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Brooklyn Community Board 15



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DISTRICT MANAGER

Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday January 27, 2026 7:00pm

WEBEX:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Scavo, asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence for World Peace.

PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:

Review of Application to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission: Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead located at 1669 East 22 Street, Brooklyn 11229.

Scope of Work, Fence Restoration & Modification, New Curb Cut and Parking Area Open Paving and New Porch Railings.

The Board received 4 letters of support.

A lively conversation ensued about how historically the landmarked home was beautifully maintained, but for the last few years it has been boarded up, vandalized, and left in ruins. Questions were directed as to who owns the property, what future plans are on the horizon and will it be restored. The representative stated the family has invested a lot of money into restoring and living in the home and that is why they are seeking to place railings on the porch, new fence posts and pavers to be able to drive up to their home. Mentions of any future plans for the adjacent barn were brought up, stating it was being rented out for the purpose of parking cars. It was explained that the barn is not part of this request and is not a landmarked feature of the property. Questions on the type of wood being used for restoration were discussed, the railings will be made of the same wood, probably oak already prevalent in the original home. The posts will be separate and not attached to the original home's structure in keeping with the historical features of the home.

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A motion was made to approve the applicant's request by Ronald Tawil and seconded by Moses Massry,

The Board went in to Executive Session and a Full Board Vote was taken, The vote was 33 yes, 1 no and 1 abstention for cause. The motion carried.

Chair Scavo opened the floor and invited Elected Officials, their Representatives, Agency Representatives and Community Members to speak:

Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse thanked everyone for the faith they have in her by reelecting her for another term. She is pleased to be serving her community and reminded everyone of some of the committees she sits on, including health, budget, and finance. She wished everyone good health because without good health you have nothing.

Irina Khlevner, Director of Constituent Services for Councilmember Narcisse, spoke she welcomed everyone to attend the Councilmember's 2026 State of the District & Inaugural Ceremony being held on Thursday, January 29, 2026, 6:00pm at P.S. 203 located at 5101 Avenue M, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Please RSVP. She went on to discuss the litany of services the Council Member's office is providing constituents, from a weekly food pantry, OMNY card services, Free Legal Consultations to assistance in filling out benefit forms. She invited all to please contact the Council Member's Office for any additional information and to reach out for any help they may be seeking, 718-241-9330 and ikhlevner@council.nyc.gov

Miranda Garcia representing Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's Office mentioned a couple of upcoming events the Senator is sponsoring, A Black History Month Celebration Honoring Black Excellence in Education with Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Assemblyman Alec Brook-Krasny and Council Member Kayla Santosuosso, on Friday February 27, at 6:00pm at the Coney Island YMCA 2980 West 29th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11224. Please RSVP, 718 484-3216. The Senator is also sponsoring a New York State Homeowners Property Tax Exemption Event to help homeowners apply and recertify for tax exemption programs they are eligible for receiving. The Event is being held on Wednesday, February 11, from 2:00pm-3:00pm at the Shorefront YM-YWHA Auditorium located at 3300 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11235. She added that the Senator has sponsored 24 Bills, 3 for Public Safety, 18 for Veterans and 3 for affordable housing.

Nancy Lulu representing Brooklyn DA, Eric Gonzalez, extended greetings from the Brooklyn DA. She hoped everyone was staying warm. She wanted to share that based on the NYPD stats, Brooklyn closed 2025 as the safest year in its recorded history. Please visit the Brooklyn DA Website at BrooklynDA.org to read the DA's Office latest press releases.

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She added if there is anything you would like to address with the DA 's office please call the Action Center 718-250-2340.

Izzy Weiss, representing Councilmember Inna Vernikov's office stated they have been plagued with calls regarding the Guider Avenue / Shore Parkway homeless encampment, the Councilmember's office is on top of it and is in negotiations with the Commissioner of Department of Transportation trying to secure fencing to prevent this from being a permanent encampment. They will remain on top of this issue and keep the Community updated with any further information. If you have any questions or issues, we can be assistance with please call the Councilmember Vernikov's office at 718 368-9176.

Hunter Rabinowitz representing Borough President Antonio Reynoso sent greetings from the Brooklyn Borough President. He hoped everyone was staying warm, He stated this is the last time this year he will be mentioning that Brooklyn Community Board Member Applications are open, so please apply if you are 16 years and older and work, live or have a significant interest in the community. He cautioned to please apply by the deadline which is February 6, 2026 by 11:00pm. You can visit our website Brooklyn bp.nyc.gov to apply. He stated every year capital applications are live and every year Borough President Reynoso invests in infrastructure projects that help make our borough a better home for all Brooklyn residents to live. These projects include community centers, cultural organizations, hospitals, libraries, parks, and neighborhood streetscapes. Capital funding delivers real improvements in neighborhoods across our borough. Applications must be submitted by February 19, 2026 at 05:00 p.m. The applications can also be found on our website. And then finally, he stated there will be a Free Tax Prep, being offered at Brooklyn Borough Hall, from February 2nd to April 8th. He advised that it is not every day within those time frames. It takes place only Mondays and Wednesdays between 10:00 am and 04:00 p.m. Appointments are required. He stated any income eligible New Yorkers can access free tax filing services and it is provided by IRS certified volunteers.

