

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225
General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 25, 2022
7:00 PM

- 1. Call to Order/Introductions:** Chair Fred Baptiste, called meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
The meeting was held via Zoom at the link below:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aTVG48ZyTvaff1dq-KEgQg

The Chair, Fred Baptiste, welcomed with well wishes for a Happy New Year. He asked for a minute of silence for the the following:

- The two NYPD officer were killed in the line of duty
- The families who died or were displaced by the Bronx fire; and for
- The mother of Board Member Melanie Lewis

The Chair welcomed Councilwoman Crystal Hudson (District 35) to the meeting, she was accompanied by her staff members, Jeremy Lockett and Kristen Jeffries. Mr. Lockett is the Manager of Community Organizing and Advocacy, he will be joining the meeting of the Community board on a regular basis. He can be contacted by email at jlockett@council.nyc.gov Ms. Jeffries, the Director of Constituents Services and Community Engagement shared the following:

- The deadline for the Discretionary Fund was February 22, 2022. There were two workshops being offered on February 1st and 10th, 2022 (Information was to be sent to the District office for decimation in the district)
- District 35 was partnering with Senator Zellnor Myrie’s off to address the issues in the Crown Heights/Bed-Stuy on “Closing Fire Doors”, more information will be shared.
- The expiration of eviction moratorium (ERAP) will soon come to an end.
- Councilwoman Crystal Hudson is the Chair of the Committee on Aging.
- Contact Information for the 35th District: Email: district35@council.nyc.gov Tel: 718-260-919. Presently, the Office functions remotely, but once back in operation will be @ 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn temporarily. Information on the permanent space and the hours will be share when finalized. Information will be also available from the District Office.

The Chair issued an invitation to the Council woman and her staff to join the remainder of the meeting. The invitation was accepted.

The Chair informed the meeting that the Rules of Order for the meeting can be found on the Community board Website. <https://cbbrooklyn.cityofnewyork.us/cb9/>

The Chair invited the representatives of the Councilmembers Rita Joseph and Darlene Mealy to address the meeting:

- Tiaquan Coleman, Director of Constituents Service for Councilwoman Rita Joseph's office shared his contact info. Tel: 718-287-8762 (office) 929-496-6341 (cell) and email tcoleman@council.nyc.gov.
- Jack Plushnick of Councilwoman Darlene Mealy's office informed the meeting that information for the Councilwoman Discretionary Funding can be obtain from her office. Contact info: Tel: 718-953-3097 and email district41@council.nyc.gov . The Councilwoman chairs the Sub-Committee on Senior Centers and Food Insecurities.

2. Presentation:

- a. Rev. Lula Mea Phillips, RN, MED, MDiv, DMin, Community Engagement Research Manager of Weill Cornell Medicine presented on the Clinical and Transitional Science Center's (CTSC) free Health Educations sessions. The Center offers to the community programs such as:
 - i. Free health talks through our Community Interactive Videoconferencing known as CIVIC.
 - ii. Community Research Academy (CRA) a 13-week program introducing community members to clinical trials, research processes.
 - iii. Discussions on community health care the CTSC offers a free health fair to the community, known as the Heart- to- Heart.
 - iv. Fliers with all the information for the community's involvement in these and other programs are available at the District Office, as well as the Rev. Dr. Phillips full contact information.
 - v. Below is the link for the informational fliers:
[file:///D:/Community%20Board%209%20%20Brooklyn/2022/Cornell/NCE%20Brochure%20\(1\).pdf](file:///D:/Community%20Board%209%20%20Brooklyn/2022/Cornell/NCE%20Brochure%20(1).pdf)
<file:///D:/Community%20Board%209%20%20Brooklyn/2022/Cornell/H2H%20Flyer%20Pleasant%20Grove%202-26-22.pdf>
<file:///D:/Community%20Board%209%20%20Brooklyn/2022/Cornell/CIVIC%20Flyer%201.25.22%20Healthy%20Brain%20Aging.pdf>

****PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Exactly Thirty (30) Minutes Duration**

3. Acknowledgements

- a. **Borough President Antonio Reynoso**
 - i. BP Reynoso expressed his excitement to be in attendance as well as to be the Borough President.
 - ii. He vowed to make us proud as he has high expectation for community boards.

- iii. He will be calling on community board set the foundation on how the planning in the city should be done.
- iv. He will be working alongside the Community Board to set standards for the development of the community board where they will be able to do more when it comes to the outcomes of the community.
- v. Provide resources to the community boards from Education to Transportation and Land Use.
- vi. He thanked the board for its volunteerism and encouraged all to spread the love the Brooklyn way.
- vii. The Chair thanked the Borough President for joining the board for it first meeting for 2022.

