

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – JANUARY 22, 2019**

Attendance

David Alexander (E)	Ronella Medica (A)
Margaret Brewer	Melanie Mendonca
Kaseem Clark-Edwards	Shemene Minter
Dr. Cleopatra Brown	Genese Morgan
Adrainer Coleman (E)	Deidre Olivera-Douglas
Christopher Durosinmi	Busayo Olupano (A)
Norman Frazier (E)	Anita Pierce (E)
Danny Goodine (A)	Marie Pierre (E)
Sarah Hall	Linda Rivera
Balinda Harris	Johnnymae Robinson (A)
Zalika Headey (E)	Keturah Suggs
Kevin Henderson	Richard Swinson (E)
Mawuli Hormeku (A)	Rev. Eric Thompson (A)
Michael Howard	Brenda Thompson-Duchene (A)
Lannetta Jeffers (A)	Ernestine Turner
Carl Joseph (E)	Rev. Miran Ukaegbu (E)
Maurice Joyner (A)	Deborah Williams
Eula Key	Pat Winston
Dr. Betty Kollock-Wallace	Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Charles Ladson, Sr.	Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Digna Layne	Jason Salmon for Hon. Velmanette Montgomery
Carolyn Lee (E)	Danil Singh for Hon. Roxanne Persaud
Kelly Lee-McVay	Cynthia Moices for Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Albion Liburd	Rev. Eddie Karim for Hon. Latrice Walker
Deborah Mack	Malcolm McDaniel for Hon. Eric Adams
Yolanda Matthews	Nicholas Perry for Hon. Scott Stringer
John McCadney, Jr.	Carlos Soto for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.
	Godfre Bayalama for Hon. Zellnor Myrie

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

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the public hearing to order at 6:37 p.m., and an invocation was said by Dr. Bettie Kollock-Wallace.

Chairperson Morgan read the public hearing item:

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 properties located at 379-383 Howard Avenue (Block 1446, Lots 1 and 3) as an Urban Development Action Area; and 1297 East New York Avenue, Brooklyn NY (Block 1476, Lot 34) as an Urban Development Action Area; and
  - b) 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 properties to a developer to be selected by HPD;

to facilitate the construction of two buildings containing a total of approximately 32 units of affordable housing, Borough of Brooklyn, Community District 16.

Chairperson Morgan invited representatives from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the developer to come forward and present their proposal.

Ms. Joyce Kwon stated that she is a Project Manager with the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). They are here this evening to present a proposal for a new rental project called Brownsville North under HPD's Neighborhood Construction Program (NCP). NCP is one of their programs which funds the construction of multi-family homes for low, moderate, and middle-income households.

The project stems from a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for HPD's New Infill Homeownership Opportunities Program (NIHOP)/ Neighborhood Construction Program (NCP) which funds the new construction of infill rental housing. The project was certified on December 3, 2018. The Department of Housing Preservation and Development is collaborating with East Brooklyn Congregations, The Marcal Group, MLappin & Associates to complete the project which will yield 32 affordable rental housing units in total on two sites (displayed on a map as being Howard Avenue and Bergen Street and East New York Avenue just east of Howard Avenue).

As part of the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP), they are seeking the Board's approval for the following actions: designation of an Urban Development Action Area ("UDAA"), Urban Development Acton Area Project ("UDAAP") approval, and the disposition of the City-owned property, as was read by Chairperson Morgan earlier.

The proposal calls for the construction of two new 4-story residential buildings with the building on Howard Avenue having approximately 22 units and the East New York Avenue building approximately 10 units and both buildings to have amenities that include a resident lounge, a laundry room, and outdoor recreational space in the rear yards. She requested Ms. Debbie Whitaker of MLappin & Associates to come forward.

Ms. Whitaker stated that also present are Ms. Sheila Bennett of East Brooklyn Congregations, their architect, Mr. Church, and Mr. Abe Caller of the Marcal Group who will be the builders for the project.

The East Brooklyn Churches are a coalition of some 40 congregations, schools, and homeowner associations who own and manage property at 550 Watkins Street in Community District #16. They were also instrumental in the development of Riverdale-Osborn Towers also in the District.

The Marcal Group is a long-standing developer and property manager. They currently have approximately one million square feet of property under construction and five million square feet under management. Notably, the Marcal Group has completed two HPD affordable projects in Brooklyn.

MLappin & Associates are developers and consultants. Prior to forming their group, she and her partner, Mike Lappin, were at the Community Preservation Corp. and were part of the team which did the restoration of Riverdale-Osborn Towers.

Their architect, Ken Church and his associates have over 30 years of experience in designing affordable housing.

They are all looking forward to working in Community District #16 again.

Mr. Church stated that the Howard Avenue location is a corner site. They intend to join two existing lots to one and construct an L-shaped building on the lot. This will allow for the maximum use of natural lighting. The rear of the building will have a private landscaped area with seating for use by residents. The first-floor will have 4 apartments, a community room, a laundry room, bike storage, and utility rooms. The building is a collection of 1- and 2-bedroom units situated in a four-story walk-up.

The East New York Avenue site is an infill property. It is a narrow property which is only 40-feet wide. They will only place 10 units in the building so that they can each receive good natural light. Because the location is on a noisy street, they will give it an 18- inch setback, have planters in the front, and place the utility rooms in the front of the first-floor to mitigate some of

the noise. There will be a small garden siting area in the rear for residents. This building will also be a 4-story walkup with 1- and 2-bedroom units.

Ms. Whitaker stated that the units are all affordable rentals; ranging from 30% of area median income (AMI) to 70% of AMI. Proposed rents and incomes are as follow:

Unit Type	30% AMI	40% AMI	50% AMI	70% AMI	Total	%
*1 BDRM	1	2	2	3	8	25%
*2 BDRM	2	6	9	7	24	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>
%	9%	25%	34%	31%	100%	

**\*Typical unit sizes:**

One Bedrooms – 507 SF, Two Bedrooms - 639 SF

Income	Rent
\$21,121- \$28,161	\$472 - \$576
\$28,943- \$37,548	\$666 - \$810
\$36,766 - \$46,935	\$863 - \$1,044
\$54,758- \$75,096	\$1,253 - \$1,514

To help make the project sustainable, the buildings will:

- Be built to Enterprise Green Communities standards
- Use highly efficient HVAC and appliances (Energy Star)
- Use Water Sense labeled fixtures
- Have ground floor units which use Universal Design, so as to be fully accessible
- Work with Enterprise Community Partners on a Community Health Action Plan focused on healthy foods.

EBC and the Marcal Group will work with local workforce development partners to refer candidates to the general contractor and subcontractors for hiring, as well as post open positions with NYCHA’s Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability Department, to recruit local residents. EBC currently hires locally for superintendent positions for the rental buildings it owns and will conduct community outreach during rent-up to meet community board preference units.

HPD sets goal for contracting with M/WBEs and the Marcal Group has used M/WBEs for expediting, security in current projects. They will also solicit bids from M/WBEs for trades including framing, plumbing, electric, insulation, sheetrock, painting and finished flooring.

They anticipate ULURP approval during the summer of 2019, close on the properties and begin construction during the fall of 2019 with the units being available for rental at the end of 2021.

During their meeting with Community Board #16’s Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee, they were asked why not include 3-bedroom units in the buildings. They analyzed the plans and determined that to do so, they found the units would need to be small for the types of apartments that they are and not meet HPD design guidelines.

Someone asked how one can apply for the apartments?

Ms. Kwon stated that they can apply through [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect).

Someone asked if community residents have a preference?

Ms. Kwon stated that there will be a 50% preference for current residents of Community District #16.

Someone asked why only 50%?

It was stated that 50% is the minimum.

Ms. Violet Young asked will any of the units be accessible?

Ms. Whitaker stated that the ground floor units will be fully accessible.

Chairperson Morgan asked if there will be an elevator?

Ms. Kwon stated that because the buildings are only 4-stories tall, an elevator is not required and will not be present in these buildings.

The roll was called and failed to achieve a quorum.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Captain Craig Edelman, the newly appointed Commanding Officer of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct.

Captain Edelman stated that he previously served as a lieutenant in 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct about 4 years ago and is happy to be back as the Commanding Officer, knowing that he has big shoes to fill following Inspector Mascol. He looks forward to working with the community.

Someone asked if he will start street patrol again?

Captain Edelman stated that the Police Department has implemented the NCO (Neighborhood Coordinating Officer) Program in the Precinct which has been effective. The NCOs are tasked with engaging the community and consistently in the same sector.

Chairperson Morgan asked if there are any changes to the Command that the community should know about?

Captain Edelman stated that there is also a new Executive Officer, Captain Abraham Sanabria who hails from the 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct. There are several new officers, but generally, everything is pretty much status quo.

Someone asked if it is acceptable for unregistered vehicles to be parked on the street?

Captain Edelman stated that unregistered vehicles are not allowed to park on New York City streets and are subject to being towed if they do. He asks that 3-1-1 be called to report unregistered vehicles that are illegally parked.

The questioner stated that there is an ongoing issue of an unregistered vehicle parking on the street in the area of Newport Street and Christopher Avenue.

Captain Edelman requested that the particulars of the situation be reported to Police Officer Shirma Daniel-Spiers for follow-up.

Mr. William Boone of the Oasis Beacon Program requested that patrols be increased in the area of the school while daylight hours are shorter.

Captain Edelman stated that the issue will be addressed and asked that Mr. Boone give the information to Police Officer Daniel-Spiers.

Having achieved a quorum, a motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Ms. Melanie Mendonca, and carried to accept the minutes of the December 18, 2018 meeting.

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

1) Applications are now being accepted for affordable condominiums at 15 Somers Street.

Interested persons are encouraged to apply online at [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect) or by mail sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Somers Group Realty LLC c/o Reside New York, 381 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Online and paper applications must be submitted by the deadline date of February 4, 2019 and that applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

2) On Monday, January 28, 2019, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct its Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE), an annual point-in-time estimate of New Yorkers sleeping unsheltered on the street.

Volunteers are needed to help canvass parks, subways, and other public spaces to estimate the number of people who are sleeping on the street on one of the coldest nights of the year.

Volunteers are needed from approximately 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. on the night of January 28<sup>th</sup>. Please visit [nyc.gov/hope](http://nyc.gov/hope) to register.

3) The Brownsville Library will host its first ever Spelling Bee on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event is open to children ages 5 to 10.

For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 498-9721 or go to [bklynlibrary.org](http://bklynlibrary.org).

4) Made in Brownsville is seeking applicants ages 16 to 24 for a 12-week training and apprenticeship program starting in early February.

Applications can be found at: [madeinbrownsville.org/apply](http://madeinbrownsville.org/apply). The deadline for applications is January 25, 2019. For more information, please email [info@madeinbrownsville.org](mailto:info@madeinbrownsville.org).

5) The Brownsville Community Culinary Center Information sessions are now being held for 18- to 34-years old who are interested in applying for a FREE Culinary Training Program. Candidates must attend an information session on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 12:00 p.m., or Friday, January 25, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at the Brownsville Community Culinary Center, located at 69 Belmont Avenue.

6) Department for the Aging (DFTA) is seeking volunteers to make a difference in the lives of older New Yorkers.

If you think you have what it takes to make a difference, visit the DFTA website at [www1.nyc.gov/site/dfta/volunteering/volunteer-resource-center-opportunities.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/dfta/volunteering/volunteer-resource-center-opportunities.page) and explore the volunteer opportunities available.

7) The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is seeking Seasonal City Park Workers for the maintenance and upkeep of the green infrastructure systems.

A valid NYS Driver's license is required and must be maintained for the duration of employment. Interviews are scheduled to take place on February 4, and 11, 2019. If you would like to be considered for an interview, please complete an online application via: [nyc.gov/careers](http://nyc.gov/careers) Keyword: Rain Garden Maintainer —Job ID # 376882

Additionally, the report contains information about various available grants and complaints received by the office during the month.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Ms. Kelly Lee-McVay, and carried to accept the report of the District Manager.

Chairperson Morgan recognized representatives from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD).

Mr. Michael Sandler stated that he is the Director of Neighborhood Planning at HPD. They have been presenting on the Brownsville Plan since June 2016 and have returned to give updates every six months.

The Brownsville Plan was a one-year collaborative planning process wherein City Planning worked with over 500 neighborhood residents in a series of workshop with over 20 City agencies who are investing in the Brownsville Community. The idea being to come together and see how the City invest to match the goals of residents and neighborhood organizations.

The Brownsville Plan was published in June 2017 and they have continued outreach to the community and provided annual progress reports with an updated public project tracker, including: responsible agency/organization, timeline, and status.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, they will return to the community to provide this same update.

As a reminder, the overall goals of the Plan are to: 1. Achieve equitable health outcomes, 2. Improve neighborhood safety, 3. Promote community economic development, and 4. Foster local arts and identity.

When they began the process, they had an idea of what they thought the goals would be, however, through a series of workshops and meetings the goals were refined to these.

The Plan lays eight strategies for City investment.

Ms. Giovanna Tiarachristie reported on the implantation of the strategies.

1. Promote active mixed-use corridors – They have completed the Belmont Avenue commercial revitalization pilot, Parks without Borders concepts were incorporated into Betsy Head Park designs, and the Brownsville RFP designation was completed last summer. Currently, in progress are the Livonia Avenue Streetscape Plan, new mixed-use affordable developments on vacant lots with 4 developments currently under construction and more in still early stages of design and development.
2. Improve connections throughout the neighborhood – cycling is being promoted in Brownsville, bike lanes have expanded on Thomas S. Boyland Street, they have completed Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) public realm audits and Action Plans have been created with stakeholder teams at Brownsville and Van Dyke Houses. Neighborhood Activation grants totaling \$50,000 were provided to 3 Black Cats, BMS, and their partners to curate cultural programming during summer 2018 through spring 2019. In progress are the implementation of CPTED Action Plans and Neighborhood Activation programming and improvements to pedestrian pathways to the East New York neighborhood.
3. Create active and safe public spaces – groups have been funded to conduct art and cultural programming in Brownsville parks, they continue contracting with PAL and BCJC to offer youth programming, summer hours have been extended at six NYCHA community centers, new lights and cameras were installed at Van Dyke and Brownsville Houses, and Osborn Plaza was activated as the NYCx Co-Lab anchor site. In progress are renovations to Newport Playground, Betsy Head Phase I construction began in December with Phase II anticipated to start summer 2019, and a new public plaza was added as part of the Rockaway site in the Brownsville Plan RFP.
4. Provide resources to support healthy lifestyles –new ShapeUp NYC instructors were trained, the Brownsville Houses Teen Lounge was opened, the Neighborhood Health Action Center was launched and continues providing family wellness and health programming, opportunities to grow fresh produce continue to increase, and Shop Healthy NYC continues to increase availability of healthier foods in Brownsville stores. In progress: Procurement for construction of the Brownsville Recreation Center, Brownsville RFP theme of Healthy Living and Food Systems for Livonia sites.
5. Connect Brownsville residents to jobs and job training –Launched 3-K for All, opportunities provided to bring computer science education to Brownsville schools (CS4all), enrolled 2,851 Brownsville youth in the 2018 Summer Youth Employment Program, trained 3 cohorts of Brownsville youth in the Young Innovators Program pilot, recruited and trained 17 Brownsville youth in the Green City Force service corps program. Still in progress are coordination among Brownsville stakeholders involved in providing access to job training and connections to jobs, and inclusion of Innovation and Entrepreneurship theme, and required targeted workforce outreach plans in the Brownsville RFP.
6. Support small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs –an East Brooklyn IBZ marketing campaign and promote local sourcing was launched, supported the Pitkin Avenue BID in retail attraction/retention and implementing five storefront improvements, 79 Brownsville small businesses were assisted through 3 SBS Chamber On-the-Go visits. In progress are plans for SBS to host a commercial leasing workshop in Brownsville, the rehabilitation of 181 Powell Street, new spaces for small businesses in the Brownsville Plan RFP sites, and the

coordination of a networking event to encourage local subcontractor participation in Brownsville RFP with winning development teams.

7. Improve housing stability and support residents at risk of displacement – The construction and lease up of 603 Mother Gaston Boulevard and 91 Junius Street, the supporting of homeowners to prevent foreclosure and preserve affordability, the hosting of a tenant and homeowner/landlord resource fairs and property owner clinics, providing anti-eviction free legal services and/or Homebase homelessness prevention services, the establishment of a Certification of No Harassment Pilot Program (CONH) which became effective in September 2018, the training of Housing Ambassadors (currently 3 in Brownsville). In progress is the development of city-owned small infill sites for affordable rentals and co-op homeownership for first-time buyers.
8. Support capacity building for local organizations – They hosted a Brownsville Plan RFP networking session to promote local partnerships and the Brownsville Community Tech Advisory Board launched two NYCx Co-Lab Challenges. In progress is the continued development of the Brownsville Arts Center at the Rockaway-Chester RFP site.

Upcoming projects include:

- Continued construction of Betsy Head Park Phase I, 181 Powell St, and four affordable housing developments
- Continued DOT outreach on designing pedestrian connections to East New York
- CPTED Action Plans and BMS Neighborhood Activation project implementation
- Ville-luminator installation and extended Wi-Fi at Osborn Plaza
- Livonia Streetscape Plan release
- Anticipated ULURP certification for Brownsville South - scattered-site infill affordable buildings
- Chamber On-the-Go workshop for business owners and entrepreneurs
- Second annual progress update
- Betsy Head II construction anticipated start

Someone asked if a list exist with the parks that are included as part of the arts in parks program?

Ms. Tiarachristie stated that the program does not target specific parks. If she has interest in work on a specific park, she can be placed in contact with individuals at the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Chairperson Morgan encouraged her to also reach out to Community Board #16's Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson and participate in their meetings.

Someone asked if there were plans to assist with storefront improvements in areas other than Pitkin Avenue and Livonia Avenue which can be pricey for new entrepreneurs?

Chairperson Morgan stated that the storefront improvement programs target those areas because they are older property that need the improvements. However, the new developments will most often be ready to go.

Regarding support for small businesses, that is something for which the Community Board is continuously advocating.

The questioner asked where can one go to find out about these resources?

Chairperson Morgan stated that the Community Board and some of the local organizations can provide information as it becomes available.

Someone asked how can they find out about the availability of the community spaces that are part of the developments? How groups such scouts and block association can avail of the spaces?

Mr. Sandler stated that typically, the spaces are operated by third party no-profit organizations and one would reach out to that organization to find out about using the community space.

The questioner stated that in Manhattan he is aware of certain developments the builder enters into agreements with the city to provide public use spaces as part of conditions to build. Why can't those agreements exist in Brownsville?

Mr. Sandler stated that those agreements in Manhattan are often part of concessions that allow the builder to add density to the buildings. The RFP for the art center planned for Rockaway Avenue will call for public space to be included.

Chairperson Morgan stated that developments such as Riverway do offer space for use by the community. She would be interested in hearing about developments that have community space but are not allowing them to be used by the community.

Ms. Deidre Olivera-Douglas asked if there is a body that monitors the compliance of developers in filling spaces?

Mr. Sandler stated that since the implementation of Housing Connect – the City's online housing application site, there has not been a single lottery that did not meet its community preference.

In terms of community spaces, the community boards can be a great body to monitor how the spaces are used.

