

COMMUNITY BOARD #18 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 17, 2025

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDANCE

Cassandra Alvarez
Johnny Arcentales
Felina Backer
Greg Borruso
Roosevelt Boursiquot
Gardy Brazela
Jamaal Carryl
Kimberley Coke
Charmaine Corney-Antoine
Donnamae Crossfield
Paul Curiale
Marie Delus
Stanley Delva
Nigel Dupree
Maria Garrett
Denise Gordon
Francesca Griffth

Sara Hendrix
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.
Naomi Hopkins
Kenny Jean-Baptiste
Naomi Lehrer
Rob Mazzuchin
Doodley Plaisival
Yolaine Ridore
Michelle Sealey
Frank Seddio
Akis Sinesi
Christopher Smith
Julius Stukes
Jennifer Troman
Arnelle Williams
Maria Willis

Grace Zwillenberg

GUESTS:

Mercedes Narcisse
Farah Louis
Sabrina Dieujuste
Dalton Robinson
Sharon Long
Tanisha Johnson
Bridget Kessler
Harmony Birch

Council Member, 46th Council District
Council Member, 45th Council District
Representing Council Member Farah Louis, 45th C.D.
Rep. NYS Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, 58th A.D.
Representing NYS Assembly Member Jaime Williams, 59th A.D.
Representing Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso
CEC22
Brooklyn Public Library

7:02 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

7:04 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

A quorum was present to begin the meeting.

7:06 P.M.

Chair Hopkins introduced Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse who announced free snow removal through her office. She reminded everyone to reach out to family, friends and neighbors who might have issues dealing with the holidays. She wished all Happy Holidays & a Happy New Year.

7:11 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chair Naomi Hopkins introduced Tom Hernandez, Chair of the Planning & Zoning Committee. Chair Hernandez explained that the representatives from the Kimco Co. and LIDL were scheduled to show an informational power point for a plan to bring a LIDL supermarket to the Mill Basin Plaza on Avenue U & East 57th Street. The supermarket will replace Walgreens Pharmacy and Paramount Home Décor. Both properties would equal approximately 23,000 square feet. The Kimco Co. is seeking a zoning change to

house their supermarket at this location. Chair Hernandez said that the committee had some issues that needed to be addressed such as increased traffic on Avenue U, day workers, loading docks and parking spots. The Kimco Co. and LIDL representatives will present before the Board in the Spring of 2026.

7:16 P.M.

PRESENTATION

Chair Hopkins introduced Bridget Kessler, President of the Community Education Councils (CECs) District 22. President Kessler explained that the CECs are education policy advisory bodies responsible for, among other things, reviewing and evaluating the district's educational programs, approving zoning lines, and holding public hearings on certain matters. CECs must hold at least one public meeting per month, with the Community Superintendent, where the parents and the community may air their concerns. Each CEC consists of volunteer members who provide hands-on leadership and support for their district's public schools. Every community school district must have a Community Education Council that consists of 12 voting members and two non-voting student members. If you are interested in joining the CEC, you can go to the **Community Education Council 22 Website** for more information.

7:23 P.M.

Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on November 19, 2025. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes was unanimous.

7:25 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Naomi Hopkins

Good evening, everyone. As we wrap up the year, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the many winter holidays being celebrated—Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice, and the many ways people choose to mark this time of year. However you celebrate, we wish you peace, rest, good food, and the kind of joy that doesn't require a group chat explanation.

I also want to thank our elected officials and their staff for being here tonight and for continuing to show up for our community throughout the year. Your presence, your responsiveness, and your patience do not go unnoticed, especially in December, when everyone is tired but still doing the work.

To our board members, just a quick reminder: if you're unable to attend a meeting, please be sure to let us know even though there are no excusals. Life happens, schedules get full, people have kids, jobs, and last-minute situations—but let us know. Don't just disappear on us. We worry.

Since it's the season of lights, decorations, space heaters, air fryers, and "one more thing" plugged in, please remember to be safe. Do not overload outlets, extension cords, or surge protectors. We want to celebrate the holidays—not meet the fire department. Let's all make it to January in one piece.

Thank you all for your service, your commitment, and the time you give to this board and this community. Wishing everyone a safe, joyful, and restorative holiday season.

7:29 P.M.

Chair Hopkins introduced Councilmember Farah Louis who announced free snow removal through her office and thanked Paul Curiale and Millennium for helping her with all the holiday tree lightings and toy giveaways.

7:32 P.M.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Sue Ann Partnow

Good evening all, I'd like to extend a big Thank you to our elected officials - Councilmembers Mercedes

Narcisse, Farah Louis & Chris Banks, Assemblymembers Jamie Williams, Monique Chandler-Waterman, Nikki Lucas & Kalman Yeger, State Senators Roxanne Persaud, Kevin Parker & Sam Sutton, District Leader Frank Seddio, along with the Presidents of our Community Councils and Civics, Greg Borruso, Gardy Brazela, Paul Curiale, Rob Mazzuchin, Ike Sinesi & Mike Trotta and our community organizations Millennium Development, Brooklyn Canarsie Lions, Rockaway Parkway Merchants for bringing important information and holiday joy to our residents. A shout out to the Ferazzano family for the Home for the Holidays Lights.

