

## **COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – MAY 21, 2025**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Johnny Arcenteles  
Mohamed Azez  
Alan Bash  
Barbara Bieber  
Greg Borruso  
Roosevelt Boursiquot  
Gardy Brazela  
Andrenia Burgis  
Jamaal Carryl  
Charmaine Corney-Antoine  
Donna Mae Crossfield  
Paul Curiale  
Marie Delus  
Nigel Dupree  
Ariel Freeman  
Maria Garrett  
Denise Gourdine

Francesca Griffith  
Sara Hendricks  
Naomi Hopkins  
Kenny Jean-Baptiste  
Naomi Lehrer  
Rob Mazzuchin  
Doodley Plaisival  
Yolaine Ridore  
Michelle Sealey  
Frank Seddio  
Akis Sinesi  
Christopher Smith  
Julius Stukes  
Annette Tomlin  
Jennifer Troman  
Arnelle Williams  
Maria Willis

### **GUESTS:**

Christine Delius  
Sharon Long  
Sabrina Dieujuste  
Claudia Greco  
Donald Cranston  
David Shaeffer  
P.O. Samuel Maria  
All Albajari  
Terrell Belfield  
Mariam Khan  
Huguelis Lubin  
Michael Trotta  
Marilyn Vazquez  
Edwin Vazquez  
Eric Peterson  
Abigail Jordan-Nicome  
Josephine Toliti  
Captain Tomasulo  
Detective Navarro-Carabello  
P.O. Podd  
P.O. Carter  
Brenda Cox  
Bernard Grotell  
Maryam Said  
T. Jones  
Arielle F.  
Terry Yarde  
Sharon Long  
Norine Medas  
Kenshal Campbell

Representing NYS Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19 S.D.  
Representing NYS Assemblymember Jaime Williams, 59 A.D.  
Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45<sup>th</sup> C.D  
Area Resident  
Representing NYS Assemblymember Jaime Williams, 59 A.D.  
Representing NYS Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19 S.D.  
69<sup>th</sup> Pct.  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Representing Congress Member Yvette Clarke's Office, 9<sup>th</sup> C.D.  
Area Resident  
Bergen Beach Civic Association  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
NYC Parks Department  
CUNY  
Area Resident  
63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct  
63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct  
63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct  
63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct  
Canarsie Courier  
Area Resident  
Hebrew Educational Society  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
National Grid  
Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59 A.D.  
Canarsie Merchants Association

Jimmy Jean	Flossy Organization
Annett	Area Resident
David Phillip	Area Resident
Kamla Millwood	Area Resident
V. Friedman	Area Resident
Roslyn Campbell	Representing Borough President Antonio Reynoso's Office
Keisha Sydney	Sesame Flyers
Christelle LeFronc	
Chayim Byne	
Kimberly Wilson	Area Resident

#### **7:04 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

#### **7:08 P.M.**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on May 21, 2025. Board Member Akis Sinesi made a motion that the minutes be accepted. Board Member Paul Curiale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the minutes have been approved from the last regular board meeting.

#### **7:10 P.M.**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Chair Naomi Hopkins introduced Drisana Hughes, Brooklyn Commissioner DEP. Commissioner Hughes presented information on storm water, coastal flooding, and ground water. She explained that the city has a toolkit to combat flooding during intense storms by making sure sewers are upgraded, flood-net sensors installed in high flood areas and green infrastructure to absorb water through porous pavement and median rain gardens. Commissioner Hughes stressed the importance of Home Rules – converted basements should have correct installation of pipes and drains, flood sensors, sump pumps, flood barriers and rain barrels. Water conservation is a big help – use your washer and dishwasher during off hours, toss it – don't flush it down the toilet or you will cause unnecessary back up in your home. Have a plan to protect your home from intense storms and sign up for Notify NYC for alerts.

#### **7:20 P.M.**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CAPITAL & EXPENSE BUDGET COMMITTEE** – Chair Hopkinson behalf of Treasurer/Chair David Price

The remaining \$9,000 will be allocated as follows:

- \$3,000 for P.S.312 Community Learning Farm Initiative, aimed at supporting students throughout District 22 with farm to table healthy eating.
- \$2,000 for Blue Skates, an event designed to engage young people in exercise and sports.
- \$1,500 for Swag, a gift to give our community with the CB18 logo at Community Events.
- \$2,500 for a Summer Kickoff BBQ for families in Community Board 18 in conjunction with Free Skate Night.

