

**ATTENDANCE**

Rosamond Alvaranga  
Sallie Viola Bennett  
Barbara Bieber  
Greg Borruso  
Gardy Brazela  
Melba Brown  
James Buchanan  
Terri Cadet-Donald  
Salvatore Calise  
Lucina Clarke  
Paul Curiale  
Gil Cygler

Amar Dyal  
Reeves Eisen  
Maria Garrett  
Joan Gilbert  
Denise Gourdine  
Stuart Heier  
Tomas Hernandez, Jr.  
Michael Ien  
Kenny Jean-Baptiste  
Jean Joseph  
Leon Kizer  
Sharon Nedd

Judy Newton  
Mitchell Partnow  
Anne Richards  
Violette Roberty  
Jeff Rodus  
Marcia Schiff  
Michelle Sealey  
Debbie Tiamfook  
Nancy Walby  
Sylvia Whiteside  
Bishop Nathan Williams  
Valerie Woodford

**GUESTS:**

Orlando Ross  
Arlene Perkins  
Ancilla Friday  
Megan Porter  
Kseniya Inoyatov  
Waheed Bajwa  
Ricky Simeone  
Anthony Bocskor  
Sheila Benjamin  
Shamim Riaj  
George Troiano  
Carlos Ambia  
Christian Grove  
John Kosa  
Shamar Clark  
Joan Gilbert  
Reeves Eisen  
Anne Richards  
Sue Ann Partnow  
Margot Perron  
Danielle Goldfarb  
Jodieann Nelson  
Nadine Sylvester  
Hon. Roxanne Persaud  
Jessica Parks  
Ronald Kroening  
Gerard Brewster  
David John  
Delores Washington  
J. Hamilton  
Lisa Lau  
Nadine Letts  
Frieda Menos

Representing Congress Woman Yvette Clarke  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
AKRF, Inc.  
NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services  
NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services  
Area Resident  
Flatlands Civic Association  
Representing Senator Andrew Gounardes  
Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams  
District Leader, 59<sup>th</sup> A.D.  
NYC Department of Parks & Recreation  
NYC Department of Parks & Recreation  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Member, NYS Senate  
Brooklyn Paper  
Area Resident  
Utica 2 Flatbush  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Area Resident  
Representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries

Henroy McKenzie	Area Resident
Roopesh Ramjit	Representing Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez
Venessa Harry	Area Resident
Elba Melendez	Area Resident
Jeff Abraham	Area Resident
Harold Jones	Canarsie Community Development Inc. (CCDI)
Jennifer Bedeau	East 59 <sup>th</sup> Street Block Association
Christina Armieri	Area Resident
Capt. Genevieve Isom	Commanding Officer, 63 <sup>rd</sup> Precinct
P.O. Thomas Podd	63 <sup>rd</sup> Precinct
P.O. Samuel Maria	69 <sup>th</sup> Precinct
Jessica Parks	Brooklyn Paper
Diana Soriano	NYC DOT
Ifeoma Ebo	Area Resident
Elizabeth Malone	Neighborhood Housing Services of Brooklyn (NHS)
Juan Carlos Salgado	Area Resident
Elizabeth Dovell	Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR)
Zachary Tierney	Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR)
Linda Steinmuller	Canarsie Courier
Thara Duclosel	Area Resident
Charmaine C.	Area Resident
Jenika McCrayer	Representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams
Johnny Arcenteles	Area Resident
Judge Dweynie Esther Paul	Kings County Civil Court Judge
Dana W.	Area Resident
Tory Thomas	Area Resident
Jamaya Smith	Area Resident
Angella Davidson	Area Resident
Ezra Pean	Representing Council Member Farah Louis
Dolange Donacien	Area Resident
Naudia Salvodon	Brooklyn Kids Preparatory School
MarieFrance Laporte	Area Resident
Tamara Marshall	Area Resident
Marcus Simons	Area Resident
Inga Oneale	Area Resident
Sonae Hurd	Area Resident
La Shawn Paul	Area Resident

**7:07 P.M.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Planning & Zoning Chair Sal Calise opened the Public Hearing portion of the Community Board #18 Meeting at 7:07 P.M.

**U.L.U.R.P. Application# 210106PCK – Premises affected – 1427 Ralph Avenue**, Block 7918, Lot 86. An application submitted by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in conjunction with NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), is seeking a site selection/acquisition action for combined office, lab, and storage space of approximately 36,000 gsf (and a parking lot of approximately 19,700 sf) for a Pest Control and Vector Control Program Facility

at 1427 Ralph Avenue (Block 7918, Lots 86, p/o 93, and 141), in Brooklyn, Community District 18. *This Statutory Public Hearing has been duly advertised in the City Record.*

Planning and Zoning Chair Sal Calise introduced Kseniya Inoyatov, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Kseniya Inoyatov, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene introduced Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene who provided a brief presentation. He informed the board that the project site is approximately 67,771-square-foot (sf) lot that is privately owned and, independent of the proposed project, and is currently under construction with an approximately 48,000-gross-square-foot (gsf) one-story as-of-right building with an approximately 19,800-gsf parking lot. The proposed project requires site selection and acquisition actions by the City Planning Commission (CPC) proposed actions. The proposed actions would facilitate DOHMH's use of approximately 36,000 gsf of the newly constructed warehouse building and the 19,800 gsf parking lot, as a central distribution warehouse serving all five boroughs and field office for South Brooklyn and Staten Island for their pest control and vector control programs (the proposed project). The proposed project would provide DOHMH with a facility to conduct pest and vector control activities as well as store pesticides, field equipment, and spray vehicles. The facility is anticipated to include offices, storage space for equipment, insect lab and chemical storage space, a loading dock and washing bay for spray vehicle operations, and parking for spray vehicles. The proposed project is anticipated to be completed and operational by 2022. He informed the board that their Pest Control Services performs inspections of private and public properties for rodent infestation, enforce extermination and cleanup, provide technical assistance to property owners, conduct rodent exterminations, collaborate with other NYC Agencies in rodent remediation, and provide "Rodent Academy" trainings across communities. Vector Surveillance and Control eliminates and avoid exposure of mosquitoes and ticks, Adult Mosquito Control, Mosquito Surveillance and Testing, Aerial Larvicide in New York City, Removing sources of water that breed mosquitos, Ground Larvicide to prevent spread of West Nile Virus, Vector Identification and testing for the Presence of Diseases, Public Education, Tick Surveillance, and Marshlands and other Wetlands.

J. Hamilton, area resident, asked if the zoning is as of right for the use of a pest control facility and what percentage of the floor area use is for storage.

