



**Eric Adams**  
Borough President

# THE CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD 12

5910 13th Avenue  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219  
Phone: (718) 851-0800 • Fax: (718) 851-4140  
Email: [bk12@CommunityBoard.nyc.gov](mailto:bk12@CommunityBoard.nyc.gov)

**Yidel Perlstein**  
Chairperson



**Barry Spitzer**  
District Manager

## COMMUNITY BOARD 12 OCTOBER MINUTES

HELD ON  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021

VIA ZOOM

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

ADAM COHEN  
ALAN DUBROW  
ANNA CALI  
AVROHOM WOLFSON  
BENJAMIN THEODORE  
CHESKY BLAU  
DAVID FRIEDLANDER  
DAVID SHLOMOVICH  
EDGAR GLUCK  
ELLIE KASTEL  
JACOB ASKAL  
JACOB EISDORFER  
JACQUE FRIEDMAN  
JEFFREY DWECK  
JOHN TALMADGE  
LILY MARINELLI  
MARIA ARETTINES  
MIRIAM HERSKO  
MORRIS SENDEROVICH  
NAFTALI TESSLER  
PETER REBENWURZEL  
ROCHELLE ZAMI  
SAM STOBBER  
SHARON FUCHS  
SHLOMIE RIEGER  
SOL WAHBA  
YAAKOV KAPLAN  
YAAKOV SCHAPIRO  
YERUCHIM SILBER  
YIDEL PERLSTEIN  
YITZCHOK MOSKOWITS  
YONAH MOSES

**COMMUNITY RESIDENTS**

APPROXIMATELY 36 RESIDENTS PRESENT

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

AAMAH KHAN  
AVI GREENSTEIN  
AYESHA RAHIM  
BERNARD FREILICH  
DOUGLAS JABLON  
JACOB HASS  
JOSEPH GROSS  
JULES FLEISCHER  
LARRY JASON  
MAMNUNUL HAQ  
MORDECHAI KATZ  
MONIQUE WALLACE  
MORTON PUPKO  
SAHIBZADA AHMAD SHABIR  
YECHIEL MALIK  
YITZCHOK ITZKOWITZ

**STAFF PRESENT**

BARRY SPITZER – DISTRICT MANAGER  
GITTEL FEKETE- COMMUNITY  
COORDINATOR  
ANN MARIE HONAN- COMMUNITY  
ASSISTANT

**ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES**

COUNCILMAN KALMAN YEGER  
ORLANDO ROSS, REP. CW YVETTE CLARKE  
PINNY RINGEL REP. MAYOR DE BLASIO  
PINNY HIKIND, REP. COM. STRINGER  
SHARON FUCHS, REP. SENATOR FELDER  
SOL REIGER, REP. AM. EICHENSTEIN  
DSNY RICHARD DAY

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

## **ATTENDANCE:**

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

- September Minutes were adopted.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

### **Chairman Yidel Perlstein**

- He wished a Mazel Tov to District Manager Barry Spitzer on the marriage of his son.
- The thanked the NYPD Commissioner Shea and the NYPD for working so quickly to catch the woman who lit a fire in front of the Yeshiva of Flatbush. Thank you to Governor Hochul for quickly putting the full support of the hate crimes task force. The crime was committed on October 14<sup>th</sup> and she was caught on October 16<sup>th</sup>, which is incredible.
- Daylight Savings time ends November 7<sup>th</sup> and the clocks are turned back one hour. Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.
- The next board meeting will be Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Don't forget to go out and vote on Tuesday, November 2nd. For those in the area, CB12 is a polling site.
- Early voting is available through Sunday October 31. Early vote polling sites are not necessarily the same as Election Day voting sites. And the hours are different every day.
- Don't forget to vote on the 5 ballot items on the back. Councilmember Yeger will address these items later on in the meeting.

## **PUBLIC SESSION:**

### **Orlando Ross- Rep. Congressmember Yvette Clarke**

- He reported that the congresswoman is fighting hard on behalf of her constituents. She just completed a presentation to constituents on the Build Back Better plan. She will also vote for the Infrastructure bill, and is hopeful both bills will pass.
- The Congress Member advocated on the house floor for housing as a human right.
- Mr. Ross advised he is available at the congressional office at 718-287-1142. The office can assist with passports, immigrations SSA, SBA and anything at the federal level.
- He encouraged everyone to go out and vote.

