

**MINUTES OF THE  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018  
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING  
THE BILLIE HOLIDAY THEATRE  
1368 FULTON STREET  
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

**Attendance:**

**Members Present:** Babatunde Akowe, 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, Mary Jemison-Head, Abitzel Robinson-Hobson, Oma Holloway, Everett Hughes, Tarris Iriarte, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Marion Little, Dionicio Liz, Hardy “Joe” Long, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, Ellen Miller, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Kwaku Payton, Santana Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Karen Rhau, Carolyn Richburg, Stacey Ruffin, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Chinyelu Udoh, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Douglas Williams, T. J. Wilson

**Members Absent:** Dr. Kim Best, Shia Greenfeld, Eldica Murray, Shekera Shahid, Omar Walker, Shanita Wells

**REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau**

Mr. Flateau introduced new Board member Monique Antoine. She is replacing Paulette Moorehead who resigned. The Board now has 50 members, the statutory limit.

He stated that on June 28<sup>th</sup>, he and Mr. Butler met with Senator Montgomery and residents of Fulton Park Houses to discuss public health hazards and rodent infestation. They also participated in a “Rat Summit” which was sponsored by Borough President Eric Adams, the Department of Health and Council Member Robert Cornegy.

In addition, he reported that during the summer, the Land Use Committee Chairs: C. Doris Pinn, Ellen Miller and Dennis George, along with Mr. Butler and himself worked with Assembly Member Tremaine Wright on Vital Brooklyn RFP. Vital Brooklyn is a program that Governor Cuomo announced that he will invest \$1.4 billion in Central Brooklyn, half of which will be for health care in Central Brooklyn. A RFP was issued by the State for the development of a site which is currently owned by Interfaith Hospital and used as a parking lot for employees. It is located on Herkimer Street between Albany and Troy Avenues.

After several discussions, the Executive Board issued a letter of support to East Brooklyn Congregation for their proposal to build senior housing.

On Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, he added that he and Mr. Butler attended a street co-naming ceremony for Bishop Monk on Fulton Street between Buffalo and Ralph Avenues.

Mr. Flateau reported that the Personnel Committee met during the second week of August to discuss the District Manager's evaluation. He was aided in the evaluation by Dr. Debra Lamb. He will discuss the evaluation and recommendation in the Executive session at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Flateau asked the members of the Executive Committee to become members of the By-laws Committee to assist them with their work.

In addition, he asked the new members who have not selected a committee, to email the Executive Secretary, Stacey Ruffin, Mr. Butler and himself their choices by the end of the week.

Mr. Flateau asked everyone to keep Brenda Fryson and Dr. Geronimo Williamson in their prayers as they are both facing health challenges.

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the record.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

### **Council Member Robert Cornegy, Jr.**

Council Member Cornegy informed that there was a press conference on the K2 epidemic which is crippling the Northern end of Bed-Stuy. In May, 25 people overdosed and in Connecticut there were 60 people who overdosed. However, the fact that the elected officials, NYPD and the residents are working together, the numbers have decreased.

He added that he has introduced a bill that would allow residents to call a three-digit number to report/request assistance for someone who has mental health.

He introduced a new member of his staff, Office Manager, Jacqueline Wright-Williams. His Chief of Staff, Sharissa Singletary informed of the audience of the services that their office provides. Shaun Francis added that the office will be offering an Advisory Board Meeting on Saturdays.

### **Kim Robinson – Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel**

Ms. Robinson informed the audience that Council Member Samuel will be hosting two Information Sessions for Participatory Budgeting. The first session will be held on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, at Brooklyn Collegiate High School, 2021 Bergen Street (Ocean Hill). The second session will be held at P.S 5, 820 Hancock Street (Bedford-Stuyvesant) from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. For more information, please call or visit the office at 718-953-3097, 400 Rockaway Avenue.

### **Olanike Alabi – 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly Member District Leader**

She reminded everyone to vote.

### **Shakti Robbins – Senator Velmanette Montgomery**

Ms. Robbins announced that Governor Cuomo signed the Construction Notification Bill into law. The legislation requires the Department of Buildings to provide written notification to the adjoining property owners when an application for approval of construction is submitted to provide proof of insurance and a copy of the permit 30 days before construction begins.

She also provided information about various internship programs for high school and college students. Information about this program are available on the table.

### **Naomi Hopkins – Assembly Member Tremaine Wright**

Ms. Hopkins announced that the Assembly Member Tremaine Wright office is also excited about the passing of the Construction Notification Bill (A5823-B).

She also mentioned that Assembly Member Wright will be hosting a NYS Citizen Preparedness Corp event on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at Restoration Plaza from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Participants will be advised on how to properly prepare for any disaster, develop a family emergency plan and what to do in case of an active shooter. Please RSVP.

In addition, she announced that this year, please prepare for the Annual Turkey Trot, they will be providing training runs beginning on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and every Sunday and Tuesday following, for 10 weeks. They will meet in the Plaza to get ready for the 5K Run.