Noam Abrahams representing Senator Sam Sutton's office spoke about legislation the Senator was putting forward to allow an accommodation for observant people to put their trash out earlier on Friday without fear of receiving a fine. He added that a proposal the Senator created to establish protective zones around houses of worship was recently included by Governor Hochul in her State of the State address and Executive Budget. The Senator feels this acknowledgment is a strong sign of support for the initiative and a big step towards passing this Bill. He added that in District News, the neighborhood heating fund Heart Share applications will open on February 9th. It was unfortunately a little delayed this year. So, if you had

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Heart Share or the Neighborhood Heating Fund or if you have Heat and think you may be eligible for this additional grant, please give our office a call on or after February 9, we can get your information straight into the system. There's only a limited amount of funds for the program, so the earlier you apply, the more likely.

He added on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, starting on February 18th, the Senator's office will be hosting staff from representative Yvette Clark's office, if constituents have any Federal issues like passport renewal, social security, or the US Department of Labor there will now be dedicated Congressional Staff in our office monthly, please call the Senator's Office for further information. Lastly, on February 19th the Senator will be hosting with the American Italian Cancer Foundation a free mammogram van. The appointments are free for woman aged 40 to 75. Each appointment takes approximately 12 minutes and he reiterated, it's completely free and there are no co-pays. If you are uninsured, they will still see you. Early detection can save lives, so we ask that you please call our office to book an appointment. Our phone number is 718-253-2015, we are here to help with anything that's going on. I hope everyone stays warm.

Donald Cranston representing Assemblymember Jaime Williams wished everyone a belated Happy New Year. He announced he is now the Assemblymember's Chief of Staff. He wanted to share that Assemblymember Williams had two bills Governor Hochul signed, one was regarding property tax and the other was a tax exemption for spouses of law enforcement officers killed in a line of duty.

He added they received many calls about ice melt shortages throughout the district. They were able to acquire a palette of ice melt plus 40 shovels. They gave them out to over a hundred constituents. They partnered with East Flatbush, where 20 students received Community Service credits to help clear snow in front of 50 constituent homes. This was a big undertaking and unfortunately, they received too many calls to accommodate every request.

He added, they are going to move the concerts Assemblymember Williams sponsors in Marine Park to June. There will be 11 concerts in total. Lastly, the Assemblymember is working on Legislation, Bill 6955 in regard to Battery Storage, moving it from 1000 feet to 300 feet away from residential properties, houses of worship etc., in urban areas with populations over 1 million like New York City and to 750 feet in more rural areas. They have 26 sponsors, with more taking interest. They just need to work on getting it out of Committee on to the floor.

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Sergey Chuprik, representing newly elected New York City Comptroller, Mark Levine, sent greetings. He stated that there are no events scheduled yet, but the Comptroller is planning to meet with each Borough's Leadership, most likely the Borough President's and please look out for future announcements. Any concerns, you can reach out to Sergey at 212 669-1186.

Assemblyman Michael Novakhov sent greetings to all. He stated he had a couple of updates he wanted to mention. He stated today is Holocaust Remembrance Day and he partnered earlier with the Association of Eastern European Jewry to make sure a bus of Holocaust Survivors were able to attend the Annual Holocaust Remembrance Event at the United Nations. He stated this is so significant given the recent Anti-Semitic incidents that have been rising in Brooklyn and across this Country. It is our responsibility to elevate the voice of survivors and preserve their testimony. They represent living history as a reminder of the 6 million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. I stand firm with the Jewish Community and confront Anti-Semitism.

In regard to the snowstorm response and DSNY operations during the recent snowstorm, he stated he attended the Citywide Emergency Briefing with New York City Emergency Management along with DSNY NYPD, FDNY DSA. One important point that was raised is that during active snowfall, our city streets often need to be plowed multiple times, not just once because snow continues to accumulate. However, I know that a lot of people are complaining that their streets are not cleaned especially the intersections where people walk, You cannot cross the street because of the snow blocking and this is something we're constantly working with Department of Sanitation. On a side note, I need to assure you I was in Manhattan today visiting the UN and they had the same situation in Manhattan, which I assume got preferential treatment. That is not the case. I think they need to do a better job cleaning those intersections and sidewalks. Having said that Sanitation crews did work around the clock keeping major roads, bus routes and residential streets as clear as possible. If I can be of any assistance, please call my office at 718 743-4078. I want to make sure Southern Brooklyn is not overlooked and they are using those snow melting machines that are supposed to be highly effective, melting 60 tons of snow an hour.

I am working on Legislation to provide clear public notice when installing photo speed violation monitoring systems, not just speed violations but camera violations as well because I know they will be installing more cameras and I think people should know where the cameras are being installed. So, under my bill the city and towns will be required to notify the public within 30 days of installation and disclose the locations through local media. It is about transparency and fairness ensuring that traffic safety tools

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are used to improve safety, not to surprise drivers or quietly generate revenue.