These allocations will help support the community. Chair Hopkins made the motion is to approve the remaining \$9,000 for the Learning Farm, Blue Skates, Summer Family BBQ and CB18 Swag. The motion passed with 29 Yes and 1 Abstention votes.

**7:30 P.M.**

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

**MAY 2025 MEETING**

Since our last meeting, a lot has been happening in Community Board 18 63<sup>rd</sup> & 69<sup>th</sup> Precincts Community Council meetings - Thank you Presidents Greg Borruso & Gardy Brazela.

Civic Meeting –Mill Island, Marine Park, Flatlands and Mill Basin – Thank you Presidents - Ike Sinesi, Rob Mazzuchin, Joan Gilbert. Bergen Beach Civic where I was once again honored to discharge and install the officers, thank you Mike Trotta. President and Mill Basin Student Achievement Awards Night, thank you Paul Curiale, President.

Our Elected Officials hosted Easter Egg Hunts, Easter Bonnet Contests and Family Fun Days – Thank you, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Assembly Members Jaime Williams & Nikki Lucas, Senator Roxanne Persaud and Councilmember Farah Louis.

Congressman Jeffries tackled questions and concerns at his Town Hall Meeting on the Future of Social Security at Canarsie H.S. and he also hosted his annual Veterans Services Day at Marine Park.

CB18 was happy to host the Community Baby Shower organized by BM Naomi Lehrer.

Assemblymember Monique Chandler-Waterman's Vital Voices, Assemblymember Jaime Williams Pet Adoption and Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse food giveaways.

Every year, CB18 is happy to take part in a tribute to Major Eugene McCarthy as the military, elected officials and organizations pay tribute to this son of Brooklyn that was killed in action. Thank you, Tom Hernandez, President-Fraser Civic.

Yesterday, in conjunction with Brooklyn DA Eric Gonzalez and his staff, CB18 hosted Older Americans Month at JASA at the HES. Older Adults were given valuable information on how to protect themselves and their family members from scams, fraud, and elder abuse.

Tonight, right outside of the Community Board office, we had a special event, as we unveiled - Dorothy Turano Plaza in honor of our long time District Manager, Dorothy Turano. We were joined by her family and friends to pay tribute to this dedicated woman.

**IN & AROUND COMMUNITY BOARD 18**

- I received several letters from residents opposing the Lithium-Ion Battery Storage facility at Flatbush Ave. & Quentin Rd. I sent the packages of letters along with the resolution from CB18 reiterating our support for the community, and the safety of all of the residents.
- Continued dumping at Avenue K from Remsen Ave. to E. 87<sup>th</sup> St. Sanitation has a designated truck that travels throughout Canarsie to pick up debris and dumping in the area. This is a chronic issue which, you the residents can help fight by calling 311 and the Community Board.
- Construction debris and other garbage is being dumped at Avenue Y from E. 69<sup>th</sup> St. – E. 74<sup>th</sup> Street. A dark-haired woman approximately 40-50 years of age was caught on a home surveillance camera setting fire to the debris and getting back into her maroon smart car. The fire Marshall paid me a visit to discuss this dangerous issue and asked that residents stay vigilant and send any info to CB18.
- DOT, without prior notice, installed 3 additional speed bumps on Bergen Ave. going north.

- Complaints about people loitering and blocking driveways at East 95<sup>th</sup> St. and Flatlands Ave. while waiting online for the pantry distribution. Notified the 69<sup>th</sup> Pct. who visited the location and will be setting up a meeting with residents and the Food Pantry to tackle the situation.

### **CB18 MAY CABINET MEETING**

**69<sup>th</sup> PCT** – RV's lining Foster Avenue that are legally registered cannot remain in the same spot and must move periodically. RV's without registrations have been towed and are back on the street within 24 hours. On weekends from Aug. 2 – Oct. 25, Trini Jam restaurant will expand its service area by closing East 95 St. between Conklin and Flatlands Ave. Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday May 26.

**DDC**– The area around McCarthy Memorial Triangle was completed in time for the memorial service. East 80 St. between Glenwood Rd. & Foster – trench restoration digging to replace pipe. B82 Select Bus Service project meeting with residents along Kings Highway and the surrounding area.

**DEP** – Borough Commissioner Drisana Hughes update on the deadline for lien sales and is working on repairs for the entrance gate into CB18's parking lot.

**Parks Dept.** – Rise in graffiti in parks. Homeless encampment clean-ups scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup> in Marine Park & March 24<sup>th</sup> at Fresh Creek. Bathrooms now close at 4 pm, moving to 5 pm and as the weather gets warmer, 7 pm.

