

ATTENDANCE

Rosamond Alvaranga
Michael Benjamin
Sallie Bennett
Barbara Bieber
Ernest Borno
Sharon Borno
Melba Brown
James Buchanan
Eugene Burshtein
Terri Cadet-Donald
Salvatore Calise
Donald Cranston
Paul Curiale

Gil Cygler
Malynda Jordan-Dandridge
Amar Dyal
Reeves Eisen
Maria Garrett
Ian Gaynor
Joan Gilbert
Denise Gouridine
Stuart Heier
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.
Michael Ien
Sharon Nedd
Saul Needle

Judy Newton
Yolaine Ridore
Viole Roberty
Marcia Schiff
Michelle Sealey
Frank Seddio
Raphael Treitel
Nancy Walby
Sylvia Whiteside
Bishop Nathan Williams
Valerie Woodford
Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Randy Peers
Matalya Figueroa
Gabriel Cirio
Elba O. Melendez
Salvatore Calise
Hon. Roxanne Persaud
Michael Benjamin
Norine Medas
Johnny Arcentales
Patrick Jayson Reyes
Dennis Powell
Donald Jean Baptiste
Capt. Khandakar Abdullah
P.O. Nicole Rostant
Cherisse Ashley
Pat Williams
Hon. Mercedes Narcisse
Kim Robinson
Paul Curiale
Naudia Salvodon
Harriet Wieber
Leigh W
Harold Jones
P.O. Thomas Podd
Yolette Toussaint
Marilyn Brettschneider
Reeves Eisen
Sal Calise
Anastasia Yaskova
Jackie Hamilton

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Area Resident
Bergen Beach Civic Association
State Senator, 19th S.D.
Representing Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19th S.D.
Rockaway Parkway Merchants Corridor Association
TAAIBA
Area Resident
Area Resident
185 Malta Car Service
Commanding Officer, 69th Precinct
69th Precinct
Area Resident
East 54th Street Block Association
Council Member, 46th Council District
Representing CM Mercedes Narcisse, 46th Council District
Mill Basin Civic Association
Area Resident
Holy Trinity
Area Resident
Canarsie Community Development Inc. (CCDI)
63rd Precinct
Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41st A.D.
Area Resident
Representing Senator Andrew Gounardes, 22nd S.D.
Bergen Beach Civic Association
NYC Mayor's Office CAU
Area Resident

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2022

Sergey Chuprik	Representing NYC Comptroller Brad Lander
Kurlene Smith-Cambridge	Area Resident
Dimple Willabus	Area Resident
David Phillip	Area Resident
Arlene Perkins	Area Resident
Nancy Montgomery	Area Resident
Michie G	Area Resident
Tatesha Clark	Area Resident
D.I. Genevieve Isom	Commanding Officer, 63 rd Precinct
Joan Gilbert	Flatlands Civic Association
Frieda Menos	Representing Congress Member Hakeem Jeffries, 8 th C.D.
Tawanna St. Louis	Area Resident
Claudette Workman	Deputy Borough Commissioner, NYC DOT
Diana Soriano	NYC DOT
Denise Gordon	Area Resident
Ben Brachfeld	Brooklyn Paper
Orlando Ross	Representing Congress Woman Yvette Clarke
Berlotte Antoine	Area Resident
Sabine J.	Area Resident
Joyce Minault	Area Resident
Keisha Sydney	Sesame Flyers
Kathleen Ohara	Area Resident
Audrey Julien	New Amersfort Assoc.
Linda Steinmuller	Canarsie Courier
Frank Yee	Area Resident
Roxanne Need-Ervin	Area Resident
Verl Francis	Area Resident
Noreen Sealy	Area Resident
Verna Arthur	Area Resident
Guerda Victor	Area Resident
Herbert Fair	Area Resident
Christina Armieri	Brooklyn Public Library
Ian Girshek	Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59 th A.D.
Yanick Francois	Area Resident
Brittany Richards	Area Resident
Karen Wharton	Area Resident
Yoselin Genao Estrella	Area Resident
Hon. Farah Louis	Council Member, 45 th Council District
Dr. Dewi Brown-DeVeaux	Area Resident
Nicole Etienne	Area Resident
Noreen Bhola	Area Resident
Martine Jean-Charles	Area Resident
Fitzgerald Salomon	Area Resident
Nathalie Louissaint	Area Resident
Yoselin Genao Estrella	Area Resident

7:03 P.M.

