

Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn NY 11225
Minutes of the Land Use / ULURP Committee Meeting
January 12, 2021

Meeting Location

Zoom

Attendance

Committee Members Present:

Fred Baptiste, CB9 Chair
Warren Berke, CB9, Committee Vice Chairperson
Suwen Cheong, CB9
Nichola Cox, Resident Community Member
Esteban Giron, Resident Community Member
Nolan Levenson, CB9, Committee Recording Secretary
Patricia Moses, CB9, Committee Chairperson
Thomas J. Thomas, Resident Community Member
Richard Vilabrea Jr, Resident Community Member

Committee Members Absent:

Erin Clare Brown, CB9
John Craver, Resident Community Member

Guests:

Nicolas Almonor, CB9
Maxine Barnes
Julia Bryant
Maurice Cummings, NYC Councilwoman Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Tara FireBall
Kathryn Glass, Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Michael Hollingsworth
Faith Meixell
Janine Nicholas
Lorraine Thomas
Steven Thomson
Martina Victoria

Community Board Staff: Mia Hilton

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Moses at 7:07pm
 - a. Committee members and meeting attendees introduced themselves

2. Old Business
 - a. Court update for 40, 54 Crown St, and 931 Carroll St

- i. Alicia Boyd discussed updates on court cases. Said that judge decided that city did not sufficiently study impacts on water and sewer. Project is currently null and void
 - ii. Next court date is February 3, 2021
 - b. Court Update for 960 Franklin Av
 - i. Discussion of Mayor's announcement regarding the rezoning. Mayor does not support current proposal.
- 3. New Business
 - a. 960 Franklin
 - i. Esteban Giron asked what the next steps are in terms of the development. Will it still be certified?
 - ii. Fred Baptiste said that CB9 will reach out to DCP for clarification. CB9 currently has FOIL request for documentation on the project and will not withdraw the FOIL
 - iii. Katherine Glass (rep for Brooklyn Botanic Garden(BBG)) stated that BBG is engaged with 2 studies—environmental and urban planning—to review developer's proposal.
 - iv. Expressed concerns that development is still imminent, and a revision may be seen soon
 - b. Franklin Av Rezoning
 - i. Katherine Glass said that BBG supported 1991 Franklin Av rezoning and supports maintaining it without further rezoning. Emphasized, however, that BBG has limited capacity to lobby and bring lawsuits against the city since it occupies city-owned land and receives city funding.
 - c. Discussion of Int 2186-2020, bill introduced by city council related to comprehensive planning. Bill sponsors are councilmembers Corey D. Johnson, Antonio Reynoso, Brad S. Lander, Carlina Rivera , Vanessa L. Gibson, Ben Kallos, Rafael Salamanca, Jr., Justin L. Brannan, Stephen T. Levin, Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Keith Powers , Costa G. Constantinides, Helen K. Rosenthal
 - i. Suki Cheong discussed concerns about the text related to community engagement. Bill seems to state that community boards would be removed from ULURP process.
 - ii. Questions about impacts on zoning and neighborhood development
 - iii. Thomas said that while some elements of the bill, like comprehensive capital planning, are sound ideas, land use issues should remain localized.
 - iv. Wednesday 1/20 at 10 am is next city council government operations committee hearing. Esteban Giron will attend and report back
 - v. Committee discussed inviting professor Tom Angotti to speak at next Land Use meeting to provide an overview of the proposed bill.
- 4. Adjourn
 - a. Adjourns 8:06pm
 - b. Next meeting Feb 9, 2021