

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 16, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Johnny Arcenteles
Felina Backer
Barbara Bieber
Greg Borruso
Roosevelt Boursiquot
Gardy Brazela
Jamaal Carryl
Donna Mae Crossfield
Paul Curiale
Marie Delus
Maria Garrett
Joan Gilbert
Denise Gordon
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.
Aryanna Holder
Lyndon Inglis

Rob Mazzuchin
Omeil Morgan
Doodley Plaisival
David Price
Wilton Ricketts Jr.
Yolaine Ridore
Viole Roberty
Michelle Sealey
Frank Seddio
Akis Sinesi
Victoria Stennett
Julius Stukes
Robert Tracey
Sharene Williams
Maria Willis
Valerie Woodford

Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Dr. Jackie Cody
Tomi Marshall
Sean Jennings
Ancil Bonair
Michael Benjamin
Mark Partnow
Andrew Zibell
Keith Knight
Pamela Knight
Antonio Whitaker
Marilyn Vazquez
Edwin Vazquez
Josephine Politi Gambino
Eugene Boasi
Saye Joseph
Rhonda Watson
Odessa Richards
Shirley McKain
Roslyn Chatman
Maria Contanzo
Linda Steinmuller
Scott Middleton
Frieda Menos
Stu Heier
Roshelle Nelson
Chris Smith
Ann Tracey
Jennifer Horsford
Erin Wright
Clint Horsford
Antonette McKain

Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D.
Area Resident
Legacy Family Residence
Area Resident
Area Resident
DSNY
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, 46th C.D.
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Canarsie Courier
Area Resident
Representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, 9th C.D.
Area Resident
Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Area Resident
Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office, 19th S.D.
Representing Brooklyn Borough Present Antonio Reynoso
Area Resident
Area Resident

David Phillip	Area Resident
Vito Delre	Area Resident
Donna Johnson	Area Resident
Brian Franklin	Area Resident
Hon. Farah Louis	Council Member, 45 th Council District
Sabrina Dieujuste	Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45 th C.D.
John Forsythe	Area Resident
Noelene Forsythe	Area Resident
Patricia Williams	Area Resident
Sharon Borno	Area Resident
Michael Martin	Area Resident
Brandon Navas	BKLA
Yolette Toussaint	Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41 st A.D.
Jason Grant	Area Resident
Janelle Grant	Area Resident
Jamal Mark	Area Resident
Dewayne Burris	Area Resident
Arlene	Area Resident
Arnelle	Area Resident
Averil Fraser	Area Resident
B. Lawrence	Area Resident
Candice	Area Resident
Cheryl Primus	Area Resident
Coach Jackie	Area Resident
David Isaac	Area Resident
Dolange Donacien	Area Resident
Guerda Victor	Area Resident
H. Islam	Brooklyn Public Library
Ian Gaynor	Area Resident
Jennifer Bedeau	Area Resident
Loretta Chin	Canarsie Courier
Marie Sagaille	Area Resident
Mark Caserta	Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Michelle Zheng	Area Resident
Ramona Byas	Area Resident
Russell Pinsker	Area Resident
Harold Jones	CCDI
Mitchell Partnow	Area Resident
Pietro Baio	Area Resident

7:04 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

7:05 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked for a moment of silence for our beloved Board Member Terri Cadet-Donald. Chair Hopkins shared the funeral information with the board and encouraged everyone to attend to pay their respects and honor Terri's contributions to our community.

A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

7:09 P.M.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Meeting held on September 18, 2024. Board Member Jamaal Carryl made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Board Member Grace Zwillenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the minutes have been approved from the last regular board meeting.