**DEPT. OF HEALTH** – Shared info on Green Cart Permits for selling fresh produce in underserved neighborhoods. Green Cart vendors must have both a permit and vending license from NYC Health Dept.

**SANITATION** – Composting is mandatory, but no summons will be given right now. Homes that are part of the STAR program, may be eligible for reimbursement of garbage bins. Trying to tackle dumping on Hendrickson St. & Hendrickson Pl., E. 102 St. between Glenwood & Farragut, Ave. Y & Royce St., E. 102 St. & Shore Pkway., Ave. K from Remsen Ave. to E. 87 St. and Rockaway Pkway. More baskets and sidewalk business keep clean enforcement.

**Marine Park** – Beach & Pool openings this weekend. Extended bathroom hours at Canarsie & Marine parks. Over 1,000 trees planted behind Lenape Park/Snake Park on Ave. U.

**Jamaica Bay/Greenway Project** – Possible start mid-June. No right turn at E. 76 St.

**Paul Curiale/Millennium** – Update on Summer rising, SYEP

**Sabrina Dejuiste Representing Council Member Farah Louis** – DOT & MTA removed bus stops along Kings Highway during the B82 Select Bus Service Project and there is no plan to put them back.

**Donald Cranston Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams** – Once again there will be a rally on June 1<sup>st</sup> for another Lithium Battery Facility within CB18 at 3802 Avenue U. The meet up is at Kings Plaza, a flyer will be distributed. That would make 3 proposed battery storage facility locations in CB18 – Flatbush Ave. & Quentin Rd., Remsen Ave. & Farragut Rd. and Avenue U & E. 38 St.

**Mariya Markh Representing Assemblymember Kalman Yeger**– Upcoming Shredding Event

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Speedy recovery to Dorothy, our Assistant District Manager, she is on the mend after hip replacement surgery.

The very first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908 in the USA. The U.S. Congress passed a law on May 8, 1914, that designated the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day. More than 80 countries around the world celebrate Mother's Day. To all my fellow moms, grandmas, aunts, sisters, friends – Hope you had a great Mother's Day.

Memorial Day's history traces back to the Civil War, initially known as Decoration Day when the graves of Union soldiers were decorated with flowers. The first national observance took place on May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery, where both Confederate and Union soldiers were buried. Decoration Day evolved into Memorial Day, expanding to honor all American military personnel who died in service to the nation.

**7:38 P.M.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Donnamae Crossfield, Chairperson

Nominating Committee met to review resumes for the 2025-2026 CB18 slate of Executive Officers. After careful consideration, the Committee presented their slate for 2025-2026 – Naomi Hopkins, Chairperson, Greg Borruso, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Maria Garrett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Barbara Bieber, Secretary and David Price, Treasurer. Chair Crossfield asked if there were further nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations for Executive Officers for the year 2025-2026 is closed.

**7:46 P.M.**

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** – Sarah Hendricks, Committee Member

The Communications Committee met to discuss a new social media company to market CB18 events and meetings. After interviewing David Isaac, the committee was impressed. Sara Hendricks moved to have David Isaac and his team handle the social media marketing for CB18 for the next 2 months. Board Member Naomi Lehrer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**7:51 P.M.**

**STREET CO-NAMING COMMITTEE** – Denise Gourdine, Co-Chairperson

The Committee met and reviewed the following applications and found that all criteria was met. Denise Gourdine moved that Rabbi Dr. David S. Halpern be honored with the corner at E. 63<sup>rd</sup> St. & Ave. U be co-named for him. Board Member Rob Mazzuchin seconded the motion. The motion passed with 28 yes and 1 abstention votes. Denise Gourdine moved that P.O. Michael Ellis be honored with the corner at Brooklyn Ave. & Ave. I be co-named for him. The motion was seconded by Board Member Akis Sinesi. The motion passed with 28 yes and 2 abstention votes. Denise Gourdine moved that Hon. Sy Gerschwer be honored with the corner at E. 66<sup>th</sup> St. & Mayfair Dr. So. be co-named for him. Board Member Rob Mazzuchin seconded the motion. The motion passed with 30 yes and 1 abstention votes. Denise Gourdine moved that James Buchanan be honored with the corner at Marine Parkway & Quentin Rd. Board Member Michelle Sealey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 29 yes and 1 abstention votes. Denise Gourdine moved that John “Curley” Wilson be honored with the corner at Glenwood Rd. & E. 104<sup>th</sup> St. Board Member Nigel Dupree seconded the motion. The motion passed with 29 yes and 1 abstention votes.

