

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 15, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Cassandra Alvarez
Johnny Arcenteles
Barbara Bieber
Greg Borruso
Roosevelt Boursiquot
Gardy Brazela
Andrenia Burgis
Jamaal Carryl
Donna Mae Crossfield
Paul Curiale
Gil Cygler
Marie Delus
Nigel Dupree
Maria Garrett
Denise Gordon
Denise Gourdine
Francesca Griffith
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.

Naomi Hopkins
Kenny Jean Baptiste
Naomi Lehrer
Rob Mazzuchin
Omeil Morgan
David Price
Wilton Ricketts Jr.
Yolaine Ridore
Violette Roberty
Michelle Sealey
Akis Sinesi
Victoria Stennett
Julius Stukes
Sharene Williams
Maria Willis
Valerie Woodford
Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Hasina Islam
Clayton Allwood
Christopher Leon Johnson
Cathy Dews
Morgan Beatty
Michael Benjamin
Jennifer Horsford
Michael Trotta
Hon. Mercedes Narcisse
Saye Joseph
Det. Tricia Navarro Caraballo
P.O. Thomas Podd
P.O. Carter
P.O. Samuel Maria
Linda Steinmuller
Judy Newton
Howie Rubinfeld
Eric Peterson
Randy Peers
Roslyn Campbell
Kamla K. Millwood
Dimple Willabus
Raquel Gaba
Hon. Monique Chandler-Waterman
Roshelle Nelson
Chris Smith
Sabrina Dieujuste
Norine Medas
Eric Waterman
Chantal Archibold

Jamaica Bay Library
Ital Mist Smoke Shop
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Representing State Senator Kevin Parker, 21st S.D.
Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office, 19th S.D.
Bergen Beach Civic Association
Council Member, 46th Council District
Representing Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, 46th C.D.
63rd Precinct
63rd Precinct
63rd Precinct
69th Precinct
Canarsie Courier
Area Resident
Midget Squadron of Jamaica Bay Inc.
NYC Parks
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Representing Brooklyn Borough Present Antonio Reynoso
Area Resident
Area Resident
Area Resident
Assembly Member, 58th A.D.
Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45th C.D.
Canarsie Merchants Association
East Flatbush Village, Inc.
East Flatbush Village, Inc.

Jennifer Troman	Area Resident
Rachelle Lewis	Area Resident
Arnelle	Area Resident
B. Lawrence	Area Resident
Dolange Donacien	Area Resident
Guerda Victor	Area Resident
Jennifer Bedeau	Area Resident
Linda Stallings	Area Resident
Lisa Callendar-Wilson	Board Member
Marilyn	Area Resident
Mariya Markh	Representing Assembly Member Yehuda Schupper. 41 st A.D.
Rachel Rivera	Area Resident
Ramona Byas	Area Resident
Rose Uscianowski	Area Resident
Russell Pinsker	Area Resident
Sabine Jacques	Area Resident
Shari Andrews	Area Resident
Sherma Scott	Area Resident
Stanley Delva	Area Resident
Vanessa Gomez	Area Resident
Andrew	Area Resident
Catesha Ledee	Area Resident
Cheryl Primus	Area Resident
Harold Jones	CCDI
J. Hamilton	Area Resident
Pietro Baio	Area Resident
Christina Phillips	Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59 A.D.
Maryam Said-Nanton	Hebrew Educational Society

7:01 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

7:03 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

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

7:05 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

TREASURER'S REPORT – David Price

David Price greeted everyone and wished all a Happy New Year. He reported that as of today, 1/15/25, the Board's financial position remains strong and stable. All reconciliations from July 2024 to present have been completed and reviewed. No discrepancies were identified, and everything was appropriately processed. From July 2024 to present, all purchase orders have been logged, reviewed, and approved in compliance with our recently updated Board policies. Payment requests have been processed efficiently, with all approvals and supporting documentation verified. There are no pending concerns or unusual activity in this area. Looking forward, we should have approximately \$20,000 in unallocated funds for FY 2025. I recommend that we collectively discuss and identify the most impactful ways to allocate these resources over the next six months. As you are aware, if we don't use it, we lose it. The budget committee welcomes all

ideas that enhance efficiency and outcomes for this community. The board's financial health is strong, and I am confident in our ability to effectively manage our remaining resources. A reminder to all that we are seeking recommendations on how to best allocate the available funds to maximize community impact.

