

# 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

#### January 25, 2022 -Webex Conference

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairperson Scavo, asked for a moment of silence for the loss of First Vice-Chairperson, Ronnie Tawil's brother. She also added to please keep the two New York Police Officers recently killed in the line of duty in your prayers. She reminded everyone to please keep all of the New York Police Department officers in their thoughts and prayers because they put their lives on the line patrolling our streets keeping us safe each and every day.

### GENERAL BOARD MEETING

#### PUBLIC HEARING / PUBLIC SESSION:

Chair Scavo opened the floor and invited Elected Officials, their representatives, and Agencies representatives to Speak:

She welcomed newly elected Brooklyn Borough President, Antonio Reynoso who addressed the Board and Community Members:

Borough President Reynoso thanked the Board Members for their service. He stated that he is a firm believer in professional development. He shared as a City Council Member, he often pondered, how he could be a better Council Member and felt that having the proper resources and tools at his disposal he was able to achieve that goal. As Brooklyn Borough President he wants his office to provide educational opportunities, training resources, technical support and provide planning experts on land use and planning issues to the Board to assist them in making informed decisions when ULURPS and land use issues come before them. He remarked that all of Brooklyn is important and as Borough President he wants everyone to know that. He feels Community Boards are the key to keeping communities safe and helping them grow. He added although we are living in trying times, he is looking

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forward to working in partnership with the Community Boards to keep Brooklyn safe and economically viable.

Newly Elected Council Member, Ari Kagan, stated that he took office on January 1, 2022. He has been assigned to 7 Committees on the Council, Resiliency and Waterfronts (Chair), Economic Development, Environmental Protection, Finance, Housing and Buildings, Land Use, and Transportation and Infrastructure. Although, these Committee Assignments will keep him very busy, he hopes to still be able to attend the Community Boards meetings in person, but he introduced his office liaison to Community Board 15, Zoya Shpigelman, should he be unable to attend. He shared in the chat his contact information: 718 373-9673 or email [District47@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District47@council.nyc.gov)

Ms. Nancy Lulu sent greetings from Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez. She sent condolences to First Vice-Chairperson Ronnie Tawil. She spoke of DA Gonzalez's commitment to keeping our streets safe. He recently sponsored a gun buyback event on January 15, 2022, successfully taking 30 weapons off our streets. She stated Gun Buyback Events have proven to be a positive deterrent to gun violence and a great tool in assuring public safety. She added this month is Human Trafficking Awareness Month and the public should be come aware of this issue. It's not only happening in other countries but right here in our city. The public should educate themselves on what signs to look for and alert the authorities immediately if they suspect such activity. She added to please take a look at the DA's website for upcoming informative webinar programs, newsletters, and press releases. The DA's Human Trafficking Hotline is 718 250-2770. Ms. Lulu also shared the DA's action center's number 718-250-2412.

Reeves Eisen representing Senator Andrew Gounardes' office stated the Senator is now heading up the Finance and Budget Committee and we will be learning more about what that will entail for our community in the very near future. The Senator is back in session and busy in Albany. High on his Legislative Priorities in seeking tax exemptions for seniors. She hopes to have further information about that soon. She too sent condolences to First Vice-Chair Ronnie Tawil and acknowledged the recent loss of 2 NYPD officers in the line of duty.

Assembly Member Helene Weinstein reiterated that she too is back in session in Albany with back to back meetings as the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee. She stated her meetings are running from 9:30am till about 9:30pm, that is if they are lucky, consecutively over the next couple of weeks. She is working on providing more funding to our hospitals, seeking bonus pay for hospital workers of up to \$3000 per employee for working

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during the pandemic and federal funding to assist hospitals with the heightened cost of operating during the pandemic. She spoke about the rent relief funding having been exhausted but she is hopeful to get more money to aid with not only tenant's facing hardships but landlords of smaller properties who were unable to collect rent to pay their water bills, and property taxes. She also hopes to extend that relief to coop and condos owners to assist with maintenance costs.

Mr. Anthony Drummond stated he was happy to be back working in Brooklyn. He is the new Chief of Staff for Council Member Farah Louis. He stated Council Member Louis's Council Committees are : Cultural Affairs, Education, Finance, Land Use, Zoning and Landmarks to name just a few. The Council Member is happy to be of service and their office number is 718 629-2900 should anyone require assistance.

Ms. Tova Chatz, Chief of Staff for Council Member Inna Vernikov, stated that her office has been up and running since December 2021 and has handled over 250 cases. They can be reached at 718 368-9176. Recently their office has teamed up with the Brooklyn Borough President's office to provide vaccines, covid testing, covid home kits and PPE while supplies last at 2101 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street by Avenue U from Tuesday January 25 through Sunday January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The hours are weekdays 10:00am-6:00pm and weekends 10:00am-5:00pm. They are located at the previous Council Office on East 24<sup>th</sup> and Avenue U. She added that Council Member Vernikov is the Republican Minority Whip of the City Council.

