

**COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 28, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

Rosamond Alvaranga  
Felina Backer  
Barbara Bieber  
Greg Borruso  
Roosevelt Boursiquot  
Gardy Brazela  
Terri Cadet-Donald  
Jamaal Carryl  
Lucina Clarke  
Paul Curiale  
Gil Cygler  
Marie Delus  
Maria Garrett  
Stuart Heier  
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.

Aryanna Holder  
Roy Holder  
Naomi Hopkins  
Jibreel Jalloh  
Kenny Jean Baptiste  
Aleah Laforce  
Rob Muzeuchin  
Omeil Morgan  
Doodley Plaisival  
David Price  
Elaine Reid  
Wilton Ricketts Jr.  
Viole Roberty  
Michelle Sealey  
Victoria Stennett

Robert Tracey  
Nancy Walby  
Valerie Woodford  
Grace Zwillenberg

**GUESTS:**

Roberson Kelvin Joseph  
Darlyne Aristide  
Captain Sashanna Winter  
P.O. Samuel Maria  
P.O. Peter Yuen  
P.O. Gunuinder Singh  
P.O. David Belkin  
Tomi Marshall  
Kate Mammolito  
Juliet Lewis  
Christine Halkett  
Michael Chan  
Jenna Roberts  
Joseph Guglielmo  
Naomi Lehrer  
Daniel Abramson  
Mark Partnow  
Julius Stukes  
Samuel Lorin  
Beth Herman  
Elizabeth Stoehr  
Sara Hendricks  
Christine Delius  
Jason Chen  
Michael Benjamin  
Zakiya Besson  
Dr. Jacky Cody  
Harmony Birch  
Linda Steinmuller

Lago Kache  
Lago Kache  
69<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
69<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
69<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
69<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct  
Area Resident  
Con Edison  
Con Edison  
Con Edison  
Con Edison  
Con Edison  
Con Edison  
Area Resident  
Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Détente Restaurant  
Clubhouse Coffee House  
Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy  
Area Resident  
Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19<sup>th</sup> S.D.  
Department of Sanitation  
Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21<sup>st</sup> S.D.  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Canarsie Library  
Canarsie Courier

Patrick Tossy	Area Resident
Sharon Borno	Area Resident
Phyllis Job	Area Resident
Tamara Galloway	Fitmar Management Inc., Brooklyn Lifestyle Athletic Club
Corey Galloway	Fitmar Management Inc., Brooklyn Lifestyle Athletic Club
Dr. Lisa Millsaps-Graham	Area Resident
Hashim Muhammad-Kahn	Area Resident
Antonette McKain	Area Resident
Ivi Lewis	Hunter College
Alan Bash	Area Resident
Lorraine Sanders	Area Resident
Saye Joseph	Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse 46 <sup>th</sup> C.D.
David Philip	Area Resident
Jason Ruogre	Area Resident
Harry Rathem	Area Resident
Dianne Rathem	Area Resident
Kimberly coke	Area Resident
Calvin Sennon	Area resident
Bevon Duncan	Area Resident
Sabrina Dorville	Area Resident
Ike Sinesi	Mill Island Civic Association
Elba Melendez	Holy Trinity
Joseph St. John	Area Resident
Nigel Dupree	Breukelen Houses
Andrew Zibell	Legacy Family Residence
Terri Carta	Jamaica Bay Rockaway Parks
Roshelle Nelson	Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58 <sup>th</sup> A.D.
David Holder	BKLA
Sabrina Dieujuste	Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45 <sup>th</sup> C.D.
Yolette Toussaint	Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41 <sup>st</sup> A.D.
Maria C. Willis	Area Resident
Jason P. Grant	Area Resident
Donnamae Crossfield	Area Resident
KayAnn Harris	Elites Event Space
Denault Harris	Elites Event Space
Avi Abraham Bree	Area Resident
Maxine E. Lewis	Area Resident
Rob Muzeuchin	Marine Park Community Association
Audrey Julien	Area Resident
Averil Fraser	Area Resident
B. Lawrence	Area Resident
Christina Caputo	Area Resident
D'Shon Kerr Williams	Area Resident
Dayatra Emmanuel	Area Resident
Dolange Donacien	Area Resident
Donald Cranston	Area Resident
Guerda Victor	Area Resident
Jacqueline Hamilton	Area Resident
Jahkwan T.	Area Resident
Jennifer Bedeau	Area Resident