7:12 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced the Treasurer and Chairperson of the Capital & Expense Budget Committee, David Price, who explained that we had very little submissions this year regarding the Capital & Expense Budget Submissions. However, the submissions that were deemed reasonable and appropriate have been included in the submissions for your review. Additionally, there were several items that were on the list in previous years, but they've gone unaddressed by OMB or unanswered. So those have been placed back on the list this year. The submissions have been prioritized based on urgency and the Budget Committee has reviewed them in totality, and at this time he made a motion to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation for CB 18's Capital & Expense Budget Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Chair Hopkins stated it has been moved by Treasurer and Chairperson of the Capital & Expense Budget Committee David Price to approve the Capital & Expense Budget Submissions for Fiscal Year 2026. 1st Vice Chair Greg Borruso seconded the motion. Chair Hopkins stated that the motion carried for the Capital & Expense Budget Submissions for Fiscal Year 2026, was approved with 30 Yes votes recorded.

8:13 P.M.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Antonio Whitaker, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Community Affairs at NYC Department of Sanitation. He announced that cleanliness violations for commercial properties have increased. If a business is not containerizing their trash or their property is unkempt, please file a 311 complaint. You can follow up with the Community Board and they can forward that information to the Department of Sanitation. Enforcement will be sent out to do an assessment. First time violations remain the same \$50, the 2nd fine has increased from \$100 to \$300, and the 3rd fine and all subsequent fines for the remainder of the calendar year increase from \$300 to \$500. This will keep business properties clean and their trash in containers. He addressed the containerization mandate that is going into effect on November 12th. All residents of single- homes, two family homes, and buildings with nine or less units will be required to containerize their trash. All bins must be under 55-gallons and have a secure lid. Garbage must be in NYC Department of Sanitation bins and no black bags will be carted away. The official start date is June 2026. There are two sizes offered for purchase, 45-gallon for \$54 and 35-gallon for \$45, shipping is free. Board Members asked about free bins, can they use large brown bins, can people put their trash in black bags inside the bins, what do multiple dwellings do if they have more garbage than bins can hold and will Sanitation supply cameras where there is dumping. The Department of Sanitation doesn't provide free bins, the official New York City trash bin is black with a DSNY logo, and you can put garbage bags inside them. Only compost bins are brown. The vendor is currently under contract with NYC, and they are the only ones that can sell bins with the city's logos. Antonio Whitaker explained that from today until November 11th, you can still put out your black bags of trash on the curb for DSNY personnel to service but come November 12th put those black bags in a bin with a lid. The DSNY requests that you pull the bins from the curb by 9:00 pm on the day of your pickup to avoid a fine. Dumping is a major issue not only in Community Board 18 but throughout the city. DSNY has partnered with local elected officials to place enforcement cameras in specific locations. Another question was asked about bulk pick up for work in the house. He explained that you can put those items out on bulk days, the day that your recyclables aren't picked up, which is usually the first pick up of your week. You can tie up wood, tiles etc with twine and place it at the curb. They don't necessarily have to be in a bin. He continued to explain that there are certain things that they can't take, like old boilers, old heaters, and old appliances due to certain chemicals that don't break down naturally, they need to be disposed of in another way. Chair Hopkins stated

that if anyone wants to talk to Mr. Whitaker after the meeting, he will be in the lobby. Antonio Whitaker explained that the only items that the city is requiring you to put in a bin is waste that's garbage that needs to go to a garbage dump and food. The whole purpose of containerizing your trash is to make sure that we keep those items off the street, that we keep rats out of our communities and that we improve the overall cleanliness of our neighborhoods. You can put compost and yard waste in the brown compost bin. Your recyclables can be put in clear plastic bags but if you're using blue ones, that's fine. We just need to be able to see what's inside of it. Recyclables do not need to be containerized, but the department does offer blue and green bins for purchase from the vendor.

8:20 P.M.

Council Member Farah Louis greeted everyone and gave updates on events and City Council votes.

8:27 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Naomi Hopkins

Chair Hopkins greeted everyone and thanked everyone for being present tonight. She explained that each speaker at tonight's meeting will have one minute to share their thoughts. Please write down your name, contact information, and your question or comment before you speak. This will help us keep everything organized and allow everyone a chance to contribute.

She thanked 2nd Vice President Maria Garrett for chairing last month's meeting.