Planning and Zoning Chair Sal Calise asked how the NYC Department of Health conducts a rodent extermination other than the anticoagulant because as he's looking at the picture on slide number two it looks like a powder. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that what it looks like is a fumigant. He stated that he is the Director of Pest Control which is rats and Waheed Bajwa is the Director of the Vector Control Program and that's one of the least toxic rodenticides that they use. It's dry ice and Carbon Dioxide which many of you've heard about. He explained that they were challenged in parks when they put the rodenticide down. So, they're not going to sit here and say that everything is perfect and there isn't some risk in what happens. They were getting secondary poisoning in parks when the rats would eat the bait, and with the hawks and birds of prey making a big come back they would eat the rat that had the rodenticide and now the hawk ends up dying. Someone sees a beautiful hawk die from it and now you've got issues there. But you also may have a park that's got 30 to 50 rats that you have to get rid of. Bottom line is that they have been experimenting and they have a dry ice program where they put the dry ice in the burrows. It's a much more humane way by covering the burrows. He stated that he knows that there are animal lovers here so he will see if he can say this in a nice way, but they go to sleep and don't wake up again. So, when they close those burrows up with the dry ice the rats end up dying in the burrows. It's carbon dioxide and they're looking to expand that

program and there's been a lot of good things going on in the industry, but generally dry ice is used mostly in parks so that they prevent secondary poisoning to other animals. He also stated that they do bait on properties, which you've all probably seen before which are those black boxes that are outside of buildings. They're called bait stations and are tamper resistant so that pets and children can't get in them. So, they use those bait boxes on properties.

Jodieann Nelson, area resident, asked will the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene utilize eco-friendly pest control methods. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene responded yes, and that it's part of their program. Before they get to the baiting piece of it, which was mentioned in the presentation, they have inspectors that go out. Generally, most of the cause of rats is garbage and if you remove the garbage you reduce the rats. So, property owners get a warning and an opportunity to clean up their mess and put stuff in garbage cans. Much of their program is based on inspections and cleanup. However, there is a point that you must use rodenticide. Some of the eco-friendly stuff that they're using is the dry ice that's become a big arsenal with them especially now in parks throughout the city. They don't use rodenticide anymore, but rodenticide is still a weapon that they use, and will continue to use it.

Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that the board can always send Kseniya Inoyatov at NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene any additional questions that they may have and they can certainly get back to board if there are other things. Planning and Zoning Chair Sal Calise stated that they are 600 feet away from residences and at the bottom of their radius is where they start skimming the beginning of a residential area. His concern is the storage of chemicals in this building because they need to make sure that what they're storing is not poisonous or can spill and can possibly hurt residents around the area if it gets out airborne. He stated that he understands dry ice and anticoagulants but is there ever going to be anything else in there that they're going to have to worry about.

Gerard Brewster, representing Utica 2 Flatbush, mentioned that as Planning and Zoning Chair Calise stated that's a major concern. He also stated that looking at the original slide that they had up it shows the building and construction where it's covered and outlined in red and if you look just south of it there's a school bus garage and southwest of that there's another school bus garage and southeast of that there's a park over there and that's all within a mile. He lives two miles of it, and he's concerned. We can talk about insecticides, larvicides and all those types of things etc. but it's poison. Of the 48,000 square feet how much of that is going to be storing poison that's then going to be crawling through our neighborhood. He understands that it's rare that they must spray because they're going to catch the larva. However, there are incidents when you will be spraying. He wants to get a sense of how many are they talking about which will give us an idea of how much poison is in that building that's within two miles of his home. Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program stated that as far as the Vector Control Program is concerned, they have a chemical that they use called pesticide which is also a general terminology for any material that you use for any form of pest control. One thing is that the pesticide that they have selected is based on an environmental impact statement. It is the least poisonous of these toxic materials based on these toxic materials and in very small amounts. For example, these pesticides are called ending so what they use is 1.6 grams per acre. It's not going to change the area around this Vector Control Facility. It's a very small amount of pesticide being stored in there and spraying only when there's a need or an epidemic increase in the mosquito bones. Their pesticides are very safe and it's not going to poison the environment. Now he's going to talk about larvicide. Larvicide is a biological material as he said and it's very specific to mosquitos and they only treat standing water. Larvicide is only

going to affect the lottery of the mosquitoes and not even the lottery of beetles and other aquatic organisms inside this standing water. So, it's a very safe product and as he said before it's less than 2 grams per acre and a very small amount that you can store inside of the facility and it's not going to evaporate or poison the environment. They're going to be inside and not outside the building and again he emphasized the biological materials are a very small granule. The pesticide which they are using just to clean the surface of the bottles has no impact on the environment and it's not source passages. It's almost the safest product available in the market for the control of mosquitoes. Gerard Brewster stated that he doesn't mean to be dismissive, but he didn't answer his question. Because he asked how much poison is in this building because there's a concern when you're talking about people that live just on the other side of Kings Highway that are within walking distance of this building, that has 36,000 square feet that could be filled up. He also stated that he's giving answers of when they're handling a problem. He understands that they're not hitting them with the full blast of it but what's staying in that building and those chemicals, however, you want to call them it's poison and his concern is of the 36,000 square feet how much of that is dedicated to poison. Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program responded and said that Properties Unit should answer that question because he could not answer as to how much space is reserved for pesticide. Again, this material retrieved is very safe to the environment. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that the rodenticide they use that he's classifying as poison and have the right to and not trying to be defensive but it's a rodenticide that's 99.9% cereal and it's an anticoagulant and has no effect on the environment and airborne and with what he's telling you is it's 2 grams per acre of the chemical. According to DEC standards it doesn't have any impact at all on airborne. Now in terms of the exact storage numbers he'd have to get back to the board on that but the storage areas where the rodenticides are being held are vented, off the floor, and put in shelves so they monitor the stuff that goes in there and it's not like a pile of stuff laying there. They have inventory checks on what they do and so along with DEC these are the recommended products that they use and it's not really a poison and it really doesn't pose a problem especially when it's airborne. However, he understands his concerns and if he or someone from the Community Board would like to come one day and even take a tour of the building. They work for the people and he wants everyone to feel better about it. He mentioned that he lives in Brooklyn and has young children and a cat and an animal lover so certainly you have every right to question them on this. Generally, what they're doing is they're using stuff that is very safe and he can even give us the SDS numbers where you can look up the products that they use and again they have to address the rats and the mosquitoes in the city. So, it's a tough place to be. Megan Porter, Representing AKRF and the consultant on the project asked if she could add to the last question by stating that she has the Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) in front of her and that they assessed dry pesticide and chemical storage space to capacity to store 100 pallets which is a dimension of 48 by 40 by 48 in a controlled room environment.

Board Member Violine Roberty asked if they have done this before in other neighborhoods and were there any issues. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that not with this rodenticide because it's smaller than Waheed Bajwa's Vector Control Program operation and so they keep it in the health centers. They had a small storage space outside with the Parks Department and haven't had any issues. Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program stated that they do not store their pesticide for a long time. Again, when they use the word pesticide people always think that it's poisonous to humans. The material that they use is commonly used. In fact, for the control of insect pests in the home it's made up of pyrethroids and it comes from the chrysanthemum flower and that's why he's saying that the oversee of products are very safe in the ones which they see and also the other ones in the larvicide. If anyone is interested, they have an environmental impact statement done for each

pesticide they are going to store and of which they are using in the city and it's available online. He can send the board the link and anyone can look.

Board Member Joan Gilbert asked will these chemicals seep into our soil and how long will this be stored, and how will the weather conditions affect this. Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program responded and stated that they're not expecting any seepage into the environment as far as the Vector Control products are concerned.