### **Mordche Teitelbaum- Hamaspik Director of Community Enrollment**

- Mr. Teitelbaum introduced himself as the Director of Community Enrollment at Hamaspik Medicare Select. There are a variety of plans. Three is a dual plan for people who have Medicare and Medicaid. They have long term plans and supplemental benefits package. Medicare Select is a plan for the community by people from the community. Hamaspik is not new to this community and now they have a Medicare plan that caters to the needs of our seniors. The intake representatives and care managers are from the community and treat members with respect.

## **DSNY PRESENTATION ON CURBSIDE COMPOSTING – RICHARD DAY**

- Mr. Day advised that the curbside composting program would be coming back and DSNY already started collection this month. Anyone who wants to participate, can by calling 311 or going to [nyc.gov/curbsidecomposting](http://nyc.gov/curbsidecomposting). DSNY will only go to an area when there are enough residents that signed up for composting to make collection efficient. Organic waste represents about 1/3 of waste. Composting reduces landfills and promotes climate friendly initiatives. Anyone who receives DSNY collection can participate. Participants will be supplied with the brown rodent proof bins. Participants can line their bins with bags, but they don't have to. The actual bin needs to be put at the curb, not just the bag.

- Residents can compost even before their area is eligible for compost. Until a location has organic waste pickup, residents can dispose of their organic waste at designated sites. To find a site near you go to [nyc.gov/dropfoodscraps](http://nyc.gov/dropfoodscraps).
- DSNY will do leaf collections this fall as well. Residents should set their leaves out after 4 pm on either Saturday, Nov. 20 or Saturday, December 4.

**Councilman Yeger** asked Mr. Day to clarify if the organics would be collected by a separate truck on an additional route that would increase the volume of trucks in the area. **Mr. Day** clarified that it would most likely require an additional truck.

## **BUDGET REPORT**

- Before highlighting the items that are of interest she gave a very brief rundown of the community board's role in the city budget to address some of the questions we got. Per the city charter, Community boards must submit an annual report to highlight needs within a district. As the most local form of government that gets the everyday complaints, the community board can advise the city as to what needs attention. This is an advisory role. Community Boards don't have funding to allocate. But this is a way of putting areas of concern on the record so it must be at least acknowledged by OMB.

If there is anyone with an idea of something that might be a good idea to include, they should notify the office by Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Some things of note in the budget this year:

### **Capital Requests:**

1. Like every year we asked for a traffic light at Ocean Parkway and Ave K. to help with speeding and donuts.
2. We asked PARKS for a mini packer for Ocean Parkway. This request is in response to the feedback we get from the residents. When we spoke to PARKS to find out why the garbage in the baskets aren't getting collected- they said it's because their mini packer for this area is broken and they can only service when they can get a truck from another area. Obviously this is a problem that directly impacts the quality of life of all along Ocean Parkway, which is why we are requesting this. We will keep the board informed on how this request is received.

### **Expense Requests:**

1. We asked for NYPD enforcement of mopeds and other electric bikes that use the sidewalk. There have been too many accidents and we want to be safe on our streets.
2. We also asked NYPD for increased resources to remove vehicles that don't belong on our streets. We have too many trucks along Washington Cemetery. And abandoned cars with invalid out of state plates. Parking is hard enough as is and these vehicles take up spots we need.
3. We asked Sanitation to increase enforcement for dumping. The fine for dumping starts at \$4,000 but we haven't heard of such a fine ever being issued. Maybe if they were enforcing this law it wouldn't be such a problem.
4. We asked DEP to find out why 17<sup>th</sup> Ave and 60<sup>th</sup> Street floods with every rain. If there are other problematic intersections please let us know by Thursday of this week so we can include it in the budget requests.

- The motion to approve the district needs submission will include a stipulation that items will be added from feedback we get from residents.
- There were no questions so **Chairman Yidel Perlstein** made a motion to approve the budget as stipulated.
- Naftali Tessler Seconded.
- Motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

### **Community Coordinator Gittel Fekete on behalf of District Manager Barry Spitzer**

- She wished a Mazal Tov to Mr. Spitzer on his beautiful Simcha.
- As was mentioned at the June board meeting, and as Sam Stober mentioned at the September board meeting- there is currently an amnesty program in place until mid-December. OATH amnesty program. Go to [nyc.gov/mysummons](http://nyc.gov/mysummons) and when you search your summons it will tell you if you are eligible and how to proceed. Anyone with questions can call our office.
- The Emergency Rental Assistance program to help those who fell behind their rent is still available. An additional aspect of the program, LRAP (Landlord Rental Assistance Program) launched on Oct. 8 and the first 45 days landlords whose buildings have 20 units or fewer will be prioritized  
For more information on both of these programs call 844-NY1RENT (844-691-7368) or visit [nysrenthelp.otda.ny.gov](http://nysrenthelp.otda.ny.gov)
- Anyone denied assistance through the ERAP program can apply for a one-shot-deal through HRA. Confirmation of ERAP denial is required.
- HEAP applications are open. HRA representatives will be located at the Boro Park Jewish Community Council at 1310 46<sup>th</sup> Street (Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am – 5 pm).
- Leaf collection will take place this fall will be. Set out your leaves for collection after 4:00pm on November 20<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES:**