Kathleen Ohara	Area Resident
Lynette Lewis	Area Resident
Melky Saint Surin	Area Resident
Michael Condon	Flatlands Library
Monique Alleyne	Area Resident
Nancy M.	Area Resident
Nathalie Taveras	Area Resident
A Gordon	New Horizon Counseling Center
Noreen Nuff	Area Resident
Racquel Williams	Area Resident
Roxanne Need-Ervin	Area Resident
Melikish	Representing State Senator Simcha Felder S.D.
T. Johnson	Area Resident
Harold Jones	Area Resident
Pietro Baio	Area Resident
Sylvia Whiteside	Area Resident

**7:10 P.M.**

Board Member Tomas Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**7:13 P.M.**

**REGULAR MEETING**

Assistant District Manager Dorothy Paul called the roll. A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Special and Regular Board Meetings held on January 17, 2024. Board Member David Price made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Board Member Felina Backer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**7:17 P.M.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Kate Mammolito, Julie Lewis, Michael Chan and Jenna Roberts from Con Edison. Michael Chan provided a presentation on Con Edison's plans to move overhead power lines underground which will provide increased protection from weather events and improve reliability in the communities. The underground pilot project is taking place in the Flatlands area on Avenue J between East 46<sup>th</sup> Street and East 48<sup>th</sup> Street. The area has approximately 250 customers who have had outages from high tree density, high winds, branches hitting against the cables, animal contact as well as mylar balloons tangled in the overhead wires. Con Ed will be moving 8 overhead transformers, 20 overhead primary wires, and 25 overhead secondary wires that will be transferred to an underground system. There will be 19 new service boxes to supply the power, plus 12 new streetlights, risers, 1800 feet of primary duct and 3,100 feet of secondary duct at a total cost of \$6.9 Million. Christine Halkett the Project Manager for Con Edison spoke about the budget timeline and said they are on target to complete the construction, including final restoration by June of 2024 which will include customer conversion. They solicited 57 customers whose service lines are currently overhead, 14 customers responded back to them. They are evaluating the feasibility of burying the power lines for those 14 customers. Board Member Barbara Bieber asked if they bring the power lines below ground, who's responsible for the portion of property that the consumer owns. Christine Halkett explained that this is a pilot program that is very new to Con Edison. If they determine that they can bury their power lines Con Ed will bear the cost of performing the work. At the conclusion of the underground power service installation, it would become part of the customer's property. Con Edison would provide the labor and the material at their cost. Area Resident Lorraine Sanders stated that there are several trees that are growing over the power lines and asked whether Con Ed will conduct a survey for each block to see which trees impact the power lines. Christine Halkett stated this is a pilot program. The public can go to

coned.com/undergrounding to get more information about New York State's 5 criteria for this project. There is also consideration for disadvantaged communities that can be found on NYSERTA's website. Saye Joseph, Representing Council member Mercedes Narcisse, stated that they mentioned 14 people who are going to be connected to the underground. What impact would there be for the other homeowners who aren't connected to it. Christine Halkett explained that everyone still benefits from the fact that they are undergrounding the roadway circuit because ultimately that is the system that feeds everyone's power lines. The remaining overhead wires will be upgraded with a break way device. If the line comes down, it will not pull down any of the customer equipment such as the piping on the side of their house. It's a quicker fix for Con Ed because they have ladder line crews that can easily put that back up. Saye Joseph asked if any of the homeowners would see an increase in their rates during this pilot program. Christine Halkett stated that this program is part of the current rate and is currently being funded. Saye Joseph asked if flooding could have any impact on the underground wiring and if there is an outage, what is the timeline or process for repairs. Michael Chan explained that he can't give an exact estimate on the repair process. Christine Halkett pointed out that they have other areas in Brooklyn that are underground, reducing the probability of the area incurring outages. We're getting stronger storms and by putting this project into action we can reduce the likelihood of future outages because of severe weather, windstorm, or rainstorms. Board Member Roy Holder made a motion to accept Con Edison's plans to move overhead power lines underground to provide increased protection from weather events and improve reliability in the communities they serve. Board Member Jamaal Carryl seconded the motion. Chairperson Hopkins reminded the Board Members that a yes is in favor of the proposal and a no is against the proposal. The motion passed with 23 Yes, 3 No and 2 Abstention votes recorded.

