



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP.
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Babatunde Akowe, Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Dr. Kim Best, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Kimberly Hill, Oma Holloway, Tarris Iriarte, Edna Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Hardy "Joe" Long, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Karen Rhau, Stacey Ruffin, Shekera Shahid, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Omar Walker, Douglas Williams, T. J. Wilson

Members Absent: Taina Evans, Everett Hughes, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Marion Little, Dionicio Liz, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Kwaku Payton, Santina Payton, Chinyelu Udoh, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Shanita Wells

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau extended condolences to Marion Little, Chair of Parks, Arts, and Culture Committee, of the loss of his wife, Francine. Funeral services will be held at the Woodward Funeral Home on Wednesday, May 9th. The viewing will be held from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m., and funeral service will follow from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

He also expressed sympathy to the family of Marcella Simmons, a former board member. Her funeral had already taken place. He also wished Brenda Fryson, former Board Chair a speedy recovery, who was hospitalized.

Chairperson's Report:

On April 4th, Mr. Flateau stated that he attended a tour of all the parks in Community District 3 with Marty Maher, Brooklyn Commissioner along with the District Manager, Henry Butler and TJ Wilson, Co-Chair of the Parks, Arts & Culture Committee.

On April 9th, he attended a meeting along with District Manager Butler, Doris Pinn, Chair of Housing and Land Use Committee and staff from City Planning to discuss the Atlantic Avenue Study.

On April 18th, they also met with the Chair, Nizjoni Granville, District Manager, Michelle George and several committee chairs from Community Board 8. The discussion on zoning changes on Atlantic Avenue will be on going.

He informed the audience of the homicide of James Halsey in April on Madison Street between Tompkins and Throop Avenues. He attended the funeral along with Pastor Dingle.

On April 10th, he attended a Violence Interruption Vigil along with Stacey Ruffin, Chair of the Civic and Public Safety Committee.

In addition, Mr. Flateau named Omar Walker as the Vice-Chair of the Transportation, Sanitation & Environment Committee.

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the read.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Battalion Chief John Murphy – FDNY Battalion 37

B.C. Murphy informed the audience that there was a fatality in April in the district. He reminded everyone to change the battery in their smoke detectors. He added, that landlords are responsible for providing smoke detectors but it is the tenant's responsibility to maintain it. Free replacement batteries were provided smoke detectors.

Wayne Devonish – Boys Scout Troop

He is the Assistant Scout Master for the troop at Bethany Baptist Church. He indicated that there are four troops in Bed-Stuy and encouraged everyone to enroll any young men who are interested.

Hon. Ingrid Joseph

Judge Joseph introduced herself as the Supervising Judge of the Civil Court and Acting Supreme Court Justice. She is running for re-election to the Civil Court and election to the Supreme Court.

Candace Julien – Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams

The message of the month was available with all the upcoming events at Borough Hall on the information table. Ms. Julien can be reached at 718-802-3981.

Mr. Flateau asked about the availability of the Borough President's new appointments. Ms. Julien indicated that the appointments will be available soon, especially since the swearing ceremony will be held on May 22nd.

Shelton Jones – Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

Mr. Jones informed that the National Grid worker who had illegally installed gas meters in new developments was sentenced to seven years in jail. He reminded everyone to call the Action Center with any issues at 718-250-2340 or they can reach him directly at 718-250-3146.

Shakti Robbins – Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Ms. Robbins gave an update on the co-location at the old Boys High School. She stated that the PEP voted on the co-location and plans are moving forward. The DOE has promised that they will work with Senator Montgomery and the Assembly Member Wright.

Naomi Hopkins – Assembly Member Tremaine Wright

On Saturday, May 12th, in conjunction with Elmy’s Special Services, Inc., there will be an 8-hour “Mental Health First Aid Training” at 1368 Fulton Street, from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m. RSVP is required. Learn the five-step action plan to respond to a mental health crisis.

Assembly Member Wright in partnership with Uncommon Schools and Council Member Cornegy will host Bed-Stuy Reads! On May 24th, at the Macon Branch Library from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Call the office to RSVP.

Emily Mateo – Assembly Member Walter Mosley

Ms. Mateo informed that Assembly Member Mosley will be providing “Chamber on the Go” on Franklin Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Empire Blvd from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Olanike Alabi – 57th Assembly District Leader

The next Town Hall will be on May 31st, at the Teen Challenge Center. There will be presentations by Commissioner Gregg Bishop, Department of Small Business Services, Representatives from NYCHA, Candidates for Surrogate Court and representatives from the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Marcia McGibbon – Brooklyn Public Library/Dekalb Branch

Ms. McGibbon reminded everyone that the branch has re-opened. The summer reading starts June 9th, with a celebration at all branches. The branch has added new programs -- Yoga classes on Saturdays, classic black films and homework help on Mondays.

