

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Attendance

David Alexander

Carolyn A. Benjamin-Smith

Margaret Brewer

Rev. Mark Broomes (A)

Lamont Carolina (A)

Adrainer Coleman

Christopher Durosinni

Norman Frazier

Daniel Goodine (A)

Rose Graham

Chanel Haliburton

Sarah Hall

Jessie Hilliard

Michael Howard

Allene Ingram (A)

Min. Prince Issachar

Daisy Jackson

Minyarn Johnson (A)

Carl Joseph

Derrick Joseph (A)

Pamela Junior

Eula Key (E)

Bettie Kollock-Wallace

Charles Ladson, Sr.

Quardean Lewis-Allen (A)

Albion Liburd (E)

Deborah Mack

James Mack

Yolanda Matthews

John McCadney, Jr.

Leslie McCalla (A)

Andrea McCullough (E)

Genese Morgan

Blanche L. Peltonbusch

Marie Pierre (E)

Rev. Devon Ponds (A)

Mattie Pusey (A)

Linda Rivera (E)

Melaine Rochford (A)

Wendy Rutherford (E)

Beatrice Saunds (A)

Evang. Hellen Thomas-Purdie (E)

Celina Trowell

Ernestine Turner

Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu (E)

Yvette Williams-Lawson (A)

Patricia Winston

Sylvester Yavana (E)

Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager

Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant

Assemblywoman Latrice M. Walker

Charles Jackson for Hon. Yvette Clarke

Richard Nelson for Hon. Jesse Hamilton, III

Maurice Philips for Hon. John Sampson

Roopesh Ramjit for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.

Ineisha Williford for Hon. Darlene Mealy

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 7:05 p.m. and recognized Deputy Inspector Miguel Iglesias, Commanding Officer of the 73rd Precinct.

Deputy Inspector Iglesias stated that he has been in command of the 73rd Precinct for the past 11 weeks. Thus far, things have been going well; crime, for the past 28 day period, is down 31% and 22% year-to-date. Robberies have decreased forty percent. While this is good, there are issues in the area near the train stations on the southern side of the Precinct. He cautioned the audience to be especially vigilant during inclement weather. When few people are outdoors, those who are out are often targeted for robberies. Try not to walk alone when possible and stay alert.

Another area of concern is burglaries. Specifically, open window burglaries. One might wonder why are windows being left open in such cold weather, but it is happening. People are leaving windows open and thieves are either climbing in and removing items or simply reaching in to remove items such as laptop computers left near the open windows.

The Police Department has a number of initiatives being implemented. Some will take place in the 73rd Precinct. They are a pilot precinct, in collaboration with the Brownsville Justice Center, in a program to divert cases for eligible youths who have been accused of an offense even before the matter gets to court. The program which began last week will apply to first-time offenders, ages 16 and 17, who are charged by police with low-level non-violent misdemeanors and violations. If the defendant takes up the offer and successfully completes the program, the District Attorney will decline to prosecute.

The 73rd Precinct has also been selected to be a “Model Precinct”. In the next few weeks, in collaboration with the Municipal Credit Union, an ATM will be placed in the lobby of the Precinct. During the course of the year, the lobby area of the Precinct will be renovated to make it more inviting.

An invocation was given by Mr. John McCadney, Jr.

There was a roll call of the Board members and a quorum was not present.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. David Harney of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY).

Mr. Harney stated that he hopes that everyone is being careful when using space heaters during the winter season and reminded everyone that they should change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detector when the time changes in about two weeks from now. The Fire Safety Unit of the FDNY will make nine volt batteries available to the Community Board for distribution. He remembers a fire that took place in the Bronx (Woodycrest Avenue Fire) which took the lives of 8 children. Their investigation showed that smoke detectors were present but did not have batteries in them. Lives could have been saved if the detectors had been maintained.

He is present this evening to speak about a proposal to build a new facility to house Rescue Company 2. As part of the process, the proposal must be approved by the City’s Public Design Commission who have asked their partners at the Department of Design and Construction to obtain the support and comments from the Community Board.

