Armieri Brooklyn Public Library

Dolange Donacien Area Resident
Donna Mae Crossfield Area Resident
Gabriel Longchamp Area Resident
Guerda Victor Area Resident
Ian Gaynor Area Resident
Michael Simon Area Resident
Natasha Murray Area Resident

Orlando Ross Representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, 9th C.D.

Sabine Jacques
Shari Andrews
Shelbi Molin
Area Resident

Norine Medas Canarsie Merchants Association

Michael Condon Flatlands Library

7:04 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

7:07 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Regular Board Meetings held on March 20, 2024. Board Member David Price made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Board Member Jamaal Carryl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7:11 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Library and Education Chair Sallie Bennett who gave a summary of the redesign presentation of the Canarsie Library which has been located at 1580 Rockaway Parkway since 1960. Thanks to funding from Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse, the Library will be getting a facelift. The library will have brand new amenities such as a teen lounge, children's area, community meeting room, new bathrooms and an additional second floor. Chair Sallie Bennett asked that we move to accept the Canarsie Library Redesign Proposal as presented. Board Member Adryanna Holder seconded the motion. 2nd Planning & Zoning Chair Tomas Hernandez stated that doubling the size is a concern and made a motion to table the vote for the Redesign of The Canarsie Library until the Planning and Zoning Committee can investigate it further. Board Member Andrenia Burgis seconded the motion. Chair Hopkins asked for a roll call vote and reminded everyone that a 2/3's vote is needed to table. The motion did not pass with 1 Yes, 16 No and 5 Abstention votes recorded. Area resident Harold Jones informed everyone that there were no

zoning issues, and the proposed design was "as of right". There were questions from Board Members and community guests which were answered by Canarsie Library Branch Manager Alexander Tritiak and Karl Henry St. Cyr, Project Manager about the proposed redesign. Library & Education Committee Chair Sallie Bennett repeated her prior motion to approve the Canarsie Library Redesign Proposal, which was previously seconded by Board Member Aryanna Holder. The motion passed with 26 Yes votes recorded.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins explained that when a vote is taken, it is her privilege to vote or not vote, maintaining impartiality. She will vote if there is a tie.

7:34 P.M.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Megan Kleinman, Representing Interborough Developmental & Consultation Center (IDCC) who provided a brief presentation on their plans to establish a new NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports at their 1285 Rockaway Parkway location. The outpatient clinic will be part of a building expansion making services such as mental health, care coordination, maternal and mental health, primary care, and addiction treatment more available and accessible.

Chair Hopkins introduced Council Member Mercedes Narcisse who greeted everyone and thanked the Board Members for their unanimous Yes vote for the redesign of the Canarsie Library which is an important project to her and everyone in the community. She also thanked Megan Kleinman for her work and all the professionals at the Interborough Developmental & Consultation Center for bringing much needed services to Canarsie and the surrounding area. Council Member Narcisse provided updates on future events and programs that she offers in her office. She reminded everyone that they need to work together and support each other.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Council Member Farah Louis who greeted everyone and brought greetings to those that observed Ramadan and hoped they had an easy fast and wished those that will be observing Passover, a blessed holiday. She provided information about upcoming programs and events. Council Member Louis gave a shout out to Interborough Developmental Center and their work with mental health. She spoke about women's defensive classes, crackdowns on illegal smoke shops, the ongoing construction of the B82 Select Bus Service along Kings Highway and her meeting with MTA and the effect of the Interborough Express on the district.

7:52 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Naomi Hopkins

Chairperson Hopkins acknowledged Holy Ramadan, Good Friday, Resurrection Sunday, Eid and wished everyone who will be celebrating, a joyous Passover. She explained that she changed her report right before she got here and that there seems to be a theme of mental health. She expressed her gratitude to the Board Members and CB Staff who supported her through her grandmother's surgery, and the passing of her husband's grandfather. She shared her recent tragedies which included the suicide of her 17-year-old cousin. We want harmony for our families and in our lives, unfortunately, there are people plagued with things in their lives that are not harmonious. We need to be mindful of our neighbors, children, and the elderly. These are words of empowerment, we need to watch out for one another, take care of each other and work together to ensure good health both in body and mind. District Manager Partnow thanked Chair Hopkins for her inspiring words and hopes that they had an impact on everyone.

8:08 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

District Manager Partnow greeted and thanked everyone for being here this evening.

I WAS HAPPY TO JOIN OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING CB18 AT THE FOLLOWING

Councilmember Farah Louis's Senior Luncheon - music, dancing, buffet, and dessert.

69th Pct & 63rd Pct. Community Council, Marine Park Association, Mill Basin Civic, Neiuw Amersfort Civic Association and Flatlands Civic meetings – thank you Presidents Greg Borruso, Gardy Brazela, Rob Mazzuchin, Paul Curiale, Steve Yamin, Joan Gilbert

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse – Recognized some of the women in her District and I was honored to be one of them along with Board Members Maria Garrett and Valerie Woodford.

