

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – APRIL 26, 2016

Attendance

David Alexander
Carolyn A. Benjamin-Smith
Margaret Brewer
Rev. Mark Broomes (A)
Aaron Brown (A)
Dr. Cleopatra Brown
Anthony Clark
Adrainer Coleman
Carlos Diaz
Brenda Duchene
Christopher Durosinmi (A)
Norman Frazier
Danny Goodine
Rose Graham
Chanel Haliburton (A)
Sarah Hall
Jessie Hilliard
Michael Howard
Prince Issachar (E)
Carl Joseph (E)
Pamela Junior (E)
Eula Key
Danny King
Bettie Kollock-Wallace
Charles Ladson, Sr.
Carolyn Lee (E)
Quardean Lewis-Allen (A)

Albion Liburd (E)
Deborah Mack (E)
Yolanda Matthews
John McCadney, Jr.
Andrea McCullough
Genese Morgan
Marie Pierre
Mattie Pusey (A)
Linda Rivera
Wendy Rutherford (A)
Celina Trowell (A)
Ernestine Turner
Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu
Yvette Williams-Lawson (A)
Pat Winston
Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Hon. Roxanne Persaud
Hon. Latrice Walker
Reginald Belon for Hon. Yvette Clark
Frieda Menos for Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Tahira Moore for Hon. Bill de Blasio
Cory Provost for Hon. Scott Stringer
Carlos Soto for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.
Maurice Philips for Hon. Darlene Mealy
Shelton Jones for. Hon. Kenneth Thompson

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

Chairperson Bettie Kollock-Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and requested a moment of silent prayer.

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

She recognized representatives from the Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center (Brookdale).

Dr. Magdalena Lombardi Plasilova stated that she is a breast cancer surgeon with Brookdale's newly formed Breast Center. Along with her this evening are Dr. Vladimir Gotlieb, Oncologist, Ms. Deborah Als, Administrator of Radiology Services, and Ms. Donna Yearwood, the Breast Center's Coordinator.

She comes to Brookdale by way of Yale-New Haven Hospital where she received her training in breast surgery. She was recruited last year to assist in the development of Brookdale's Breast Center which is now the second such center in Brooklyn as well as the only one in eastern Brooklyn.

One of their goals for tonight is to bring awareness to the community about Brookdale's Breast Center. As you may be aware, breast cancer is second only to skin cancer as common cancers in women. When detected early, and breast cancer is easily treated and can have a good prognosis. Early detection and treatment save lives and families.

When she began looking at the numbers of breast cancer reporting in east Brooklyn, she found something very striking to her. The number of reported breast cancer cases are significantly and seriously being under-detected. When comparing the number of reported cases in east Brooklyn as compared to the State of New York, the numbers were off by nearly 25%. This suggests that breast cancers are not being properly diagnosed in the community. A poor job is being done in screening and diagnosing women and even men with high risk of breast cancer.

At Brookdale, they are trying to change this by promoting screenings and mammograms and are seeking the assistance of the community to help raise awareness about screening and breast cancer detection. They opened the Breast Center on March 4, 2016 and are already seeing a rise in screenings and detection of breast cancer in the community.

They believe in a multidisciplinary approach to cancer management and have a team to treat patients and help them and their families get through the diagnoses and treatments.

Ms. Margaret Brewer thanked Dr. Plasilova for bringing this issue to the attention of the community and asked her what she attributed to the low detection rates and if they are a referral service?

Dr. Plasilova stated it is a complex issue with no one answer? One of the problems they found is awareness which is why they go out into the community and do presentations such as what they are doing tonight. Many patients are scared of detection and of doctors. Access to affordable healthcare is also an issue for some patients.

Regarding referrals, ideally they would like the patient to have a primary care physician who would refer the patient to the Breast Center.

Dr. Cleopatra Brown asked if all insurance companies are accepted?

Ms. Donna Yearwood stated that all major insurers, except Metro Plus, are accepted.

Dr. Brown stated that some of the seniors in the community are mobility challenged. Does Brookdale make arrangements for transporting them to the hospital?

Ms. Yearwood stated that some of the insurers provide transportation, but Brookdale does not.

Mr. John McCadney, Jr. stated that it is his understanding that many African-American women have what is termed “dense breast” which makes normal mammograms if not painful, very uncomfortable physically. He also has been informed that there are alternatives that make the procedure more comfortable for said women. Are these alternatives available at the Center?

Dr. Plasilova stated that patients with dense breast often have their cancer missed using normal mammograms and are candidates for using ultrasound procedures to detect tumors in their breast. Breast MRIs may also be performed. However, because of the sensitivity of the MRIs they can produce false positive which may cause the patient to undergo needless biopsies. Therefore, they only recommend breast MRIs for patients with a strong family history of cancer or those with an extreme intolerance for the pain caused by a normal mammogram.

Mr. Danny King asked Dr. Plasilova how long has she been in the industry?

