

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – NOVEMBER 25, 2014

Attendance

David Alexander

Carolyn A. Benjamin-Smith

Margaret Brewer (E)

Rev. Mark Broomes (A)

Lamont Carolina (A)

Adrainer Coleman

Christopher Durosinmi (A)

Norman Frazier

Daniel Goodine

Rose Graham (A)

Chanel Haliburton

Sarah Hall

Jessie Hilliard

Michael Howard

Allene Ingram (A)

Min. Prince Issachar (A)

Daisy Jackson

Minyarn Johnson (A)

Carl Joseph (E)

Derrick Joseph (A)

Pamela Junior (E)

Eula Key

Bettie Kollock-Wallace

Charles Ladson, Sr.

Quardean Lewis-Allen

Albion Liburd (E)

Deborah Mack (A)

James Mack

Yolanda Matthews

John McCadney, Jr.

Leslie McCalla (A)

Andrea McCullough

Genese Morgan

Blanche L. Peltonbusch

Marie Pierre

Rev. Devon Ponds (A)

Mattie Pusey (E)

Linda Rivera

Melaine Rochford (A)

Wendy Rutherford (E)

Beatrice Saunds (A)

Evang. Hellen Thomas-Purdie (A)

Celina Trowell (E)

Ernestine Turner

Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu

Yvette Williams-Lawson (A)

Patricia Winston

Sylvester Yavana

Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager

Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant

Hon. Latrice M. Walker

Charles Jackson for Hon. Yvette Clarke

Richard Nelson for Hon. Jesse Hamilton, III

Brian MClaurin for Hon. Leitia James

Ieshia Williford for Hon. Darlene Mealy

Shelton Jones for Hon. Kenneth Thompson

Malcolm McDaniel for Hon. Eric Adams

MEETING HELD AT BROWNSVILLE MULTI-SERVICE CENTER, 444 THOMAS S. BOYLAND STREET, BROOKLYN

Chairperson Bettie Kollock-Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and an invocation was said Mr. John McCadney, Jr..

There was a roll call of the Board members and a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Ms. Pamela Junior and carried to waive the reading of the minutes.

District Manager Greene-Walker reported The New York City Human Resources Administration's Office of Child Support Enforcement is offering financial assistance to persons who owe at least \$1,000 in Child Support Debt.

If you pay a minimum of \$1,000 toward your New York City Department of Social Services (DSS) Child Support government debt, the agency will match your payment and reduce your arrears if you have debt permanently owed to NYC/DSS, up to the amount owed to the government.

To pay, go to the HRA/OCSE Customer Service Walk-In Center, located at 151 West Broadway in Manhattan. This offer is available until December 31, 2014.

Catholic Charities Fatherhood Man-up Program, located at 440 Watkins Street, is encouraging fathers, ages 16 to 24, partake in their services which include Parenting Courses, Conflict

Resolution workshops, Job Readiness workshops, and Independent Living Skills workshops to reconnect and strengthen their parental bond with their children.

Their hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The City's Housing Maintenance Code and the State Multiple Dwelling Law requires building owners to provide heat and hot water to all tenants. Building owners are required to provide hot water 365 days per year at a constant minimum temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Between October 1st and May 31st. Building owners are also required to provide tenants with heat under the following conditions;

- Between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., if the temperature outside falls below 40 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

Tenants who are cold in their apartments should first attempt to notify the building owner, managing agent or superintendent. If heat is not restored, the tenant should call the City's Customer Service Center at 311. You may also file a complaint the Community Board's office.

Brooklyn Woods is now recruiting for their next cycle of the Woodworking Training Program which will run from January 14th, 2015 through March 6th, 2015.

This free 7-weeks, full time training course meets Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Trainees learn:

- The proper use of power tools and woodworking machinery.
- Shop math and measurement.
- Comprehensive safety training including a 10-hour OSHA course.

To participate, candidates must be 21 years or older, a resident of New York City; and eligible to work in the United States.

For more information about the program, you may call Toby Gardner, Program Coordinator at (718) 389-3636 Ext. 12.

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) will host a Yellow Taxi Drive Job Fair on Thursday, December 4, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott, located at 333 Adams Street, Brooklyn.

You will be able to meet with taxi fleet owners, agents, industry groups and financing organizations. You may also apply for your TLC license at the fair.

Candidates must be at least 19 years old, 24 is preferred. Interested persons should bring their driver's license and social security card, and be prepared to pay a TLC license fees of \$185. Bring your credit or debit card.

To rsvp, visit <http://tlcdriverfair.eventbrite.com> to sign up to attend. For more information, visit the website at nyc.gov/tlc.

The Pitkin Avenue BID, in collaboration with Rainbow Adult Social Day Care, Shoppers World, Brownsville Partnership, Brownsville Community Justice Center, NYPD, and the FDNY, invites the community to join them as they celebrate the BID's Annual Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 4, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at Zion Triangle, located at Pitkin Avenue and Legion Street.

The report continues with a list of various grants that are available and concludes with a list of complaints received by the Community Board's office during the month.

A motion was made Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Eula Key and carried to accept the District Manager's Report.

Chairperson Bettie Kollock-Wallace called forward Mr. Andrew Inglesby, Assistant Director for Government Affairs at New York City Transit.

Mr. Inglesby stated that, beginning next year, safety renewal work will be taking place along the IRT # 3 New Lots Line— four of the stations are located within Community District #16 and 3 are located in Community District #5. In District #16, the stations are Sutter Avenue, Saratoga Avenue, Rockaway Avenue, and Junius Street.

At this time, the contract has not yet been awarded. They expect that it will be awarded by the end of this year. However, they wanted to make the community aware of the work that will take place and of the service diversions that will be necessitated by the work, well in advance of the work. They will also gladly return to the Community Board to update the community as work progresses on the project.

Photos of the stations in their current condition were displayed; along with schematics of what they will look like after the renovations. The work will involve the mezzanine and platform levels as well as the staircases. Work on the mezzanines will consist of mostly replacing the concrete. On the platform levels, they will replace the platforms as well as the windscreens. Whenever they do extensive station rehabs, one percent of the work is art work. For this project, the art work will be metal work incorporated in the windscreens. (Photographs of similar work done at the Whitlock Avenue station (IRT #6 Line) was displayed.)

The project is expected to last twenty-eight months with service diversions to start in June 2015. Phase I will close the Rockaway Avenue and Van Siclen Avenue stations for five months in both directions. During the rehab project, free shuttle buses will provide service to the closed stations. Phase II will close the Saratoga Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue stations from approximately November 2015 through approximately April 2016. Phase II will see the closing of the Sutter Avenue and Junius Street stations beginning April or May of 2016. The entire project is slated to be completed by the spring of 2017.

Mr. John McCadney stated that during the budget process, Community Board #16 requested that stations in the community be made accessible – especially the Junius Street and Rockaway Avenue stations which are in proximity to several senior citizen centers and residences. He has seen some of the art work that have been installed at some stations and thinks they are a nice feature. However, can the project include accessibility features such as an elevator or escalator?

Mr. Inglesby stated that of the 468 stations in the system, 100 must be accessible by 2020. This was established through meetings with the Federal Transit Administration, the New York City Transit Authority, and the disabled community back in the 1980s. They selected 100 key stations that would be accessible by 2020. He has heard requests from many communities about making certain stations accessible. To his knowledge there are no current plans to make other stations accessible. They have funding, which needs approval from the State, to complete the required stations through the year 2019. He cannot say what will happen after the key 100 stations are done. However, he can take the requests back to the Authority.

Mrs. Blanche L. Peltonbusch stated that she attends ADA meetings at 2 Broadway with Thomas J. Charles, Vice President of the Paratransit Division. As she understands a statement made at one of these meetings, the Rockaway Avenue station was to be made accessible in the calendar year 2015.

Mr. Inglesby stated that he is not aware of any project to add accessibility to the Rockaway Avenue IRT station. He works with Mr. Charles and will ask him for clarification.

Mr. Quardean Lewis-Allen asked if a free transfer connection can be established between the Canarsie Line and the IRT Line at Junius and Livonia Avenues and with regard to the art work, can community artist be specified and what is the procedure?

Mr. Inglesby stated that once the contract is awarded, the Transit Authority will issue a call for artist to notify and solicit artists' interest for specific commissions. The call for artist is a competitive selection process and he does not believe it can be limited to artists from a specific neighborhood. However, the Community Board can be invited to take part in the selection process.

Regarding the free transfer, it is not currently part of their Capital Programs, but it can be looked at for future consideration.

Ms. Genese Morgan asked what time slots will the stations be closed? Will the work be performed on weekends?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that the stations will be closed at all times during the renovations. This is done to both protect the public's safety as well as help complete the process in the shortest possible time.

