

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Health and Social Services Committee Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2023
Meeting ID: 8853 9905 4717

Attendance (Board Member): Francisca Leopold (Committee Chair), Paul Pesach, Doienne Saab

Attendance (Community Residents): Pesach Alpert; Nomalizwe Byndon; Nyasha Carmichael; Enid Dillard; Yosef Hershkop; Menachem Schonbuch

Absent (Board Members): Beverly Newsome

Absent (Community Residents) None

Guests: Shauni Audain LiveOnNY; LaRay Brown, One Brooklyn Health; Debra Fouchong; Sandra Roberson

CB9 Staff: Mia N. Hilton, Asst. District Manager

I. Welcome/Introduction:

a. *Francisca Leopold* opened the meeting with an introduction of committee members. Members introduced themselves at the start of the meeting.

II. Presentation, One Brooklyn Health

- a.** *LaRay Brown* presented the transformation plan for the Kingsborough Medical campus. This project will entail the construction of new buildings.
- b.** The transformation plan entails updates to current health care services such as: pediatric care for special needs for children, long-term nursing care for young adult and adult services, a new outpatient medical village (20,000 sq ft project), a NYS Housing 400 units of affordable housing development (to include 10,000 sq ft of health care space to include community space, grocery store), infusion center (location TBD).
- c.** The campus will shift its focus to outpatient, ambulatory, and long-term services and no longer admit patients to their emergency department, inpatient, psychiatric and hyperbaric chamber, and ambulatory surgery centers.
- d.** Individuals who need to be admitted to hospitals continue to be transferred to Brooklyn One system and other area hospitals, such as Interfaith and Brookdale Hospitals. These ceases of services were communicated to area hospitals, who have confirmed the capacity to serve patients no longer being served by prior provided services at Kingsborough. The medical campus will continue the operation of ancillary services e.g., pharmaceuticals, dialysis via outpatient.

Unionized staff are being matched to vacancies within the health care center and at other One Brooklyn Health sites.

- i. Community Board members asked questions about the number of psychiatric beds; Why there was not a burn center in Brooklyn; If there were behavioral health and harm reduction services.

III. **Announcements**

- a. Diane Smith shared the announcement of a Senior Appreciation Day on Nov 3rd, which will have a healthy food demonstration, distribute produce, and older adult activities. Flyer to be shared with CB9.
- b. Pesach Alpert shared that he would like to partner with Humana to host an educational event for CB9 older adults to learn about Medicare enrollment.
- c. LaRay Brown shared an interest in hosting forums on Medicare in terms of changes to emergency policies, and other robust health care concerns impacting older adults. LaRay's contact information is 718-613-4001.
- d. Shani Audain from LiveOnNY shared that adding a session on end-of-life planning to programming for older adults would be beneficial to population.
- e. Saundra Roberson of Organization of Public Services Retiree, shared that public service retirees are advocating to keep their traditional Medicaid benefits which is currently being to a Medicaid Advantage plan. Under this new plan retirees are finding this new insurer to be disruptive to current services and are experiencing cuts to life saving procedures and an increase in taxpayer costs. Saundra is asking for this subcommittee to support the drafted resolution to pass legislation so that retirees can hold on to their traditional Medicaid. Francisca asked Saundra to send the resolution to the board to bring it to the Executive Committee
- f. There will be a breast health panel will be hosted on Oct 25th hosted by One Brooklyn Health

IV. **Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm