

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, March 21, 2012
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center
195 Linden Street (corner of Wilson Avenue)
Brooklyn, New York 11221
6:00PM

-Public Hearing Items-

- 1) The City of New York – Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) Application # 182-11-BZ. CERQ No. 12 BSA 044K – Planet Fitness, Presentation by Mr. Joshua Rinesmith from Sheldon Lobel, P.C.

The application seeks a special permit to allow operation of a fitness center at the property located on the south east corner of Broadway and Sumner Place across the street from Woodhull Hospital Center at 777 Broadway, Brooklyn, New York.

The reason for the application is because all fitness centers and martial art studios fall under the definition of physical culture establishments (PCE). The only way to operate a Physical Culture Establishment in New York City is to obtain this special permit from the BSA.

The proposed fitness center will be located on a portion of the ground floor, 2nd & 3rd floor of the building and it has a total of 18,700 sq. feet. The area will consist of the first floor having (2,000 sq ft.), second floor (10,000 sq ft.), and third floor (6,700 sq ft.). The first floor will contain a reception and lounge area as well as locker rooms and weight lifting equipment. The second and third floor will be dedicated to cardiovascular equipment.

Planet Fitness offers inexpensive membership for \$10.00 per month and the fitness center's staff is hired almost entirely from within the immediate community. The Center is open 24 hours 7 days a week, allowing workers and others to go the center before or after work. There are approximately 16 security cameras installed throughout the fitness center's public spaces.

Questions were entertained:

The entrance to the center will be located next to the Rainbow Clothing Store and should open in the mid to late April 2012.

Regarding security the Planet Fitness staff is trained to deal with any issues that might arise. There are security cameras throughout the public areas to monitor what is going on. The Center is scheduled to open April 17. Membership is \$10.00 per month with no contract or commitment required. The \$10.00 fee is only good for the center in which you sign up at. There is an addition fee to have access to other Planet Fitness Centers.

The center does not have enough space to hold for example aerobic classes; however a fitness trainer is available to show a few members at a time how to use the exercising equipment properly.

Planet Fitness hires staff members from the community. The name and contact information for Planet Fitness's Regional Hiring Coordinator is: Peter Caladrino at pjc024@yahoo.com. Please send resumes to his attention.

Planet Fitness has a ten (10) year term agreement, after the ten (10) years they will have to come back to the Community Board and the Board of Standards a& Appeals to renew.

Ms. Brown elaborated on some of the questions that were asked by the audience by stating that this Planet Fitness Center will have certified fitness instructors employed at the facility, they will have full showers and lockers on the 2nd floor. Another Planet Fitness Center is scheduled to open on Wyckoff and Myrtle Avenues by the end of this year, anyone that is interested in employment at that location can also send their resume to the Regional Hiring Coordinator.

- 2) The City of New York Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention & Control. A slide presentation by Mr. Christobal Jacques, HIV Prevention Specialist responsible for Brooklyn

HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

The NYC Department of Mental Hygiene Bureau of HIV Prevention & Controls seeks to lower mortality and immortality for those who have the HIV virus and AIDS; this means that they try to prevent infections and death/premature death. How do they do that? By trying to understand the epidemic and they try to practice primary prevention, secondary prevention, etc., they conduct marketing campaigns; encourage HIV testing, condom use and needle exchange, etc.

Every 9 ½ minutes someone in the United States is infected with HIV. In NYC the latest data stated that 3,481 HIV diagnoses were counted in 2010. Since the year 2000, there have been steady counts of approximately 4,000 HIV diagnoses occurring every year. 759 of those people found out that they had HIV at the same time that they received a diagnosis of AIDS. That means that the person had the HIV virus for a long time, it takes at least 10-12 years for a person to develop AIDS. This also means that the person did not get tested within that time.

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene know of 110,736 people living in NYC with HIV. It is estimated that in NYC there are another 40 - 50,000 people that are HIV positive and do not know it. In 2010 1,695 persons died of HIV in New York City.

In Brooklyn there are 27,087 people living with HIV, with 71% being male and 29% female. There were 904 new diagnoses of HIV in 2010. This number has basically been the same for the last 4-5 years. Mr. Jacques stated that 78% of the new diagnoses have been found among Blacks and Hispanics, and this epidemic has come to rest in communities of color. 16% of Brooklyn Residence who first learned that they had HIV also had developed AIDS. The problem is that people are not getting tested early and they are not getting care early.

