



CITY OF NEW YORK **COMMUNITY BOARD 3**
MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023
COMMUNITY BOARD VIRTUAL MEETING
VIA WEBEX

In Attendance:

Members Present: Ricardo Agcauli, Emad Ansari, Monique Antoine, Dr. Kim Best, Anthony Buissereth, Michael Catlyn, Evelyn Collier, Yvonne Cummings, Ernest Deeb, Carroll “Rusty” Fields, Keith Forest, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Shia Greenfeld, Oma Holloway, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dovie Matthews, Ellen Miller, Jerome Nathaniel, Christine Parker, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Robert Providence, Shnequa Purvis, Carolyn Richburg, Miari Roberts, Wendy Robinson, Abitzel Robinson-Hobson, Dr. Adesola Tella, Alicia Walton, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Douglas Williams, TJ Wilson

Members Absent/Excused: Jada John-Ali, Frank LaChapelle, Victor Iroh, Mary Jemison-Head, Azania Maitland, Kenneth Mbonu, Santina Brown-Payton, Joel Polatsek, Annalee Reid, Karen Rhau, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift

Elected Official/Reps: Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Assemblymember Stefani Zinerman, Robert Moore – Assemblymember Latrice Walker, Justin Freeman – Assemblymember Phara Souffrant-Forrest, Carol-Ann Church – Borough President Antonio Reynoso, Councilmember Chi Osse, Councilmember Crystal Hudson, Shelton Jones – District Attorney Office, 56th Assembly District Leader Kenesha Trayham-Cooper

Agencies/CBOs: D. I. Hipolito Gil – 79th Precinct, Det. Conrad Narcisse – 81st Precinct, Nicole Bryan – Macon Branch Library, Jonathan Pogoda – Marcy Branch Library, Gregory Anderson – Bridge Street Development Corp., Sharonnie Perry – One Brooklyn Health, Venus Scantlebury – CCRB

Chair Anthony Buissereth read the agenda into the record and gave his remarks. He added, the Board will host a Public Hearing with DOT on the proposed bike lanes on Bedford Avenue.

Congressman Hakeem Jeffries gave an update on what happening in Washington along with information on the Affordable Connectivity Program. He stated that discounts of \$30.00 per month will be given towards broadband. For more information, call 877-384-2575 or visit [AaffordableConnectivity.gov](https://www.AaffordableConnectivity.gov)

A public hearing was held on the status of the Bed-Stuy Housing Initiative. The Director of Planning at HPD Hallah Saleh introduced Sushma Pramod, HPD Planner who gave the presentation. The development team of the project: Bernell Grier, IMPACCT, Scott Short, CEO of RiseBoro and Naim Brown, Urbane were also present to answer questions.

The Steps at Saratoga is the second building in the Comprehensive Planning effort that was launched in 2019. HPD released the Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Wealth & Wellness RFP in November 2020 for two sites. The first site was designated to Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corp. in December 2021 to provide 100 percent

affordable homeownership opportunities in an 11-story building. The second site was designated in January 12, 2023 to IMPACCT Brooklyn, RiseBoro and Urbane Development. They were selected because HPD felt met the wellness and healing theme requirements. The RFP is centered around five themes:

- Advancing food justice
- Strengthening the local economy
- Improving health outcomes
- Creating safe affordable housing
- prioritizing community voices and connections.

The site is located on Saratoga Avenue and Fulton Street. The project consists of two buildings: one will be 80 senior units and the other will be 158 affordable rental units. The senior building will be for households earning up to 50% Area Medium Income (AMI). The other building will be for households earning up to 80% AMI. 49 of the units will be set aside for the homeless.

The building will have commercial space on the ground floor:

- 10,000 sq. ft will be for Central Brooklyn Food Cooperative,
- 1800 will be for RiseBoro Worker's Coop,
- 4,000 sq. ft will be for Brooklyn Packers,
- 2,000 sq. ft will be Saratoga Food Incubator,
- 3,700 sq. ft will be for River Spring Health Plans,
- 2,000 sq. ft for Isabahlia Ladies of Elegance Foundation
- Office space for IMPACCT Brooklyn
- A greenhouse in the back of the building

The project will also have a sustainable feature. There will be solar panels and it will use 50% - 80% less energy. Some amenities will be a gardening plots, a jogging path and seating areas.

Questions & Answers

Ricardo Agcauli: Since there will be formerly homeless and seniors, what types of services will you provide, and do you have experience in doing that? Will there be 24 hours security?

Scott Short: RiseBoro will be responsible for the supportive services. They have 40 years of experience operating over 700 units in Brooklyn for both seniors and formerly homeless clients. The senior building will have 24 hours security.

TJ Wilson: What will the rent look like? What is the AMI?

Sushma Pramod: The numbers was not available; however, the AMI is up to 50%.

Douglas Williams: I understand that this project is for homeless people, does it include veterans?

Sushma Pramod: The homeless are selected through a referral program but there is a percentage that set aside.

Anthony Buissereth: Are seniors without vouchers eligible on a sliding scale?

Scott Short: This will be project-based vouchers. The applicant need to be income eligible to qualify for the voucher

Anthony Buissereth: The rent for a studio at 30% will be \$700 an \$1167 at 50%. A one-bedroom will be \$750 at 30% and \$1251 at 50%.

Karen Ellis, DEP was scheduled to give a presentation on the Amnesty Program & Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program however, there was an issue. Henry Butler gave the presentation. (See Appendix 1)

<..\Downloads\Water Bill Amnesty LIHWAP+ Public Presentation.pdf>

Community Announcements were made by Bishop Oliver, Pentecostal Evangelist Church on an upcoming event on April 29th.

Melissa Plowden-Norman informed about Friend of Saratoga Park hosting an Easter Giveaway in the Saratoga Park at 2:00 p.m.

There was a quorum with 33 members present and 12 absent.

Chairperson's Report:

- Emergency Order was extended by Mayor Adams therefore, all meetings will remain remote until April 20th, (unless it is rescinded sooner)
- The Board is launching an engagement campaign “We Are Bed-Stuy” to better connect residents, institutions, businesses, and other stakeholders across the community.
- The Personnel Committee met on March 27th, to kick-off a performance review for Board staff. A recommendation to the Board will be made for consideration at the June 5th Board meeting.
- CB3 is updating its Block & Tenant Association directory. Please use the following link to update your association's information
- The Board accepts interest forms from residents who wish to become a voting member on a rolling basis

District Manager's Report:

- The MTA will begin hosting in-person outdoor informational events on the draft Brooklyn Network Redesign. There will be two events in/near CD# on May 10th, at the “Classon Avenue G Train Station from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and on May 11th, at the Broadway Junction Station from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Reminder: New Setout time for trash went into effect on April 1st.:
 - ✓ Place your trash at the curb at 6:00 p.m. or later, if you are using a trash receptacle
 - ✓ Place is at the curb at 8:00 p.m. or later, if you are using bags
- CB3 will host an Informational Town Hall meeting along with DOT on their Proposed Protected Bedford Avenue Bike Lane on April 27th, at 6:30 p.m. on Restoration Plaza, 1368 Fulton Street, Multi-Purpose Room, 1st Floor
- DOT approved a traffic signal at the intersection of Throop & Vernon Avenues

Committee Chair shared information on their upcoming meetings. Ivy Gamble-Cobb informed that the Health & Social Services Committee have two meeting this month: one on April 5th and the other on April 18th. They are planning a Black Maternal Health forum April 22nd, at Restoration Plaza.

A motion to accept the March minutes was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Keith Forest.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Evelyn Collier and seconded by Christine Parker. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack
April 24, 2023