

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – OCTOBER 22, 2019

Attendance

David Alexander	Shemene Minter (A)
Cynthia Bannister (E)	Genese Morgan
Margaret Brewer	Deidre Olivera-Douglas (A)
Dr. Cleopatra Brown	Busayo Olupano (A)
Kaseem Clark-Edwards (A)	Ariel Perry-DeCamp (A)
Adrainer Coleman	Anita Pierce (E)
Norman Frazier	Marie Pierre
Danny Goodine (A)	Linda Rivera
Chanel Haliburton	JoAnn Sexton
Sarah Hall (E)	Keturah Suggs
Balinda Harris	Richard Swinson (A)
Zalika Headey	Rev. Eric Thompson (A)
Michael Howard (E)	Brenda Thompson-Duchene (A)
Gabriel Jamison (E)	Christopher Toomer
Lannetta Jeffers (A)	Ernestine Turner
Carl Joseph (A)	Rev. Miran Ukaegbu (E)
Maurice Joyner (A)	Deborah Williams (E)
Eula Key (E)	Pat Winston
Gwendolyn King (A)	Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Leticia Knowles (A)	Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Dr. Betty Kollock-Wallace (A)	Rev. Eddie Karim for Hon. Latrice Walker
Charles Ladson, Sr.	Bernice Navarrete-Perez for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.
Digna Layne	Marie Boone for Hon. Roxanne Persaud
Kelly Lee-McVay	Melvin Faulkner for Hon. Charles Barron
Albion Liburd (E)	Christina Serrano for Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Deborah Mack	Shelton Jones for Hon. Eric Gonzalez
Yolanda Matthews	Malcolm McDaniel for Hon. Eric L. Adams
John McCadney, Jr. (E)	Nicholas Perry for Hon. Scott Stringer
Andrew McCoy	
Melanie Mendonca	

PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT BROWNSVILLE

MULTI-SERVICE CENTER, 444 THOMAS S. BOYLAND STREET, BROOKLYN

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the public hearing to order at 7:05 p.m., and an invocation was said by Ms. Sarah Hall.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Captain Craig Edelman, Commanding Officer of the 73rd Precinct, who stated that he is present with Captain Hugo Dominguez, Executive Officer of the 73rd Precinct.

Captain Edelman stated that he is happy to report that overall crime, including violent crimes, is down about 14% and they are hoping to finish the year strong. There were some major incidents that occurred this year, such as the tragedy which took place at the Old-timers Day celebration. The good news is they were able to make an arrest of the perpetrator, two days ago.

The Old-timers Day events will continue next year, and they will be better than ever. They will implement a plan that will allow entry only at certain points and everyone will be screened as they enter.

Someone stated that she lives on Christopher Avenue which is not part of the area where the event is held, however, it is used by many event goers to access the festivities. She would like to see improved police presence along the Christopher Avenue corridor through Livonia Avenue.

Captain Edelman stated that he was referring to the officers at the venue, however, they did have some officers at key points used to travel to and from the site. He suggested that anyone with particular concerns speak to Community Affairs Officer Daniel-Spiers.

Someone asked when are the Precinct Council meetings held?

Captain Edelman stated that they are held on the third Thursday of each month. The location differs each month and is posted on the 73rd Precinct Twitter page. You can also find the location by contacting one of their Community Affairs Officers.

Someone stated that there is a homeless shelter located at 599 Ralph Avenue and two others close by. She does not see a police presence in the area. Why are there so many shelters so concentrated in the area?

Captain Edelman stated that he agrees that there is a concentration in the area and there is an ongoing conversation with many agencies involved.

Regarding police presence in the area, while the 73rd Precinct does patrol the area, the Department of Homeless Services has their own police unit which is assigned to the shelters. You may reach out to P.O. Daniel-Spiers with specific concerns.

Someone related concerns over prostitution and drug activity taking place in the area of the shelters on and near Atlantic Avenue.

Captain Edelman requested that details be given to P.O. Daniel-Spiers and they will coordinate with the Vice and Narcotics Units to address the issues.

Chairperson Genese Morgan, stated that each year, the Community Board is required to submit its capital and expense budget recommendations.

The Board can submit up to 40 capital budget requests and up to 25 expense budget requests.