Board Member Marcia Schiff asked about raccoons? Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene asked what specifically about the raccoons. He stated that he doesn't work in Animal Care and Control and that's the group that handles that. They have a Director in the Veterinary Public Health Division and being that he's been with the Health Department for 30 years he has some understanding of it. They're considered wildlife, just like the deer's that we see that are out in Staten Island and possums here in Bay Ridge where he lives. In the case of a raccoon is seen acting strange and is out during the daytime you can call Animal Care and Control (ACC) and they will go and remove the animal if they suspect that it's rabies. Now, if it's just a raccoon that's in somebody's yard you would have to hire a license trapper to trap that animal to get rid of it. But there's no city service to come out and pick up the raccoon and get it unless there's a probable cause of rabies. Board Member Marcia Schiff asked if raccoons get trapped if they are acting normal. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene responded and said no. He also stated that he wishes he knew some of this before he got to the meeting but he knows that there was a program and maybe Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program could jump on for a second where they were feeding the animals the vaccination for rabies before they get it. He forgot what it's called but they're trying to get them like what we're going through with Covid19 so it would prevent them. But they don't trap and remove unless there's a strong indication that there is a rabies situation. Like, if it's out in the daytime acting strangely and going around then Animal Care and Control will send someone down and pick up the raccoon or try to catch it. Because then they must test it for rabies, and they don't want to get into that right now. Board Member Barbara Bieber asked if there is anything in the works to keep down the reproduction of raccoons. They are very destructive, and their bowel movements carry disease that is very deadly to infant and young children if ingested. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that he doesn't run that program but took a good stab at answering the previous question on raccoons but don't know specifically. He does know that they're doing a deer project out in Staten Island where they're neutering deer's out there to knock that down but doesn't know if there's any other plans to do that with raccoons but he can certainly get back to us on that. Planning and Zoning Chair Sal Calise asked if the Vector Control Program deals with raccoons? Waheed Bajwa the Director of the Vector Control Program responded no and stated that it's a separate unit called Veterinary Public Health Services and unfortunately there's no one at this moment from that program who can answer those questions. But they are not going to store any of their products at this facility. This facility is only for the Vector and Pest Control Program. So, only Vector and Pest Control products are going to be stored at these facilities. So, if the board wants the Director of Veterinary Public Health Services can answer more questions about raccoons and other animals. Ricky Simeone, Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated that they're with the same umbrella and all under the Environmental Health Services which is rats. There are separate directors for these programs. There's the Rodent Program, Vector Program, Animal Care and then under the EHS umbrella there's also restaurants and day cares and they all have directors and Public Health Sanitariums that generally do a lot of that and that's where there staff is broadly trained so they can do multiple kinds of inspections. But generally, the programs go under the Environmental Health section in the Department of Health, but

they're run by separate Assistant Commissioners and Directors.

Chairperson Michael Ien asked if there were any more questions or comments. There being none he closed the Public Hearing at 8:13 P.M. Ricky Simeone Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene thanked the board for their time and inviting them to the meeting and stated that he appreciated it and if there's anything they can get back to the board on they will. Sheila Benjamin Representing the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene thanked the board as well. Chairperson Michael Ien stated that he himself found the presentation interesting and informative and thanked the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for coming.

Board Member Sal Calise led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced Sue Ann Partnow, District Leader, 59<sup>th</sup> A.D. who greeted everyone and took a moment to wish everyone a happy and a healthy holiday whether they are celebrating Passover, or Easter and good health and hopes to see everyone when we get back together in April. She also mentioned that if anyone needs help getting the Covid vaccine please don't hesitate to get in touch with her by email at [wontrap@aol.com](mailto:wontrap@aol.com). Vaccines are open to so many groups right now and pretty much anyone can get one but if you have trouble getting one please contact her.

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced Capt. Genevieve G. Isom, Commanding Officer, 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct who greeted everyone and informed the board that it's the same things going on in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct. They're down overall in crime for the 28 day and are at a 12% reduction. Year to date they're at a 28% reduction which is fantastic. However, they are seeing an increase in felony assaults and GLA's. She mentioned that she speaks about GLA's all the time they had seven for the period and about three of those were vehicles left running and unattended. They had one just recently outside the period it just happened two days ago in which an individual left two sets of keys for two different vehicles in a car and both cars were then subsequently taken. She continues to mention crime prevention strategies and hopes that some people take away from these meetings a little something. So, please let's not leave anything of value in your vehicles and let's not leave vehicle keys in cars as well. The other thing that she wanted to talk about although they are down in crime is that they are seeing a significant increase in gun violence which she talks about all the time. The precinct has seen several shots fired incidents in the 28-day period and had one shooting in the 28-day period. Unfortunately, that is now listed as a homicide. The original incident stemmed from a dispute at Kings Plaza Mall that traveled up Flatbush Avenue and now unfortunately an 18-year-old kid lost his life and it's terrible that we're seeing this violence. However, now they are stepping up and dedicating more resources at Kings Plaza Mall and Glenwood Housing Development which they are still seeing incidents of shots fired. So, they do have a plan of attack and are doing overtime posts. The viral recognizes that there is an issue going on in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct so they are providing her with outside resources which they are deploying to these two different zones. Like she said before it's sad that we're seeing these incidents happen and hopefully they can make an arrest soon in this one case. She knows that they're onto something upstairs in the detective squad so hopefully by the next meeting she can talk about the arrests and not only this shooting but maybe an additional shooting that they took. A couple other incidents are that they have a couple of patterns going on where lottery tickets from bodegas are being stolen. They have a group of individuals and it's not just in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct it's all over Brooklyn South where they just enter a bodega and just steal all the lottery tickets off the shelf and they also had another delivery robbery. They are doing amazing things in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct and they are still seeing clear crime and incidents occurring, but they are doing their best. They are still tackling those quality

