



# The City of New York

## COMMUNITY BOARD 17

4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn, NY 11210

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Sherif Fraser

District Manager

### Executive Officers

Rodrick F. Daley M. Ed. SBL  
Chairperson

Trisha Louison  
First Vice Chair

Monzerat Oni  
Second Vice Chair

Dan McCabe  
Treasurer

Gail Grandison  
Secretary

### Committee Chair

Hassan Bakiriddin  
Commerce

Gail Grandison  
Education/Youth

Carol Reneau, Ed.D  
Housing/Block Association

Kwame Afreh  
Land Use/Rezoning

Berlotte Antoine  
Parks/Beautification

Rose Graham  
Personnel

Kenrick Wescott  
Postal Services

Michael Hill  
Sanitation/Environmental

Monzurat Oni  
Social/Hospitality Health Services

Khadijat Oluwo  
Transportation/Public Safety

Daniel McCabe  
Budget

Trisha Louison  
By-Laws

Melaine Wilkerson  
Sergeant in Arms

### Community Board 17 General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18, 2025

#### Present

Afreh, Kwame  
Aimable, Alton  
Anderson, Tiffany  
Hassan, Bakiriddin  
Belyn, Celia  
Brereton, Theresa  
Daniels, Herminia  
Duncan, Natasha  
Gordon, Dorothy  
Graham, Rose  
Grandison, Gail  
Greene, Ronald  
Hill, Michael  
John, Afiya  
Louison, Trisha  
Mark, Edith  
Oni, Monzurat  
Peters, Denae  
Reneau, Carol  
Rulow, Chelsea  
Sabbat, Ariana  
Swaby, Kamara  
Vigliante, Marguerite  
Westcott, Kentrick  
Wilkerson, Melanie

#### Excused

Alberic, Neil  
Antoine, Berlotte  
Galbreath, Charles  
Julius, Nicole

#### Absent

Boatswain, David  
Daley, Roderick  
Freeman, LaShawn  
Guillaume, Magda  
Herrera, Gabriel  
Holmes, Gabriel  
Hubbartt, CeCelia  
Jason, Kevin  
Jones, Doris  
McCabe, Daniel  
Newyear, Mark  
Noel, Kenton  
Oluwo, Khadijat  
Phillips, Kaiia  
Pointer, Deborah  
Sylvester, Symone  
Theodore, Marie  
Walch, Jody

## Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Trisha Louison, standing in for Chairperson, Rodrick Daley.

Community Board 17 welcomed members back following the summer recess, highlighting the importance of an active and productive calendar year ahead. Members were encouraged to maintain engagement across committees and local initiatives.

## Committee Reports

### Youth & Education Committee:

#### June & August

- **Spelling Bee (June)**
  - Hosted in partnership with **Chase Bank** at the Utica & Church Avenue branch.
  - Event support provided by former Board Member **Assur Cunningham**, who also distributed backpacks.
  - **Gifts & Prizes:** Laptops, tablets, and Beats earbuds awarded to winners.
  - **Acknowledgment & Gratitude:**
    - Appreciation to all students who participated and to parents for their support.
    - Special applause to the following winners:
      - Adrian Louison (PS 235)
      - Dylan Bellony (Canarsie Middle School)
      - Andrew Ridore
      - Abigail Grant
      - Amara Ridore
      - Christopher Draghine
      - Matthew Grant
    - Recognition of all Board and Committee members who assisted with the event.
- **Youth Happen'n (August 7 – Paerdegat Park)**
  - Successful day with strong participation from **camps and community organizations**.
  - **Acknowledgments:**
    - Thanks to Board and Committee members for volunteering and donations.
    - Appreciation to elected officials and representatives who attended:
      - Councilwoman Farah Louis
      - Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman
      - Assembly Member Cunningham
      - Councilwoman Mealy
      - Brooklyn Borough President's Office
      - Senator Roxanne Persaud
      - 67th Precinct
    - Recognition of community partners:
      - **Chantel Archibald** & East Flatbush Village youth for leadership in coordinating lunch.
      - **Nathan** & his team for setting up and managing snacks/juice, as well as event setup and breakdown.
  - **Special Thanks:**
    - Deep gratitude to Board staff, especially **Ms. Fraser**, for her consistent guidance, expertise, and support in planning and executing this annual event.
- **Committee Meetings**
  - Meetings are held on the **second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM**.

