

Brooklyn Community Board 9 General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 25, 2025
Middle School 61 Auditorium
400 Empire Boulevard (at New York Avenue)
Brooklyn NY 11225

7:00 PM

Livestream – CB 9 YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyoyEpqdoGQ>

PUBLIC SESSION:

1. Call to Order – Announce Rules of Order for the Meeting

- Chairman of the Brooklyn Community Board 9, Fred Baptiste called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- Chair Baptiste read the Rules of Order for the night's meeting.
- The Chair invited the Executive Committee of CB9 to introduce themselves. This was accepted and respected.

2. Application to the New York State Liquor Authority:

- a. Antilles Café - 1170 Nostrand Avenue (Rutland Road and Fenimore Street); New Liquor, Wine, Cider & Beer License.
- b. Siwo Miele LLC d/b/a The C List – 835 Franklin Avenue (Corner of Union Street) New Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License

3. Transportation Bike Lane Resolution

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:

Mr. Joesph Mockim

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Elected Officials & NYC Agency Representatives

<i>Eli Slavin</i>	Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
<i>Catherine Duckett</i>	BBP Office
<i>Andre Robinson</i>	Councilwoman Crystal Hudson

Councilwoman Darlene Mealy was in attendance and took time to greet and addressed the Board Meeting.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Chair Fred Baptiste, of Brooklyn Community Board 9, called the Business Session of the meeting to order with the Roll Call at 7:40 p.m.

1. Roll Call of Board Members

		X = Present A=Absent EXC= Excused			
1	Abdul Mutakabbir, Abdul	X	23	Courtenay Loiselle	X
2	Nicolas Almonor	X	24	Letwine Mavima	X
3	Fred P. Baptiste	X	25	Jean Rene Mbeng Nguema	A
4	Augustine Blackwell	A	26	Natoya McGhie	A
5	Catherine Buccello	X	27	Ethan Norville	X
6	Suwen “Suki” Cheong	X	28	Denzel Oduro	X
7	Kendall Christainsen	X	29	Yankee Pearson	A
8	Jolee Cobb	X	30	Vanessa Raptopoulos	X
9	Eve Chavi Cohen	X	31	Unella Rhone-Perry	A
10	Soul Creary	X	32	Felice Robertson	X
11	Max Roland Davidson	X	33	Binyomin Rosenberger	X
12	Candace Edwards	A	34	Melissa Severe	A
13	Brittney Ellington	A	35	Lillian Swain	X
14	Lisa Etienne	X	36	Bakary Tandia	A
15	Bishop Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales	A	37	Kristin Thomas-Barrington	A
16	Shaunya Hartley	X	38	Joshua Thomas-Serrano	X
17	Rod Herbert	X	39	Debbie Timothy	X
18	Volney Joseph	X	40	Twyla Ware	X
19	Ronisha LaBarrie	X	41	Linda Watson-Lorde	X
20	Mayna Legoute	X	42	Theresa Westerdahl	X
21	Yisroel Lehrer	A	43	Lorianne Wolseley	A
22	Francisca Leopold	A			

Totals: 43 Present: 29 Absent: 14 Excused: 0

2. Approval of the January 2025 General Board Meeting Minutes.

The minutes of the meetings held on January 28, 2025 was accepted by Common consent with no corrections.

3. A Special Board Meeting was held on January 9, 2025. For the second time these minutes were not accepted as presented. The Secretary promised create a more in-depth account of the meeting held to be presented at the March 2025 General Board meeting.

4. Committee Chair Reports:

The following Committees submitted their meeting's minutes/reports, which were distributed to the General Membership prior to the Board Meeting:

- a. *Youth Services, Education and Library*
- b. *Transportation*
- c. *Economic Development*
- d. *ULURP/Land Use*
- e. *Public Safety*

5. District Manager's Report:

Public Notices

- NYC DOT has an opportunity to expand its network of curbside electric vehicle chargers through a federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grant. Since receiving the grant, DOT has identified potential locations for new charger implementation that advance equity, support TLC drivers, serve dense areas with little charging access, and meet feasibility and layout requirements. Next year (2025), DOT will be conducting community engagement to solicit feedback on these proposed locations and seek suggestions on additional sites for consideration. DOT has not provided a timeline for when the project will commence. DOT has informed us feedback will be collected concurrently with additional feasibility analysis. CB9 is conducting an On-Street EV Charger Expansion Feedback Survey to collect feedback. The locations being considered are:

- President St between Utica and Rochester
- Schenectady Avenue between President Street and Union Street
- Schenectady Avenue between Union Street and Eastern Parkway.

- Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) application is now open. NYC youth ages 14-24 may apply. Deadline to apply is Feb. 28th. CB9 serves as a worksite every year.
- Apply to run for a Community or Citywide Education Council now! Do you want to be a part of shaping policies and priorities for New York City Public Schools (NYCPS)? It's not too late to apply to run for a seat on a Community or Citywide Education Council! The deadline to submit your application has been extended to Thursday, February 27, 2025!

