

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – MAY 20, 2026

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDANCE

Cassandra Alvarez
Felina Backer
Alan Bash
Barbara Bieber
Greg Borruso
Gardy Brazela
Keisha Burrell
Lisa Callender-Wilson
Jamaal Carryl
Kimberley Coke
Paul Curiale
Marie Delus
Stanley Delva
Aissata Diallo
Maria Garrett
Denise Gouridine

Francesca Griffith
Sara Hendrix
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.
Naomi Hopkins
Naomi Lehrer
Rob Mazzuchin
Mark Pohl
Yolaine Ridore
Michelle Sealey
Frank Seddio
Julius Stukes
Raphael Treitel
Jennifer Troman
Mike Trotta
Valerie Woodford
Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Rachel Morris	Small Business Services (SBS)
Jason Aduley	Small Business Services (SBS)
Freddy Figueroa	Bulls Eye Sports Pub
Ray Hennessey	Sons of Flatbush 497
Tanisha Johnson	Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso
Lou Matteo	SLA Applicant
Mariam Khan	Representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, 9 th C.D.
Jennifer Horsford	Representing Senator Roxanne Persaud, 19 th S.D.
Calvin Jean	Representing Senator Kevin Parker, 21 st S.D.
Kristin Jones	Purebliss Cannabis Solutions, Inc.
Linda Steinmuller	Canarsie Courier
Sabrina Dieujuste	Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45 th C.D.
Steven Etienne	Society House
Michael Condon	Brooklyn Public Library

7:02 P.M.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins called the meeting to order.

7:03 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

7: 05 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced the newly appointed board members.

7:06 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins introduced Rachel Morris of the NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS). Ms. Morris spoke about the programs and resources available through SBS. She explained that the Business Express Service Team (NYC BEST) helps small business owners by providing courses, access to a new online learning platform, and one-on-one support. These services help entrepreneurs understand the rules and requirements for starting and operating a business in New York City, making the process easier to navigate. This initiative also helps reduce red tape for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Complaints were made to the 63rd Pct. concerning unregistered motorcycles riding on sidewalks and disobeying traffic signs. District Manager Partnow stated that the 63rd Precinct attended the Board's Cabinet meeting last week and reported that they have been towing vehicles and confiscating mopeds. She added that the precinct is actively addressing issues involving youth operating bikes, mopeds, and scooters, and that enforcement efforts are ongoing.

Michael Condon, Representing Brooklyn Public Library, shared that the Canarsie library is currently closed, but services are still being provided to the community. He also provided information on programs and services offered by the library and encouraged residents to visit the Brooklyn Public Library website for more information.

7:27 P.M.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT– Cassandra Alvarez, Chairperson

Chair Cassandra Alvarez greeted everyone and reported that the Nominating Committee met on Thursday, May 14, at the Community Board office. Committee members present were Gil Cygler, Mike Trotta, Tomas Hernandez, Donnamae Crossfield, and Chair Alvarez. The meeting was conducted in the presence of District Manager Sue Ann Partnow. Chair Alvarez then presented the slate of nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee for Community Board officer positions for Calendar Year 2026–2027. The Committee recommended the following nominees: Chairperson, Naomi Hopkins; First Vice Chairperson, Greg Borruso; Second Vice Chairperson, Maria Garrett; Treasurer, David Price; and Secretary, Barbara Bieber. All nominees have accepted their nominations. Following the presentation of the slate, Chair Alvarez explained that the floor would be opened for additional nominations for each officer position. She noted that nominations must be made and seconded by Board members and that any nominee must accept the nomination before being considered. Chair Alvarez then opened the floor for nominations for each position, there being no nominations from the floor, nominations were closed. She informed the members that a special meeting will be held fifteen minutes prior to June's regular Board meeting, at which time Board members will finalize the slate of officers.

7:30 P.M.

Jennifer Horsford, representing State Senator Roxanne Persaud, greeted everyone and reported that the Senator is currently in Albany working on the New York State Budget. She thanked Small Business Services for its continued support and collaboration, noting that the Senator's office works closely with SBS. She explained that many businesses in the area are facing financial challenges and need assistance. She expressed appreciation for SBS's ongoing partnership and commitment to supporting the business community. She also informed the Board that Senator Persaud has successfully passed several bills, including J1382, S9866, and S754A. Additional information regarding these legislative accomplishments, as well as the Senator's newsletter, is available on the Senator's website. She encouraged everyone to stay informed and remain in contact with the office.