Dr. Plasilova stated that she does not look at medicine as an “industry”. What is the reasoning behind the question?

Mr. King asked if the Breast Center is a consulting agency?

Dr. Plasilova stated that the Breast Center is a unit of Brookdale that has been developed from scratch. They are currently seeking accreditation and work along the line of a Sloane-Kettering type of institution serving east Brooklyn.

Mr. King stated that it is important for there to be accreditation and an advisory board, if the women of the community are to rely on the center.

Ms. Essie Duggan stated that she heard a lot about treating breast cancer tonight, but what she has not heard is about preventative measures. She feels that it is an important part of the discussion that should take place in presentations such as tonight’s.

Dr. Plasilova stated that this a valid point. They do speak to patients who come in the center and their families about prevention.

Dr. Vladimir Gotlieb stated that Brookdale is part of the fabric of the community. He has seen how loyal the staff and patients are to the institution. He enjoys hearing the questions being

asked tonight because he knows that they are asked because the community wants Brookdale to be the best it can possibly be.

Ms. Duggan stated that she has heard repeatedly this evening that the Breast Center was started from scratch. What is the source of funding for the program?

Dr. Gotlieb stated that the hospital has always had breast cancer patients that they have treated. The Center is more about bringing multiple disciplines together to work collaboratively, rather than an influx of funding. Some new technologies were brought in as well.

Dr. Plasilova stated that as a surgeon, she wanted to bring the technologies that they use up to date in order to bring about the best possible outcomes without patients needing to travel away from their community.

Someone stated that he understands that tonight's focus is on breast cancer; however, he would like to know if they also work with patients with other cancers.

Dr. Gotlieb stated that major cancers in the United States are skin, lung, breast, prostate, and colon. When speaking about women, skin and breast cancer are most prevalent. When speaking about the general population lung cancer is the number one killer in the United States. There are about 180,000 reported cases of lung cancer per year with about 150,000 leading to death. In the United States, breast cancer survival rates are far better (especially when diagnosed early).

Around 2010 – 2011, doctors began screening for lung cancer. In part because there are so many people who smoke or are subjected to secondhand smoke, screening for lung cancer in the United States would cost the Medicare system in excess of \$1,000,000,000 a year. It was not allowed as an accepted procedure until five years later. One out of every one hundred and thirty-one persons screened for lung cancer will be diagnosed with the disease. Is it worth it? Yes, it could be your loved one or it could be you.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked Dr. Plasilova and her colleagues for a very informative presentation and next called Inspector Iglesias of the 73rd Precinct.

Inspector Iglesias introduced 9 of 13 new officers who are currently enrolled in the Police Academy. Having trained for approximately two months, they are now undergoing real life field training and will return to the Academy to complete their training. This is a new initiative which he thinks will work well for all concerned. Additionally, there are eight new officers assigned to the 73rd Precinct which will bring the total to 21 new officers as of July 2016.

The last 28 days have seen crime in the Precinct rise 6.2%. Year-to-date crime is up 3%. The categories that are of greatest issue currently are robberies, burglaries, and grand larceny-auto (GLA). GLAs are really concerning to him at the moment. They are finding that thieves are using a white Econoline van to steal motorcycles. He is asking the audience to advise their neighbors who have motorcycles that they park on the street, to park them in their driveways where possible.

He also calls upon the community to call the police to report a suspicious vehicle, if they see a white van parked on their block where motorcycles are also parked.

Burglaries continue to spike in the area bounded by Eastern Parkway, Ralph Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Thomas S. Boyland Street. They are getting a lot of break-ins where the thieves are simply climbing in through unlocked windows. He is asking members of the audience who may know someone living in these boundaries to advise them to secure their windows.

Lastly, there have been a rash of car break-ins in the area of Junius Street as well as the vicinity of Truxton Street and Fulton Street.

Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. stated that he has been informed that during the early morning hours (about 2:00 a.m.), the subway shuttle operates slowly and there are few people on the street. Late night travelers on the corridor are fearful of being robbed or worse. Can there be officers posted at the location?

Inspector Iglesias stated that he no longer has the manpower to dedicate a foot post to each station at night, however, there are patrol cars in the area of each of the stations in the Precinct that are along Livonia Avenue.

Someone stated that he heard the Inspector's request for the community to be vigilant with regard to motorcycle thefts. What is the Department's plan of action to combat such spikes?

Inspector Iglesias stated that any time he sees a crime trend in a particular are, he steps up enforcement.

He is into preventive policing. He attends these meeting and provides information on crime trends in the hope that the audience will share the information with their neighbors and act accordingly.

Someone asked what progress is being made with regard to the flow of drugs into our community?

Inspector Iglesias stated that with regard to the flow into the community, that is the jurisdiction of the Organized Crime Unit. Once the drugs are here in the Precinct, and he knows a location where they are being distributed, he attacks it. Currently, one such location is the area of Mother Gaston Boulevard between Belmont and Sutter Avenues where you see persons who appear to be drug users and dealers.

