

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Cassandra Alvarez
Johnny Arcenteles
Felina Backer
Barbara Bieber
Roosevelt Boursiquot
Gardy Brazela
Andrenia Burgis
Eugene Burshtein
Jamaal Carryl
Donna Mae Crossfield
Paul Curiale
Marie Delus
Nigel Dupree
Maria Garrett
Joan Gilbert
Denise Gordon

Denise Gouridine
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.
Aryanna Holder
Kenny Jean Baptiste
Naomi Lehrer
Rob Mazzuchin
Omeil Morgan
Doodley Plaisival
David Price
Violeline Roberty
Michelle Sealey
Frank Seddio
Akis Sinesi
Julius Stukes
Maria Willis
Valerie Woodford

Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Dr. Jackie Cody
Jai Lewis
Nisa Millsaps-Graham
Hashim Muhammad-Graham
James Pascal
Tamara Maxwell
Nick Bocio
Shellyann Lovelace
Megan Jarvis
Andrina Jarvis
Christina Armieri
Laurian Farrell
Catherine Mallon
Hon. Mercedes Narcisse
Saye Joseph
Mark Partnow
Michael Benjamin
Barry Duane
Marilyn Vazquez
Edwin Vazquez
Josephine Politi Gambino
Anthony Williams
Andrew Zibell
Sandra Yearwood
Loretta Chin
Arthur Chin
Charlon Foster
Calvin Sennon
Donna Johnson
Hon. Monique Chandler-Waterman
Roshelle Nelson
Ramona Byas
Breanna Watson
Lisadine Cherubin

Area Resident
BKLA
Canarsie Lions
Canarsie Lions
Davita
Davita
Shake Shack
Shake Shack
Area Resident
Area Resident
Mill Basin Library
NYC DEP
NYC DEP
Council Member, 46th C.D.
Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, 46th C.D.
Area Resident
Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D.
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Arae Resident
Area Resident
Legacy Family Residence
Area Resident
Canarsie Courier
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Assembly Member, 58th A.D.
Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Tatyana Nurse | Area Resident |
| Rosalind Campbell | Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso |
| Yolette Toussaint | Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41 st A.D. |
| Sabrina Dieujuste | Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45 th C.D. |
| Keisha Sydney | Sesame Flyers |
| Renee Regnier | American Cancer Society |
| Franklin Benjamin | Area Resident |
| Tanisha Woolard | Prime623 |
| Michael Cannizzo | Nick's Lobster |
| Econzi Benjamin | Area Resident |
| Nigel Dupree | Breukelen Houses |
| Caula Matthew | Area Resident |
| Donald Cranston | Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59 A.D. |
| Elba O. Melendez | Area Resident |
| Guerda Victor | Area Resident |
| Ian Gaynor | Area Resident |
| Jennifer Bedeau | Area Resident |
| Linda Erdos | Area Resident |
| Marie Sagaille | Area Resident |
| Nancy Walby | Area Resident |
| Paul Medvetsky | Area Resident |
| Robert Tracey | Area Resident |
| Russell Pinsker | Area Resident |
| Zakiyyah Janan | Area Resident |
| Ann Tracey | Area Resident |
| Cateshia Ledee | Area Resident |
| Kim Bonaparte | Area Resident |
| Mitchell Partnow | Area Resident |
| Pietro Baio | Area Resident |
| Sheryl Boyce | Area Resident |
| Sylvia Whiteside | Area Resident |

7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

2nd Vice Chair Maria Garrett welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She informed the board that Chairperson Naomi Hopkins is out of the country. She introduced the Executive Board, Treasurer David Price, Secretary Barbara Bieber, and the staff, District Manager Sue Ann Partnow, Assistant District Manager Dorothy Paul, and Community Assistant Gail Fazio.