Lastly, and I hope that you agree with me on another legislative idea I have that would exclude hate crimes from youthful offender treatment. So, I am introducing this legislation that hate crimes should never be treated as youthful mistakes that get quietly sealed and forgotten. We've seen a disturbing rise in Anti-Semitic incidents including vandalism targeting Jewish spaces and children's playgrounds. These acts are meant to intimidate, to threaten and to spread fear, and the law should reflect the seriousness of that harm. So, under current law, certain hate crimes persecuted in criminal court can still qualify for youthful offender treatment, which often results in sealed records and reduced accountability, and I believe that sends the wrong message. The bill will make it clear, biased motivated crimes should not receive youthful offenders' protection. Hate is a choice and when someone commits a crime that conduct deserves full accountability under the law.

Chair Scavo asked if anyone else would like to speak? With no one coming forward she moved on to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Roll Call Attendance was taken by Secretary Douglas Luback, with a Quorum present, a motion to adopt the December 16, 2025, minutes was made by Moses Massry and seconded by Ronnie Tawil

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Chair Scavo read the Liquor Licenses the Board received:

Renewal, Beer & Cider

Renewal, Beer & Cider

City Ice Sports Inc
760 Oriental Blvd Manhattan Beach
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Renewal, Wine, Beer & Cider

Fuciaana Inc.
DBA – Mitoushi Sushi Asian Fusion
2478 Coney Island Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11223
Maisushi Inc.

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DBA – Mitoushi Japanese Restaurant
1221 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Renewal, Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

Marfa Cafe Inc
DBA – Tabu
2205 Ave X
Brooklyn, NY 11235

BBKM Associates LLC
DBA – Mirage Diner
717 Kings Highway
Brooklyn, NY 11223

Corporate Change, Beer & Cider

Emmon's Deli Inc
1729 Emmons Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11235

New Application and Temporary Retail Permit, Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

Platinum Mic LLC
DBA – Platinum
2085 Coney Island Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11223

If you know of any illegal activity or want to share any concerns regarding a liquor license, please contact our office.

Public Safety Report:

Public Safety Chairperson, Chick Pallotta stated that our Public Safety Committee meeting was held in person at the 61st Precinct on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 6:00pm. Representing the 61 was its Commanding Officer, Deputy Inspector, Joseph Antonio. In attendance also was the 61's Executive Officer Captain Francis Abbriano and present from the Community Affairs office was Detective Lauren Au and Police Officer Colleen Abbate.

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Public safety Committee Members were forwarded in advance the CompStat Report (Volume 33 Number 2), the 61 Traffic Stat Report, and the Quality-of-Life Stat Report, all covering the week of 01/05/2026 through 01/11/2026.

He stated that Deputy Inspector Anthony then chose to present to our Committee the Preliminary 2025 Yearend CompStat Report. Based upon the 7 major crime complaint categories, a year-to-date stat with 2024 and 2025, the 61 was down 5.4%. We had 2 murders in 2025, compared to 2 murders in 2024. We had 15 rapes in 2025, compared to 17 rapes in 2024. Robberies, year-to-date, 142 in 2025, compared to 142 in 2024. Felony Assaults were up 10.4%, 297 in 2025, compared to 269 in 2024. Burglaries were year-to-date down 19.6% with 144 in 2025, compared to 179 in 2024. Grand Larceny, year-to-date, was down 3.4%, with 571 complaints in 2025, compared to 591 in 2024. Grand Larceny Auto was down 18.3% with 227 complaints in 2025, compared to 278 in 2024. In a subcategory labeled “Hate Crimes,” the 61st Precinct was down 35.7% - 18 crimes in 2025, compared to 28 in 2024.

With respect to arrests made, Deputy Inspector Antonio commended his officers, citing there were 8% more arrests made, with a total of 2,709 in made in 2025, compared to 2,508 arrests made in 2024. He added that was accomplished with lower staffing levels at the 61st Police Precinct.

OLD BUSINESS: 2025-54-A BSA Appeal Presentation – Regarding the property located at 2114 Coyle Street

Representing Community Residents was Shao Feng Ye, who stated he found that Demolition Permits issued by Department of Buidling were incomplete and missing the Department of Environmental Protection’s requirement of a Stormwater permit. The building’s grounds are more than 20,000 square feet and by Law require this Stormwater permit to proceed. They are asking the Board to support their Appeal at the Board of Standards and Appeal to overturn the Department of Buildings issuance of a demolition permit.

Questions asked if the Board’s support was needed to pursue, and the answer was yes.

A motion to approve was made by Ronald Tawil and seconded by Douglas Balin. The vote was 41 yes and 1 no. The motion passed.

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NEW BUSINESS: 100% Attendance Awards postponed till February 24, 2026 Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ronald Tawil and seconded by Janet Guerra. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

*This is not a verbatim account of the meeting but a synopsis of the main points. *