

THE CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD 12

5910 13th Ave.nue Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219 Phone: (718) 851-0800 • Fax: (718) 851-4140 Email: <u>bk12@Community Board.NYC.gov</u>

> Yidel Perlstein Chairperson



Barry Spitzer District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD 12 SEPTEMBER MINUTES

HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

VIA ZOOM & IN-PERSON AT COMMUNITY BOARD 12 5910 13TH AVE. 3RD FLOOR BROOKLYN, NY 11219

Antonio Reynoso Borough President

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

AAMAH KHAN ALAN DUBROW ANA CALI AVROHOM WOLFSON **BERNARD FREILICH BETH SLEPIAN** CHAIM SCHNEIDER CHESKY BLAU DANIEL KERADNAM DAVID FRIEDLANDER DAVID SHLOMOVICH DOUGLAS JABLON ELLIE KASTEL ELLIOT SIDDIQUI JACOB ASKAL JACOB HASS JACQUE FRIEDMAN JEFFREY DWECK JOHN TALMADGE JUDITH OJO-DIAZ JULES FLEISCHER MAMNUNUL HAQ MORRIS SENDEROVICH MORDECHAI KATZ NAFTALI TESSLER NICK BERGHALL **ROCHELLE ZAMI** SHARON FUCHS SAM STOBER 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

ADRIANA VINK ALEXI SHALOM ARTURO ENAMORADO III EDGAR GLUCK JOSEPH GROSS LOUIE LIU MARIA ARETTINES MIRIAM HERSKO MOSHE FRIDMAN PETER REBENWURZEL ROMINA FERNANDEZ YAAKOV SCHAPIRO YIDEL PERLSTEIN YITZCHOK MOSKOWITS

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

APPROXIMATELY 20 RESIDENTS PRESENT

ELECTED OFFICALS AND REPRESENTATIVES

COUNCILMEMBER KALMAN YEGER ANASTASIA YASAKOVA, REP. MAYOR ERIC ADAMS MUS LAMIA, REP. CM SHAHANA HANIF PINNY HIKIND, REP. COMPTROLLER BRAD LANDER ROSLYN JOINVIL, REP. CM RITA JOSEPH SHARON FUCHS, REP. SENATOR FELDER RABBI YECHIEL LANDAU, REP. SENATOR **KEVIN PARKER** LENNY MARKH, REP. IWEN CHU VICTORIA GUSINGER, REP. AM BOBBY CARROL SOYA RADIN, REP. AM LESTER CHANG JACK PLUSHNICK, REP. CM DAN GOLDMAN SHLOMIE RIEGER, REP. AM EICHENSTEIN CHAIM SCHNEIDER, REP. AM EICHENSTEIN STEPHEN CARUSO, REP. DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE

ADOPTION OF MAY MINUTES

• The June minutes were adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – Delivered by First vice chair Yakov Kaplan

- Good evening. Welcome back. I am excited to see all of you here after what, I hope, was a relaxing and refreshing summer. Now we are back to the business of the community.
- The holidays are in full swing. I want to take this opportunity to thank all law enforcement for their assistance.
- On that note, we have a new commanding officer at the 66 precinct, Commanding Officer Ken Herrente, we wish him success and welcome him to the community. We would also like to thank the former Commanding Officer, Deputy Inspector Jason Hagestad, for the work he did while CO here. We wish him success in his new assignment as Brooklyn South Counter Terrorism Coordinator.
- Thank you to Boro President Antonio Reynoso and Councilmember Kalman Yeger for allocating 1.46 million for 5 new Hatzalah vehicles.
- Mazal tov to board member Yonah Moses on his engagement.
- This summer we unfortunately lost some Torah giants, especially Rabbi Twerski. We want to thank the NYPD for mobilizing so quickly to make sure we are protected and can focus on mourning and for making sure the funeral went off without a hitch. Importantly, there were no injuries.