Finally, any project that is financed by the City includes a Regulatory Agreement which lays all the terms of the agreement between the developer and the City are available online at the City's Automated City Register Information System (ACRIS).

In a roll call vote of 23-in favor, 1-against, and 1-abstention, members of Community Board #16 elected to support the application submitted by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD heard during the public hearing.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Mr. James Tilmon of the United States Census Bureau.

Mr. Tilmon stated that the 2020 Census will commence on April 15, 2020 and every household will receive a census form. They are asking people to complete and return the form immediately. The census will determine how to allocate more than \$675 billion, much of it for programs that serve lower-income families, including Head Start, Medicare, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Pell grants for college and reduced-price school lunch programs. He encourages everyone to spread the word about the importance of completing the census.

They are also hiring 360,000 individuals within the next three months to fill various job titles. Salaries start at \$25 per hour, you must be 18-years old, a United States citizen, and not have a felony record. Their first local office will open at Myrtle Avenue and Broadway, in about two weeks and need to staff the office. If you or someone you know are seeking employment, please visit their website at [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs). There will also be several other offices opening throughout the city.

The census is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the United States Constitution. Every ten years the Bureau is required to take a count of every person in the nation who have been in the country for six months or more. Information gather through the census is private and not disseminated to anyone. This has been the case since 1790 when census information was first collected.

In 2020, we will implement new technology to make it easier than ever to respond to the census. For the first time, you will be able to respond online, by phone, as well as by mail. The Census Bureau will use data that the public has already provided to reduce follow-up visits. They are building an accurate address list and automating their field operations—all while keeping your information confidential and safe.

Information collected during the census will affect communities for the next ten years. The tremendous amounts of money will be allocated to support schools, hospitals, roadways, mass transit, etc. The money that the Governor spends to build bridges comes from funds allocated by the federal government, not the state coffers.

Title 13 protects your privacy, the Bureau goes to great lengths to ensure that information gathered through the census is protected. They are statistic gathering organization and when they distribute data it is stripped of personal data and have several safeguards against personal data being distributed. If he as an employee of the Bureau were to somehow provide personal



data about an individual to another, he would be facing jail time and a fine of \$250,000. Every census has been sued by various agencies to gather private information and have all failed in their attempt.

The information gathered will be used in determining Congressional and state district lines and the number of Congressional Representatives.

If you do not return your census form, you can expect that someone from the Bureau will be knocking at your door. Make it easy on yourself and complete and return the form as soon as you receive it.

If you know of an organization that would like to hear this information, please call him at (646) 841-6413. When community members are informed, they are more likely to respond to the census. They are looking to form collaborative partnerships with community boards to reach the shared goal of counting everyone in 2020.

Mr. Albion Liburd, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the Equity Planning Work Group met on January 8, 2019 with developers of the Brownsville North/Ocean Hill NCP which was presented during tonight's public hearing.

The Work Group has requested a letter of commitment from the developers outlining the community benefits that will be derived from this project.

They also met with representatives from Enterprise Community Partners, Inc who shared with the Work Group their Health Action Plan which is an innovative process for affordable housing developers to intentionally integrate resident health into the design and development or rehabilitation of their housing.

Enterprise informed the Work Group that they will be working with the Brownsville Community Justice Center to identify property owners who are interested in pursuing a Health Action Plan in the design and development or rehabilitation of their housing.

Youth participants from the Brownsville Community Justice Center will be trained to do outreach in the community. The Work Group requested that Enterprise extend this opportunity to youths throughout the community, not just those who are enrolled in the Brownsville Community Justice Center.

They further requested that there be outreach to property owners in the entire Community District #16 about the Health Action Plan.

Anyone interested in working with a committee should contact the Board's office for information on their meeting dates and times.

A motion was made by Ms. Margaret Brewer, seconded by Ms. Linda Rivera and carried to accept the report of the Equity Planning Work Group.

Ms. Melanie Mendonca, Vice Chairperson of the Youth Services Planning Committee, reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on January 9, 2019 with representatives from Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. who briefed the Work Group on their Health Action Plan which is an innovative process for affordable housing developers to intentionally integrate resident health into the design and development or rehabilitation of their housing.

The Work Group also met with School District #23 Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Kamar Samuels and the Department of Education staff located at 1784 Park Avenue. The Work Group has made inquiry concerning how the English and Math levels have remained low over the past few years. Currently, most students are functioning beneath DOE's standards. Mr. Samuels explained that although the current overall levels are low, the students' proficiency have improved immensely, but not enough to bring the scores to the next level of achievement. Mr. Samuels informed the Committee that the average student spends 182 days per academic year in school, and in order for the student to reach higher levels of achievement, they would have to double their time spent in school. If the student missed classes, it becomes even more difficult to reach DOE levels of achievement. Mr. Samuels and his staff have come up with ways to address this problem by adding extra curriculars activities to assist the student trying to improve his or her academics. Mr. Samuels has also developed a peer group where the students discuss their issues and present to the officials in their school(s). It was suggested that we begin a youth support group for the

students to address emotional concerns as well. Mr. Samuels and the DOE staff will be invited to the Community Board meeting to give an overview of their intentions and how the community can get involved.

