

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

Economic Development Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2025

Attendance (Board Members): Vanessa Raptopoulos; Rohaan Menon

Attendance (Community Resident Members): Bruce Kirton; Willa Thompson

Absent (Board Members): Volney Joseph

Absent (Committee Resident Members): Joyce Williams

Guests: Lisa Etienne; Theresa Westerdahl

CB9 Staff: Allison Henry, Community Associate

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1. Call to Order
 2. Approved September and October Minutes
 3. Winter Business Mixer
 - a. Vanessa presented 3 invitations to choose from for the event happening December 2nd at Trove. We are hosting a business mixer where business owners can meet and mingle. We decided on one of the flyers we thought were inviting (with the yellow circle). We had one small change that Vanessa said she would make and circulate around the group to get final approval to send to print.
 - b. QR Code landing page needed to be updated to receive the RSVPs. We noted the changes we wanted. Vanessa to send an email to the board office asking for these changes to be made. Once the QR code landing page has been updated we can print the flyers and start distributing.
 - c. We decided on the event at the mixer - we are going to do a game similar to the game that we had at the Community Board Mixer a few weeks ago. The Chair gave us a paper with A-Z letters on it where we had to fill in the name of the streets and avenues in the district. We wanted to do a similar game since it was really fun, and everyone had a great time. Instead of doing Street names we thought we could do Business Names. Rohaan said that he could make a sheet to use to play the game.
 - d. Decided on 2 door people for the door - Rohaan and Lisa volunteered.
 - e. Sign in Clipboard - with name, business name, Instagram, website, how did you hear about us?
 - f. Canvas and outreach. Ask board office to include it in their blasts, send to our business list, WhatsApp page, Instagram

- i. Rogers - top from Empire to Eastern Parkway – Bruce
 - ii. Rogers - Empire to Parkside – Willa
 - iii. Utica – Lisa
 - iv. Flatbush – Vanessa
 - v. NY Ave / Nostrand – Rohaan
 - g. Business Materials to have on hand - We hope to gather as much business information as possible to have available at the event. We also want to update the business directory flyer to have an updated version. Rohaan volunteered to update the business directory flyer to something a little more exciting.
 - h. Other information to have - SBA info, Impaact BK.
 - i. Loosely walked through the Run of Show.
 - j. Decided on one more fun game - with a visual - We want to display a "Poster of Ideas" Where we have a white poster up and some post it notes where people can write and stick-up ideas of things that they want in the district. Ideas of businesses they wish we had. We think this will help us later with ideas about district needs.
4. To Do's:
- a. Update QR code - VR to Dante
 - b. Update Flyer – VR
 - c. Email to everyone
 - d. Print and distribute
 - e. Rohaan to update 2 flyers
 - f. Email Electeds - I am Caribbean, Hudson, Joseph, Cunningham, Zellnor, Mealey, district leaders, merchant groups.
 - g. Create a sign in sheet – VR
 - h. Poster Board, Post it, Pens, Name tags, sharpies, clip boards, sound system?
 - i. Game Sheet – Rohaan
 - j. Business Documents to share
5. District Needs Report - We discussed compiling a list of district needs. We will be more focused as a committee on reporting business needs.
6. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourned at 8pm