## Housing & Block Association:

- Engaged with the community residents and attended 20 block parties
- Meeting every first Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Partner with our housing organizations, such as the NHS
- Grants are available to the community for 20K and 25K; you don't have to pay these monies back. Speak to Ms. Renau about these grants

## Capital Expense Budget:

- The Board received **over 200 public submissions** for the upcoming fiscal year's capital projects.
- Ranking and prioritization of these ideas were scheduled for discussion during the meeting.
- Deadline for submission was July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Results will be compiled and voted on by the board at next month's meeting

## Social Services

- Second annual community Fair, October 18- Utica between Church and Linden – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- All organizations that want to participate should contact the board
- Any non-profits interested in partnering or co-sponsoring should see Ms. Oni

## Chairperson's Report

- Greetings to the Community and the members
- No changes to the members on the Executive Board
- Attendance at community block parties and other community events
- Significant budget concerns in the hiring process. OMB makes the final decision
- Reinstatement of the staff member after the Union stated the removal was done improperly
- Robert's Rules govern meetings and committee meetings
- Voting is done by the By-Laws
- Any issues that are discussed can have community participation, but only board members can vote.
- Board members can only vote in person. Attendance is only accepted if you are present in the room
- Board or committee members must remove themselves from a vote if there is a conflict of interest. You can be removed from the Board or committee if you vote on an issue on which you have a special interest.
- The chairperson can add or remove someone from a committee. You must be participatory in the committee meetings – showing up over a period of time
- Encourage sponsorships and partnerships within the board. Any flyers can be given to Ms. Fraser, Ms. Fara, or Julius to put on the board's website.

## Agencies Report

### NYPD

- Successful Labor Day – 1 shooting on E52 dispute at this location, a few shots were fired, no one was hurt 28-day period –
- Slight uptick in shootings. Shooting on Utica and Church and on E 52, Snyder & Church. Leads on these incidents and puts these cases to rest
- Shootings 4 vs 2
- 0 homicides
- Slight uptick in robberies, 27 vs. 14
- Down 7% in burglaries
- Felony assaults down 27% (61 vs 83)
- Grand Larceny 62 vs 26

- Robbery patterns – juvenile on Scooters displaying a knife
- Grand larceny- primarily targeting older people- group approach older people, create distractions, and remove jewelry from them
- Quality of life teams- prioritizing where the complaints are happening

Question from: Natasha –

Q: What are we doing about people who do not move their cars during alternate side parking?

A: These are issues the Q team will address

A: Towed 263 vehicles of different blocks, no plates; leave the car unattended.

Question from Camilia Navado

Q: People holding parking spots on the streets using cones should be reported. On September 1st, a confrontation occurred at 91st Street, between Church and Avenue A, where cones were placed to hold parking spaces.

A. The Inspector will have his Q team over there to check out the situation.

### **Brooklyn Public Library**

- Brainfuse – A database with live tutors available from 2 PM to 11 PM. Sign in with a library card to interact with tutors.
- In-person afterschool homework help – still getting tutors for the three branches, vetting volunteers that will help with homework help.
- Teen internship applications now open
- Clarendon Rd library has a host of programs for children, Teens, and adults
- Grant funded for Middle schoolers on September 16, Middle Schoolers making Spaces
- Rugby Library has Arts and Crafts this Saturday, and has Steel Pan with Tropical Fete, and East Flatbush is doing constitutional services.
- Thanks to Councilwoman Farah Louis for funding the photography workshop happening in January for high Schoolers
- Check the Central Library for the summer exhibition of Tove Jansson

### **District Manager Report**

- During the recess period, July- August, the office continued to carry out essential obligations- administrative functions, advancing committee meetings, and financial commitments, closing out FY25 budget, and the community was served
- Two summer volunteers, updating records and filing systems, ensuring compliance and readiness.
- Few committee events during the summer
- preparation for the upcoming CB17 annual fair on Utica between Church and Linden. 26 vendors registered. Paperwork file with the precinct. Street activity permit. A DJ and Tropical fete will entertain.
- Worked on Expenditure records, vendors' payments. Completed our audit with the Comptroller's office and our budget forecast for FY26.
- Continue our outreach with the Newsletter; if you are not receiving it, call the board Office.