The Youth Service Planning Committee announced the preparation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Youth Conference. School District #23, and other organizations who attended the January 9th meeting were invited to join the project. The meeting for the Youth Conference will be on January 28th, 2019 at 444 Thomas Boyland Street. If you are interested in getting involved with the Youth Conference, please stop by. If you would like to make any recommendations for this event, you may call Ms. Greene-Walker at (718) 385-0323 and offer your suggestion(s).

The Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation has open enrollment for the following programs:

- SONYC BIZ Entrepreneurial Programs for student attending middle schools
- Youth Community Ambassador Program for middle/high school students
- GED Program ages 17 and up. Both programs are located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street – telephone number (718) 498-4513

The CAMPUS Afterschool Tech & Arts Program for Middle School Students is open at the Brownsville Collaborative Middle School (BCMS), located at 85 Watkins Street, has open enrollment. To enroll, call (718) 284-4700 for applications

Fathers and Mentors are now meeting. If you are interested in the Fathers and Mentors Program call Mr. William Rochford at (718) 240-3657 or (917) 428-0647, to obtain the date and time of the meetings. The meetings are held at 1784 Park Place.

Ms. Deborah Williams, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on Thursday, January 10, 2019 with representative from LinkNYC who informed them that there are presently 7 active LinkNYC Kiosk within the District. The most used kiosk is located at 2057 Fulton Street where users spent over 367, 388 minutes on wi-fi. and 117,349MB of data in the month of December. Additional LinkNYC sites in Community District #16 are in the process of being approved.

The Work Group also reviewed the Parks/Playground Survey that was prepared by our student intern Emily Oppenheimer. Hard copies of the survey are available tonight and they ask that you fill it out and return them to her. The survey is also available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CB16parks>.

Construction for the multipurpose area of Betsy Head Memorial Park, located on Blake Avenue between Thomas S. Boyland Street and Bristol Street began on January 16, 2019. It is anticipated that construction will be completed by January 2020.

On January 3, 2019, Governor Cuomo announced that the L-train will no longer fully shut down for the 15-month period as previously decided by the MTA. Instead, L-train service will be reduced and run on one track through the 8th Avenue tunnel, rather than two tracks. Construction will mostly take place on nights and weekends. The MTA is still working on a service plan to provide transportation for riders who utilize the L-train during nights and weekends. This new plan is slated to begin in April 2019. The MTA is planning to conduct their own open houses as well as make visits to community boards to update us. For more information about the L-train project, you can visit <https://new.mta.info/L-project>.

On January 14, 2019, Ms. Balinda Harris attended a meeting of the Brooklyn Solid Waste Advisory Board where she obtained information on ways to comply with the law that went into effect in January 2015 that makes it illegal to discard electronics in the trash.

Building manager or residents in apartment buildings with 10 or more units can enroll at [nyc.gov/ecycle](http://nyc.gov/ecycle). Depending on the size and type of building, e-cycleNYC provides three service options.

- Room cleanouts for buildings with 10 or more units. Building stores electronics in a secure, enclosed area before they are picked up.

- Storage bins for building with 100 or more units. Buildings stores electronics in a located bin provided by e-cycleNYC.
- Outdoor electronics recycling events for buildings with 250 or more units. Building work with e-cycleNYC to schedule outdoor electronics recycling events for building residents.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, seconded by Mr. Michael Howard, and carried to accept the report of the City Services Planning Work Group.

Ms. Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Committee met and received a thorough presentation from Mr. David Weiss, Deputy Chief of Human Trafficking with the Brooklyn DA's office, on what Human Trafficking looks like here in our community. She asked Mr. Weiss for a description of what this problem is made of.

The symptoms can resemble the following:

- Unexplained money or access to place and things.
- Unexplained absences, activities and friends.
- The activity also mimics opportunity to impoverished, uneducated, and unprotected young women.

As a community, we can ask questions, wait and listen carefully to answers from our children. Have discussions with other parents. Communicate with caregivers, compare notes to and notice the oddities.

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, she attended a Jardine Place neighbor meeting. The group is very interested and organized. The area neighbors have decided to work collectively with residents of Sackman and Herkimer Streets to provide a more cohesive community, working to improve their shared neighborhood.

Congratulations to the future Junction Neighborhood Association. You can certainly cover more needs as a group and as neighbors.

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, she attended a Howard Houses monthly meeting, where NYCHA along with Family Services Network and a developer are collectively adding a 64-unit supportive housing project to the site located at the former precinct at East New York Avenue, adjacent to Howard Houses. For this project, support from the residents of Howard Houses was needed to allow the sale and purchase of "Air Rights" for the project. She mentioned the need for long-term employment opportunities, as well as cultural and vocational needs for the current population.