Williamsburg/Bushwick as the Dept. of Health has Bushwick listed has the 3rd highest rate of HIV, with Bedford Stuyvesant as #1, Crown Heights as #2, East New York as #4, and East Flatbush as #5. However, Bedford Stuyvesant and Crown Heights is a geographic area that is four times the size of Williamsburg/Bushwick, so actually the epidemic is worse in Williamsburg/Bushwick than in those other places.

The other problem is co-infections. Co-infection is when someone has HIV and Hepatitis C. 25% of the people with HIV are co-infected with Hepatitis C. Both Hepatitis C and the HIV virus can be caught by injecting an infected needle during drug use. Treating someone with both conditions is very difficult. Hepatitis C is much easily transmitted sexually when someone is HIV positive.

Brooklyn Knows:

Brooklyn Knows is a large-scale public health initiative to increase voluntary HIV testing so that every Brooklyn resident learns his or her HIV status and has access to quality care and prevention. Brooklyn Knows is a social marketing campaign.

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene estimates that there are a half of a million (500,000) people in Brooklyn that have never been tested for HIV and that are sexually active. They would like to test all of them within the next 4 years by performing one or all of the following:

- Social Marketing
- Media
- National HIV/AIDS Awareness Events: National Counseling and Testing Day on June 27, 2012), World's AIDS Day
- Workshop with Initiative Partners: Community Health Centers, Community Based Organizations, Hospitals (with separate training workshops for each one)
- Station Domination: The take over of a subway stations for one month

Questions were entertained:

The Dept. Of Health performs rapid testing, where you can get results in 20 minutes by using an oral swab.

The problem is not where HIV came from, the fact is HIV is an epidemic and it has come to rest in this country and in our community and we have to address the problem stated Mr. Jacques in his response to Rev. Matthew Rae's statement regarding AIDS coming to the United States from other countries.

Ms. Brown stated the information about AIDS/HIV is being reached out to the Public High School she asked Mr. Jacques if they should go as far as the Intermediate Schools.

Mr. Jacques stated that of cause they should go into Intermediate Schools because by the time kids get to High School sex has already happened. However he stated that we live in a very complicated bureaucracy. They are not allowed in the Elementary Schools, nor are they allowed in the Grammar Schools, and they are barely allowed in High Schools. They are not even allowed in Riker's Island and Riker's Island has 15% zero prevalence, meaning that 15% of the inmates in Riker's Island are HIV positive stated Mr. Jacques.

The District Manager thanked Mr. Jacques for his extremely informative information. The Health, Hospitals and Human Services Committee under the Chairperson Ms. Mary McClellan asked Mr. Jacques to come to the board meeting to give a presentation. Hearing his presentation was the first phrase. The second phrase will be testing and education. Community Board #4 working with our Health Care providers and everybody else who is willing to join us would like to host a testing day as a service to the community stated the District Manager.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent closed the public hearing portion of the meeting and opened the regular monthly board meeting at 7:12PM.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent asked the District Manager, Ms. Nadine Whitted to call the first roll call.

Roll Call: 28 members present constituting a quorum.

Chairperson's Report:

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. The agenda was accepted by Ms. Martha Brown and second by Ms. Elvena Davis. All board members present were in favor.

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the previous month's minutes. The previous month's minutes was accepted by Ms. Saundria Simmons and second by Ms. Barbara Smith. All board members present were in favor.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent welcomed and thanked everyone in attendance to the Community Board #4's March 21, 2012 meeting. As the second day of the Spring Season Ms. Dent said Happy Spring and asked that they all continue to work towards the betterment of their beloved Bushwick Community.

Ms. Dent asked that the Elected Officials and/or their representatives introduce themselves and state their respective addresses and telephone numbers.

1) Yamilka Mena Representing Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 2nd Floor, 718-963-3141

Representatives from City, State or Federal Agencies:

- 1) Zulma Novoa – NYC Dept. Of Health & Mental Hygiene, 485 Throop Avenue, 646-253-5855
- 2) Magdalena Mangual - Wyckoff Heights Hospital Medical Center, Positive Health Management Program 718-508-4669
- 3) Judy Kamilhor – Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, 718-230-2014
- 4) Bill Fitchett, FDNY Battalion Chief – Battalion 28, 392 Himrod Street, 718-965-8328

Representatives from Community Based Organizations:

- 1) Maggie Cheney – EcoStation NY, 130 Palmetto Street, 646-393-9305
- 2) Isonia Ricks – Ace Integration, Broadway & Woodbine – 347-671-2199
- 3) Rosemary Oquendo – Bushwick Impact @ Grand Street Settlement, 718-418-1724
- 4) Roman Woodson – Opportunity for a Better Tomorrow (OBT), 280 Wyckoff Avenue, 718-381-3222

These formal introductions are made in an effort to acquaint the public with those who may be able to assist and help with any type of problem or concern one may be facing. Additionally, by these introductions each agency representative has the opportunity to know one another.