Ms. Carolyn Benjamin-Smith stated that Junius Street has the highest elevation of any subway station and the community is continually aging making it harder for residents to access this station. In the past, the Authority has stated that the ridership does not justify making the station accessible or creating a transfer point. Does the authority take in to consideration that height of the station keeps many people from using it?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that as he mentioned earlier appropriations are in the approval process for the 100 key stations that must be made accessible by 2020. He does not know what will happen in the out years, but certainly the community's concerns will be considered.

Ms. Melanie Mendonca stated that as a member of the Community Education Council, she is asking that the schools be apprised of the service changes well in advance.

Mr. Ingelsby stated that it is the Authority's intent to make the community aware in advance. As they come closer to the actual station closing service posters will be placed in the stations and they will send service advisories to the community boards for dissemination.

Mr. Jimmi Brevil stated that a while ago the Long Island Rail Road did work on the Atlantic Avenue viaduct. During that time period they erected a temporary ramp that allowed wheelchairs to access the westbound platform. Upon completion of the work on the viaduct, the ramp was removed. Can a permanent ramp be installed to provide accessibility to that platform again?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that the Long Island Rail Road is a sister organization. He is not directly involved with them. However, he will make inquiries and report back to District Manager Greene-Walker.

Mrs. Peltonbusch asked if the shuttle buses will be free?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that they would be.

Mr. McCadney stated many people transfer from bus routes such as the B60 unto the trains. Is it possible to reroute some of these buses so as to eliminate double transfers?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that it is something that they can consider.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked Mr. Ingelsby for his presentation.

District Manager Greene-Walker introduced Mr. Henry Butler, Co-owner of Brooklyn Burger and Brew Co., located at 202 Ralph Avenue (corner of Decatur Street), who donated eight turkeys for raffling at the end of the evening's meeting.

Mr. Butler stated that he is also the District Manager of Brooklyn Community Board #3 which shares a border with Community District #16 at Saratoga Avenue and Fulton Street where there is a large vacant lot. The lot is within Community District #3 and will soon be the subject of an RFP (Request for Proposal). As a neighboring District, Community Board #3 wants to hear from residents of Community District #16 with their thoughts on how the land should be developed.

On December 9, 2014, there will be a Career and Technical Education Fair held at Boys and Girls High School. The event is co-sponsored by the Transport Workers Union (TWU). He encourages parents and students who may be interested in a technical career with MTA to participate in the event. Students who attend the Transit Tech Career and Technical Education High School earn \$30 per hour upon graduation.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Ms. Connie Chan from the New York City Department of City Planning.

Ms. Chan stated that City Planning recently completed a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded study entitled “Sustainable Communities: East New York”. The two-year study looked at ways to develop along the community’s transit network. There was a lot of community engagement during 2011 and 2012 to get visions of what the community wanted to see happen. Among the recommendations derived from the study were 1) promote new, mixed-income housing and mixed-use development along key transit corridors, 2) build on neighborhood strengths to preserve longstanding residential neighborhoods, and 3) enhance safety and connectivity with streetscape improvements.

The current phase of this development plan entitled “East New York Community Plan” builds on the vision developed by the community with the Department of City Planning as part of the Sustainable Communities East New York study. (Maps of the study area were displayed. Which include portions of Cypress Hills and Ocean Hill, along East New York.)

The goal of the plan is to increase affordable housing, retail opportunities, and quality of life through a community-based planning process. The plan will include zoning changes which determine what can be built where. It will also have changes to infrastructure such as transportation, parks, schools, etcetera. This will involve the coordination of multiple agencies such as the Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Transportation, Small Business Services, and other City agencies. Tonight’s focus is on the area roughly bounded by East New York Avenue, Mother Gaston Boulevard, Dean Street, Sackman Street, Herkimer Street, Sherlock Place, Fulton Street, Mother Gaston Boulevard, Somers Street, Eastern Parkway, Broadway, and Van Sinderen Avenue.

Currently, the entire area is zoned for manufacturing purposes. However, the map shows several lots that are being used for residential purposes. This has consequences for the homeowners. For example, it can negatively affect a request for a mortgage or limit refinance opportunities because when a bank goes to underwrite the loan the noncompliance may have an effect on whether or not they can insure the loan. It can also affect the ability to secure permits for home improvements or expansions as they will not allow further non-compliance with zoning regulations.

Other benefits include the ability to build new housing. Which can help in decreasing the affordable housing crisis which the city is currently going through. Currently, vacant lots in the area are being underutilized. Manufacturing zones also restrict the type of businesses that can operate in these locations. Zoning changes will allow for greater flexibility and bring in more diverse retail spaces.