7:03 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Pro Tem Maria Garrett introduced Laurian Farrell, Deputy Commissioner of Coastal Resilience at the NYC Department of Environmental Protection who was also joined by the Chief Operating Officer Catherine Mallon. Laurian Farrell provided a presentation on the bureau's coastal protection projects that are at various stages of planning and construction and what this means for our community, this year's hurricane season and what you can do as residents of the community to be better prepared and stay safe. This bureau was created as part of a Plan NYC Initiative and brought under the DEP to increase coastal resiliency by protecting us from sea level rise, tidal flooding, and storm surge as we saw during Hurricane Sandy. DEP will be responsible for providing leadership, doing strategic planning, and maintaining and operating any of the new infrastructure that they will be building. New York City is a series of islands with 520 miles of coastline. One of the main mandates of this new bureau is planning and engineering and reviewing all the designs of the new planned infrastructure. They're focusing on hurricanes and flooding accompanied by high

winds. Since Hurricane Sandy, the city has received over \$15 billion of funding from the federal government and we've been working hard at designing and building. There are some simple actions that you can take to keep yourselves and your family safe and to protect your property. You should sign up for the alert system, learn your hurricane evacuation routes and have a go bag packed. Go to maps.nyc.gov/hurricane for more information on preparedness. The last item she addressed is Flood Insurance. Our risks are increasing with climate change, the goal for tonight is to bring heightened awareness and to give you some tools to help you prepare for a storm and its aftermath. She urged everyone to call 311 or DEP if they experience flooding or other issues and thanked everyone for their time. Chair Pro Tem Maria Garrett asked if any board members had any questions. Council Member Mercedes Narcisse suggested that the Power Point presentation be shared via email with all attendees. Council Member Narcisse stated that she recalls a valve that needed to be shut during Hurricane Sandy. Laurian Farrell explained that the backflow valves is a program within DEP, under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Water and Sewer. Board Members asked about a neighborhood hiring plan and if the DEP will also keep the waterways clean. Lauriann Farrell explained that this is a brand-new bureau that will need people to maintain and operate the systems and it's better if they're close by and living in the communities. She also explained that DEP in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Bureau of Wastewater Treatment monitor flood control as well as water quality. She also explained about tree pits and why they are necessary. She informed everyone that it is green infrastructure, which allows the rainwater to absorb into the ground faster.

7:28 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

7:31 P.M.

Chairperson Pro Tem Maria Garrett asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 30, 2024, and the Regular Board Meeting held on June 5, 2024. Board Member Aryanna Holder made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7:33 P.M.

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse greeted everyone and expressed disappointment that some members were absent. She explained that this is where we share knowledge about our community, and knowledge is power. She wants to see our community thrive and whatever she can do to make it happen she's here for everyone. She provided information on programs and services, community and health events, and backpack giveaways.

7:41 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Pro Tem Maria Garrett

On behalf of Chairperson Naomi Hopkins Maria Garrett read her report: She is deeply honored to serve as your chair for this new year. Unfortunately, circumstances prevent me and our 1st Vice Chair Greg Borruso from being with you today, but I want to express my full confidence in our 2nd Vice Chair, Maria Garrett, our Treasurer, David Price, Secretary, Barbara Bieber and our most amazing district team Sue Ann Partnow, Dorothy Paul and Gail Fazio. I'd also like to express my appreciation for all of you who take your service seriously, our residents who come out month after month, you make this community great. With the assistance of the dynamic Executive Board, we put together committees based on survey results. If you would like to be added to additional committees, please sign up tonight. We want to ensure that all members are on committees they WISH to be on. Beginning October all committees will meet monthly, so we want to ensure everyone is committed and inspired. Together, we're building something truly special rooted in collaboration, compassion, and shared vision. While I may not be at tonight's meeting physically, my spirit and dedication are with you all as you take on this first important meeting. I have no doubt that the year ahead holds great progress, and I trust in each of you to contribute your unique strengths to this journey.

Let's continue to foster an environment where everyone's voice matters and where challenges are met with creative solutions. Our collective communities have faced obstacles before and always emerged stronger—and I know this year will be no different. Here's to a year filled with growth, unity, and positive change for our community! With gratitude and faith, Chair Naomi Hopkins.

Chair Pro Tem Maria Garrett added that it makes a difference when we work together as a community. Last year we had a demonstration at 5601 Flatlands Avenue where a developer proposed to build a 7-story complex. Board Member and Flatlands Civic President Joan Gilbert led the parade, and we let our voices be heard. She was happy to see that standing up for the community worked and that they're putting another buffet on that site. The 7-story building was defeated. We must stick together as Council Member Mercedes Narcisse said earlier and we must work together to make our community one of the best.

