

**Brooklyn Community Board 9**  
**890 Nostrand Avenue**  
**Brooklyn, New York 11225**

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**November 14, 2024**

**Attendance (Board Members):** Courtenay Loiselle; Khurshid Abdul-Mustakabbir Co-Chair

**Attendance (Community Residents):** Julia Bryant; Brenda Pagan; Naima Wood; David Romeo; Denzel Oduro; Gloria Briggs, James Caigliro; Abigail Tims

**Absent (Board Members):** Nicolas Almonor, Committee Chair – online; Lillian Swan; Melissa Severe

**Absent (Community Resident Members):** Eric Llena; Frank Hosein;

**Guests:** Michael Schnall, Director of Governmental & Community Affairs, Brooklyn Botanic Garden; Deborah Kirschner, Vice President, Communications + External Relations, Prospect Park Alliance

**Agency Representatives:** None

**CB9 Staff:** Khalid Jemmott, Community Associate

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**I. Call to Order**

- Khurshid Abdul-Mustakabbir Committee Co-Chair called the committee meeting to order at 7:05pm

**II. Presentation by:** Michael Schnall, Director of Governmental & Community Affairs

- Fight for Sunlight; Presentation of the rezoning and new community agreement and the text agreement regarding the new rezoning and the amended building heights along the Brooklyn Botanic Garden
- There are a variety of discounts available call and ask.
- Asked about the ability to get adjacent schools will be allowed to borrow tools to begin garden projects
- Asked for a community board meeting event at the BBG
- Asked about more information for planting and seeds giveaways and Spring Seminars and Seniors Seminars- better promotion in our community
- Light Scape project will return this year. Various event nights and discounts will be available.
- A presentation of ongoing projects in the park. See their website

**III. Presentation by:** Deborah Kirschner, Vice President, Communications + External Relations, Prospect Park Alliance

- Shirley Chisholm statue will be finished in 2026 with a Welcome Center with a restroom
- Asked for increased outreach for the local schools
- Suggestion for solar sourced lighting
- She explained that there is an ongoing problem with the lighting in the park
- A presentation of ongoing projects in the park. See their website

**IV. Roll Call**

- Postponed until after the presentation

**V. Minutes – for September** and October need to be reviewed and voted on

**VI. Public Comment:**

- Haley Gorenberg from Mount Prospect Park gave an overview of the proposed Skateboard park at that location. There are numerous skateboard parks nearby that could be refurbished to the communities benefit and this one is left alone.
- The members of Mount Prospect Park have made an application to the National Historical Registry. The trees could be counted as historical. This is a long process and a location visit is pending for the next steps.
- Khurshid Abdul-Mustakabbir wanted to follow up on the resolution regarding information on assignments of Parks Departments fields and gyms. Pending further information

**VII. Culture Liaisons**

- **Brooklyn Botanic Garden** - Julia Bryant. Presentation was made
- **Prospect Park Zoo – pending**
- **Prospect Park Alliance** – Courtenay Loiselle. Presentation was made
- **Wingate Park** – David Romero is still pending contacting Vivia Morgan regarding an update.
- **Park Assessment Tool** – ask was made to BBG representative during his presentation
- **Brooklyn Museum**- Naima Wood, no report was made due to time

**VIII. Old Business** - no report on the subcommittee for a subcommittee for a Borough wide Conference regarding best practices for Parks, Recreation and Cultural committees. The conference is to be held every two years.

**IX. New Business**

- None

**X. Actions Items List** - Remains the same

- We recommend that the names of committee members who do not show up for meetings should be sent to the Executive Board for removal consideration
- Planification for 2023-2024:
  - i. Community Gardens: We can expect the same events as last year. The Garden opening events will be in or about in early Spring and the Harvest events will be in the Fall.
  - ii. A motion was made and seconded The Resource Fair should be moved to Carroll Street between Nostrand and Rodgers Avenues. The time: from 10 am to 2pm. Pending the Executive Board selecting the date. June 1<sup>st</sup> was suggested for this year Keeping in mind that 2023 was held on a Saturday, and it is not a convenient date of the week for some members of our community. We suggest that the event alternates weekend dates from year to year. [ Weekend after Memorial Day]
  - iii. A motion was made and seconded to start a subcommittee for a Borough wide Conference regarding best practices for Parks, Recreation and Cultural committees. The conference is to be held every two years.
    1. David Romeo will contact Vivia Morgan regarding Wingate Park

**XI. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

DRAFT Minutes sent to Nicolas Almonor and Brenda Pagan November 18, 2024

By Julia Bryant Community Member