



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP.
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Babatunde Akowe, Felicia Alexander, Dr. Kim Best, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle, Taina Evans, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Kimberly Hill, 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, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Kwaku Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Karen Rhau, Stacey Ruffin, Shekera Shehid, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Chinyelu Udoh, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Shanita Wells, Douglas Williams

Members Absent: Tywan Anthony, Danelle Johnson, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Santina Payton, Lydia Temples, Omar Walker, T. J. Wilson

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Hardy "Joe" Long.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the record.

He asked the members of the audience to complete a banking consumer survey by the Community Reinvestment Planning Committee. This committee would like input from the members of the community in order to improve banking services in the community. Representative Manny Burgos was on hand to assist and answer any questions.

In addition, he announced that a memorial tribute will be held for Dr. Sam Pinn on February 24th, at Boys & Girls High School. It will begin at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Flateau reported that Borough President Adams and several other elected officials, clergy, members of Transportation Alternative and Mr. Butler joined the family of Kevin Angel Flores in a prayer vigil. The 14 year old was killed after being struck by a truck at the intersection of Jefferson and Lewis Avenues on January 28th.

He stated that Borough President Adams is proposing tougher penalties for unlicensed drivers and the companies that allow them to operate their vehicles while unlicensed.

On January 30th, he attended a press conference by Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner O'Neal at the 79th Precinct where the Mayor announced the accelerated rollout of the body cameras for patrol officers.

Mr. Flateau added that he attended a Legislative Breakfast with the President and CEO, LaRay Brown of One Brooklyn Health at Medgar Evers College where she outlined the plan for the three hospitals: Interfaith, Kingsbrook Jewish and Brookdale Medical Centers.

He reported that the Bedford Armory which was one of the main items on the agenda at the Borough Board Meeting. Only the elected officials and the community board in which the project is sited were able to vote. They voted to give a letter of support.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Shelton Jones – Kings County District Attorney

Mr. Jones announced that District Attorney Gonzalez will be celebrating Black History Month on February 27th, at St. Francis College. Please RSVP at 718-250-3888. It will be held from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

In addition, he informed that the Manhattan District Attorney, Cyrus Vance recently announced that he will no longer be asking for monetary bail for misdemeanor cases. Brooklyn District Attorney Gonzalez stopped requesting monetary bail for low level cases three months ago.

He also reminded residents to call the Action Center at 718-250-2340 to report any issues.

Darrell Oliver – Hon. Laurie Cumbo

Council Member Cumbo in conjunction with Assembly Member Mosley, Congressman Jeffries and Senator Montgomery will be sponsoring a Senior Valentine's Day Brunch on February 14th. It will be held at 55 Hanson Place from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in attending, please call 718-260-9191.

Shakti Robbins – Hon. Velmanette Montgomery

Ms. Robbins announced that Senator Montgomery will be hosting a workshop, "From Prisons to Pot", Marijuana Legalization and Revisioning of New York State Economy in Albany at the Black Caucus in two weeks. Panelists will be Chris Alexander, Drug Policy Alliance and Montel Williams. It will be held from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. in Meeting Room 1.

Mr. Flateau expressed his condolences to Senator Montgomery on the loss of her mother.

Amanda Robinson – Hon. Tremaine Wright

Ms. Robinson advised residents to call the Assembly Member office with complaints regarding damage to their property from neighboring construction work.

She also had some pamphlets on "Homeowners Guide", "Safety Tips for Seniors" and a "Guide to Senior Services".

Emily Mateo – Hon. Walter Mosley

Ms. Mateo invited everyone to Assembly Member Mosley State of the District. It will be held on February 28th, at St. Joseph College at 6:00 p.m.

She added that the 5th Annual Job Fair was a success and encouraged residents to call the office at 718-596-0100 for additional resources, if they were not able to attend.

Hon Robert Cornegy, Jr.

Council Member Cornegy informed the audience that he is now the Chair of Housing and Buildings Committee.

He added that Stefani Zinerman has gone on to bigger and better things. He introduced his new Chief of Staff, Sarissa Phillips-Singletary and his new Community Liaison, Shawn Francis.

On February 15th, Council Member Cornegy, in conjunction with the 79th Precinct, will be hosting a Senior Valentine's Lunch at Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corp.

Olanike Alabi – 57th Assembly District Leader

Ms. Alabi stated that she will be commencing the Town Hall meetings next month.