The following requests are suggested for the Capital budget for Fiscal Year 2021 which begins July 1, 2020:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Request</u>
1	Reconstruct Floyd Patterson Field with synthetic turf for multi-purpose use such as baseball, football, soccer, and cricket.
2	Construct a comfort station at Powell Playground which will also service Houston Playground located across the street.
3	Reconstruct South Pacific Playground
4	Upgrade student bathrooms, library, and auditorium at Kappa V.
5	Reconstruct Carter G. Woodson Park.
6	Rehabilitate Dr. Richard Green Playground.
7	Renovate Brownsville Multi Service Center, located at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street, to include bathrooms, elevator, heating and ventilation system.
8	Provide ongoing street repairs to prevent potholes and cave-ins.
9	Install elevator or escalator at the Rockaway Avenue IRT-3 station.
10	Install elevator or escalator at Sutter Avenue-Rutland Road IRT-3 station.
11	Install elevator or escalator at the Saratoga Avenue IRT-3 station.
12	Install elevator or escalator at the Sutter Avenue station on the “L” line.
13	Install elevator or escalator at the New Lots Avenue station on the “L” line.
14	Install elevator or escalator at the Livonia Avenue station on the “L” line.
15	Install elevator or escalator at the Junius Street IRT-3 station.
16	Upgrade lights along Livonia Avenue between Junius Street and East 98 th Street.
17	Improve handicap accessibility of the Broadway Junction station.
18	Install elevator or escalator at the Atlantic Avenue station on the “L” line.

19	Renovate cafeteria at P.S. 599 (241 MacDougal Street)
20	Reconstruct Chester Playground adjacent to P.S. 327.
21	Repair broken sidewalks and curbs, and install pedestrian ramps along Pitkin Avenue commercial strip.
22	Repair broken sidewalks and curbs, and install pedestrian ramps along Belmont Avenue commercial strip.
23	Construct comfort station to service Nehemiah Park and Floyd Paterson Field.
24	Renovate Livonia Park to include new benches, chess and checker tables.
25	Rehabilitate Fish Playground (adjacent to I.S. 271) to include new play equipment.
26	Renovate cafeteria and auditorium at P.S. 137
27	Upgrade lights in auditorium at P.S. 41
28	Renovate Saratoga Library branch to include heating and cooling system, and safety and security enhancements.
29	Repoint and rehabilitate limestone at Stone Avenue Library branch, install new windows, and install new side entry steps.
30	Renovate cafeteria at P.S. 178
31	Install elevator at Chauncey Street station of “J” line
32	Renovate bathrooms at Riverdale Community School
33	Renovate bathrooms at Brownsville Collaborative Middle School
34	Renovate Betsy Head Swimming Pool and Bath House
35	Renovate locker room at Brownsville Recreation Center
36	Install security cameras and upgrade lighting in tunnel of East New York Station on the LIRR
37	Renovate cafeteria and auditorium at P.S. 155
38	Make all District #23 schools ADA compliant.
39	Install dome over Betsy Head Park
40	Upgrade electrical wiring in all School District #23 buildings.
41	Renovate Van Dyke Playground
42	Improve lighting at New Lots station on the L-line
43	Rehabilitate bridge connecting the IRT and L-line
44	Reconstruct Floyd Patterson Field with synthetic turf for multi-purpose use such as baseball, football, soccer, and cricket.

Chairperson Morgan opened the floor to further recommendations for Capital Budget items.

Ms. Felicia Thomas of the Park Place Block Association requested that litter baskets be placed at Eastern Parkway and Park Place.

Chairperson Morgan stated that this request will be added to the Expense Budget requests which she will go over next.

Someone stated that last year she asked that Lott Avenue be repaved, and her request was addressed, this past summer. She thanks the Board for getting this done.

She now asks that a 3-way stop sign be placed at the intersection of Christopher Avenue and Lott Avenue to reduce the number of accidents that occur at the location which now also act as a pick-up and drop-off location for students riding yellow school buses.

Chairperson Morgan thanked the speaker for bringing this to the attention of the Board. She stated that it will be reported to the Department of Transportation. She noted that many times when the decision to place traffic control devices were made the population of the area was less than what it is today. The locations need to be revisited and appropriate controls installed.

Someone reported that the lockers in the women’s locker room at the Brownsville Recreation Center are in poor state of repair. Also, there are only two benches in the room, more need to be installed.

Chairperson Morgan stated that a request to renovate the locker rooms is included in the Board’s Capital Budget Requests. However, a request can be made to the Department of Parks and Recreation for immediate repairs to the existing lockers.

Mr. David Alexander stated that there are many trees within the District which are in need of pruning, especially along Rockaway Avenue.