On January 15, she met with the new Commander Officer of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, Captain Edelman, to get acquainted as well as discuss the public safety needs. In the near future, they will do a walking tour of the areas together, to formulate better solutions to our social and criminal challenges. As well as work to develop a "merchant survey", in an effort to make the merchant a viable public safety partner, as well as educate the business owners of best safety practices for both, themselves and the community.

Anyone interested in joining the Committee may contact the Community Board's office at (718) 385-0323. The next Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, and carried to accept the report of the Public Safety Committee.

Ms. Keturah Suggs, in behalf Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, reported that the Legislative Committee met on January 15, 2019 and met with Mr. James C. Tillmon, Partnership Specialist for the New York Regional Census Center, who shared with us the importance of filling out the 2020 Census form, the challenges we face, what the Department is doing to help everyone get on board, and the job opportunities.

They also reviewed some of the steps the Committee hopes to take in helping our community understand the importance of filling out the 2020 Census. First, the Committee is looking to put into place a Complete Count Committee to plan educational sessions and forums from now to 2020. They also received several pieces of legislation:

1. Effective December 31, 2018, the minimum wage rate increased as follows:
  - Employers in New York City of 11 or more employees - \$15.00
  - Employers in New York City of 10 or less employees - \$13.00
  - Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties - \$12.00
  - Remainder of New York State workers - \$11.10
  
2. The New York State Assembly passed a 7-bill package of legislation on January 14, 2019 to reform New York State's antiquated electoral process expanding New Yorker's access to the polls and bringing more transparency to campaign finance:
  - I. The Assembly Majority believes that every registered voter should have ample opportunity to get to the polls. Legislation passed today will ensure voters' access to the ballot box by establishing a nine day early voting period, including two full weekends, for voters to vote in person prior to any primary, special or general election day (A.780, Lavine). Each county would be required to provide a set amount of early voting hours over the course of the nine-day period but would have the flexibility to offer hours that best meet the needs of its residents. This measure would go into effect immediately and be in place for the 2019 General Election.
  
  - II. Under current law, absentee voting is only allowed if an individual expects to be absent on Election Day or is unable to get to the polls because of physical illness or disability. An amendment to the New York State Constitution included in this legislative package would continue expanding accessibility to the polls to allow no excuse absentee voting (A.778, Vanel). This measure offers a more equitable voting experience by allowing busy New Yorkers more options for casting their ballots. As a constitutional amendment, this would be on the ballot for New York State voters no earlier than November 2021.
  
  - III. Legislation to combine the federal non-presidential primary and state primary, making voting easier for New Yorkers and saving millions of dollars statewide (A.779, Lavine). The combined federal and state primary would be held in June. The measure would also ensure New York State's compliance with the federal Military Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act. This would take effect immediately.
  
  - IV. A constitutional amendment that would allow for Election Day registration (A.777, Carroll). This bill would allow New Yorkers to register to vote on Election Day, ensuring every voter can exercise their constitutional right to vote. As a constitutional amendment, this would be on the ballot for New York State voters no earlier than November 2021.
  
  - V. The second bill would streamline the process by automatically transferring a voter's registration when they move within New York State (A.775, Dinowitz). This would take effect 60 days after the measure is signed into law. Under current law, voters who move within New York but move out of their current county or New York City must update their registration before the established deadline in order to vote.
  
  - VI. Legislation aimed at promoting civic engagement among young voters (A.774, Lavine). This bill would require voter registration forms to include a space for pre-registering applicants at least 16 years of age; and require local boards of education to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and pre-registration in high schools. This would go into effect on January 1, 2020.
  
  - VII. The Assembly, for the fourth time since 2016, has passed legislation to restrict LLC campaign contributions to the same \$5,000 aggregate contribution limit that exists for corporations (A.776, Simon). The bill, which would go into effect seven days after being signed into law, would also require the disclosure of all direct and indirect owners of the LLC and that all contributions by an LLC be attributed to each member in proportion to each member's ownership interests. Under current law, as interpreted by the State Board of Elections, a single individual is allowed to make multiple large contributions to the same

candidate or committee through separate LLCs, making it difficult to determine who made the contributions and evaded individual contribution limits.

Next, the Committee reviewed legislation introduced by Councilmember Jumani Williams to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York, in relation to prohibiting discrimination based on one's arrest record, pending charges, or criminal conviction. This bill seeks to protect individuals with pending adjournments in contemplation of dismissal, and convictions for violations prior to sealing by adding unsealed violations. This prohibits discrimination from making employment, related decisions, and also prohibits discrimination in employment and licensing against applicants or current employees who resolve their criminal cases. Basically this law keeps an employer from using an arrest record, pending charges, or pending a criminal record to disqualify you from employment and seeks to protect citizens whose cases could be dismissed. or proven innocent.

Lastly, the Fiscal and Policy Work Group reminds everyone that there will be a Special Election held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 to fill the Public Advocate seat vacated with the election of Letitia James to Attorney General.