### **ADM Committee membership**

New committee membership requirements aim to improve attendance and participation among members.

### **Community session**

**Shirley Chisholm Rec Center** – Victoria Fraser Community Construction Liaison on behalf of Shirley Chisholm Rec Center. We will have a date soon for the opening. We have a weekly update that goes out to the community. If you are not on the list, please reach out to the community board.

### **Legislative Session**

Brooklyn Borough President – Alicia Miller

- Welcome new members
- During the summer and year-round, the comprehensive plan 2.0. Health and Equity in Brooklyn. Detailed maps and statistics describing the current state of our borough, economic, how we are, and recommendations for better infrastructure across Brooklyn. It is located on our website.
- Pin competition- redesigning our Pin competition. September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Back to school in partnerships with many elected officials and community partnerships. It will be held in Canarsie
- Next Thursday, put the Guns Down documentary on gun violence, and then a Community conversation afterward.

#### **Councilwoman Farah Louis' Office**

- Budget passed-Restoration of Saturday Library Service at Clarendon/Rugby. More funding for CUNY and sanitation services in the district.
- Complaints of illegal dumping in many places, in our parks.
- \$200,000 for new cameras for Utica & Farragut, Glenwood Road, Albany, and more spots in the district with chronic illegal dumping.
- \$30 million in lot clearing, specific lots that private owners were not clearing.
- Youth initiative- Teen photography program (partnership with BRIC), \$600,000 for swim programs, one at Brooklyn College and one at the Shirley Chisholm Rec Center when it opens, in honor of Elijah Chandler, who drowned off the Rockaways last summer.
- Paper shredding day, October 4<sup>th</sup> at Paerdegat Park in Partnership with CB17 Parks and Beautification, also a fitness event, Sweat Fete- Hope for Pink, in partnership with Senator Parker, to make sure our folks stay active
- Fall Senior concert at **EXXXX** Park
- Late learner's youth market at Flatbush Junction every Saturday.

#### **Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman**

- Mass gun violence and string of shootings- Mass gun violence briefing with over 100 electives at the federal, state, and city levels, and other agencies to discuss the mass gun violence term of 3 or more being injured. Three or more people were wounded in multiple shootings in 7 days, with four or more being murdered.
- Shooting outside her office – Anti-violence groups, Project Echo, God Squad, East Flatbush Village Inc., and NYPD were able to stop the bleeding and get her to the ambulance, and led a shoot and response.
- Still advocating for Community Center funding. We need something on the other end of the district near the 40s and 50s, a community Center concept. We're fighting for after-school programs.
- We are doing a healing, holistic wellness block party. If you have a resource or need some support, come out at Montgomery and Utica.
- Food giveaway 3 PM – 6 PM outside the office
- Daniel's law-A pilot program that makes sure that when it comes to a mental health crisis, police should not be involved, but mental health professionals.

#### **Senator Zellnor Myrie's Office**

- 1 Billion Investment in SUNY Downstate
- Back-to-school event on September 6 to start the school year and thank the community.

#### **Council Member Darlene Mealy's Office**

- Success Youth Day block party
- Gospel night
- Monday- Two Immigration attorneys who come to our office –718-953-3097 to make an appointment
- Tuesday housing specialist – To assist with existing housing Issues.
- Every second and fourth Wednesdays, someone comes in to help with Housing Connect and teach them how to register in the system, and navigate the system to secure housing
- Last week, Boots on the ground- teaching people to Line Dance (Fridays from 2-3:30)

- On 9/23, OATH event- people can come and learn how to resolve and respond to summonses. Homeowners' quality of life issues are simple violations that people don't know how to respond to.
- 9/23 community advisory board- Q team to explain their functions, and any issues you have for yourself.
- 10/1 shredding event bet 629 Kingsborough between Ralph and Dean

#### **Senator Roxanne Persaud's Office**

- 9/24 - Mobile office from 3-5 PM
- Celebrating her 10<sup>th</sup> year to celebrate and show support on 9/28 – 3 pm-6 pm South Shore Education Complex, 6565 Flatlands Avenue. You need to register.