7:31 P.M.

PARKS COMMITTEE – Jennifer Troman, Co-Chair

Co-Chair Jennifer Troman informed the Board that April was National Pickleball Month and CB18 and

Millennium hosted two pickleball events. She also noted that May is National Bike Month and in celebration a community bike ride will be held on May 31, beginning at P.S. 276. Participants are asked to meet at the school at 9:00 A.M. Snacks and refreshments will be provided for everyone with a bicycle and helmet.

7:35 P.M.

Calvin Jean, representing Senator Kevin Parker of the 21st Senate District, greeted everyone and informed the Board that the Senator has successfully advanced several bills through the New York State Senate this month, including S1551, S2416, and S1553. Senator Parker remains focused on issues of affordability and clean energy, leveraging his role as Chair of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee to advance related legislative initiatives.

Sabrina Dieujuste, representing Council Member Farah Louis, greeted everyone and provided information on Participatory Budgeting. She also discussed concerns raised by Brooklyn College seniors regarding the college's initial decision to eliminate the traditional commencement stage walk at the Barclays Center due to venue time constraints. Ms. Dieujuste reported that Council Member Louis advocated on behalf of the students and communicated directly with Brooklyn College's President regarding the matter. The college revised its plans and restored the stage walk for graduating seniors.

P.O. Nicole Rostant of the 69th Precinct greeted everyone and announced that the Memorial Day Parade will take place on May 25th, with assembly beginning at 9719 Flatlands Avenue at 10:00 am. Hosted by the Canarsie Lions Club and local elected officials, the parade will travel through Canarsie to the Canarsie Cemetery honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service. P.O. Rostant also reminded attendees that the 69th Precinct Community Council's monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. at the Hebrew Educational Society (HES), located at 9502 Seaview Ave. and shared her contact information. She wished everyone a safe Memorial Day and encouraged residents to secure their homes and vehicles. She also warned against leaving vehicles unattended while running, noting that grand larceny auto remains a concern throughout the city.

7:47 P.M.

YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Naomi Lehrer, Chairperson

Chair Naomi Lehrer spoke about the Community Baby Shower hosted by CB18, Millennium Development, Canarsie/Kings Plaza Kiwanas and Borough President Antonio Reynoso. Over 300 people were in attendance and received baby clothes, diapers, baby food, formula, high-chairs, strollers, car seats etc. Once again, this event was a big success.

7:48 P.M.

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT – Naomi Hopkins

Good evening, everyone and welcome to the May meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 18. Thank you all for being here tonight and for continuing to show up for this community with your time, energy, and commitment. As always, I want to extend a special welcome to any new members, guests, agency representatives, and neighbors joining us this evening. We are happy to have you with us.

Before we begin, I also want to acknowledge the holidays and observances taking place between now and our next meeting in June. We recently celebrated Mother's Day and Memorial Day is approaching, a time when we honor the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. Before we meet again, many in our community will also observe Juneteenth, Pride Month, Father's Day, Eid al-Adha, and Caribbean American Heritage Month. Brooklyn is beautiful because it is diverse, vibrant, and deeply connected through culture, family, faith, and tradition, and we recognize all who will be celebrating in the weeks ahead.

I also want to thank every board member who consistently participates in committee meetings, public hearings, and community events. Volunteer service is not always easy, especially in a city and in a season as busy as this one, but your presence matters and our community benefits from it.

Lastly, information regarding the NYC Citywide Leadership Team initiative to expand educational access and increase student voices in public schools are encouraged to learn more about state legislation S3067, A9085, S3064, and A505. Additional information is available for anyone interested after tonight's meeting.

7:57 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

MAY 2026 MEETING

We have a wonderful group of elected officials who make sure there are always free and informative events for their CB18 families. A big thank you to Senator Roxanne Persaud, Assembly Members Jaime Williams & Monique Chandler-Waterman and Council Members Mercedes Narcisse and Farah Louis. We also appreciate our Civic Associations, Community Councils, and local organizations for their dedication.