IN & AROUND COMMUNITY BOARD 18

- 69th Pct. Welcome Luncheon for Captain Wynter
- Clogged catch basins on East 56th St. between Foster & Farragut are being addressed by DEP
- FDNY launched a new public education & training initiative called Control the Bleed. Free classes to recognize life-threatening bleeding and how to control it. Visit Control the Bleed-FDNY Smart
- Dept. of Sanitation has transitioned its operations to its annual Winter Schedule with additional employees working overnight hours for quicker snow removal.
- Meeting with EDC (Economic Development Corporation), DOB (Dept. of Buildings and SBS (Small Business Services) and Bergen Beach Civic President Mike Trotta in the snow on East 69th Street between Aves. W & X to address the issue of corroding bulkheads along the basin.
- There will be no trash, curbside composting or recycling collection on December 25th.

CB18 DECEMBER CABINET MEETING

B82/SBS – Completion of construction on Kings Highway Spring of 2026

69th Pct. – Clean-up on Foster Ave. from E. 82 St. - E. 87th St. abandoned vehicles, RV's and food vendors

CHRISTINE DELIUS, REPRESENTING SENATOR ROSANNE PERSAUD – Updates on upcoming holiday events.

GREENWAY PROJECT- Water main replacement has started on E. 76th St. with temporary water shutdowns and 72-hour notice to residents. No night or weekend work. Completion date is Fall 2026.

DOT – Any requests for speed bumps, signage, traffic light etc. must be requested on the DOT website.

DOB – 2794 Mill Ave. has a stop work order, the permit that they have is for asbestos removal. Raising Cane, the new fast-food restaurant on Flatbush Ave. has relocated their heavy equipment. After inspection, no generator was found to be a nuisance.

SABRINA DEJUISTE, REPRESENTING COUNCILWOMAN FARAH LOUIS – Updates on upcoming holiday events.

MARYIA MARKH, REPRESENTING ASSEMBLYMAN KALMAN YEGER - Updates on upcoming holiday events

GOOD & WELFARE

Happy Birthday to Board Members Ike Sinesi & Christopher Smith

Congratulations to Board Member Cassandra Alvarez on the birth of her baby

Wishing a speedy recovery Board Member Barbara Bieber's grandson after emergency surgery

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa

And a Healthy, Safe and Prosperous New Year. See you in 2026

7:38 P.M.

SLA & CANNABIS COMMITTEE – Jamaal Carryl, Chairperson

1. State Liquor Authority Applications Received - Vote

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

- Yoshi Asian Fusion Inc., Yoshi Japanese Cuisine, 5827 Avenue T – 11234

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

- Voila Café & Bar LLC, NONE, 9123 Avenue L – 11236

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

- 5811 Dolce Vita Inc., 5811 Dolce Vita Inc., 5811 Avenue N – 11234

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

- Kosher Gourmet House Inc., Chateau Yaffa, 6214 Avenue U – 11234

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from Yoshi Asian Fusion Inc., Yoshi Japanese Cuisine, 5827 Avenue T, 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 Application and Temporary Retail Permit SLA license for Yoshi Asian Fusion Inc., Yoshi Japanese Cuisine, Wine, Beer & Cider. The motion passed with 28 yes, and 1 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from Voila Café & Bar LLC, NONE, 9123 Avenue L, 11236. The Board notified the local elected officials, civic associations, and the 69th Precinct. Chair Jamaal Carryl moved the motion that the Board approve the New Application SLA license for Voila Café & Bar LLC, Wine, Beer & Cider. The motion passed with 28 yes, and 1 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from 5811 Dolce Vita Inc., 5811 Avenue N, 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 Application SLA license for 5811 Dolce Vita Inc., Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider. The motion passed with 29 yes, and 1 abstention votes.

Chair Carryl stated that the SLA/Cannabis Committee reviewed the application received from Kosher Gourmet House Inc., Chateau Yaffa, 6214 Avenue U, 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 Application SLA license for Kosher Gourmet House Inc., Chateau Yaffa, Wine, Beer & Cider. The motion passed with 29 yes, and 1 abstention votes.

7:57 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Chair Hopkins informed the Board that members who are habitually absent from committees and regular monthly meetings may face removal.

Dalton Robinson, representing Assemblymember Monique Chandler-Waterman, and Sharon Long, representing Assemblymember Jaime Williams, extended holiday greetings and thanked everyone who donated to assist the victims in Jamaica. Both Assemblymembers are currently in Jamaica distributing the much-needed items.

Harmony Birch, Canarsie Public Library, reminded everyone that the library is still closed for renovations.

Tanisha Johnson, Representing Borough President Antonio Reynoso informed everyone that Community Board applications are open and can be found on the Borough President's website.

Russel Pinsker, from Maimonides Hospital reported a possible disruption in care at hospitals in January due to a health care contract dispute.

Enough Initiative, East Flatbush Village Inc., delivers vital programs that focus on violence de-escalation, mentorship, workforce development, and community health events.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

End.....