



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 13
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ERIC L ADAMS
Borough President

LUCY ACEVEDO
Chairperson

EDDIE MARK
District Manager

**COMMUNITY BOARD 13 MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: Wed., Feb. 24, 2021

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Loc.: Webex

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lucy Acevedo
Patricia Brown
Wanda Feliciano
Brian Gottlieb
Amarilys Herrera
Yelena Makhnin
Michael Quinn
Jeff Sanoff
Michael Silverman
Jack Suben
Dennis Vourderis
Kumali Zairee

Lakeisha Bowers
Nadine Dabney
Susan Flaschenberg
Brian Granoff
Queenie Huling
Milagros Quiles
Shimon Rinkovsky
Fran Schwartz
Pat Singer
Barbara Teitelbaum
Edita Volovodovskayor
Annette Wesley

Dionne Brown
Lolita Divilova
Olga Fort
Selina Grant
Irene Olson
Pat O'Brien
Michael Russo
Tatyana Segal
Evelyn Strasser
Gloria Watkins
Joann Weiss

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Shirley Aikens(e)
Orlando Mendez
Priscilla Santos
Shazia Wattoo
Mark Davidovich

Mario Caggiano(e)
David Wynn
Erum Hanif
Joe Corace(e)

Zunera Ahmed
Joseph Packer
Pervez Siddiqui
Thomas Hopkin

GUESTS: C. Kligfeld, Miriam Padilla, Sandra Sanchez(FDNY), Mark Mernyk, Craig Hammerman, Ken Lazar(DOB), Bob Ferazi, Inna Guzenfeld(BBP), Priscilla Fisk, Sergei Chuprik(Comptroller's Office), Gil Lopez, Alexander Kanowik, Heshy Tischler, Mariyah Markh, Isota Bay Kinta

STAFF PRESENT:

Eddie Mark, Dist. Mgr., Hanna Glikman, Community Associate, Barbara Santonas, Secretary

Board Chair Lucy Acevedo welcomed everyone to the February Board Meeting.

PRESENTATION: Resilient Schools Consortium – Emily Fano

All levels of schools are included in this Consortium; elementary, middle and high schools in the New York City School System. The lessons include climate changes and the impact of climate living. Opportunities involve the students in interaction with the community. It gives the youth a voice in community plans for climate change.

The first phase of the project began in 2016 and helped students understand the community's vulnerability to weather events. In 2019, students wanted to move beyond the school community. They started Adopt A Shoreline and designed the next phase of RISC. The project now wants to increase stewardship for students by allowing them to assist in grass planting and adopting the curriculum to be

more focused on the Coney Island community. In addition, RISC wants to address student's mental health needs, students continue to feel that they are being ignored. She hopes that the Coney Island schools will become an important part of this project.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: Chairperson Lucy Acevedo reminded everyone that each speaker gets 3 minutes. An elected official gets 10 minutes. She asked that all speakers respect the time limits.

ELECTED OFFICIALS/REPRESENTATIVES:

Councilman Chaim Deutsch – His office is still working virtually. They still respond to constituents as needed. They are assisting with appointments for vaccines. He attended at City Council Health Committee meeting where he blasted the Administration. In the beginning, the people were in isolation. Zip code 11235 had the highest incidence of COVID, but when the vaccine was rolled out, Southern Brooklyn was not on the map. The Councilmember wanted to know why not?

Proposed Homeless Shelter at 100 Neptune Avenue. The Councilmember thanked Community Board 13 for hosting the forum. He is still in negotiation with the City agencies about this shelter. We need permanent housing with support services. We will have a rally at Gracie Mansion to send a message to the Mayor – “Stay Away from Southern Brooklyn”.

There is a Con Edison issue – major power outages in Southern Brooklyn. Con Edison must upgrade their electrical grids. He will hold them accountable.

Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus – Her office is opened Monday through Friday from 9-5 p.m. with all COVID precautions. She acknowledged that COVID numbers are going down, but she asked that we still keep out guard up. Her office is taking every precaution and they are working hand in hand with the community to assist them in getting vaccine appointments. Many things are going on in Albany. Governor is under investigation for not sharing information on nursing home deaths due to COVID. They are working on several Bills having to do with nursing homes.