Board Member Jim Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REGULAR MEETING

Chairperson Michael Ien opened the Regular Meeting at 7:05 P.M. He introduced the Officers of the Board and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the Special Meeting for the Election of Officers and the Regular Meeting of the Board held on January 19, 2022. There being none, Chairperson Michael Ien asked for a Motion. Board Member Michael Benjamin made a motion that the Minutes be accepted as written. Board Member Malynda Jordan-Dandridge seconded the Motion and the Motion passed unanimously with 38 Yes Votes.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced Randy Peers, President & CEO of Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce who is a lifelong resident of Community Board 18. He recognized Gabriel Cirio, Matalya Figueroa and Gil Cygler who is an Executive Member at The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce along with a few other team members that will be coming later to bring some flyers as well. Randy Peers provided a brief presentation on what they've done in terms of business recovery and what they could do to help and support the small businesses. He reported that with Omicron waning, many businesses are coming back, and people are starting to patronize restaurants once again. Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce had an idea early on that no matter what the recovery looked like and no matter what resources were going to be put on the table for small businesses, small businesses were going to need help accessing those resources. They launched the small business resource network funded by the Peterson Foundation, a citywide program that enabled them to put business recovery specialists in every neighborhood across the city. Here in Brooklyn, they have eight recovery specialists. They had two that specifically worked with restaurants and the rest that are geographically focused on different communities to access help. They have Legal assistance since businesses have issues with rent and renegotiating leases. They are working to do merchant organizing and merchant support on Rockaway Parkway and on Flatlands Avenue in partnership with Noreen Medas from the Rockaway Parkway Merchants Association. They also assist with holiday lights in Canarsie, along Avenue U, Marine Park and Homecrest. There is small business lending through the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. There are also micro loans with a big infusion of capital from the Joe and Clara Tsai Foundation and the owners of the Brooklyn Nets to do social justice lending. Social Justice lending finances minority owned businesses. Each loan is a maximum of \$15,000 with no interest. These are recovery loans for businesses that couldn't access financial support by other means. They have other lending as well as partnering with other CDFIs. The Social Justice lending program has really been the signature program for recovery especially for minority owned businesses. One of the things that historically kept people out of financing is credit scores, collateral, and guarantors and these three conditions do not apply with these recoveries. They are hoping to extend lending beyond recovery loans to new entrepreneurs. Many businesses can't find employees, and supply chain issues are impacting product shipping. The Chamber of Commerce is here to support businesses and encourages people to shop locally. TriniJam Bk on East 95th Street and Flatlands Avenue opened during the pandemic. TriniJam Bk is an amazing restaurant with murals on the wall by a local artist. They're going to be getting a small business grant, but they can use your support. Randy Peers thanked everyone for their time and asked for questions from the floor. 1st Vice Chair Saul Needle asked if someone was interested in character-based lending and someone from the community vouched for the person receiving funds that it does not mean co-sign and they're not legally responsible. Randy Peers stated that it does not mean co-sign but the theory behind it is that someone of stature in the community is basically giving a seal of approval that this business had been operating, they know these guys and they need to

