

The City of New York  
**Brooklyn Community Board 15**



**ANTONIO REYNOSO**  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**THERESA SCAVO**  
CHAIRPERSON

**OFFICERS**  
RONALD TAWIL  
FIRST VICE –CHAIRPERSON  
RAISA CHERNINA  
SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
JACK ERDOS, ESQ  
TREASURER  
ALLEN POPPER, ESQ  
SECRETARY



**ERIC ADAMS**  
MAYOR

**LAURA SINGER**  
DISTRICT MANAGER

**Monthly Board Meeting - Minutes**

**February 28, 2023 -Webex Conference**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

**PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:**

Chair Scavo opened the floor and invited Elected Officials, their representatives, agency representatives and community members to speak:

Leah Moses, representing Council Member Ari Kagan, stated she had three items she wanted to share, first was that Councilman Kagan is sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting for Beach Haven / Gravesend tomorrow night Wednesday March 1, 2023, at P.S. 216 located at 350 Avenue X, from 6:00pm-8:00pm. All are welcome to attend or to please share your thoughts or issues with the Councilman's office at 718-373-9673. Translators will be on hand. Secondly, the Councilman vehemently opposes shifting Fire Department Safety Protocols from the New York Fire Department (FDNY) to the Department of Buildings to manage during building inspections. This proposal has been laid out in a statement by Mayor Adams and the Councilman concurs with the FDNY that such important fire safety measures remain with the FDNY when inspecting buildings. Lastly, Councilman Kagan opposes New York State's plan to move Access-A-Ride to the city's budget, requiring \$500 million be allocated from the city to run the service. It will put an unnecessary burden on the city and unfairly impact the people who rely on this service.

Tyler Reynolds, Construction Liaison for the Manhattan Beach Sewer project, stating they are making progress, but have been bogged down and forced to turn water off more frequently than planned because of broken pipes and broken valves plaguing the aging sewer system. The Department of

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Environmental Protection (DEP) is not making the necessary repairs and so unfortunately longer water shut offs have become necessary. They have finished Corbin and working on the dead ends of both West End Avenue and Amherst Streets this week. If you have any question or concerns, he stated he would be happy to answer them. His contact information is:

[bed819ccl@gmail.com](mailto:bed819ccl@gmail.com)

Venus Scantlebury, Outreach Coordinator for the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) spoke about the CCRB and how they are available to receive, investigate, mediate, and recommend action on complaints against New York City Police Officers who use excessive, unnecessary force or abuse their authority. You can file online or in person at their office located at 100 Church Street, 10<sup>th</sup> floor. She invited everyone to attend their discussion on Police Accountability at their upcoming Brooklyn Board Meeting on May 10, 2023, from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the Restoration Plaza Community Room located at 1368 Fulton St, Brooklyn, NY 11216. You can register online [Board Meeting Schedule - CCRB \(nyc.gov\)](#) She also placed her contact information in the chat : her phone number is 917-742-4098 and her email is [Vscantlebury@ccrb.nyc.gov](mailto:Vscantlebury@ccrb.nyc.gov)

Emmit Sklar, Brooklyn Borough Advocate representing the Office of the Public Advocate Jumanne Williams, stated that their office is here to assist with complaints and inquiries involving government related services and regulations. He shared his contact information in the chat [esklar@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:esklar@advocate.nyc.gov) or you can also contact the Public Advocate's constituent services team at [gethelp@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:gethelp@advocate.nyc.gov)

Sharon Fuchs, representing Senator Simcha Felder's office stated the Senator was hosting an event tomorrow Wednesday March 1, 2023, from 10:30-3:30 to help constituents locate unclaimed funds. The Comptroller's office will be on hand to help assist in searching the Unclaimed Database for constituents.

Nancy Lulu sent greetings from Brooklyn DA Eric Gonzalez. She shared that the DA is offering one-week internships to High School students, during spring break to participate and gain valuable insight into the criminal justice system and how his office works. She sent a flyer to the Board's Office with details if anyone is interested in learning more. If you have any matters, you would like addressed, please call the DA's Action Center at 718 250-2340.