Her office recently launched at 6 Point Plan. She thanked the community partners. Working together they will help to: generate income for families and also give residents something to work toward.

She wished all those who Celebrate a Happy Purim. She will sponsor a Black History Month event from 6-8 P.M. on her Facebook Live page. The office number is 718-266-0267.

Councilmember Mark Treyger – He is negotiating legislations for vaccinating homebound seniors, prioritizing many seniors. He is working with JASA and Warbasse Houses; 269 seniors were vaccinated. He requested a site at Marlboro Houses and 255 seniors were vaccinated there. He thanked the Board for their support. NYS has given guidance for opening outdoor amusements. He had a good meeting with Congressman Jeffries and our U.S. Senators. Senator Schumer said he is sure that the money for direct aid to restaurants will be passed. The CM invited everyone to the Black History Celebration sponsored by his office on February 26th. On March 3rd his office is sponsoring a Community Resource Fair. Where there will be information on employment opportunities. He thanked Lakeisha Bowers for her amazing work. She recently assisted 30 residents to get employment at an L&M site. He has gotten Lincoln H.S. money to open a new Court Room. He has also helped get the funding for a full time Social Worker at UNS.

Inna Guzenfeld – representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. She brought Greetings from the Borough President for a Happy Purim to those who celebrate. The BP is releasing his recommendations for two pending land use locations in C.B.13; a drive through at the McDonald's Restaurant at 606 Neptune Avenue and a storage facility on West 16th Street.

Sergei Chuprik-representing Comptroller's Office – The Comptroller unveiled a Comprehensive Plan for food pantries.

Freida Menos-representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries – She invited everyone to the State of the District Message via Zoom which will be on the Congressman's Facebook Live page on Sunday at 5 p.m. As of today, the Congressman is sponsoring free tax prep at APNA (347) 682-5606. Also, can get appointment at Grow Brooklyn.org/tax. Deadline for Scholarship through the Black Caucus is 4/30. Apply at CBCinc.org\scholarship.

COMMUNITY:

Christopher Greif- He thanked all the volunteers who came out to the Mask Force event at the Stillwell Avenue Terminal. He is taking care of accessibility problems on buses or trains. Contact him for assistance.

Gil Lopez – He has a non-profit, Big Reuse that resells building material. He also has a small composting facility to process food waste since Composting Program was cancelled due to COVID. His composting facility does small rate of composting and tries to serve every community in NYC.

Ida Sanoff – The comment period for the dredging in Coney Island Creek for the ferry terminal ends on Feb. 28th. Reminds everyone that there are unexploded ordinances and radioactive deck markers in the Creek. It's a problem dredging the toxic sediment in the area near where children are playing, and people are swimming. She is urging that the Community Board request a Public Hearing on this project.

MINUTES:

Motion made by Lucy Acevedo, seconded by Joann Weiss to approve the minutes as submitted.

VOTE: In Favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

The office is waiting for approval to get Zoom. Staff will unofficially return to the office on a limited basis beginning March 15th; Tuesday-Eddie, Wednesday-Hanna, Thursday-Barbara; on other days working from home. Visitors will only be seen by video, phone or in person appointment at the discretion of the staff member who is in the office on the day in question. Lucy will be on vacation from March 8th through March 19th. Jeff and Zunera will be available when needed. Jeff will run the March Board meeting and Zunera will run a meeting along the way.

100 Neptune Avenue- Coalition for Safe Housing wants a member of the Community Board to be on their Advisory Board. However, because the Coalition is requesting fundraising to get money for a suit against the City, no one can be involved as a Board member. Lucy sent an email to the Coalition explaining why we are declining the invitation. Councilmember Deutsch is having a demonstration on Sunday, March 7th in front of Gracie Mansion. Everyone is invited to attend. RSVP to the Councilmembers office. On March 20th, which is 60 days from the last meeting, we will reach out to DHS for an update.