IN & AROUND COMMUNITY BOARD 18

- Road work in Marine Park continues with watermain replacement, catch basin, manholes, curb, and sidewalk restoration
- Flatlands & E. 58th St., Avenue I & E. 57th St., Ralph Ave. at Flatlands Ave. are in the completion stages of curb & sidewalk restoration, excavation, and installation of concrete and new electrical pathways
- For over 25 years a memorial service for Marine Park resident Major Eugene McCarthy, was held at the triangle on Kings Highway and E. 31st St. that was dedicated to him after he made the ultimate sacrifice. Once again, the Frasier Civic Association President Tom Hernandez organized a beautiful tribute to Major McCarthy this past Sunday.
- Last weekend, the Street Co-Naming at E. 104th St. & Ave. K for Christian Josiah Montrose was a fitting tribute to a young man whose life was cut short.

CB18 MAY CABINET MEETING

DOT - Assembly Member Jaime Williams, requested a flashing light at Exit 13 (Rockaway Parkway) to move traffic along smoothly and not back up onto the Belt Pkwy.

NYC AGING – Will be hosting a Champion Your Health Event in Manhattan. Also, there is an Older Adult Home Modification Program, all information is on their website. The new Commissioner has been touring the Older Adult Centers throughout the 5 boroughs.

DDC-B82 SELECT BUS SERV. UPDATE

GATEWAY PROJECT – New chain link fence on E. 76th St., painting lines, and pavement markings. Removing old electrical wiring and replacing through Verizon and Windsor. Upgrades on Seaview Ave. & Paerdegat No. Notifications sent to affected residents. E. 76th ST. will remain a 2-way street from Paerdegat 1st St. to Flatlands Ave. Project completion date Fall 2026.

63rd PCT. – Vehicle tow and moped operation including violations and confiscating them.

FDNY – Training classes on close the door to stop fires from spreading and mobile CPR are 2 vital programs that can be brought to your organizations, older adult centers, schools etc. Contact the CB18 office if you are interested in any of these presentations. Keep in mind that a large % fire injuries and fatalities are older adults.

NYC PARKS – Long beach season due to early Memorial Day. Seasonal hiring, check Parks website.

69th PCT. – RV along the side of the Belt Pkwy at the very end of Canarsie Rd. was removed. Working on a plan for Canarsie Park to stop the noise, the double parking and cars parking on the median.

DONALD CRANSTON, REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY MEMBER JAIME WILLIAMS - Pet adoption event

Saturday, May 16th, concerts in the park, budget will hopefully be passed soon, and this district will get its fair share of funding. Press conference on Assembly Member Williams Ion Lithium Battery Bill to increase the distance of the facilities from homes, schools and houses of worship.

MARIYA MARHK, REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY MEMBER KALMAN YEGER – Hosting the Metro/OMNY van at his Nostrand Ave. office. You can also obtain OMNY cards at the Junction or the Canarsie L train station. E-waste will also be collected at his Nostrand Ave, office from Monday-Thursday.

GOOD & WELFARE

- Hope all the moms, grandmas, aunts, moms to be, stepmoms and mother figures, had a great Mother's Day.
 - Condolences to Board Member Frank Seddio on the passing of his brother
 - Happy Birthday to Board Member Nigel Dupre
- Congratulations to Board Member Barbara Bieber on her granddaughter's unique football performance.
- Happy Birthday to Board Member Mike Trotta and Congratulations to him new title – Grandpa. Mike was also chosen as the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus.

If you have not already done so, please send in your committee choice or choices in. If they are not received on or before June 8th, you will be assigned to a committee. All members are required to serve on at least one committee and attend committee meetings, as committees are considered the "backbone" of a community board, where most of the work takes place. Also, please respond when you receive an email for a committee meeting. Presenters are coming here with information for our committee members, who in turn, will come before the full Board and pass that information on so that our members can cast an educated vote. If committee members don't show up, our Public Hearings are in jeopardy. A reminder, attendance sheets are signed at the committee meetings, those attendance sheets are kept here on file and presented to the BP on request.

8:13 P.M.