She announced the passing of our beloved board member, Terri Cadet Donald. She announced that the wake will be held on 10/17 from 3pm – 8pm at Andrew Torregrossa & Sons Funeral Home. The funeral mass will be Friday, October 18, 2024, at 10:00am at Mary Queen of Heaven Church. She encourages everyone to attend and pay their respects and honor Terri's contributions to our community. The Board observed a moment of silence to honor her memory.

Our Jack-O-Lantern Jamboree is this Sunday, October 20 from 11am - 2pm.

She thanked DSNY for attending tonight's public hearing and answering questions from the Board and the community. She reminded all committee chairs that there will be a mandatory meeting on Monday, October 21, 2024. It is crucial that everyone attends. We will also be scheduling a meeting for November and continuing these monthly meetings going forward to ensure we stay aligned and effective.

Thank you again for being here. Let's move forward with our agenda.

8:38 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

District Manager Partnow greeted and thanked everyone for being here this evening.

I REPRESENT CB18 AT VARIOUS MEETINGS AND EVENTS BRINGING INFORMATION AND UPDATES TO OUR RESIDENTS

69th & 63rd Pct., Mill Basin Civic, Bergen Bergen Beach Civic, Marine Park Civic, Mill Island Civic – Thank you Presidents Greg Borruso, Gardy Brazela, Paul Curiale, Mike Trotta & Rob Mazzuchin and Ike Sinesi

BP Cabinet Meeting – The importance of cancer screening and city agency reported.

Assembly Member Jaime held a press conference urging the City Council Members to say No to the City of Yes. Following the Press conference, Assembly Member Williams hosted an adult Halloween Dance in Marine Park.

IN & AROUND CB 18

Older trees, dangerously low limbs and hanging branches are plaguing CB18. We are in constant contact with Parks to resolve these issues.

Foster Avenue/Kings Highway triangle, ongoing complaints about lude behavior, cooking, cutting fruit, garbage, smoking etc. Working with NYPD and Dept. of Mental Health.

A gentleman in CB18 was receiving enormous water bills, after a phone call to DEP his meter was checked again only to find that he was being charged for 6 months. He is now getting a refund.

Garbage pick-up is delayed due to Monday's holiday

CB18 OCTOBER CABINET MEETING

DOT – Requests for cameras and speed bumps. There is a limit to the number of cameras that can be installed.

SANITATION – New receptacles for 1-9 family homes. Leave sweeping, trucks fill up quickly and have to stop to go back to the plant and empty, so it takes time to complete a block. Clean up on Foster and Remsen. Any dumping call 3111

63rd PRECINCT – 10 cars towed. Reminding everyone not to leave cars running, lots of theft. Helping with crime in Kings Plaza. Additional patrols due to the Jewish Holidays.

BROOKDALE – Staff receiving patient access training to improve staff interactions.

DDC– Power outage due to accident in the N/E section of CB18. Water shutdowns will impact businesses along Flatlands Ave. in Canarsie for catch basin and main work. The whole project for the B82 SBS is scheduled for completion in 2028.

PARKS – Marine Park has a new Manager. The oval in Marine Park is completed. The new comfort station in Canarsie Park has been completed. Bruekelen Basketball courts will be having a ribbon cutting at the end of October. Second shift services teams have been reinstated at Canarsie Park & Marine Park. There will be 3 workers for maintenance & operations from 11am – 7:30 pm. Illegal dumping in Parks reported and removed. Amersfort flooding, addressed by plumbers.

DOB – The DOB in your office, will be coming to the Community Board. Any questions or issues can be addressed right here at the CB18 office by a DOB staff person. Date and time to be announced

Sabrina Dejuiste Representing Council Member Farah Louis and Jennifer Horsford Representing Senator Roxanne Persaud– Updated us on events and programs. Senator Persaud has secured \$3.5 million for the Canarsie Library

GOOD & WELFARE

We are all heartbroken over the passing of Board Member Terri Cadet-Donald. May her memory be blessing. Our condolences to her family, the Millennium staff, the young people she mentored and to the community she was so dedicated to. Please show your support to them as part of Terri's CB18 family by attending the wake tomorrow and or the funeral services on Friday.

