



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 13
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<http://www.nyc.gov/html/bkncb13>

ANTONIO REYNOSO
Borough President

LUCY MUJICA DIAZ
Chairperson

EDDIE MARK
District Manager

**COMMUNITY BOARD 13
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: Wed., Dec. 27, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Loc. St. Paul's Church

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lucy Mujica Diaz

Dionne Brown

Selina Grant

Queenie Huling

Angela Kravtchenko

Allen Newman

Nodira Pirmukhamedova

Jeff Sanoff

Michael Silverman

Gloria Watkins

Zunera Ahmed

Marion Cleaver

Linda Harrison

Yuriy Krasner

Minnie Mankita

Robbin Wright Paraison

Sabina Pirmukhamedova

Fran Schwartz

Pat Singer

Annette Wesley

Lakeisha Bowers

Lolita Divilova

Amarilys Herrera

Yelena Makhnin

Mark Mernyk

Milagros Quiles

Michael Russo

Tatyana Segal

Sheila Smalls

Joann Weiss

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Patricia Brown

Asad Dandia

Susan Flaschenberg(exc)

Pervez Siddiqui

Svetlana Zelinskaya

Barbara Teitelbaum (exc)

Sonji Cephas

Jennifer Dublin

Pat O'Brien

Jack Suben(exc)

Edita Volovodovskaya

Joe Corace

Erum Hanif

Sam Rinkovsky

Joann Weiss

Gregory Vayngurt

GUESTS:

Najee English, Kayceem Maraga, Mekhi Nurges, Drabe Isaac, Deacon Anna Haye, Charlene Batts(CM Brannan), Joseph Packer, Eliot Hetterly, Joseph Watson, Angel Alvarado, Ron Greenberg, Angel Hibolc, Jerry Nikolopoulos, Carlo Muraco Clifton Smith, Nick Ghera, Sergei Chuprik, Venus Scanlebury, CCRB, Nicholas Milal Chris D. Grief, Victor Malyar, Arthur Melnick, Tommy Sicignano, Brook Lynn Sicignano Robert E Cornegy, Jeanne Ramirez, Yvette Aguilar, Ida Sanoff, John Lyons, Dr. Dominique Paraison, Marie Mirville-Shahzada, Meri Ayad, Heidi Amato, Al Wilson Derrick Miles, Dwayne Buckey, Sergey Chuprik, Erica Turner, Fred Sujkovic, BC Michael Mandala, Zhana Krot, Keith Suber, R Washington, Alexey Ilyushla, Craig Hammerman

Chairperson Lucy Mujica Diaz opened the meeting and welcomed all to the December, 2023 meeting of Community Board 13. She announced that anything placed in the chat could be FOILED if requested.

Sergei Chuprik – Comptroller’s Office – Wished everyone Happy and Healthy New Years. Read the website where the State of the City’s Economy is discussed.

Stephen Johnson, Dept. of City Planning – He reminded everyone that on Dec. 7th he presented to a joint meeting of the Zoning and Land Use/Economic Development Committees. He is interested in hearing the feedback and making a similar presentation. He explained that currently it is not legally permitted to have a gaming facility in C4-C8, M1, M2, M3 area within the City. The term “gaming facility” is a broad term which means family facilities and associated facilities. The text amendment could facilitate up to three family facilities in New York City.

By statewide referendum in 2013, up to 7 new casino licenses were authorized. CAC reviewed and approved or disapproved applications for casino licenses in the region. The text amendment was facilitated by CAC. The CAC does not approve but gives the community board the ability to consider the text amendment.

Derrick Miles – Video Music Box – This is a CBO that interacts with youth in the community, at all levels. The teach how to make audiovisual better.

Angela Kravtchenko- She wanted to know if once the decision for the casino is made, does the text amendment become irrelevant. It is only good until the license is given out.

Zunera Ahmed – She referred to Slide #4 of the presentation. She wanted the public’s role to be elaborated on. Stephen said it is a state process to establish the gaming facility use in a zoning resolution.

Gloria Watkins – asked how the six people on the CAC get appointed. Picked by elected officials.

Minnie Mantika – asked what the alternate plan was if the text amendment was not passed. Stephen said it would go to the ULURP Process.