7:51 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

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

WELCOME BACK FROM WHAT I HOPE WAS A RELAXING SUMMER

Bayview Family Day – Thank you President Sheryl Boyce & Elected Officials

Summer Concerts in the park- Thank you Assembly Member Jaime Williams

National Night out was a wash out but the 69th Pct. organized a smaller version 2 weeks later

Back to School/Health Fairs- Senators Roxanne Persaud & Kevin Parker, Assembly Members Jaime Williams & Monique Chandler-Waterman and Council Members Mercedes Narcisse & Farah Louis

Millennium & Congressman Hakeem Jeffries Senior Picnic & Millennium's Skate night-thank you Paul Curiale & staff and Senator Persaud's Senior Resource Day-thank you Senator and staff

Hatzolah Ambulance - Thank You to their Volunteers BBQ

BP Cabinet Meeting – NYC Sanitation was featured & listened to all DM's issues

9/11 Memorial Ceremony – A touching memorial-thank you Assembly Member Jaime Williams

Best of Brooklyn Winners – Ponce Bank & Schnepps Media Honoring Local Businesses

IN & AROUND CB 18

Parks Borough Commissioner Marty Maher Drive through to address issues in CB18

Property clean ups – Avenue N & E. 98th Street and the old PC Richards at Flatbush Ave., the site of the new Raising Cain Restaurant

NYC DDC & NYC DEP will be installing a tide gate chamber (water level sensors that help control the flow of water) on E. 108th Street and Avenue K.

Following the enactment of Sammy's Law, New York City will be reducing speed limits to 20 mph on individual streets and 10 mph on streets with additional traffic calming measures one of those streets is in CB18 (E. 96th Ave. D & Foster)

Filming in Canarsie over the Summer – The Godfather of Harlem Season 4

Beginning this Fall, the NYC DOT will be increasing parking rates at all NYC Municipal Parking garages and fields. The new rates will go into effect Oct. 1st

CB18 SEPTEMBER CABINET MEETING

DOT – Dining out sheds that sprang up during the Pandemic might be a thing of the past. NYC rules went

into effect Aug. 3rd for restaurant owners who must now pay a 4-year fee, and an annual fee based on the size of the structure. Eateries must also be able to store the sheds from Dec. – April. Establishments that don't comply face a \$500 fine. Please call 311 if a restaurant has an unused shed that has not been dismantled.

SANITATION – Manpower shortage, training taking place for additional workers

63rd PRECINCT – Tow operation taking place September 19th

BROOKDALE – ER renovation almost completed. June Health Fair a success

DDC – B82 SBS Construction-excavating on Kings Highway Ave. K & Flatbush, reconstruction of medians & work along Flatlands Ave from E. 57th St – E. 80th St.

Donald Cranston Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams – Back to school giveaways, Yoga in the Park, shredding and flu shots. Assembly Members Williams traveled to the Caribbean to help hurricane victims

Sabrina Dejuiste Representing Council Member Farah Louis – Back to school giveaways, senior concert in Amersfort Park and Turkey giveaways

NYC AGING – Senior talent finals being held at BAM on Sept. 19th

GOOD & WELFARE

Condolences to Council Member Narcisse on the passing of her father

Happy Birthday to Board Member Paul Curiale

The Jewish New Year is upon us, wishing all who celebrate a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful New Year.

As per Chairperson Hopkins, there will be some changes and some tweaking to the committee assignments that were sent out. You will receive the final copy by the beginning of October.

There is always correspondence from the Community Board office, so please check any emails that come from bk18.

7:58 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Paul Curiale, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

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

- NYC Boat Cruises Inc., Louisa of the Seas, 2094 East 68th Street – 11234

NEW AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT APPLICATIONS FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- NYC Boat Cruises Inc., Eternity (Amended – Louisa of the Seas), 2094 East 68th Street – 11234
- Carlie's Corner Corp, TBD (Amended - Name Correction), 1778 Ralph Avenue – 11234
- Doeuvre, LLC, TBD, 1775 Flatbush Avenue – 11210

NEW AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT APPLICATION FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- Peter's Restaurant Corp, NONE, 10013 Foster Avenue – 11236

CORPORATE CHANGE APPLICATION FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- Shake Shack New York LLC, Shake Shack, 5100 Kings Plaza Space 0165 – 11234