On a lighter note, Happy Birthday to Board Member Frank Seddio

A reminder, this Sunday, October 20 from 11 am-2:00 pm is CB18's Jack-O-Lantern Jamboree right outside our office. Rides, bounce houses, games, snacks, giveaways and much more. We'd like to thank our sponsors Hobby Box, Outside the Box, Amberstone Tax Master (BM Gene Burshtein), CPAP for Me, Bical Motors, Millennium Development, American Debate Team and the support of our elected officials.

There is always correspondence from the Community Board office, so please check any emails that come from bk18.

8:49 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT – David Price

Treasurer Price provided an update on our financial status and the budget for this fiscal year.

1.

- The budget for this fiscal year is set at \$285,000, an increase of \$5,000 from last year.
- The Budget Committee met on Monday, and the Executive Committee held a meeting last night to review the budget in detail.

2. Capital and Expense Budget

- We had very limited submissions this year. However, the submissions deemed reasonable and appropriate have been included for your review.
- Additionally, several items that have been on the list in previous years, unaddressed or unanswered by OMB, are included once again.
- The submissions on the list have been prioritized based on urgency.

3. Recommendations

- The Budget Committee has reviewed the submissions, and he made a motion to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation for CB18's capital and expense budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

4. Office Expenditures

- Currently, salaries for our three-office staff amount to approximately \$245,000, which is roughly 86% of our total \$285,000 budget.
- The office has requested \$13,000 to meet its operational needs for this fiscal year.
- After these allocations, the remaining funds are discretionary and available for board use.

Treasurer Price made a motion to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to allocate \$13,000 for the office staff's operational needs for this fiscal year.

5. Discretionary Funds Allocation

- We have an exciting community event this Sunday: The Jack O' Lantern Jamboree, which will feature bounce houses, a game truck, candy, snacks, giveaways, and more.
- The Executive Committee has proposed using \$1,350 from discretionary funds to support this event.

Treasurer Price made a motion to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to allocate \$1,350 from discretionary funds for the Halloween event.

6. Salary Increase Proposal

- Treasurer Price addressed the proposed 3% salary raise for the office staff. After careful consideration, the Budget Committee has evaluated how to make this feasible within the current budget.
- This raise would increase the portion of the budget allocated to salaries an additional \$7,350 and the percentage would change from 86% of our budget to 89%.
- While the budget committee feels that we can meet this expense for the current fiscal year, the Budget Committee also wants to caution the Board that if this trend continues, we will face budget challenges in future years.

Treasurer Price made a motion to approve a 3% salary increase for the office staff, noting that we can meet

this year's obligations, but there may be long-term sustainability concerns if similar increases occur annually.

After accounting for the increase in salaries, the \$13,000 for office needs, and the \$1,350 for the Halloween event, the board has approximately \$18K left in the budget for the remainder of the year. The Budget Committee invites the Board to submit ideas on how to best use the remaining funds for maximum community benefit. Please send suggestions to the office staff prior to next month's meeting, and the budget committee will present recommendations for a full board vote.

Board Member Frank Seddio recommended that the board approve Treasurer Price's motions for approval of CB18's capital and expense budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), approval of the Executive Committee's recommendation to allocate \$1,350 from discretionary funds for the Halloween event and to approve the recommendation for a 3% salary increase for the office staff. Board Member Tomas Hernandez seconded the motions. The motions passed unanimously with 30 Yes votes recorded.

8:51 P.M.

PARKS COMMITTEE – Violine Roberty, Chairperson

1. Capital Projects:

- a. The new Canarsie Park restrooms were completed and are now open.
- b. The Marine Park oval is completed. The contractor is taking down the fence.
- c. There will be a ribbon cutting on the new basketball courts and yard area at Breukelen Playground on 10/30. The Brooklyn Nets paid for the basketball court renovations.
- d. 2nd Shift Program from Mayor Adams dedicated staff in afternoon hours at Marine and Canarsie Parks. (NYC Parks' second shift program targets 100 hot spots in 62 parks throughout the five boroughs for an additional shift of cleaning services on weekends and in the evenings to improve cleanliness and quality of life)
- e. Bathroom hours have changed after Labor Day- closing at 5 PM

