

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

Health and Social Services Committee Meeting
May 8, 2025

Attendance (Board Members): Francisca Leopold, Committee Chair;

Attendance (Resident Members): Karimah Griffin; Melissa Severe

Absent (Board Members): Yosef Hershkop, Kristen Barrington Thomas

Absent (Resident Members): Yosef Heintz; Dr. Jacqueline Love; Ann Volney-Ross; Charlene Wiggins; Carol Bartley; Bakary Tandia

Guests: Guenor Destine

CB9 Staff: Khalid J. Jemmott, Community Associate

1) Welcome

a. Meeting begins at 7:09 pm

2) Approval of January 2025 committee meeting minutes

a. The February committee meeting was cancelled due to the inclement weather

3) Ice breaker question: “Where would you like to visit this summer and why?”

4) Old/New Business

a. Review of specific key components of the PACE program’s services was discussed. It was noted that NY state funding allowed the program to expand its site locations; they currently have three in Brooklyn. The program representative’s goals are to seek participants for the new Prospect Park location. Request was made for the program’s representatives to return to the committee for further discussions regarding income-related eligibility requirements and to share the details with our senior community. Committee members agreed that the program is good, but additional details are needed to share resources and further information with the community. Senior Wellness Day is scheduled for June 11, 2025

b. Senior Wellness Day is scheduled for June 11, 2025; Location: East New York Ave between Kingston and Albany Ave. The event will be a collaboration with CCHR agency, Community Board 9, Assemblyman Brian Cunningham, and Interborough Developmental & Consultation Center (IDCC). CB9 members are encouraged to attend the ongoing planning meetings for the event. The next planning meeting to finalize details will be held on May 9, 2025.

5) Mental Health Awareness Forums

a. Mental health forum: There will be three sessions for youth, men, and the general population. Plans are underway to attract mental health professionals from various areas of the behavioral health field to interact with participants.: will meet next week for continued discussion; Men’s Day in November will include clergy

6) Topic of interest discussed

- a. Work with the Department of Finance and the public engagement unit of the mayor's office to provide community space for the seniors to ask home/housing-related questions.

7) Spa Day

- a. Spa Day: location is needed with an opportunity for space to accommodate both indoor and outdoor activities, in addition to sponsors. Ideas for the participants were: afternoon movie, self-care station for manicure/pedicures and massage; nutrition talks; bingo with prizes; healthy cooking demonstrations; and grocery-filled take-away bags.

8) Community Fair

- a. Scheduled for June 7, 2025; location is pending

9) Community check-in

- a. Community check-in: Funding request for assistance with senior cultural trips, entertainment, wellness, and finance-related projects. The CB9 health and wellness committee chair will also collaborate with various city council members to assist with grant funding endeavors.

10) WhatsApp

- a. Reminder to committee members to utilize group WhatsApp Chat to share concerns, ideas, information, and stay connected

11) Adjournment

- a. 8:01 pm