Chairperson Morgan stated that street trees are normally pruned on a 7-year cycle. However, if a tree is diseased or appears to be in immediate risk of falling, we can request that it be pruned or removed. The Parks Department will not address healthy trees that are not endangering people or property.

The following requests are being submitted for our Expense budget:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Budget Requests</u>
1	Install air condition units in all classrooms and kitchens in School District # 23 buildings
2	Provide more housing for extremely low and low-income households.
3	Provide more housing for medium income households.
4	Provide summer youth employment programs.
5	Provide a WorkForce1 Center in Community District #16.
6	Establish One-Stop small business center to include MWBE programs and technical assistance to support local businesses and entrepreneurs.
7	Expand loan programs to rehabilitate multiple dwelling buildings.
8	Expand early care and education programs provided by day care and headstart centers.
9	Provide Career and Technical Education programs for high school students.
10	Continue funding for Cornerstone and Beacon programs.
11	Provide mental health, education and awareness services for victims of human trafficking.
12	Increase manpower to clean rain gardens.
13	Provide a Forcible Entry Door for Battalion 44 to enable ongoing training of firefighters in the method of opening locked doors during fires.
14	Provide technical upgrade for students at Brooklyn Collegiate High School and additional funding for STEM.
15	Create programs to de-stigmatize mental health problems and encourage treatment.
16	Create programs for education and awareness on nutrition, physical activity, etc. to reduce chronic diseases and conditions such as obesity, diabetes, hypertension, strokes, heart disease, etc.
17	Increase transportation services for elderly residents.
18	Enhance home care services for elderly residents.
19	Continue funding homeless prevention programs.
20	Increase home delivered meals to low-income elderly residents.
21	Provide financial assistance for storefront and façade improvements along the Belmont Avenue commercial strip.
22	Provide financial assistance for storefront and façade improvements along the Pitkin Avenue commercial strip.
23	Provide ongoing cleaning of catch basins.
24	Provide ongoing street tree pruning.

25	Provide services for maternal and infant mortality centering pregnancy and breastfeeding.
26	Install Spin Cycles at Brownsville Recreation Center

Chairperson Morgan opened the floor to suggestions for the Expense Budget.

Someone stated that she is interested in funding for community gardens to promote food justice and recycling programs to promote sustainability.

Chairperson Morgan stated that she did not notice any requests for opioid addiction treatment and thinks that should be added as part of request number 15.

Another thing that was recently brought to her attention, the community does not have enough providers of early intervention services. When children 3-years and under fail to receive these services, they have a tendency to end up in special education classes which could have been averted had they received the early intervention at a younger age.

Someone stated that she sees the request for STEM funding for Brooklyn Collegiate, however, she thinks that it should be provided for all the schools.

Chairperson Morgan stated that Brooklyn Collegiate was singled out because it was on the list of schools earmarked for closure about a year ago and this was a specific request from the school.

Ms. Yolanda Matthews stated that there is a need for buses in the community that allow passengers a direct route to Downtown Brooklyn. This is especially needed, given that there are no accessible subway stations in the community.

Chairperson Morgan thanked Ms. Matthews for the comment and stated that there are fliers on the distribution table wherein MTA is advertising a survey to get the public's input on how the bus network should look in the future. She encourages everyone to complete the online survey.

There will be a community meeting to discuss the issue at 6:00 p.m., November 6, 2019, at the New Lots Library.

Someone stated that she is a NYCHA (New York City Housing Authority) resident and sees the request to provide more housing for extremely low and low-income households. She would like to see funding directed to the upkeep and maintenance of existing buildings so that their residents do not have to live in conditions such as having water coming through ceilings.

Chairperson Morgan thanked the speaker for her comment. She stated that it will be added to the Board's requests, and suggested that she speak to Councilmember Alicka Ampry-Samuel's representative, Ms. Christina Serrano, to make an appointment with Councilmember Ampry-Samuel who is the Chairperson of the City Council's Housing Committee.

Someone made a request for funding to provide youth and senior LGBT support services.

A roll-call of the membership was done and failed to yield a quorum.

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

Between October 1st and May 31st, building owners are required to provide tenants with heat during these months under the following conditions:

- When the outside temperature is below 55 degrees Fahrenheit between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., building owners must heat apartments to at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., regardless of the outside temperature, building owners must heat apartments to at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit.

Tenants without heat should file a complaint by calling 3-1-1 or online at nyc.gov/311.

The Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) is recruiting motivated 10th – 12th graders from diverse backgrounds with an interest in library careers to apply for an innovative, hands-on internship

program. Committed and enthusiastic individuals who are ready to learn, work, and help others can visit www.bklynlibrary.org/lot for more information

The Love Your Block Initiative is a partnership between NYC Service and Citizens Committee for New York City that provides a unique opportunity for 25 resident-led volunteer groups to receive a \$1,000 grant in addition to City services to transform and beautify their neighborhoods. For more information and to apply, visit the Love Your Block application page at www.nycservice.org/pages/pages/77.

There is also information in the report on the Urban Fellows Program, a nine-month fellowship which combines work in Mayoral offices and City agencies with volunteer service opportunities as well as a summary of complaints received by the Board and were forwarded to the various city agencies for resolution.

Ms. Adrainer Coleman, Chairperson of the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee, reported that the Equity Planning Work Group met on October 8, 2019 with Tonya Bonner of the New York City Small Business Services who informed the Work Group of the efforts to organize a merchants association and to work with the merchants and community to revitalize Belmont Avenue between Rockaway Avenue and Christopher Avenue.

The Work Group also met with representatives of Family Services Network regarding their proposal to develop 95 units of housing with 5,000 square feet of community facility space on property they own at 1546 East New York Avenue.

Family Services Network responded to a Request for Expression of Interest issued by the New York City Housing Authority to acquire 6,000 square feet of land and 45,000 square feet of air rights from the Authority's property adjacent to 1546 East New York Avenue to enable them to construct an 11-story building on the site.

Family Services Network is seeking a letter of support from Community Board #16 to accompany their application for funding.

They also met with the owners of All Night Skates, their attorney, and residents of Marion and Chauncey Streets. The owners of All Night Skates are requesting that the Community Board reconsider their application to the New York State Liquor Authority for a license to sell liquor, beer, and wine at 54 Rockaway Avenue. The conversation is ongoing as to the hours of operation and sale of alcohol. The Work Group anticipates reporting on the outcome to the Board at next month's meeting.

The next meeting of the Equity Planning Work Group will be on Thursday, November 12, 2019, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

Ms. Balinda Harris, Chairperson of the Sanitation and Environmental Protection Committee, reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on October 20, 2019 and reviewed the Capital and Expense Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2020. The Work Group recommends that the following budget requests be submitted for Fiscal Year 2021:

- Reconstruct Floyd Patterson Field
- Construct a comfort station to service Powell Playground and Houston Playground
- Construct a comfort station to service Floyd Paterson Field and Nehemiah Park
- Rehabilitate Livonia Park
- Reconstruct Fish Playground
- Reconstruct Dr. Richard Green Playground.
- Reconstruct swimming pool and bath house at Betsy Head Park
- Install dome over Betsy Head Park to enable year-round use
- Repair potholes, restore trenches and resurface streets
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Rockaway Avenue Station on IRT-3
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Sutter Avenue-Rutland Road Station on IRT-3
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Saratoga Avenue Station on IRT-3
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Sutter Avenue Station on "L" line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the New Lots Avenue Station on the "L" line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Rockaway Avenue Station on IND line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Livonia Avenue Station on the "L" line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Junius Street Station on the IRT-3

- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Broadway Junction Station
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Atlantic Avenue Station on the "L" line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Chauncey Street Station on the "J" line
- Rehabilitate tunnel that accesses the East New York Station on the LIRR
- Upgrade street lights along Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and East 98th Street
- Repair broken sidewalks and curbs along Pitkin Avenue between Howard Avenue and Mother Gaston Boulevard and along Rockaway Avenue between Glenmore Avenue and Sutter Avenue
- Repair broken sidewalks and curbs along Belmont Avenue between Rockaway Avenue and Christopher Avenue

The following new items are submitted for consideration:

- Rehabilitate South Pacific Playground
- Rehabilitate Van Dyke Playground
- Rehabilitate Carter G. Woodson Park
- Rehabilitate bridge that connects the "L" line at Livonia Avenue and Van Sinderen Avenue
- Upgrade lighting at the New Lots Station on the "L" line
- Install elevators and/or escalators at the Halsey Street Station on the "J" line
- Install ramp at northern service lane of Atlantic Avenue to provide accessibility to westbound platform of East New York Station of LIRR

Ms. Melanie Mendonca, member of the Youth Services Planning Committee, reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on October 9, 2019 with School District 23's superintendents, the Executive Superintendent of all North Brooklyn schools, Ms. Karen Watts, and Superintendent of pre-k – middle school, Dr. Miatheresa Pate, and Dr. Mekeisha McKoy, Director of District Initiative. Many topics were discussed. The most important was how are our children doing scholastically?

Dr. Pate stated that due to deficiencies in the learning matrix, the results of our students were skewed. There are places where the students seemed to be underperforming, when the proficiency of the students' performance were improving. Recently, a new evaluation system has been put in place where the actual rate of learning will be measured irrespective of the student's proficiency. In cases where students may be having difficulty obtaining standard achievements set by the Department of Education at their grade levels (at risk students), there are mechanisms put in place - students are mentored and counselled to ensure that the students maintain an acceptable educational balance to be able to move forward to the next level.

The Committee was informed by the superintendents that the graduation rate at each level is improving. No school closing was revealed, however, there are three (3) schools underperforming and the needs for the schools are being addressed.

The discussion on the air conditioners in all the schools eligible is ongoing. While many schools did get air conditioners, due to the state of the wiring system in the old school buildings, among other reasons, there were some delays. The superintendents will be meeting with the City Contracts Unit that is assigned to the installation process to ascertain the problems with the air condition installations. The Committee will remain involved in tracking down a solution. The School District Resource Office located at 1784 Park Place has a multitude of services for parents such as: literacy programs, early childhood programs, a computer enrichment program for parents, fathers and mothers mentoring programs, a brothers and sisters initiative, and others.

Also, attending this meeting was a representative from the New Your State Nurses Association, New York Campaign for Patient Safety who are advocating for additional pay, staffing, and better working conditions in hospitals to help ensure the health and safety of nurses and patients. The issue was referred to the Legislative Committee for review.

On October 3, 2019, KAPPA V hosted a Department of Youth and Community Development Public Hearing. The objective of this Public Hearing was to hear the social and economic needs of the community as new request for proposals are being created to address those needs. The turnout was not as expected, but the enthusiasm of the participants testimonies was highly respected by all.

Planning for the 4th Annual Youth Conference will begin in November with a date to be announced. Youth Volunteers/Ocean Hill Brownsville residents are welcome to join in on the discussions to frame a more powerful and comprehensive conference next year.

Seniors Committee had a Cancer Walk on October 17, 2019. The turnout was phenomenal.

The Veteran Committee will have a Veteran's Appreciation Parade on November 2, 2019. Details to be announced.

Programs open for enrollment and Special Meeting

Central Brooklyn has two programs open

- SONYC BIZ Entrepreneurial Programs for students attending middle schools
- Youth Community Ambassador Program recruiting middle/high school students
- Open Enrollment for GED Program ages 17 and up. Both programs are located at 444 Thomas Boyland on the 3rd Floor – telephone number 718-498-4513.

- The CAMPUS Afterschool Tech & Arts Program for Middle School Students – at the Brownsville Collaborative Middle School (BCMS), located at 85 Watkins Street. 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) 240-3657/917-428-0647, to obtain the date and time of the meetings because the meeting moves from location to location.

The next Community Resident Planning Group meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

There was a meeting this morning with Schools Chancellor Richard Carranza, the Brooklyn NAACP, School District 23 personnel and students which was very productive. The meeting was originally scheduled for December, but knowing the needs and the interest, it was pushed forward to this morning.

Representatives from area schools spoke about the need for resources that were not coming into their schools and the Chancellor heard their concerns. There are districts that have received funding and other resources that are not being used while other districts (including District 23) are not getting needed resources. Chancellor Carranza agreed to investigate realignment of the resources.

Chancellor Carranza reported that there are 1.1 million students attending 1,300 public schools in New York City making it one of the three largest school system worldwide. The system also buses the greatest number of students worldwide. There have been issues of students not arriving to school on time. This is, in part, due to restructuring. School buses are now equipped with GPS which can be tracked, and drivers can be contacted when any issues arise. However, there are still some kinks to be corrected.

Overall, the meeting was productive and there will be follow-up.

Mr. Charles Ladson stated that we need to hold Chancellor Carranza feet to fire regarding doing right by students of color. There have been several news articles which indicate that while at his previous position in Houston he did not do well in serving black and brown students.