of life issues. In fact, NCO Sector C had their Build a Block Meeting today at 5 PM but before they did that, they were doing a Row Tow Operation because they know that abandoned vehicles are a big concern for everyone. Everything from crime to fighting quality of life they are trying their best to address those complaints here in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct. She wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day if they celebrate and if you're Irish but thinks that everyone is Irish today. Board Member Reeves Eisen asked if she could please clarify the delivery robberies and whether it's delivery people or packages. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom responded no and that this is something that they saw in the very beginning of the year. In January, they had three incidents in Sector B and if you don't know it's everything west of Flatbush Avenue. In those specific incidents anonymous and bogus calls were being placed to random Chinese delivery restaurants and basically the perpetrators were waiting to rob the delivery drivers once they responded to the location. The most recent one they followed a delivery guy and it wasn't that he was lured there they were just following a random guy, but it was in the same area where they took the original ones. So, they think there may be a tie there. However, it is being investigated by the robbery squad and they are like one step above the detective squad. They investigate more organized robberies. So, it's food delivery robberies and not deliveries like UPS and things like that. Board Member Eisen thanked Capt. G. Isom for clarifying. Board Member Sal Calise thanked Capt. Genevieve G. Isom for doing a great job in Bergen Beach and for being very responsive. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom responded and said wonderful she loves to hear that. Board Member Calise stated that he does have one issue and knows that she knows about it but as the first warm day came, they had ATV's racing all over Bergen Beach and last night some of the neighbors had enough. These kids brought their ATV's near the concrete stadium seating outside of the Bergen Beach Youth Organization(BBYO) and all the kids were there hanging out and so three of the neighbors came out and approached them and it was about to get ugly. He stated that he needs a little help because complaints wise it's getting crazy and people are going to get to the point where they want to take matters into their own hands like the three guys did last night. He suggested that maybe they should do like they did in the other part of Brooklyn where they had a helicopter following the ATV's and the dirt bikes and sooner or later the cops cornered them all in the end in front of a bulldozer and thinks that's what they need. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom stated that she was on her way home and saw two quads on the sidewalk by Frank's Pizzeria. Obviously, they can't chase them however, there are tactics that they can use to kind of corral them safely. Obviously with the warmer weather we are going to see these complaints and see them pop up more. In fact, the borough asked for a plan so both herself and the Executive Officer are going to come up with a plan on how they're going to do targeted enforcement. At the last 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct Community Council meeting someone talked about ATV complaints in Marine Park so it's not just him. She's hearing it all the time. It's just that now they must really kind of lock these kids in. She believes that they gave them a couple of verbal warnings and now if they get them, she's going to have to just take the ATV's and bikes if she can safely. She's going to recommend that they take the ATV's and motorbikes because obviously complaints are being generated and it's a safety and a quality of life concern. So, hopefully like she said they can make some progress in this unfortunately she doesn't have any numbers to show for it at the moment but hopefully next time she could get the NCO'S and traffic control and come up with kind of an initiative where they tackle it from different fronts. Board Member Calise stated that NCO Officers Belkin and Robinson know where they all are and have addresses to where those crowds go and where they park them. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom stated that NCO Officers Belkin and Robinson were the ones who informed her that they talked to the parents and that's why she mentioned earlier that the verbal warnings were given. She kind of likes to start low and then work their way up and don't always want to go in hard. If she can work with the people, then she wants to work with them but like she said she thinks that they've done all that they can on the niceties and now they just kind of want to take it one step further. Hopefully, like she stated before by the next

meeting she wants to have some good news for him. Denise Gourdine mentioned that the ATV's are also going down Flatbush Avenue and several other areas besides Bergen Beach. However, she wanted to point out that they may end up in Bergen Beach, but they do go past the Junction, Ralph Avenue, and then the BP Gas Station. They must be going through a few precinct areas before they reach their destination. So, it's not just Bergen Beach it's hitting every single area that you pointed out. Yes, the helicopter may come out which Channel 7 may have shown, but it was not in Brooklyn, but it was in fact Manhattan. Something needs to be done because someone's going to get killed. Board Member Barbara Bieber stated that they had the same issue in Canarsie near Glenwood Road and East 95<sup>th</sup> Street the other night. They had twenty-five of them coming up East 95<sup>th</sup> Street near Glenwood Road and proceeded to get off their motorcycles and stop traffic during rush hour. It was insane and they were on the sidewalks as well. She couldn't believe what she saw and doesn't know what to do. Board Member Joan Gilbert thanked Capt. Genevieve G. Isom for her work and stated that she mentioned Glenwood Houses and the Glenwood Housing Complex earlier which is near Fox Playground on Avenue H but wanted to know what's happening at that park and have they seen any shootings or any issues? Capt. Genevieve G. Isom stated that in the beginning of the year on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 they had some shots fired on the corner of East 55<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue H but not inside the park. They haven't had anything recently right there since January, but she will say that last Thursday the Commissioner from the Youth Services Area on her job had what they call a street meeting and Gerard Brewster Representing Utica 2 Flatbush was kind enough to show up. They had a street meeting in the park where all the youth coordination officers from the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct and from the surrounding precincts such as the 69, 70 and the 67 were present. So, the Commissioner kind of told them the direction where the job wants them to go. They want to take back the parks. So, you'll see the YCO's kind of spend time in those parks specifically that one because it's basically adjacent to the Glenwood's and they want to make it a safe space. So, she is asking her YCO's to spend some quality time in there. They want to be where the kids are because that's their job and so basically that park, they're going to kind of adopt it. Board Member Gilbert responded good because she wants it to be a safe space. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom stated that they're supposed to pick one park that they would like to make it their project within the warmer months. The project still hasn't been set forth by the borough yet but like she said the Commissioner did announce what the future holds for them and she thinks that's a decent park to start with. It has a pool, but she doesn't know if it's going to be open. She's going to have to have her parks meeting. But she thinks it's a great spot and she likes the area. She liked that they could probably pay some extra attention over there with not only the YCO's, NCO's and regular patrol officers because she'd like them to spend additional time in the area. Board Member Gilbert thanked the Captain and stated that this was so good to hear since it's a good park and the pool opens during the summer. Nadine Sylvester thanked Capt. Genevieve G. Isom for the work that she is doing and stated that she had a few questions regarding the resources that Capt. Genevieve G. Isom mentioned previously that would be coming in to support with the Glenwood Houses. Chairperson Ien stated that to facilitate things the 63<sup>rd</sup> Police Precinct's Community Council is having their meeting next week so if anyone has any questions for Capt. Genevieve G. Isom they can always attend her meeting. Capt. Genevieve G. Isom stated that she can put her email in the chat because she doesn't want to dominate the conversation. She is always available via email and will be as well next week at the Community Council Meeting if anyone wants to jump on that call. She mentioned that she has staff too it just so happened that they had another meeting earlier today. So, she'll leave her information and the community affairs contact as well in the chat. If there's any questions they'll get a personal response either from herself or a key member of her staff.

Chairperson Ien introduced Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct who greeted everyone and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. He reported that in the last

ten days Canarsie had an increase in gun violence. Two incidents resulted in someone's life being taken away. So, they had their first shooting happen on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> in the vicinity of East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street, Conklin Avenue and Flatlands Avenue. They had two parties taking a shootout at one another and thankfully no one was struck and only resulted in property damage. The investigation is ongoing and have posted on their social media page some of the vehicles and persons of interest. So, if anyone recognizes them please feel free to contact their office or their crime hotline. The following day Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in the vicinity of East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Farragut Road they had three males that were shot and one who succumbed to his injuries. That investigation is also ongoing, and they're looking for the public's help in assisting them with the apprehension of these individuals. Their most recent violence was more of a domestic incident where they responded to a house call where they discovered a male that succumbed to multiple stab wounds. The person in that incident has been arrested but someone's life was still lost. He mentioned that they have been getting outside command resources to assist them in some of this gun violence and to target some of these areas where special attention is needed. In addition to overtime posts that they have they also have to target some of these areas that need special police presence. He responded to what Board Member Barbara Bieber mentioned earlier regarding the ATV's on Glenwood Road and East 95<sup>th</sup> Street by saying that they are doing their best to address that. They are quite difficult to apprehend and sometimes they must figure out where their resources should be targeted and as of right now their resources will be going towards the gun violence. Not to take away from what they're doing but it's illegal, harmful and it's a quality of life issue. However, if they get additional resources, they'll task those additional resources to help them assist in combatting this quality of life issue. He informed the board that the 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct Community Council Meeting is coming up on Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. If anyone wishes to attend, please contact his office at 718-257-6205 or by email at [samuel.maria@nypd.org](mailto:samuel.maria@nypd.org). He mentioned that he would also leave his contact information in the chat box as well. He informed the board that the NYPD is having their Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. If anyone wants to volunteer, they can contact him, or his office and they'll get anyone signed up so that they can help our community become much cleaner. He opened the floor for questions and stated that he will do his best to answer them. Roy McKenzie stated that the recent surge of gun violence is very concerning for the community and himself. His daughter and grandchildren reside on East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Farragut Road and he's very worried for their safety and the safety of everyone going about their daily lives. He heard on the news that there is a program starting that pairs youths with mentors which is quite encouraging but wanted to get more details if possible and about the responsibility of the 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct and how can the community help with this effort. He's hoping that this is a conversation that will continue in order to have positive results. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that they also have a couple of mentorship programs that they are spearheading and if anyone would like to partner with them on, they can. Their Youth Coordination Officers are overseeing that and if anyone wishes to participate, he will also add their emails in the chat box so that they can contact them and further elaborate on some of the things that they're doing. He also stated that East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Farragut Road and the vicinity of that area they have several individuals that are known to them and are currently working on a special surveillance over there and need to arrest these individuals but they need the communities help. So, if they "see something, say something" so they can go there and be proactive instead of reactive. Chairperson Michael Ien brought to Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct's attention that the cars are still flying down East 108<sup>th</sup> Street going both North and South at all hours of the night. He stated that he mentioned it to Capt. Robert Conwell the past two meetings and advised him that he would do something about it. He believes something was done because it's not as bad as it was but it's still going on. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that they do have their traffic enforcement personnel go and target the area. Unfortunately, you know how it is and East 108<sup>th</sup> Street is a cut