Marcus Harris – Hon. Eric Adams

Borough President Adams will be presenting a Black History Celebration on February 28th, at Borough Hall from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Borough President Adams will present a forum for Colon Cancer Awareness on March 1st, at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall. He added that he was diagnosed with colon cancer and emphasized that the rate is extremely high in East New York.

Nicholas Perry – Hon. Scott Stringer

He read excerpts from the Comptroller report on “the Public Cost of Private Bail”. For more information, please call 212-669-3811.

Judge Evelyn La Porte

Judge LaPorte announced that on April 10, 2017, Governor Cuomo signed into law a new legislation that raised the age of criminal responsibility for youth between the ages of 16-17 years old to 18 years. As of October 1, 2018 it will go into effect for youth 16 years old and next year for youth 17 years old. They will no longer be sent to Rikers.

Capt. Lashawn Dyce – 79th Precinct

Capt. Dyce invited everyone to the monthly Precinct Council meeting on February 28th, at Brooklyn Job Corp., 585 Dekalb Avenue. Commissioner O’Neal will be in attendance to answer any questions.

Daniel Fisher – 81st Precinct Community Council

Mr. Fisher introduced P.O. Davis who is replacing P.O. Bland in Community Affairs. He added that the next Council meeting will be held on February 13th, at the Multi-Service Center, 1958 Fulton Street at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Fisher invited everyone to celebrate and honor Det. Jenkins for his 20 years of service. The event will be held at Antioch Baptist Church on February 23rd, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The 81st Precinct Council will present August Wilson’s play “Two Trains Running” on March 3rd, at 5:00 p.m. It will be held at 1958 Fulton Street. Tickets are \$25.00 for the general public and \$20.00 for seniors.

Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp.

Ms. Holloway announced that the Small Business Bootcamp kick-off on January 30th. Fourteen local businesses are participating and getting a lot of valuable technical assistance.

On February 8th, a Free Legal Clinic will be held at Bridge Street Development Corp., 456D Nostrand Avenue, from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

On February 15th, there will be a workshop on “Using Credit Wisely”. It will be held at Santander’s BLC, 1549 Ralph Avenue from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Holloway added that recruitment for MyBase is currently open. This is a 14-week paid internship program for youth 16-24 years old who are out school and out of work.

Marcia McGibbon – Brooklyn Public Library

Ms. McGibbon announced that the Marcy Branch has re-opened. There will be two late nights on Tuesdays: 1:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. The others days are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. She introduced the new Children’s Librarian, Kalliopi Mathios who gave an update on the new programs for children and after school.

LaMeane Isaac – Macon Library

Ms. Isaac announced that on February 20th, in conjunction with Workforce One there will be a recruitment event. It will be held from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Free Tax Prep Help will be offered to anyone who earned \$66,000 or less in 2017. The schedule will be Mondays: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Thursdays: 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Isaac applied for an Artist-in-Residence (AIR) at the library. The residency is for 4-10 weeks. The artist will have to either teach a workshop or use the space to create/improve their art form as well as create a piece for the African American Cultural Center. She encouraged artist to apply. More information can be found on the library website at www.bklynlib.org/AIR

Barbara Bullard – Billie Holiday Theatre

Ms. Bullard stated that the theatre will be presenting “A Small Oak Tree Runs Red” directed by Harry Lennix and written by Lekethia Dalcoe. The play is based on the life of Mary Turner and it will run from February 2 – March 4, 2018. Please visit www.thebillieholiday.org for more information.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Karen Cherry – Hon. Erik Dilan; P.O. Christopher Charles – 79th Precinct; P.O. Artese Davis – 81st Precinct; Candace Simpson – Concord Baptist Church; Wayne Devonish – 500 Men Making a Difference; Stanley Banks – Jazz Musician

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler gave an updated report on the issues with the post offices in the district. He stated that the Brevoort Station is overwhelmed with packages and they had to send it to the Forbell Facility. He is aware that several blocks did not receive mail after the snow storm. The USPS stated that several employees did not report to work. In addition, the Shirley Chisholm Station has an Acting Manager, Ms. Brock.

Mr. Butler stated that the USPS has a program called GIMBA and through this program, they will survey the stations. He has requested that the following zip codes be surveyed through this program 11233, 11216 and 11238. Community Board 4 has requested for 11221 which is the station on Broadway.