help and they endorse them but it's not a legal document. Chairperson Michael Ien stated that small businesses are the backbone of their communities and he himself frequents a bodega around the corner from his house almost every day as opposed to going to the Gateway Shopping area. Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud stated that today the State Senate Majority passed a package of bills that helps small businesses. Randy Peers stated that he hopes that the State Grant program makes more businesses eligible. Yoselin Genao Estrella asked whether the Chamber of Commerce is working on projects to revitalize the Avenue L corridor without displacing existing small businesses. Randy Peers stated that right now they are not working on Avenue L in terms of commercial revitalization. Their business recovery specialists are working with the individual businesses on Avenue L. They are doing neighborhood development commercial revitalization on Rockaway Parkway and Flatlands Avenue. They are working with the individual businesses on Avenue L through their business recovery specialists. Any business in Brooklyn can access a business recovery specialist and a small business resource network at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce at www.brooklyinchamber.com and they're happy to support them. Randy Peers informed the board that he has already done corridor work with Council Member Mercedes Narcisse. They know where the challenges are because the Council Member and her staff call him directly to let him know the businesses that are experiencing issues. That's the type of partnership that works. Council Member Mercedes Narcisse stated that the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce has a good team.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

District Manager Partnow provided the following information:

1. She greeted and thanked everyone for joining tonight. She informed the board that unfortunately Borough President Antonio Reynoso, who was scheduled to be here this evening had a scheduling conflict and will try and reschedule with the board for next month.
2. She attended a Cabinet Meeting hosted by Borough President Antonio Reynoso where it became apparent to everyone in the room that he has a lot of energy and has fresh ideas on how to enhance our borough and strengthen our Community Boards.
3. Transportation Chair Gil Cygler and herself attended the Community Board Organizer of South Brooklyn and Staten Island Meeting on Transportation issues in the boroughs and the important roles of Community Boards.
4. This month she also attended several meetings on Gun Violence Prevention. She joined Borough President Antonio Reynoso, the NYPD, our Local Council Members Mercedes Narcisse, and Farah Louis, along with Violence Interrupter Organizations and the Clergy. The 69th Precinct Community Council also held a Stop the Violence Meeting with similar ideas to organza events and come up with different ways to keep young people engaged and out of trouble.
5. As all of you are aware, Kings Plaza had a serious incident and their management met with Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, State Senator Roxanne Persaud, Assembly Member Jaime Williams and herself about keeping patrons safe. She invited a representative from Kings Plaza to come to our meeting and address members and the community on their plan to keep shoppers safe. They'll be joining us at our upcoming

meeting in March with their safety plan.

6. She joined Sal Calise Chair of Planning and Zoning at a meeting with the NYC Department of Homeless Services and our local civics and block association representatives about the property at 1427 Ralph Avenue. NYC Department of Homeless Services is putting together an informative presentation for our next board meeting.
7. She had the pleasure of being invited to four different senior centers this month and she's happy to say that their members are back and in person enjoying activities and lunch again.
8. Board Member and Bergen Beach Civic President Sal Calise. Board Member and District Leader Frank Seddio and her are closely monitoring the property on East 69th Street and Avenue X to make sure the property is leased to a company that respects the residents living across the street.
9. Last week she presided over her first Community Board Cabinet Meeting. Assembly Member Jaime Williams was in attendance and thanked our police officers who are facing unbelievable pressure during these difficult times. She also noted that she is working closely with the precincts and Community Board 18 on illegally parked cars with out-of-state plates and addressing the issue of double-parked cars and littering at the bus depot on Fillmore Avenue.
10. Deputy Inspector Genevieve Isom also spoke about the abandoned trucks, buses and RV's in our area and will be requesting a large city tow truck to help clean them up. The 63rd Precinct is also checking out a vacate order at a house on Avenue K that is currently being occupied by several people using space heaters.
11. Police Officer Samuel Maria of the 69th Precinct reported on the guns retrieved at a shooting in Canarsie. The officers involved suffered minor injuries.
12. Brookdale Hospital and Community Hospital reported that COVID 19 admissions are down. Community Hospital made a request to the NYC Department of Transportation for angled parking for both ambulances and visitors since they have no parking lot.
13. Frank Fontana from The NYC Department of Buildings has been assisting the community board in obtaining information on the old Toys R Us property owner. The building is an eyesore as you exit the Belt Parkway and drive north on Flatbush Avenue. Checking with the NYC Department of Finance was suggested for the most current information on the owner. Frank Fontana also spoke about the new gas law banning gas powered heat and appliances beginning in 2023.
14. She asked National Grid representatives to give more details when beginning projects here in Community Board 18. Start dates were vague and more information is needed to alert residents. The representatives informed everyone about their consumer and volunteer programs and will do a presentation about the programs at one of our upcoming board meetings.
15. Kim Robinson Representing Council member Mercedes Narcisse, Michael Benjamin

Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud, and Yehudda Schupper Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein gave updates from their respective offices.

16. Although the month of February is short there is much to celebrate. President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” Today, Black History Month is a time to celebrate and honor the contributions of Civil Rights Pioneers, Inventors, Scientists, Teachers, Politicians, and more.
17. Happy Chinese New Year. It is the year of the Tiger, known for strength, bravery, and good luck.
18. Happy Valentine’s Day and coincidentally it is also Heart Health Month. So, cut back on all that chocolate you received and make a date to see your doctor.

She ended by thanking everyone for taking the time to join us tonight.

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, 46th Council District greeted and thanked everyone for coming out this evening. She mentioned that it has been a very hectic and busy month for her. She thanked District Manager Sue Ann Partnow for doing the work that she’s been doing. She thanked Randy Peers from the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce for the great work that he has been doing with the businesses throughout the 46th Council district. She informed the board that she serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and was appointed Chair of the Hospitals Committee where she hopes to create access to healthcare in our community and in at-risk areas. She recently joined Mayor Adams at the grand opening of the Gotham Clinic located on Broadway. The Council Member went on to say that healthcare should be our right and shouldn’t be based on gender, economic status, or anything else. COVID has highlighted the problems that we face in our communities, it is time to move healthcare into the 21st Century. On another subject, the Council Member is introducing legislation on gun violence. She also spoke about food insecurity, and the Open Restaurants/Sidewalk Café’s Amendment. Her office is located at 2424 Ralph Avenue. She acknowledged Saye Joseph her Chief of Staff and Kim Robinson from her office and provided program and event updates.

Capt. Khandakar Abdullah, Commanding Officer 69th Precinct, greeted everyone and provided program and event updates, precinct crime statistics and answered questions concerning those statistics. Board Member Rosamond Alvaranga asked for Police on Rockaway Parkway and Glenwood Road when riders come off the subway. Capt. Khandakar Abdullah said it’s noted, and that location has been on his radar due to a recent shooting.

Board Member and 59th A.D. District Leader Frank Seddio greeted everyone and stated that tomorrow the Democratic Party will be nominating candidates for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, NYS Comptroller, United States Senate, at the NYS Convention. He informed everyone that June 28, 2022 is Primary Day and there will be local races for State Senator, Assembly and State Committee Members/District Leaders. He continued with an explanation of the process. He quickly mentioned the prior bus company issue on East 69th Street, the building going up on Strickland Ave and the street conditions in Canarsie, Mill Basin, Bergen Beach and Marine Park. He has been appointed as Chief Advisor to the Commissioner of Transportation. If you have a problem with the DOT let District Manager Partnow know. He

addressed other quality of life issues in the area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS COMMITTEE – Nancy Walby, Chairperson

Chairperson Walby provided the following information:

1. NYC Parks, in Partnership with the NYC Department of Transportation held a virtual public meeting last night, Tuesday, February 15, 2022, to provide updates on the conceptual planning process of the Destination Greenways project in Brooklyn. Since this project is still in the conceptual stage no funding has been secured yet. The project, which stretches from Owl's Head Park along the shoreline adjacent to the Belt Parkway provides access to the Coney Island beaches and includes many repairs, upgrades, and new amenities and has been divided into 10 to 11 smaller projects/phases. Each of these smaller projects has an estimated cost anywhere from \$5 million to over \$20 million. It is anticipated that the planning stage will be finalized sometime this year, so the project can move to the next stage and is looking for funding from public and private sources.
2. A similar virtual meeting was held last week to provide updates for the Destination Greenways project in Queens.