**Shelton Jones – Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office**

Mr. Jones announced that the District Attorney Gonzalez will be hosting “Begin Again” event on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. It will be held at Lenox Road Baptist Church, 1356 Nostrand Avenue from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

He added that District Attorney Gonzalez in addition to no longer prosecuting low level marijuana possession cases, he is asking anyone with a misdemeanor marijuana conviction to come to the “Begin Again” event and those convictions will be clear from their record. Flyers were available.

**Candace Julien – Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams Office**

Borough President Adams will host a Karaoke contest for seniors at Quincy Senior Residence, 625 Quincy Street, on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In addition, the Department for Youth and Community Development operates a Neighborhood Advisory Board and they are in need of members. For more information, please call her at 718-802-3981.

**Stanley Banks**

Mr. Banks informed the audience that Sam Pinn founded Jazz 966 45 years ago. He will be hosting a banquet gala on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, to honor the life of Sam Pinn.

**Elizabeth Adams – Council Member Stephen Levin**

She stated that the office requested litter baskets in the northern portion of the district. They received some at Nostrand and Marcy Avenues. They are looking for recommendations for more locations. She can be reached at [eadams@council.nyc.gov](mailto:eadams@council.nyc.gov)

She added that the Waste Equity Bill (Intro. 157) passed. The bill restricts permitted waste transfer capacity.

**P.O. Christopher Charles – 79<sup>th</sup> Precinct**

P.O. Charles announced the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Detective Liu and Detective Ramos Community Day will be held on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, on Myrtle Avenue between Marcy and Nostrand Avenues. There will be a lot of activities for the whole entire family.

**Jamila Pringle-Fynes – Office of the Mayor**

She has replaced Tahirah Moore as the new Brooklyn Borough Director.

**Daniel Fisher – President, 81<sup>st</sup> Precinct Community Council**

Mr. Fisher thanked everyone who volunteered their time at the precinct summer camp.

Their general meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., at 1958 Fulton Street.

Some upcoming 81<sup>st</sup> Precinct events are:

- Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for seniors. It will be held on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, a location to be determined.
- Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, location to be determined also.
- Children Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, at I.S. 324 (Stuyvesant Avenue and Malcolm X Blvd)

He added that the Precinct Council will be partnering with Assembly Member Wright's office for the Annual 5K Walk/Run on Thanksgiving morning.

### **Stefani Zinerman**

She informed the audience that the Age Friendly Neighborhood Initiative will kick-off on September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>, Active Aging Week:

Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, Chair Yoga and Line Dancing at Restoration Plaza

Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, Aqua Zumba at the Bedford YMCA

Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, Healthy Cooking Demo at NEBHDCo (3:00 – 5:00 p.m.)

Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, Sip & Paint event at SKAL BK Restaurant, 373 Lewis Avenue

Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, Health & Beauty Expo at Weeksville Heritage Center

### **Taina Evans – Brooklyn Public Library**

Ms. Evans informed the audience that children ages 5-9 years old can team up to read in a six-session series program designed to help with reading fluency and comprehension. Children who attend three sessions will receive tickets to a Brooklyn Nets game.

For the teens, there are internship opportunities in the “Librarian of Tomorrow” program for 10-12 grades and they will receive a stipend.

On Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Commission on Human Rights will present a Disability Symposium from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at the Central Library Branch. For more information on any of the programs, please call 718-230-2100.

### **Vira Lynn Jones – The Bedford Stuyvesant Museum of African Art (BSMAA)**

On Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the museum will host its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Nelson “Madiba” Mandela Humanitarian award event to celebrate his legacy. It will be held at the Brooklyn Museum.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Karen Cherry – Assembly Member Erik Dilan; Judge Ingrid Joseph; Judge Betty Staton – Brooklyn Legal Services

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

Mr. Butler announced that the Department of Transportation is conducting a transportation study. If you would like your opinion heard, please stop by the table in the hallway.

Budget Consultations has begun. He met with the following City agencies: Department of Sanitation, (DOS) Transportation (DOT), Environment Protection (DEP), Fire, and Parks. Commissioner Garcia stated that she will be registering the sanitation garage with the Office of Budget & Management (OMB) this fiscal year therefore, and that the money cannot be removed.

Department of Sanitation has no enforcement authority over public schools in terms of how they put their trash out. This issue will have to be addressed with the Department of Education and the principals.

According to DOT, the money for Trench Restoration is scheduled for fiscal year 2020. The only block that received funding for trench restoration is Hancock Street between Tompkins and Marcy Avenues.

According to the DEP, there are 36,548 catch basins in Brooklyn. They currently have 398 outstanding repairs.

For the Parks Department, the Capital Budget Projects was emailed to Board members. It will be on the website for the public to review. He mentioned a few of the other projects:

- The Herbert Von King Cultural Art Center has been closed for several years however, construction began in 2017 and is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2019.
- Jesse Owens Playground construction began in 2017 and it will be completed by fall 2018.
- Fulton Park Comfort Station, work began in 2017 and it is scheduled to be completed in spring 2019.