## **7:26 P.M.**

### **GUEST PRESENTATION**

Jason Chen, Representing the DSNY announced the requirements for all businesses to containerize their trash which will begin on March 1, 2024. This law is going to be applied to all businesses in New York City regardless of the size or type of business. There will be a one-month grace period for businesses to get this program set up before the actual enforcement acts on April 1<sup>st</sup>. This is being done as part of the commitment to provide a better environment and cleaner streets in all the 5 Boroughs of New York City. There's a sequence of new rules that have been implemented within the last year. An area resident asked if this applies to religious facilities, doctors' offices, and community facilities. Jason Chen explained that they're only focused on the businesses right now. Chairperson Naomi Hopkins thanked DSNY and said that if there are any additional questions, please visit [www.nyc.gov/usebins](http://www.nyc.gov/usebins) or call 311. Jason Chen informed everyone that he will leave flyers outside on the table.

Chairperson Hopkins acknowledged Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21<sup>st</sup> S.D., Daniel Abramson, Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, Sabrina Dieujuste, Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45<sup>th</sup> C.D., Roshelle Nelson, Representing Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58<sup>th</sup> A.D., and Saye Joseph, Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse 46<sup>th</sup> C.D., and E.O. Sashanna Winter, 69<sup>th</sup> Precinct told them they will speak later.

## **7:39 P.M.**

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT** – Naomi Hopkins

Chairperson Hopkins explained that all applications should have been submitted for new appointments or reappointments to Community Board 18 and that the process is now closed. She advised the committee chairs about holding meetings. A date for SLA /Cannabis Committee was postponed due to Mayor Adams' town hall meeting in Canarsie. She expressed her gratitude to the Board Members that attended the Town Hall meeting. Chair Hopkins discussed the unfortunate death of a young boy struck by a car in Canarsie. We are going to be focusing on pedestrian and street safety. We will be inviting the Department of Transportation here to speak to us about plans for street safety. Let's start to prepare for what we want to discuss when the NYC Department of Transportation at our meeting. Chair Hopkins stated that she is always available for calls, texts or just say hello when you see her on the street.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Maria Garrett who asked how many people enjoy the parks and take advantage of them. Board Member Garrett spoke about the Park's budget for FY 2025. If the city's Parks Department does not get 1% of the budget, we are going to lose 50 Park Rangers, 100 parks, Green Thumb workers, and 50 Forestry workers due to a hiring freeze in the next fiscal year. We must save New York Parks in 2025. She's going to send the information to District Manager Partnow about a petition being circulated that we need everyone to sign. A few years ago, we were able to get approximately \$85 Million but that's nothing, we need to get more money for the Parks Department, or they will continue to lose workers across the entire city. We must make sure that the Mayor gives that 1% because that's what's needed to sustain our parks and keep them clean and green. Chair Hopkins thanked 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Maria Garrett.

Chairperson Hopkins stated that we have a letter that was compiled by our District Manager in response to budget requests for the Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year of 2025. This letter is pretty much a duplicate of the one that was sent last year, regarding the boilerplate responses and comments that have been given to us by DOT, DEP and other city agencies for our Capital and Expense Budget. We are frustrated with not having our needs met here in the community. Very often the city agencies come here, we tell them what our community needs, and we don't get them. Community-based planning was the reason that boards were created in 1963. They were supposed to be town halls for community-based planning, equipped with full time professional urban planners. Six decades later, despite the efforts of members and staff, we have few real opportunities to engage in proactive planning and even fewer opportunities to ensure that development suits neighborhood needs. Chair Hopkins shared excerpts from the letter which is pretty much the same letter that we sent last year. She read the introduction so that the board could vote. This Letter of Comment reflects another futile effort to direct adequate goods and services from the city towards our struggling middle-class community and crumbling infrastructure. Chairperson Hopkins asked that we move on with this letter, duplicating what we sent last year, unhappy with the lack of responses. Treasurer David Price made a motion that we move to send this Letter of Comment to the Mayor's Office, as written. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Greg Borruso seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 31 Yes votes recorded.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins acknowledged Yolette Toussaint, Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41<sup>st</sup> A.D.

### **7:52 P.M.**

#### **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT** – Sue Ann Partnow

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

#### **I WAS HAPPY TO JOIN OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING CB18 AT THE FOLLOWING**

63<sup>rd</sup> Pct. & 69<sup>th</sup> Pct. Community Councils, Mill Island Civic Association and Marine Park Association meetings – thank you Presidents Greg Borruso, Gardy Brazela, Rob Mazzuchin & Ike Sinesi.

