

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

March 14, 2024
Meeting ID: 893 3361 2630

Attendance (Board Members): Nicolas Almonor, Committee Chair; Courtenay Loiselle, Vice Chair, Celeste Chase

Attendance (Community Residents): Julia Bryant, Niama Wood, David Romeo, Gloria Briggs, Hana Valaseko

Absent (Board Members): Paul Pascale; Maria Acosta

Absent (Community Resident Members): John St. Bernard, David Walters, Brenda Pagan

Guests: Edison McPherson, Beekeeper and Laval Bryant-Quialy, Brooklyn Museum, Community Liaison

Agency Representatives: None

CB9 Staff: Khalid Jemmott, Community Associate

I. Call to Order

- Nicolas Almonor, Committee Chair called the committee meeting to order at 7:11pm

II. Presentation

- a. **Edison McPherson**, Beekeeping in Brooklyn Community Gardens.
 - i. He will return for additional information after a scheduled meeting with Union Street Garden as well as scheduling a meeting with the members of Maple Street Garden
- b. **Presentation Laval Bryant-Quigley**, Brooklyn Museum
 - i. Learning + Social Goals: In the next five years; August the museum's on Wheels will go into spaces where people don't usually come to the museum / green spaces or the public library; they will be addressing climate justice; going into Title I schools with: Brooklyn Acts Collaborate for Change; Black Girls Sew; Brooklyn BTFA; Red hawks; Arts & Resistance, OYE, Rooteo, to assist their fund-raising event
 - ii. **October 2024 Museums birthday bash**; Will launch the Museum on Wheels Unit
 - iii. **Upcoming Programs:** Weekend Art; We Speak Art; Art History Happy Hour and Scholarships
 - iv. Current Exhibits

1. **Call for Brooklyn Artist Exhibit deadline April 7, 2024**

- c. **Presentation: Councilmember Cystal Hudson, Mt. Prospect Park Skateboard Garden/Stadium**
 - i. rescheduled for April meeting
 - ii. A community townhall is scheduled for April 25, 2024, time, and location to be announced

III. Public Comment

- a. This section of the meeting was energetic, community members spoke for and against the proposed skate park
 - i. At one point there were 78 people on the Zoom.
 - 1. **Highlights:**
 - a. **Alicia Boyd:** a lot of community events take place in this park; Councilmember Hudson is trying to put 2 skateboard parks in our community;
 - b. **Steve Flack:** in favor of the skateboard park, Mt Prospect Park is a former reservoir, it is an amazing place.
 - c. **Kate Yatsko:** The skateboard park has been fast-tracked. It is not part of the community board review process, this is an Economic Development project, they don't bring them to the community.
 - d. **Diana M.:** A skateboard advocate. No one talked to us about the park, no information has been given.

IV. Roll Call

- a. Postponed until after the presentation a Quorum

V. Minutes

- a. Motions moved and seconded to accept both the January 2024 and February 2024 minutes

VI. Culture Liaisons

- a. **Prospect Park Alliance** – Courtenay Loiselle, Liaison reported that PPA is looking for funding and petitions on the Lake Shore improvement, we are referred to check their website.
- b. **Brooklyn Botanic Garden** - Julia Bryant, Liaison reported BBG. BBG is free for the winter months. Schedule for the Cherry bloom events is coming
- c. **Maple Street Garden** via email from Brenda Pagan: Regarding Maple Street Community Garden, upcoming events/activities
 - i. **Garden Planting Day** - Saturday, April 20, 10 am - 1 pm - seedlings will be transplanted into the raised garden beds
 - ii. **Annual Plant Swap** - Saturday, May 18, 11 am - 1 pm - anyone can bring plants to give and take a new plant or two home for free
 - iii. **Green Thumb Open Garden Day** - Saturday, June 1, 10 am - 1 pm
- d. **Prospect Park Zoo** – No report
- e. **Park Assessment Tool** – No updates

f. **Union Street Garden:** Gloria Briggs reported they are planning to meet with the beekeeper

VII. Old Business: Resource Fair will be on June 1. Activities need to be planned as well as asking Youth groups to participate. Borough wide Biannual Parks and Recreation Committee meeting needs a sub-committee.

a. Nicholas needs to coordinate with Councilmember Hudson when she is able to meet with the committee regarding the proposed skateboard garden/stadium

VIII. New Business

a. None

IX. Actions Items List

a. No action items

X. Adjournment

a. Motion to adjourn moved and seconded

i. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm

DRAFT Minutes sent to Mia Hilton. Nicolas Almonor and Brenda Pagan March 18, 2024

By Julia Bryant
Community Member