Ms. Blanche L. Peltonbusch thanked Inspector Iglesias and his officers for their work in the community.

Someone asked if Inspector Iglesias could report on gang violence in the community?

Inspector Iglesias stated that he is currently targeting two crews in the Precinct, one is responsible for the burglaries and the other is the crew operating on Stone Avenue (Mother Gaston Boulevard).

Someone stated that stabbings are spiking in the city. How is he dealing with that in the Precinct?

Inspector Iglesias stated that he does not focus on trends for the city. His concern is what is happening in the 73rd Precinct. They are up two stabbings. His take on the situation is mental health assistance needs to be improved. Earlier in the year he may have been a bit more concerned because the slashings were being done by youth, but that subsided. Domestic violence may have come to mind as a cause, but that has also subsided.

Ms. Mabel Davis asked how long is the probation period for the new officers?

Inspector Iglesias stated that it is two years.

Someone stated that many of the crimes being committed by gang members are post on facebook. Does the Department monitor facebook?

Inspector Iglesias stated that facebook has become the way of boasting about an act done by a gang member and the Department actively monitors facebook for these admissions.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace invited Community Affairs Officer Keoma Boone to say a few words.

Police Officer Boone introduced her partner Police Office Shirma Daniel-Spiers and stated that there are two things that they bring up at every meeting, terrorism and graffiti. Regarding terrorism, they ask that the community remain vigilant of suspicious activities and persons in the community and to report it to the precinct.

She encourages any property owner with graffiti on their exterior walls to report it to their office at (718) 495-5422. The City has a program where the graffiti will be painted over at no charge.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked Inspector Iglesias and his officers for their presentations and next called forward Dr. Torian Easterling of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Dr. Easterling stated that he is the Assistant Commissioner for the Department of Health. He asked if the audience is familiar with the Community Health Profile? He wants the community to be aware of the profiles and how the Department of Health intends for them to be used. He

wants the community to use them as tools to advocate for health needs. New York City is comprised of various neighborhoods. When they look at certain health outcomes such as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity, they know that certain outcomes are worst in certain neighborhoods. When they look at Brooklyn and particularly Community Districts 3,4, 5, and 16, they see some of the worst outcomes as compared to the rest of Brooklyn and the City as a whole. When overlaid with social indicators like poverty and lack of affordable housing, they see the same poor outcomes in these communities.

This tells them that in order to improve the health outcomes in these communities they must also have a role in improving access to quality food, affordable housing, and employment. We know that education is one of the main drivers of these goals. One of the indicators in the Health Profile is the rate that children fail to show at school. Brownsville, Bedford-Stuyvesant, and East New York have some of the worst rates of school attendance in the city. The question he asks is does your zip code affect your health outcome? The Department of Health is saying that it should not. No matter what community you live in you should have the same opportunities to achieve optimal health.

It is their hope that as you go through the profile you will see where we, as a community, are not putting enough resources and reach out to your elected officials to get the needed resources. As Inspector Iglesias stated earlier this evening, mental health is a major issue, particularly as it concerns the rate of adult psychiatric hospitalizations in Brownsville which is more than two times the Brooklyn and New York City rates and that can be seen in the profile.

As an agency, they are now allocating funds towards collaborating with community-based organizations that are interested in assisting in resolving these issues. They hosted a community forum with 60 individuals in attendance and prioritized health issues that they want to address in their neighborhoods. The number one issue was mental health. Also mentioned were violence prevention, addressing hypertension, and addressing obesity in our neighborhood. They are looking for organizations that will help them address these priority areas and have allocated funds to do this.

The Neighborhood Health Profiles can be found on their website: nyc.gov/health.

Someone asked if the profiles show how funds are allocated towards the issues in each neighborhood?

Dr. Easterling stated that they do not; they only show health outcomes and the socio-economic indicators of the residents.

Assemblywoman Latrice Walker thanked Dr. Easterling and Commissioner Mary Travis Bassett, M.D. for compiling the data for the profiles. It is the type of data that is used when determining whether or not a community is eligible for funding. The legislature has been talking about building a new hospital in the community. She encourages everyone in the audience to obtain Dr. Easterling's contact information, so that we can insure that we are partners with the Department of Health to make sure that once the resources come down from Albany that they are directed towards neighborhoods such as Brownsville.

Dr. Easterling encouraged organizations to reach out to him to apply for the funding to help improve the health outcomes in the neighborhood.

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

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Mr. Alexander to waive the reading of the minutes.

District Manager Greene-Walker highlighted the following articles found in her report:

- Affordable Housing for Rent - Applications are now being accepted for 86 newly constructed units at 1740-1760 Prospect Place and 396 Saratoga Avenue.
- SUNY Attain Lab at 1604 St. John's Place.