Update on the move: Dr. Benjamin Igwe could not attend tonight's meeting due to an emergency, however he notified the District Manager that the Department of Buildings and Family Services Network of New York (FSNNY) are nearing completion with a few items left to be cleared.

The District Manager contacted the Department of Buildings and she should have more information within the next two weeks regarding the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy and a moving date.

The NYC Department of Education will be holding a Joint Public Hearing and Educational Impact Statement on the Proposed Closure of the Bushwick Community High School and the Proposed Opening Co-location of the New School with the Roland Hayes Junior High School (I.S. 291)

This is a proposal to close Bushwick Community High School at the end of the 2011-2012 school year. If approved, the school would close at the end of this school year and all current non-graduating Bushwick Community HS students would be guaranteed a seat at the New School that is opening in the same building for the 2012-2013 school year.

The date for the meeting is April 18, 2012 at 6:00PM at the Bushwick Community High School 231 Palmetto Street, Brooklyn, New York 11221. Sign up for public comment will begin at 6:30PM and will close 15 minutes following the start of the hearing.

The Summer Youth Employment Program for 2012 applications should become available during the month of April. To qualify for SYEP:

- You must be at least 14 - 24 years of age. You can not be over the age of 24 by July 5, 2012
- You must be a permanent resident of NYC (5 boroughs)
- You must submit an application online or in person to an authorized SYEP provider
- If selected you will need to provide further documentation to verify the information on your application (Birth record, Social Security, Proof of Income, working papers for ages 14-17)

You can apply two ways:

1. Visit www.nyc.gov/dycd and complete the online application
2. Download and print a copy of the application, complete and return it to a community based SYEP authorized provider. The local provider for the SYEP is the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council Inc. located at 1474 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11237, 718-381-9653 ext. 119

The Chairperson enclosed a resolution concerning cuts to child care and after school problems to her report. She stated that the information is crucial to many families in the community. She asked that the Community Board go on record in support of the resolution which will be forwarded to Mayor Bloomberg and to the local Elected Officials. The Chairperson read the resolution; afterwards she asked that everyone contact their Elected Officials.

The Pioneers of Bushwick (POB) photographic exhibit by Darryl-Ann Saunders, Exhibit dates: February 24 through April 27, 2012 at the Diana Jones Senior Citizens Center, 9 Noll Street (corner of Bushwick)

Election of Officers: According to the By-laws, an Ad-hoc-nomination committee must be selected from members who are not interested in running for an executive office. The Nomination Committee will be charged with compiling a slate of members who are eligible to run for office.

Nomination Committee

- Barbara Smith
- Raul Rubio
- Mary McClellan
- Saundria Simmons
- Elvena Davis

District Manager's Report:

Meetings Attended

February 16, 2012 –

Attended a meeting sponsored by the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Inc., Housing Office with the residents of the Rheingold Housing Development located on Bushwick Avenue, Forrest Street, Noll Street and

Beaver Street. Also in attendance were Assemblyman Vito Lopez and the NYPD 83rd Precinct. The purpose of the meeting was to bring to the city's attention how pedestrian safety is a major issue. Particular locations discussed were Bushwick Avenue/Beaver Street, Bushwick Avenue/Arion Place, and Bushwick Avenue/Noll Street. Many senior citizens residents have voiced concern that Bushwick Avenue like Manhattan should have count down crossing mechanism which would display how much time is allocated before the crossing signal changes. There are many hearing impaired families in the units within the development and it is crucial that signs be installed at those locations to indicate crossing for those residents.

Other specific items that were requested:

1. Noll Street/Bushwick Avenue signal and crosswalk
2. At 87 Melrose Street – a request for a Stop Sign
3. Forest Street/Bushwick Avenue – a sign indicating (wrong way)
4. Melrose Street/Bushwick – request a Speed Hump

NYPD's 83rd Precinct Highway Safety Officer PO Cuebells stated that Bushwick Avenue is Bushwick's "Queens Blvd" in terms of traffic, it is imperative that the cross-walks are redone and the traffic light are in sequence.

