

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

January 11, 2024  
Meeting ID: 893 3360 2630

**Attendance (Board Members):** Nicolas Almonor, Committee Chair; Courtenay Loisel, C. Chase, Vice Chair, Celeste Chase

**Attendance (Community Residents):** Julia Bryant; Brenda Pagan; Niama Wood; David Romeo

**Absent (Board Members):** Paul Pascale; Maria Acosta,

**Absent (Community Resident Members):** John St. Bernard, Steven Shimamoto, Gloria Briggs, David Walters

**Guests:** Bill Elliston and Su Jen Roberts, Wildlife Conservation Society, Prospect Park Zoo

**Agency Representatives:** NYC DOT Joanne Kidder and Nicole Melendez

**CB9 Staff:** Khalid Jemmott, Community Associate

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- I. **Presentation** by NYC DOT Joanne Kidder and Nicole Melendez  
**Re: Hill Drive Rehabilitation in Prospect Park** – The presentation is on YouTube on the CB9 channel. Presentation and Questions followed. They will return for additional information as the project proceeds.
- II. **Call to Order**
  - Nicolas Almonor, Committee Chair called the committee meeting to order at 7:11pm
- III. **Roll Call** Postpone until after the presentation
- IV. **Minutes – Amendment** to the November 9, 2023, minutes, Courtenay Loisel’s absence was an excused absence. The change has been made. Motion to approve minutes moved and seconded
- V. **Public Comment:**
  - a. Please Vote no on the City of Yes text amendments from Julia Bryant
  - b. Niama Wood extended an invitation to the Dosey Gallery’s next show in February, and she thanked the members of the community and committee who attended the reopening in December.

## VI.

### Culture Liaisons:

- a. **Brooklyn Botanic Garden** - Julia Bryant, Liaison reported BBG nothing new to report the Lightscape has opened. If anyone encounters any issues BBG would love for them to reach out **Ethan Lustig-Elgrably at BBG** so he can address any concerns quickly. BBG is free for the winter months.
  - b. **Prospect Park Zoo** – Bill Elliston will be coming to report on this in the future, Nicolas discuss having him become a member of the committee. Bill Elliston explained that PPZ is trying to get electrical power up and they are still working on generators. The Zoo is still closed. They have no exact date for reopening. They are waiting for funding, but they want to extend their assistance to the community with staff and whatever. He would like to be part of the next Resource Fair and the Maple Street Garden events.
  - c. **Prospect Park Alliance** – Courtenay Loisselle reported that the Prospect Park Alliance meeting was at Medger Evers College. Their highlight was the City Budget and the parks they were able to keep their staffs from budget cuts.
  - d. **Wingate Park** – David Romero is still pending contacting Vivia Morgan regarding an update.
  - e. **Park Assessment Tool** (a Google document assessing CB9 parks and green spaces) – Nicolas Almonor reminded the committee to make updates.
  - f. **Brooklyn Museum-** Niama Wood, Liaison said she spoke with Laval Bryant at the museum and our Parks and Recreation committee have been invited to have a Special viewing of the Spike Lee and the Alicia Keys and Swizz Beats shows. The committee will meet on the morning of February 10<sup>th</sup> at the CB9 office on Nostrand Avenue and then meet at the museum to view the shows as a group.
  - g. **Old Business** none
- New Business** – Discussion on what to do with committee members who do not show up for meetings.

## IX. Actions Items List

- a. We recommend that the names of committee members who do not show up for meetings should be sent to the Executive Board for removal consideration
- b. Planification for 2023-2024:

1. Community Gardens: We can expect the same events as last year. The Garden opening events will be in or about in early Spring and the Harvest events will be in the Fall.
  2. A motion was made and seconded The Resource Fair should be moved to Carroll Street between Nostrand and Rodgers Avenues. The time: from 10 am to 2pm. Pending the Executive Board selecting the date. June 1<sup>st</sup> was suggested for this year Keeping in mind that 2023 was held on a Saturday, and it is not a convenient date of the week for some members of our community. We suggest that the event alternates weekend dates from year to year. [Weekend after Memorial Day]
  3. A motion was made and seconded to start a subcommittee for a Borough wide Conference regarding best practices for Parks, Recreation and Cultural committees. The conference to be held every two years.
- c. Our February 10, 2024, meeting will be held at 10 am at the Community Board office. Followed by a tour of the Brooklyn Museum with tickets for the committee members and a plus one. [**This will require the CB9 office to be open to the community on a Saturday**]
  - d. David Romeo will contact Vivia Morgan regarding the progress of Friends of Wingate Park.
  - e. **Adjourned**

Motion to adjourn moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

DRAFT Minutes sent to Nicolas Almonor and Brenda Pagan January 17, 2024

By Julia Bryant  
Community Member