



**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 13**  
1201 Surf Avenue – 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11224  
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<http://www.nyc.gov/html/bknbc13>

**ERIC L ADAMS**  
Borough President

**JOANN WEISS**  
Chairperson

**EDDIE MARK**  
District Manager

**COMMUNITY BOARD 13  
MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Date:** Wed., Oct. 28, 2020

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

**Loc.:** Webex

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lucy Acevedo  
Lakeisha Bowers  
Mario Caggiano  
Nadine Dabney  
Susan Flaschenberg  
Brian Granoff  
Amarilys Herrera  
Pat O'Brien  
Milagros Quiles  
Priscilla Santos  
Pervez Siddiqui  
Evelyn Strasser  
Shazia Wattoo  
Dennis Vourderis  
Kumali Zairee

Shirley Aikens  
Dionne Brown  
Marion Cleaver  
Mark Davidovich  
Olga Fort  
Selina Grant  
Queenie Huling  
Irene Olson  
Shimon Rinkovsky  
Francis Schwartz  
Michael Silverman  
Jack Suben  
Annette Wesley  
Gloria Watkins

Zunera Ahmed  
Patricia Brown  
Joe Corace  
Lollita Divilova  
Brian Gotlieb  
Erum Hanif  
Yelena Makhnin  
Joseph Packer  
Jeffrey Sanoff  
Tatyana Segal  
Pat Singer  
Barbara Teitelbaum  
Edita Volovodovskaya  
Joann Weiss

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Wanda Feliciano(exc)  
Orlando Mendez  
David Wynn

Bernard Kaufman(exc)  
Michael Quinn

Thomas Hopkins  
Michael Russo

**GUESTS**

Craig Hammerman, Miriam Padilla, Mark Merynk, Debra and Christoph Grief, Sam Yuditsky, Jay Goldstein, FDNY Chief Mandala, Jai Rose, David Anderson

**ELECTED OFFICIALS/REPRESENTATIVES:**

AM Mathylde Frontus, CM Mark Treyger, Inna Guzenfeld (BP Adams), Andrew Olson, Morgan Molloy(Congressman Jeffries), Mariyah Markh(CAU), Jeannine Cherichetti(CMTreyger), Ari Kagan(CMTreyger), Samantha Ross(CMTreyger), Jenny Arcius(AM Frontus), Sergei Chuprik(Comptroller's Office), Ken Lazar(DOB)

**OFFICE STAFF PRESENT:**

Eddie Mark, District Manager, Hanna Glikman, Community Associate, Barbara Santonas, Secretary

Chairperson Lucy Acevedo apologized for the incident at the September Board meeting where she allowed a speaker to mention what was happening at a political club in our area, discussion of any political nature is not allowed at Board meetings. She did not stop the speaker, because due to problems with webex, she did not hear what he was saying until several minutes into the speech. She said this will not happen again.

The presenter who was scheduled for tonight's meeting was cancelled due to the fact that his company is a for-profit organization and charges for the service and such a presentation would not be allowed according to our procedures.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

Craig Hammerman – waived his speaking time.

Christopher Grief – New York Transit Riders Council. He reiterated that face coverings must be worn when on public transportation, including Access-A-Ride. Access-A-Ride is still free anywhere you need to go within the five boroughs. If your Access-A-Ride is expiring, call and then will extend it until this COVID pandemic is over.

Jahi Rose – CCRB Outreach. The CCRB is beginning their Youth Advisory Council. Applications are currently online. Age for applicants are between 10 and 18 years of age. The CCRB is starting this Council to better relate to young people. There will be a CCRB Board meeting in Brooklyn on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in attending, reach out to CCRB for further information.

Before beginning with the Elected Officials, Lucy reminded them that the Officials have 8-10 minutes which includes Q&A and their representatives have 3-4 minutes including Q&A. She thanked them for their understanding.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS/REPRESENTATIVES:**

Mariyah Markh – CAU – She reported that a portion of C.B. 13 is located in the yellow zone. For more information on zones go to website [NYC.gov/CovidZone](http://NYC.gov/CovidZone). There are many free test locations citywide including locations with C.B. 13 [NYC.gov/Covidtests](http://NYC.gov/Covidtests). Early voting will continue to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Please remember to vote.

Board member Joann Weiss asked about the new rules for selling goods outside the stores. She wanted to know what will happen to the illegal vendors who are already widespread in Brighton Beach. Mariyah said that DCA and Worker Protection employees will be around to check the situation. Any problems, reach out to her.

Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus – She remarked that the technical difficulties she has experience with Webex is very frustrating. She reported that her office is opened servicing the District while taking precautions. Her office has been extremely busy helping the community. The office has been giving out PPE throughout the district. She reminded everyone to wear their masks and of course to go out and VOTE.

Christopher Grief thanked the Assemblywoman for giving out washable face masks. Jenny Arcius from the Assemblywoman's office stated she is available for assistance if needed.

Ari Kagan – representing CM Treyger – He reported that CM Treyger and his staff have been working very hard in the community, especially taking care of ongoing problem in NYCHA Complexes that have had no heat or hot water. Also, the CM and his staff have been doing food distribution at many of the NYCHA complexes in the community.

Inna Guzenfeld – representing BP Eric Adams. She is working remotely. Contact her if she can be of help.

CM Mark Treyger – The CM thanked C.B. 13, the Chairperson and anyone who assisted in getting the L turn signal on West 5<sup>th</sup> St. and Neptune Avenue. The previous Board Chair, Joann Weiss helped for many years when we fought for this. The CM personally saw the signal being installed. Now, all that has to be done is to reinstall the count down clock. He has been working diligently to take care of many issues at NYCHA Houses in the community. Both Gravesend and C.I. Houses, both developments have had no heat or hot water. The CM has also been taking care of issues with virtual learning for the students in our community. Many do not have devices or they have devices that are not working. After much discussion with the Mayor's Office, they are finally ordering many addition IPADS for students who do not have them. If parents have any problems, they should reach out to the CM via email or facebook. On Halloween the CM and his staff will be distributing candy bags. A flyer will be sent to the Board tomorrow for mass distribution. He thanked members of the board and the community for their assistance with food distribution.

Craig Hammerman asked about the status of the Council Bill banning heavy vehicles on the boardwalk. CM Treyger explained that the Council President had mandated that COVID 19 bills would be voted on first. Hopefully, the bill banning heavy vehicles will be voted on before next summer season.

Sergei Chuprik-representing Comptroller's Office – The Comptroller had a Round Table meeting with residents of Central Brooklyn to answer some of their questions. For update on issues check out the News Room section of the Comptroller's website. The Comptroller is beginning a new program, Lifting Up New Yorkers, how to change education in NYC-making all CUNY schools "free". He also reported that NYCHA has received a large amount of money from HUD and FEMA. If there are any problems, do not hesitate to contact him.

Morgan Molloy – representing Congressman Jeffries – The Congressman's office is still accepting applications for nomination of students to U.S. Service Academies. Contact the Congressman's office for further information.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made by Jeff Sanoff, seconded by Marion Cleaver to accept the minutes as submitted.

VOTE: In Favor:                      Opposed:                      Abstentions:

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call on file at C.B. office.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:**

Lucy again apologized for last month's incident at the board meeting. She also reminded everyone about what excuse is allowed for board meetings. Having to attend a personal event will not be considered an excused absence. She also reminded board members that the staff works weekdays from 9-5 p.m. We are a City agency and are not available on weekends or after 5 p.m. Lucy thanked CM Treyger and DOT for finally getting the left turn signal installed on West 5<sup>th</sup> St. and Neptune Avenue. It took a very long time to get this done. She attended several food distributions in the community. Please reach out to the office if you would like to volunteer at these events. She also explained time allowed for elected officials to speak during Public Speaking (8-10 minutes including Q&A). The representatives will be allowed (3-4 minutes including Q&A). Lucy again apologized for the technical problems with Webex. The Board was told Zoom cannot be used. We tried to close the chat box, but it did not work. The chat will remain open, however be mindful of how you use it. If FOIL is requested, all chat box discussions are included. If there is a discussion in the chat about how to vote, it is grounds for immediate personal removal.

**DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Eddie discussed the fact that the office is still officially closed. We are waiting for Mayor to decide when we can open. Contact the office with any problems from 9-5 weekdays. If you have information for the Newsletter, email it to Eddie by Wednesday of the week you want it included, so it can be added and ready for release on Fridays. All committee and board meetings will be held virtually until at least the beginning of next year. He and Lucy thanked Zunera for all her assistance on getting Webex up and running.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

On behalf of our Treasurer, Dionne, Eddie reported that the Report is to be done quarterly. It will be available at the November Board meeting. As of now, nothing much has been purchased due to the pandemic.

**COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE:**

There is none today. If anyone has information to be disseminated, please contact the office the Monday before the Board meeting so it can be included.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Land Use Committee

Marion Cleaver/Shimon Rinkovsky, Co-Chairs

This BSA is in reference to 4810 Beach 48<sup>th</sup> Street in SeaGate. Applicant wants to build a one family house on a non-mapped street in SeaGate. No problem with this.

Motion from Committee: Land Use Committee approves the project as presented.

Vote from Full Board: In Favor: 31                      Opposed: 0                      Abstentions: 0

Motion: Carried unanimously (Roll call on file at C.B. Office)

Health Committee

Queenie Huling/Amarilys Herrera, Co-Chairs

Queenie discussed what went on at the Committee meeting. There was an update on the new facility coming in at the old Surf Manor. We met the owner and he answer several questions as did Ms DiPaolo. It was decided that Queenie and Lucy would schedule to visit a facility that is owned by Ms DiPaolo and after that they would make a decision as to whether to issue a letter of support. After the visit, Queenie would get back to the committee. Also, the two partners who are opening up the Center for New Directions at 308 Neptune Avenue answered many questions from the committee members and community members. It was the overall decision that although the program seemed to be a good one, the location was wrong, as it was near several day care centers, schools, and houses of worship.

Motion was made by Queenie, seconded by Erum to approve the letter of support.

VOTE from Committee: In favor: 1                      Opposed: 3                      Abstention 0

Motion denied. Roll call on file at C.B. office

License Committee:

Yelena Makhnin/Orlando Mendez Co-Chairs

The committee had two new applications to discuss.

Kaffeine 231 Brighton Beach Avenue- after lengthy discussion on this business, it was decided that more information was needed to investigate size, number of seats, bathroom facility, etc. Vote to be deferred.

If the necessary information is received by the office prior to Wednesday evening's meeting, the committee will meet briefly before the meeting, if not this license will be held over.

La Ley Delmonte 3168 Coney Island Avenue between Brighton Beach & Neptune Avenues. No representative was present, no vote was taken. Owners will be notified that they must be present before recommendation is made.

By Law Committee

Michael Silverman, Chair

The committee chair explained that the current By Laws are outdated. When the City Charter was amended, changes to the By Laws had to be made. One of the things the committee did was take away gender-specific titles. The Committee started its work in 2019 and was then interrupted by COVID-19. It is very important that the Board take this path and begin discussion now. We will talk about it in two consecutive monthly meetings (October and November) and then a final discussion and vote (December). Michael thanked Jack for taking care and saving all changes. The committee was very large and from time to time the meetings had guests.

All board members have received the draft of the new By Laws with changes marked in red.

**Article 1**-add "Brooklyn" to Community Board 13 – written as "The Board".

**Article 2**-changes begin with letter D-Public Members – up to two per committee. Joann remarked she believed that the two public members would take the place of two board members. Subset 2 a 1 – add that members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their service. Subset 2- 2 and 3 – add as indicated.

**Article 3**-Responsibilities of Members – same as indicated until "f" added which requires the member to declare their conflict prior to participating in any discussion, then recuse themselves from voting. This is the only condition by which recusal may be applied.

**Article 3** -Officers- same until Subsection 3 – At the March Board meeting, the Board Chair will ask for volunteers to serve on the ad hoc Nominating Committee, consisting of five members. Two additional volunteers, beyond the first five, will be treated as alternates, available to serve in the event that any of the first five members are unable to serve. Article 3 – Subsection 3 e – A written notice of all nominees suggested for Community Board offices as well as nominees offered from the floor at the May meeting shall be mailed or emailed to each member of the Board prior to the election of officers at the June Board meeting along with a written statement of qualifications for office submitted by each candidate. All candidate statements shall be mailed or emailed with the Notice of Election to each board member along with the announcement of the June Board meeting. Subsection 3 h – Whenever there is more than one candidate for an office, each candidate for a contested office shall have 3 minutes at the June meeting to state why she or he wishes to serve and respond to questions from Board members, time limited at the discretion of the nominating committee chair. Subsection 3 l – Voting shall be by written paper ballot, which shall have inscribed on it the Board member's name and signature. Votes shall be tabulated only by members of the Nominating Committee. The Chair of the Nominating Committee will set the timeline for balloting, which will be listed on the agenda. Subsection 3 k – If, for any reason, an officer cannot fulfill their term, a special election will be held within three months of their departure to elect a replacement. The Nominating Committee will be reconvened in accordance with the procedures outlined above and all election procedures herein will be followed within this three month timeframe. Subsection 5 k – add – as the chair shall Subsection 5 o – To keep the (add) Officers .....

Subsection 5 p 1- add: To perform annual review of the District Manager in January, and recommend annual salary adjustment for Officer's approval followed by full Board approval. P-2 To recommend and oversee a process for recruiting and hiring a new District Manager should the position become available.

Subsection 8 Duties of the Treasurer – add b – the Treasurer shall oversee the use of Board funds including, but not limited to funds from the City of New York and from fundraising activities and any related expenses, to ensure that funds are used in accordance with Board directives, City Comptroller Guidelines and all applicable laws, regulations and other requirements. Subsection 9 Duties of the Secretary – b – add - shall "direct the District Manager to".....

Subsection 10 Vacancy of Office a-add shall succeed the Chair until a special election is held within 3 months of the vacancy. C-add "which shall be held within 3 months of the vacancy. Article IV Removal of Member or Officer – subsection 1 b add "said board member".

Michael said that next month, at the Board meeting we will complete the review of the proposed By Laws and have a discussion. At the December board meeting a motion will be made and seconded to accept and approve the By Laws. The new By Laws will take effect on July 1, 2021.

Lucy asked if when discussing the two community members to be on each committee, are they counted in the quorum for votes since their vote is not counted at the full board meeting when there is a vote. (This will be discussed at next month's meeting)

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**GOOD & WELFARE:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Board member Joann Weiss discussed the fact that the WINN Battered Women's Shelter looks like it is almost completed and we have not gotten an update from them since the initial meeting prior to the onset of construction. Eddie said that he had reached out to WINN in March or April of 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic and they never got back to us. Lucy requested that the office reach out to either WINN or DSS to schedule a meeting for an update on the project.

**BUDGET PRIORITIES:**

Eddie presented the Capital & Expense Budget Priorities for the 2021 Fiscal Year.

CAPITAL

- #1 – Repair Boardwalk
- #2 – C1 Trauma Center for CIH (Move from #10)
- #3 – Protect the Shoreline (Parks & ACE)
- #4- Sanitation Garage (can't find out what happened to the money)
- #5- Repair storm drains that were damaged by SuperStorm Sandy
- #6- SeaWall
- #7- Surveillance Cameras for the community
- #8- Recreation Center
- #9- Green Infrastructure
- #10-Upgrade/repair 60<sup>th</sup> Pct (ADA Compliant)

EXPENSE

- #1-Traffic survey
- #2-Traffic congestion
- #3-Study to improve parking (DOT)
- #4-Study for rezoning (Land Use) Yelena questioned why we need study. Brighton Beach has good enough zoning to build new high rises.
- #5-Rat removal
- #6-Expand maintenance of boardwalk
- #7-School Safety
- #8-NORC Programs and health services in community (23% seniors in community)
- #9-Set up BID in Coney Island
- #10-Improve air quality (has been problem since Sandy)

Pat Singer asked to have #40 – Community Outreach by HPD put in to #4(Expense Budget)

Continued Support:

- #1 – Rehabilitate fire station
- #2 - Green infrastructure
- #3 – Repair sidewalks
- #4 - Reconstruction of sidewalk Brighton Beach Avenue
- #5 – Move C.B. office to ground level
- #6 – Additional signage on boardwalk

P.O. Frank Bulzoni, Community Affairs Officer 60<sup>th</sup> Pct asked to address the members to clarify the situation having to do with Breaking Ground and the homeless population in our community. He remarked that its not true the Precinct does not want to meet with Breaking Ground- the Precinct will not do Breaking Ground's job for them. The Precinct has asked the Community Board and the elected officials to have the agencies come for a meeting, it has never happened. Breaking Ground and the other city agencies should care for this community the way the Precinct cares for the community. The Precinct cannot also do their job for them. He thanked the Councilman for his kind words the other day when the Precinct was giving out summonses in Brighton and the officers were verbally attacked and the Councilman came to their defense.

Lucy remarked she thought she had seen emails that said that Breaking Ground and reached out to the Precinct and they did not response. She will look back at the emails and forward them to Officer Bulzoni. She also said that whenever the community board and/or the community has reached out to the Precinct, they have always responded. She will look further into the situation.

Motion to adjourn made at 9:25 p.m. by Michael Silverman, seconded by Lucy Acevedo.

Barbara Santonas