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse representing District 46 came on to say hello and stated her district lines have broadened and she has parts of Sheepshead Bay now, Ford Street, Brigham Street amongst other new areas in the district and constituents shouldn't be a stranger. Please call on her office

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for help. Her office is here to serve, and they help with a range of issues, from immigrant issues to tax prep help. She has legal aid representatives in her office on certain days of the week, so please stop by to visit. Her office is located at 5827 Flatlands Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11234. Her office phone is 718 241-9330. Her Chief of Staff Saye Joseph place their email in chat: [Sajoseph@council.nyc.gov](mailto:Sajoseph@council.nyc.gov)

Corina Lozado, Counsel to the Borough President, shared that the Board Member Application portal recently closed. We are conducting interviews this week for appointment to CB15, please access the links in your email to book an interview with me. Borough Hall recently sponsored a Black History Month Celebration They are conducting walk-in constituent services on Wednesday from 9:00am-3:00pm at 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn NY 11201. In chat she placed her contact information: email [corina.lozada@brooklynbp.nyc.gov](mailto:corina.lozada@brooklynbp.nyc.gov) and phone 718 802-3883. You can reach Constituent Affairs at 718 802-3700 or [Askreynoso@brooklynbp.nyc.gov](mailto:Askreynoso@brooklynbp.nyc.gov)

Shani Audain, Community & Government Affairs Liaison for LIVEonNY spoke about how this non-profit organization facilitates organ, eye, and tissue donations, saving many lives each year. She would love to partner and engage more on this particular issue at another time, perhaps giving a full presentation to the Board to detail how important an issue this is. She placed her email information in the chat [saudain@liveonny.org](mailto:saudain@liveonny.org)

Stephannia Cleaton, Government Relations Manager for Kingsborough Community College, sent greetings from the President Dr. Claudia Schrader. The students are on winter break, returning next week. She reported that Kingsborough is unhappy with the proposed removal of the B-49 bus that currently transports students to the college and will attend the Bus Redesign Proposal meeting being held tomorrow March 1<sup>st</sup> by the MTA in support and solidarity with the Community Board and residents of Manhattan Beach who too are affected by these proposed changes. If anyone had any questions for KCC please contact her at [Stephannia.Cleaton@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Stephannia.Cleaton@kbcc.cuny.edu) or call (718) 368-6768.

Troy Olson, representing Councilmember Inna Vernikov, stated he was off for a few weeks on family leave with his son, but wanted to share that Councilmember Vernikov will be giving her State of the District Address tomorrow night, Wednesday March 1, 2023, at PS 153, located at 1970 Homecrest Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11229 from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Please rsvp by using the bar code provided on flyer or rsvp to [JShafer@council.nyc.gov](mailto:JShafer@council.nyc.gov) He also announced the office will be moving from 2401 Avenue U and the new address is a better location for Community Board 15 residents. He

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placed his information in the chat [Tolson@council.nyc.gov](mailto:Tolson@council.nyc.gov) 718-368-9176 ext., 105.

Ken Lazar, Liaison for the Office of Community Engagement & Programming Department of Buildings announced that he provided a flyer to the Board Office on Local Law 152 which requires buildings larger than one- or two-family homes (which are exempted) must submit licensed gas inspections. 2023 is the year that Community Board 15 is now required to have these inspections done and to avoid price gauging it is better to have these certified inspections done now rather than later in the year. He also announced the Buildings After Hours programs where staff will be on hand every Tuesday from 4:00pm-7:00pm for homeowners, tenants, small business owners and building managers to have their building issues and concerns addressed. Their new office is located at 345 Adams Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Brooklyn NY 11201.

Elena Sorokina, representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein's office stated that are helping constituents with obtaining senior id cards, filling out HEAP forms, and having the Metrovan each month come to provide half-fare metro cards to those that are eligible.

Ed Jaworski, Vice President of the Madison-Marine-Homecrest Civic Association announced that their next meeting will be held on Thursday March 16, 2023, at 7:00pm at the Carmine Carro Center. The guest speaker will be Randy Peers, President of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to discuss the problems of empty businesses both large and small throughout the district. Irish soda bread will be served.

Christopher Greif representing the New York City Transit Riders Council stated that the MTA opened a new Customer Service Center at the Coney Island Stillwell Station, and it is indoors with seating, and they can help you apply to receive reduced fare cards and offer OMNY assistance. Access -A-Ride's website is currently down because they are working on improving it.

David Kupferberg, VP Bus Advocacy, NYC Passengers United, stated it was unfair that the MTA had funding for a new Customer Service Center in Coney Island but not for the buses they are planning to eliminate in their new Bus Re-routing Proposals. He stated these buses are needed and should not be eliminated.

