

# Brooklyn Community Board 9 General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 - starting at 7:00 PM  
Middle School 61

400 Empire Boulevard (Corner of New York Avenue/Empire Boulevard)  
Brooklyn New York 11225  
Livestream – CB 9 YouTube

## **PUBLIC SESSION:**

### **1. Call to Order – Announce Rules of Order for the Meeting**

Fred Baptiste, Chairman of the Brooklyn Community Board 9, called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

### **2. Presentation.**

a) STAND Guidelines (Transportation Committee - Chair Ethan Norville)

### **3. Application to the New York State Liquor Authority:**

a) Pluto Lounge – 1130 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225;  
Application for a new Liquor, Wine, Beer, and Cider License and Temporary Retail Permit.

### **4. Application to the NYS Office of Cannabis Management**

a) Best NY Developments, LLC 560 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn New York 11225  
b) The Growing Tree – 693 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11225.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION: (30 minutes maximum)**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Elected Officials & NYC Agency Representatives**

*Eli Slavin* – Congresswoman Yvette Clarke office

*Bianca Stephenson* – BBP Office – Community Boards Coordinator

*Michael W. Nedwick* – Assemblyman Brian Cunningham’s Office

*Andre Robinson* – Councilwoman Crystal Hudson’s Office

*Paurcha Edwards* – State Senator Myrie’s Office

*Rosa Sanchez* - Councilwoman Darlene Mealy’s office District 41

*Arna lipkind* - IDDC

**BUSINESS SESSION:**

Fred Baptiste, Chair of Brooklyn Community Board 9, called the Business Session of the meeting to order with the Roll Call.

**1. Roll Call of Board Members**

		<b>X = Present</b>	<b>A=Absent</b>	<b>EXC= Excused</b>	
1	Abdul Mutakabbir, Abdul	A	26	Mayna Legoute	X
2	Nicolas Almonor	X	27	Yisroel Lehrer	A
3	Fred P. Baptiste	X	28	Francisca Leopold	X
4	Jenelle Bazil- Charles	A	29	Courtenay Loiselle	X
5	Rabbi Yaacov Behrman	X	30	Letwine Mavima	X
6	Alethea Best	A	31	Erin Mazursky	A
7	Augustine Blackwell	X	32	Jean Rene Mbeng Nguema	X
8	Catherine Buccello	X	33	Ethan Norville	X
9	Suwen "Suki" Cheong	X	34	Danzel Oduro	X
10	Kendall Christainsen	A	35	Yankee Pearson	A
11	Jolee Cobb	X	36	Vanessa Raptopoulos	X
12	Max Coen	A	37	Unella Rhone-Perry	X
13	Eve Chavi Cohen	X	38	Felice Robertson	X
14	Soul Creary	A	39	Binyomin Rosenberger	X
15	Max Roland Davidson	X	40	Dionne Saab	X
16	Candace Edwards	A	41	Melissa Sever	A
17	Brittany Ellington	A	42	Lillian Swain	X
18	Lisa Etienne	X	43	Bakary Tandia	X
19	Raphaela Godoy	A	44	Kristin Thomas-Barrington	X
20	Bishop Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales	X	45	Joshua Thomas-Serrano	X

21	Shaunya Hartley	X	46	Debbie Timothy	X
22	Rod Herbert	EX	47	Twyla Ware	A
23	Yosef Hershkop	A	48	Linda Watson-Lorde	X
24	Volney Joseph	X	49	Theresa Westerdahl	X
25	Ronisha LaBarrie	X	50	Lorianne Wolseley	A

**Totals: Present: 33 Absent: 16 Excused: 1**

**2. Approval of the APRIL 2024 General Board Meeting Minutes.**

On a motion made Ms. Westerdahl and accepted by all present, the minutes of the April 2024 meeting was tabled until the June 2024 meeting. This occurred on the declaration by Ms. Westerdahl that the minutes were not distributed in timely manner to the board members, which did not give the opportunity for reading and the acceptance by the board.

**3. Committee Chair Reports:**

Minutes and reports of the following committees were submitted by the Committee Chairs, and distributed to the Board Members.

*Nomination Committee*

*Transportation*

*Parks and Recreation*

*Economic Development*

*ULURP Land Use*

The Chair of the Nomination Committee – Ms. Debbie Timothy- gave the report of the upcoming elections as to who had been added to the slate to be elected to the Executive Board of CB 9(Brooklyn). It's as follows;

Mr. Fred Baptiste - Chairman

Ist Vice Chair - Ethan Norville

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair - Felice Robertson

Secretary – Linda watson-Lorde

Treasurer – Mayna Lagoute

Members-at-Large – (1) Nicholas Almonor (2) Binyomin Rosenberger (3)

Theresa Westdahl.

**4. District Office/ Administrative Report**

- NYCHA will reopen their waitlist for in Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program from Monday, June 3, 2024, to Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, midnight. (E-blast)
- Franklin (S) - MTA will be performing a project which will replace the bridge over St. Marks Avenue along the Franklin Avenue Shuttle (FAS). This project will initially require some weekend signaling work, followed by a one-month closure of the FAS between the Park Place and Franklin Avenue stations. MTA is performing

this project in the summer, when ridership on the FAS is much lower than the rest of the year.