through to avoid all the traffic on Rockaway Parkway, and Remsen Avenue etc. especially coming off the Belt Parkway. So, it's that stretch. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that Chairperson Michael Ien is in the right place by being able to ask the NYC Department of Transportation to put up a couple of extra traffic lights over there to help slow people down if it must come to something like that and have it not synchronized. Board Member Barbara Bieber suggested putting speed bumps. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated like he said before Community Board 18 is the right place and know how to figure out whether if the NYC Department of Transportation would approve speed bumps or traffic lights. Board Member Barbara Bieber stated that they can run through the lights but with the speed bumps at least they'll lose the bottom end of their cars. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct responded and said yes, they could lose the bottom end of their cars, but god forbid they go airborne and takes someone out. It's a catch 22. They do their best and are going to figure what's the best way. Board Member Barbara Bieber stated that they could run the red light and kill someone too so one year after another you must pick and choose. Chairperson Michael Ien thanked him for everything that they continue to do. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that he agrees with Board Member Maria Garrett who suggested speed cameras in the chat and have people receive \$50 dollar tickets and after a while they'll stop. Chairperson Michael Ien stated that there's a speed light camera on Avenue L. Board Member Barbara Bieber stated that if they don't pay the ticket what good does that do? Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that sometimes the people that are utilizing these vehicles are not the actual registered owner someone else is. Board Barbara Bieber asked if Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct could put the meeting id and password for the 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct's Community Council Meeting in the chat box. Samuel Maria, Community Affairs Officer, 69<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct stated that he doesn't have that information right now, but he will be putting his contact information in the chat box so that anyone can contact him.

**8:41 P.M.**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

Chairperson Ien opened the Regular Meeting at 8:41 P.M. Chairperson Ien asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on February 17, 2021. There being none, Board Member Valerie Woodford made a Motion that the Minutes be accepted as written. Board Member Joan Gilbert seconded the Motion and the Motion passed unanimously with 36 Yes Votes.

### **GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

Chairperson Michael Ien introduced Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery who provided a presentation on The Fresh Creek Coastal Protection project and address at-risk sections of the Fresh Creek shoreline by implementing strategic flood protection measures, including tide-gate installations and outfall replacement, to reduce the risk of flooding from future storm events. He stated that they have given this presentation about this project that's going to be moving forward this Spring to the Fresh Creek Civic Association. He knows that he and Board Member Maria Garrett have seen it and this will be very much the same as what they've presented in the past but giving an update on where they are from the summer but before they start to move into construction in the next couple of months. Just a reminder of where their agency comes from, they are a set of funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development that came to New York State after Superstorm Sandy. He's sure for this Community Board he does not need to remind everybody what happened after Superstorm

Sandy we are all familiar with the destruction that it caused across the city and across the state. He displayed a map of where their agency operates across the state mostly on Long Island, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island but have a few impact counties upstate as well. He also provided background on their agency and the funding that they received in 2014. He stated that they have five major programs and this being the community reconstruction program. He mentioned that he doesn't know how many people from the Community Board were involved in the community reconstruction planning process, but they did have Board Member Maria Garrett he knows of course. He's sure others on the community board were involved as well. If not committee members at least attendees of the meetings where these communities identified priorities for recovery and resiliency and then they took those published plans that were essentially ideas from the community and then they work with some recipients to move into design and construction with some of their programs. Some are hard construction projects like this one specifically, what they'll be doing in Canarsie along Fresh Creek. The first two sets of scopes that they are looking to construct one which is sort of the big component is the reconstruction of the outfall located at Avenue M. They go through the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery and are not directly managing the construction of this. That's through their project partner the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) and so essentially, they will be rehabilitating the existing outfall that's there but is deteriorated and missing sidewalls and the discharge sort of spreads all over the wetlands in that area. So, they will be reconstructing it so that water and storm water can more efficiently go out into the creek and not erode the coastline. He provided more details on the structure and stated that the long-term maintenance will be done by the City of New York. This is DEP property that they are working on. The second set of scope of the work are the tide gate chambers, which are very similar to check valves. Not sure how familiar everyone is with that kind of work but essentially the contractors will be installing at the different storm sewers to stop the tidal inundation. Basically, to stop the water from flowing back up during storm surge during a high tide event. Which is a lot of the source of flooding problems across all their coastal communities across the state especially Canarsie. They have rain events, flooding events when the tide is high when storm surges come. This will help get the water out more efficiently and faster and not back up those discharges from the sewer out into the creek. He provided a high-level summary of the benefits of what this will do. The outfall reconstruction helps with water quality improvement, helps with coastal erosion issues that are coming from the damaged outfall which will improve the stability of the coastline, help the ecological systems, and help with reduction of storm surge. The tide gate chambers again will stop the flow of the sea water from going up through the storm system during the high tide or the storm surge events and keeps the debris and trash from going into the storm sewer system. He believes everyone is familiar with where Fresh Creek is, they're working on a few streets up and down East 108<sup>th</sup> Street. He provided an aerial view of the damaged and in need of repair outfall that will be extended out a little bit further to help with erosion of that shoreline that's been occurring. He provided a high-level heads up for anyone that lives on Avenue N coming this summer as some of the construction staging requirements to do the work on the outflow will block some driveways for some amount of time and believes maybe less than a couple of weeks. There is no other place for the construction staging to happen. Right now, they don't know the exact dates and timeframe because they are vetting and bringing on a contractor that has bid on the project. So, over the next couple of weeks, or within a month to six weeks or so they will know through the preconstruction process exactly how long the contractor anticipates needing to stage on Avenue N and for how long they will need equipment and vehicles out in front and how many days they will be in front of houses, and what days they will be leaving. They will be providing notices directly to all those homeowners and will be coming back to the Community Board once they have the contractor on board to talk about exactly when the disruption and the access to the driveways with vehicles will be occurring. They don't know exactly when it is happening but at some point, over the summer.