Canarsie Civic Assembly Meeting to meet neighbors, socialize and support local businesses. Thank you, Board Member Jibreel Jalloh, for organizing this gathering.

Assemblymember Jaime Williams - Community Safety Meeting

Congressman Hakeem Jeffries & Assemblymember Nikki Lucas – Older Adult Easter Hat Parade & luncheon

Senator Roxanne Persaud and Councilmember Farah Louis' Easter Egg Hunt & Family Fun Day.

BP Cabinet meeting – Focused on navigating the Census Bureau website for a statistical snapshot of Kings County.

69th Pct. Community Council Job Fair – In partnership with our elected officials Cong. Hakeem Jeffries, Senator Roxanne Persaud, Assemblymembers Jaime Williams and Monique Chandler-Waterman, and Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse. Thank you, President Gardy Brazela and the HES for organizing this successful event.

HES - Documentary premiere on gun violence.

Senator Kevin Parker – Hosted HERSTORY awards ceremony to honor special women in his Senatorial District. Our Chairperson Naomi Hopkins was one of the recipients.

Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse – Antisemitism Forum featuring a Commander of the largest Neo-Nazi organization in America who, after 25 years, realized through the help of an African American man, that he should leave the organization.

COMMUNITY BOARD 18 APRIL CABINET MEETING

<u>DDC</u> – The construction for the B82 Select Bus Service along Kings Highway is continuing with the next phase - breaking up the medians and pouring concrete for newer safe ones. There will be lane closures for vehicle & pedestrian safety. The DDC is working to avoid water shutdowns, especially during the Passover Holiday. They will be meeting with the 2 hospitals along Kings Highway to coordinate shutting down the water to replace the 100-year-old system.

<u>63rd Pct.</u> – Car break ins on the rise. Protest on Sunday, April 14th gathering at 12:30 pm at Kimball Street & Avenue U and marching to Kings Plaza. There will be street closures all around Kings Plaza and the Pct is advising you to avoid the area. NCO's working with Sanitation to tow vehicles and crack down on scooters. The next 63rd Community Council meeting will be held on April 24th at the Purpose of Life Church 1895 Flatbush Avenue at 7:00 pm.

<u>69th Pct.</u> – Sector A Build A Block meeting will be held on April 18th at 7:00pm at Holy Family Church. NCO's working with Sanitation towing abandoned and illegally parked vehicles. The next Community Council Meeting is April 30th at 8:00 pm at the HES. The Community Council will also be holding their Gala on May 6th at 7:00pm at Liberty Hall.

<u>DOB</u> – Department of Buildings launched its new education and outreach campaign, "Get Summons Corrected" (GSC). The goal of the campaign is to get more summonses certified as corrected by increasing the public's awareness of the need to certify correction and educating them on the process of certifying correction. The Department would like to introduce the campaign to homeowners, new home buyers, and other stakeholders who are undoubtedly impacted when a summons is issued or remains unresolved on a property. The outreach LINK was sent out to all of distribution lists and the information appeared on the

Website. The virtual meeting was held this afternoon and I hope it was helpful for many.

<u>Sanitation</u> – There will be extra trucks and shifts during the Passover Holiday. Sanitation requested cameras at Hendrickson Street between Avenue V & Hendrickson Place due to garbage dumping and boat trailer dumping. A request was sent to DOT by the Community Board office.

Tenequa Strong representing Senator Roxanne Persaud, Anastasia Yaskova Mayor's Community Affairs and Sabrina Dieujuste representing Councilmember Farah Louis gave updates on events and programs offered to the community.

IN & AROUND CB 18

Additional traffic signals will be installed at the intersection of Ave D & E. 89th St.

Mill Island Civic President Ike Sinesi and I did a walkthrough in Mill Island with DOT to highlight the safety issues on the severely curved streets asking for street signs to identify the upcoming curve. DOT Borough Engineers conducted a study for curvature in the road and said it did not meet the warrants for Curve Warning signs.

Still flooding in so many homes throughout CB18, especially after all the rain we've had, Chair Hopkins and I reached out to DEP and requested a Town Hall Meeting here at the Community Board.

GOOD & WELFARE

Happy Birthday to our Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse

Congratulations to Board Member Paul Curiale who was honored by the Kings Plaza/Canarsie Kiwanas Club

Condolences on the passing of Board Member Jim Buchanan

This is Autism Acceptance Month shedding light on the diverse experiences and perspectives within the Autism community, fostering greater awareness, understanding, and inclusion.

The festival of Eid al-Fitr on April 10th marked the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

Passover begins on Monday, Happy & Healthy to all that celebrate.