The next Fiscal and Policy Work Group meeting will be held on February 19, 2019 at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

A motion was made by Mr. Albion Liburd, seconded by Ms. Eula Key, and carried to accept the report of the Fiscal and Policy Work Group.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Mr. Jason Salmon, representing the Office of Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

Mr. Salmon stated that Democrats are now the majority in the State Senate. Legislation that have been long stagnate are now passing. Early voting was passed in the first legislative session of the year. You will now be able to vote 9-days prior to general and primary elections.

Today, the Reproduction Protection Act was passed which revises provisions of law relating to abortion.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> rent regulations and rules will expire. We need to continue to strengthen rent rules and regulations. Vacancy decontrol loopholes should be closed to prevent landlord from making minor upgrades and want to raise the rents of the tenants based on the improvement.

Information on the 2020 Census is on the information table. Of note, is that the question concerning immigration status is no longer on the census questionnaire.

Lastly, Senator Montgomery now Chairs the Children and Families Committee in the Senate and wants to hear your ideas on issues concerning children and families.

Ms. Cynthia Moices, representing the Office of Councilmember Alicka Ampry-Samuel, stated that during her first year in office Councilmember Ampry-Samuel provided access to immigration lawyers at her office on Thursdays. When they realized that there is greater need for the services they extended it to twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The service will continue, in this year. There will also be a legal service mobile unit for other legal needs on three upcoming days. Fliers for both services are on the information table.

In collaboration with the Bed-Stuy Coalition to End Hunger, they will have sessions to help people navigate the process of applying for food stamps.

A newsletter summarizing Councilmember Ampry-Samuel's accomplishment will be mailed to constituents soon.

As Chair of the Public Housing Committee, Councilmember Ampry-Samuel met with representatives from New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to discuss Section 3 provision of the Housing and Urban Development Act which requires that at least 30% of NYCHA employees be NYCHA residents.

They have heard many concerns about the City's Third-Party Transfer Program which the Mayor announced would be expanding during his State of City address. Councilmember Ampry-

Samuel, along with a number of her colleagues, has written a letter expressing these concerns and will continue to track these concerns.

Mr. Carlos Soto, representing the Office of Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr., stated an issue that they were seeing in the East New York community is beginning to occur in Brownsville; that is cars that are for sale being parked illegally on the streets. If you should come across this, please give their office a call and they will coordinate with the Police Department to address the issue.

Councilmember Espinal's office is located at 1945 Broadway, near the Broadway Junction subway station. The telephone number is (718) 642-8664. They offer a range of services from legal assistance for immigration to help completing various applications.

Chairperson Morgan asked if a property owner can call to have a car that is parked in their driveway towed?

Mr. Soto stated that they can. However, they must first report it to the police who will issue a ticket; once the vehicle is ticketed, the property owner can call a towing company that will tow the car away.

Mr. Charles Ladson expressed concerns regarding his water bill and how the issue is addressed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Chairperson Morgan and Mr. Soto suggested that he and anyone who has concerns with their water bills contact their Councilmember who can help them with the issue.

Rev. Eddie Karim, representing the Office of Assemblywoman Latrice Walker, reported that there is a synergy of elected officials that is coalescing in our community. Already at 400 Rockaway Avenue you can find the Offices of Assemblywoman Walker and Councilmember Ampry-Samuel. Now, they will be joined by Senator Zellnor Myrie who will have office hours within Councilmember Ampry-Samuel's office on Mondays and Wednesdays.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, they will host a NYPD School Safety Agent Recruitment Opportunity Event and invite you to attend.

Their Advisory Board meeting that is normally held on the third Saturday of the month, will be moved to February 9<sup>th</sup> this month, due to the Legislative Caucus weekend the following week.

Tickets for the bus to the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus in Albany are still available. If you are interested in attending, please call their office at (718) 342-1256.

Mr. Godfre Bayalama, representing the Office of Senator Zellnor Myrie, reported that as was mentioned earlier, they will be serving the community from Councilmember Ampry-Samuel's office beginning tomorrow. This is only the second week that they have been working, but Senator Myrie already introduced the first bill of the year which passed.

They invite everyone to join them for Senator Myrie's inauguration event on February 10<sup>th</sup> at SUNY Downstate.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Ms. Kicy Motley, Founder of Movement: Black Youth Abroad. Movement is dedicated to taking youth of African descent who have never left the country on transformative educational and cultural trips abroad. There's no cost for these trips, and the only requirement is the completion of a prep course in which they learn about the history, politics, and culture of the country they are visiting.

For additional information, please take a flier from the information table.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing the Office of Borough President Eric Adams, announced that copies of the Borough President's Newsletter are available on the distribution table. The newsletter contains information about a number of events being held at Borough Hall, including free tax preparation beginning January 25<sup>th</sup>, a Chinese New Year Celebration on February 15<sup>th</sup>, and a Property Tax Assessment Workshop on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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