



Antonio Reynoso
Borough President

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 12**

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Yidel Perlstein
Chairperson



Barry Spitzer
District Manager

**COMMUNITY BOARD 12
NOVEMBER MINUTES**

**HELD ON
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 22, 2022**

**VIA ZOOM
& IN-PERSON
AT AMICO SENIOR CENTER
5901 13TH AVE. 3RD FLOOR
BROOKLYN, NY 11219**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

AAMAH KHAN
ALAN DUBROW
ALEXI SHALOM
AVROHOM WOLFSON
BENJAMIN THEODORE
BERNARD FREILICH
BETH SLEPIAN
CHESKY BLAU
DAVID FRIEDLANDER
EDGAR GLUCK
ELLIE KASTEL
JACOB ASKAL
JACOB HASS
JACQUE FRIEDMAN
JEFFREY DWECK
JOHN TALMADGE
JOSEPH GROSS
JUDITH OJO-DIAZ
JULES FLEISCHER
MARIA ARETTINES
MORRIS SENDEROVICH
NICK BERGHALL
PETER REBENWURZEL
SAM STOBER
SHARON FUCHS
SHLOMIE RIEGER
SOL WAHBA
WIL FISHER
YAAKOV KAPLAN
YERUCHIM SILBER
YONAH MOSES

STAFF PRESENT

BARRY SPITZER – DISTRICT MANAGER
GITTEL FEKETE – COMMUNITY
COORDINATOR

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ADAM COHEN
ANNA CALI
AVI GREENSTEIN
DAVID SHLOMOVICH
DOUGLAS JABLON
LOUIE LIE
MAMNUNUL HAQ
MIRIAM HERSKO
MORDECHAI KATZ
NAFTALI TESSLER
ROCHELLE ZAMI
ROMINA FERNANDEZ
SAHIBZADA AHMAD SHABIR
YAAKOV SCHAPIRO
YECHIEL MALIK
YIDEL PERLSTEIN
YITZCHOK MOSKOWITS

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES

ANASTASIA YASAKOVA, REP. MAYOR ERIC
ADAMS
JACOB EISDORFER, REP. BP ANTONIO
REYNOSO
PINNY HIKIND, REP. COMPTROLLER BRAD
LANDER
SHARON FUCHS, REP. SEN. SIMCHA FELDER
SOL REIGER, REP. AM. EICHENSTEIN
KEN LAZAR, REP. NYS DEP. OF BUILDINGS
RAZIQ SEABROOK, REP. NATIONAL GRID
NAILA ROSARIO, REP. BROOKLYN PUBLIC
LIBRARY

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

APPROXIMATELY 30 RESIDENTS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

ADOPTION OF OCTOBER MINUTES

The October minutes were adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS –YAKOV KAPLAN

Vice Chairman, Mr. Kaplan, filling in for the Chairman shared some updates:

- I'm sure you all heard about the credible threat the FBI investigated in New Jersey two weeks ago. Though that threat was not directed at NYC, the Mayor held a meeting with top NYPD brass, the Joint Terrorism Task force, and over 300 community leaders to explain the precautions they are taking to keep NYC safe. Though the alert was for New Jersey, NYC took this threat seriously, as NYC has the largest Jewish communities anywhere in the United States. They also took this threat seriously in light of the horrifying increase in anti-Semitic trends nationwide.
- Unfortunately, this past Friday we did have a threat against us here in NYC. Two would-be terrorists were caught at Penn Station in Manhattan, thankfully before carrying out their plans. The police department notified Chairman Perlstein on Friday night about the threat.
- Thank you to the Mayor and to NYPD for taking this seriously. Thank you Inspector Richie Taylor for reaching out to local organizations and spreading the word to make sure that we are all on high alert.

The Mayor held a press conference on Monday with NYPD brass and Jewish leaders to talk about the threats.

It is incumbent on everybody to do what they can to help decrease the amount of anti-Semitism, and hate in general, that's permeating our society. Be it through talking to people, reaching out to diverse groups or through educating the ignorant among us. Most importantly, if you see something, say something. If you see something on social media that doesn't look right, please report it to the authorities.

- A special shout out to Shomrim for assisting NYPD with traffic control near FDR high school for a fire drill. And thank you to Councilman Yeger for coordinating it.
- I just want to say how incredibly proud I am of our voter turnout this last election cycle. I hope we will keep it up.
- On a sadder note, I want to extend my condolences and that of the entire board to Senator Simcha Felder on the loss of his mother.
- Congratulations to our long-serving Sergeant of Community Affairs, Ralph Postiglione, on his promotion to Lieutenant. As is protocol after a promotion, he was transferred out of the 66th Precinct. We thank him for all he did while he was here and wish him well in his new post. We invited Sergeant Postiglione to the meeting in order to say a proper goodbye but, unfortunately his schedule didn't allow him to make it. We hope to have him at a future meeting. We would like to welcome Sergeant Chan to community affairs and we are looking forward to working with him.
- All members whose terms are expiring this March should have received an email from the Borough President with a link to the renewal application. If you haven't received it or have questions regarding the application, feel free to reach out to the office for help.
- I would like to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy Holiday season.
- The next board meeting will be Tuesday, December 27.

PUBLIC HEARING

Shannon Althin- Resident

Ms. Althin asked for information on a new construction to be built at 722 Church Ave. The proposal is for a 68,000 structure. She was advised by a local businessman that this already passed the board. She has concerns if will impact traffic.

Molly Wiathan- Resident

Ms. Wiathan has the same concern as her neighbor about the building that is proposed to be started. The intersection is already littered with trash. There's a car wash there and there is lots of honking. Having a large construction site, for an 8 story building, is daunting. She wanted to know whatever community processes had already occurred. She also wanted to know what will be done in terms of trash mitigation and safety. The area is already littered and the intersection is unsafe to cross as it is, adding such a huge project will make it worse.