- Street Resurfacing - On or about the week of April 25, 2016, the following streets will be milled in preparation for resurfacing by the NYC Department of Transportation Roadway Repair and Maintenance Division:
 - Pitkin Avenue from Rockaway Avenue to Junius Street
 - Osborn Street from Riverdale Avenue to Linden Boulevard
 - Blake Avenue from Rockaway Avenue to Van Sinderen Avenue
 - Watkins Street from Livonia Avenue to Lott Avenue
 - Osborn Street from dead end/Pitkin Avenue to Belmont Avenue
 - Hegeman Avenue from Thomas S. Boyland Street to Mother Gaston Boulevard

Additionally, the report contains a number of grants that are available, some of which are time sensitive.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Ms. Eula Key to accept the report of the District Manager.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Assemblywoman Latrice Walker.

Assemblywoman Walker stated that the state legislature is currently on a brief recess and she will be working from her District Office through May 3rd. They just passed a historic budget which she is very proud of. She will not go into the details at this time, but wants the community to know that they had to fight hard to get the SUNY ATTAIN Program into the community and she encourages the community to make full use of the facility or face losing it. Senator Velmanette Montgomery has been championing getting the facility into our community for some time.

She wants the audience to know that all of the courses available at SUNY ATTAIN Lab are free of cost. There are courses in nursing, child care, home care, health care, office skills, security officer training, resume building, computer training, and many more. They offer certification in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Access, and Outlook. They provide classes and test preparation for the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC – formerly GED). They also provide college remedial mathematics, reading, and writing.

The lab is a valuable resource to our community, it is a SUNY in our neighborhood. Not long ago, there were no high schools in our community, now we are on the verge of having a college. However, if we don't use it, we will lose it. This lab was once located in Bushwick. It is no longer there because it was not treated properly by the neighborhood. She strongly encourages young and old to take advantage of the lab. The lab is located at 1604 Saint John's Place between Ralph and Buffalo Avenues.

She has someone in her office who will assist in completing insurance applications for those who may need the assistance. They can also assist small businesses who need to provide insurance for their employees. The service will be available on the second and fourth Wednesday, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, you may call (718) 875-9300. She reminds everyone that if they do not have health insurance, they will be penalized.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Daniel Goodine.

Mr. Goodine announced the recent passing of Dwayne "Pearl" Washington, a basketball phenome who grew up in the Brownsville neighborhood and rose to national fame. He played for Syracuse University and went on to play in the NBA.

Mr. Goodine asked that the Brownsville community come together and show the family that Mr. Washington was appreciated.

He added that we often look outside our community for help, but he and many others are here and are ready to help however they can. He encourages anyone who wants to help the youth of the community and need assistance to reach out to him through District Manager Greene-Walker.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Senator Roxanne Persaud.

Senator Persaud stated that like Assemblywoman Walker, with whom she works closely in Albany, she is in her district through next week when she will also return to Albany. As was

mentioned, the legislature just passed a historic budget wherein they were able to allocate much money for education.

They fought hard for education and also fought to see that funding was brought to our community for health care. Today, Mayor de Blasio laid out plans for the NYC Health + Hospitals' (formerly Health and Hospitals Corporation) Transformation Plan. In addition to the Transformation Plan, Governor Cuomo is talking about the network hospitals. The discussion around the network hospitals, which include Brookdale, is whether or not to close some of them and how to fund them. They were able to allocate 700 million dollars for Brookdale, but how it will be distributed remains in question. She urges the audience to write and call the governor and state legislature to ensure that Brookdale Hospital remains in the community.

Her District Office is located at 1222 East 96th Street, however, over the past few months they have been bringing mobile offices throughout her Senatorial District in order to bring services to those constituents who may not be able to get to the District Office. Her monthly newsletters contain information on when and where the mobile office events will take place.

She recently hosted an IDNYC pop-up at her office. During the three-week event, they assisted over 500 people in getting their IDs. She wants to continue to do these types of events and others.

Ms. Marie Monk-Boone is her liaison to Community District #16 and she encourages the community to reach out to her with their concerns. Her office number is (718) 649-7653.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Christopher Durosinmi.

Mr. Durosinmi stated he is the Brooklyn Coordinator for the Pre-K for All initiative as well as the Mayor's NYC Men Teach initiative.

If your child was born in 2012 and you live in New York City, you may submit an application from May 2 to May 20, 2016. There are several ways that you may apply. You can reach out to him by calling (212) 637-8033 to complete an application – it takes about 5 minutes. You may also apply online by visiting: nyc.gov/pre-k. The third way you can apply is by visiting the Family Welcome Center, located in the District Office at 1665 St. Mark's Place.

In regards to the NYC Men Teach initiative, it is a part of the Mayor's Young Men's Initiative and is geared towards bringing 3,000 men of color into the classroom by 2017. As a general rule, there is a lot of red tape when dealing with governmental programs. This initiative is designed to eliminate much of that red tape. For instance, if you hold a bachelor's degree, you can be placed in a classroom almost immediately. In some cases, if you accept placement in an underserved community such as Brownsville, Bedford-Stuyvesant, or East New York, you may be paid a higher wage. If you attended a school in this community, you know that not many of the teachers look like the students they are teaching. This is an opportunity to bring greater diversity to the schools and offer the students role models.