The Northeast Director sent an email requesting that all mail must be delivered by 7:00 p.m. Finally, the 11221 station has a new Manager, Ms. Edna Wilson.

Mr. Butler informed the audience that Community District 3 has five sections: 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35. As well as a copy of the district map along with the score card report. Sanitation makes the decision on reducing the alternate side parking based on the scores.

Mr. Butler gave an update on some of the complaints that was received in the office at the following locations:

- Construction at 410 Tompkins Avenue corner of Hancock Street
Work beyond the permitted hours by DOT and constant noise from the cement truck.
There was a meeting with the owner, the site manager and the construction manager along with the block association president to resolve the issue.
- Construction at 580 Jefferson Avenue
DOB inspected the site and it was determined that work was being done without a permit. A “Stop Work Order” was issued.

He stated that he will begin to notify and provide the precinct with information regarding “Stop Work Orders” so that they can address these complaints.

- 529 Monroe Street corner of Lewis Avenue
The building was illegally converted from 14 apartments to 43 single room occupancy (SRO). DOB inspected and violations were issued. The occupants are HRA clients.

He added, that the Department of Homeless Services has entered into a registered contract with Children Community Services (CCS) to operate a commercial hotel program. Under the contract CCS will provide temporary and emergency housing and related social services to families with children and single individuals within 37 hotels. La Quinta at 1229 Atlantic Avenue is one of the locations.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. **Transportation, Sanitation & Environment Committee:**

NYC Department of Sanitation made a presentation on the design of Community District 3 new Sanitation Garage.

Gregory Glasgow, Committee Chair introduced Arlana Davis, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Real Estate for the Department of Sanitation

Commissioner Davis stated that it has been almost two decades since this Board’s been fighting for the construction of this garage at Park and Nostrand Avenues. It is a state of the art garage. The current garage is located in Community District 1 in two lease facilities. She introduced Mike Friedlander, Architect, Department of Sanitation who she stated is an award winning Architect. He designed the State of the art garage on Spring Street in Manhattan. She also introduced her staff.

She acknowledged Nelson Stoute and his persistence to getting the garage and even though he is not here to see it come to fruition, he did see the renderings.

Mr. Friedlander gave a PowerPoint presentation on the design of the building. The building will be environmentally friendly. They added a green rooftop as well. There will be parking garage below the building. The building will have a lot of glass to eliminate the industrial look. There will also be solar panels on the roof.

Questions & Answers

Dr. Kerliene Johnson: What area will this facility be servicing?

Mike Friedlander: It serves Brooklyn 3 only.

Jamella Swift: Please explain how we will benefit from this and can you ensure that the trucks will not be parking on the street and lastly I want to personally guarantee that the residents of Bed-Stuy will be extended jobs for the construction phase.

Commissioner Davis: This garage will service Community District 3. The equipment is already serving this district from Community District 1. They have to travel through local streets to service the district. There will not be any additional trucks stored at this location. This is a personnel and equipment facility not a garbage facility.

The garages that you mentioned in District 8 and 9 is old and antiquated and under sized. One of the reasons we are trying to build new garages is so that the equipment can be stored inside. In addition, there are personnel who work at this facility who do not benefit because they do not have a nice place to shower.

As with any other agency, there is a procurement process.

Gregory Glasgow: What is the anticipated cost?

Mike Friedlander: \$180 million

Vitaly Ganopolsky: Any public bid would require that the project be published in the newspaper. Every contractor will be able to bid on the project whether they are minority contractors or assuming they are not as qualified.

Shia Greenfeld: When was your study done, there are two schools in the vicinity with over 2,000 students. Can the street be widened?

Commissioner Davis: The air, noise and traffic study was done in 2000. The trucks travel south and the schools are on the north

Mike Friedlander: We have pushed the building back from the street by 20 feet.

James Really: Have you conducted a rodent study and how often will the trucks be washed?

Mike Friedlander: Rodents are never an issue, no smell. The mechanical brooms are washed after every use and the trucks are washed every week.