Infrastructures changes can include things such as additional lighting, accessibility improvements, and parks.

Photographs of the area showing some of the non-conformity to zoning were displayed.

They have the information they garnered from the initial study as foundation, they are continuing to build on the plan. They recently conducted walking tours with members of the Community Board’s Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee to get their feedback and ideas from the Committee. They want to hear from as many people as possible to find out what their visions are about the area. On Tuesday, December 9, 2014, there will be a Visioning Session held and they encourage the community, especially stakeholders in the Ocean Hill area, to come out and express their opinions. The location of the meeting is to be determined and will be available at their website: nyc.gov/eastnewyork once it is confirmed; for persons who seek to be emailed about upcoming sessions, a signup sheet is also available at the back of the room.

Someone asked if the zoning changes will be similar to those taking place along Empire Boulevard in the area of Prospect Park (Community District #9)?

Ms. Chan stated that City Planning evaluates zoning throughout the City and from time to time, they will go out to see if the established zoning matches the need and use in communities. The zoning in the study area has not changed in decades.

Someone asked if someone who owned their home outright could be forced out of their home because of zoning?

Ms. Chan stated that they would not. The purpose of making the zoning changes is so that the actual usage of the lots match what they are zoned for so that they will be in compliance. They are not seeking to uproot longstanding residents from their homes.

Someone asked if the classification of the zoning could be changed?

Ms. Chan stated the classifications are not being changed. They are looking at possibly rezoning certain blocks to have the zoning match usage.

Mrs. Peltonbusch asked if the plan covers Brownsville?

Ms. Chan stated that the zoning changes would not be in Brownsville. However, the changes could, indirectly, have an effect on Brownsville. For instance it has been suggested that the lighting in the area of Broadway Junction be improved; this could impact anyone who use the station regardless of where they live.

Mr. Charles Ladson asked if there will there be businesses coming into the community that will not hire from within?

Ms. Koren Manning stated that they have heard, from the previous study, that there is a need for more diverse businesses in the community. If this is a priority for you, they encourage you to come to the visioning session and express that.

Ms. Genese Morgan, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the Committee held a meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2014 and was attended by Pernell Brice and Rob LoCasio of the Dream Big Foundation to provide introduction to new entrepreneurship program that will be coming to the community. The Dream Big Foundation will be located at 519 Rockaway Avenue; Brooklyn, New York 11212 and is seeking to recruit local entrepreneurs with interests in starting a local business in Brownsville. Entrepreneurs will receive instruction and mentorship from accomplished entrepreneurs throughout New York City with the possibility of venture capitalist funds being made available to help upstart the business once a solid business plan has been developed and the entrepreneur is groomed for implementation. Additionally, information will be forth coming and disseminated to community for participation.

The Committee encourages all residents who are seeking employment to utilize a Workforce1 Center which is a service provided by the NYC Department of Small Business Services to prepare and connect qualified candidates to job opportunities in New York City. You may register at 9 Bond Street 5th Floor; Brooklyn, New York 11201; please call (718) 875-3400 for more information.

The New York City Department of Small Business Services will return to Brownsville during the month of December to continue work begun earlier this month to conduct workshops on the following dates and topics:

- December 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 10 Steps to Starting Your Own Business and Business Planning Basic.
- December 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 10 Steps to Starting Your Own Business and Business Planning Basic Workshop
- December 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Social Media Fundamentals

The Workshop will be facilitated by a representative from NYC Small Business Solutions and fliers with a location will be distributed early next week.

The Committee also encourages members of the community to join the East Kings County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta as they host a small business crawl at various pop-up markets throughout central Brooklyn on Saturday, November 29, 2014. The first stop on the crawl will be MGBPOPS located at 425 Mother Gaston Boulevard at 12:00 p.m.

The purpose of the Economic Development Committee is to identify and respond to issues related to existing or proposed economic opportunities for the district, and make recommendations to the board regarding the same. We invite members of the community with

interests in Economic Development to attend our next meeting which will be Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 6:30:00 p.m.

If anyone has any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report please feel free to contact Genese Morgan at bkl6@cb.nyc.gov.

Mr. David Alexander asked if there is an age limit with regard to the entrepreneur mentorship program?

Ms. Morgan stated that there is not. Teens are welcome to participate.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Eula Key and carried to accept the report of the Economic Development Committee.

Ms. Linda Rivera, in behalf of Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee, reported that the Committee met on Wednesday, November 6, 2014 and discussed their second project for the year 2014/2015: Addressing Homeless Shelter Siting in Community District #16. Mr. Asher Freeman, a Pratt Institute fellow assigned to Community Board #16, made a presentation based on his research on this issue.

As a result of some of the overwhelming findings and that it has become clear that certain communities like Committee District #16 are sheltering a disproportionate share of the city's homeless population, the Committee decided to address this issue at a Town Hall Meeting with the Commissioner of the Department of Homeless Services, all homeless services providers/agencies and community residents. This event is scheduled for January 21, 2015 at a location to be announced.

The homeless shelter stats/information are as follows:

- The drop-in center for Brooklyn is located in Community District #16 at 2402 Atlantic Avenue.
- There are 13 homeless shelters in Community District #16 while some twenty other Brooklyn neighborhoods have one shelter or less.
- The community districts with the highest concentration on shelters are Community Districts 3, 5, and 16.
- DHS does not publish data related to the location of existing shelters, sites in the process of becoming shelters, or the types of services shelters are providing.
- Brownsville has the second highest number of shelters of any neighborhood in Brooklyn and the lowest median income of the four Brooklyn neighborhoods with the most shelters.

This research and subsequent Town Hall meeting seek to gain appropriate understanding of DHS policies and how it impacts Brownsville/Ocean Hill's children, youth, adults and families in comparison to other communities in New York State.

The Committee advocates for policy for shelter capacity that mirrors the community needs, reflecting the number of individuals/families from our community.

This is our community and it is our responsibility to take care of it, moving it toward a just and sustainable future with a great quality of life. The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to accept the report of the Health and Human Resources Committee.

Adrainer Coleman, in behalf of Ms. Bettie Kollock- Wallace, Chairperson of the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee, reported that on November 10, 2014, members of the Committee attended a workshop on the Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) process conducted by Richard Bearak, Director of Land Use at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Mr. Bearak explained what the ULURP process is, outlined how ULURP works, and clarified the role of the Community Board and the major players in the decision making process.

A ULURP application is required when there is a zoning text change, zoning map change, special use/bulk permits, disposition of public property, acquisition of private property, leasing of private property, and city map change.

Once the ULURP application is filed with the Department of City Planning and certified, the Community Board is notified and has 60 days to review the application. During this period, the Community Board holds a public hearing and vote its recommendation on the application.

The recommendation is submitted to the City Planning Commission, applicant, and the Borough President.

The Borough President has 30 days to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the City Planning Commission.

Once the City Planning Commission receives the recommendation from the Borough President, the City Planning Commission has up to 60 days to review the recommendation, hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the City Council.

The City Council has up to 50 days to approve, modify or disapprove the application which then goes to the Mayor who accepts or vetoes the recommendation from the City Council.

The Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee also met on November 17, 2014 and discussed their tour of the East New York Sustainability Study area which was discussed earlier tonight by the Department of City Planning.

The Committee makes the following recommendations to City Planning:

- 1) Where there are pockets of residential buildings; i.e. Truxton Street, Eastern Parkway, Sackman Street and Herkimer Street between Eastern Parkway and Somers Street, the area should be rezoned R6 to protect existing properties.
- 2) The area around Broadway and Van Sinderen Avenue should be zoned for commercial uses such as restaurant/café, Staples, or Rite Aid.
- 3) Along Fulton Street between Eastern Parkway and Van Sinderen Avenue, also along Van Sinderen between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue for mixed use with commercial space on the ground floor and upper 4 to 6 floors for affordable housing.
- 4) Vacant lot on Pacific Street between Sackman Street and East New York developed with housing to compliment residential units on the south of the block. Housing not to exceed 4 stories.
- 5) Along East New York Avenue we would like to see properties developed with commercial space on the ground floor and housing on the upper floors, similar to Fulton Street.
- 6) On the south of Atlantic Avenue between Sackman Street and East New York are a hotel, homeless shelter, day program for persons with mental illness, and a recycling plant. Would like to see more permanent use of the properties, such as affordable housing to compliment the block west of the site.

As it relates to the infrastructure, the Committee would like additional street lights along Van Sinderen Avenue between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue. This will illuminate the area leading to the LIRR. Entrances to the LIRR on both sides of Atlantic Avenue need renovation to include handicap accessibility.

The Broadway Junction area is a major hub and needs to be made handicap accessible.

The Committee also discussed an application for a special permit that was submitted by Planet Fitness to the Board of Standards and Appeals to allow them to operate on the cellar and first floor at 441 Rockaway Avenue.

The Committee recommends that the Community Board support this application which will permit the operation of a fitness center in a C4-3 zoning district.

A motion was made by Ms. Genese Morgan, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. and carried unanimously to accept the report of the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee and its recommendations.

District Manager Greene-Walker, in behalf of Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that on November 5, 2014, the Committee met and discussed the following:

- Emergency Preparedness - The importance of knowing what to do in case of an emergency, whether it is natural or man-made.
- Keeping food staples, (water, beans, processed and ready to eat items)
- Heating and Lighting sources - Clothing and Bedding - First-Aid equipment - properly secured vital paperwork.

If you have a group of people who would like to receive additional information regarding emergency preparedness, please feel free to contact the District Manager's office at (718) 385-0323.

The Committee has initiated a special project regarding the effects of incarceration within our community.

The Committee spoke, in depth, about how to cope/deal/support and cohabitate with those who have been incarcerated.

The plan is to:

- Exchange and collect information
- Decipher what we can do ourselves from topics we will need additional assistance.
- Seek out the appropriate remedy or tactic to better control the given situation.
- Strategize to best address the issue.
- Follow through to follow up for results of change

The current topic is the distance one needs to travel to support their loved ones.

The Committee will continue its Special Project Conversations through June 2015.

The Public Safety Committee will meet again on December 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m., here at 444 Thomas S. Boyland St., in Room 103. All comments, suggestions and concerns are welcomed.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. and carried to accept the report of the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. John McCadney, Jr., Chairperson of the Sanitation and Environmental Protection Committee reported that the Committee met with representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection and a contractor for the New York City Green Infrastructure Project on November 10, 2014.

The New York City Green Infrastructure is a project to collect and manage stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, such as streets and sidewalks.

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection is building right-of-way bioswales, stormwater greenstreets, and other stormwater management practices to reduce combined sewer overflow discharges into New York City's waterbodies. These planted areas will collect and manage stormwater running off streets and sidewalks when it rains.

Construction begins with the removal of existing pavement. Next steps include excavation and backfilling with layers of broken stone and engineered soil which are designed to hold stormwater. The contractor then pours new concrete sidewalks, curbs and forms the inlets and outlets. Next the contractor installs plants, usually including a tree, and a tree guard.

The City is responsible for green infrastructure maintenance in the street and sidewalks. DEP funds dedicated New York City Parks and Recreation maintenance crews who visit each location regularly to ensure it clear of litter and functioning properly.

The contractors are notifying all property owners of selected sites.

Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. and carried to accept the report of the Sanitation and Environmental Protection Committee.

Ms. Patricia Winston, Chairperson of the Senior Citizens Affairs Committee, reported that members of the Senior Citizen Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at Atlantic Towers, located at 216 Rockaway Avenue.

An educational workshop on succession rights was facilitated by representatives from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD): Nicole Washington, Director of Succession Rights, Stacey Richardson, Audit Unit, and Myesha Johnson.

Ms. Washington stated what succession rights of the City Mitchell-Lama rules allow family members of a tenant/co-operator of record who meet all the requirements to remain in occupancy as lawful tenant/co-operator after the tenant/co-operator has permanently vacated the unit. This provision is referred to as succession.

There are three basic eligibility requirements that must be considered to qualify for succession rights:

- Relationship: spouse, child, stepchild, parent, sibling, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, grandparent, father-, mother-, son-, or daughter-in-law of tenant/co-operator.
- Income Affidavits: The successor applicant should have appeared on the income affidavits for the two years immediately prior to the tenant/co-operator of record permanently vacated the unit or one year if the successor applicant is disabled or a senior citizen (62 years old or over).
- Co-residency: The successor applicant must provide documentation that he/she and the tenant/co-operator of record co-reside in the apartment as their primary residence for the two years immediately prior to the date the tenant/co-operator permanently vacated or one year if the successor applicant is a senior citizen or disabled.

To apply for succession rights, contact the managing agent for your development. The managing agent will ask you to provide documentation to support your succession rights request and may ask you to complete a succession rights application. If you meet the eligibility requirements, the management will submit your request to HPD for approval.

There are other factors that come into play when dealing with succession right. To help you better understand some of those issues, we have informational packets available on the table.

Community Board member Yolanda Matthews, who is a resident of Marcus Garvey Village, asked about succession rights at her development. Ms. Washington stated that because Marcus Garvey Village is a State Mitchell-Lama, she should contact New York State's Division of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) at 35 Beaver Street in Manhattan where Darryl Towns is the Commissioner.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr., seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept the report of the Senior Citizens Affairs Committee.

Ms. Genese Morgan, in behalf of Ms. Pamela M. Junior, Chairperson of the Women's Committee, reported that the Committee met on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 via conference call.

The Committee is presently working on a Proposed Mission Statement for the Women's Committee. Once it is finalized they will share it with the community.

The Committee will be hosting two Forums in 2015, both at Heritage House. The first Forum will be on Saturday, March 21st (for 2 hours) from noon through 2:00 p.m. The subject will be on both men's and women's incontinence issues. The second Forum will be on Saturday, June 20th (for 4 hours) from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The subject will be on "loneliness / social

adjustment." They will present this topic from the perspective of both the secular / real world and the church / religious world.

The Committee will also be participating in the "Day of Non-Violence" initiative on Saturday, January 17, 2015, which initiative was proposed by the Brownsville Recreation Center along with a host of community based organizations.

The next Women's Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. via conference call.

If you have any issues that you would like the Women's Committee to address, please contact Ms. Junior at bk16@cb.nyc.gov or at (718) 385-0323.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept the report of the Women's Committee.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Brian McLaurin, representing Public Advocate Leitia James.

Mr. McLaurin introduced himself as Ms. James' Liaison to Community Board #16. He stated he is in communication with District Manager Greene-Walker and encourages the community to reach out to him through her.

Mr. Shelton Jones, representing District Attorney Kenneth Thompson, urged everyone to be extra vigilant of scammers during the holiday season. He requested that if you should come across someone who is trying to scam you or someone else, you call their office, in order that they may have the person arrested and prosecuted.

Ms. Ineisha Williford, representing Councilmember Darlene Mealy, stated many of the young Black men in our community are outraged over the grand jury findings that were announced in recent days. These tragedies are not an issue of race; it is about social injustice. She is pleased to say that Brooklyn has a District Attorney who is working hard to eliminate these injustices and she commends him and his office for that work.

Councilmember Mealy, who is the Chair of the Civil Rights Committee, met with her colleagues and the mayor at press conference earlier today. All of the City Councilmembers are banding together to figure out ways to tackle these issues. Akai Gurley was the second unharmed Black man shot by police this year. There are many wonderful police officers working hard to keep us safe. When incidents such as these keep coming up, it enlarges the gap in the relationship between the community and the police. We need to find ways to bridge the gap and highlight the good being done by police. We do not want riots in our communities.

She announced that Councilmember Mealy is inviting the community to attend her annual Intergenerational Pearl Harbor Day Memorial which will be held on Tuesday, December 9th, and a tree lighting ceremony in front of St. Matthew's Church on Eastern Parkway near Utica Avenue on Tuesday, December 16th.

Representatives from the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce will be the feature speakers at Councilmember Mealy's next Advisory Board meeting on December 6th.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, thanked everyone who participated in the "Let's Talk East Brooklyn" event that recently took place. Over 250 persons attended with 45 organization available to assist them with their needs. The event was organized to inform the community of all the initiatives that are becoming available and teaching them how they can take part.

Yesterday, over 1,000 turkeys were distributed by Borough Hall to community- and faith-based organizations.

He announced a number of events being sponsored by Borough President Adams in the coming days.

If there is an event that you would like the Borough President to attend, please contact him at (718) 802-2281.

Assemblywoman-Elect Latrice M. Walker stated that with the re-election of Governor Cuomo, another opportunity is here to fill positions on particular boards such as SUNY, the Board of Elections, CUNY, etcetera. She is looking for resumes and curricula vitae so that she will easily be able to offer someone from the community to fill these positions when she is asked for potential candidates. She encourages anyone in the audience who is a master in their craft to email their resume or curriculum vitae to her at walkerforny@gmail.com.

One of the things she learned from watching Senator Charles Schumer, was that he keeps himself influential by being able to appoint people to key positions. It is our time to do this in Albany.

The State of the State Address will take place January 7th and she would like to have a large contingent on hand as it happens. The event is a who's who in New York politics and a good place to network. She is seeking names of people interested in attending and ask that they contact her office.

The opening session for the Assembly will be held on January 12, 2015. At this time they can invite people up to Albany to watch the ceremony from the gallery. She is looking to have two busloads of people from the 55th Assembly District. When Speaker Silver introduces the new members, he will also name the persons and groups who are in the gallery. She would very much like to see a good representation from Community Board #16. There will also be an opportunity for one of our clergy to say the invocation.

