# MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018 COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP. THE BILLIE HOLIDAY THEATER 1368 FULTON STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11216

**Attendance:** 

Members Present: Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Monique Antoine, Anthony Buissereth, Michael

Catlyn, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle, Taina Evans, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Dennis George, Gregory Glasgow, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Abitzel Robinson-Hobson, Oma Holloway, Everett Hughes, Tarisse Iriarte, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Marion Little, Hardy "Joe" Long, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, Ellen Miller, Kwaku Payton, Santina Payton, Simone Pratt, Karen Rhau, Carolyn Richburg, Shekera Shahid, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Chinyelu Udoh, Omar Walker, Rev. Dr. Robert

Waterman, Shanita Wells, Douglas Williams

**Members Absent:** Babatunde Akowe, Dr. Kim Best, Dionicio Liz, Eldica Murray, Melissa Plowden-Norman,

C. Doris Pinn, Stacey Ruffin, T. J. Wilson

#### **INVOCATION**

Mary Jemison Head gave the invocation.

## REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON - Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the record.

Mr. Flateau informed the audience that Restoration will be performing much needed work in the lower level. Therefore, the meeting will be held in the Billie Holiday Theatre for the next 12-18 months.

He also reminded everyone to vote and flip the ballot.

In addition, he stated that the Community Board held a retreat on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, it was well attended. There were several presentations on the By-Laws, Parliamentary Procedures, Capital and Expense Budget, and a Land Use overview from Amy Pivak of City Planning.

He stated that Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, he and the District Manager met with the management of Fulton Park to discuss some of the sanitation issues near the subway.

He also informed that the Board office is undergoing some technology upgrades of its system by DOITT. On Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, he attended a City Planning Leadership Forum on some of the tools available on their website.

He added, that he attended the Town Hall which was hosted by Congressman Jeffries and Council Member Cornegy on the Third Party Transfer Program. There was a discussion on the wrongful taking of private property. There will be a follow-up Town Hall. It will be held on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Brooklyn Law School.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

#### Marcus Harris - Hon. Eric Adams

Mr. Harris reported that Borough President Adams unveiled his plans for a STEAM Center that will be based at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Eight high schools will be participating in this program.

Borough President Adams in partnership with HPD will host a Housing Lottery Forum on Thursday, November  $8^{th}$ . It will be held at Medgar Evers College from 6:00 - 8:30p.m.

## **Shelton Jones – Hon. Eric Gonzalez**

Mr. Jones explained that the "Brooklyn Clear Program" is now in all precincts in Brooklyn. The program provides services and treatments to those who have a drug addiction or received a Desk Appearance Ticket for possession. It allows them to join a program sponsored by with the District Attorney's office and other organizations. After successfully completing the program, the District Attorney will decline prosecution. Brochures were available on the information table.

District Attorney Gonzalez will host the  $2^{nd}$  Annual Symposium on "Campus Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence". It will be held at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street on Wednesday, November  $7^{th}$ , from 10:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

In addition, the "New Leaf Program" will start in South Brooklyn. The program will allow people with marijuana convictions to request that their records be sealed. They are introducing it in North Brooklyn and Bed-Stuy Restoration also. For more information visit <a href="https://www.brooklynda.org">www.brooklynda.org</a>

#### Jacqueline Wright-Williams – Hon. Robert Cornegy

Ms. Williams informed that Council Member Cornegy and his Arts and Culture Ambassador will host an Arts & Culture Town Hall. It will be held at the Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Branch on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

In addition, Council Member Cornegy will host a Third Party Transfer (TPT) Town Hall on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., at the Brooklyn Law School.

In addition, the office now offers individual case management service. Council Member Cornegy has partnered with St. John's Bread & Life. They assist with the processing of DRIE & SCHRIE, NYCHA, Affordable Housing, SNAP and re-certifications applications, SSI & SSD and safe link applications. Please call the office to schedule an appointment at 718-919-0740.

#### Kim Robinson – Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel

Ms. Robinson advised that Free Immigration Services are offered every Tuesdays and Thursdays at Council Member Samuel District office, located at 400 Rockaway Avenue. Please call the office to schedule an appointment at 718-953-3097.

Council Member Samuel will have a Turkey Giveaway. Please call her office to put your name on the list.

## Lucien Allen – Hon. Walter Mosley

Mr. Allen informed that Assembly Member Mosley will host a Crown Heights Development Town Hall on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at John Wesley United Methodist Church, 260 Quincy Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Discussion will be on the five developments in the area:

40 Crown Street (Old Laundromat); 960 Franklin Avenue (Spice Factory); 1535 Bedford Avenue (Old BP Gas Station); 450 Eastern Parkway (First Baptist Church); 575 Bedford Avenue (Bedford Union Armory). For more information, please call the office at 718-596-0100.

## Shemeta Bahair - Hon. Tremaine Wright

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving morning. The 5K will include Crown Heights this year. Breakfast will be served for participants. The winners will receive free turkey.

# **Deputy Inspector Charles Minch**

Deputy Inspector Minch informed that the next 79<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Brooklyn Job Corp., 585 DeKalb Avenue, at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, he invited residents to attend the Build the Block Meetings which are held once a quarter. There are four sets of Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCO) who covers four different sectors. They are your "go to" officers to address any issues addressed.

P.O. Matthew Librizzi and P.O. Michael Devonish are the NCOs for "Sector Boy". Sector Boys covers North of Jefferson to South of Lexington Avenues/ Marcus Garvey Blvd to North Bedford Avenue/South of DeKalb to Classon Avenues and back to Jefferson Avenue. Their next meeting will be on November 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., at the Police Athletic League (PAL), 495 Gates Avenue. To determine your sector, please visit www1.nyc.gov

# **Daniel Fisher – President 81st Precinct Community Council**

Mr. Fisher reminded everyone that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 1958 Fulton Street, at 7:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Senior Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at Cornerstone Baptist Church from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Donations are welcomed.

He added, that the Precinct Council is partnering with Assembly Member Wright on the Annual 5K Thanksgiving Turkey Trot. Everyone will meet at Marcy Plaza at 8:00 a.m. and the Trot will begin at 9:00 a.m.

On Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Precinct Council will host its Annual Christmas Concert from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., at Christ Fellowship Baptist Church, 11 Sumpter Street.

## Det. Tanesha Facev – 81st Precinct

Det. Facey is newly assigned to the Community Affairs office but not new to the precinct. She has been at the 81<sup>st</sup> Precinct for 12 years and served as the NCO for three years. She can be reached at 718-574-0433.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

P.O. Christopher Charles – 79<sup>th</sup> Precinct, Karen Cherry – Hon. Erik Dilan

## Hon. Velmanette Montgomerv

Senator Montgomery stated all of the elected officials have signed a letter to the Chief Judge to request that a moratorium be placed on the Third Party Transfer Program (TPT) until an investigation is done.

Senator Montgomery provided information about Youth Career and Internship opportunities.

Mr. Butler reminded everyone to vote on the three proposals on the back of the ballots and even though the Board cannot give its opinion, he stated that Community Board term limits already exist. The term is two years and then it is up to the elected official to re-appoint or not.

In terms of the community liaison person, that person will be coming from the Mayor's office not from the community.

# Hon. Tremaine Wright

Assembly Member Wright indicated that she has a flyer outside on the information table regarding the three proposals on the ballot.

#### Hon. Latrice Walker

V.O.T.E (Victory over the Enemy). She reminded everyone to go out and vote.

# **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Henry L. Butler**

Mr. Butler invited Cheryl Todmann to discuss the upcoming fundraiser, the "9<sup>th</sup> Annual Stars of NY Dance" to which he is a participant. The event will be held on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at Long Island University, Kumble Theater.

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#### I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

#### A. Health & Social Service Committee:

NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene gave a presentation on the high rate of child birth complications.

Edna Johnson, Committee Chair introduced Dr. Torian Easterling, Assistant Commissioner

Dr. Easterling informed the community that over the summer the health center at 485 Throop Avenue between Madison and Putnam Avenues have re-opened clinical services for adults and pediatrics services. The services are provided by Health + Hospitals, Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

He added that the center is also partnering with schools and community based organizations to provide mental health support in response to a number of shootings in the district. Dr. Easterling introduced Hannah Emple, Bureau of Maternal & Infant Reproductive Health

Ms. Emple spoke about severe maternal morbidity. It is the life treating complications that many women suffer during child birth. She stated that 30 women in New York City die in child birth every year. The complications such as severe hemorrhaging, high blood pressure, heart and lung problem and infections can lead to this problem. The rate is high amongst Black and Latino women. Data from 2011-2015 shows that 8% of black women are more likely to die from labor related causes than white women. There is a disparity. Women in the Bronx and Brooklyn are disproportionately affected by pregnancy complications. In the Bronx, 1 in 33 women will have a life treating event, in Brooklyn, one in 40 women and in Bed-Stuy, its one in 26 women. Some risk factors are: high blood pressure or diabetes.

A group was started called the "Birth Justice Defenders". It consists of community residents who are making demands on health providers and the health department on what they would like to see from their care teams. They are seeking additional members. For more information contact birthjustice@health.nyc.gov

She added that the Family Wellness Suites offers a range of services such as yoga, breastfeeding support and exercise.

#### II. PUBLIC HEARING

## A. Health & Social Service Committee:

"Just One Break Inc." is seeking a letter of support for their parenting program whose focus is changing the lives of adolescent parents between the ages of 14 to 24. They are located at 444 Thomas Boyland Street.

No one was in attendance from this organization.

# **B.** Economic Development Committee:

The Corners Bar request for a letter of support to change their closing hours to 4:00 a.m. They are located at 395 Nostrand Avenue corner of Putnam Avenue.

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Leah Reinhardt, Owner

The owner stated that she has been opened for two years. She is currently operating from 4:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. She now has a kitchen to offer food. Her bartender was also in attendance. He previously worked at Bedford Hall.

There were also several people who spoke in support on her behalf. Questions were asked.

# II. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Lameane Isaac – Brooklyn Public Library

Ms. Isaac informed the residents that the Macon Branch is partnering with the FDNY to present fire safety workshops. It will be held on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

There will be HSE (High School Equivalency) screenings at the Bedford Branch, 496 Bedford Avenue on the following Thursdays -- November 15<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Other programs that are offered are chess and Chinese on Tuesdays 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Robotics on Thursdays 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. It is geared for children 8 years old.

# Biko Njoku – Citizen Committee for New York City

The Love Your Block Grant application deadline is Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The grant gives up to \$1000 for neighborhood projects. For more information contact Shawn Whitehorn at 212-822-9563 or visit www.citizen.nyc.org

#### Jasmine Ray – Cornerstone Daycare Center

Ms. Ray announced that the Board of Directors is seeking new board members, if anyone is interested, please call 718-574-8300.

Ms. Ray thanked the Board for their assistance in obtaining heat for the building. She stated that the building had no heat and hot water for six days.

#### III. ROLL CALL

There were 42 members and 8 absent.

#### IV. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

# **Douglas Williams – Veterans**

Mr. Williams stated that the committee is seeking new members. Members do not have to be a veteran to be on the committee.

On Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, he will be hosting a tribute to 13 veterans at the Brooklyn Gardens Nursing Home, 835 Herkimer Street. The event will be held from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

# Karen Rhau - By-Laws

The committee will be meeting on Thursday, November 29th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board office.

# **Gregory Glasgow - Transportation, Sanitation & Environment**

Mr. Glasgow stated that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board office. A representative for MTA will be in attendance. He added that at the December meeting he will have an Informational Presentation.

# **Evelyn Collier – Landmarks & Preservations**

Ms. Collier informed that the committee will be hosting an Informational Forum. It will be held on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at Excellence Boys Charter School, 225 Patchen Avenue from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1360 Fulton street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor. The topic of discussion will be 524 Halsey Street.

# **Resolution:**

Ms. Collier gave the committee's report on the LPC Application #19-2618 for 211 MacDonough Street corner of Marcus Garvey.

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A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Douglas Williams and seconded. ..\Vote for 211 MacDonough Street.pdf

# **Tywan Anthony – Economic Development**

Mr. Anthony informed that the committee is in the midst of planning an Economic Development Conference. He is seeking input on the planning from members.

The committee meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. At the last meeting, a representative from Restoration Job Plus/Business Center. There was also a representative from Equal Opportunity. OSHA-10 will become obsolete in December 2018. Workers will now need their OSHA-30.

#### V. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

**B.** The Corners Bar is seeking a letter of support to change their closing hours to 4:00 a.m.

Tywan Anthony reported that the committee recommended giving a letter of support to change the hours from 2:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m. on two days: Friday and Saturday.

A motion to accept the recommendation was made by Edna Johnson and seconded by Douglas Williams.

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# VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Richard Flateau

# **Nominating Committee Report**

Chinyelu Udoh, Committee Chair gave a report on the progress of the nomination. She explained that the following positions are open: Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Treasurer and Executive Secretary. The deadline to cast nomination is Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The election will take place at the December meeting.

# VII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2018 MINUTES

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Felicia Alexander and seconded by Douglas Williams.

# IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, Beryl Nyack

Reviewed and edited by: Stacey Ruffin, Executive Secretary November 27, 2018