2. Events:

- a. October 19th Wyckoff Farmhouse Family Day: Architecture at Its Core at Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum (in Fidler-Wyckoff House Park), from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- b. Marine Park Alliance Presents: The Festival of Lights - Diwali at Carmine Carro Community Center (in Marine Park), 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- c. Autumn Wildflower Walk at Salt Marsh Nature Center (in Marine Park), Brooklyn 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- d. October 27th Intro to Birding at Marine Park at Salt Marsh Nature Center (in Marine Park), Brooklyn 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

All fun activities and events happening at the parks are listed on their website. Sign up for Parks newsletter at www.nyc.gov/Parks.

8:59 P.M.

LIBRARIES & EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Grace Zwillenberg, Chairperson

BPL has five branches within our district lines: Canarsie Library, Flatlands Library, Jamaica Bay Library, Mill Basin Library, and Paerdegat Library.

October 2024 Community Board Updates

1. Hispanic Heritage Month

- a. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, [BPL is hosting events across the borough](#) that celebrate Latinx culture and literature. Highlights include dance performances, bilingual

concerts and community cooking classes. BPL offers some of these special programs year-round

- b. Over the last year, BPL has worked to expand the number of ESL classes, particularly as we welcome more asylum seekers. Visit bklynlib.org/esol to learn more.

2. Ready Set Kindergarten is Back!

- a. A six session series - [Ready Set Kindergarten](#) kicks off this month for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers at 20 branches around Brooklyn and online.
- b. Each week at select libraries and online, families will enjoy stories & activities designed to help you & your child get ready for school!
- c. Families will receive free materials to continue the learning and fun at home. Come to one or all six, now through November.

3. Freedom to Read Day of Action

- a. On October 19, in partnership with the American Library Association, Brooklyn Public Library is spearheading a National Day of Action in support of the Freedom To Read
- b. Book bans and challenges in the U.S. reached an all-time high in 2023 and continue to happen at an alarming rate.
- c. We'll be hosting our Freedom to Read Day of Action at Central Library from 10am-2pm on Saturday, October 19 with activities for families, speakers and musical performances, in addition to hosting events all around the borough.

9:02 P.M.

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Paul Curiale, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

NEW APPLICATION AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:

- The Xperience Coffee House & Juice Bar LLC, N/A, 1454 Rockaway Parkway – 11236

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

- The Juicy Box Bar LLC, The Juicy Box, 2281 Nostrand Avenue – 11210

Chairperson Paul Curiale stated that the board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, the 63rd and 69th Precincts about the SLA New application received from The Xperience Coffee House & Juice Bar LLC, N/A, 1454 Rockaway Parkway – 11236. Chairperson Paul Curiale stated that the SLA and Cannabis Committee met, and no objections were received for The Xperience Coffee House & Juice Bar LLC, N/A. Chair Paul Curiale made a motion that the board approve of the SLA New Application received from Xperience Coffee House & Juice Bar. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 27 Yes and 2 Abstention votes recorded.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Member and Bylaws Chair Frank Seddio made a motion to amend the Bylaws to change the election process to allow for nominations to occur in May and the elections to be held in June so the new Board Members can participate and vote. He also included in his motion to extend the term of the current officers, which would normally end this December 31st to June 30th. Board Member Rob Mazzuchin seconded the motion. The motion passed with 20 Yes, 3 No and 5 Abstention votes recorded.

8:37 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Jennifer Horsford, Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office, 19th S.D., Roshelle Nelson, Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D., Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator

Kevin Parker, 21st S.D., Frieda Menos, Representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, 9th C.D., Erin Wright, Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, Yolette Toussaint, Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41st A.D., Sabrina Dieujuste Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45th C.D., and Andrew Zibell, Representing Legacy Family Residence greeted everyone and provided information on programs and upcoming community events.

The new Director of the Marine Park Alliance, Scott Middleton introduced himself to the Board Members and community guests.

There being no further business or discussion, Board Member Violine Roberty made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Joan Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

End....