He encouraged anyone with interest in either initiative to call him.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Ms. L. Joy Williams of the Brooklyn Branch of the NAACP.

Ms. Williams stated that she is the President of the Brooklyn Branch of the NAACP and she is present this evening with several of her chapter members. The Brooklyn Branch is different from branches in the other boroughs in that it represents the entire borough. They try their best to get the message out throughout Brooklyn.

The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) is over a century old and its mission continues to be to stop race-based discrimination throughout the nation. They advocate for political, educational, economical, health, and quality food and housing equality for people of color throughout the country.

The Brooklyn Branch was founded in 1914, following legislation that was introduced in Congress over lynching. They have several committees. Their award-winning Health Committee advocates for resources for needed services (Some of which were discussed earlier this evening.). They also work to remove the disparity in care that is available in communities of

color. They educate the community regarding diseases such diabetes, hypertension, and mental health affecting the overall health of people of color.

Their Civic Engagement Committee is very active in this year where there are several elections. They are doing outreach events to register voters and recently registered over 200 high school students who will be voting for the very first time this year. They target areas with a high population of African-Americans that do not normally go out to vote and provide information to them. This is important, as a recent report found many voting irregularities such as persons who are habitual voters not appearing in the poll book. They will meet on Thursday to determine whether there is sufficient cause to bring about a lawsuit concerning the disfranchising of persons who were turned away at the recent primary elections.

This past October, their Labor and Industry Committee hosted a job fair in this very venue. With so much construction taking place in Brooklyn, we need to ensure that not only are units that are affordable to residents in the communities that are built in, but also that the jobs that are created by the projects include that population.

Pamphlets with information about the branch as well membership applications were distributed. Membership is \$30 per year and the meet for an hour and a half each month. Their next meeting will be held tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Bed-Stuy Restoration Center. She encourages the audience to join their membership.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. David McLeod of CAMBA Legal Services.

Mr. McLeod stated that they are located at 885 Flatbush Avenue. They provide legal services in the following areas: Section 8 and other related proceedings, administrative hearings (NYCHA and HPD), anti-eviction legal services to tenants, including legal advice and representation in non-payment proceedings, holdovers, actions for repairs, rent overcharge complaints, assisting seniors with SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption) applications, consumer law, domestic violence services, foreclosure prevention, and immigration legal services.

Mr. David Alexander asked if they also offer assistance with DRIE (Disability Rent Increase Exemption) applications?

Mr. McLeod stated that they do.

Mr. Alexander asked if they also have a HIV/AIDS component?

Mr. McLeod stated that they do.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Danny King.

Mr. King stated that he is the Chief Executive Officer for the Federation of Multicultural Programs (FMCP) which is one of the oldest programs in Brownsville, having served mental challenged individuals in the community for over 50 years. The program is currently under siege. He wants the community to know that are outside agencies that are threatening to takeover community-based organizations such as his. FMCP is valued at over \$28,000,000 and he believes that it is worth fighting to keep it community-based and be taken over by outside agencies such as SUS (Services for the Underserved).

He introduced Ms. Regina Felton, Esq. who is representing FMCP in their case to retain control of the organization.

Ms. Felton stated that her office is located in Bedford-Stuyvesant on Fulton Street at Marcy Avenue and she is representing FMCP which has a Notice of Petition filed against them. The Notice was not filed in Brooklyn but rather in Albany. This means that whenever there is a court date they must travel to Albany. One might ask: "Why is this?"; the answer is easy. Aside from the burden of having to travel to Albany for court appearances, the court is not part of the State's E-Courts system that allows attorneys to do online lookups of documents, review what has been filed, and see the position of the each of the attorneys. If they need documents with respect to the prosecution of the Federation, they must travel to Albany to get the documentation. This is being done in a calculated manner in order to prevent the Federation from being able to properly defend themselves.

A petition was filed to dissolve FMCP. The fact is that the petition is defective. She is of the opinion that FMCP's previous attorney did not put up a good fight. This may be due to fact that the receiver who was appointed to operate the organization stopped payment on checks to the attorney and other parties who were assisting the Federation in their fight against dissolution. Along with the attorney, the expert witness was not paid, and the funds for their appealed were stopped.

FMCP employs 550 individuals from the community. It is important that they stay in business in order to keep those jobs in the community. A number of employees of FMCP, whose combined experience is over one hundred years, have been discharged by the State Attorney General. The reason being given by the court for the dissolution is that they "lack the sophistication required to run such a large organization". This is not a violation of the law. They have been running the organization for over 50 years. They tried to find some misconduct, some wrongdoing, or malfeasance, but could not find any. Mr. King does not sign any checks and has nothing to do with the money- so there is no path there to put FMCP out of business.