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

- Nick’s Lobsters Inc., Nick’s Lobster House, 2777 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- Calvin Sennon, Trini Jam BK Roti Bar & Grill, 9501 Flatlands Avenue – 11236
- Saigon Bar & Grill LLC, Saigon Grill & Bar, 4521-23 Avenue N – 11234
- Prime623 Restaurant and Bar, Prime623 Restaurant and Bar, 1566 Ralph Avenue – 11234

Co-Chair Jamaal Carryl stated that the board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, the 63rd and 69th Precincts about the SLA New, Renewal and Corporate Change Applications received from NYC Boat Cruises Inc., Louisa of the Seas, 2094 East 68th Street – 11234, NYC Boat Cruises Inc., Eternity (Amended – Louisa of the Seas), 2094 East 68th Street – 11234, Carlie’s Corner Corp, TBD (Amended - Name Correction), 1778 Ralph Avenue – 11234, Doeuvre, LLC, TBD, 1775 Flatbush Avenue – 11210, Peter’s Restaurant Corp, NONE, 10013 Foster Avenue – 11236, Shake Shack New York LLC, Shake Shack, 5100 Kings Plaza Space 0165 – 11234, Nick’s Lobsters Inc., Nick’s Lobster House, 2777 Flatbush Avenue – 11234, Calvin Sennon, Trini Jam BK Roti Bar & Grill, 9501 Flatlands Avenue – 11236, Saigon Bar & Grill LLC, Saigon Grill & Bar, 4521-23 Avenue N – 11234, Prime623 Restaurant and Bar, Prime623 Restaurant and Bar, 1566 Ralph Avenue – 11234. Co-Chair Carryl acknowledged the applicants and representatives who were present. Co-Chair Carryl stated that the SLA and Cannabis Committee met and no objections were received. He also stated that before we take comments, he wanted to just make one correction with the New York City Boat Cruises, although they are going to be doing a name change, we just wanted it to be stated for the record that they had come before the board previously and there were recommendations put in place that included restrictions on having any boat parties or any events that would be leaving or in the vicinity of where they’re parking the boats. Part of their application was simply to use the space to park their boats at which point they would take their boats out to the water to their actual location of business. We wanted it for the record that those restrictions do remain in place. This is strictly for the purpose of a name change. A Board Member questioned what a Corporate Change is. A representative from Shake Shack explained that there must be a name of an officer on their licenses across New York City. The founding CEO and COO moved on, and they appointed a new CEO and COO. They came to the Community Board to submit the SLA Corporate Change. Another Board Member questioned the application received from Louisa of the Seas since they were here a few months ago and now they came back after fixing something. Our concern was that the boat was going to load people on Flatbush Avenue, now the boat wants to operate here as a party boat. Co-Chair Carryl explained that they were applying for two boats, one on Flatbush Avenue and one on East 68th Street. The Flatbush Avenue application was voted down. This name change is strictly for East 68th Street where their boats are parked and the stipulation that no passengers can board at this location remains. There being no additional questions or comments Co-Chair Carryl asked for a motion. Board Member Rob Mazzuchin moved that the board approve the SLA New, Renewal and Corporate Change Applications received. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 27 Yes and 1 Abstention votes recorded.

8:15 P.M.

PARKS COMMITTEE – Violine Roberty, Chairperson

Here are some FREE activities in our parks to enjoy...

1. Capital Projects:

- Marine Park Oval construction is in phase 3, the last phase and is expected to be done November 2024.
- The JHS 278 playground is expected to begin construction Fall 2025
- No date on the final construction for Bildersee but the last bit of money needed \$3.2m has been allocated from Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse.
- Canarsie Park: - Several renovations for Canarsie Park-including the basketball court renovation which will be included in the Canarsie Park path reconstruction, awaiting a timeline. Phase 1 complete renovation of rear end cricket field, drainage, benches etc. and Phase 2 renovation near the baseball fields \$7M (\$4M from Councilmember Narcisse) and there is potential for a soccer field.

2. Major Clean up reported from Parks Dept:

Last Thursday there was a major clean-up at Fresh Creek Nature Preserve on Louisiana Ave.

which consisted of tree pruning, wood chipping and general cleaning.