### **Councilman Kalman Yeger**

- He wished the District Manager Mazel Tov and commented on how beautiful the chasuna was. He remarked that while Mr. Spitzer wasn't physically present at the meeting, he was participating by phone.
- The councilman remarked on the budget priorities. He's had extensive conversations with the district manager and with the community board staff over the previous days and weeks regarding the budget. CB12 has been shortchanged for a long time. These priorities are a shot at getting what the district needs when the new mayoral administration takes office. It is a record of needs for the district.
- He highlighted some tweets by incoming city council for 38<sup>th</sup> council district, Alexa Aviles. She lent support to the community board's position on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave safety improvement project. The essence of the tweets was her concern with the lack of DOT partnership with the community. The councilman said he was looking forward to working with her.
- He followed up on the budget request regarding commercial vehicles parking in residential areas and also mentioned in the district managers report. The 66 precinct and the Borough Command in Brooklyn South did extensive ticketing and towing, specifically alongside the cemetery is where this situation is really problematic. Commercial vehicles are not allowed on city streets after 10 pm. If anyone observes a commercial vehicle parked on the streets after 10 they should call 311. Having these calls on record helps us demonstrate that this is a problem, even if doesn't necessarily help get the problem resolved at the time of the call.
- The councilman urged all to vote on Election Day, November 2. There is no politicking at the board meeting as the community board is a government body, so the councilman would not advocate for any particular vote, but the councilman was asked to explain the 5 ballot measures up for a vote on Election Day. All 5 initiatives would amend the state constitution. The measures were put on the ballot by the legislature, which is currently all controlled by one party. So this one party authorship may concern anyone who believes in two party rule that these were selected by only one party's participation. The councilman recounted how his father advised him that if he doesn't know how to vote for something, he should vote no, because if the government has to come to you for permission it must be a good reason why it doesn't already have permission to do. While the councilman wouldn't advocate one way or another, his views would be apparent.

He said he is very proud that 2 years ago his council district and the local assembly district is the only one in the city that voted no on all 5 measures.

1. The first proposal would make changes to the redistricting process in New York. This would be the second time in six years that the state legislature is tinkering with redistricting, but this particular time it is being done in the middle of the redistricting process, which can seem suspicious. Next year is redistricting year.
2. The second proposal would enshrine in the constitution a right to clean air, water and a healthful environment. Demanding a right implies that the right didn't exist previously. The councilman said he doesn't believe there isn't currently a right to clean air and water. The idea that it is necessary to amend the constitution to add a right that isn't denied may not be worthy of changing a sacred document like the constitution.
3. The third proposal would allow for registration on the same day as voting. This would mean that anyone can register and vote on the same day whether they are already registered someplace else. It would allow anyone to walk into any poll site, register, and cast their ballot.
4. The fourth proposal would allow for no excuse absentee voting. This idea may be very attractive to some people because over the last two years people got used to getting ballots by mail, filling it out, signing and sending it in. This proposal would allow for such voting without any excuse needed for it. But the governor can always allow absentee voting. This is available without an amendment to the constitution.
5. The fifth proposal seems relatively innocuous it would raise the monetary limits of cases the civil court can hear from \$25,000 to \$50,000. If this proposal passes then all cases under \$50,000 can be moved from the Supreme Court to civil court. But there is no provision in the proposal to add any judges to the civil court, so this would increase the caseload of the civil court without increasing ability.

The right to vote is a sacred right. The councilman considers it an obligation and hasn't missed an election since his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Choosing your own government is a privilege that many of our forefathers didn't have. People look to see if we show up. If we don't then there's no need to pay attention to our community.

**Pinny Ringel, representing Mayor Bill deBlasio.**

- Mr. Ringel wished a Mazal Tov to the district manager on his son's chasuna and to Mr. Hikind on the bris of his grandson.

**Pinny Hikind, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer.**

- Mr. Hikind congratulated the district manager and wished him nachas.

**Sharon Fuchs, representing Senator Simcha Felder.**

- She wished Mazel tov to all who made simchas.

**Sol Reiger, representing Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein.**

**OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:**

**No old business.**

**No new business.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

Respectfully submitted by: Gittel Fekete