Hardy “Joe” Long: New members don’t know the history behind this project. This process have been ongoing for over 25 years and due to Nelson Stoute fighting for this garage.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Health & Social Service Committee:

Edna Johnson, Committee Chair introduced Dr. Torian Easterling, Assistant Commissioner of Center for Health Equity, Brooklyn Neighborhood Health Action Center for the NYC Department of Health

Dr. Easterling gave a report on the “State of Health in Brooklyn Community District 3” He oversees the neighborhood that have high numbers in infant mortality rates. He gave a PowerPoint presentation. The average life expectancy in Bedford -Stuyvesant is 75.1. The Department of Health (DOH) established the Center for Health Equity in 2014.

In 2015 DOH issued “Take Care New York”. Some of the issue residents felt was a priority was the unmet mental health needs, unmet medical needs and high school graduation. The

number one cause of death is heart disease followed by cancer. DOH also provided a health profile by community district. In terms of mental health Community District 3 ranked number 8 out of the 59 districts. Through the Mental Health First Aid program they have partnered with Interfaith Medical Center to train the staff on dealing with this issue. The sessions are 8 hours and they are given at 485 Throop Avenue. The schedule for the sessions are March 20th, April 24th, and May 21st.

To address substance abuse the City has launched “Healing NYC”, a comprehensive plan to address the opioid crisis.

New clinical services will be provided at the Throop Avenue.

Questions and Answers

Dr. Debra Lamb: District 16 has a large percentage of students that are in shelters, what type of outreach are you offering for them?

Dr. Easterling: We are not doing anything with teens.

Oma Holloway: What is the criteria for someone who wants to co-locate in your space?

Dr. Easterling: We had initially released a Request for Expression of Interest (REI) to organizations. The REI process has ended however, there will be another release in the next fiscal year. The criteria is that the organization have to be aligned with our mission by using a racial justice approach and working in the communities that we are located in.

Kenneth Mbono: Can the organization be for profit?

Dr. Easterling: You can be for profit but you cannot charge a fee for the services.

Tiana Evans: What is your office doing on training for seniors and veterans?

Dr. Easterling: We are looking at a 200 percent increase in training in the district however, we only have two people that is doing the training which is why we need to partner with other groups.

Christopher James: In terms of preventive measures for premature death rates, can you start in middle schools by teaching healthy nutritional practices?

Dr. Easterling: Yes, we have worked with 110 elementary schools in the district around wellness policies by eliminating chocolate milk, eliminating gym, changing the lunch and adding water.

III. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andrea Bernard & Tiffany Goldwire – Delta Alpha Zeta

On March 31st, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. they will be hosting a Community Fundraiser at Brooklyn Beso, 370 Lewis Avenue.

Shaun Onsgard

There is a “Go Fund Me” Campaign for Kevin Flores to help the family with funeral arrangements.

Troy Walcott – Local 3

The workers are on strike against Spectrum Cable. Lawsuit was filed against Spectrum. They are asking for support for a public cable company. Go to www.unplugspectrum.com for more information.

Joanna Bennett – Long Life Unity Food Collective

There is a food co-op in Bed-Stuy which was started by Jitu Weusi. The food co-op doubled your purchasing power, you can buy \$30.00 worth of food for \$15.00. They also accept EBT. The annual membership is \$25.00. If interested, please call 718-772-1951.

Christopher James – Veterans Action Group Buffalo Soldiers of America

Mr. James informed the audience that veterans are committing suicide at a rate of 22 a day. veteransactiongroupbsa@gmail.com or 1-800-9vetact.

IV. ROLL CALL

There were 40 members present and 8 members absent.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

Marion Little – Parks, Arts & Culture

The next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th, in the Board office. In addition, the committee will be hosting a community forum on April 19th, to address various parks issues. It will be held at M.S. 35, 272 MacDonough Street, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Babatunde Akowe – By-Laws

The committee meets the 4th Thursday of every month and at the next meeting he will be discussing three issues: Landmarks as a full committee, notice and succession rules.

Evelyn Collier – Landmarks

Ms. Collier read her report on the LPC application #19-09643 for 329 Stuyvesant Avenue between Macon & MacDonough Streets. The project was presented on January 9, 2018. However, the committee voted to NOT SUPPORT the project.

[Resolution for 329 Stuyvesant Avenue](#) (PDF Format)

Motion to accept the Landmarks Committee recommendation was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Mary Jemison Head.

VI. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau

- **Motion for Executive Session to discuss certain board members attendance**

Motion to move the meeting into an Executive Session was made by Edna Johnson and seconded by Gregory Glasgow. The public was asked to leave the room.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack and Stacey Ruffin
March 2, 2018