We would like to thank our chairman Yidel Perlstein for his coordination in this effort and thank Shomrim who ran the ground operation at the funeral.

• Our next board meeting will be on October 24.

<u>Yeruchim Silber- Second Vice Chair-</u>Questioned why the police department has not been showing up to board meetings lately. There used to always be a PD presence at meetings.

Barry Spitzer-District Manager- The New Commanding Officer did not start yet, his first day is Wednesday, but he already reached out. He will definitely make sure someone from the executive team comes to board meetings. There is also a new DSNY Superintendent at BKS12 who intends to come to board meetings as well.

DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED CONEY ISLAND CASINO DEVELOPMENT

Requested by Community Board 15 and the Sephardic Community Federation

- At the behest of Community Board 15 and the Sephardic Community Federation we will have a discussion on the proposed development of a casino on Coney Island. They have requested that Community Board 12 go on the record as opposing the proposed development of a casino on Coney Island.
- Representing the Federation are Eddie Esses and Joe Mansour. Eddie Esses is here to explain the reasons why the Federation and Community Board 15 oppose the casino and to ask the board to pass a resolution like the resolution passed by CB15.

Remarks delivered by Eddie Esses -

There are many reasons why CB 15 and the Federation oppose the casino, I will mention a few.

• The communities in and around the area of the proposed casino strongly oppose its development.

- The developers purport to show the people are approving, but in their questions asking for support, they asked very soft questions so that the answers would be what they want such as, "do you want more jobs in the community."
- This would be a haven for crime that is just way too close to home.
- The biggest reason to oppose the casino is the risk it brings to our youth. Our youngest impressionable residents would be vulnerable to the casino. We all know how big the risk for online gambling is, having this so close would be even worse.
- Studies show that wherever casinos are erected, crime and drug use goes up.
- For all of these reasons we are asking CB12 to pass a resolution similar to CB15 sending a strong message to elected officials that we oppose the casino.
- He opened the floor to questions.

Yakov Kaplan- First Vice Chair:

- Mr. Kaplan spoke at the CB13 meeting in a video that spread. Someone reached out to him after seeing his remarks to share that he got divorced because his wife had a gambling addiction, which led to his house being mortgaged, he lost everything.
- The history is clear from the other casinos that were built; Resorts World Casino in the Catskills delivered only around 300 jobs out of the 1,500 they promised. The negative ramification of the casino far outweighs the positive. Any revenue from gambling is like blood money considering the ramifications it comes with.
- **Elliot Siddiqui-Board Member** Asked where the Casino would be located. (Eddie clarified this would be by the Boardwalk on Coney Island.
- **Beth Slepian-Board Member** Appreciated the impassioned speeches but would like to have more time and more information to evaluate the project before voting on a motion, considering that only one side is putting their viewpoint.
- Yakov Kaplan- First Vice Chair- Offered to answer any questions she had at the meeting.
- **Eddie Esses** gave a little background on the project: NYS decided to bring 4 casinos to NY. They would have one casino in NYC proper and another 3 casinos located outside of NYC. There are around 11 proposals for the NYC casino, one of which is this one on Coney Island Boardwalk. The position of the developers is that they would be bringing jobs and economic stimulation to the area. The position of the community is that the casino would bring far more negative than positive, and even the jobs it would bring are not high-quality jobs and would not necessarily go to residents of the area. The proposers claim there would be economic stimulation, but the stimulation is from gambling income.

Anna Cali- Secretary- clarified that the proposed project is for Coney Island by Surf Avenue.

- **Sol Wahba- Board Member** Community Board 15 is looking for our support in requesting that we don't bring a casino and gambling into our neighborhoods. The board is not being asked to weigh in on the development project and the zoning questions, only on having a casino so close to our neighborhood. There are a number of other locations competing for this and we believe having this on the Coney Island peninsula is going to create problems that will spill over in our neighborhood, as a member of the Transportation Committee, Mr. Wahba is concerned about the inevitable traffic influx and additional issues.
- **Eddie Esses -** The only thing under consideration is a non-binding resolution informing the elected officials of the way Community Board 12 feels about this project so they can consider it when they vote on the project.
- **Barry Spitzer- District Manager-** Community Board 13, whose district this is, opposes the casino. Community board 15, is next to the area and they reached out to Community Board 12 together with the Sephardic Federation. They are asking for a resolution or a letter to the elected officials.

This recommendation should be available because there will be a vote in which the Governor, the Mayor, the Boro President, the City Council, the Assembly, and the State Senate will all weigh in on it. Eventually, with all their input, it will go to the NYS Gaming Commission for a decision.

- **Yeruchim Silber- Second Vice Chair-** informed the board the Aguda has worked with Joe Mansour and the Federation and are on record as opposing the casino.
- John Talmadge- Board Member- questioned how the casino would affect traffic in CB12.
- **Eddie Esses-** People will be coming from elsewhere and will be using Ocean Parkway and Belt Parkway, which is already overcrowded. The district is only a 15-minute drive from the casino, and it will make the people vulnerable to gambling.
- **Sol Wahba- Board Member** reiterated that his concern, being on transportation committee, is the traffic headaches that will spill over, therefore he proposed a motion for a resolution opposing the casino.
- **Councilmember Kalman Yeger** As a non- voting member of the board he weighed in on the motion before the board.
- The idea of a casino is like most vices that have been legalized in the city done wrong, like weed with the proliferation of smoke shops, and like the e-bikes and mopeds, which led to unregistered vehicles all over the city. All of these have been done without forethought of the ramifications it would bring. Casino gambling would be the same thing, the city planners did not design the area keeping in mind the thousands of vehicles that the casino would bring. Obviously, there would be a lot of traffic that would end up on Ocean parkway, and Belt Parkway and 65th Street and 60th Street. We will all feel the ramifications of a destination that is meant to draw thousands of cars when it hasn't been planned for.
- Beyond the traffic there are the vice aspects. We put a lot of time and effort into the education system to teach children right from wrong. The idea that we would be ok with a casino to open in the heart of our community is absurd. It's a no brainer for me: CB12 should stand with CB15 and CB13. The city should know where we stand on this matter. I urge everyone to oppose the casino.

Motion proposed to pass a resolution opposing a proposed casino on Coney Island.

- The motion was put to a vote.
- The motion carried with 27 yeas, 1 no, and 5 abstentions.

PUBLIC HEARING

Deborah Herdan.

- She is a survivor of a bike crash; she commutes daily from Kensington to Boro Park. She wishes it were safer to walk and bike in the district, especially on 12th Avenue, which is a bike route according to DOT and google maps. But there are cars double parking and speeding, especially SUV's and school buses. She rides with other cyclists; she sees young women riding and young men from the community going to yeshiva. There are children riding recreationally and delivery workers on e-bikes. CD44 pedestrians are at higher risk for injury. There is a young husband, Chaim Blum, who was tragically killed by dangerous driver before Passover. We need safety. 12th Ave. could be a safer place for cyclists who often choose Ft. Hamilton. Just last week a cyclist was killed by a bus full of children when it turned onto Ft. Hamilton.
- They city should approve measures to make it safer in CB12 where 6 people already died this year. I hope you will approve measures to make the roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Such as raised crossways. Clearly marking protected bidirectional bicycle lanes so bikes can get off crowded sidewalks. These and other traffic calming measures will improve safety.
- She also full heartedly agrees that the casino will bring dangerous traffic to our neighborhoods.

Moussa Hassoun-Resident.

- He asked whether there were plans for street improvements or safety improvements in the neighborhood or on 12th Avenue. Specifically, whether DOT is planning to make any street safety improvements. As someone who walks and bikes and drives, we need to reduce the amount of incidents on 12th Ave. as there have been dozens of injuries.
- **Barry Spitzer- District Manager** advised that there were safety improvements already in progress on 50th Street and 12th Ave. and New Utrecht intersection. DOT already finished most of the job, including the cut outs and the delayed light. They are also working on 55thStreet. He is not aware of other projects.

Rebeca Rothstein- Resident.

- She lives on Beverly Road where the street is now closed due to the new permanent open streets. She has a few concerns, she wanted to know how public safety vehicles like the fire department, and such will be accommodated.
- She is also concerned about the parking spots that were removed. It takes 2 hours to find parking as it is now. The situation is so much worse with the other spots removed.
- She reached out to Councilmember Hanif's office, in whose district this is in and who spearheaded this open street, a number of times with no response.
- Yakov Kaplan- First Vice Chair- the open street was discussed at the June Board Meeting. DOT says they made some sort of calculation that the open street would not affect anything, it probably will, but their supposed due diligence showed otherwise.
- **Councilmember Kalman Yeger-** The plan to close the street is a bad plan, but the Councilmember of the district supports the plan. Common sense dictates that it will slow down emergency vehicles' response time, even if such vehicles are allowed to use the closed to traffic-open streets.
- **Mus Lamia- representing Councilmember Shahana Hanif** obviously everyone is entitled to their opinion, but the councilmember's office worked closely with DOT and would be happy to further conversations with Ms. Rothstein and connect her with Kyle Gorman, who unlike everyone at the meeting, is a transportation expert. There are 14 spots being removed, 5 are just during the day and are available at night. She is happy to answer further questions offline on why Councilmember Hanif supports the plan.
- **Will Fisher-Board Member** He wanted to clarify that, though only opposition to the open street is being shared, there are many, like him, who are in favor of the open street. He was just there the other day and was pleased to see it was being used and enjoyed.

Ira Herenson- Resident.

• He lived in the district since 1976, and this morning he was almost hit by a Satmar bus. We need some traffic calming measures, and we need bike lanes. He would also like signs that say share the road we should have the signs here.

Laura Smith-Resident.

- She is also a resident of Beverly Road and has a couple of concerns. The open street is not being kept clean, for example, there is a dead pigeon just lying there. Homelessness is also another problem in the plaza. There is a cleanliness issue there generally with rats and dirt generally. You can't just decide to have an open street without fully considering and planning for the problems it is creating for the residents in the community.
- Two issues in particular that this open street plaza brings are double parking and littering. It is out of control. She had put buckets out for people to put their litter in, and it worked for a while until the buckets were stolen. And when she complained to Councilmember Hanif about the

proliferation of littering and requested the matter be handled, she got a ticket from the sanitation department. She has been complaining about double parking since 2016, when Brad Lander was the councilmember. She sent many emails to the precinct because of the new program of community policing hoping it would bring some help to the double parking. But she had not heard anything. There are 6 double parked cars right now. And then when the cars that are blocked in try to get out there is a cacophony of honking.

Dr. Rueben Soto- Resident.

• Good evening. He came on behalf of a group of doctors who practice on 9th Ave. between 54th and 55th Street. There are transporters who go between Chinatown in Manhattan and Queens and Brooklyn, and they block the entrances to the medical facility. This has been going on for a couple of years, the buses stay there for 45 minutes to an hour and then people can't come in or go out. He spoke to the bus drivers and to the 66 precinct, but to no avail.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Delivered by District Manager Barry Spitzer

- Welcome back. I hope you are all refreshed from the summer break. The community board was open and running over the summer and we have some updates to share.
- We had our annual preholiday meeting with NYPD and would like to thank all for the extra efforts they give. A big shoutout to DSNY for continuing to help us out with holiday needs. It's a hard task. Thank you, Board Member John Talmadge, for your help. The sanitation work is not done yet, because the night of Sukkos is when they do the huge job on 13th Avenue. And then when people wake up on Sukkos morning the street is clean.

This pre-holiday meeting used to be held at the office of the late great Yanky Meyer. It is one year since he passed, he is sorely missed, but his presence is felt. His office still continues to print out the calendars.