Overall timeline they are right at the end of their procurement process. They have advertised for bids that have been opened but have not awarded a bid yet. They can't go into detail about how much it costs or how much will be awarded. At least one will come back to the community board probably in another six weeks or so with that information about Avenue N but right now they expect the contractor to be out on site at some point in May to start construction on both scopes and both the outfall reconstruction and the tide gate chambers at some point. Construction will be running through summer, a pause point for the winter months and then they'll be back out again in the spring to wrap up construction in summer. They'll have more details on exactly when mobilization will start, when construction will be finished, when there will be a pause, and when people will be out there once, they know or have that contractor on board and start pre-construction. They just wanted to make sure that they were coming to the community and to the community board to give sort of a high-level overview of what the projects going to be, a timeline and what to expect at some point this spring and summer. He opened the floor for questions and the details on construction that will be coming in a couple of weeks. Board Member Maria Garrett stated that he mentioned that they would be blocking some of the driveways on Avenue N to stage their equipment and asked if it would be possible for them to stage some of their equipment on the water side of Avenue N where they will be working on the tide gate chambers. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery stated that they brought that back to the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) when they were wrapping up the design and putting the project out to bid and were concerned about the cost because they are right at the budget, in terms of adding additional burden to the contractor to stage away from the area and they said no in the design and bid package and they wanted to make sure that they could get all the scope done with the budget that they had without adding any extra costs and not be able to do the work. But what they're going to do during the preconstruction stage process is once they have the contractor on board they will go over all the options and see with the budget that they have and the bid that's been awarded and with the contractor that they bring on if there are other ways that they can mitigate having to block the driveways and maybe stage somewhere else within the budget that they have available. It's still on their radar and something that they're trying to avoid doing understanding that it's an inconvenience for people. However, with the budget that they have and the anticipated cost of moving them away from where they would need to stage for the construction every day the engineers cost would drive it over their budget. They will have that conversation with the contractor and see if they can make it work but it's something that they're trying to do but may not be able to. Board Member Maria Garret asked Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery to confirm that they will be working from Avenue M all the way down to Avenue N. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery responded yes and stated that they will be working on the tide gate chambers on the storm sewers along Avenue K, L, M, N and Seaview Avenue. Board Member Maria Garrett asked if they will be working along the water's edge. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery responded yes sort of off the street just at Avenue M wherever they're doing the outfall reconstruction. Everything else will be done on the sewers on the street. Board Member Maria Garrett asked if they would be bringing in any type of debris into anyone's backyards because they have houses that are adjacent to the water. Also, if they were going to put up some type of barrier to stop the debris from coming into their backyards. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery stated that that's exactly what the tidal gates are which is to stop the debris from coming back up through if there is debris already in the creek or through the outfall to stop the debris from going out into the creek or coming back up through it. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery asked Board Member Maria Garrett if she is talking about during

construction. Board Member Maria Garrett replied yes. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery stated that during the construction the contractors are held to a regular standard about what they can leave behind and what they can't. Board Member Maria Garrett stated that she doesn't know if he has been over there, but her house overlooks the creek and she will be a pest to them if she sees any debris coming into her property. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery stated that she has his and Elizabeth Dovell, the External Affairs Manager's contact information and if she sees anything in her yard to contact him and they'll make sure someone comes and take it out. J. Hamilton, area resident, asked how many bids were submitted and were they minority businesses. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery stated that he could not discuss any of the bids that were submitted until they award a contract but he could definitely include whatever information he can about bids once they've awarded and signed a contract. Because they're right in that little sweet spot between open bids and haven't been awarded. So, he will have to get back to us on that. Naudia Salvodon asked what's the exact location of this project. Zachary Tierney, Director of Communications and External Affairs at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery informed her East 108<sup>th</sup> Street from Avenue K to Seaview Avenue and the creek outfall itself off Avenue M.

Anne Richards, Representing Assembly Member Jaime Williams' Office greeted everyone and mentioned that Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to submit any nominees for the 2020-2021 Women of Distinction Award that their members are acknowledging. She also mentioned that on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM Assembly Member Jaime Williams alongside Senator Roxanne Persaud will be hosting a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month Event. This is in conjunction and in partnership with Weill's Cornell Medicine NY Presbyterian Hospital. They will be presenting the Our Wakanda: Colorectal Cancer in Young Adults Awareness Event. She stated that one of the things that Assembly Member Jaime Williams pointed out in her newsletter this past week was that with the surveys that were done they noticed that Canarsie and Flatlands ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in death of Colorectal Cancer in Brooklyn. Their adjacent district such as East New York, Coney Island, and Flatbush ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place respectively. She mentioned that in the past you would always hear people say that once you're 50 yrs. old and above you should have a colonoscopy done. That has been changing and some medical specialists would say at the age of 45 they recommend you start having a colonoscopy. They are asking that everyone register for this event to participate. If anyone would like more information on how to register or to go about joining this interesting event, they can call their office at 718-252-2124. She also mentioned that since March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, they're offering free tests for anyone that is over 45 yrs. old and older. You may be eligible for an at home stool-based test known as the fecal chemical test that is used to detect some types of colon and colorectal cancers. She stated that if anyone is interested in signing up for this important event please contact the Assembly Members Office. She thanked everyone and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Reeves Eisen, Representing State Senator Andrew Gounardes Office greeted everyone and stated that State Senator Roxanne Persaud was on the meeting earlier but had to leave to attend another meeting but asked if she could extend her greetings and holiday wishes on her behalf and if anyone has any concerns they can call her office directly. On behalf of State Senator Andrew Gounardes, she stated that he also extends his greetings and holiday wishes. She mentioned that Senator Gounardes is in the process of planning a shredding event which will take place on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon with details to follow but to please hold the date if you're interested in getting documents shredded. The event will be held in the neighborhood of Marine

Park not in the park itself. She stated that she's sure that mostly everyone has heard that there is a lot going on in Albany, legislation has been passing very rapidly and the governor's executive powers have been modified and there will be a lot of changes coming down but literally by the day things are changing up there. No one is quite sure exactly where it will go however, the one thing that they do know is that the budget needs to be passed by April 1<sup>st</sup> and that is the priority at the moment. She mentioned that Senator Gounardes' Office is open Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM. So, if anyone has any concerns, they can be reached at 718-238-6044. She thanked everyone and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Ezra Pean, Representing Farah Louis's Office greeted everyone and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day and a Happy Woman's History Month. Regarding Covid, she mentioned that the Covid vaccine is available to certain groups in New York City, including people ages 65 and older, healthcare personnel and other essential workers. She stated that right now Council Member Farah Louis's Office is in the process of hosting a town hall next week Wednesday to provide updates on the Covid vaccination and to educate constituents on what's going on and on any updates that they have. They will also be partnering with Morningside Heights to conduct Covid hot spots where people will be able to get vaccinations in certain parts of the district. They are still open virtually due to Covid precautions and their constituent services team is accessible by phone or by email. They can be reached by phone at 718-629-2900 or by email at [district45@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district45@council.nyc.gov). Some important dates to remember from the NYC Department of Education is that from March 8<sup>th</sup> through April 9<sup>th</sup> the gifted and talented applications will be available for families with children born in 2016 and for children born in 2017 they will be able to apply for Pre-K by April 7<sup>th</sup> and apply for 3-K for both children born in 2017 and 2018 by April 30<sup>th</sup>, you can apply online at [www.myschools.nyc](http://www.myschools.nyc) or over the phone at 718-935-2009. In addition, last month the City Council passed resolution 1473 which was introduced by Council Member Farah Louis. This resolution is to provide training and equipment to properly enable distance learning for students with disabilities. She thanked everyone who came out to attend their virtual black history month event and their "I will not be silenced" rally for gender justice and all the rank choice voting workshops that they've been having thus far. They will also be hosting a District 45 community cleanup on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 1 PM at Utica Avenue and Farragut Road. More details to follow on the Council Members social media pages and constant contact. She thanked everyone and wished everyone a good night.