As per the NYC Parks representatives, the presentations for both projects can be found online at the NYC Parks website at: www.nyc.gov/parks.org

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced State Senator Roxanne Persaud who greeted everyone and provided a list of program and event updates. Board Member Malynda Jordan-Dandridge asked if State Senator Roxanne Persaud could add in her newsletter the property tax discount for homeowners. State Senator Persaud stated that they can list the property tax discounts and stated that she is hosting a property tax webinar on the 24th to talk about property taxes and the benefits for homeowners. Board Member Malynda Jordan-Dandridge asked if she knows if there are property tax discounts for homeowners who have people with disabilities living in their household even though their name is not listed as an owner. State Senator Persaud replied no and that all the property tax discounts are for the property owners. However, there are other resources for someone living in a household based on their disability and they can give all that information out.

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced D.I. Genevieve Isom, Commanding Officer 63rd Precinct. The D.I. provided program and event updates as well as precinct crime statistics. She mentioned that the 63rd Precinct is experiencing a crime increase for both the 28 day and the year to date periods. There has been an uptick in GLA's and robberies.

Council Member Farah Louis greeted and wished everyone a Happy Black History Month and a Happy Lunar New Year and provided a list of program and event updates. She's been working closely with NYPD and the District Attorney's office and a few agencies to address the anti-Semitic attacks that have been happening in the Community Board 18 area as well as Community Board 14. There's also been an uptick in gun violence in both Council District 45 and 46. She met with Council Member Narcisse, Borough President Reynoso and DM Partnow and she is very

grateful for their support. You'll hear more information soon about how they plan to address the gun violence plaguing our communities. Her office is working with the Department of Sanitation on manual litter patrol. Our job is to keep our community safe and clean. She asked if anyone had any questions or concerns or would like to partner with their office. She provided her office contact information and looks forward to seeing everyone next month and to be safe.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE – Sal Calise, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received – Vote

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- Marine Park Seaside Links LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC, Chipotle Mexican Grill #3265, 2179 Ralph Avenue – 11234

Chairperson Sal Calise stated that The Community Board notified the Board Members, the local elected officials, civic associations and the 63rd Police Precinct about the SLA Renewal Applications received from Marine Park Seaside Links LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, and Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC, Chipotle Mexican Grill #3265, 2179 Ralph Avenue, 11234 and no objections were received.

Chairperson Calise asked if any applicants or representatives were in attendance. None of the applicants or its representatives were present. Board Member Eugene Burshstein asked if the applicant for Marine Park Seaside Links LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234 was present. Chairperson Calise responded no. Board Member Burshstein mentioned that there have been a lot of noise complaints in the summer and that these parties that take place there are making a lot of noise in the neighborhood. DM Partnow asked if he is talking about the Marine Park Golf Course because there are no houses around there. Board Member Burshstein replied yes and that there are houses across the canal on National Drive and in Mill Basin. DM Partnow informed him that the board didn't receive any complaints from the community of the civic associations. Board Member Burshstein stated that he lives in the neighborhood and people have been complaining to him and asking him and they also called 311. Board Member Barbara Bieber asked if he meant Nick's Lobster since Marine Park Golf Course couldn't project that far. Board Member Stuart Heier stated that he lives on Avenue V on the other end of the park and when they have their parties their windows shake. District Manager Partnow asked D.I. Isom if she has gotten any complaints about the Marine Park Golf Course. D.I. Isom hasn't received any. Board Member Judy Newton stated that she is a frequent visitor of the Marine Park Golf Course and for the past two years there haven't been any parties there, so she doesn't know if those complaints are recent because we're in COVID. Chairperson Calise asked if there is anyone from the Mill Island Civic Association present. There being no comments or questions Board Member Sal Calise made a motion that Community Board 18 recommends Approval of the Renewal Application received for Marine Park Seaside Links LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234 Board Member Valerie Woodford seconded the Motion and the Motion passed with 31 Yes, 2 No, and 3 Abstentions Votes.