She wants the community to know that it is important that they standup in support of the Federation in their fight to maintain control of the organization. There are no allegations of wrongdoing, Mr. King is not being charged with misconduct, there is no misappropriation of funds. The fact is that there are agencies, outside of this community, that desire to take control of FMCP's operations. We must not allow this to happen. If it does, 550 jobs in this community could be lost. She urges the audience to contact Mr. King to find out what they can do to keep FMCP from being divided amongst outsiders.

Someone asked how they might get in contact with Mr. King?

Mr. King can be reached at (718) 431-5609.

Ms. Felton stated that yesterday, she filed a temporary restraining order and at 4:45 p.m., today, she received an email from the State Solicitor General who is work along with the State Attorney General to dissolve FMCP. They are stating the reason for the action is to ensure the safety and health of the persons in FMCPs care. She has just learned that two days ago, while under the aegis of the State, a longtime resident did not receive proper care and subsequently died. No such problem ever occurred with FMCP before the receivership. The receiver, who in the six months he has been in place, has paid himself \$975,000 from FMCP's budget and removed the care this individual had.

Someone asked if this issue has been in the news?

Ms. Felton stated that it has not. She has spoken to members of the news media, but none have had the wherewithal to take up the story. It is her belief that the State is going after the Federation merely because it is lucrative and wanted by entities outside this community. If there were misconduct found, she is certain that the State would have filed here in the city and paraded her clients before the community for scrutiny. You have heard that because it is not true.

Someone asked where is the Federation located?

Mr. King stated that they are located at 2 Van Sinderen Avenue (near Broadway Junction) and has been there for 30 years. He further stated that they will not give up in their battle. FMCP is a vital part of the community serving over 700 persons and being an economic engine of the community.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace thanked the evening's presenters for the information they provided to the audience and next called forward Ms. Genese Morgan.

Ms. Morgan, as Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the Committee met on Thursday, April 21, 2016 with Ms. LaShawn Allen-Muhammad of the Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation. Ms. Allen-Muhammad introduced SONYC-BIZ which is a citywide afterschool program for youth who are enrolled in grades 6 through 8 and focuses on entrepreneurship. The program will accept 90 students who are expected to improve reading and cognitive processing skills through an entrepreneurial experience led by a mentor with expert knowledge of the industry or business focused on by the group.

Kick-off and registration will take place from April 19, 2016 to May 6, 2016. Interested individuals should contact the Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation which is located at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, on the 2nd Floor. For more information, please call (718) 498-4513.

Daniel Murphy of the Pitkin Avenue BID is requesting an updated resolution of support from the Community Board to re-apply for public funds available through a grant of the New York Main State Street program. In June 2015, the Board voted to issue this resolution; however, the submitted application was not funded by New York State Main Street Program.

The grant would allow the Pitkin Avenue BID to offer façade improvement grants to a limited number of businesses that agree to help beautify the commercial corridor along Pitkin Avenue by upgrading their storefront façades with a matching grant from New York Main Street program.

The Committee recommends that the Board support issuing an updated resolution in support of the Pitkin Avenue BID.

The East Kings County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta will host its 2nd Annual Entrepreneurship Boot Camp Pitch Competition on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the office of Assemblywoman Latrice Walker, located on the 2nd Floor of 400 Rockaway Avenue, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact EKCeconddev@gmail.com.

The New York City Department of Youth and Community Development is accepting applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program for youth ages 14 to 24. Interested individuals can apply online at www.nyc.gov/dycd or if you have further questions about SYEP, contact NYC Youth Connect at (800) 246-4646. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 29, 2016.

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 the next Committee meeting which will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, and carried to accept the report of the Economic Development Committee and its recommendation.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker, in behalf of Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, reported that the Committee held a teleconference on April 11, 2016 to review two pieces of legislation that were passed in the State Legislature and included in the State's budget.

They are A-7257 and its companion bill S-5602 which address increasing the minimum wage. In the last Legislative Committee report, detailed information on these bills was given and the Committee is providing an update now that they have been passed into law.

The other piece of legislation is A-3870 and its companion bill S-3004 – Paid Family Leave. These bills would gradually provide up to 12 weeks of paid leave benefits for workers who have been employed at least 6 months, to care for an infant, a family member with serious health conditions, or to ease the burden placed on families when earners are called into active military service. Benefits will begin in 2018 with 8 weeks of leave payable at 50% of an employee's average weekly wage, 50% of the statewide average weekly wage, and by 2021 provides 12 weeks of leave payable at 67% of employee's average weekly wage, and 67% of the statewide average weekly wage. This will be entirely funded through a small payroll deduction from employees. Anyone seeking detailed information on either pieces of legislation may access the State Assembly website at www.assembly.state.ny.us/leg.

The next Legislative Committee meeting will be held on May 9th in the Community Board office.