3. Issues/mitigants:

- a. Amersfort Park – Some of the issues are dumping, and dogs without leashes – Mitigants: Increased signage and additional trash bins inside the park. CB18 will continue to fight alongside our elected officials on getting the fence repainted and prioritizing the fence as a capital project.
- b. There is an increased dumping at Sunners Playground, Council Member Louis' office will be working with Parks Enforcement and Sanitation to address these matters.

4. Events:

- a. Sept 21st 10 AM -12 PM - Canarsie Beach Clean Up
- b. Sept 21st 11AM - Greenway Bike Ride - Canarsie Park to Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center
- c. Sept 28th – Family Camping at Marine Park 6 PM - 7 AM – Location: Salt Marsh Nature Center in [Marine Park](#)

All fun activities and events happening at the parks are listed on their website. Sign up for Parks newsletter at www.nyc.gov/Parks.

Chair Pro Tem Maria Garrett said she received a phone call from Parks Brooklyn Borough Commissioner inviting her and Assembly Member Nikki Lucas to do a walk through to see the amazing clean-up job. If you see something going on in our parks, call 311 and notify CB18.

8: 26 P.M.

Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman greeted everyone and spoke about the shooting that took place at the Labor Day Parade. The Anti-Gun Violence Committee held a press conference to reintroduce what a mass shooting is and add in the word injured. Hopefully, mental health and other services will be provided in impacted neighborhoods. She also provided information on Daniel's Law, programs and services, and community events.

8:34 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaws Committee Chair Frank Seddio stated that there was a Bylaws Committee meeting held earlier today to discuss one change that they believe will be pertinent to the board and will be very helpful. Traditionally, Board Members were appointed in December and the election of officers was held in January. Currently Board Members are appointed in May. He made a motion to change the election process to allow for nominations to occur in May and the elections to be held in June so the new Board Members can participate and vote. One of the rules we have in place, is that you must be a Board Member for at least one year to run for the office of Chairperson, 1st Vice Chairperson, 2nd Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, or Secretary. This change will allow us to conform with the appointment process. He also included in his motion to extend the term of the current officers, which would normally end this December 31st to June 30th. Bylaws Committee Member Rob Mazzuchin seconded the motion. Bylaws Chair Frank Seddio stated that pursuant to our rules, we will vote on this at our next meeting. Board Member Frank Seddio went on to state how hard our community board staff works and how much we appreciate them. He proposed a salary increase of 3% for our District Manager, Assistant District Manager and Community Assistant effective on the evening of October 16th. Bylaws Chair Frank Seddio asked for a motion. Treasurer David Price made a motion that Community Board 18 increase the salary of the District Manager, Assistant District Manager and Community Assistant by 3% effective October 16, 2024. Board Member Grace Zwillenberg seconded the motion. Board Member Seddio also stated that our Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman spoke about the West Indian Day Parade. Some of you may know that he's one of the original founders in 1969 of the Parade. It's unfortunate this occurred, and it should not mar the event itself. It's a wonderful parade, and a great cultural experience.

8:37 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION

A Board Member requested that we have DEP at one of our meetings. There are issues with water and sewer bills that don't seem to match usage. DM Partnow has spoken to the DEP about these issues, and they asked that all information be sent to them, and they'll get somebody out there to check meters. DEP had a Town Hall meeting here and stated that it's quicker to address these issues separately instead of coming down.

Board Members and residents have issues with water bugs coming from the sewers. There have also been rats sited in Marine Park. Chair Pro Tem Maria Garrett suggested putting in complaints to 311 so they'll have a record. The more complaints to 311, the better. There was a question about buses parked and idling on Strickland Ave. D M Partnow responded that she'll alert the 63rd Pct.

Board Member Joan Gilbert informed the board that a couple weeks ago on East 56th Street and Flatlands Avenue there was a homicide. A woman was found brutally murdered in her house. She doesn't see the 63rd Precinct here but members asked her to find out if anyone was apprehended. District Manager Sue Ann Partnow informed her that next week at the John Malone Center at 7 PM is the 63rd Precinct Community Council Meeting where she can ask the captain and police officers present about the situation.

Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D., Sabrina Dieujuste Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45th C.D., and Rosalind Campbell, Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso greeted everyone and provided information on programs, and upcoming community events.

There being no further business or discussion, Board Member Valerie Woodford made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Violette Roberty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

End...