7:08 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Naomi Hopkins

Good evening neighbors:

As some Baptist preacher is saying somewhere: We are still alive in 2025!

As Chair, it's my pleasure to welcome you to our first Community Board meeting of 2025. I hope the new year finds you well and ready to engage in the important work ahead. I'm excited to announce that our committee meetings are already underway. Notably, two of our committees are in the planning stages of upcoming events. I encourage all members to participate actively and support these initiatives, as they are vital to our community's growth and engagement. I also encourage everyone to attend committee meetings. It's where the work is done. Committee meetings dedicate at least an hour to one or two topics at a time. They also decide if an item should come before the full board. Most importantly, even if an item doesn't come before the board, you get the chance to ask all the questions you want. New for 2025, we will be cutting off questions. I've tried a few strategies, and I want people to have the opportunity to engage with agencies, but the flip side is that we are left with 12 people and 5 of them are on the executive board and 3 are getting paid.

Community Education Council (CEC) Nominations are open. If you don't know what the CEC is, think of a super PTA. Imagine if one rep from every PTA in the district was part of another organization. If you're a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a New York City public school, you can run for a seat on your local CEC. The applications are open from now until 2/16. Serving on a CEC allows you to play a crucial role in shaping educational policies and priorities in our community. Please visit the websites of CEC 18 or 22- depending on where you live for more information.

• CEC 18: <https://www.cec18.org>

• CEC 22: <https://www.cec22.org>

History Moment

Celebrating the Legacy of Black Greek Letter Organizations:

Today marks the 117th anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated—the first Black Greek-letter organization, founded in 1908. A special shoutout to Rochelle Nelson, a member of AKA who represents AM Waterman at our monthly meetings. I would be remiss not to mention the 112th anniversary of the second, and the largest of the BGLO organizations: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated of which Board Member Maria Willis and MYSELF are members. We hail from the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter along with the late Shirley Chisolm. Two other notable Deltas are: Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown and Aretha Franklin. A Delta has served in every Presidential cabinet since Frankie Muse Freeman was the first woman to be appointed to the Commission on Civil Rights by LBJ in 1964. Delta has over 1,000 chapters worldwide including the Middle East, Africa, Korea and the UK. Cheers to Scholarship, Sisterhood, Service and Social Action. Lastly, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, will celebrate 105 years of service and sisterhood tomorrow January 16, 1920, celebrating her membership in ZPB is Board Member Denise Gourline. So, to her, and to all of us we wish you Happy Founders' Day. These organizations, collectively known as part of the Divine Nine, have been instrumental in fostering leadership, academic achievement, and civic engagement within the Black community and the broader community. Caring about Divine Nine organizations is about recognizing their broader societal contributions and acknowledging that when one part of the community thrives, everyone benefits. Their contributions have significantly shaped our society, promoting social justice and community upliftment.

7:14 P.M.

Council Member Mercedes Narcisse greeted everyone and gave updates on programs, and community events.

7:20 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

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

HAPPY 2025 TO EVERYONE, I HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT HOLIDAY. WE FINISHED 2024 WITH....

Christmas Tree lightings, Chanukah celebrations and Kwanzaa festivals and started the New Year with Street Co-Naming, Youth & Technology and Library & Education Committee Meetings and a lot happening....

IN & AROUND COMMUNITY BOARD 18

After a DOT study, a traffic signal will be installed at Ave. J & E. 59th St.

I alerted Parks Dept. that the American flag at Sunners Park was ripped, the flag will be replaced.

On Monday, December 23rd at 9:54pm there was a leak in the main at E. 105th St. between Ave. N & Seaview Ave. and a leak in the main on 56th Drive from E. 64th St. & E. 66th St. DEP Brooklyn Repair crew found breaks in the mains, installed clamps and restored the water.

