

**Brooklyn Community Board 17**  
**4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn NY 11210**  
**Public Hearing and General Board Meeting**  
**November 15TH 2023**  
**SUNY DOWNSTATE AUDITORIUM**  
**395 LENOX ROAD, BROOKLYN NY 11203**

**Call to Order:** This meeting of the Public Hearing and General Board was called to order by Asshur Cunningham-First Vice Chair. **\*First five minutes of the video audio was muted.**

**Chairperson's Report:**

- No Report Today from Chairperson Daley. First Vice Chair Asshur Cunningham reported on behalf of Chairperson Daley. **\*First five minutes of the video audio was muted.**
- From meetings going forward committees will only be presenting the most pending and pressing announcements.

**District Manager's Report:**

- **\*First five minutes of the video audio was muted.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Budget: Dan McCabe** – This year report was due in October and has been submitted. It mirrors last year reports except it includes budget demands for converting the Sears Parking lot into park, fixing a drainage issue on Lenox Road, a speed bump on 52nd street, after school program funding and a study on traffic cameras MWBE Trainings and playground facilities upgrades.

**Parks & Beautification: Berlotte Antoine-** I want to invite you all to the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. We will have toys for the kids, and we need volunteers to assist with the gift wrapping. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month and we will be collaborating with the Shirley Chisholm Art Department to reflect the art in the center.

**Commerce: June Persaud-** The Small Business Expo is scheduled for this Saturday from 1 -5, 1298 Utica Ave, Brooklyn NY. Next Commerce meeting is next week 11/21 and we will have a guest speaker speaking about cannabis.

**Agency Report:**

**Department of Sanitation Community Affairs- Michael-**

- In October we expanded the curbside composting program in which all residential buildings including single family, homes, and apartment buildings of any size, you will see weekly combos' collection. Compost will be on the same day as recycling.
- Large items will go out on your non-recycling day unless it is a recyclable item such as a metal bed frame.
- Leaf and yard waste has a mandatory separation from trash. There is a 3-month warning period from October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- Food waste is now also mandatory in Brooklyn with a warning period extending until spring 2025. If food waste is found in trash after this period residents are subject to a fine.
- Implementing new rules to reduce the number of black bags which started in April.
- All businesses will need to use a bin with a lid with setting out trash for collection, starting March 2024 with a 30-day warning period.

**Brooklyn Public Library: Heidi Duffy –**

- The programming we have is Virtual Bowling for adults at 11:30 to 1 every Wednesday.
- Gingerbread house building workshop on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Street fighter video game tournament for teens Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8.

**67<sup>th</sup> Precinct: Captain Mohammed Islam-**

- Tomorrow, we have our community meeting at the precinct at 7pm. Please do join us as we will go in depth and highlights of the command updates. Any questions you have
- Year to date we're down 10% in crime, 7% in a 28-day period and week period.

**Community Session:**

**Brooklyn Level Up: Alison Martinez-**

- We have been working with the New York City Civic engagement commission on the people's money project, which allows residents to decide what programs and workshops they'd like to see in their community in Brooklyn.
- Two upcoming workshops on: Thursday, November 16th from 7 to 8: 30 at Saint Theresa Catholic Church at 4402 Avenue D or November 18th from 2 to 4 at 3807-3809 Church Avenue.

**Keisha Sydney Sesame Flyers-**

- Looking for help to help us to wrap gifts from the Monday through the Friday for the toy drive on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Also looking for donations for gift wrapping and food.

**Community member has a question about a sidewalk violation. Public Safety Chair will meet with this member.**

**MOTIONS:**

**FIRST VOTE:**

**Applicant at 3002 Farragut Road:** Asking for variance for a NY DOH State licensed health facility at 3002 Farragut Road. Only asking for parking space wavier because of the location in C1 district. We are required to have 44 spaces, but we want to reduce the number of spaces to 5. The site is 6 story building, cellar and parking will be on the first floor (internal). Department of Building is asking us for a waiver of parking since the site isn't a big enough space that we could provide enough area to get 5 floors down for the previously 44.

**Kwame Afreh:** Land Use committee recommendation is to oppose this plan.

**MOTION:** Kwame Afreh makes the motion: The vote tonight is to permit a 6-story ambulatory diagnostic facility zoning application for variance file to pursuant to section 72-1 of the zoning resolution of the city of New York in a R6/C1/3 zone in district.

**VOTES**

**YES: 0 NO: 24 ABSTAINED: 3**

**MOTION FAILS**

**SECOND VOTE:**

**Kwame Afreh:** An Issue came up with the development that's happening around the Sears Project at property 2369 Bedford Ave. We desire the property to be utilized for community use as property holds significant potential to be transformed into a green space or a facility for the community. The Land Use committee has proposed a letter to councilmember Rita Joseph which has been emailed to everyone.

**MOTION:** Kwame Afreh makes the motion: The vote tonight is in favor or against sending the letter from the Land Use committee to council member Rita Joseph.

**VOTES**

**YES:27 NO:0 ABSTAINED:0**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MOTION:** Tamera Thomas makes the motion to approve 800 out of the 5,000 dollars of discretionary funds for the Parks and Beautification Committee December 15<sup>th</sup> Event.