A motion was made by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, seconded by Mr. David Alexander, and carried to accept the report of the Legislative Committee and their recommendations.

Ms. Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that on April 6th, the Committee met with the Public Safety Chairperson of Community Board #5, Mr. Vincent Riggins, who presented a resolution against the New York Police Department's

Broken Windows Policy and requested Community Board #16's support. The Public Safety Committee suggested that Community Board #5's Public Safety Committee provide more information.

In sharing the resolution with the Executive Committee of Community Board #16, it is being recommended that Community Board #16 not support the resolution, as written in its current form.

She plans to meet with NYCHA's tenant association presidents to discuss the residents' position in public safety and review and/or create a plan to follow throughout the summer.

She will also reach out to active community-based organizations to review their plans for the District for the summer months.

It is her belief that these actions will be effective in getting on one accord as a community as well as to inform the community of the available resources and activities.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Ms. Pat Winston, Chairperson of the Seniors Citizens Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 with Ms. Sharon Devonish-Leid, Director of Community Relations at Brookdale Hospital, who informed the Committee about services being brought to the community and their efforts to change public opinions of Brookdale from negative to positive.

Professional staff from Brookdale have visited several senior centers in the community, asking them about their needs and educating them on community health care issues. Topics of interest to name a few are geriatrics, occupational therapy, primary care, and urology.

Brookdale also has a pharmacy that is open 7 days a week and will make FREE deliveries. Your doctor can email your prescription to the pharmacy and you don't need to have a doctor affiliated with Brookdale to get the service.

Ms. Devonish-Leid also stressed the need to use Brookdale's Urgent Care Center which is located on Rockaway Parkway opposite the Hospital. You may use the Urgent Care Center for non-life threatening illnesses such as a cold, flu and sprain ankle. They are open Monday thru Sunday from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. No appointment is necessary. The Urgent Care Center also has a Radiology Department.

If you would like Brookdale at your door to do a presentation on health care issues, contact Sharon Devonish-Leid at (718) 240-8670 or email: sdevonis@bhmcny.org.

Brookdale Hospital's Annual Community Health and Street Fair will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Rockaway Parkway from Linden Boulevard to Church Avenue.

The next Senior Citizens Affairs Committee meeting will convene on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 12:00 noon in the Community Board Office.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to accept the report of the Senior Citizens Affairs Committee.

Mr. David Alexander, Chairperson of the Youth Service Planning Committee, reported that on Thursday, April 14, 2016, the Committee met to discuss outcomes of meetings with the three principals of schools that were selected from data collected from various analyses conducted concerning school performances in School District 23. The Committee concluded that there were overlapping problems facing all three schools. The findings are as follows:

- Insufficient social services within the schools, in particular where the student(s) live in transitional housing or student(s) have special needs
- Insufficient social workers or counselors.

- Disconnect between the Department of Education and Department of Homeless Services in schools where there are a high volume of students living in transitional housing
- Insufficient community-based services for after school programs to address the needs for students to bring up their grades
- Insufficient workshops for parents dealing with problem students in the school system (students living in transitional housing and students with special needs)
- Insufficient training for teachers where students may have emotional problems.
- In one school, there is a low turnout of teachers and substitute teachers have to replace the teachers who are out due to an assortment of medical problems. This creates a hindrance to teaching the students on a continuum, which creates havoc for involved in the process.
- Insufficient number of parent coordinators, books in the libraries, parent involvement, and housing opportunities for the families living in the transitional housing system
- A need for classes in economics/finances for lower grade schools

The Committee decided to conduct a workshop for middle school students and their parents on May 21st. The workshops are as follows:

- Victims of abuse
- Sex and sexuality
- Bullying
- What to do when stopped by the police
- Gang violence vs community appreciation
- Disconnected youth in need of social services (mental health, substance abuse)
- Parent/children relationships – ways and means for improvement
- Financial management (the importance of savings, credit scores, etc.)

On April 21, 2016, he met with the Chancellor of Schools, Ms. Carmen Farina and other district Youth Committee chairs to discuss problems they are facing in their communities. The Chancellor received a copy of the Committee's and Community Education Council's concerns, whereas Ms. Farina stated that she is aware of the problems and will get back to the Committee chair as to how to deal with the problem in the near future. Also discussed at the meeting with the Chancellor was the new implementation of the Single Sheppard Project where one social worker will be allotted to 100 students from grade 6 to 12 in order to prepare the students for graduation and enrollment in college. This project will begin in the 2016-2017 school term.

They discussed the truncation of schools where K to 8th grades are combined. They will at some point be separated to K-5th grades and the middle schools (6-8) will stand alone. This was a much needed effort by the DOE to have suitable aged students attending appropriate schools.

Also discussed was having principals in the school district meet with the community boards to discuss issues and concern, which is already happening in Community District #16. Where charter schools are concerned, the incoming charter school must meet with the community board to discuss where they intend to open classes and if it is feasible to do so.