Sheila Bock- Resident

Ms. Bock requested of board members that they attend meetings in person to give the community an opportunity to meet them.

Ms. Bock is a member of the organization National Education Alliance for Borderline Personality Disorder.

Mr. Hochshander-Resident

Mr. Hochshander came to discuss school buses parking on residential streets. He is grateful for the work Mr. Spitzer, Gittel and Dov Cohen have done on this. But the gist is that the police won't ticket during the day, only at night.

BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY, Boro Park Library Renovations-Presented by: Naila Rosario from the Brooklyn Public Library and Scape Landscape Architecture DPC.

- The Brooklyn Public library presented a plan to renovate the outdoor space at the Mapleton Library.

Jacob Hass- Board Member- wanted to know if the specific makeup of the library would be tailored with the community in mind.

Naila Rosario- BPL said they are open to hearing about what the community wants and have books funded by Assemblyman Eichenstein and have Sunday hours to accommodate the community and she is happy to talk more about it.

NATIONAL GRID - NY's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), Presented by Raziq Seabrook

- As New York State approaches the latter stages of deciding how we will collectively reach the clean energy targets outlined in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), National Grid provided an update on (i) where the state is in its process and (ii) what National Grid is doing to ensure a fossil free future.
- National Grid is focused on solutions specifically oriented toward 4 aspects. Methodology, incorporating tech solutions. Feasibility, making sure older NYC buildings also move into carbon neutral solutions. Reliability, moving to exclusively electricity is concerning as it depends on only one method. And Affordability.

Barry Spitzer- District Manager- Thanked Raziq for his assistance in saving the day with a constituent who was without gas.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Delivered by District Manager Barry Spitzer

- The District Manager thanked the NYPD for their towing operation along 61st Street, Bay Parkway and 21st Avenue. This towing was a joint operation with DSNY, they are cleaning up around there. If you follow NYPD 66 pct. on twitter, you will see that they towed a whole bunch of cars. This was done because the Superintendent and chief requested it.
- I want to bring up an issue that we have seen get worse; people spoke about it at other meetings and we are leaning on the NYPD to increase enforcement. E-bikes. Senator Felder introduced legislation that would require all motorized two and three wheeled vehicles to be registered and have insurance.

Just this month alone we unfortunately had a few e-bike incidences.

We saw the video of the son of our First Vice Chair, Yaakov Kaplan, getting hit by an e-bike.

Thankfully he is ok- although the video depiction is terrifying.

Hatzolah had to respond to 2 accidents involving e-bikes- that we know of.

Another story in the news involving these menaces is of a building fire after an e-bike battery exploded.

This proliferation of e-bikes is ridiculous and dangerous.

- Thank you to Mayor Adams for his initiative, announced in our district, to increase cooperation amongst government agencies to clean up our district. This is a common sense solution we hope will have a real impact.
- DSNY will have their second leaf collection in early December. You can place your bags of leaves out after 4 pm on December 4th for collection the next day. Remember to use the proper bags. Our office is fully stocked with paper bags for leaves, which was supplied by DSNY.
- It is now time to take a look at your property tax bill to see if there are any exemptions or reductions you can qualify for. We have successfully helped seniors sign up for exemptions that reduced their bills by half. There are many different exemptions you can qualify for. Please make sure to take full advantage. The deadline is March 15. I know that seems far in the future, but these deadlines have a way of creeping up on us and I want to make sure you have ample time to take full advantage.
- Governor Kathy Hochul announced the opening of applications for a pool of \$50 million to strengthen safety and security measures at nonprofit and community-based organizations at risk of hate crimes or attacks because of their ideology, beliefs, or mission. This funding is the greatest amount ever made available through New York State's Securing Communities against Hate Crimes program.

The NYS Division of Criminal Justice will accept applications of up to \$50,000 per project. Each eligible organization may submit up to three applications for a maximum of \$150,000. An eligible organization may also submit a separate application for up to \$50,000 to fund a cybersecurity project.

Applications must be submitted to DCJS by Tuesday, January 31, 2023.

Visit the grants page on the Division of Criminal Justice for eligibility requirements, instructions, guidelines and additional information.

- New York State of Health Open enrollment for this year is open until January 15th. Please make sure to apply for health insurance as needed.
- At last month's meeting we discussed that we would do remote meeting procedures this month, but the open meeting law has been extended. So for now we can still do our current hybrid meetings without having to go through the procedures.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

Anastasia Yaskova, representing Mayor Eric Adams.

- She wished a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy upcoming Holidays.
- The DYCD is conducting a Citywide Needs Assessment. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. Please take the time to do so.
- She thanked community board for the work they do.

Jacob Eisdorfer, representing Boro President Antonio Reynoso.

Pinny Hikind, representing Comptroller Brad Lander.

- He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sharon Fuchs, representing Senator Simcha Felder.

- She thanked the board for their condolences for the Senator's mom's passing. She will pass the message on to the Senator.
- She advised that the Senator's office has some programs to help with heating this winter season.

Sol Reiger, representing Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein.

Ken Lazar, representing Department of Buildings.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Board Member Yeruchim Silber: Rabbi Silber announced the ribbon cutting at the Culver El project. This is a beautiful affordable housing project and the culmination of many years of work done by SBCO.

Board Member Beth Slepian- Because there was no one from Councilmember Shahana Hanif's office at the meeting, she wanted to publicize something on their behalf to anyone who lives in district 39. This year Hanif's office dedicated the participatory budgeting cycle to climate justice. They are looking to convene groups of community members to work on proposals.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted by: Gittel Fekete