Frieda Menos, Representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries Office greeted everyone and wanted to relay similar greetings in terms of Happy Passover, Happy Easter, and a Happy Spring as we move forward given the fact that we've had a very difficult year so far with the pandemic. She thanked everyone who was able to attend the Annual State of the District that Congressman Jeffries held last month. It is an Annual Event and it is an opportunity for him to be able to report about the work that he's done in Washington and the work that he's done in the district. The video can be viewed through his Facebook page @repjeffries or visit his website and click on the Facebook link. You don't have to have an account to see the virtual State of the District that he had this year and hopefully next year he'll be able to have an in person event as he's normally done for the past seven to eight years in the district where everyone can see each other and celebrate the work in the community. On a legislative front she wanted to report that the Congressman reintroduced this week the Kenneth P. Thompson Begin Again Act which essentially would expand a statute that makes more people eligible for the expungements of simple drug possession offenses and this is for first time offenders, and they're hoping that with this legislation hopefully if it moves through and they know that the Biden Administration is supportive of these initiatives and it will certainly help more people who've been caught up in the system and who have not had access to housing,

employment opportunities, and other types of programming that has adversely impacted them in their lives. So, they're hoping that this piece of legislation could give them a better path. In terms of deadlines the Congressman's Office is now accepting artwork submissions for their 2021 Congressional Art Competition. The deadline for this competition is May 3<sup>rd</sup> so if you know of any young people that may be interested please don't hesitate to redirect them to their website and art competition page at [jeffries@house.gov](mailto:jeffries@house.gov). She stated that she will send the board the flyer and to feel free to share it with our wonderful community leaders and stakeholders. They're really looking to make sure that they have a good representation of the submissions and the final thing that she wanted to mention is the Stimulus Bill. They're just so excited that there were so many different aspects of funding that has been put in place and she'll probably leave it for her colleague at Congress Woman Yvette' Clarke's Office to add anything that she may have missed. But wanted to mention that one of the questions that they've been getting is when they are going to get their 3<sup>rd</sup> stimulus check, why didn't they get their first stimulus check or why didn't they get their second stimulus check. The bottom line is if they didn't get their check and they've already done a trace my payment please encourage them to call their Congress person's office and certainly they will likely be required to submit a 2020 tax return. She stated that she didn't want to mention anything else because there is a lot in this bill but certainly anyone can always contact Congressman Jeffries' Office at 718-373-0033. She thanked everyone again and wished everyone a wonderful evening.

Orlando Ross, Representing Congress Woman Yvette Clarke's Office greeted everyone and informed the board that Congress Woman Yvette Clarke will be having a Caucus on Black Women and Girls to discuss the medical issues regarding women's issues with fibroids. He stated that he has the link inside the chat where everyone can register. He informed the board that Congress Woman Yvette Clarke has redone her website and the new website is up now. You can now view all her press releases, information regarding legislation, all the committees that she stands on and everything in the news that will be posted. He stated to piggyback on the stimulus check situation he also put a link in the chat for IRS.GOV for questions and answers that anyone has and go inside and get the information that you would need to know. The PPP Loans are still active and wanted to bring that to everyone's attention and will be ending on March 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not applied for the PPP loan which is forgivable and not actually a loan, but an actual grant. You may be eligible to apply for it and they really suggest that you do sooner than later because the money is going to be gone after March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Congress Woman's office is open should anyone need to get in contact with them or need any help regarding the stimulus check. You can contact him, and he will be able to guide anyone to the right sources so that they can get the IRS help that they need and make sure that all of the resources are allocated accordingly.

Roopesh Ramjit, Representing Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez's Office greeted everyone and brought to everyone's attention that on March 15<sup>th</sup> of 2021 this year that Kings County District Attorney Gonzalez announced that a Canarsie man has been sentenced to eighteen years in prison for raping three women in separate incidents in his car after physically assaulting them and causing two victims to lose consciousness. The defendant has been identified as Ayindee Boyce of Canarsie. Mr. Boyce plead guilty to three counts of 1<sup>st</sup> degree rape on February 17, 2020 and he will be registered as a sex offender upon his release from prison. He stated that Kings County District Attorney Gonzalez also asked him to read a very short note to the Community Board which said that he is committed to seeking justice for all victims of sexual violence in Brooklyn. This defendant who repeatedly preyed on vulnerable women and continued his violent behavior even after getting arrested has now been held accountable for his actions. Our community is safer now that this defendant has been taken off our streets. Also, he wanted to bring to the board's attention to please look out for the 1st Virtual Woman's History Month Celebration. The date, time and access

information will be shared soon. Kings County District Attorney Gonzalez has asked him to express his gratitude and thanks to Community Board 18 and he looks forward to continuing working with Community Board 18 throughout the year. He stated that for those who do not have his contact information his name is Roopesh Ramjit and he is the Public Engagement Associate at the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office and provided his cellphone number 917-216-9040 and his email address [ramjitr@brooklynda.org](mailto:ramjitr@brooklynda.org). He also stated that he would include it in the chat box and for anyone who is celebrating St. Patrick's Day or a Holy Passover to please have a safe and happy celebration. He thanked the board and asked everyone to continue to stay safe and have a good night.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT** – Michael Ien

Chairperson Michael Ien informed the board that if anyone is in need of the Covid Vaccine or want to get tested the Doral Health & Wellness Center located at 1797 Pitkin Avenue and Mother Gaston Boulevard is open on Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursday's from 8 AM to 4 PM. No appointment necessary and are accepting walk-ins. Also, the Rite Aid located on 9738 Seaview Avenue is also offering the vaccine as well and is accepting walk-ins. Secondly he informed the board that as we all know March is Women's History Month so he'd like to acknowledge all the women of Community Board 18 for doing a fantastic job and for being on the frontline fighting for us and should be recognized for their work such as State Senator Roxanne Persaud, Assembly Woman Jaime Williams, Council Woman Farah Louis, Congress Woman Yvette Clarke, and Assembly Woman Helene Weinstein and the woman who sit on our community board and let's not forget one very important person to him Dorothy Turano who has done a lot for this community Board. He also recognized Dorothy Paul from the Community Board Office and Board Member Barbara Bieber for helping him tremendously with the WebEx meeting platform.