**8:15 P.M.**

**PARKS COMMITTEE** – Naomi Lehrer, Co-Chairperson

A letter to Brooklyn Parks Commissioner Martin Maher was read by Co-Chair Lehrer, requesting removal of the stationary chairs and tables outside of Sunner’s Park due to increased loitering and safety of area children. Naomi Lehrer moved the motion to send the letter, it was seconded by Board Member Barbara Bieber. The vote to send the letter was unanimous.

**8:19 P.M.**

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** – Akis Sinesi, Committee Member

The Planning & Zoning Committee reviewed a proposal to change the zoning at 5502 Flatlands Ave. from an R3-2 to an R6A. Akis Sinesi moved to deny request. The motion was seconded by Board Member Julius Stukes. The vote to deny was unanimous. The applicant for the property will be at our June meeting to address the Board and answer questions at which time a vote on the application will be taken.

**8:27 P.M.**

**YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE** – Naomi Lehrer, Chairperson

Chair Lehrer reported on the success of the Community Baby Shower with over 300 attendees. She thanked CB18, P.S. 276, Millennium and the Kiwanaas Club for supplying the space, volunteers, diapers, books, carriages, food, clothes etc. She also gave a shout out to the 27 tables of healthcare workers and hospitals that provided invaluable information. Next year it will be bigger and even better.

**8:31 P.M.**

**SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE** – Jamaal Carryl, Co-Chairperson

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

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

- Canarsie Coffee Shop Corp., NONE, 100-13 Foster Avenue - 11236

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

- Gerardo Camarda, De Gerardo Corp/Salvi Restaurant, 4220 Quentin Road – 11234

Co-Chair Jamaal Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee convened to review the applications. He stated that the board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, the 63<sup>rd</sup> Precinct about the SLA Renewal application received from Gerardo Camarda, De Gerardo Corp./Salvi Restaurant, 4220 Quentin Road – 11234.

Co-Chair Carryl moved the motion that the board approve the SLA Renewal Applications for Alcoholic Beverage License for Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider received from Gerardo Camarda, De Gerardo Corp/Salvi Restaurant, 4220 Quentin Road – 11234. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Maria Garrett seconded the motion. The motion passed with 30 Yes votes recorded.

Co-Chair Jamaal Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee convened to review the application received from Canarsie Coffee Shop Corp., NONE, 100-13 Foster Avenue – 11236. He stated that the board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, the 69<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Co-Chair Carryl moved the motion that the board approve the SLA New Application for Alcoholic Beverage License for Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider received from Canarsie Coffee Shop Corp., NONE, 100-13 Foster Avenue – 11236. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Maria Garrett seconded the motion. The motion passed with 29 Yes votes and 1 abstention recorded.

**8:45 PM**

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

Officer Maria, Representing the 69<sup>th</sup> Precinct, greeted everyone on behalf of Inspector Hinds. He gave updates on crime statistics and urged everyone to participate in the upcoming Memorial Day Parade.

Sharon Long, Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59<sup>th</sup> A.D. spoke about the legislation Assemblymember Williams introduced to establish regulations for Lithium-Ion Battery Storage Units across NYS for the safety of our communities. She encouraged everyone to join in the Rally against the proposed battery units in CB18 on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sabrina Dejuiste, Representing Councilmember Farah Louis spoke about the legislation Councilmember Louis introduced for additional resources for married couples and free internet in shelters.

Board Member Julius Stukes reminded everyone to participate in NYC's Budgeting Process by going to [on.nyc.gov/pb](http://on.nyc.gov/pb) or [participate.nyc.gov](http://participate.nyc.gov) to decide on projects that address community needs.

David Shaeffer, Representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office, 19<sup>th</sup> S.D., Roshelle Nelson, Rep. Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58<sup>th</sup> A.D., Roslyn Campbell, Representing Borough President Antonio Reynoso's Office, and Maryam Said-Nanton, Representing Hebrew Educational Society, Keisha Sydney, Representing Sesame Flyers, Norine Medas, President Canarsie Merchants Association,

greeted everyone and provided information on programs and upcoming community events.

Terry Yarde, Brooklyn Corporate Affairs Manager for Nationalgrid, introduced herself

There being no further business or discussion, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Greg Borruso made a motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board 18. Board Member Julius Stukes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

*End....*