February 23, 2012 –

Attended the Pioneers of Bushwick – Portrait Unveiling

Borough President Markowitz held the Black History Month Celebration at Brooklyn Borough Hall

February 27, 2012 –

The Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes – Update meeting on Prostitution and Crime

Also in attendance were NYC Council Member Reyna and Department of Transportation Commissioner Joe Palmeri. The Borough Commissioner stated that increased lights along the Broadway Corridor have been approved for the summer.

The Honorable Charles Hynes stated that a very successful Gun Buy Back took place where 182 guns were turned in. Even though this occurred in a neighboring district he noted that they are working to have a place in Bushwick so that people will not have to travel out of the district to turn in their guns. He noted that the NYC Council is trying to get the NYPD to waive the overtime for the Police Officers assigned to work at those events.

The DA also mentioned that the John School Program is successful working and those Johns that are arrested for prostitution has to pay a fine of \$350.00 and attend a 5 hour course.

He noted that in Bushwick 31 search warrants were issued.

February 28, 2012 –

Attended the Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting

February 29, 2012 –

Attended the United States Postal Service Customer Advisory Council Meeting

Topics discussed:

1. Closing of their Central Processing Unit due to contractual obligation
2. Recent Area Mailing Processing (AMP) Study: Queens and Staten Island AMP will be closing. This information translate to Brooklyn's mail will be processed in Queens for incoming mail. The Morgan Facility located in Manhattan will process Brooklyn's outgoing mail. 1st Class letter and Periodicals will most probably take an extra day to get to its destination.

These changes may take affect as early as this summer.

March 6, 2012 –

Attended the 83rd Precinct Community Council Meeting

March 7, 2012 –

Attended Community Board #4 Executive Meeting

March 8, 2012 –

Attended the Civic and Religious Committee Meeting

Other Issues:

Milling and Paving - NYC Department of Design & Construction: The schedule consists of shaving away of 2” of roadbed, and then 15 days after that is done the NYC Department of Transportation will schedule the paving and any other work that is required. The work is expected to be completed by the end of April 2012.

- Willoughby Avenue between Broadway and Cypress Avenues
- Stanhope Street between Bushwick and Cypress Avenues
- Harman Street between Bushwick and Wyckoff Avenues
- Madison Street between Broadway and Ridgewood Place

Project Safe Surrender - Friday and Saturday, April 6 & 7 at the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church located at 212 Tompkins Avenue (corner of DeKalb Avenue) at 9am to 3pm. This is an opportunity to resolve outstanding summons and warrants such as:

- Unlawful possession of Alcohol for those under 21 of age
- Unlawful possession of Hand Cuffs
- Littering
- Riding a bicycle on the sidewalk
- Unlawful possession of Marijuana
- Making Unreasonable Noise
- Animal Nuisance, Unleashed Dog
- Spitting
- Trespassing
- Etc...

These outstanding summonses and warrants can affect ones opportunity to obtain employment. This is an opportunity to clear these matters up. For more information call 718-250-3888 or visit www.projectsafesurrender2011.org.

Committee Reports

Civic & Religious Committee (CRC): Ms. Elvena Davis, Committee Chairperson, Thursday, March 8, 2012, 6PM
Location: New Jerusalem United Methodist Church, 484 Knickerbocker Avenue

Members Attended: Elvena Davis, Avellar Hansley, Rev. Grace Aytes

Others in Attendance: District Manager Nadine Whitted, PO Damarys Franco, Anita Haines

Items Discussed:

The 7th Annual Bushwick 2012 Parade’s theme: “BUSHWICK STOMPS OUT BULLYING”

- 1) New Route: Beginning at Heckscher’s Playground
Linden Street / Wilson Avenue to Irving Avenue
Irving Avenue to Putnam Avenue
Putnam Avenue to Bushwick Avenue
Bushwick Avenue to Gates Avenue
Gates Avenue to Knickerbocker Avenue
Knickerbocker Avenue to Menahan Street
 - 2) Instead of a DJ the committee decided to have CD’s playing for music
 - 3) A Marching Band is needed - the following schools will be contacted: IS 383, PS 274, IS 347/349 and Achievement First @ 383
 - 4) Planned Activities: NYPD – Youth Services, 50 ft. wall climbing, coloring books, etc. They would like to have steppers and double-dutch activities.
 - 5) Other Participants: FDNY Explorers, 83rd Pct. Explorers, Auxiliary Officers
 - 6) As in the past the Bogopa Corporation has been the sponsor of the Barbeque
- The next meeting will be April 12, 2012 at 315 Wyckoff Avenue, 6PM

Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU): Ms. Martha Brown, Chairperson, Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 6PM

Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue, 2nd Floor

Members Attended: Martha Brown, Cyril Joseph, Gladys Puglla, Freddy Fowler, Anne Guiney, William Harris, Victoria Fernandez

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted (District Manager), Joshua Rinesmith, Esq., Sheldon Lobel, P.C. Counsel for Planet Fitness Centers

Items Discussed:

Planet Fitness – 777 Broadway, Brooklyn, New York: Seeking a variance regarding BSA approval for 182-11-BZ/CEQR 12 BSA044 K

(See Public Hearing Item #1)

Parks & Recreation Committee (PRC): Mr. Robert Camacho, Committee Chairperson, March 12, 2012, 6PM

Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue, 2nd floor

Member Attended: Lucy Belardo, Cirilo Nunez

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, PO D. Franco, Eddie Vargas-NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Robert Colon-BQ Sports Center, Enrique Garcia-Real Guadalupe, Eva DeJesus-Eva's Sports, Robert Cerver-Quebradillas

Items Discussed:

- 1) Parade Date / Cost: The date for the leagues and organizations including soccer will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at 12:30PM. All organizations must share the cost of both the permit fee and any additional costs. The NYPD's legal department now charges for the number of people involved in the parade.
- 2) Park Usage: There will be not playing in Hope Park on Saturday, May 12, 2012
Each organization must submit the following:
 - Roster –Children 12 years and younger with proof of residency
 - Incorporation or 501 ©
 - Insurance
 - Each organization must keep the park clean and free of liter
- 3) Responsibilities of organizations/leagues
 - Permits must be with you during playing times and available to be shown if asked
 - Maintaining park and keep it liter free
 - Should there be any problems you must notify NYPD
 - No vendors on NYC Department of Parks & Recreation Property including sidewalks
- 4) NYC Dept. Of Parks & Recreation – NYPD and Community Board #4 discussed the problems association with the Andres Gomez Soccer League
- 5) Next PRC meeting will be held on March 29, 2012 at which time the organization must submit all required paperwork

The Chairperson welcomed and thanked the following NYPD Officers for attending the meeting representing the 83rd Pct.:

PO Fox, PO Reyes and PO Maraa

The Chairperson congratulated Board Member Brenda Lee Tramble-Johnson on her recent marriage that took place earlier in the month.

Public Safety Committee (PSC): Ms. Barbara Smith, Committee Chairperson, Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 6:00PM

Location: 83rd Pct., 480 Knickerbocker Avenue

Members Attended: Barbara Smith, Rev. Grace Aytes, Avellar Hansley, Linda Mckinley, Mary McClellan, Victoria Fernandez, Elvena Davis, Gladys Puglla, Freddy Fowler

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, PO Franco (83rd Precinct), DI Tasso-Community Affairs Officer Commanding Officer of the 83rd Pct., Nikki Koch, Julia Huffman, Marco Tenezaca, Pedro Almomte, Jairo Crisostamo, Esmeralda Valencia

Item Discussed:

Request for NYS Liquor Authority Licenses

- 1) Baby Corba Coalition LLC., 6 Wyckoff Avenue – Approved
- 2) Esmeralda's Restaurant, 1497 Myrtle Avenue – Approved
- 3) Rinconsito Inverto Corp, 145 Central Avenue – Approved

- 4) Balcon Quiteno Inc., 334 Menahan Street – On Hold until after April 12, 2012 when the applicant will be invited again to the Public Safety Committee Meeting
- 5) Max Eagle Food Corp, 388 Central Avenue – Approved

Recommendations:

1) Ms. Martha Brown asked that Agenda Item #1 –Planet Fitness, City of New York Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) BSA Application 182-11 CERQ No. 12 BSA 044K be approved by CB#4
Motion to accept was made by Mr. Cyril Joseph and second by Mr. Robert Camacho. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

2) The District Manager stated that Ms. Dent asked for support and endorsement in her report regarding “Campaign for Children”, a partnership of The Emergency Coalition to Save Child Care and the NYC Youth Alliance.
Asking that CB#4 endorse the campaign and call on Mayor Bloomberg to take the steps necessary to support the child care and after-school systems in his Executive Budget by restoring \$104 million to the Administration for Children’s Services for child care and \$66 million to the Department of Youth and Community Development for after school programs.