LaMeane Isaac – Brooklyn Public Library/Macon Branch

Ms. Isaac stated that the branch will be celebrating Mother’s Day with a 2nd Annual Mom-a-ton on May 12th, from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. There will be a lot of activities.

On May 16th, the library will present two local authors who will discuss their writings. It will begin at 6:30 p.m.

May is Older Adult Month and the library will partner with the Department for the Aging to celebrate at Borough Hall on May 16th, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Isaac asked residents to send their support to their elected officials for funding of the library. Visit www.investinlibraries.org

Fabrice Armand – NYC Department of Corrections

Filing for the upcoming Correction Officer Exam No. 8334 will be May 1 – 31, 2018. In addition to uniformed positions there are also non-uniformed position available in the department. For more information visit, www.jointheboldest.com or email theboldest@doc.nyc.gov

Nickolas Perry – Comptroller Scott Stringer

He provided information on the Federal Tax Cut and the Job Act and the impact on non-profit organizations.

Rev. Ebenezer Aduku – John Wesley United Methodist Church

The church is located at the corner of Nostrand Avenue and Quincy Street. The pastor asked for support for the church’s old parsonage that was sold illegally when there was no pastor.

Wayne Devonish – Von King Park Conservancy

Mr. Devonish stated that the conservancy has a two-year grant for artwork by Uniqlo in the park. He added that both winners are from the community. This year’s recipient of the \$10,000 grant is Roberto Visani.

Mr. Visani gave a brief presentation on his artwork. He stated that the piece should be installed at the end of June or early July. He showed a rendering of the work.

Stefani Zinerman

Ms. Zinerman informed that the Age-friendly Neighborhood meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the Month at the Quincy Senior Residence. On June 23rd, they will host the 2nd Annual Inter-Generational Fair at Marcy Plaza.

On May 9th, there will be a bus leaving from in front of Restoration Plaza at 9:00 a.m. to go to City Hall for Senior Advocacy Day.

Boys & Girls High School Advisory Committee and the Brooklyn NAACP will be having an Action on Monday, May 21st, at 1:00 p.m., at City Hall. There are a number of issues in the school.

Dr. Kim Best – 79th Precinct Council

The Precinct Council meeting will be held on May 23rd, at the Brooklyn Job Corp., at 7:00 p.m. In addition, there will be a dinner/dance scheduled on Friday, June 22nd from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. The cost of the tickets are \$50.00.

Daniel Fisher – 81st Precinct Council

Mr. Fisher thanked everyone who attended the Pre-Mother’s Day Breakfast at Sugar Hill. The next precinct council meeting will be held on May 8th, at the Multi-Service Center, 1958 Fulton Street, at 7:00 p.m.

The Precinct Council will be joining the Multi Service Center at their Health Fair on Saturday, June 9th, in the back of 1958 Fulton Street building.

The Precinct Council election is coming up.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Karen Cherry – Assembly Member Erik Dilan, Sherry Davis – Woodhull Hospital

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler reminded everyone that on May 16th, the Board will host its Town Hall with City Agencies (Departments of Buildings, Transportation and Environmental Protection). It will be held in the Multi Service Room, 1st floor at 6:30 p.m. Please spread the word.

Mr. Butler informed the audience that new signage will be installed at Marcy Plaza on May 17th.

In addition, he informed that the Capital and Expense Budget is on the website.

Mr. Butler reported that there was a presentation by the Brooklyn Public Library on all of the Outreach programs at the Borough District Cabinet meeting. Flyers were available. There is also a report by the Borough President on the parks in Brooklyn. Visit his website for more information.

He also informed that some members of Community Board 3 will be panelists at the Bed-Stuy Works Alliance on May 12th, at Quincy Senior Residence at 9:00 a.m. They will be discussing the roles of the Community Board according to the City Charter.

The June's general meeting will be held at the Greater St. Stephen United Church of God, 874 Myrtle Avenue between Marcy and Tompkins Avenues.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Senior Committee:

Presentation was given about Maria Lawton Senior Center
Dr. Kim Best, Committee Chair introduced Tashia King, Center Director

Ms. King stated that the Mary Lawton Neighborhood Senior Center is located at 400 Hart Street inside Roosevelt Houses. They have been providing services for 67 years. She spoke about the various programs that the center offers such as meals and recreational activities. The center is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The programs are sponsored by the Ft. Greene Council. A calendar of events were provided. For more information, call the center at 718-452-7474.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Housing & Land Use Committee:

In the matter of an application submitted by the Administration for Children's Services and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, Pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter, for the acquisition of property located at 265 Marcus Garvey Blvd (Block 1624, Lot 1) for continued use as a child care center
C. Doris Pinn, Committee Chair introduced Kenneth Robinson and Michael Bitar, ACS

Mr. Robinson, General Counsel Office for ACS. They are seeking the Board support for a new lease. They have been at this location since 1971. The program is currently being operated by Lutheran Social Services who provide childcare services for families who are within 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, and have a legitimate purpose for needing childcare such as a job, going to school or job training, six months of seeking work or not having a permanent home. The center is budgeted for 69 preschoolers at 91% is currently enrolled.