Ms. Glenda Silva, Deputy Director, Programs & Strategic Alliances, for Borough President Antonio Reynoso stated the office is in flux with the New Administration just settling in. They are extending Board Membership Applications until March 4<sup>th</sup>. You can access the applications online, although they are working on making some changes at: <https://www.brooklyn-usa.org/quick-links-to-applications/community-board-applications-2022/>

In chat she placed her contact information [glenda.silva@brooklynbp.nyc.gov](mailto:glenda.silva@brooklynbp.nyc.gov) She added you can follow Borough President Reynoso on FB, IG, Twitter @bkbpreynoso

Mr. Lenny Markh, Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Cymbrowitz, stated they were successful in petitioning Governor Hochel to sign off on legislation allowing Public Meetings such as ours, to remain virtual while the pandemic still poses a health risk to our community. Lenny echoed Assemblymember Weinstein's advocacy for funding for home owners and renters facing

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economic hardships due to the impact of Covid. He provided a program links in the chat for Home Owners: <https://www.homeownerfund.org/> and Renters: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/>

He added a link for Free Covid Home Tests mailed to your home as well [www.CovidTests.gov](http://www.CovidTests.gov)

Lastly, if you need any assistance from Assemblyman Cymbrowitz' office call us at 718-743-4078. They are open Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm by appointment only.

Sergey Chuprik representing Comptroller Brad Lander stated the Comptroller is focusing on New York's Housing Issues and is bringing in a team of specialists to tackle this issue. He added to please visit our website for further information.

Kerri Malave Community Director representing Assemblymember Jaime Williams of the 59<sup>th</sup> Assembly District placed in chat her email information: [Malavek@nyassembly.gov](mailto:Malavek@nyassembly.gov) She stated you can email to be added to their informative email blasts. Her phone number is 718 252-2124.

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 December 21, 2021, minutes was made by Joseph Dorinson and seconded by Pearl Siegelman.

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

#### **TEMPORARY PERMIT:**

Angel Cafe Restaurant Inc.  
A-Cherry Restaurant, Café & Lounge  
2425-2429 Coney Island Avenue  
11223

#### **RENEWALS FOR WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:**

S & I Business Inc.  
2691 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
11235

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Emmons Deli Inc.  
1729 Emmons Avenue  
11235

River K  
2013 Coney Island Avenue  
11223

Cherry Hill  
1901 Emmons Avenue  
11235

Spiro's  
2103 Avenue U  
11229

City Ice Sports  
760 Oriental Blvd  
11235

**RENEWALS FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:**

Friends of Columbus Council  
3051 Nostrand Avenue  
11229

2415 Just Healthy  
2415 Coney Island Avenue  
11223

NRG2 – DBA Nargis Café  
1655 Sheepshead Bay Road  
11235

UBAR  
1114 Avenue U  
11223

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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.

A question from the floor asked what a temporary permit was. Chair Scavo answered that the business was issued a temporary permit to operate while it goes through the process of a 500 foot hearing, since they is another establishment within proximity of this location that also have a liquor license.

### **Public Safety Report:**

Chick Pallotta, Public Safety Chair reported that the Public Safety Committee Meeting was held on Webex, Wednesday January 12, 2022, at 5:00pm. In place of its' Commanding Officer, Captain Derby St. Fort, and representing the 61<sup>st</sup> Precinct for the meeting was Detective Sam Shaya from the Community Affairs Office. Also present from Community Affairs Police Officer Lauren Au.

According to the Comp Stat year-end report for 2021, year-to-date comparisons with 2020, crime complaints in the seven (7) major crime categories were down 9.7%. Specifically, Murder was down 66.7%, there was 1 murder. Rape down 46.7%, there were 8 rapes. Robbery down 18%, there were 114 robberies. Felony Assault up 9.7%., there were 237 felony assaults. Burglary down 29.8%, there were 151 burglaries. Grand Larceny up 2.8%, there were 482 grand larceny complaints. Grand Larceny Auto down 36.3%, there were 93 grand larceny auto crime complaints.

Detective Sam Shaya reported that in certain sectors of the 61<sup>st</sup> Precinct, there was a significant number of parking violations issued, those being vehicles with commercial plates parking overnight on residential blocks. Other committee members did not see the enforcement in their respective sectors. This committee will continue to monitor very closely this quality-of-life matter. We wish to notify our Public Safety Committee members that there will be a meeting on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 5:00pm.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Vice-Chairperson Ronnie Tawil thanked everyone for their kind words of condolences.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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A motion to adjourn was made by Allen Popper and seconded by Pearl Siegelman. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

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