

The City of New York
Brooklyn Community Board 15



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Monthly Board Meeting – Minutes

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday February 25, 2025, 7:00pm

Kingsborough Community College, 2001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY
11235, Faculty Dining Room U112

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chair Scavo asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence, in regard to all the events around the world, prayers for world peace.

PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:

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

Martin Gangursky stated the MTA is still not improving their service and wants them to be held accountable. He went on to say that local kids should be able to attend their local neighborhood schools.

Elizabeth Morrissey, Community Board Member and Member of Marine Park Civic Association shared her concerns about a battery charging station being built on Flatbush Avenue. She cautioned that a structure like this is a danger to the neighborhood, as it cannot be extinguished by existing technology should it go up in flames. She was told by the Fire Department; it would have to burn out on its own. She feels this is a hazard to anyone who lives by the recharging station because it has the potential to produce flammable projectiles which can effect nearby properties having detrimental impacts. She ended by saying, “I want you all to be aware that more of these stations are being contracted out to be built”. If it is allowed to be built here than it can be built by your home.

The City of New York

Brooklyn Community Board 15

Salim Cadet, Constituent Services Representative for Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, sent Greetings from the Congress Member. He added that he wanted to be at the meeting because he is the actual person you would call and speak to if you ever had an issue with a federal agency, mail service, social security, passports, or immigration assistance. He stated that he provided flyers on the front table for some upcoming events. He mentioned an upcoming Job Fair the Congresswoman is sponsoring on March 18th at 10:00am, at the Grand Army Plaza Library.

Nancy Lulu sent greetings from Brooklyn District Attorney, Eric Gonzalez. She stated she wanted to share District Attorney Gonzalez's Press Release regarding a takedown of 14 alleged shooters from a gang that was operating in the Coney Island/ Sheepshead Bay area. She added these defendants allegedly carried out 19 separate shootings, murdered a rival, and wounded innocent bystanders—lawlessly endangering our communities. We've shown that smart, focused enforcement works, and we will continue taking bold action to keep violent criminals off our streets and protect our neighborhoods. The defendants are being arraigned before Brooklyn Supreme Court on a 129-count indictment in which they are variously charged with second-degree murder, second- and fourth-degree conspiracy, second-degree attempted murder, first- and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, and related counts. This indictment is the result of a long-term investigation by the District Attorney's Violent Criminal Enterprises Bureau and the NYPD's Gun Violence Suppression Division into violence committed by members and associates of the 59 Brims and Bloodhound Brims street gangs, two sets of affiliated Bloods based primarily in Sheepshead Bay and Coney Island. The investigation centered on a series of violent incidents, including a homicide and numerous non-fatal shootings in the 61st, 60th, 67th, 73rd, and 69th Precincts beginning in February. In conclusion, thank you Community Board 15 for always inviting us to your monthly Board meetings.

Hunter Rabinowitz representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso sent greetings from the Borough President. He stated the Board Member Application and Renewal process has ended and they are now conducting interviews with new applicants. They had a very robust response and he appreciates the Board's work in getting the word out. He stated the Constituent Service Pop-up team is at the Cortelyou Library through May 12th every other Monday, 10:00am-5:00pm. They are hosting the Chisholm Effect Event on Wednesday, March 5 at 5:30pm at the Brooklyn Children's Museum honoring the former Congresswoman and her mentees and contemporaries. He spoke about free tax preparation services being offered for anyone single with an income of \$65,000 or less and \$93,000 with dependents. All flyers with further information can be found on the front table.

The City of New York

Brooklyn Community Board 15

Irina Khlenver, Deputy Director of Constituent Services, for Council Member Mercedes Narcisse spoke about the numerous events the Council Member is sponsoring. There will be a hiring fair tomorrow, Wednesday February 26, 2025, from 4:00pm-7:00pm in the district office, 5827 Flatlands Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Please have a copy of your resume and dress professionally. She discussed the various food giveaways, half-fare bus services, legal consultations, and immigration services they are sponsoring on a monthly basis. They are assisting Seniors with filing Star and Enhanced Star applications, as well as tax preparation for those income eligible. She provided a package of flyers on the front table, with all the information on their upcoming events. She thanked the Board for always extending an invite to the meetings and she always looks forward to attending.

Solomiya Momot representing Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's Office stated their forum with the Department of Finance on NYS Property Tax Exemption Enrollment and Recertification for senior citizen tax exemptions and disability exemptions, was a success. If you have any questions, they are happy to assist. The deadline to file is March 17. They are hosting a Black History Month Event on February 28th in Sponsorship with Congressman Hakeem Jeffries; all are welcome to attend but you must RSVP. Lastly, they are honoring woman on March 21, at 5:30pm for Women's History Month, who have contributed to helping in their communities and Chairperson Theresa Scavo will be honored that night and presented with a citation. The event will be held at PS 188, located 3314 Neptune Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11224

Izzy Weiss representing Council Member Inna Vernikov's office stated he just wanted to briefly mention the Council Member is hosting an OATH Resource Event on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 from 11:00am – 3:00pm at the Brighton Beach Branch Public Library at 16 Brighton 1st Road to help address any questions or concerns you have if you received a summons.