The process to obtain office space in the District is nearly complete. A lease agreement has been submitted to Poko Development for space at Saratoga and Pitkin Avenues (old Loews Theatre) and they are awaiting the results. In the meantime, she has established an office at 250 Broadway in Manhattan. This is a strategic move on her part; as this is where the Speaker also has his office and she can have proximity to him in order to reach out to him when need be.

Ms. Melanie Mendonca, in behalf of School District #23's Community Education Council, thanked Assemblywoman-Elect Walker, Senator-Elect Jessie Hamilton, III, and Borough President Eric Adams for the gracious donations of Thanksgiving turkeys to families in three of the District's schools. Families in these school have an above 90% rate of poverty and the turkeys meant a great deal to them.

Assemblywoman-Elect Walker stated on the issue of schools, she has learned that 84% of eighth graders in the District are performing at level 1 or 2. Level 1 means that they are nowhere near reading proficiency and level 2 means that they met some but not most of the requirements for proficiency. We are going to wrap around these families and determine what needs to be done to have the children be able to compete.

CTEs (Career and Technical Education schools) were mentioned in an earlier presentation. We must reach out to the New York State Department of Education and engage them in bringing them to our community.

Mr. Charles Ladson asked what is Assemblywoman-Elect Walker's plan for the Brownsville Community?

Assemblywoman-Elect Walker stated that she is seeking guidance from the community to learn what is important to them. She wants it to be the community's plan.

District Leader Anthony Jones thanked those who voted for him in the past elections and informed Assemblywoman-Elect Walker that he looks forward to collaborating with her to bring about a better community for all.

Mr. Charles Jackson, representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, reminded the audience that this is the time of year when they must enroll or re-enroll for health care coverage. This is most important for those who are between the ages of 18 and 25 years old; chances are that if a major illness were to befall this group, it will be catastrophic. You may call (855) 355-5777 to enroll or find a Navigator near you. You must enroll by December 15, 2014 in order to have coverage beginning January 1, 2016.

There are 16,000 persons of voting age residing in Ferguson, Missouri. Of the 16,000, 10,000 are Black. Though whites make up just 29% of the city's residents, five of Ferguson's six city council members are white and six of the local school board's seven members are white. This year, just 1,228 of eligible voters cast a ballot. Voting matters.

Regarding the question asked earlier concerning the zoning in Community District #9, this was bourn from a letter sent to City Council requesting that a zoning study be done.

President Obama recently issued an Executive Order which will make some changes in immigration policies. When there are changes made to policies or laws, an industry of fraudsters seemingly follows. If anyone should approach you and tell you that they can help with immigration process for a fee, please be wary and contact the District Attorney's office.

He can be reached by calling Congresswoman Clarke's office at (718) 287-1142. You may also visit her office at 123 Linden Boulevard on the 4th Floor.

Mr. Richard Nelson, representing Senator-elect Jesse Hamilton, III, stated that Senator-Elect Hamilton, III will host a Mobile Office at the Stone Avenue Library, located at 581 Mother Gaston Boulevard from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on December 10th and again on December 18th at Brownsville Library, located at 61 Glenmore Avenue. He can be reached at (718) 284-4700.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. William Boone.

Mr. Boone stated that he is the Outreach Coordinator for the Medgar Evers-Oasis Beacon Program and the Van Dyke Center. The Program's Director is Ms. Sandra Johnson.

He publicly thanked the merchants and members of the community who assisted them in putting together Thanksgiving baskets for some of the families in need who they serve. The donations of products and time were greatly appreciated. He can be reached by calling (347) 522-3999 or (347) 770-5673.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Ilya Novofastovsky of the Novo Law Firm.

Mr. Novofastovsky stated that his law firm works in the areas of construction accidents, civil rights, wrongful deaths, and product liability. Some of the cases that he has worked on involve wrongfully convicted individuals. He introduced one such individual, Mr. Green.

Mr. Green stated that he is from this community – he lived at Saratoga Avenue and Bergen Street. His parents live in the community as do his Godparents. He wants to serve the community now that he is out. He has dealt with many of the young men from this community while he was imprisoned and tried to counsel them in doing things the right way. He wants to continue to this.

He is thankful to Mr. Novofastovsky for getting him his release and providing him with a job in his organization.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked Mr. Green and for his commitment to the youth.

Drawings were held for the turkeys donated by Mr. Butler.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.