- We are very proud that we were able to get the DOT to repave so many of our streets. However, some of the streets will need to be repaired because attention to specific details shared were not addressed, such as pitches and drainage. Please let us know these problems before DOT paves, so we can tell them to pay special attention. Please make sure to report all deficiencies to 311. It is always advisable to report things to 311 because it creates a record. It creates a tracking number and makes it simpler for you to track an issue from beginning to end. We do want to thank DOT for paving some of these streets overnight and over the weekend. This minimized the impact it has on residents.
- There are some increases to report:
 First- the MTA raised the rates; it is now \$2.90 instead of \$2.75 to use public transportation.
 Parking meter rates will go up October 1st, by around 25 to 50 cents an hour, in Brooklyn, depending on the zone you park in. The rate hikes are significantly higher in Manhattan.
 There are also increases in SNAP benefits to reflect the rise in the cost of living.
- We want to thank DSNY for removing some of the dining sheds that were not complying with the regulations. Yes, on-street dining is now legal, but there are rules and regulations to keep our streets clean and safe. And establishments not abiding by these laws need to know that they will be penalized if they break these laws.
- We are hard at work on putting together the District Needs. As was mentioned last year, this is an exercise in futility, but we are required to do it. Please email the office with any suggestions at bk12@cb.nyc.gov. The community board does not have funding, this is only recommendations. We send the needs to NYC DCP (Department of City Planning) and they pass it along to OMB (Office of Management and Budget). We will post a draft on our website so people can get an

idea of what we are asking. We just had a few weeks of budget consultation. Please, if you have any requests you think the city needs to fund for FY25, let us know.

• Happy Sukkos to all who celebrate and Happy New Year.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, REPRESENTATIVES & AGENCIES

- Anastasia Yasakova, representing Mayor Eric Adams
 - Good evening, it is great to be here after the summer.
 - Congratulations to the new Commanding Officer of the 66 pct.
 - The mayor's office is always here to help, feel free to reach out and share your concerns.

• Lenny Markh- representing Senator Iwen Chu

- Happy New Year, he hopes everyone had a good Yom Kippur fast.
- The Senator sends her regards. The office can always be reached at 718-333-0311 or by email at iwenchu@nysenate.gov.
- Pinny Hikind, representing Comptroller Brad Lander
 - On behalf of the controller, wishing all a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack Plushnik, representing Congressman Dan Goldman

- Welcome back from the summer break.
- \circ On a personal note, he is glad to see the board is opposing the casino.
- One of the projects the Congressman is working on is combating antisemitism, especially on public campuses. He is working with the DOE and the Education Secretary on a reporting system. This is something the Congressman takes very seriously.
- On that note, the Congressman held a Town hall in Boro Park last month on dealing with Anti-Semitism as well as hate crimes affecting the AAPI community. In attendance were the FBI, Homeland Security, NYPD, to make sure that people in the community feel safe and know what is being done to keep them safe.
- The congressman is working on other projects relevant to the community, including passport backlogs. A lot of the issues with backlogs have gotten better, but they are always available if people need help. They are working with the Department of State.
- Mr. Plushnik left flyers with more information on things the congressman's office is working on.
- Happy Sukkos to all celebrating.

• Mus Lamia, representing Councilmember Shahana Hanif

- She wants to start off by addressing the public testimony mentioning concerns about littering and loitering.
- The Councilmember is very passionate about waste management. She funds the ACE program that does cleaning services across Kensington, so when constituents see a problem area, they should reach out to the councilmember's office so ACE can be directed to do cleanups. So, if people have such issues in proximity to open streets, please let us know.
- On the same note, the CM's office partnered with many organizations in the district who care about keeping the neighborhood clean and there will be a cleanup this Sunday.
- In terms of loitering, we hear a lot of complaints, and we also have a hard time getting responses from precinct. She pointed out there is a citizen's air complaint with the DEP where people who report idling and document and report it so they can get compensated.
- They are about one week away from when mandatory residential composting goes into effect. This is an effort spearheaded by the councilmember. Please make sure to get your bins because you will need to separate out your organic trash.