**9:01 P.M.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PARKS COMMITTEE** – Nancy Walby, Chairperson

Chairperson Nancy Walby greeted everyone and thanked Chairperson Ien for his kind words.

Save the Date: Annual Major McCarthy Memorial Ceremony at Major McCarthy Triangle located at Avenue N, Kings Highway & East 31st Street, Brooklyn, NY on Sunday, May 23rd, 2021 starting at 10:30 AM. Subject to Weather & Covid Regulations. For inquiries contact Tom Hernandez, Fraser Civic Association by phone at 917-559-3600 or by email at [tomahernandezjr@gmail.com](mailto:tomahernandezjr@gmail.com). Board Member Tom Hernandez informed the board that this Annual event is for a Navy Pilot that was killed in the first Desert Storm. His plane was shot down in the first Gulf War and they've been having these ceremonies for the past 25 years the same Sunday after Mother's Day and the Sunday before Memorial Day. Last year they weren't able to have it last year because of Covid but this year members of his graduating class from the naval academy are flying in from out of town to be here this year so they're looking forward to that plus they'll be some other special guests. This particular year they're going to try and make it special so he's looking forward to it. They're changing out the flags and spending some money on the headstone for a polished look and putting flowers behind the trees. He also mentioned that Board Member Nancy Walby will be one of their keynote speakers.

Marine Park Alliance was selected by the Central Park Conservancy Institute for Urban Parks to participate their partnership lab for 2021. This is very special because The Central Park Conservancy Institute only picked eight parks this year and four of them are in New York City, two

of them are in Manhattan, one is in the Bronx and the other is in Brooklyn and that is Marine Park. The other four are outside of New York. Its grander vision is to elevate this regional park as a southern Brooklyn cultural gem horticulturally, programmatically, and ecologically. It's also free to everyone. This partnership may include some money but it's really about expanding the programs and making the park just a better place for everybody. Margot Perron, Director of Marine Park for NYC Parks pointed out that the purpose of working with Central Park is because they are the best park managers throughout the country, and they all look to them for the best practices. They're going to help them develop a strong and diverse board that represents the people who currently use Marine Park. With the pandemic and greater park use it is noticeable that more people of color are using the park more than ever before and they want to make sure that continues after the pandemic and want everyone to feel welcome. The Alliance's work with Central Park Partnerships Lab will be over the next nine months and if you have any feedback on how they can keep Marine Park as a welcoming place for everyone or what matters there that exist please let them know.

Seeds of Hope and Healing: A *Virtual* Making Brooklyn Bloom Event. Saturday, March 20 & Sunday, March 21, 2021 | 1–3 PM Connect with spring, connect with neighbors. Combining prerecorded presentations with live, interactive Q&As, [Making Brooklyn Bloom](#) 2021 is a free, two-day virtual event. At this critical moment in human history, the conference's workshops and talks will highlight the meaning, healing, and connection that plants provide us. By centering stories of seeds and the often-difficult histories they contain and reveal, they'll explore the question: Can sowing the seeds of our pasts help us heal our collective future? Seeds of Hope and Healing will take place using Zoom with an option to dial in by phone. The program is free, and preregistration is required. If anyone is interested in attending this event they can visit [www.bbg.org/community/making\\_brooklyn\\_bloom\\_registration](http://www.bbg.org/community/making_brooklyn_bloom_registration) to preregister.

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** – Sal Calise, Chairperson

1. U.L.U.R.P. Application #210106PCK – Premises affected – 1427 Ralph Avenue, Block 7918, Lot 86 – Vote

Chairperson Michael Ien made a Motion that Community Board #18 recommends approval of the Application submitted by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in conjunction with NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), who is seeking a site selection/acquisition action for combined office, lab, and storage space of approximately 36,000 gsf (and a parking lot of approximately 19,700 sf) for a Pest Control and Vector Control Program Facility at 1427 Ralph Avenue (Block 7918, Lots 86, p/o 93, and 141), in Brooklyn, Community District 18. Board Member Maria Garrett seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously with 35 Yes Votes, and 1 Abstention.

2. State Liquor Authority Applications Received and Vote for the Following:

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER:**

- Night Flight Inc., Bamboo Garden Restaurant, 9505 Avenue L – 11236
- Aklow FBF LLC & Legends Hospitality LLLC, Aviator Sports & Recreation, 3519 Flatbush Avenue – 11234
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7 Sports Bar LLC, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7, 3622 Quentin Road – 11234

**RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR WINE, BEER & CIDER:**

- GBS Foods Inc., Lenny & Johns, 2034/2036 Flatbush Avenue – 11234

Chairperson Sal Calise asked if the applicants were present and if they would like to make a

statement. There being no comments or questions concerning the applications Chairperson Sal Calise made a Motion that Community Board #18 approve the Renewal Applications received for Night Flight Inc., Bamboo Garden Restaurant, 9505 Avenue L, 11236, Aklow FBF LLC & Legends Hospitality LLLC, Aviator Sports & Recreation, 3519 Flatbush Avenue, 11234, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7 Sports Bar LLC, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7, 3622 Quentin Road, 11234 and GBS Foods Inc., Lenny & Johns, 2034/2036 Flatbush Avenue, 11234. Board Member Jeff Rodus Seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously with 36 Yes Votes.

**OPEN DISCUSSION VIA WEBEX . . .**

Board Member Valerie Woodford asked how to request a speed bump on Conklin Avenue between East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street and East 94<sup>th</sup> Street and can a two way Stop sign be placed on Conklin Avenue and East 93<sup>rd</sup> Street. There is no Stop sign from East 94<sup>th</sup> Street all the way through. Dorothy Paul, from the Community Board office advised her to either call or email the office in the morning with her request and she will contact the NYC Department of Transportation and have them investigate it.

Elizabeth Malone, Program Manager for Neighborhood Housing Services of Brooklyn CDC, Inc. in the Canarsie Office informed the board that State Senator Roxanne Persaud, Council Member Alan Maisel Assembly Woman Jaime Williams and herself are sponsoring a virtual event on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM on the other remedial projects that's going on in Canarsie through the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery(GOSR) including the CNYCN Residential Backwater Valve Program. It will be an informational meeting because they have pulled their stuff together and are going to be proceeding to install backflow valves in Canarsie. This will help with the sewage backflow not the storm drains although these two sorts of mimic each other. She asked that Dorothy Paul from the Community Board Office share the flyer that she sent with the board. She stated that she would leave her contact information in the chat. She mentioned that NHS Brooklyn are the ones delivering the program and helping people get through the application and the installation process. After many long months they are ready to move forward and are open to other applications. As we all know in Canarsie the Sandy damage was very much influenced by sewage back up as well as ground disturbed flow so this will hopefully protect us from more of a flooding and hopes to see everyone there and thanked the board for sending out the flyer.

Gerard Brewster, Representing Utica 2 Flatbush asked how one joins a Community Board Committee. Dorothy Paul from the Community Board office advised him to send his request to the Community Board 18 Office and the Board's Chair will review his request and decide if there is availability on selected Committee in a non-voting capacity.

There being no further business or discussion, Chairperson Michael Ien asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting of Community Board #18 and Board Member Barbara Bieber seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously with 36 Yes Votes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 P.M.

*End...*