

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225
Parks, Recreation, and Culture Committee Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2023
Meeting ID: 890 274 71795

Attendance (Board Members): Nicolas Almonor, Community Chair; Courtenay Loiselle

Attendance (Community Residents): Brenda Pagan, Gloria Briggs, Julia Bryant, Naima Wood

Absent (Community Residents Members):

Absent (Board Members): Courtenay Loiselle, CB9

Guests: David Romeo (CB9), Jay Sorid (CB9), Khyrie Alleyne (CB9), Marlee Tavlin WCS Prospect Park Zoo, Melissa Severe (CB9), Theresa Westerdahl (CB9), Zlati Mochkin (CB9)

Agency Representatives: Marlee Tavlin, WCS Prospect Park Zoo

CB9 Staff: Khalid Jemmott, Community Associate

I. Call to Order

- Chair, Nicolas Almonor called the committee meeting to order at 7:15 pm

II. Roll Call

III. Motion to table May minutes; motion made by Community Resident Member Julia Bryant

IV. Public Commentary

- i. Julia Bryant informed that Congressmember Yvette Clarke proposed the batch approval of 5G towers overriding CB9's moratorium.

V. Parks and Cultural Institutions liaison reports

- a. Subcommittee report regarding BBG and community gardens- The BBG does not want to take on any new programs. They are willing to assist our community gardens including Maple Street Garden. The committee has made a connection with the International High School; continues to assist the Union Street community garden by including school-aged children in their programming; Erasmus High School wants assistance regarding starting a beekeeping program. Union Street Garden might be the location. Maple Street Garden received its requested grant from Councilperson Rita Joseph for \$350,000. Marlee will investigate connecting the students with the beehive at the WCS Zoo.
- b. The parks survey committee David and Nicolas reported that they met with Commissioner Maher regarding visiting all the parks in the district. David has created a baseline survey tool to assess the conditions of the parks and what needs to be done at each. There is a disconnect with some parks near schools.

- c. Theresa reported that there are many tree branches on the streets on Sullivan Street, they have become a hazard and no city agency has assisted. They have been there for 3-4 weeks. This needs to be addressed at the General board meeting.
- d. The Public Hearing regarding the amended presentation of the Reimagining the Vail by the Prospect Park Alliance is June 20, 2023, at 10 am at the Public Commission of Design at City Hall 3rd Floor. The Alliance asks that the CB9 Parks and Recreation Committee send a letter of support. The committee declined because the Alliance hasn't sent a letter showing their proposed changes.
- e. Marlee reported that WCS will actively meet with the community at various tabling events this summer. The zoo is holding a camp this summer. The zoo entrance on Lefferts is now open as well as the redesigned Lefferts House.
- f. Gloria reported that Eric Thomann is looking into getting a vendor's license for the Union Street gardens.

VI. Recap of CB9 Fair

- a. Discussion and resolutions of committee plans for CB9 Fair on June 3, 2023, The registration forms should be made available sooner; the location is wrong; should be closer to the inside of the district; no foot traffic McNair Park; Park is limited; so many competing events on that date 1st Sat of June; maybe in front of CB9 on Nostrand instead; flyers as an advertisement; advertisement committee for the fair; the date is set first weekend after Memorial Day. A subcommittee from all CB9 committees; Public Relations committee set up for the fair; include artists to display and sell their work; suggested location Girls and Boys field; include an Issues Townhall at the event; give away food.

VII. Old Business

- a. N/A

VIII. New Business

- a. Committees are asked to register to be reappointment to the committee
- b. Initiatives for next year were discussed
 - i. Arts and Music presentations in the parks
 - ii. Planters placed around the new park near Western Beef
 - iii. Marlee invited committee members to meet at WCS

IX. Adjournment

- a. Facilitator Nicolas Almonor adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.
- b. Minutes submitted by: Julia Bryant
- c. Minutes reviewed and approved by: Nicolas Almonor