8:13 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT - David Price

Treasurer David Price began his update on the status of the social media and website contract. Timing was a concern, but there is no update on that contract. Two new contracts, one for signage and one for an exterminator were approved but not through the budget committee or Board Members. The Budget Committee cannot confirm if proper procurement took place with at least 3 different bidders. We cannot confirm if the bids were awarded to certified minority or women owned businesses, or if there are conflict of interests or disclosure forms obtained. These 2 contracts were valued at \$3350 and office supplies and snacks were \$3350. Some of the \$24,000 budget that I previously spoke about has been allocated to address some of these costs, leaving approximately \$17,000 of which \$15,000 has been promised to a vendor. A buffer of approximately \$2,000 will be left for CB 18 unless additional monies are spent between now and June. I think that CB 18 should adopt new procedures for the role of Treasurer. Chair Hopkins added that Treasurer is a brand-new position and that there will be an Executive Meeting in May to address rules, regulations, and procedures. The CB 18 office follows practices set forth by DCAS, Borough Hall and OMB.

<u>PARKS COMMITTEE</u> — Nancy Walby, Chairperson Here are some FREE activities in our parks to enjoy...

- 1. <u>Celebrate Earth Day Hike</u>, Sunday, April 21st, 12noon 1pm. Join the Urban Park Rangers in celebrating Earth Day on a nature exploration hike. Learn the history and significance of Earth Day. Meet at the Salt Marsh Nature Center (3301 Avenue U near East 33rd Street).
- 2. <u>Celebrate the Earth through Dance</u>, Sunday, April 21st, 2 4pm. The Salt Marsh Alliance is sponsoring a dance venue presented by the Brooklyn Dance Ensemble at the Salt Marsh Nature Center (3301 Avenue U near East 33rd Street). All are welcome to come and enjoy the Earth Day dances inspired by the beauty and wonder of the Marine Park Salt Marsh and other natural environments.
- 3. What is the Billion Oyster Project? Saturday, May 11th, 1 2pm. Since 2014 the Billion Oyster Project has worked to restore the New York harbor oyster population. Come to the Salt Marsh Center
- **4.** <u>Birding: Osprey Watch</u>, Sunday, May 19th, 11am 12noon. Join the Urban Park Rangers on a birding adventure around Marine Park to view ospreys. These majestic birds' mate for life and build their nests high up in tall trees and utility poles near waterways where they hunt fish to eat. Meet at the Salt Marsh Nature Center (3301 Avenue U near East 33rd Street).
- 5. Remember: NYC Parks has Seasonal Jobs available which start this Spring and continue to the Fall. Check out the full list of jobs available at www.nyc.gov/parks and click on the link "Jobs at Parks".

Remember to check out all the other fun activities and programs in our NYC Parks by calling 311, going online to www.nyc.gov/parks, and sign up for Parks Email Newsletters

YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE - Terri Cadet-Donald, Chairperson

- 1. Bay View Community Center Resource Fair, Friday 4/19/24. Board Member Jibreel Jalloh is spearheading this but it's going to be at PS 272, which is at 101-24 Seaview Avenue, Friday night from 6pm-9pm.
- **2.** 63rd Precinct Youth Officers Family Fun Day, Thursday, 4/25/24 from 12 pm-3pm at McGuire Fields Bergen Avenue between Avenue W and X.
- **3.** Kareem Thompson Memorial Kareem passed away tragically. The library is having a memorial for him on Thursday, 4/25/24 from 3:30pm-4:30pm. Kareem taught computer classes, senior classes, and the after-school kids.
- **4.** Clean up Saturday, April 27th is volunteering with New York City Parks right here on Bergen Avenue and Avenue T entrance way to the park starting at 10:00am ending at 1pm.
- **5.** Millennium Development, along with Marine Park Golf Course, and the Brooklyn Golf Alliance, will be hosting a summer golf program for junior golfers between the ages of 8 and 13. The information is on the table outside.
- **6.** SYEP Providers needed. Business owners can have young people work through the Summer Youth Employment Program. If you have a business, and you can use some help that the city will pay for, please apply to be a sponsor. The information is available on the table outside. For the children the application process is closed, but to become a vendor you can still apply. Help the children in your own community to work this summer.
- **7.** BBYO/Millennium Development is hiring. They're hiring summer camp counselors. They must be 171/2 years old and up. The information is on the table, or you can contact me directly.
- **8.** Finally, some fun stuff for the summer. The kayaking schedule for Floyd Bennett Field and Canarsie Pier is out. The 1st page is highlighted as to where you can get the full schedule.
 - She thanked and wished everyone a good night.
 - P.O. Samuel Maria, 69th Precinct, provided information on upcoming tow operations, precinct crime statistics, NCO, and Community Council meetings.