- Barone Steel Fabricators will be fully closing the roadway (Parkside between Nostrand and New York Avenues) in order for a mobile crane to erect plank for the project at 329 Clarkson Avenue. If you have any problem with this notification of closing, please contact Barone Steel at 718-832- 4705. Location: On Parkside Avenue b/w Nostrand & New York Avenues Dates: March 1st, 2025 – April 30th, 2025 Work hours: 9AM to 4 PM, Monday to Friday; 8AM to 4PM, Saturdays

Public Hearings •

City Planning Commission – 73-99 Empire Boulevard Rezoning Public Hearing was held on February 19th, at 10AM at 120 Broadway

- Public Hearing #2 – SUNY Downstate has been scheduled for Thursday, February 27th, 2025, 6 – 9PM, at Medgar Evers College (1650 Bedford Ave)

Administrative •

Community Board Applications are officially closed. All questions regarding applications should be directed to the BP's Office email:

cbapplication@brooklynbp.nyc.gov or phone: (718) 802 – 3700

- Good Shepard Services – Mondays and Wednesday, 10AM -4PM in the Board Office. Call Zac at 646-596-1015. • On 2/16/2025 at 6:32 pm. a structural fire occurred at 421 Sterling St; a 2-Story dwelling. There were 0 reported civilian injuries reported.

- Committee meetings changes in March/ April (Parks & Public Safety on March 5th rather than March 13th)

- WhatsApp Channels

- Issue: MTA trucks/ cars parking on residential blocks

6. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a vote by Common Consent.

7. Chairman's Report:

Land Use / ULURP Application for 73-99 Empire Boulevard

- Provided testimony at CPC hearing on Feb 19th

Membership / Attendance

- The application window is now closed

- Member attendance is being reviewed and members with substantial non-attendance at Board and/or Committee meetings are being contacted and advised of potential consequences up to and including removal from the Board

Training

- Discussing options with the District Office to provide training to Board and Resident Committee Members • Exploring training opportunities for SLA, Conflicts of Interest
- We will try to coordinate training activities to coincide with the appointment of new members in the spring.

Downstate

- 2nd Hearing scheduled for February 27th at Medgar Evers College

- Having conversations with counterparts in CBs 14 and 17 regarding possible responses **"Learn About Your Community Board"**
- Thanks to all members who attended
- Looking for ways to expand conversation and topics

Housing Committee

- The Housing Committee has not met quorum in its last 4 convened meetings
- The District Office conducted outreach to confirm member well-being, attendance status, and intent

Housing committee meeting convened on February 11, 2025

- Membership may be adjusted based on responses to outreach and attendance
- The Executive Committee will provide direct support to the committee for the rest of this year

Working on convening a presentation with the Fortune Society on affordable housing (possibly March 2025)

Meeting Efficiency

- Thanks to all members who have offered feedback on meeting efficiency
- Exploring measures to improve the flow of meetings including timed discussions, redistributed minutes, executive summaries
- Recommendations include:
 - reading materials in advance
 - deferring comments during the Public Session
 - being concise in Q&A portions of the meeting
 - referring new business items to committees as appropriate

8. Voting Items: (At this item/time in the meeting, on the call for Roll-Call one member of the board had left the meeting, 28 members were present for the voting session)

- a) 1. SLA Applications – Antilles Cafe – *Application was accepted on a vote of 27 For and 1 against.*
 2. Siwon Mele, LLC – *Application was accepted by Common Consent with no objections (28 For)*
- b) Bike Lane Safety Plan - *On an amendment to the original motion, the resolution was pass on the vote of all in favor (28 For)*
- c) Youth/Education Committee - Career Day – *On a vote by Common Consent, the Career's Day event was passed (28 For)*
- d) Youth/Education Committee – Education Town Hall - *On a vote by Common Consent, the Education Townhall event was passed (28 For)*
- e) Board Members Removals – *was tabled by Common Consent. (28 For)*

9. New Business

Under New Business, Board Member (BM) Jolee Cobb raised the question of the status of the Housing Committee, especially as to the appointment of a Chairperson for the committee as well there were no meetings of the committee held as was expected. The Board Chair Baptiste listed a number of events that happened, which contributed to the non-meeting of the committee such as:

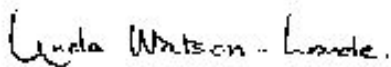
- a. The September 2024 meeting, there was not a quorum.
- b. Resignation of the Committee Chair in November, 2024.
- c. One member attended the January 2025 meeting. A further zoom meeting was called in January 2025, three members in attendance.
- d. It was decided that a new committee will be established from which a Chairperson will be chosen.

Some discussion followed on the current challenges of the joining of the Housing and the ULURP Committees.

The discussion ended with a favorable recommendation that with the “fixing” of the committee others can be invited to join the Housing Committee.

10. Adjournment.

Fred Baptiste, Chair of Brooklyn Community Board 9, adjourned at 9:29 p.m.



Linda Watson-Lorde
Executive Secretary CB 9
March 2025