Ms. Martha Brown motioned to accept the resolution requesting that monies be restored to the budget. The motion was second by Mr. Raul Rubio. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

3) Ms. Nadine Whitted asked for a recommendation to accept the PRC report as read. Ms. Mary McClellan made a motion to accept the Parks & Recreation Committee report a read. The Motion was second by Gladys Puglla. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

4) Ms. Nadine Whitted asked for a recommendation to accept the PSC report as read. The motion was made by Ms. Elvena Davis and second by Ms. Joann Grant. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Ms. Whitted asked the board members to fill out and return a housing survey that was developed by the Housing and Land Use Committee dealing with rezoning.

Announcements:

The Bushwick Community Partnership Presents Foster parent Information Event - Helping Build Your Community & Learn how to become a foster parent, Monday, April 23, 2012, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, 347 Stockholm Street, 5th Floor conference room (A,B and C) 6pm-8pm
Speak with foster parents and find out how to join the network of resource parents. Light refreshment and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to Andre Lucy @ 718-237-9865 to confirm your attendance

Parents!!! Do you need child care? Enrollment Saturday, April 7, 2012 Place: Miniature Golf course on Broadway and Cornelia Time: 10am-12pm for more information contact Cynthia Velez @ 347-210-6150 or Maira Hodge @ 718-443-2577

Brooklyn Public Library: Authors and Artists Join us for a fun afternoon of reading and art making! Saturday, March 10 at 1pm-2:30pm and Saturday, April 21, 1pm-2:30pm
Bushwick Public Library, 340 Bushwick Avenue @ Seigel Street, for questions call Jason Andrew at 646-361-8512

Monies are also need to support the Brooklyn Public Libraries; any money that you can give to support will be appreciated.

Rosemary Oquendo – Bushwick Impact @ Grand Street Settlement Bushwick Child & Family Center:
Empowering Parents to maximize their Children’s Potential – Join us on Thursday for:

- Information and referrals to services throughout the community 9:30am-3pm
- Mother’s support group: 10am-12pm March 15th and 29th
- Read Aloud: for parents with babies and toddlers: 10am-12pm, March 8th and 22nd

For more information call 718-418-1724 or email: info@bushwickimpact.org

Veronica: Update on Mr. Odolph Wright's Affair: "A Black Tie Affair": Saturday, April 14, 2012 for the First Pastoral Anniversary Banquet of Pastor Odolph Wright. For more information please contact Trenise Wright at 718-825-4672

Register at jubilee.2012@yahoo.com Donations will also be accepted

Help make a Positive Impact in Bushwick! New Community Advisory Board Forming for local food & ecology nonprofit: EcoStation NY the local nonprofit organization behind Bushwick Farmers' Market and Bushwick Campus Farm, is seeking community-minded individuals interested in taking an active role in shaping our policies and guiding our activities. The board will also be a resource for EcoStation, contributing their opinions, skills, and expertise; members serve as our eyes and ears in the community. Please respond by April 1st. For more information about EcoStation see the website at: www.EcoStationNY.org for more information on the program email: Sean@EcoStationNY.org for an application or call 646-393-9305

Eat to Give: Thursday, March 29, 2012 – Community minded restaurants will be donating a portion of their proceeds to Bushwick Campus Farm & Greenhouse. Call 646-393-9303 for participating restaurants.

Free or low-cost Health Insurance for you and your family:

Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Family Health Plus, Recertification for the mentioned programs

Please call or visit to see if you qualify.

Brooklyn: 217 Havemayer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211, 718-963-4430 ext. 4501 or 4438

Queens: 91-31 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst, NY 11373, 718-275-0983 ext 4011

No more Worry, No more waiting, "Project Safe Surrender", Friday, April 6, 2012 and Saturday, April 7, 2012 between 9am-3pm

Clergy, Pastors, Lay members and defense attorneys will be available to help you resolve outstanding summons and warrants. Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, 212 Tompkins Avenue & Dekalb Avenue, 718-388-3900

Favorable consideration will be given to those who participate

The Fresh Air Fund: Free summer vacation for your children!!! You can sign up for camp or friendly town at one of 90 community agencies participating in Fresh Air Fund Programs. To find the nearest agency in your neighborhood, call Cynthia Velez at 347-210-6150

Also in attendance at the meeting were:

- Sam Goldman – Ridgewood Times – 718-821-7500

FDNY: The New York City Fire Department stresses the importance of fire safety and fire prevention. The FDNY wants you to become part of our Fire Safety Team, keeping you and your family fire safe weather you are at home, work or school. Remember to:

- Install smoke detectors
- Have a home fire escape plan
- Home safety inspection

2nd Roll Call: Meeting adjourned 8:45PM