Chairperson Calise made a motion that Community Board 18 recommends Approval of the Renewal Application received for Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC, Chipotle Mexican Grill #3265, 2179 Ralph Avenue, 11234. Board Member Valerie Woodford seconded the Motion and the Motion passed with 36 Yes Votes.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – Gil Cygler, Chairperson

1. Taxi and Limousine Commission Application Received – Vote

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION LIVERY BASE STATION LICENSE:

- 185 Malta Car Service, 9104 Avenue L – 11236

Chairperson Gil Cygler stated that The Community Board notified the Board Members, the local elected officials, civic associations and the 69th Police Precinct about the TLC Renewal Application received from 185 Malta Car Service, 9104 Avenue L, 11236. No objections were received. Chairperson Cygler asked if the applicant or a representative was present for the application. Mr. Donald Jean Baptiste the owner of the car service was present. Board Member Rosamond Alvaranga asked where exactly this applicant is located. Chairperson Cygler informed her 9104 Avenue L. Board Member Rosamond Alvaranga stated that they're the ones who block the street. Board Member Michelle Sealey stated that it's the garage that blocks the street not the car service. Chairperson Cygler stated that there have been no complaints from the 69th Precinct. Board Member Barbara Bieber stated that she thinks the problem is the car mechanic garage around the corner and not the car service. There being no further comments or questions Chairperson Cygler asked for a motion that Community Board 18 recommends Approval of the Renewal Application received for 185 Malta Car Service, 9104 Avenue L, 11236. Board Member Maria Garret made a motion. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the Motion and the Motion passed with 26 Yes, and 8 Abstention Votes.

OPEN DISCUSSION VIA IN-PERSON & WEBEX . . .

Frieda Menos, Representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Reeves Eisen, Representing State Senator Andrew Gounardes, Yolette Toussaint, Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, Orlando Ross, Representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, Ian Girshek, Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams and Kim Robinson, Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, provided brief updates and information on upcoming events.

Chairperson Michael Ien informed the board that District Manager Sue Ann Partnow, Assistant District Manager Dorothy Paul, and himself sat and reviewed the Community Board 18 Committees. Some of the committees and their descriptions are closely related and should be combined to maximize the work of Community Board 18 board members. Therefore, he has chosen a By-Laws Committee to meet before the April meeting and bring the changes to the Full Board for a vote.

Board Member Maria Garrett suggested that Board Member Rosamond Alvaranga contact 311 or Community Board 18 if there's an issue in the community.

Board Member Sal Calise reiterated what Board Member Barbara Bieber said, that a man is fixing cars outside of his house on E. 91st Street and Avenue L near the 185 Malta Car Service. He wants to know if 185 Malta Car Service has their names on their cars so they can differentiate the Car Service vehicles from the cars being fixed. Mr. Baptiste stated that all his cars have their names on them. DM Partnow said she will alert the 69th Precinct.

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2022

Board member Yolaine Ridore announced the 69th Precinct Community Council Meeting is Tuesday, February 22nd from 8 PM to 10 PM at the HES located at 9502 Seaview Avenue.

Chairperson Ien mentioned that March is Women's History Month and if anyone has any events that they would like shared please contact the board office. There being no further business or discussion, Chairperson Ien asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Nancy Walby seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 P.M. The Motion passed unanimously with 34 Yes Votes.

End....