He reached out to the District Manager and Board Chair, and met with the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee in January. He was invited to present at the full Board Meeting in January, however, that meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

FDNY has five rescue companies; one in each of the boroughs. They are part of their Special Operations Command. They are responsible for responding to all sort of disaster scenarios – from building collapses to acts of terrorism. In fact, on the day that members of Community Board #16 were visiting the Company’s current location, the Company was called to respond along with Rescue Company 1 in Manhattan to the site of the Freedom Tower where two workers were stuck on a suspended scaffold.

In 2009, a new facility was built to house Rescue Company 3 in the Bronx. That facility is over 20,000 square feet in size. The facility which currently houses Rescue Company 2 is approximately a mile from 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street and was built in 1893. He displayed pictures of the current facility and stated that it looked as if were taken in a quaint rural location. Each rescue company has two major apparatus, one called Rescue Response, the other Rescue Collapse. Together, they form a virtual building supply store on wheels. They are equipped with items that will allow them to lift a train off of someone, perform high story rescues, or confined space rescues. Rescue 2’s current facility cannot accommodate both apparatus. One of the trucks (Rescue Collapse) is stored about a mile away from the facility. This is problematic when the need to respond to a construction accident or maybe a building collapse. Ideally both trucks should be deployed in tandem.

He displayed schematics and photographs of Rescue 2’s current facilities side by side with those of Rescue 3. It showed how the trucks fit comfortably within the Rescue 3 facility, the deteriorating condition of the kitchen in the Rescue 2 building and the modern amenities of Rescue 3’s building. He stated that the new facilities allow the companies to train daily and reduce the need for them to have to go to FDNY’s Randall’s Island Training Facility and thereby allow them to deploy to disasters faster.

Their proposal is to build a new facility on a City-owned vacant lot on Sterling Place between Saratoga and Howard Avenues. They hope to build a smart looking building with a nice civic presence. The building will have a tremendous number of green elements. The Fire Department leads the city in the amount of green technologies incorporated into their facilities. The building will include solar water heating, a green roof, and they are currently drilling core samplings to determine the feasibility of doing geothermal heating. Schematic drawings of the proposed Rescue 2 facility were displayed. The main function of the facility as well as any FDNY facility is storage of equipment. The first floor of the proposed building will allow the firefighters to

stow their gear, lumber, and the apparatus. The second will be dormitories and locker/bathrooms for both male and female firefighters – something they are implementing across all firehouses. The Sterling Place location is superbly suitable as it provides excellent access to the entire borough via nearby thoroughfares such as Kings Highway, Eastern Parkway, and Atlantic Avenue.

They will return to the Board in April, to present a land use application. However, tonight they are asking the Board to provide a letter of support to the Public Design Commission to say that they reviewed the design and are satisfied with it.

Ms. Blanche Peltonbusch asked how many female firefighters are in Rescue Company 2?

Mr. Harney stated that in order to be selected for a Special Operations Command, one must first serve on an engine company and then a ladder company. Currently, there are only 44 female firefighters with FDNY. One of his college classmates, Adrienne Walsh, is a lieutenant with Squad 18. The Fire Department is working hard to offer opportunities to women.

Ms. Peltonbusch asked if the women are paid equally to the men?

Mr. Harney stated that they are. Pay is based on rank. Special Operations units are paid slightly more and members of engine companies who are Certified First Responders and respond to certain calls are paid a differential.

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

Ms. Chan stated that she is present to give an update on the Ocean Hill portion of the East New York Community Plan. She displayed a map of the affected areas and noted the Ocean Hill area of the plan. As a review, she stated that through the process of holding visioning sessions and presenting at various meetings they have learned what the community is looking to see in the area of development for the community. They are seeking to protect existing homes and promote residential development. The area is relatively small at 15 blocks and is currently zoned for manufacturing. However, more than half the blocks have some residences on them. The zoning does not match the actual uses and they are looking to protect the existing homes.

They also heard that people want to see a more diverse mixture of commercial spaces. Especially along the Fulton Street, Van Sinderen Avenue, and Broadway corridors. They want to see local businesses to serve local residents. But also want to see regional businesses in the area of Broadway Junction which serves as a connector to other neighborhoods.

Many people expressed concerns over safety in the area which many felt was desolate and needed more lighting. With new development, there can be an increased sense of safety in the area.

Finally, people saw this as a way to provide additional job opportunities.