Phase 1: Weekends of June 15-16, June 22-23, June 29-30 and July 6-7: FAS service suspended and replaced by a fare-free shuttle bus, serving all four FAS stations. (E-blast)

- In accordance to Local Law 72, the board office received notice that during pre-construction activities for the Combined Sewer and Water Main Replacement on President Street between Kingston and Albany Avenues in Brooklyn, they conducted soil sampling pursuant to the regular agency protocol. During testing of seven soil samples, one sample was found to contain hazardous levels of lead exceeding USEPA standards. This soil is only harmful if ingested, and is located underground. Follow up with updates from the agency.
- The New York City Department of Sanitation (“DSNY” or “the Department”) is proposing to amend its rules to set forth additional reporting requirements deemed necessary to further the goals of Title 16-B (Commercial Waste Zones) of the New York City Administrative Code. Establishing new safety standards for workers in the commercial carting industry. When and where is the hearing? DSNY will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule. The public hearing will take place via Microsoft Teams at 9:30 AM on June 10, 2024 using the following link: The deadline for submitting written comments is June 10, 2024 at 5:00 PM.
- The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (“the Department”) is proposing to add a new Chapter 39 (Added Sugar Warning) to Title 24 of the Rules of the City of New York, requiring food service establishments to warn consumers about menu items containing high amounts of added sugar. While the Department invites comment regarding the entire proposal, the Department is particularly seeking comments on the health outcomes included in the proposed warning statement: “Eating too many added sugars can contribute to type 2 diabetes and weight gain”. Public Hearing is virtual and will be held Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10AM on Webex. Email [ResolutionComments@health.nyc.gov](mailto:ResolutionComments@health.nyc.gov) by May 23, 2024
- The New York City Department of Transportation Art Program (NYC DOT Art) oversees the installation of public artworks on NYC DOT property throughout New York City in partnership with a diverse body of professional artists, galleries, business improvement districts and arts, community-based and other nonprofit organizations. Application deadline: Sunday, June 30, 2024. If you have any questions about program tracks or applications we encourage you to reach out to [arts@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:arts@dot.nyc.gov).
- New York City Rent Guidelines Board is proposing rent guidelines for October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. Send comments via email to [ask@rgb.nyc.gov](mailto:ask@rgb.nyc.gov). Apartment leases and loft increase periods during the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 and rent stabilized hotel units will be affected. Public Hearing will be held in Founder Auditorium at Medgar Evers College (1650 Bedford Ave) on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 5PM to 8PM. View PH virtually via Rent Guidelines Board YouTube page.
- The NYC Health Department has put together a cannabis-focused survey, which will be administered by our epidemiology team to participants in the NYC Health Panel in September 2024. The Health Department is interested in recruiting approximately 20 community members to undergo "cognitive testing" of the survey (i.e., read through

the survey in a focus group of 5-6 individuals and provide feedback regarding readability).

- On 5/1/2024 at 5:58 p.m. a structural fire occurred at 156 Midwood St., a 3-Story occupied private dwelling. The fire was located on the 2nd floor. There were no reported civilian injuries and the fire was placed under control at 6:45 p.m.
- CB9 Community Fair is coming up on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Dr. Ronald McNair Park.
- June calendar – amended
- Sign up for our weekly e-blast

## 5. Chair's Report

The Chair highlighted the following:

- Upcoming events surrounding the City of YES – a hearing was set for the coming Thursday and he encouraged members to attend and to speak on the it, as well as ask questions.
- CB9 Community Fair set for June 1, 2024 at Ronald NcNair Park and Eastern Parkway (next to the Brooklyn Museum).
- Land Use application for 962 Franklin Avenue – members were encouraged to attend the Committee meetings.
- Possibility of changes in the June meetings date, information would be share on this.
- CB9 Office has developed the OCM application for our district and would be doing same with the SLA's.
- The 2024-2026 committees would be selected ASAP.
- Members were reminded to sign up for the CB9 E-blast
- In welcoming the new board members, the Chair reminded them that they are ambassadors for the CB 9 board. To reach out if they are questions, as they will be an orientation session very soon in the future and to please share their email addresses with the District Office.
- The By-laws amendment was just that, no changes to the original documentation, but rather a clarification to the office of Members-at-Large, adding the number 2 (as in two Members- at-large)

## 6. Voting Items

- a. By-law Amendment: This item was pass by a unanimous majority.
- b. STAND: The resolution was defeated on a vote of 11(eleven); YES; 10 (ten); NO, and 12 (twelve) Abstentions

- c. SLA Application: *Pluto Lounge*: The application accepted on a majority vote, with two (2) against and one (1) abstention.
- d. OCM Application: *Best NY Development LLC*; The Application was accepted on a majority vote with three (3) against.

7. New Business: None.

8. Adjournment.

Fred Baptiste, Chair of Brooklyn Community Board 9, adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

**Linda Watson-Lorde**  
**Executive Secretary CB 9**  
**May 2024**