

Brooklyn Community Board 9 General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 28, 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=3ir4hAylrg>

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

2. Application to the New York State Liquor Authority:

- a) 887 NOST – 885-887 Nostrand Avenue (Carroll and Crown Streets); New Liquor, Wine, Cider & Beer License.
- b) Pearl Lee's Washtub, LLC – 314 Rogers Avenue (Montgomery/Crown Streets); Renewal of a Wine, Beer & cider License

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:

Michael Browne - Dwayne Neckles Malike Shakur -
Shequie Leandre Nkululeko Sechaba Hector Robinson
Alicia Boyd – MTOPP Org Zack Churchill - Good Shepherd Service Joliee
Cobb - CB 9 Board Member

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Elected Officials & NYC Agency Representatives

Eli Slavin Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Ethan Nash BBP Office
Paurcha Edwards Sen. Zellnor Y. Myrie Office
Andre Robinson Councilwoman Crystal Hudson
Ayanna Williams Councilwoman Darlene Mealy

BUSINESS SESSION:

Chair Fred Baptiste, of Brooklyn Community Board 9, called the Business Session of the meeting to order with the Roll Call at 7:53 p.m.

1. Roll Call of Board Members

		X = Present A=Absent EXC= Excused			
1	Abdul Mutakabbir, Abdul	X	23	Courtenay Loiselle	A
2	Nicolas Almonor	A	24	Letwine Mavima	X
3	Fred P. Baptiste	X	25	Jean Rene Mbeng Nguema	A
4	Augustine Blackwell	A	26	Natoya McGhie	X
5	Catherine Buccello	X	27	Ethan Norville	X
6	Suwen “Suki” Cheong	X	28	Denzel Oduro	X
7	Kendall Christainsen	X	29	Yankee Pearson	X
8	Jolee Cobb	X	30	Vanessa Raptopoulos	A
9	Eve Chavi Cohen	A	31	Unella Rhone-Perry	X
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	Brittny Ellington	A	35	Lillian Swain	X
14	Lisa Etienne	X	36	Bakary Tandia	A
15	Bishop Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales	A	37	Kristin Thomas-Barrington	X
16	Shaunya Hartley	X	38	Joshua Thomas-Serrano	X
17	Rod Herbert	X	39	Debbie Timothy	X
18	Volney Joseph	X	40	Twyla Ware	A

19	Ronisha LaBarrie	X	41	Linda Watson-Lorde	X
20	Mayna Legoute	X	42	Theresa Westerdahl	X
21	Yisroel Lehrer	A	43	Lorianne Wolseley	X
22	Francisca Leopold	X			

Totals: 43 Present: 30 Absent:13 Excused: 0

2. Approval of the November and December 2024 General Board Meeting Minutes.

The

acceptance of the minutes of the meetings held on November 21, and December 19, 2024 was accepted with the following correction - Re: *The November 21 meeting minutes: Under Voting Items: b) BSA Application: 341 Troy Avenue was inserted.* A Special Board Meeting was held on January 19, 2025. *A motion was made and adopted that the minutes of this Special Meeting be expanded sharing more of the discussion occurring at the meeting.*

3. 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) Parks, Recreation and Cultural | (f) Public Safety |

4. 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.
- State Liquor Authority will be holding a 500 ft hearing for an application for Agi's Counter located at 1045 Union Street (Franklin Ave b/w Eastern Parkway and Union Street). If an applicant is seeking an On Premises Liquor License and the applicant's premises is: (1) in a city, town or village with a population of 20,000 or more; and (2) there are three or more establishments already operating with an On Premises Liquor License within a 500-foot radius of the applicant's premises, the application is subject to the 500 Foot Law. As a result, the application cannot be approved unless the Authority finds that issuing the license is in the public interest. The 500 Foot Law requires that, before the determination is made, the Authority consult with the municipality and conduct a hearing to consider arguments and information on the issue of public interest.

Public Hearings

- The Department of Consumer and Worker Protection ("DCWP" or "Department") is proposing to amend rules related to the Earned Safe and Sick Time Act ("ESSTA"). Part M of Chapter 55 of the Laws of 2024 amended section 196-b of the New York State Labor Law by requiring every employer to provide to its employees twenty hours of paid prenatal personal leave during any fifty-two week calendar period. This proposed rule amendment would incorporate the labor law's paid prenatal personal leave requirements into ESSTA, clarify the penalties and remedies that DCWP may order for violations of such requirements, and provide additional clarification for employers about their compliance obligations. DCWP will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule at 11:00AM on February 14, 2025. The public hearing will be accessible by phone and videoconference. You can email comments to Rulecomments@dcwp.nyc.gov.