On April 22nd, he met with the District Leadership Team (DTL) and Community School District 23 Superintendent, Ms. De Govia, and shared his findings and argued that he did not agree as to how DOE rated the schools in District 23 where there is a high volume of students living in transitional housing and that the Department of Homeless Services may be impacting on the learning capabilities, and attendance of many of the students that reside in transitional housing.

The DTL agreed with the assessment and he will address this with the Superintendent and Chancellor in the future. Several schools have improved and are in good standing, however, there are a few schools that are not performing well. He will meet with the principals of these schools before the 2015-2016 school year ends to address their issues.

The next Youth Services Planning Committee meeting will be held on May 12th at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Ms. Genese Morgan, and carried to accept the report of the Youth Service Planning Committee.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace reported that the following Board members have been asked to serve on the Nominating Committee: Michael Howard, Eula Key, Marie Pierre Linda Rivera and, Patricia Winston.

The Nominating Committee will meet and bring back to our May 24, 2016 Board meeting a slate of names to fill the positions of Executive Officers for the period of June 2016 to June 2017.

She recognized Ms. Essie Duggan, representing the Office of Senator Velmanette Montgomery, who offered greetings from the Senator's Office.

Mr. Carlos Soto the Office of Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr. stated that Councilmember Espinal voted to pass the recent amendments for rezoning and will be present at Community Board #16's May meeting to explain why he voted as he did.

There will be a recycling event at Irving Square Park, located at Halsey Street and Knickerbocker Avenue where New Yorkers will be able to dispose of unwanted electronic devices. Representatives from the Department of Sanitation and the Department of Environmental Protection will be present.

Councilmember Espinal offers assistance with immigration and housing issues and has attorneys who can further assist at his office once each week.

His office is located at 76 Knickerbocker Avenue, their office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the telephone number is (718) 642-8664.

Mr. Reginald Belon, representing the Office of Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, reported that they continue to work on resolving the issues with the Brownsville Post Office. He has been informed that mail is not being delivered to New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) facilities in the community. They will work with NYCHA and other elected officials to resolve the issue.

Congresswoman Clarke, along with two of her colleagues, have created a new caucus focused on the advancement of black women and girls to promote the involvement of women and girls in public policy and economic empowerment issues. For more information, you may contact their office.

They are also conducting a Congressional Black Caucus Essay Contest with a deadline of Monday, June 20, 2016. You may contact their office at (718) 287-1142, for further information.

Ms. Frieda Menos, representing the Office of Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, reported that April 29th and May 2nd are upcoming deadlines for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Scholarships. Please contact their office or visit the website, for more information.

Congressman Jeffries, along with many of his colleagues, are participating in the Congressional Art Competition and they encourage students to submit entries to their representative's office. Panels of district artists will select the winning entries. Winners are recognized both in their district and at an annual awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. The winning works are displayed for one year in the halls of the Capitol building. The Deadline to enter is April 28th.

Their office may be reached by calling (718) 373-0033.

Ms. Tahira Moore, representing the Office of Mayor Bill de Blasio, reported that Mayor de Blasio has allocated additional funding for homelessness prevention and a legal defense fund to protect tenants who are being harassed by their landlords. If you or someone you know are being harassed by your landlord, you may call 3-1-1 to obtain free legal representation.

Mr. Cory Provost, representing the Office of Comptroller Scott Stringer, reported that on tonight's distribution table are two reports from Comptroller Stringer's Office. One deals with election practices in New York and offers some suggestions on how they can be improved. The other provides information on banking choices that are available to New Yorkers for checking accounts.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Ms. Tarris Iriarte of the Brownsville Justice Center.

Ms. Iriarte announced that this week is Reentry Week and on April 28th, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, the Brownsville Community Justice Center, in collaboration with Brooklyn Defender Services, will take part in a Reentry Town Hall as a way of ensuring that formerly incarcerated individuals and their families have access to a wealth of

information and support services that afford them an opportunity to re-acclimate into the community. Flyers are available on tonight's' distribution table.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace next recognized Ms. Frances Brown.

Ms. Brown announced that Joint Ventures Foundation will host a fundraiser on Octobet 19, 2016 to highlight special needs individuals in our community.

She encouraged those individuals be registered to vote and stated that it is illegal to deny such individuals the right to vote.

She also made available on tonight's distribution table flyers with information on where to obtain healthy food items at reasonable cost in the community.

Chairperson Kollock-Wallace recognized Mr. Ausar Burke of Churches United for Fair Housing.

Mr. Burke stated that Churches United for Fair Housing provides free legal services and advocates in behalf of persons who are facing severe harassment and failure to provide needed repairs by landlords as a means of displacing the tenants. They have offices at Our Lady of Presentation Church, located at 1677 St. Mark's Avenue. Additional information may be found in the flyers on tonight's distribution table.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. John McCadney, Jr. gave a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.