- Participatory budgeting is in full swing. So, if you are feeling passionate about anything today, we welcome all of your ideas. This is a way to bring tax dollars to the community.
- $\circ~$ The councilmember will be hosting an e-waste disposal event at the Beverly Road open street on the 15th.
- She is also hosting an education event for delivery workers and e-bike workers on the 20th at the open street on Beverley Road.
- The open street will be used for the community events, as the councilmember intended, and the council member welcomes ideas from the community for its use.
- The councilmember wishes happy holidays to those celebrating.

Councilmember Kalman Yeger

- On street dining is a thing that is here to stay. I don't like it, but it is here. But there are rules these sheds need to follow. If you see a badly acting open dining shantytown: call 311.
 DSNY and or DOT will respond and remove it. You can also call the community board and our office and let us know so we can follow up with DSNY and DOT, but your first call is to 311. They cannot delete your complaint. So, if they say they never got a complaint, then there it is, a record of a complaint.
- The last couple of days have seen a lot of branches and trees coming down. These branches are being removed in order of priority. DSNY and parks are good at getting rid of these, but again, you need to reach out call 311 and then our office or the Community Board, there are different priorities in removal, but they don't know there is a branch down if it is not reported.
- Following up on the 57th Street rezoning that was before the board a couple of times, the sponsor was asked to reduce the scope of height as it would be out of context. The proposed street is a single lane street with single family homes. The developer wanted a huge development but could not come to an agreement with the community so that proposal is gone. They have a very generous zoning on the block that they can choose to use to develop in accordance with the current zoning. What they were requesting in their zoning change was too high for the neighborhood and current residents vocally opposed it.
- Sukkos is coming up for all who observe or not a lot of folks take up a little extra space with the Sukkos they will all be gone soon. Please be understanding.
- Lastly, if you're writing 5783 on your checkbook, change it to 5784.
- Thank you to district manager Barry Spitzer for everything he does, he is our silent hero. And also, to Gittel his able sidekick who keeps this operation going.
- Ah Gitten Kvittel (a blessing for a good year).

Roslyn Joinvil, representing Councilmember Rita Joseph

- Good evening to all and Welcome back.
- We are currently hosting a mobile van with NYLAG services. Services include consultation for public benefits, family law, immigration, etc. The van will be here Oct. 23 at our office at 930 Flatbush Ave.
- The councilmember continues to provide immigration assistance on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. And housing specialists are at the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- They are looking forward to a good year.
- Happy Holidays to those observing.
- Sharon Fuchs representing Senator Simcha Felder
 - The Senator is having a shredding event tomorrow, at Ave U and East 33rd Street, in Marine Park.
- Victoria Gusinger, representing Assemblymember Robert Carroll

- The Assemblymember is holding a town hall on October 18 at Brooklyn Central Library. The town hall will be in two parts. In the first part, from 6-7, there will be government agencies, including DOB DOT, DEP, DOF, HPD, DHCR NYPD, etc. These agencies will have tables and they can help you and answer your questions. In the second part, from 7-8 the Assemblymember will speak, and you can also ask him questions.
- She was listening to the traffic issues, and urged everyone, don't hesitate to reach out we are happy to reach out to DOT to help resolve them.
- Soya Radin, representing Assemblymember Lester Chang
 - \circ $\,$ Good evening. Please reach out with any issues especially quality of life issues.
 - \circ $\,$ Thanks to DSNY who will be mobilizing new redesigned garbage cans.
 - We also have a notary service at our office, free of charge.
- Shloimy Rieger, representing Assemblymember Simcha Eichenstein
- Chaim Schneider, representing Assemblymember Simcha Eichenstein
 - Introduced Alex from the office.
 - The Assemblymember has passport help at the office.
 - He hopes everyone had a great summer.
 - And he wishes everyone a G'mar Chasima Tova and a Gitten Kvittel.
- Anthony Loum- Branch Manager at the Mapleton Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library
 - Mr. Loum provided some Library Updates.

