

**MINUTES OF AN ORGANIZATION MEETING**

**BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL**

**January 6, 2013**

**6:45 p.m.**

Present: Katie Gallagher  
Kevin Tanski  
Kathy Pucci  
Tony DeMarco  
Ron Van Kirk  
Mary Albier

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

President Pucci called the 2014 Organization meeting to order. Nominations will be for President of Council, President Pro-Tem, and then on to the appointments required by the Charter to be voted on by the Council, then the President's appointments, and then review the Rules of Council. For officers, nominations are called for three times, closed, and a vote taken.

**MOTION** by Tanski, second by Albier to nominate Councilwoman Gallagher for Council President. **VOTE RESULTED:** *For Councilwoman Gallagher:* Yes: Tanski, Pucci, VanKirk, Albier. Abstain: Gallagher. No: DeMarco. **(COUNCIL PRESIDENT GALLAGHER)**

Councilwoman Pucci thanked everyone for their cooperation and efforts in 2013, she knows she put a lot into it and represented Council well.

Council President Katie Gallagher thanked everyone, and said Councilwoman Pucci is very meticulous and detail oriented, and she hopes she can be good as her up there.

**MOTION** by Tanski, second by Albier to nominate Councilman Van Kirk for Council President Pro-Tem. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, Albier. Abstain: Van Kirk. No: None. **(PRES. PRO-TEM VAN KIRK)**

**MOTION** by Tanski, second by Van Kirk Councilwoman K.Gallagher for Planning Commission representative. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Albier. No: None. **(PLANNING REP. K.GALLAGHER)**

**MOTION** by Gallagher, second by VanKirk for Councilman Tanski for Recreation Board representative. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Albier. Abstain: Tanski. No: None. **(RECREATION BD. REP. TANSKI)**

**MOTION** by Gallagher, second by Van Kirk for Councilwoman Pucci for Economic Development Committee representative. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: K.Gallagher, Tanski, DeMarco, VanKirk, Albier. Abstain: Pucci. No: None. **(ECONOMIC DEV. REP. PUCCI)**

**MOTION** by Albier, second by Van Kirk for Councilwoman Gallagher for Domestic Violence Committee representative. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Albier. No: None. **(DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMM. REP. GALLAGHER)**

President Gallagher listed the Council Committee and representative assignments:

- Finance: Councilmembers Van Kirk, Pucci, DeMarco
- Public Safety: Councilmembers Van Kirk, Albier, Gallagher
- Public Works: Councilmembers DeMarco, Tanski, Councilmember to be appointed
- Fair Housing: Councilman Van Kirk

- Legislative Update: Councilwoman Balbier
- Volunteer Fire Dependents Board: Councilmembers Tanski, Councilmember to be appointed
- Sustainability: Councilman Tanski

President Gallagher said she'd like to see the School Board Liaison brought back for this year, and re-consider it for next year, since there's a lot going on with the schools, and it's important for Council to connect. Councilwoman Pucci suggested a motion to re-establish it this evening, and then include it in the Ordinance to amend the Council Rules, and make the appointment then.

**MOTION** by Pucci, second by Gallagher to re-establish the position of School Board Liaison in the Rules of Council. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Balbier. No: None. (**RE-ESTABLISH SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON**)

President Gallagher said there has been some back and forth for when the Organization meeting should be held, and the Rules state on the first Monday of January, whereas the Charter states, or first applicable/available date. She suggests amending the Rules to make it more broad in case the first date has to be cancelled for any reason, keeping the language the same, but add 'or', so an option for an alternative date is available.

**MOTION** by Gallagher, second by Van Kirk to amend Rule 1, Organizational meeting, to add, "...or as soon as practical thereafter." **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Balbier. No: None.

Councilwoman Pucci said as part of the Governor's Budget Bill there was an amendment made to the Executive Session legislation that became effective in September, and she suggests that language be included under Rule 32. It's very specific for the allowing of Executive Session within certain parameters relating to economic development, in order to protect confidential information or negotiations. She read the new language so Council was aware of the specifics.

**MOTION** by Pucci, second by Gallagher to add the additional language to Rule 32, so as to be in compliance with state law. **VOTE RESULTED:** Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Balbier. No: None.

Councilwoman Pucci said that, in regard to executive session, Dir. Claussen said there had been case law relating to clarification when executive session is entered, that we'll have to be more specific and cautious, and stay in compliance. She also said some governing bodies give a synopsis of the topic as a way of making a record of what was discussed, showing attendance and the topic discussed, attached to the minutes. When asked, Dir. Claussen said the same information could be gotten from the record. Clerk Banish suggested when the minutes are sent to the website for publication/viewing she add to the title "and executive session" so that would show in the title. It was agreed to do that. Councilwoman Pucci said that when we know ahead of time that Council will be going into executive session for a meeting she would like that added to the agenda and what it relates to, just so the public can see it when the agenda goes out.

President Gallagher said the Council meetings will remain the same, the second and fourth Mondays at 7 p.m., recessed in July and August unless necessary. Each Committee will convene briefly to elect a chair following this meeting.

Councilwoman Pucci reiterated her idea on the work session to discuss some goals, and asked if anyone had a thought on it. President Gallagher said she'd like to see what the Mayor's goals are for the next couple years, so Council isn't all brought together, create all those things, and then if he has something different in mind it was wasting people's time. So she will see what his goals are, get back to everyone, and then if people want to meet it can be done after that. Everyone was fine with that. Councilman DeMarco said that by then the budget meetings will be coming up, so just start it then.

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Tanski, second by Van Kirk to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:**  
*Adjourn* Yes: Gallagher, Tanski, Pucci, DeMarco, VanKirk, Balbier. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council