Lucy remarked that going forward, there will be no 6 p.m. committee meetings. All meetings will begin 7 p.m. At the Executive meeting there was discussion that the office does not get the word out to the community about meetings. Lucy asked that all board members share the agendas, etc that they receive with their friends and neighbors. This will get the word out and will be much appreciated. When the agenda comes, prior to the monthly Board meeting, the public must up for Public speaking, please make sure you advise Hanna of your desire to speak. No one will be allowed to speak during this portion of the meeting, if they have not submitted their name before. Lucy also reiterated that during the meeting the chat box will be available, monitored and recorded. No votes can be submitted by the members as a text vote.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Eddie reported that Opening Day for the Amusement area is slated for April 9th. There will be a Virtual Job Fair with the Alliance in the near future. Middle Schools return tomorrow. As of March 1st, indoor dining will return at 35% occupancy. There will be a Mask Force event tomorrow at the Stillwell Avenue Terminal. Thanks to Dionne and Susan for volunteering. There will be a meeting early in March with CM Treyger, DCAWP, NYPD and stakeholders in Coney Island and Brighton Beach to follow up the continuing problem with illegal vendors. Ravine Hall apartments on Surf Avenue and W. 20th Street is just about completed and will be ready to go on the market via Housing Connect in the very near future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Licensing Committee

Yelena Makhnin/Orlando Mendez Co-Chairs

Yelena reported that there has been two Licensing Committee meeting since our last Board meeting.

One vote was done for both Crab House & Pizza Brook licenses.

Crab House Restaurant – 1223 Surf Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Committee approved this application unanimously.

VOTE: In Favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1 Recusal: 1

Motion carried. Roll call on file at C.B. office (quorum present)

Pizza Brook – 1215 Surf Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Committee approved this application unanimously.

VOTE: In Favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 1 Recusal: 1

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call on file at C.B. office (quorum present)

Committee met tonight prior to the full Board meeting to discuss:

Jewel Lounge – 1201 Surf Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. Change of Ownership.

Committee approved this application.

Vote: In Favor: 31 Opposed: 1 Abstention: 1

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call on file at C.B. office (quorum present)

Joint Environment & Transportation Committee: Jeff Sanoff/Selina Grant /

Wanda Feliciano/Lolita Divilova, Co-Chairs

This meeting was called to see a power point presentation by EDC and N.Y. Ferry on the proposed ferry project. EDC needs a letter of support for the project.

Committee Vote: In Favor: 4 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 2

Committee did not approve the project. Comment period has been extended until March 15th. Still trying to get a public hearing set up.

Because the motion did not pass in committee, no vote by full Board is necessary. Michael Russo wanted the full board to vote on this. Jeff suggested that EDC/NY Ferry make a full presentation on this project in front of the full board. The only way a full vote can be done is if one of the committee members who abstained or one who voted yes, asks for the vote to be reconsidered. The full board must be given all the information that the committee was given, then the full board could vote. Michael Russo, as one of the “yes” votes requested a new presentation. Eddie remarked that EDC made this presentation to the committee on Feb. 15th. However, he will email the presentation to each board member immediately after the meeting tonight/he will send link to the committee meeting to all board members tonight and will send the other part of the information in the morning.

During the Transportation portion of the joint meeting, a representative of Red Apple Realty presented the proposal to have a private shuttle, for residents of Ocean Dreams run between Ocean Dreams on Surf Avenue and the Stillwell Avenue Terminal. Five sites were proposed and presented to the Committee. Motion was made from Committee that none of the sites were acceptable, as they all would add to the traffic congestion in the area, especially during the “season”. We suggested that Red Apple Shuttle Bus reconsider and come back with other sites.

Discussion of need for traffic lights on Surf Avenue and West 22nd St. and West 36th Street.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Gloria Watkins – She remarked that during Black History Month we should honor all Black people.

Jeff Sanoff – There will be a Town Hall meeting tomorrow evening.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Discussion about a merit increase for staff member, Hanna Glikman. Percentages from 7-10 percent were discussed. Committee voted In Favor: 16 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0 for a 10% raise.

Justification for the increase is that she has taken on 75% of the responsibility for doing Shirley's job.

Vote: In Favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0

Motion carried unanimously. Roll call on file at C.B. office (quorum present).

Barbara Santonas, Secretary