4. Representatives and Agencies Representatives:

- a. Eli Slavin – Congresswoman Yvette Clarke’s Community Liaison. We office staff is working remotely, all telephones are being answered, tel: 718 287 1142. Address: 222 Lenox Road, between Lenox and Nostrand. His email: eli.slavin@mail.house.gov or www.Clarke.gov.house (website)
- b. Portia Edwards – District Director, NYS Senator Zellnor Myrie Office apologized for the absence of the Senator. Office has been open, but the staff is working remotely. The contact email: myrie@nysenate.gov. Legislative priorities being worked on are (1) PMPA Predatory Marketing Protection Act - to protect our children from unhealthy foods; Chisholm Chance Act- to establish a plan to address the severe maternal morbidity crisis in parts of the state; NYVRA – working through the criminal justice initiatives; and will be joining with Councilwoman Hudson’s office to do a Building walk through in the district. This information will be shared with the district office.
- c. Karen Crawford- Brooklyn DA’s office is at 350 Jay Street. Ms. Crawford brought greetings and welcoming words to all the newly elected official. The DA’s office is fully open. She can be contacted at 718 250-4877. Please share any issues that the community might have.
- d. Sarana Purcell – District Leader 43rd AD. Ms. Purcell introduced herself and her co-district leader Edu Hermelyn. She can be reached at sarana@bkdistrictleader.com . She hosted a Fireside Chat on Sunday January 30, 2022. As District Leaders their duties include appointing and working with judges, they will be hosting a few “Meet the Judges” Forum as well as NYC Speak, a survey she encouraged everyone to participate by filling it out at the link.
- e. Alicia Goodridge – Government and Community Relations at SUNY Downstate Hospital. She brought greeting from Dr. Riley and the administration at the hospital and the school. The SUNY Downstate Campus is now a Covid-19 Testing Site. There is a tent set up at 750 New York Ave in partnership with Quadant Biosciences, (the police parking lot) Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. It is a saliva based Covid test Registration is required as everything is offline, but they allow walk-ins. Emails will be shared with all the boards with the log in information for registration. With the December rebranding a lot of things will be different. Tel contact – 718-270-3866
- f. David Louis – Deputy Commissioner of the Community Affairs Unit in the Mayor’s Office – The Mayor has released the Blueprint to end Gun Violence –

highlight of the Plan is to provide more patrol officers on the street; the provision of more your opportunities to keep the youth off the streets; an anti-gun liaison at every agency across the City. He can be reached at dlouis2@cityhall.nyc.gov Tel 646-385-0293.

- g. Edu Hermelyn – District Leader 43rd AD – the district has been having several pop-up events, re: food and PPE distributions. One of the main roles of the District Leader is to introduce the community to the Democratic process, the Democratic party, the potential judiciary candidates for the June Primary.

BUSINESS SESSION:

1. Roll Call of Board Members

In the box, mark (X) if PRESENT; (A) if ABSENT; and (E) if EXCUSED			
Khyrie Alleyne	X	Menachem Margolin	X
Nicolas Almonor	X	Carmen Martinez	X
Stuart Balberg	X	Vivia Morgan	X
Fred P. Baptiste	X	Patricia Moses	X
Naomy Baptiste	X	Beverly Newsome	X
John Beckles Jr.	X	Yaakov (Yankee) Pearson	X
Rabbi Yaacov Behrman	X	Riel Peerbooms	X
Warren Berke	X	Amy Pinkerton	X
Augustine Blackwell	X	Unella Rhone-Perry	X
Suwen “Suki” Cheong	X	Dexter Roberts	A
Verleen Dozier	X	Felice Robertson	X
Rosemarie Evering	E	Mary Rollerson-Blackett	A
Tessa Hackett-Viera	X	Melissa Severe	X
Bishop Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales	X	Rashidah Siddiqui	X
Shloma Zalman Hecht	X	Rashida Sykes	A
Primo Lasana	X	Rabbi Chanina Sperlin	X
Mayna Legoute	X	Debbie Timothy	X
Francisca Leopold	X	Linda Watson-Lorde	X
Melanie Lewis	E	Evelyn Williams	X
Mattijs Limberger	X	Lorianne Wolseley	X
Christian Loubeau	X	Cheryl Wright	X

2. Approval of January 2022 Meeting Minutes

- i. Approved without any corrections recommended

3. Committee Chair Reports

- a. **Housing, Beverley Newsome** - There will be a few items being worked on in the future. The Chair encouraged the constituents of Community Board 9 to email on any housing issues. Housing Committee met for the month of January 2022; the minutes will be available very soon