Chairperson Hopkins and I attended the Ribbon Cutting and grand opening of D 'Oeuvre Sports Bar & Lounge on Flatbush Ave.

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse – Had a virtual info session for residents that are interested in becoming Community Board 18 members. Thank you to all our Board Members for assisting in the efforts.

Meeting with Brooklyn Parks Department Commissioner Marty Maher about the issues in Canarsie Park such as noise complaints, parties, garbage, double parking, parking on the median and illegal substances being brought into the park. Thank you, Parks Chair Nancy Walby and Assistant District Manager Dorothy Paul.

Thank you, Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, for distributing new and gently used clothing to those in need in our community. There was something for every age, shape, and size.

Community Board 18 was fortunate to host Mayor Eric Adams' Town Hall Meeting. Residents voiced their

concerns about issues in the community in a relaxed friendly atmosphere while the Mayor put his staff to work solving the problems. As a matter of fact, I received a picture of the DO NOT ENTER sign on E. 87<sup>th</sup> St. and Ave. J. that was installed yesterday as requested by a constituent that attended the Town Hall meeting. Thank you, Mayor, that's a good start.

Chairperson Hopkins and I attended a preliminary City of Yes Housing Opportunity meeting. City Planning will be presenting to the full Board this Spring.

### **COMMUNITY BOARD 18 FEBRUARY CABINET MEETING**

**DEP** – There were 391 complaints which went up since last month in CB 18 due to water mains, hydrant leaks, and clogged sewers. Make your complaints to 311 first and then call the CB with your 311-reference number for follow-up.

**DDC** – The construction for the Select Bus Service along Kings Highway is continuing with the replacement of water mains and temporary electrical wiring for traffic signals. DDC apologizes for any inconvenience due to water shutdowns and is working with the contractor to alleviate any issues.

**DDC-Rehabilitation of Pedestrian Ramps** -There were 25 corners completed in Mill Island with 9 left to finish.

**63<sup>rd</sup> Pct.** – Towed over 30 cars in January. The NCO's in Sectors B & C were changed. You can find the updated NCO list on Look What's Happening. There were acts of hate and vandalism at St. Thomas Aquinas which are being investigated by the Hate Crimes Unit. If you are interested in becoming a school crossing guard, go to the NYPD website and follow the instructions. Interviews are being conducted for new hires.

**Sanitation** – Tag and tows in conjunction with the precincts. Dumping issues throughout the Community Board are being addressed.

Irena Khlevner representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, Tamara Strong representing Senator Roxanne Persaud, Mike Benjamin representing Senator Kevin Parker and Reshena Ten representing Millennium gave updates on events and programs.

### **IN & AROUND CB 18**

The installation of a traffic signal has been approved for Glenwood Road & East 81<sup>st</sup> Street after a tragic loss of life occurred. A traffic signal has also been approved for E. 49<sup>th</sup> St. at Flatbush & Fillmore Avenues.

Beginning March 2024, National Grid will resume upgrading existing infrastructure on Avenue U and East 55<sup>th</sup> Street. Work will take place Mon.-Fri. from 9am-4pm and Saturday from 8am-4pm. There will be flaggers on Avenue U to assist with traffic, parking may be impacted.

The NYC Department for the Aging is appealing to community boards to nominate a person aged 60+ with outstanding service through community volunteerism for recognition at Older New Yorkers Day. This annual event, which will be held on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, is hosted by the New York State Office for the Aging. A short bio of the older adult, a summary of volunteer efforts and a brief overview of the nominee's impact on the community can be sent to the CB18 office for submission. NYC Aging will select two nominees per borough, for a total of 10 older New Yorkers to be honored. The in-person event will be held in Albany, but travel expenses will not be covered.

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Shout out to the members of the Flossy Group that have joined us this evening

After a unanimous vote to honor long time District Manager Dorothy Turano, the Turano Family donated a beautiful plaque as a tribute for all the years of Dorothy's service to Community Board 18. The plaque is hanging in the lobby. Please take a moment to read it before you leave tonight.

February is Black History month and was chosen as such because the second week of the month coincides with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Lincoln was influential in the [emancipation of slaves](#), and Douglass, a former slave, was a prominent leader in the [abolitionist movement](#), which fought to end slavery. Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation. Black History Month celebrates the

rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of our country's history.