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Jamaal Carryl, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

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

- NYC Boat Cruises, Grand Mariner, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street – 11234
- NYC Boat Cruises, Eternity, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street – 11234

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

- Embers Bklyn of NY Hospitality LLC, Le Chai, 1904 Utica Avenue – 11234
- Snipers Tavern, Bull's Eye Sports Pub, 2073 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- Sons of Flatbush 497 Inc, Knights of Columbus, 3409 Avenue S – 11234
- Antojitos Acatlan LLC, Espiga Mexican Restaurant, 4602 Avenue N – 11234
- George Hoffman Inc., Mack Daddy's Brooklyn NY, 5511 Avenue N – 11234
- Bellyful LLC, Bellyful LLC, 2102 Utica Avenue – 11234

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

- Gustosa LLC, Franks Pizza, 2134 Flatbush Avenue – 11234

Chair Jamaal Carryl acknowledged that representatives of the establishments listed on the evening's agenda were present.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the applications received from NYC Boat Cruises, Grand Mariner, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street, 11234, and NYC Boat Cruises, Eternity, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street, 11234. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations,

and the 63rd Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the New and Temporary Retail Permit SLA Application license for Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider for NYC Boat Cruises, Grand Mariner, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street, 11234, and NYC Boat Cruises, Eternity, Mill Basin Wharf-2657 East 66th Street, 11234 subject to the following stipulations: The location shall be used strictly for vessel parking. No boarding or disembarkation of passengers, other than crew members, shall be permitted. No alcoholic beverages shall be served, and no music shall be played. The motion passed with 26 yes and 1 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the applications received from Embers Bklyn of NY Hospitality LLC, Le Chai, 1904 Utica Avenue, 11234, Snipers Tavern, Bull's Eye Sports Pub, 2073 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, Sons of Flatbush 497 Inc, Knights of Columbus, 3409 Avenue S, 11234, Antojitos Acatlan LLC, Espiga Mexican Restaurant, 4602 Avenue N, 11234, George Hoffman Inc., Mack Daddy's Brooklyn NY, 5511 Avenue N, 11234, and Bellyful LLC, Bellyful LLC, 2102 Utica Avenue, 11234. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, and the 63rd Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the Renewal SLA Application licenses for Liquor, Wine, Beer and Cider for Embers Bklyn of NY Hospitality LLC, Le Chai, 1904 Utica Avenue, 11234, Snipers Tavern, Bull's Eye Sports Pub, 2073 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, Sons of Flatbush 497 Inc, Knights of Columbus, 3409 Avenue S, 11234, Antojitos Acatlan LLC, Espiga Mexican Restaurant, 4602 Avenue N, 11234, George Hoffman Inc., Mack Daddy's Brooklyn NY, 5511 Avenue N, 11234, Bellyful LLC, and Bellyful LLC, 2102 Utica Avenue, 11234. The motion passed with 26 yes and 1 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from Gustosa LLC, Franks Pizza, 2134 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, and the 63rd Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the Renewal SLA Application license for Wine, Beer and Cider for Gustosa LLC, Franks Pizza, 2134 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. The motion passed with 26 yes and 1 abstention votes.

2. Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premise License Application Received – Vote

NEW APPLICATION FOR AN ADULT-USE RETAIL DISPENSARY PREMISES LICENSE:

- Manav Patel, Pure Bliss Cannabis Solutions, Inc., 5010 Flatlands Avenue – 11234

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS FOR AN ADULT-USE RETAIL DISPENSARY PREMISES LICENSE:

- Steven Etienne, Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- Vaughn Mayers, Esq., Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue – 11234

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from Manav Patel, Pure Bliss Cannabis Solutions, Inc., 5010 Flatlands Avenue, 11234. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, and the 63rd Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the New Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premise License Application for Manav Patel, Pure Bliss Cannabis Solutions, Inc., 5010 Flatlands Avenue, 11234 subject to the following stipulation: the business must communicate with the Board prior to initiating any delivery service. The motion passed with 11 no, 13 yes, and 4 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the applications received from Steven Etienne, Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, and Vaughn Mayers, Esq., Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue, 11234. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, and the 63rd Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the Renewal Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Premise License Application for Steven Etienne, Society House, 2441 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, and Vaughn Mayers, Esq., Fireleaf, LLC, 2102 Ralph Avenue, 11234. The motion passed with 6 no, 19 yes, and 4 abstention votes.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm.

End.....