On Thursday, January 9th, there was a water main break at E. 45th St. & Ave. H. I contacted DEP and an emergency repair was sent out to the area. They salted the ice that formed from the break and attended to the repair.

Another water main break on Thursday, January 9th at Fillmore Ave. & E. 33rd St. causing brown water for homeowners throughout the area. I contacted DEP and while fixing the water main, repair broke a valve which pushed the repair time to the next day.

Sanitation has extended their Christmas Tree collection to year-round. Make sure your trees and or wreaths are free of decorations, ornaments and its metal stand and place it at the curb on your compost/recycling day collection any time of the year you want. If you have an artificial tree, separate and remove the metal base and trunk and put them with metal recycling materials.

Sanitation has also extended their Special Waste Drop-off sites for electronics, paint, batteries, and other potentially harmful items. The Brooklyn location is in Greenpoint at 459 North Henry St. Additionally, Sanitation will also have new textile drop-offs clothing, shoes, accessories, luggage, stuffed animals etc. The Brooklyn location is 1824 Shore Parkway. Please contact our office for any further information you may not have No Trash, Curbside Composting or Recycling Collection on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 20, 2025. You can place your items at the curb on Monday evening, for collection beginning Tuesday, January 21. Residents should understand collection delays may be common after holidays. We appreciate patience as we work to collect the backlog of material.

The DDC held a public hearing for the state-of-good-repair project for Georgetown, here at the Community Board for residents living in the immediate area of East 72nd Street from Avenue L to Royce Place. There will be reconstructing and resurfacing to eliminate ponding & flooding issues, improve the roadway surface and reinstate proper curb reveal. At the intersection of Ave. M and E. 72nd Street, medians will be constructed/reconstructed to enhance pedestrian safety and calm traffic. In addition, all pedestrian ramps, including any missing pedestrian ramps within the project limits, will need to be installed or upgraded to comply with ADA 2010 standards. This project will be coordinated with DEP's sewer and water main upgrades within the same limits. The total project cost is approximately \$5,670,000.

Following the enactment of Sammy's Law, the City of New York has implemented School Slow Zones reducing speed limits to 20 MPH on individual streets, 15 MPH next to schools, and to 10 MPH on streets with additional traffic calming measures. The city plans to reduce speed limits in select areas throughout CB18 beginning with E 38th St, Ave J to Ave K.

I received an email from a college student informing us that he will be operating a drone in CB18. I forwarded the email with his information to both the 69th & 63rd Precincts. There are permits, insurance, flying rules and regulations that accompany drones. If you see drones in the area, I urge you to contact the community board and your pct.

CB18 JANUARY CABINET MEETING

DOB – Buildings after hours a huge success helping homeowners get the right information on fines and violations and how to resolve them.

69th PCT – Arrests made for a shooting incident and a stabbing incident. Heavy duty Tow op scheduled for January 15th targeting the area of Seaview Ave. from E. 102 St. – E. 108 St., and different parts of Foster Ave. that have been experiencing abandoned and occupied RV's. On January 28th at 11 am, the Pct. will hold a memorial service for PO Cecil Sledge, who was killed apprehending a suspect on Flatlands Avenue & E. 78th St. 45 years ago.

63rd PCT – Throughout Mill Basin, Bergen Beach and Flatlands, homeowners are reserving spots by putting orange cones and barrels in front of their homes. This is illegal and once on city property, they can and will be removed by police and or sanitation. They can also be removed by another resident. Vendor in front of the old Toys R Us issued summonses. January 16th is a Blood Drive at the Pct.

DDC– Pedestrian ramps on Kings Highway & E. 37th St. being replaced. Reconstruction of medians along the B82 route and planting has begun. Hydrants at bus stops are being moved due to the building out of bus stops. Water shutdowns were cancelled at Flatlands Ave, between E. 103 & E. 105 Streets due to the weather.

Sabrina Dieujuste Representing Council Member Farah Louis – there will be a monthly clean up by sanitation on Brooklyn Ave. on the block of the 63rd Pct.

Donald Cranston Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams – The Assembly Member is reintroducing a bill to re-instate back pay for those workers that lost their jobs during covid due to non-vaccine choices. Working with a large coalition to fight the city of yes and congestion pricing.