- b. **Parks, Recreation and Culture, Nicholas Almonor** -The chair gave notice that the minutes of the committee can be found on the CB 9 Website. The committee will be sharing their plans for the coming year. The Chair issued an invitation for all to stop by the Committee meetings.
- c. **Environmental Protection: Christian Loubeau** - Follow up on two recommendations: (1) A letter to be sent to elected officials, Council members Crystal Hudson and Rita Joseph and the Office of the Borough President. To deal with the challenges of inconsistent trash collections and overflowing waste buckets and the increased population of rodents due to the high levels of construction in our district. There is also the concern of climate change as in the effects of hurricane Ida last summer, causing an anticipation in the continuation of similar extreme weather in the coming years. It is important that these issues be address now so that trash won't be caught in the caught basins leading to ponding and possible flooding in the district. The letter calls for a Pilot of Modernized Trash Collection Program, like the one that Council member Bacher is proposing in District 3 (Manhattan). DOT has announced a similar pilot for garbage corrals in commercial districts. We are asking that this pilot be introduces to this district including residential areas as well. In the letter there I also the call for enforcement of an alternate street side parking so the DSNY could run their brooms baskets and a replace or the old wire trash receptacles. The letter would be one that speak to a partnership with our elected officials to assist the improvement of sanitation issues in our district. In a separate but relatively nature part of the motion, which was passed earlier this month, there is the proposal to replace ten wire trash receptacles with more modern types, discussion centered around which would be replace and where they will be installed. The focus was on the entire district, as well as north and south of Empire Blvd. The final decision was for 10 receptacles for ten high traffic areas, five each for North and south of Empire Blvd. The cost of the ten modern trash receptacles would be under \$9,000.00. Finally the recommendation that the Environments Protection Committee has is two-fold, first, to send a letter to the two Council members, copied to the Brooklyn Borough President for the piloting of a modernized sanitation pick up in the district as well as more consistent pick, and the enforcement of alternate street side parking rules and secondly the recommendation will replace ten old school trash receptacles in high traffic areas.
- d. **Nomination, Mayna Legoute** - The Chair reported that the vacant position of the Executive Secretary was re-opened for nominations and election for the position will be held next month March 2022. Linda Watson-Lorde was nominated by Warren Berke and seconded by Khyrie Alleyne, all were in favor of the nomination, none were against and there were no abstentions. The nomination was closed on a motion by Francisca Leopold and seconded by Warren Berke.

4. District Office Report, Dante B. Arnwine

- a. The District Office is open to in-person visits by appointments.
- b. The District Service Cabinet had their February meeting.

- c. Template for the preparation of the Committee Meeting Minutes were sent to the Committee Secretaries.
- d. Comptroller Report was published in December 2021, it covered eighteen (18) District Offices. There were several items the needed to be addressed by Community Board 9. This report will be circulated to the Board before the next week.
- e. The Zoom license is expiring in February 2022. The cost for the renewal was \$2,500.00 and this amount needed to be authorized by the Community Board. Therefore, on a Motion moved by Michael Liburd and seconded by Beverly Newsome, the vote was Yes-all in favor; No- None; Abstention-None.
- f. From the District Manager’s report, the following was presented: (1) There was a question on when the in-person meetings will resume? There was small discussion on the possibility of having hybrid meetings, but the issues of security were the focus to be attended to foremost.

5. Chairman’s Report, Fred P. Baptiste

- a. *2021 Accomplishments:* (1) The success of the Grow NYC Crown Height Farmstand which was received well by the community and supported by the elected officials in the community. (2) The hiring of the District Manager (3) the commitment of the ULURP/Land Use committee on the projects in the district.
- b. *Cease and Desist:* Community members are encouraged to contact the Community Board with their concern, (2) The Housing Committee will be supplying the community with information and (3) the deadline for submission of the committee will be in June.
- c. *Board Membership:* Linda Watson-Lorde is the Interim Executive Secretary. At the February General Meeting there should be an election for the filling of the position. Linda Watson-Lorde’s name should be on the ballot, members are invited to nominate other persons.
- d. *By-Law Amendment:* Legislation on the holding of Zoom meetings was extended by the Governor. A vote was made for the Community Board to renew the Zoom account; All were in Favor, None Against and None Abstained.

6. Old Business

- a. None

7. New Business

- a. A question on the use of the website

8. Adjournment:

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved at 9:35, it unanimously accepted by all present.

Submitted by Linda Watson-Lorde
January 21, 2022