**Pearlene Fields seconded the motion.**

**VOTES:**

**YES: 26 NO: 0 ABSTAINED: 0**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**Liquor Licenses:**

1. Caribbean Ink 1399 Nostrand Ave; Art Gallery and Office/Event Space  
Wine Beer and Cider License (NEW APPLICANT)  
No police reports/incidents at this location.

**Board Votes: YES: 25 NO:0 ABSTAINED:0**

**MOTION CARRIES**

2. Dramafree Lounge LLC 4315 Farragut Road; Temporary Retail Permit Request (NEW APPLICANT)

Two police incidents at the location; 5 calls for loud music

**Board Votes: YES: 20 NO: 4 ABSTAINED: 1**

**MOTION CARRIES**

3. SPLASH EVENT & CATERING LLC  
RESUBMIT A NEW 90 DAY APPLICATION

Commerce Committee voted to approve the application.

**NO DEBATE: A previous 30-day application was approved.**

4. Tropical Fete Inc. 850 New York Ave; Wine Beer and Cider & Temporary Retail Permit Request (NEW APPLICANT)

No police reports/incidents at this location.

**Board Votes: YES: 23 NO: 2 ABSTAINED: 0**

**MOTION CARRIES**

5. Executive Event Inc. 957 Utica Ave; Full Liquor License

This application is within the 500-foot rule (there is 3 or more licensed establishments)

**Board Votes: YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSTAINED: 0**

**MOTION CARRIES**

### **Legislative Sessions:**

#### **Council Member Farah Louis: Daniel Heredia:**

- Would like to mention the pedestrian ramp reconstruction that's taking across our district. This is a major funding project that's being done through to increase accessibility for seniors and children.
- For concerns regarding the construction of we want to let you know that if there are concerns let us know.
- We want you to reach out with improvements for how you want to improve the public spaces around Flatbush.

#### **Borough President's Office: Bianca Stephenson:**

- Community board application opens today which impacts half of the board. Please reapply, you have until February 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Tomorrow, Thursday at 6 p.m. on Zoom, we have the reviewing landmarks preservation applications workshop.

#### **Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman's Office: Dalton Robinson &**

##### **Assemblywoman Monique Chandler Waterman:**

- For those who have a registered non for profit 501 C3 that does work in the members district, and you might need funding, please this is the best time now for you to send in your request.
- Our office has increased our level of community outreach and reach out to our office, so we can explain to you about the grants that are available for houses of worship that will suffer or have suffered hate crimes.
- November 18<sup>th</sup> we will have our Monthly vital voice meeting at PS208.
- At PS 208 Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Assemblywoman Waterman will have a vital voice community meeting.

#### **Assembly Member Brain Cunningham's Office: Sydney Renwick:**

- Public Hearing for Vital Brooklyn Initiative that will be happening on November 30th from 6 to 8 virtually.
- New bills we had one that relates to the accessibility of the state university of New York City, University of New York campuses for disabled students, we think that ensuring 80

accessibility is vital; it relates to a fee waiver for applications; and to be able to lower the statute of limitation for sales tax liability to 10 years.

**Senator Kevin Parker's Office: Rhea Smith:**

- Please stop by if you need support immigration Housing employment and other services in the neighborhood.

**Senator Roxanne J. Persaud's Office: Tanequa Strong:**

- E-waste event from 1 to 4 PM on this Saturday.
- Toy & Coat Drive Sunday, December,17.

**Senator Murray's Office: Porsha Edwards:**

- On December 7th, we're having a resource fair at Lennox Road Baptist Church.
- On December 23<sup>rd</sup> we are doing a Brunch with Santa at PS 375.

**Council Member Darlene Mealy's office Helen Heinz:**

- Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> 2-5 Van Dyke Community Center, Meet and Greet to get to know your neighbors.

**Special Reports:**

**Louis Brown:** The next IBX (the light-rail) meeting by the MTA will be at Widdi Catering Hall 5602 6th Ave Brooklyn NY 11220 Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion made to adjourn by committee member.**

**Seconded by a Louis Brown.**

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:**

Tiffany Anderson  
Kwame Afreh  
Celia Berlin  
Hermia Daniels  
Lena Fenderson  
Tamara Thomas  
Michael Hill  
Berlotte Antoine  
Asshur Cunningham  
June Persaud  
Audrey Lewis  
Daniel McCabe  
Rose Grahman  
June Persaud  
Mary Bell Downes  
Kendrick Westcott  
Jorge Tate  
Brandon Avwell  
Louis Brown  
Gail Grandison  
Alison French Kenton  
Brandon Mathurin  
Pearlene Fields  
Trisha Louison  
Odney Lewis  
Edith Mark  
Dr. Carol Reneau  
Aaron Roth  
Simone Sylvestor  
Kamara Swabey  
Marguerite Vigliante  
Janice Reid

**Absent:**

Natalie Ferguson  
Rodrick Daley (excused)  
Brandon Alfanso  
Hassan Bakiriddin  
Rodney Pepe-Souvenir  
Kayla Draghine  
Theresa Brereton  
Najla Austin  
Antoinette Smart  
Monzurat Oni  
Jessica Welch  
Ivor Wood  
Emerson Lazellari  
Joan Alexander Bakiriddin  
Barrington Barrett  
Khadijat Oluwo  
Natasha Duncan  
Rhonda Joseph  
Heslat Tursun  
Dovid Holon  
Charles Galbreath