February is also American Heart Month, a time when all people—especially women—are encouraged to focus on their cardiovascular health. This Heart Month, the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention encourages women to listen to their hearts and speak up for their health.

Happy Birthday to Board Member Gardy Brazela

Happy Birthday to my granddaughter Lizzie who turned 6 this month

Welcome back Board Member Grace Zwillenberg - happy to hear your scans are good

### **8:01 P.M.**

Captain Sashanna Winter, 69<sup>th</sup> Precinct greeted everyone and informed the board that she is newly assigned as Executive Officer in the 69<sup>th</sup> Precinct. She'll be working alongside Captain Dion Hinds, who is still our Commanding Officer. She is familiar with Brooklyn and this community and looks forward to working with everyone.

P.O. David Belkin, Representing the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct greeted everyone and provided information on tow operations, NCO Build a Block meetings, and event updates.

P.O. Samuel Maria, Representing the 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct greeted everyone and provided information on NCO Build a Block Meetings, and the 69<sup>th</sup> Precincts Valentine's Day Dinner for Older Adults.

63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct NCO Sector C Officers Edmund Cruz and Lilliana Cruz greeted everyone and stated if anyone has any concerns or issues to please attend the Build a Block meeting next Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. They'll leave their numbers outside if there are any questions or concerns.

### **8:10 P.M.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE** – Paul Curiale, Chairperson

#### **1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote**

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

- The Clubhouse Coffee House LLC, The Clubhouse Coffee House, 6330 Avenue N, 11234

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

- Détente Restaurant Corp, N/A, 924 Remsen Avenue, 11236

#### **NEW APPLICATION FOR AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:**

- Lago Kache LLC, N/A, 2192 Flatbush Avenue, 11234

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

- Marine Park Seaside Link LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234
- Fitmar Management Inc., Brooklyn Lifestyle Athletic Club, 1500 Paerdegat Avenue N.11236

Chairperson Paul Curiale introduced the owners and counsels of the SLA New Applications received from The Clubhouse Coffee House LLC, The Clubhouse Coffee House, 6330 Avenue N, 11234, Détente Restaurant Corp, N/A, 924 Remsen Avenue, 11236, and Lago Kache LLC, N/A, 2192 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. He informed the board that the SLA/Cannabis Committee met with all three owners this evening and thanked them for coming. He explained that the reason the committee wants to meet with owners is to remind them that in two years they'll be coming back for their renewals. Also, accountability. We want to make sure that our businesses know that this is an active community and that they are giving back by hiring locally, keeping their properties clean and abiding by the law. Chairperson Curiale stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee recommends that the board approve the new applications received from The Clubhouse Coffee House LLC, The Clubhouse Coffee House, 6330 Avenue N, 11234, Détente Restaurant

Corp, N/A, 924 Remsen Avenue, 11236, and Lago Kache LLC, N/A, 2192 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. Board Member Michelle Sealey asked that we move the motion to approve all three applications. Board Member Jamaal Carryl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 32 Yes votes recorded.

Chairperson Paul Curiale introduced the owners of the SLA Renewal Applications received from Marine Park Seaside Link LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234 and Fitmar Management Inc., Brooklyn Lifestyle Athletic Club, 1500 Paerdegat Avenue N, 11236. Chair Curiale stated that the board is familiar with both applicants and commends them for the work they do in the community. Chairperson Curiale moves that we accept and approve the two renewal applications received from Marine Park Seaside Link LLC, N/A, 2880 Flatbush Avenue, 11234 and Fitmar Management Inc., Brooklyn Lifestyle Athletic Club, 1500 Paerdegat Avenue N.11236. Board Member Aryanna Holder seconded the motion. The motion passed with 30 Yes, 1 No and 1 Abstention votes recorded.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins stated that the third item on the SLA/Cannabis Report would have been a New Application for an Adult Use Retail Dispensary premises license for Green World. The application has been received and the proprietor was given two chances to come before us. As we all know, the OCM applications are very new, we're figuring this out as we go, giving a lot of leniencies to new businesses, but ignoring us twice is extremely disrespectful. Chair Hopkins moved to deny the aforementioned Cannabis application.