Keith Suber – He believes that elected officials cannot totally make decisions for our community. We must let the elected officials know what the community wants.

Michael Russo – if the Text Amendment doesn’t get approved, the casino will be given to an area outside the city.

Christopher Greif – He wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday. He placed information about reduced fare in the back.

Erica Turner – She said that Stephen hasn’t answered any of the questions. His answers had no substance.

Ida Sanoff – She made the point that if the community thinks there is traffic on the west end now, approve the text amendment and it will worsen many times over.

Yelena Makhnin – On behalf of CM Vernikov, wishes everyone Happy & Healthy New Year.

Charlene Batts – On behalf of CM Brannan, she wishes everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New York. They continue to look for an office in Coney Island

Venus Scantlebury, CCRB – CCRB’s mission is to hold unbiased investigations. CCRB is hosting youth advisory committee. Applications are open to students from ages 10-18 years of age to work on Civic Engagement. They also do “Know Your Rights” Workshop. For more information call her at 917-742-4098.

Discussion:

Marion Cleaver noted that the CAC basically is State. This is a city Text Amendment. She doesn't think any of the State elected officials should be involved in picking the CAC community members.

Yelena Makhnin thinks this is mixing apples and oranges. It seems to be two processes-casino is a state process with their rules and regulations. Why did the city come up with the text amendment? just to make the process easier. The Text Amendment is about future use, not only about the casino, not about slot machines, it's about zoning, very wide range C4-C8. With ULURP we have a say, no matter how long the process takes.

Zunera Ahmed asked when the vote would be taken. No exact date has been chosen yet.

Mark Mernyk agreed with Marion.

Michael Russo stated that this motion is for the city process. We need an opinion as to what is good for the city.

Pat Singer believes that this text amendment is the right thing for Coney Island. It will bring funds into the area.

Angela Kravtchenko said she believes it is not about the casino, it is about citywide change.

Minne Mankita believes it will be opening a Pandora's box. She wonders if this is the right venue.

Linda Harrison said she believes that important decisions cannot be rushed.

Selina Grant wants to know why not use ULURP. We now have the opportunity to negotiate at the beginning of the process, not at the end.

Sheila Smalls stated that everyone in the Coney Island community needs to get along.

Gloria Watkins feels that we should do positive things for the community.

Jeff Sanoff stated that the facts: The Citywide Zoning Text Amendment is not only for Community Board 13, but also changing the use in commercial zones throughout the city. If it is approved, zoning will be "as of right", and will limit community input.

Michael Silverman said that the purpose of the motion was to let the city know what we think. It would be a foot in the door to get what we want for us and the future of the city/community. It would give the city something to think about.

Lucy Mujica Diaz wanted to know how the Text Amendment would benefit the community. She feels that voting "Yes" with or without amendments would show we want to speed the process. If we vote "No", there would be no change and motion was denied.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Gloria Watkins – Happy & Healthy New Year to all

Licensing Committee: Yelena Makhnin/Olga Fort, Co-Chairs
New Adult Use Cannabis Dispensaries

These two addresses are within 528 feet from a school (P.S. 90). Less than 1 mile from I.S. 303 and lose to Abraham Lincoln HS
FLYL – 881 Neptune Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
MZDZ – 885 Neptune Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Motion made by Yelena Makhnin, seconded by Michael Russo to approve the applications as submitted:

VOTE: In Favor: 1 Opposed: 26 Abstentions: 0
Motion denied (quorum present) Roll call on file at C.B. Office.

Change of Method of Operation for AASA Group LLC, dba Backstage, located at 3052 West 21st Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11224

Change Hours of Operation: Thursday 9 a.m. – 2 a.m.
Friday, Saturday 9 a.m. – 3 a.m.
Sunday-Wed. 9 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Motion made by Marion Cleaver, seconded by Yelena Makhnin to approve hours as indicated.

VOTE: In Favor: 1 Opposed: 18 Abstentions: 7
Motion: Denied (quorum present) Roll call on file at C.B. Office

There was some discussion on SLA investigating whether the location has (needs) one or two licenses.

In letter to SLA indicate the C.B. 13 voted down the change in hours of operation and questioned whether they have (need) one license or two licenses.

Motion to adjourn made at 9:45 p.m.

Barbara Santonas, Community Coordinator