Questions & Answers

There were several questions regarding who actually owns the property.

B. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application for Finger Lakes Brooklyn Café Corp. (DBA Finger Lakes Burgers & Wings), 990 Broadway between Vernon & Willoughby Avenues.

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Carlos Camilo, President

Mr. Anthony informed that a site visit was performed on April 20th.

Anthony Caraballo represented the owner who was unable to attend however the Chef, Victor De La Cruz, and the Manager, Melton Kwawame

Mr. Caraballo stated that he met with committee on April 5th, and all of the necessary documentations were provided (25 signatures and two letters of support). He informed that there has been a liquor license at this establishment for over 20 years with different owners. All staff will be trained, there are 18 security cameras. Chef De La Cruz has 14 years of experience in the business and Melton two years of experience.

Questions & Answers

Carolyn Richburg: I am concerned about jobs for young people. Can you speak to that?

Anthony Caraballo: There will be 10 employees, four in the kitchen, and six outside.

Victor De La Cruz: Currently there is a “help wanted” sign posted for three people. Call him at 347-583-4842 for more information.

Tywan Anthony: The Economic Development Committee have a relationship with Job Plus, we are in the process of connecting capable and certified individuals in the community with the businesses.

Victor De La Cruz: There is space in the basement for meetings.

Simone Pratt: Is it residential above the restaurant? What are your hours?

Victor De La Cruz: Yes.

Anthony Caraballo: The hours have changed from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 a.m. opening, and closing will be Sundays to Mondays: at midnight; and Thursdays to Saturdays: 4:00 a.m.

Babatunde Akowe: What is the capacity and what time does the kitchen close?

Anthony Caraballo: There are 15 tables with 34 seats and the kitchen closes one hour before closing.

C. Economic Development Committee:

Sidewalk Café Application for Struzzo LLC (DBA Fermento), 358 Kosciuszko Street corner of Marcus Garvey Blvd.

No one was in attendance.

D. Economic Development Committee:

Sidewalk Café Application for Pilar Cuban Restaurant Inc. (DBA Pilar Cuban Eatery), 397 Greene Avenue corner of Bedford Avenue.

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Ricardo E. Barreras, Owner

Mr. Barreras stated that he is the Chef and owner of Pilar which was opened in 2009 on Classon and Greene Avenues however, the space was very small. In 2015, he moved to a nicer space on Bedford and Greene Avenues. In 2016, he applied for the sidewalk café and received it however, the renewal was not done on time, which is why he is reapplying. The sidewalk café was already operational. Originally there was supposed to be eight tables and 16 seats however, because of the tree pit, it did not allow for the extra space. Therefore, there are seven tables and 14 seats. He stated that the sidewalk is very wide. He has been awarded one of the BEST Restaurants by several magazines.

Questions & Answers

Babatunde Akowe: Did you get support from the block association?

Ricardo E. Barreras: Not officially, but I work with the block association, we contribute to their events.

TJ Wilson: You should not have tables outside if you do not have a license.

Ricardo E. Barreras: There is no one out there since last year.

TJ Wilson: Is alcohol being serve out there? Is that a different license?

Tywan Anthony: The sidewalk café license is from the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the liquor is from the State Liquor Authority (SLA) two separate processes. The requirements for the café are: the structure has to be easily removable, no larger than 30 inches and it has to be self-supporting.

Carolyn Richburg: How many people from the community do you employ?

Ricardo E. Barreras: At least 15-20 people.

II. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nailah Manns – Friends of the Macon Library

On May 17th, Monique Greenwood and her daughter Glynn Pogue will be hosting the Bedford Stuyvesant Neighborhood Series at 6:30 p.m.

The library will be hosting several events. They are also asking for donations for the African-American Heritage Room.

Stefani Zinerman

Ms. Zinerman implored people to get more involved in their community and to run for County Committee. On May 19th, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., at Bethany Baptist Church, there will be an orientation and assistance to signing people up to become County Committee Member for the 56th AD.

Valerie Watts – Business & Professional Women Corp.

On May 20th, at Borough Hall from 1:30 – 5:00 p.m., she will be hosting the 6th Annual Dream Big Brunch. It is a networking opportunity for business and professional women.

Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp.

Ms. Holloway stated that Flower Bed-Stuy was a success. There were 30 block and tenant associations in attendance. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 12th.