Chair Scavo acknowledged Christopher Greif from the NYC Transit Rider's Council.

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

The City of New York
Brooklyn Community Board 15

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Roll Call Attendance was taken by Treasurer Jack Erdos, with a Quorum present, a motion to adopt the January 28, 2025, minutes was made by Moses Massry and seconded by William Truscio.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Chair Scavo read the Liquor License, and Dining Out requests the Board received for February 2025.

Liquor Licenses February 2025

Renewal, Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

Knights of Baron DeKalb Inc
3000 Emmons Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Michaels of Brooklyn, Inc.
2929 Avenue R
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Liv Rock Rest Corp.
DBA - Clementes Crabhouse
3939 Emmons Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Renewal, Beer & Cider

City Ice Sports Inc
760 Oriental Blvd
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Roll N Roaster Corp
DBA - Roll N Roaster
2901 Emmons Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Holdingplus LLC
DBA – Sushi Mikasa
1188 Gravesend Neck Road
Brooklyn, NY 11229

The City of New York
Brooklyn Community Board 15

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

LRJ Brooklyn Holdings LLC
2007-2011 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

500 Foot Hearing

Ioma Brooklyn Inc
2027 Emmons Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Dining Out:

Soup N Burger Corp.
1825 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Yiasou, Next Door
2003 Emmons Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Coffee Spot Café Inc.
1617 Jerome Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11235

Concerns were voiced about Soup N Burger, using their outdoor dining shed to sell retail goods, such as Turkish lamps and jewelry as well as storage, and not for its intended purpose. Coffee Spot had a large, illegal tent out with tables and chairs for years blocking the street. The area was never maintained and filthy. Plus, they illegally parked cars there. These items will be addressed with the DOT's Dining Out Program.

Environmental Committee Report

Chair Scavo read the Environmental & Sanitation Committee Report on behalf of Environmental & Sanitation Committee Chairperson Raisa Chernina. Chair Scavo announced that the Committee met via Webex on Monday February 3, 2025, at 6:00pm to discuss the Avenue U Pumping Station upgrades. The Avenue U Pumping Station was originally constructed in 1912 and last upgraded in 1987. It is located below grade on the traffic

The City of New York

Brooklyn Community Board 15

median and has the capacity to pump 11.5 million gallons of sanitary sewage a day. Being below grade makes the Pumping Station prone to flooding, which could lead to piping discharge. They plan is to expand electrical, add flood proof doors, grated vents with minor excavation work. The proposed reconstruction project will upgrade the entire pumping station, including all mechanical and electrical equipment, and protect all critical electrical equipment for resiliency and reliability.

The pedestrian walkway plan will be updated based on feedback from the Community Board. There will be traffic lane reduction on Ocean Pkwy Service Road and Avenue U. Parking spaces will likely be impacted. The Avenue U pumping station will remain active during construction. B3 will require temporary re-routing at times during construction.

Construction is anticipated to go on for almost 3 years from April 2026 to October 2028. Construction hours will likely be from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm with activity ramping down at 3:30 pm. The project is estimated to cost \$30 million.

Transit & Transportation Committee Report:

MTA BROOKLYN ACCESSIBLE FEEDBACK SESSION 2025 -2029

Chair Scavo read the report on behalf of Transportation & Transit Committee Chairperson Oswald Heymann. She stated the Capital Plan Meeting was held virtually on Zoom Thursday February 20, 2025, at 5:00pm.

The projects are large Construction Projects. There is 68 ADA Stations included in previous plan.

They have an estimated \$68.4 billion projected for plan. The goals are to address more frequent, reliable service, and climate change. With the goal to improve customer experience.

They are looking at new cars, new repair shops, new yards and rebuilding existing train bridges and tunnels. Would like an interborough express train.

To address climate change, add flood protection measure, improve ventilation in regard to excessive heat. Safeguard bridges and reduce bus emissions.

They are looking to make 60 more subways stations accessible and add camera infrastructure.

The City of New York

Brooklyn Community Board 15

Install new fare gates to deter fare evasion. Provide new technology with digital screens.

Using new construction methods to design and build to shorten overall time and streamline costs.

Plans are not approved yet. Awaiting funding and approval.

In between 2019 -2020 115 accessible station in total were approved and created, 35 of those in 2020.

Currently 36 stations are in construction.

They are looking at 60 stations in this plan from 2025-2029.

Overall, 54% of their entire stations are now accessible.

Including in this plan for 2025-2029 – 45 elevators are to be replaced

OLD BUSINESS: Board Member, Cliff Bruckenstein requested that a Department of Transportation representative attend a future Board Meeting to discuss the issues with the Emmons Avenue bicycle lane and the uptick in accidents it has caused. He added he would also like to discuss the daylighting treatments proposed for Gerritsen Beach. Chair Scavo stated the office will reach out to DOT for a possible April Board Meeting, as March is already at capacity.

NEW BUSINESS: None

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ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Debra Greif and seconded by Moses Massry. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37p.m.

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