DSNY- COMPOSTING PROGRAM PRESENTATION.

By Stephen Caruso- Bureau of Community Affairs

- He thanked the board for allowing him to speak.
- He is here to talk about an important announcement, the implementation of borough wide curbside composting which is scheduled to start on October 2nd.
- DSNY is distributing brown bins for free until October 13. DSNY is trying to make this as easy as possible, and you don't have to use brown bins. But, if you chose not to, you still need to dispose of your food waste in a bin. Yard Waste can be disposed of in a clear bag or a brown paper bag.
- The organics trash will be collected on your recycling day. The rules are the same as for other trash: if your trash is in a bin, set out by 6pm. If your trash is in bag only, set it out by 8pm. These rules are intended to make it harder for rats to get to the trash.
- DSNY is implementing an organic waste program to reduce a third of the waste that goes to landfills now and creates harmful gases. This waste will now be collected as organic waste and turned into compost.
- The basics of the program require all yard waste to be set aside as organic waste. Separating food scraps is highly encouraged.
- Yakov Kaplan-First Vice Chair- questioned what is mandatory and what is not, and will the trash be collected along with the other trash or on a separate truck.
- **Gitte Fekete- Community Coordinator** clarified that, per the DSNY flyer, food scrap composting is optional, but highly encouraged whereas yard waste composting is mandatory.
- **Stephen Caruso- DSNY Community Affairs** The trucks servicing will vary based on the district. In CB 12 the collection will be with recycling.
- **Councilmember Kalman Yeger-** As Gittel said, your bones and food can go into the garbage if you want. Your leaves must be set out separately on recycling day, either with brown bins or in a brown paper bag or clear bag.

Yes, in a lot of places DSNY will send out another truck and it will create more traffic and air pollution. As a clarification, this is not a DSNY law, this is a law the city council passed. Please do not blame DSNY as they are doing what they are required by law.

- **Mr. Caruso- DSNY**: (responding to an unintelligible question) There is an "how do I get rid" search option on the DSNY website that will tell you how to dispose of anything. Landscapers are responsible for their own waste. DSNY does not take commercial waste.
- Mus Lamia-representing CM Hanif- It was a little hard to hear some of the people speaking. But she wants to make sure the record is correct and there is no misinformation. She dropped the local law in the chat, the law requires food waste should be separate from trash. There are some questions raised with the DSNY flyer and they are working to correct that with DSNY. While Councilmember Yeger did not vote for this, it is the law and mandatory organics will reduce a third of the carbon emissions.
- **Gittel Fekete** Clarified that the comments are only meant as a clarification of the law, not a question of opinion. The local law that was dropped in the chat, as it reads, requires that DSNY implement a mandatory program, but it does not specify the details of what the mandatory program should be. DSNY is, according to the law passed, implementing a mandatory program requiring the separation of yard waste. Personal or political opinions on food composting are irrelevant here, DSNY does not require food scraps to be composted, only strongly recommends it. Our only job here is to make sure residents do what they need to do so they don't get violations. What they must do to avoid violations is separate their yard waste for composting.
- **Stephen Caruso** is happy to clarify any misinformation and is happy to give all facts. He will chat with Councilmember Hanif's office offline.

On that note, DSNY has been knocking on doors and letting everyone know about this program. If you see a DSNY officer at your door, it is probably only an informational visit.

• Rabbi Landau, representing State Senator Kevin Parker

- On behalf of the Senator, he hopes everyone had a great summer and wishes everyone a happy and healthy new year.
- \circ $\,$ He also wants to thank the Community Board for all the hard work done behind the scenes.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted by: Gittel Fekete