

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD # 16  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025 PUBLIC MEETING  
MT. OLLIE BAPTIST CHURCH  
1698 ST. MARKS AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY**

**Attendance**

Donna Allen-Arnold (E)	Tiffany Martin-Lobban (A)
Renee Archer (A)	Sabrina Massey
Mark Arthur (A)	Celeste Mathis
Rhotochia Atkins Jones (A)	Elizabeth Mcilwain
Cynthia Bannister	Gail McLeod
Rev. Dwayne Barnes	Melanie Mendonca
Latonya Baskerville (A)	Tyra Mendonca
Kevin Bond	Genese Morgan
Margaret Brewer	Franklyn Patterson (A)
Dr. Cleopatra Brown	Marie Pierre
Monica Cassaberry (A)	Joann Sexton
Adrainer Coleman	Tijuana Shropshire (E)
Sahara Contaste (A)	Kamille Stewart (E)
Byron Davis	Niani Taylor
La Cherokee Dickens	Christopher Toomer
Kashmere Fraser (A)	Rev. Miran Ukaegbu
Uriel Griffin	Jere Upsher (A)
Chanel Haliburton	Deborah Williams
Karlana Hamblin (A)	Kencina Nicole Williams
Zalika Headley	Patricia Winston
Michael Howard (A)	Sydone Thompson, District Manager
Shanti Jimenez	Hawa Barry, Community Assistant
Joan Johnson	Dalia Turner for Hon. Antonio Reynoso
Tiffany Jones (A)	Dom Alexander for Hon. Sandy Nurse
Pamela Junior (Baptiste) (E)	Tamisha Tompson for Hon. Darlene Mealey
Ivi Lewis	Reverend Eddie Karim for Hon. Latrice Walker
Albion Liburd (A)	

**HYBRID PUBLIC MEETING HELD IN-PERSON @ MOUNT OLLIE BAPTIST CHURCH & VIA WEBEX**

**Chairperson Genese Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., welcomed the attendees, and acknowledged the celebration of Black History Month. Reverend Dwayne Barnes gave the invocation. First Vice-Chairperson Margaret Brewer assumed the role of moderator.**

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Detective Allen provided meeting updates. On March 20, 2025, 7:30 p.m. at the Jamerson Gorman Houses, 1411 Linden Boulevard, Deputy Inspector Despot would be available to answer questions and concerns regarding the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct. On March 24, 2025, from 6:00 p.m., at 1403 Eastern Parkway, Reverend Pettaway will be hosting the Clergy Council Meeting. Summer Jam will be

held on June 28, 2025, from 12:00 pm to 5:00 p.m. at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, 1470 East New York Avenue. A fashion show and local talent will be showcased. Refreshments and giveaways will be provided. Call Detective Allen at (917) 689-2297 to sign up for the talent segment. You can also find flyers and updates on Facebook and Twitter by searching NYPD 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct.

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct crime statistics followed: Murder from last year to this year, we are at zero, last year, three. Robberies, last year 45, this year 32. Felony assaults, last year 84, this year 87. Burglary, last year 15, this year 14 currently. Grand larceny, last year 60, this year 39. Grand larceny auto, last year 26, this year 13. There is a 22 percent decrease in crime at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, and we are ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in the city.

**There was a roll call of Board members. A quorum of 29 were present.**

A motion was made to accept the Public Hearing minutes for January 28, 2025. First by Ms. Marie Pierre and seconded by Ms. Deborah Williams. With no abstentions, the motion carried.

District Manager Ms. Sydne Thompson read the District Manager's report.

**First Vice-Chairperson Brewer continued to workgroup reports.**

Ms. Deborah Williams, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, read the report of the City Services Planning Work Group. A copy of the report is on file in the Board's office.

Ms. Melanie Mendonca, Chairperson, read the report for the Community Resident Work Group. A copy of the report is on file in the Board's office.

Motion to accept the City Services Work Group report. First and second board members' names were inaudible. No abstentions, motion carried.

Motion to accept the Community Resident Work Group report was by majority vote. No abstentions, motion carried.

**First Vice-Chairperson Brewer continued to public comment.**

Mr. Bijoun Eric Jordan, English teacher discussed an opportunity to support his students at Frederick Douglass Academy VII for an upcoming trip to Panama. In the past, students have visited South Africa and Ghana. To fundraise, an art auction would be held on March 21, 2025, and a gala on May 22, 2025.

Ms. Tyisha Jackson, executive director of Incredible Credible Messengers Inc. stated that in April 2025 the program will be servicing children at Tilden Houses and Langston Hughes developments. She can be reached at (646) 328-8310.

Ms. Anita Luckett, co-executive director with United for Brownsville, provided information on job opportunities with the developers for the 372 Livonia Avenue project.

Mr. Pierre Gideon from the Mayor's office introduced himself and stated that he will be supporting the community.

**First Vice-Chairperson Brewer continued to the next agenda item, reports from elected officials and announcements.**

Ms. Dalia Turner with the Office of the Borough President Antonio Reynoso stated that community board applications closed on February 14, 2025. Interviews with candidates were in progress. On April 10, 2025, at Boys & Girls HS, the State of Borough will be held. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the event starts at 7:00 p.m. On Mondays and Wednesdays until April 9, 2025, there will be free tax preparation. The NYC Tourism Foundation is accepting applications for non-profit cultural organizations until March 3, 2025. On March 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Congresswoman Shirley Chisolm will be honored at the Brooklyn Children's Museum.

Mr. Dom Alexander, director of outreach and events, with the Office of Councilmember Sandy Nurse stated they are offering free tax preparation every Friday from January 31, 2025 to April 11, 2025. They are partnering Assemblywoman Walker's office for the "Know Your Rights Training" via Zoom on February 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. There is a newsletter, and he can be reached at (646) 856-4343.

Ms. Tamisha Tompson with the Office of Councilmember Darlene Mealey provided updates on the community advisory meeting held on Saturday, February 22, 2025, with a presenter who spoke on Black excellence. Immigration assistance is available at the office Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., call (718) 953-3097 to make an appointment. A housing specialist is available Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The office is open to the public from Monday to Thursday, Fridays are only by appointment. The council member also has a newsletter.

Reverend Eddie Karim with the Office of Assemblywoman Latrice Walker provided updates on caucus weekend in Albany, two and a half buses were provided. He stated that the assembly member is working to provide security and safety considering the current climate. He added that the assembly member will also be offering "Know Your Rights" and Deed Theft training. Constituents can contact the office at (718) 342-1256. There is free tax preparation at the office, Monday to Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm.

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Ms. Shyanne Walker from “Teens Helping Each Other” (THEO) highlighted the program at SUNY Downstate Health Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, for individuals ages 14-24 who are interested in public health and community work. A college fair will be held in June, more information will be provided at the next meeting.

First Vice-Chairperson Brewer provided information on the Strengthening Communities assessment and encouraged participants to use the QR code. Also addresses was the “tenants know your rights.” Unknown speaker stated that the plan came from the mayor’s office and every community needs to develop an emergency plan. Every community member should lend their voice.

Mr. Kelley Pierre, CEO and founder of All Access Golf provided information about a gold event at the Brownsville House on February 27, 2025.

Chairperson Morgan spoke about the “Every Block Counts Initiative” from the mayor’s office and solicited volunteers. Volunteers were asked to contact the Board.

Chairperson Morgan provided closing remarks.

**There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Miran Ukegbu, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.**