Mr. Butler added that he will be participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Stars of NY Dance.

## **I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION**

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

A presentation from the SHARE Cancer Support Organization

*Edna Johnson, Committee Chairperson introduced Desiree Walker, Community Outreach*

Ms. Walker stated that the organization SHARE provides support, education, and empowerment to women affected by breast or ovarian cancer. They are located in midtown Manhattan. The organization has received funding to increase their outreach effort in the African-American and Latino communities. Their helpline is: 1-844-ASK-SHARE. She added that they can make presentations at any organization who would like to learn more.

## **II. PUBLIC HEARING**

### **A. Health & Social Service Committee and Housing & Land Use Committee**

Update from Comunilife Inc. about the housing being built on the Woodhull Hospital Campus

*Edna Johnson, Committee Chair introduced Dr. Rosa Gil, CEO & Michael O'Connell, Chief Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer*

Dr. Gill acknowledged Gregory Calliste, Chief Executive Officer, at Woodhull Hospital.

Michael O'Connell gave a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that the Woodhull Project is 89 units located on the campus of the parking lot of Woodhull Hospital (corner Throop and Park Avenues). The building consists of studio apartments. 54 of the units are for individuals living with mental health illness that are working in partnership with the hospital. They are supportive units. The other 35 units are available through HPD application and lottery process. Eight units are at 50% AMI and 27 are at 60% AMI. 18 of the units are set aside for Community District 3 residents.

In August, Comunilife has started its outreach and marketing of the units to 60 organizations. The application can be filed through [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect). The

deadline to file applications are on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and after the lottery process has ended, they will begin signing leases in early of December.

### **Questions & Answers**

**Stefani Zinerman:** There are hundreds of people on the waiting list for affordable apartments, what is your process to eliminate all the people who will apply?

**Michael O’Connell:** We have already received requests for 300 applications and don’t know how many have been submitted online. HPD handles the applications through their lottery process. Comunilife has several employees, we do affordable housing and we have experience in handling the evaluation of the applications.

**Richard Flateau:** Do you get the applications from HPD?

**Michael O’Connell:** The form of application is from HPD and is hosted on their website. We have nothing to do with the applications.

**Derrick McDowell:** What supervision would be given to those who are placed by the hospital and what kind of support services will be provided?

**Dr. Rosa Gill:** We have case managers on the facility, Comunilife has over 1,700 units which are mostly supportive housing. It allows the individuals to live independently. They will still have their medical services at Woodhull Hospital.

**Derrick McDowell:** Will there be security?

**Dr. Rosa Gill:** We will have 24/7 security.

**Reginald Swiney:** Do you have mental health training? Who is handling the construction?

**Dr. Rosa Gill:** No, we don’t.

**Michael O’Connell:** The project is being built by a contractor that was selected through the HPD competitive bidding process.

### **III. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Reginald Swiney**

There have been several events at Hancock Park, on Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, there will be another event in addition to a Halloween event on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp. (BSDC)**

On Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, BSDC will host a “Rent FreezeNYC Housing” event for seniors and people with disabilities. It will be held at the Quincy Senior Center, 625 Quincy Street at 1:30 p.m.

In addition, starting on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, BSDC will offer a free legal clinic for tenants. It will be held at the office at 456D Nostrand Avenue from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

### **III. ROLL CALL**

There were 44 board members present and 6 absent.

### **V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Oma Holloway – Education & Youth**

The committee meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Board office.

#### **Tywan Anthony – Economic Development**

Mr. Anthony informed that there was a presentation by a representative from the Small Business Services. He invited residents to attend the meetings to share their ideas. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Board office.

**Doris Pinn – Housing & Land Use**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., in the Board office. There will be three presentations by developers.

**TJ Wilson – Parks, Arts & Culture**

Ms. Wilson informed that the committee met on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, and will be meeting on the first Wednesday in October. A survey will be sent to residents regarding their concerns about the parks in the community.

**Douglas Williams – Veterans**

The committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Board office at 6:30 p.m.

**Evelyn Collier – Landmarks**

On Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be a hearing regarding the development of a five-story building in the back of 375 Stuyvesant Avenue. The hearing will be held at One Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> floor.

**Gregory Glasgow – Transportation, Sanitation & Environment**

The committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month in the Board office at 6:30 p.m. On the agenda is the construction and bidding of the sanitation garage.

DOT is conducting a survey about transportation issues in the community.

**Babatunde Akowe – By-laws**

The committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month.

**VI. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau**

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session by C. Doris Pinn and seconded by Douglas Williams. Mr. Flateau stated that this will be a voice vote.

**VII. CB3 PERSONNEL REPORT (CLOSED SESSION)**

**VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE 25, 2018 MINUTES**

The minutes was accepted with a unanimous vote.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Beryl Nyack  
Reviewed and edited by:  
Stacey Ruffin, Executive Secretary  
September 30, 2018