On Tuesday, May 22nd, there will be a Young Adult Internship and Resource Fair at Restoration Plaza from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

On May 10th, free legal services will be available for tenants who are facing evictions. It will be held at Bridge Street from 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Walk-ins are welcomed.

In addition, there will be an Elder Abuse Training on May 15th, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., at Quincy Senior Residence, 625 Quincy Street.

The Tompkins Avenue Merchant Association (TAMA) is planning their summer festival for July.

Monica Sibri – Ignite

Her organization engages young women in becoming more civic minded. The organization offers a fellowship of \$10,000 plus a MetroCard. Flyers are available.

Sage Rockermann – Rep Your Block

This organization gives a platform and assistance to candidates who are running for the Democratic County Committee. She reiterated what Ms. Zinerman stated.

IV. ROLL CALL

There were 33 members present and 13 absent.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

T.J Wilson – Parks, Arts & Culture

Ms. Wilson announced that the artist, Roberto Visani will make a formal presentation at the June meeting.

Gregory Glasgow – Transportation, Sanitation & Environment

Mr. Glasgow informed the audience that the committee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 8th, in the board office. A representative from the MTA will be in attendance to discuss the buses.

Babatunde Akowe – By-laws

He apologized for not being able to present the addendum to the by-laws due to a death in his family. The committee meets on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Tywan Anthony – Economic Development

Mr. Anthony announced that the committee is working to address the following three things:

- 1) Getting to know the bankers in the community at each committee meeting
- 2) MWBE Certification assistance
- 3) Partnership with Jobs Plus which is a program through Restoration

Oma Holloway – Education & Youth

Ms. Holloway informed that the committee will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 10th, instead of the usual 7:00 p.m.

She added that nominations for Bed-Stuy Best 2018 is open. The last day to vote will be May 8th. The ceremony will be held on Brooklyn/Queens Day

Bed-Stuy Reads! Will be hosted by Assembly Member Wright and Council Member Cornegy in partnership with Uncommon Schools. It will be held at the Macon Library on May 24th, at 6:00 p.m.

On May 11th – 12th and May 18th – 19th, District 16 will be hosting a “School Crawl”. It is an open house of all the schools in the district.

Doris Pinn – Housing & Land Use

Ms. Pinn informed that the committee will be meeting on May 9th, at 6:30 p.m. Community District 8 is doing a study to re-zone a portion of Atlantic Avenue between Classon to Nostrand Avenues. This spills over into Community District 3.

Gregory Glasgow – Transportation, Sanitation & Environment

Mr. Glasgow read the resolution to maintain the funding for the approved Sanitation Garage in Brooklyn Community District 3. A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Edna Johnson and seconded by Hardy “Joe” Long.

[..\resolution for the sanitation garage.pdf](#)

[..\Vote for the resolution to maintain funding for the garage.pdf](#)

VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

- A.** Request from ACS for a letter of support to continue using 265 Marcus Garvey Blvd as a Child Care Center.

Ms. Pinn stated that most daycare centers have a direct lease with the City of New York and the owner of the property. Leases are part of the ULURP process. This is a 20-year lease and since it is a routine application, it came before the Executive Committee. The committee recommended giving a letter of SUPPORT to renew the lease.

Karen Rhau recused herself because she works for ACS. A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Babatunde Akowe and seconded by Gregory Glasgow.

There was discussion on the motion by Dr. Debra Lamb.

[..\Vote for 265 Marcus Garvey Blvd.pdf](#)

- B.** Finger Lakes Brooklyn Café Corp. (DBA Finger Lakes Burgers & Wings) request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License.

The committee recommended giving a letter of SUPPORT. A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Edna Johnson and seconded by Gregory Glasgow.

[..\Vote for Finger Lakes Brooklyn Cafe Corp.pdf](#)

- C.** Struzzo LLC request for a letter of support for a Sidewalk Café License.

The committee recommended a letter of NON-SUPPORT due to no attendance by the applicant. A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Edna Johnson and seconded by Jamella Swift.

[..\Vote for Struzzo LLC.pdf](#)

- D.** Pilar Cuban Restaurant Inc. (DBA Pilar Cuban Eatery) request for a letter of support for a Sidewalk Café License.

The committee recommended giving a letter of support. A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Gregory Glasgow and seconded by Edna Johnson.

[..\Vote for Pilar Cuban Restaurant.pdf](#)

VII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau reminded board members to attend their committee meetings. He informed them that letters will be sent to members who have not been attending.

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE APRIL 2, 2018 MINUTES

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Ivy Gamble-Cobb and seconded by Evelyn Collier.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack, Assistant District Manager
Reviewed by,
Stacey Ruffin, Executive Secretary
May 31, 2018