Board Member Paul Curiale spoke on the loss of Board Member Jim Buchanan. Board Member Curiale explained that Jim was not married, had no children, and only has one nephew that lives out of town. DM Partnow suggested a Community Memorial Service.

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Paul Curiale, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- D&D Duet Inc., Duet, 6179/6181/6183 Strickland Avenue, 11234
- Sylk Cove Cocktail Lounge, N/A, 1370 Rockway Parkway, 11236

Chairperson Paul Curiale stated that the Community Board notified the Board Members, the local elected officials, civic associations, the 63rd and 69th Precincts about the SLA Renewal Applications received from D&D Duet Inc., Duet, 6179/6181/6183 Strickland Avenue, 11234 and Sylk Cove Cocktail Lounge, N/A, 1370 Rockway Parkway, 11236 and introduced the owners. Chairperson Curiale asked for a motion that the board recommends approval of the SLA Renewal Applications received from D&D Duet Inc., Duet, 6179/6181/6183 Strickland Avenue, 11234 and Sylk Cove Cocktail Lounge, N/A, 1370 Rockway Parkway, 11236. Board Member Jamaal Carryl made a motion to approve the applications. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 28 Yes votes recorded.

2. Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premises License Applications Received – Vote

NEW APPLICATIONS FOR AN ADULT-USE RETAIL DISPENSARY PREMISES LICENSE

- Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue 11234
- Steven Etienne, Nycecity Corp d/b/a Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue 11234

Chairperson Paul Curiale explained that the Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premises License Applications received from Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue, 11234, and Steven Etienne, Nycecity Corp d/b/a Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, came before the committee on Monday evening. Both ownerships have their cards already and believe the card is spelled Courd. As Courd holders, it means they have their license in hand. We're not voting on the license; we're voting on the premises that they've chosen. Chair Curiale introduced the applicants. Chair Naomi Hopkins thanked the owners for coming, since this is the first time that we're hearing people are licensed before appearing at the Community Board. Again, she wants to commend Chair Curiale and Co-Chair Jamal Carryl on the work they have been doing on this committee. Chair Curiale is also arranging a cannabis info session with Floyd Jarvis since many of us are not familiar with cannabis and the cannabis industry. Chairperson Curiale asked for a motion that the board recommends approval the Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premises License Application received from Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue, 11234. Board Member Tom Hernandez made a motion to approve the application. Board Member Valerie Woodford seconded the motion. The motion passed with 24 Yes, 2 No. and 2 Abstention votes recorded. Board Member Jamaal Carryl shared that both properties are in business districts, and they have parking lots. That is one of the questions in the applicant's survey. Chair Curiale asked for a motion that the board recommends approval the Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premises License Application received from Steven Etienne, Nycecity Corp d/b/a Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. Board Member Michelle Sealey made a motion to approve the application. Board Member Gardy Brazela seconded the motion. The motion passed with 23 Yes, 2 No, and 2 Abstention votes recorded. Chair Hopkins thanked the owners for coming. We appreciate business owners seeking licenses who are licensed and not operating illegally. There are so many rules that need to be followed and she trusts that all of you gentlemen will be good stewards in our community.

8:42 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Brit Byrd, Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, Roshelle Nelson Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D., Yolette Toussaint Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41st A.D., Michael Benjamin Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D., David Shaeffer,

Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19th S.D. greeted everyone and provided information, programs, and upcoming community events.

NEW BUSINESS

Jonathan Marable, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Small Business Resource Network greeted everyone and shared information on their hybrid event on April 24th, which is about the process for getting a cannabis license.

Dr. Jackie Cody greeted everyone and informed the board that the governor has signed bills into law, stopping unnecessary foreclosures and deed thefts. There will be a city-wide event at The Boys and Girls High School this Saturday at 10 o'clock with Supreme Court Justices and attorneys. The New York State Education Department came up with a Mayoral control report about the city-wide leadership team. The next summit is May 14th. She asked what can be done when a block in CB 18 keeps getting denied for a speed bump. The community board spoke about getting more young people involved and someone asked about teaching young people how to vote. She would like to help teach young people about civic engagement. Chair Hopkins answered the question about speed bumps and explained about the DOT study and formula they follow. We are anticipating that DOT will be a guest speaker at one of our upcoming meetings as per a request from our board. There is a possibility it will not take place in June. A resident stated that June 11th, 12th, and 13th are holidays. Chair Hopkins stated that they will announce the June meeting date at the May meeting. A special Town Hall meeting is also being arranged with the DEP. There are so many issues with flooding, sink holes and homes that are sinking throughout Community Board 18 that this Town Hall is going to happen. We need 100% of you here to show DEP and we need them to take this seriously.

There being no further business or discussion, Board Member Violine Roberty made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Terri Cadet-Donald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 P.M.

End....