- The New York City Department of Finance ("DOF") is proposing a rule relating to a new local law governing the enforcement of property tax collection. DOF will hold a public hearing at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 3, 2025, via Webex. Written comments can be submitted to DOFRules@finance.nyc.gov. This proposed rule would establish how qualified property owners can:

- renew a property tax hardship installment agreement through selfcertification of income and primary residence;
- apply for removal from a tax lien sale and appeal a denial of an application for removal;
- demonstrate that they are qualified for a tax lien certificate surcharge waiver; and

- apply for a program that allows property owners to participate in the DOF Preservation Track program.
- The Department of Environmental Protection is proposing to promulgate a rule to amend the Noise Code Penalty Schedule and the Community Right-To-Know Law penalty scheduled. DEP will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule online at 12 noon of February 3rd, 2025. You can email comments to nyrules@dep.nyc.gov. The Community Right-to-Know Law [Local Law 26 of 1988], requires the City to effectively regulate the storage, use, and handling of hazardous substances. As part of the law, we oversee the use and storage of hazardous substances that pose a threat to public health and environment in New York City through its Right-to-Know (RTK) Program • This proposed rule would amend section 4-08 of Chapter 4 of Title 34 of the Rules of the City of New York (“34 RCNY”) to update provisions relating to license plate display requirements to align with the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law. The New York City Department of Transportation (“DOT”) will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule online. The proposed rule amends the Rules of the City of New York to align with the new provisions of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law (VTL), which became effective on September 1, 2024, and addresses the issue of vehicle owners using obscured, concealed, or distorted license plates to avoid enforcement mechanisms. The public hearing will take place on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 10am. You can email comments to rules@dot.nyc.gov.

Administrative

- On 1/20/2025 at 11:14 am. a structural fire occurred at 102 E 46th St, a 2-story private dwelling. The fire was located on the 2nd floor. There were 0 reported civilian injuries.
- 2025 Community Board Application is live – deadline is February 14th at 11PM. Application can be found on the CB9 website.
- DOT has informed me its department recently completed its study regarding the need for additional traffic controls at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Sterling Street. DOT has approved a traffic signal for the location. Installation will be performed by contract and the work is tentatively scheduled to be completed by April 30, 2025.
- Fiscal
Year 2026 Discretionary Funding Expense Application Filing Period - Please be advised that all not-for-profit community-based organizations that wish to apply for discretionary funding for FY2026 must submit a Council Application. The FY2026 application will be posted on the Council’s website at this location on Monday,

January 6th, 2025, and the submission deadline will be Wednesday, February 19th, 2025.

- On February 5th, 2025, in partnership with Assemblymember Cunningham's Office, National Grid, Heartshare, Good Shepherd's Services, and IDCC are partnering to bring services to the district. The event will be at 249 Empire Boulevard (AM Cunningham's Office) from 12 – 5PM.

5. Chairman's Report:

Land Use / ULURP Application for 73-99 Empire Boulevard

- Special Meeting was convened on 1/9/2025
- Board adopted a resolution to DISAPPROVE the application with conditions • The Chair and several members of the board and the community testified at the Brooklyn Borough President's hearing in 1/15/2025.
- The Borough President will review the application and testimony and submit his recommendation per the ULURP guidelines

Membership / Attendance

- Applications are now being accepted for board membership through February 2025.
- Board members are encouraged to check with Borough Hall or the District Office to confirm where they are up for re-appointment
- All applications MUST go directly to Borough Hall - we do not accept applications at the District Office
- 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
- Current training offered by Borough Hall and the Civic Engagement Commission
- Goal is to not be duplicative and provide more district-specific training.
- Members are encouraging to submit suggestions to the Executive Committee and the District Manager

Downstate

- Initial hearing on 1/22/2025 • Governor's Office announced that Downstate will not close and there is \$750M allocated to improvements at Downstate
- Board Chair testified at the hearing that appropriate engagement is necessary to educate the community
- Discussing with CB17 the possibility of a joint Town Hall regarding Downstate
- Next hearing is tentatively scheduled for 2/27/2025 in CD9 (Time and Location TBA)

"Learn About Your Community Board"

- Speaking with the District Manager about scheduling a virtual presentation to educate interested residents and Board members about CB9. Date/Time TBD.

Parks Department

- At January Borough Board meeting, the Parks Department announced that they are changing the process around tree planting and maintenance to focus on whole districts • CB9 has requested that they speak with us directly to ensure appropriate community engagement

Housing Committee.

- The Housing Committee has not met quorum in its last 3 convened meetings • Outreach is being conducted by the District Office to confirm member well-being, attendance status, and intent • Membership may be adjusted based on responses to outreach
- January Housing committee meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2025

6. Voting Items

- a) 1. SLA Applications – 887 NOST; On a recommendation of the board that the closing time for this establishment should be 2:00 a.m., the vote result was as follows; No/Against the recommendation - 4 members; Abstentions - 1 member; Yes/ in support of the recommendation 24 members. *A motion was move to amend the hours of when the establishment can start serving alcohol/liquor. This motion was defeated on a vote of: No/Against 17; Yes/For 9 and Abstention 1.*
2. Pearle Lees Wash Tub – *Application was accepted by Common Consent with no objections*
- b) 73-99 Empire Boulevard Resolution - *Tabled until February 2025 Meeting*
- c) Bike Lane Safety Plan - *Tabled until February 2025 Meeting*
- d) Youth/Education Committee Career Day - *Tabled until February 2025 Meeting*
- e) Board Members Removals - *Tabled until February 2025 Meeting*

7. New Business None

8. Adjournment.

Fred Baptiste, Chair of Brooklyn Community Board 9, adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Linda Watson-Lorde Executive Secretary CB 9 February 2025