#### **Council Member Rita Joseph**

- Budget – Passed 4<sup>th</sup> budget July 1st
- 2.5 Million for school improvements
- 50 Thousand for Arts and Culture institutional projects
- 1.4 million for Parks and Community gardening projects
- 128 Trees – Not one single tree was planted in 10 years; I planted a thousand trees under my leadership
- When it comes to health and hospital projects I want to make sure it remains here, so invest \$8.9 million in trauma and hospital upkeep
- \$3 million in housing and community development invested
- Schools upgrade - got computer labs, PA systems, room renovation, playground upgrades, libraries, and STEM labs. Erasmus Hall has not seen a renovation, so we are renovating the entire campus from top to bottom.
- Wingate Park- \$21 million investment, including the school.
- \$2 million in mutual apartment repairs
- Age out Foster Care youth project
- Maple Community Garden – they had to carry water to the garden; they now have a water line with water fountains
- Restoring Prospect Park field 9 and 4 and around the corridor where the Shirley Chisholm monument will be, renovating that corridor.
- A couple of years ago, we did a renovation to the Parkside train station, which means we changed the doors, the windows, the lights, the paint, the chairs, everything. We are now making church Avenue
- accessible for everyone, including those who have mobility issues.
- Brooklyn Children's Museum got an AV system along with the Council Member Chi Osse.
- 9/4 open Aims for students with autism from pre-school to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, will have all the related services in the building. First of its kind in Central Brooklyn.
- Passed a bill that when a child leaves the Foster care system, they will no longer carry a black plastic bag.

#### **Senator Kevin Parker's Office**

- 9/13 Health Fair at Flatbush YMCA @12 PM
- 9/27 NY black college Expo 10-3 PM Financial, Aid, etc.
- 10/4 12 Sweat Fete @ Paerdegat park
- Number of services available - 3021 Tilden Avenue

#### **Brooklyn District Attorney's Office**

- Action Center- Community can come and make complaints, 718-250-2340, issues or concerns, free legal advice.
- Summer interns 2026- Save the Date applications Winter February 17-20 and Spring April 6-10 718-504-877. Interns get a stipend.

General election on November 4<sup>th</sup>- Early voting October 25.

#### **SUNY Downstate**

- Health Fair – screenings- will focus on men's health screenings this year
- Two events- eats streets and beats, this Saturday, 11 AM – 3:30 PM

- Autism resource and awareness fair 1 PM – 5 PM on 9/28

<b>SLA Applications</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Elite Manor LLC	25	0	0	0	0
Galaxy Bar	25	0	0	0	0
Nirvana Spring	10	7	8	0	0
Project Constellation Recommendation	16	2	6	0	0 (committee)

Minutes were approved by all members of the board who were present.

**Secretary voting**

Motion to approve the Secretary Gail Grandison made by First Vice Chair Louison.

Second – Hassan Bakiriddin

The majority raised their hands

**Habitat for Humanity Presentation**

- Habitat for Humanity presented a project for affordable homeownership, proposing twelve units in East Flatbush.
- The project aims to promote long-term affordability and community engagement through local contractor involvement and outreach.
- Community Board 17 emphasized the need for permanently affordable homeownership opportunities in the district.
- Concerns arose about income barriers, with the average community income at \$68,000 impacting affordability.
- The project aims to balance community asset building with individual family wealth through a resale-restricted model.
- Community representation in project oversight is crucial for ongoing communication and accountability during and after construction.

Meeting adjourned 9:51 PM

Motion: Carol Reneau

Second: Kamara Swaby

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