They seek to make zoning changes that will permit contextual residential districts to bring existing homes into conformance and allow new residential development, commercial districts with overlays to promote greater variety of commercial uses, districts to support industrial and other uses.

The Sustainable Communities Study began about two years ago. From that study, they devised the East New Community Plan about a year ago. Several visioning sessions were held throughout the communities. They have a website (nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/east_new_york/east_new_york2.shtml) where they share information about the plan. On Monday, March 9th, at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, there will be a workshop to share more detailed information on the plan. It will offer an opportunity for the community to ask more questions.

Ms. Genese Morgan asked for some historical comment as to why there are homes in areas that are zoned as manufacturing zones.

Ms. Koren Manning stated that the zones were created in 1961 and many of the homes were built right after World War II. Zoning rules were also less specific than they are today. They are

now trying to make these homes compliant with zoning; which they have not been for over fifty years.

Someone asked for an elaboration on the meaning of mixed-used.

Ms. Manning stated that in a mixed use zone a developer can select a particular use or build a mixed use building with, for instance, commercial on the first floor and residential above.

A gentleman from East New York stated that in that community there have been developers that have stated that they would build affordable apartments, but in the end that is not what is built.

Ms. Manning stated that what they are proposing to do is make changes to the zoning which are a set of regulations determining what can or cannot be built in the zone. As it relates to the Ocean Hill area of the plan, the City does not own any substantial properties and therefore will not be undertaking any development in the area.

Someone asked how the zoning changes will affect the triangular lot (west of Mother Gaston Boulevard at Truxton Street) that is owned by the Parks Department.

Ms. Manning stated that park land is not subject to zoning is therefore unaffected by the proposed changes.

Someone asked what is considered affordable housing in this community?

Ms. Manning stated that they are working closely with the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) on strategies to promote housing that is affordable to residents of the community. In this area it would be roughly sixty percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Since the city does not own the properties, they will be working with the private property owner by incentivizing them to create affordable housing units.

Someone stated that he is from Long Island City where there are similar plans taking place. He is hearing that the presenters are saying that the properties are city-owned and therefore what is built, as well as the type of jobs that come with development of the properties, is fairly much out of the control of the city. He disagrees with these statements, in that the City, by way of changing the zoning, is adding value to the properties with the swipe of a pen. The City should also cause some of that added value to be reinvested in the community.

Ms. Manning stated that HPD is working on strategies to help local developers take advantage of some of the opportunities that will become available.

Ms. Chan stated that amongst the agencies that will be at the March 9th event, will be the Economic Development Corporation which has some ideas on strengthening the Industrial Business Zone. She encourages interested persons to attend the event to hear the ideas and offer feedback and suggestions.

Having attained a quorum, the Public Hearing was convened:

IN THE MATTER OF an application submitted by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD):

- 1) pursuant to Article 16 of the General Municipal Law of New York State for:
 - a) the designation of property located at 2095-97, 2103-05 and 2038A-40 Pacific Street (Block 1432, Lots 43, 44, 48, 49 and Block 1439, Lots 21.22), as an Urban Development Action Area; and
 - b) an Urban Development Action Area Project for such area; and
- 2) pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter for the disposition of such property to a developer to be selected by HPD;

to facilitate development of three 4-story residential buildings with a total of approximately 20 units of affordable housing under HPD's Low Income Rental Program, Borough of Brooklyn, Community District 16.

District Manager Greene-Walker requested that Ms. Ismene Speliotis of the Mutual Housing Association of New York (MHANY) come forward to give a brief presentation on the application.

Ms. Speliotis stated that MHANY is a non-profit organization that has been operating and developing low- and moderate-income housing units in the Brownsville and East New York neighborhoods for about thirty years. HPD reached out to them with the idea of developing affordable housing units on five vacant city-owned lots on Pacific Street between Howard and Saratoga Avenues. The lots are of varying sizes. In working with their architect, a plan was developed to create 3 buildings on the lots. One of the goals was to infill all the vacant lots on the block. On the south side of the street, there are 4 lots which will be combined to build two buildings with eight units. On the north side, there is one lot on which they will build one building with four units.

The design of the buildings will be contextual. The buildings will be aligned with the existing buildings. While they will be modern buildings, the design will integrate well with existing structures. The top story will be setback so that the street view will match that of existing buildings. This balance will allow for maximization of units.

The building on the north side of the street will consist of a one-bedroom apartment and 3 two-bedroom apartments. The buildings on the south side will each consist of 4 one-bedroom, 3 two-bedroom, and 1 three-bedroom apartments for a total of 20 units overall.

The one-bedroom units will rent from \$580 to \$809, two-bedrooms will rent for \$699, \$889, and \$1,000. They range in size from 600 square feet for the one-bedrooms, 850 square feet for the two-bedrooms, and 1,000 square feet for the three-bedrooms. They are pleased with the size of the units.

MHANY has a history of developing housing in the Brownsville community. The last project which was approved by the Community Board, was for 26 units. They are proud to say all of the units went to residents of Community District #16. When they say they are developing affordable housing for the community, they mean exactly what they say.

Ms. Blanche Peltonbusch asked why are there no larger apartments?

Ms. Speliotis stated that because of the size of the lots and build costs, they are constrained in building larger apartments. At the end of the day, they want the units to be affordable to neighborhood residents. In order to spread the cost and build it at a good wage and to be affordable, they have to build as many units as possible.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked Ms. Speliotis for her presentation and closed the hearing.

A motion was made by Mr. Norman Frazier, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to support the request by the New York City Fire Department for a letter of support to build a new facility to house Rescue Company 2 on a city-owned vacant lot on Sterling Place between Howard and Saratoga Avenues.

A motion was made by Mr. Norman Frazier, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to support the application by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) for the designation of property located at 2095-97, 2103-05 and 2038A-40 Pacific Street (Block 1432, Lots 43, 44, 48, 49 and Block 1439, Lots 21.22), as an Urban Development Action Area; and an Urban Development Action Area Project for such area; and pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter for the disposition of such property to a developer to be selected by HPD; to facilitate development of three 4-story residential buildings with a total of approximately 20 units of affordable housing under HPD's Low Income Rental Program.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Genese Morgan and carried to dispense with reading of the minutes.

District Manager Greene-Walker highlighted the following items from her report:

- 1) It is time to fill out applications for block parties and street fairs. The guidelines are on the first page of her report.

- 2) Announcement about the Dream Big Foundation which will assist Brownsville residents who are interested in opening businesses.
- 3) The Brooklyn Public Library is seeking volunteers. You may apply online at bklynlibrary.org/support/volunteer or at your local library branch.
- 4) Family Justice Center at 350 Jay Street has an array of resources for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and sex trafficking.
- 5) Employment opportunities with the Mayor's Office of Immigration Affairs.
- 6) Grant opportunities

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. and carried to accept the District Manager's Report.

Because a quorum was not present at our December 23, 2014 Community Board meeting, Chairperson Kollock-Wallace asked for a motion to accept the reports.

A motion was made by Mr. John McCadney, Jr., seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept the December 23, 2014 report of the Health and Human Services Committee.

A motion was made by Ms. Margaret Brewer, seconded by Mr. Michael Howard and carried to accept the December 23, 2014 report of the Transportation and Franchises Committee and its recommendations.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Daisy Jackson and carried to accept the December 23, 2014 report of the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee.

A motion was made by Ms. Daisy Jackson, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept December 23, 2014 report of the Public Safety Committee.

Ms. Margaret Brewer, Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, in behalf of Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson, reported that the Committee held a teleconference on January 12, 2015 and briefly discussed the ongoing project on nail salons. The Committee sent a letter to the public advocate acknowledging her interest and concerns about nail salons and invited her to work with the Committee closely on its project, and the Committee is waiting for her response.

The Committee also discussed setting up a teleconference with the Health and Human Services Committee, the Public Safety Committee and the Legislative Committee to discuss the issues concerning solitary confinement in the prison system.

The Committee scrutinized the bill proposed in City Council that will alter the New York City Charter regarding term limits for community board members limiting them to serving six consecutive terms (12 years) of service. The Committee unanimously supported this bill.

The Committee briefly reviewed Senator Montgomery's legislative agenda for 2015 and found that there were many pieces of legislation being considered that will greatly impact our community, especially those dealing with criminal justice and the strengthening of tenant laws. The Committee intends to continue to review her agenda and prioritize the proposed legislation that will affect the community most.

As it continues to educate our community, the Committee would like to remind all employees and employers that the minimum wage is now \$8.75/hour.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, seconded by Ms. Daisy Jackson and carried to accept the report of the Legislative Committee.

Ms. Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that the Committee has stepped out into the community to inform you of its efforts to bridge a strong relationship with the New York City Police Department (NYPD).

As a community, we deserve a respectable police department which we can trust. Also as a community, we must live and operate at a respectable standard.

The pledges discussed at the December meeting are being disseminated to the 73rd Precinct and PSA #2.

Ms. Brewer read the Pledge by the Community to the Police and stated that copies are available on tonight's distribution table.

On February 4 2015, the Public Safety Committee met to further plan the communication of the Police/Community Pledges.

The Committee decided that it would make rounds at the community meetings with the announcements. For example, the 73rd Precinct Clergy Council meetings as well as the resident association meetings throughout the District.

She would like to share with the community that on Saturday, February 21st, Congressman Hakeem Jefferies stood as Master of Ceremonies for a Black History Celebration at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church where they had an opportunity to hear from Public Advocate Letitia James as well as District Attorney Ken Thompson.

Having the officials out in the community was encouraging and she would like us all to recognize the possibilities of a well understood community. When we can sit down and maturely discuss our grievances and resolutions as neighbors.

She reminds the audience to keep our seniors in mind during the winter season. Keep your homes well stocked with food, water, medications, and emergency items such as heating and lighting aids.

The Public Safety Committee meets on every 1st Wednesday in the Community Board Office. She encourages the audience to become involved and informed so that it can help make the change needed to improve our community.

A motion was made by Ms. Genese Morgan, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept the report of the Public Safety Committee.

Ms. Genese Morgan, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the Committee held a meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2015 and it was attended by Erica Mateo of the Brownsville Community Justice Center (BCJC) and Lashawn Allen-Muhammad of the Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation (CBEDC).

The BCJC presented information regarding their place making efforts along Belmont Avenue which included the implementation of two DOT street plazas in the Watkins Street and Osborn Street cul-de-sacs, the installation of a ground mural and hosting a street festival in August 2015 which will invite existing merchants on Belmont Avenue to sell goods/services on the outside of their establishment. Additional updates will be forthcoming.

The CBEDC shared via telephone that their application to the NYC Small Business Services Department Community Partner Program has been approved. CBEDC is now able to conduct initial employment screenings for applicants interested in employment through Workforce1. CBEDC will receive information regarding job orders directly from Workforce1, conduct employment screenings, and can make referrals to the main office. CBEDC is located here at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, Room 205; Brooklyn, NY 11212. For more information, please call (718) 498-4513.

The Dream Big Foundation 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. For more information, please contact Pernell Brice at (646) 241-1462 or Pernell.Brice@thedreambig.org.

The Brownsville Partnership is seeking vendors for the spring re-opening of the MGBPOPS Pop-Up Marketplace on Mother Gaston Boulevard. Interested vendors will be required to attend vendor orientation workshops which will be held tomorrow, February 25, 2015 and Friday, February 27, 2015 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street. For more information, please contact Cherisse Abasali at (929) 252-9299.

Lastly, the Committee encourages members of the community to join the East Kings County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta as they host an “Entrepreneur Boot Camp” on Saturday, February 28, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Medgar Evers Oasis Beacon, located at 210 Chester Street; Brooklyn, NY 11212. For more information, please contact EKCeconddev@gmail.com.

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. The Committee invites members of the community with interests in Economic Development to attend their next meeting which will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

If anyone has any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report, please feel free to contact Genese Morgan at bk16@cb.nyc.gov.

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

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker, in behalf of Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee, reported that the Committee met on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 to make final preparations for the Town Hall Meeting addressing homeless shelter sitings in Community District #16 which was held on Thursday, January 21st at 6:00 p.m.

This dialogue about DHS programs, our shared values and quality of life is very important as we begin to seek equity in appropriation of programs and services in the Ocean Hill/ Brownsville community.

The Committee advocated for the policy recommendations attached to her report to DHS and also prepared the attached 20 questions for the event.

The Committee held a teleconference on Wednesday, February 11th at 6:00 p.m. and critiqued the event. Several questions asked of DHS were not answered and the Committee followed up in writing and are awaiting responses. The Committee will reach out to neighboring community boards and plan for a follow up Town Hall meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman and carried to accept the report of the Health and Human Services Committee.

Ms. Adrainer Coleman, Vice Chairperson of the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee, in behalf of Ms. Bettie Kollock-Wallace, Chairperson, reported that the Committee met on February 10, 2015 with representatives from the Department of City Planning who reviewed a proposal to rezone the portion of Ocean Hill that is in the East New York Community Plan.

The Committee agrees with the following proposed rezoning:

- 1) Rezone area bounded by Sackman Street between Eastern Parkway and Truxton Street where there are residential units from M1-1 to R6A which will preserve existing residential areas, promote residential infill development, and allow moderate expansion.
- 2) Rezone both sides of Herkimer Street where there are residential units between Sherlock Place and Havens Place, and both sides of Sackman Street and Jardin Place where there are residential units between Herkimer Street and Atlantic Avenue from M1-2 to R6B and R5B which will preserve existing residential (3- to 5-stories) areas, promote residential infill development, and allow moderate expansion.
- 3) Rezone the south side of Fulton Street from M1-2 to M1-4/R7D to preserve existing industrial uses.
- 4) Rezone north side of East New York Avenue from Junius Street to Christopher Avenue, west side of Christopher Avenue to Liberty Avenue, north side of Liberty Avenue to East New York Avenue, east side of Mother Gaston Boulevard to Dean Street to Sackman Street to the south side of Atlantic Avenue from M1-4 to R7A/C2-4 which will enable mixed use growth with new housing (6- to 10-stories), businesses, and community facilities adjacent to major transit hub.

- 5) Rezone the north side of Atlantic at Jardin Place to Van Sinderen Avenue, along Van Sinderen Avenue to Fulton Street up to industrial uses down to Havens Place from M1-2 to C4-5D to preserve existing mixed-use character while promoting new medium density housing (6- to 10-stories), businesses, and community facilities near transit.
- 6) Rezone the south side of Broadway between Eastern Parkway and Van Sinderen Avenue from M1-1 to C4-4L to preserve existing mixed-use character while promoting new medium density housing (6- to 10-stories with a required setback above the 8th story along the elevated train). Lots not fronting the elevated train will enable development of buildings 6- to 8-stories with a setback above the 6th story.

The Committee recommends that the Community Board support these proposed rezoning to preserve existing residential areas and existing industrial uses, promote residential infill development, and mixed-use growth with new housing, businesses, and community facilities.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Daisy Jackson and carried to accept the report of the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee and its recommendations.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker, in behalf of Ms. Patricia Winston, Chairperson of the Senior Citizens Affairs Committee, reported that members of the Senior Citizen Affairs Committee met on February 18, 2015 with Mr. Shelton Jones from the Office of Brooklyn District Attorney Kenneth Thompson.

Mr. Jones informed the Committee about services provided by the Family Justice Center which is located at 350 Jay Street in downtown Brooklyn. The Family Justice Center is a walk-in center for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and sex trafficking. Services are free and available in multiple languages. They provide case management, counseling, legal information, and various referrals. For assistance, please contact the Brooklyn Family Justice Center at (718) 250-5111.

The next meeting of the Senior Citizens Committee will be on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 12:00 p.m. at the Community Board Office.

A motion was made by Ms. Daisy Jackson, seconded by Mr. David Alexander and carried to accept the report of the Senior Citizens Affairs Committee.

Ms. Pamela M. Junior, Chairperson of the Women's Committee, reported that the Committee met on Tuesday, January 22nd, Thursday, February 5th, and Tuesday, February 17th via conference call.

The Committee is preparing for its 2nd Annual Black Women's Footprint Forum that will be held at the Brownsville Heritage House on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from noon to 2:00 p.m. Dr. Cedric Olivera will be presenting on the subject of Incontinence: Causes and Solutions for both Men and Women.

Directly after the Forum, there will be a Jazz Concert featuring The Wade Barnes/Patricia Deans Tribute Band: The Word on the Street Ensemble. They will be performing from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Committee invites you to attend both the Forum and the concert and ask that you share this information with your church, your family, friends, and neighbors. Free refreshments will be provided at the Forum.

They will also host a second Forum on Saturday, June 20th, again at the Brownsville Heritage House, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This Forum will discuss seniors "loneliness / social adjustment" issues from the perspective of both the secular (real world) and the church (religious world) and the challenges that some of our young girls in the community are facing, to include sexual abuse via gangs and pimps.

If you have any issues that you would like the Women's Committee to address, please contact Ms. Junior at bkl6@cb.nyc.gov or at (718) 385-0323. The Committee invites you to join them, as your voice is the voice of the community, and they are here to serve you.

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

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace reminded everyone that there will be a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2016 Preliminary Capital and Expense Budget on March 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

She recognized Assemblywoman Latrice Walker.

Assemblywoman Walker stated that a new Assembly Speaker has been elected in Albany and she has received her committee assignments which are Economic Development, Corrections, Housing, Election Law, and Energy.

On the subject of energy, she wants the community to know that Con Edison will be making changes to its delivery system and she wants them to come out and explain the changes to the community.

The new Speaker, Carl Hastings, invited her to a meeting with Governor Cuomo. At this meeting 7 of the 150 members of the Assembly were given the opportunity to speak directly to the Governor. She was in this group and presented a laundry list of requests. She related a conversation she had with a constituent regarding Brookdale Hospital and asked for \$500,000,000 in funding for the hospital and to her surprise, the Governor agreed and they are looking at possibly building a new hospital.

She asks that the community continue to keep her in thought and prayer and that they continue to keep the heat on the legislature with letters, phone calls, and emails, to let Albany know that we are here and need the funds and services.

She met with representatives of Brownsville Partnership who were in Albany advocating for restoration of funds for their eviction prevention program. She took them around and they met with different committee chairs to advocate for funds.

There will be a bus leaving from 2194 Fulton Street on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00 a.m. to carry members of the community to Albany to advocate for schools. She invites interested persons to join them.

She hopes to reach an agreement soon on leasing space for her District Office at Rockaway and Pitkin Avenues. Her office can be reached by calling (212) 312-1484 or (518) 455-4466.

Mr. Charles Jackson, representing Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, stated that free income tax preparation will be available for individuals who earn \$30,000 or less and families with total incomes of \$70,000 or less. The service will be available at the Flatbush Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, located at 22 Linden Boulevard, on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and at the Flatbush YMCA, located at 1401 Flatbush Avenue, on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Both are walk-in sites.

Earlier today, the Chairman of the Federal Communication Commission (FCC), Tom Wheeler stated that he is leaning towards implementing rules for net neutrality. If net neutrality is not implemented, it is conceivable that service providers could implement a tiered system of internet service wherein internet providers could charge more money for faster delivery of specific content.

He suggests that the audience not take the Commissioner at his word and visit fcc.gov/comments.

He reminded the audience that enrollment period for individuals to change plans under the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) has past. However, individuals who did not enroll this year or last year, may do so by April 30th without incurring a penalty. You may call (855) 355-5777.

He recently attended a meeting and it was brought to his attention that the level of service at the Brownsville Postal Station is poor. He asks that persons having problems with the Postal Service contact him with details of the issue. He prefers, where possible, that the complaints be emailed to him. This way he can forward the email to the appropriate parties. The complaint should contain a brief description of the problem along with the date and approximate time. His email address is charles.jackson@mail.house.gov, and the telephone number is (718) 287-1142.

Mr. Roopesh Ramjit, representing Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr., reported that Councilmember Espinal just returned from Israel where he and a number of his colleagues explored possibilities for economic partnership between Israel and the City of New York.

He stated that he heard the presentation by the Department of City Planning and wants the community to know that Councilmember Espinal has also met with them as well as District Manager Greene-Walker to ensure that the community's voice is being heard. He can be reached by calling (718) 642-8664 or by email at rramjit@council.nyc.gov.

Mr. Richard Nelson, representing Senator Jesse Hamilton, III, announced that Senator Hamilton is sponsoring a career development workshop on March 5th which will be held at St. Frances de Sales School for the Deaf, located at 260 Eastern Parkway. He urges anyone seeking employment to attend.

Anyone seeking constituent services may call Senator Hamilton's office at (718) 284-4700. You may also visit Senator Hamilton's office at 1669 Bedford Avenue at the corner of Montgomery Street.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, announced that there will be several events commemorating Black History Month at Borough Hall. Person's interested in learning about Black History may visit the Borough President's website at brooklyn-usa.org where they can find trivia and photographs.

Constituent Services is available to persons in need of assistance by calling (718) 802-3777.

On February 26th from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., they will host an event entitled Black History – Black Business in Brooklyn: Legacy and Longevity. There will be a small entrepreneur expo from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. followed by a program honoring 25 outstanding Black-owned Brooklyn-based businesses that have been in operation twenty years or more. Please call (718) 802-4042, to RSVP for this event.

Each month the Borough President's Office invites a different City agency to come out and speak to borough residents about their agency. On March 11th, representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection will speak on such topics as flooding, sewer backups, catch basins, understanding your water bill, noise, air and water concerns.

He can be reached by calling (718) 802-2681 or (347) 942-1692

Regarding plans to develop our communities, he urges residents and entrepreneurs to do what they need to do to ready themselves so that they can take advantage of these plans. If they wait until it is time to build it will be too late. Go back to school and learn the skills you may need, clean up your credit, and start saving for downpayments now.

Ms. Ineisha Williford, representing Councilmember Darlene Mealy, stated that earlier tonight you heard about an application by HPD to develop low-income housing. Councilmember Mealy wants the community to know that she is opposing this application because it does not offer homeownership. The property is supposed to be in the New Foundations Program (which is an HPD homeownership program). It is her goal to increase homeownership throughout this community.

The Office of the Mayor, the New York City Council, and the New York Academy of Medicine have partnered to create Age-friendly NYC.

Healthy, active and engaged older people are assets to all areas of city life. Age-friendly NYC challenges all sectors of the city to rethink aging and consider how best to serve and benefit from this growing population.

Councilmember Mealy will sponsor a Town Hall meeting on March 7th at Trinity Methodist Church to gather opinions and suggestion regarding this issue from seniors and their caretakers.

Tomorrow, February 25th they will be honoring Mr. Gerald Childs and Ms. Carrie Scarborough as local heroes and encourage everyone to come out and share in this occasion.

On Saturday, February 28th they will host the Greg "Jocko" Jackson Film Festival at the Brownsville Heritage House from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Chairperson Kollock- Wallace recognized Ms. Jacqueline Kennedy of the Brownsville Partnership.

Ms. Kennedy stated that the agency is moving to their new location at 519 Rockaway Avenue effective March 9th.

As was mentioned in the report of the Economic Development Committee, they are currently recruiting for the second season of the Brownsville POPS marketplace. Entrepreneurs who may be seeking a place to do business but are not ready for a storefront should reach out to them.

They are also offering free business courses to interested persons; even if they are not looking to be a part of the marketplace.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. William Boone of the Medgar Evers-Oasis Beacon Program.

Mr. Boone announced that they are currently accepting applications for their summer camp program at 210 Chester Street.

He also announced that the youth will be presenting various performances in dance and martial arts, on February 27th at 6:30 p.m. He invites the audience to attend.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Christopher Durosinmi of the Department of Education.

Mr. Durosinmi stated that he is a Community Coordinator for Universal Pre-K and is here to announce that the enrollment period for children 4 years or older begins on March 16th and runs through April 24th. You can get information on nearby locations by visiting nyc.gov/prek, texting prek to 877877, or by dialing 311.

Assemblywoman Walker commented that a number of Pre-K seats were taken away from Brownsville this year and given to the Coney Island community. This was done because of under enrollment. She urges the community to take advantage and enroll their children or risk losing additional seats.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. James Moultrie of National Teen Empowerment of Brownsville.

Mr. Moultrie announced that they will host a breakfast at 10:00 a.m. on March 14th at 87 Dumont Avenue.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Ms. Dweynie Paul, Esq.

Ms. Paul stated that she is the Director of Community Service for the Metropolitan Black Bar Association. They will sponsor a free Community Law Day event in the lobby of Restoration Plaza on Saturday, February 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be a team of volunteer lawyers present to answer questions about any facet of law.

She also left a fact sheet on premise liability as it relates to snow and ice on tonight's distribution table.

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