### **8:20 P.M.**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT** – David Price

Treasurer David Price greeted everyone and reported that over the last few months he has been looking at the finances for CB 18 and giving regular updates about the \$24,000 that we have in unallocated funds which are at our disposal. He said it's no secret CB 18 has a little bit of a gap with communication. He thinks that there is a big gap between connecting us with our youth and making the most of our available technology. Our current method is relying on email attachments and the Canarsie Courier, which doesn't seem to fit the bill anymore. To tackle this, three teams have submitted proposals to enhance CB 18 communication channels. After careful consideration, the Budget Committee has decided to recommend partnering with a vendor to provide a range of communication services tailored specifically to CB 18 and to ensure that we utilize a portion of our available funds responsibly and to deliver services that would provide the most value to our community. He will be making two motions tonight, the first one is to formally recommend entering a contract with the Sean Simmons team, a certified minority owned business here in Brooklyn. Chairperson Hopkins stated that before he continues, she asked whether he wants to withdraw the motion until all Board Members have a chance to review the proposals. Treasurer David Price responded no; we want to invite them back in March to present to the entire board. Chairperson Hopkins stated that we're not going to vote tonight. Treasurer David Price stated that he thought that we were making the recommendation for the main board. Chairperson Hopkins explained that a Board Member can make a recommendation, but a vote cannot be taken tonight. You can recommend it and they can do a guest presentation next month. Treasurer David Price withdrew his motion and informed the board that we're going to add that to New Business for next month. He also proposes that we establish a communications committee to oversee all communication posts. Board Member Tom Hernandez asked if the vendors are related in any way to any Board Member. Treasurer David Price responded not to his knowledge, and we sought these vendors out from the Certified Minority Vendor's list as well as the NYC Passport System. He's not aware of the winning team's relationship status with any Board Member here. Chairperson Naomi Hopkins explained that for those who don't know, the Passport database is a vetted list of companies able to do business with the city. Regarding Board Member Tom Hernandez's point, we don't know if they have any relationships with people here. She thanked Treasurer Price for his report.

### **8:25 P.M.**

#### **YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE** – Terri Cadet-Donald, Chairperson



Chairperson Terri Cadet-Donald greeted everyone and stated that there's been a lot of inquiries about the Bayview Community Center closure. However, even though the community center is closed, they still have programs going on at PS 272. If you want more information, she'll be here to answer any questions. She continued and told everyone that we have middle school archery going on throughout Community Board 18. We are the only middle school archery in the city. All the other options are either high school or college. If you have children in middle school and are interested in learning more about joining archery, please see her after the meeting. She also provided information on the SYEP for 14- to 24-year-olds. For those of you that have children in elementary and middle school, speak to your schools about Summer Rising, a free summer camp and summer school for your child.

**8:28 P.M.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Lisa Millsaps-Graham, Representing the Canarsie Brooklyn Lions Club greeted everyone and informed the board that the Brooklyn Canarsie Lion's Club will be sponsoring "Advancing My Future" on April 6<sup>th</sup>. She will be spearheading this with her husband for grades 8 through 12, adult learners, returning students, veterans or anyone that wants to go back to college. They will also be having a financial aid information session with HBCU, CUNY and SUNY. She will be presenting as part of CUNY Brooklyn College for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Recruitment. You can register right now through <http://bit.ly/CanarsieAMF2024> or take a flyer on the table.

Dr. Jacky Cody greeted everyone and spoke about pending budget cuts for education. She also stated that she would like a meeting with the Youth Committee for her organization.

Elizabeth Stoehr, Representing the Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy greeted everyone and informed the board that they're hiring for the Jamaica Bay Wetland Fellowship. It is a 6-month paid youth workforce development program that pays \$20 an hour for young people 18 to 25 years old. They will be restoring wetlands in Jamaica Bay, planting, and cleaning our shorelines. They want to hire local youth while working on professional development, resume building, and public speaking. Please see her after the meeting. Chair Hopkins asked that she email the information to the board office for distribution.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Daniel Abramson, Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso greeted everyone and informed the members that their State of the Borough Address was rescheduled due to snow. The new date is on March 13<sup>th</sup> at City College of New York. Doors will open at 6:00 PM.

Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21<sup>st</sup> S.D., Roshelle Nelson, Representing Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, Yolette Toussaint, Representing Assembly Member Helene Weinstein, 41<sup>st</sup> A.D., Saye Joseph, Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, 46<sup>th</sup> C.D., and Sabrina Dieujuste, Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45<sup>th</sup> C.D. greeted everyone and provided information, programs, and upcoming community events.

There being no further business or discussion, Board Member Aryanna Holder made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Violette Roberty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

*End...*