ONE BROOKLYN HEALTH (BROOKDALE) – Community tours for patients and visitors every last Wednesday of the month starting in January.

GOOD & WELFARE

Happy Birthday to Chair Naomi Hopkins and her son Matthew who both celebrated birthdays last week

Happy Birthday to our own CB18 staffer Dorothy Paul

There is always correspondence from the CB office, so please check any emails that come from bk18. If your term as a member on CB18 has expired, you received a LINK to the Borough President's website.

Reminder, Monday, January 20th is Martin Luther King, Jr., day of service. Organizations in Community Board 18 would like you to join them honoring the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr by volunteering and making a difference in your community. You can check CB18's Look What's Happening or go to our website under events for ideas on participating in the MLK day of service.

7:32 P.M.

P.O. Carter, Representing the 63rd Police Precinct, greeted everyone and provided precinct crime statistics, meetings, and event updates.

7:38 P.M.

Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman greeted everyone and gave updates on legislation, programs, and community events.

7:43 P.M.

Randy Peers, Director, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce greeted everyone and spoke about small businesses in CB18.

7:47 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS COMMITTEE – Violine Roberty, Chairperson

Chairperson Violine Roberty reported on dumping in city parks. She also gave an update on the Lunar New Year celebration, Black History Month, and cold weather survival all happening in Marine Park.

YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Naomi Lehrer, Chairperson

Chairperson Naomi Lehrer reported that SYEP applications are available for young people 16-24 years old. She also announced that a community baby shower is planned for May 4th hosted by CB18 and reported on the reality of human trafficking of children.

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Paul Curiale, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

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

- J.J. Mariners Inn, N/A, 3501 Avenue S – 11234
- Quality Food Best Quality Good Hands LLC, N/A, 2301 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- Midget Squadron of Jamaica Bay Inc., N/A, The Foot of Seaview Avenue/Paerdegat Basin – 11236

Chairperson Paul Curiale stated that the board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, the 63rd and the 69th Precincts about the SLA New and Renewal applications received from J.J. Mariners Inn, N/A, 3501 Avenue S, 11234, Quality Food Best Quality Good Hands LLC, N/A, 2301 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, and Midget Squadron of Jamaica Bay Inc., N/A, The Foot of Seaview Avenue/Paerdegat Basin, 11236. Chair Curiale stated that no objections were received. Chair Curiale moved the motion to accept that the board approve the SLA Renewal Application received from J.J. Mariners Inn, N/A. Board Member David Price seconded the motion. The motion passed with 30 Yes votes recorded. Chair Curiale moved the motion to accept that the board approve the SLA Renewal Application received from Quality Food Best Quality Good Hands LLC, N/A. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 30 Yes votes recorded. Chair Curiale moved the motion to accept that the board approve the SLA Renewal Application received from Midget Squadron of Jamaica Bay Inc., N/A. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 29 Yes votes recorded.

8:01 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Jennifer Horsford, Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office, 19th S.D., Sabrina Dieujuste, Representing Council Member Farah Louis' Office, 45th C.D., Michael Benjamin, Representing State Senator Kevin Parker's, 21st S.D., Christina Phillips, Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59th A.D., Roslyn Campbell, Representing Borough President Antonio Reynoso's Office, Maryam Said-Nanton, Representing Hebrew Educational Society, Hasina Islam, Jamaica Bay Library, Keisha Sydney,

Representing Sesame Flyers and Norine Medas, Representing Canarsie Merchants Association greeted everyone and provided information on programs and upcoming community events.

P.O. Samuel Maria, 69th Precinct, greeted everyone and provided information on the shooting incident and a stabbing incident that took place on the Flatlands Avenue Corridor, upcoming tow operation scheduled to take place in January.

Continued complaints about DEP not notifying residents about ongoing work on Ave. H/Troy Ave/E.45th St.

An area resident cautioned the Board of a tow truck scam that took place within CB18.

A request to CB18 to continue to help Breukelen Houses as they work to improve their community center.

There being no further business or discussion, Board Member Violine Roberty made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Maria Garrett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

End....