Yehuda Schupper, Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Helene Weinstein said she was busy in Albany as the head of the Ways and Means Committee chairing budget hearings. He spoke about their redistricting concerns. For decades, the 41<sup>st</sup> and 59<sup>th</sup> Assembly Districts have successfully represented

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diverse communities and the redistricting is being done in favor of a district population parity. They also are overlooking the fact that wetland communities share unique ecological, legislative, and economic interests and should be represented together. He urges the Board to write letters opposing these planned changes before they are finalized.

Board Member, Allen Popper, stated that a power outage in Sheepshead Bay has partially affected his building on Ocean Avenue between Avenue Y and Z. Although he has partial power, he worries about his older neighbors who rely on the elevator functioning and the boiler for heat in this cold weather. This will be a hardship if not addressed soon.

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 Chair Scavo, with a Quorum present, a motion to adopt the January 31, 2023, minutes was made by Ronnie Tawil and seconded by Debra Greif.

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

Chair Scavo announced that there is a meeting being held on Monday March 6, 2023, in Coney Island on bringing a casino to Coney Island. She consulted with her Executive Board who is vehemently opposed to a casino, sighting how it brought nothing good to the neighboring communities around Atlantic City. Also stating without a professionally accredited skillset in gaming a casino will not bring local jobs to Coney Island residents. Chair Scavo asked for approval from the Board, for her and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson, Ronnie Tawil to testify against the Proposed Casino on Monday, March 6, 2023, at the hearing on behalf of Community Board 15. The motion was made by Debra Greif and seconded by Ronnie Tawil. Board Member, Morris Missry, had to excuse himself for cause, so aside from the one abstention it was unanimous with 33 in favor with no one opposed to allow them to testify in opposition on behalf on the Board.

Chair Scavo stated that our Community Associate as a union member will be receiving a retro-active raise and bonus as was negotiated by her union and the Mayor. Our District Manager, Laura Singer, is a non-union employee, and has not received a raise in 2 years and it is only fair we offer Ms. Singer a comparable raise. Chair Scavo made the motion to approve the raise, the motion was seconded by Ronnie Tawil. The Board unanimously supported the raise for District Manager Laura Singer with 34 in favor.

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**FEBRUARY 28, 2023 / LIQUOR LICENSES**

**Renewal Application Wine, Beer & Cider**

Kindachi Inc  
DBA Mitoushi Japanese Restaurant  
1221 Quentin Road  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Roll N Roaster Corp  
Roll N Roaster  
2901 Emmons Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11235

**Renewal Application Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider**

AMGP Restaurant Corp  
DBA Yiasou Estiatoro  
2003-2005 Emmons Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Wise Bar & Grill LLC  
35 Neptune Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11235

TGI Fridays NY LLC  
TGI Fridays  
3181 Harkness Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Chair Scavo stated if you know of any issues with any of these establishments, please let the office know so that we can reach out to the State Liquor Authority.

**Public Safety Report:**

Our Public Safety Committee meeting was conducted via Webex on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 5:00pm. Representing the 61<sup>st</sup> Police Precinct was its Commanding Officer, Captain Derby St. Fort. Present also were Captain Gregory Rivera, the 61's Executive Officer and Detective Lauren Au, from Community Affairs. Public Safety Committee members were

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forwarded the link to the 61<sup>st</sup> Police Precinct CompStat Report covering the week of January 30, 2023, through February 5, 2023. The 61 continues to be on a downward trend. Based on the seven major crime categories, year-to-date comparisons with 2022, the 61 was up 16.31%. To provide the full board with the latest, up-to-date statistics, I've tracked the next two weekly CompStat Reports. The week of February 20, 2023, through February 26, 2023, was not yet posted. Covering February 6, 2023, through February 12, 2023, year-to-date comparisons with 2022, the 61 was down 12.94%. Covering the next week, February 13, 2023, through February 19, 2023, year-to-date comparisons with 2022, crime complaints went down yet again 0.47%. The report revealed 1 murder and 2 rapes. Robbery, up 21.7%; Felony Assaults, down 29.7%; Burglary, up 11.8%; Grand Larceny, up 1%; and Grand Larceny Auto, no charge at 0%.

There are no hate crimes recorded. Arrests are being made for the “felony” of using paper license plates on motor vehicles.

Our Public Safety Committee members continue to monitor quality-of-life issues affecting our community.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Allen Popper and seconded by Pearl Siegelman. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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