Ms. Mendonca stated that as a past president of Community Education Council as well as being a borough appointee, she understands the concern. However, from her perspective he is acting in a manner to improve outcomes for students of color and is being challenged for doing so. He is being sued for his efforts towards the elimination of the Specialized High School Admissions Test. When it comes to the demographics of New York City's Specialized High Schools, students of color are underrepresented. He has also terminated a number of long tenured employees who were not performing their duties. These former employees are suing him. In her opinion, Chancellor Carranza is working on removing disparities in different school districts.

Ms. Adrainer Coleman stated that in the conversations regarding air conditioning in the schools, the kitchen areas should also be included.

Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, reported that the Fiscal and Policy Work Group met on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, and heard presentations from the Street Vendors Association, the New York Campaign for Patients Safety, and the Campaign for an Elected Civilian Review Board.

The Street Vendor Association is seeking support for legislation that is presently in City Council to expand the quota of licensing for vendors. The Work Group will be reviewing the proposals currently on the table and seek clarification in some areas.

The New York Campaign for Patients Safety presented a resolution requiring the New York State Department of Health to establish safe staffing ratios in all acute care facilities and nursing homes. The resolution will be presented at next month's meeting.

They also heard a presentation by a campaign to change the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) to an Elected Civilian Complaint Review Board (ECRB). The Work Group will also review their proposals and come up with a decision on their proposal.

They also reviewed the five (5) proposals that are on the ballot this coming election.

- Proposal one (1) deals with election and rank voting
- Proposal two (2) Amending the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB)
- Proposal three (3) Ethics and Government
- Proposal four (4) City Budget
- Proposal five (5) Land Use and some changes to the ULURP process.

In the interest of time, she chose to not report on all these proposals, but urges everyone to read the Voters' Guide booklet that should have been received in the mail and read pages 16 -19 to get an understanding of what changes are being proposed. She also reminds everyone that early voting is in effect and begins on October 26th. Voters should check the notices that were sent from the Board of Elections to find the location of their early voting polling station, as in many cases, it may not be the same polling site where they are accustomed to go to vote. You can also go to vote.nyc.gov, to find your early voting site. The Voters' Guide will also inform you on what elections are being held and the candidates who are running for the offices.

The next Fiscal and Policy Work Group meeting will be held on November 19, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Someone asked what should be done if they have not received a Voters' Guide?

Chairperson Morgan stated that the information can be found online.

Ms. Margaret Brewer asked if there was or will there be an opportunity to discuss the issues on the ballot at a local venue?

Ms. Pierre stated that there will not be any public discussions in the community.

Ms. Christina Serrano, representing the Office of Councilmember Alicka Ampry-Samuel, stated that Councilmember Ampry-Samuel will host a Census 2020 Resource Job Fair on Friday, October 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm.

On Wednesday, November 13th at 6:00 p.m. at I.S. 392, located at 104 Sutter Avenue, a Justice for All Town Hall meeting with Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez and New York State Attorney General Leticia James, co-hosted by Councilmember Ampry-Samuel, Assemblywoman Latrice Walker, and Senator Zellnor Myrie. Fliers are available on the distribution table.

Some asked if the resource fair will have employers, other than the Census Bureau, present.

Ms. Serrano stated that only the Census Bureau will be there.

Chairperson Morgan stated that the Census Bureau needs to hire about 35,000 individuals for the upcoming census and they are well behind in hiring. There is a national campaign going to hire the required personnel. Our community is one of 11 in New York City that have been undercounted, in the past. If the Census Bureau does not hire enough people, especially those from our community, it increases the risk of another undercount of our community. A proper count insures that we receive our just share of resources and representation from the federal

government. She encourages the audience to share this information with their family and friends and to apply themselves if they are interested in working.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Ms. Bernice Navarrete-Perez, representing the Office of Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr.

Ms. Navarrete-Perez announced that this year they will be participating in the Participatory Budget Process, meaning that the community, as a whole, will be voting on capital projects up to \$1,000,000. She would like to work with the Board to create a survey with items that can be voted upon as opposed to having numerous individual items submitted.

Mr. Melvin Faulkner, representing the Office of Assemblyman Charles Barron reiterated that there are not enough people applying for the 2020 Census jobs. Yesterday, they hosted a job fair at the New Lots Library and there were only 75 applicants. He is not satisfied with that outcome. On Friday, they will be meeting with officials from the Census Bureau to find out why there are no Census offices in Brownsville and/or East New York, communities that have historically been undercounted.

Ms. Marie Boone, representing the Office of Senator Roxanne Persaud, stated that they had a Census Job Fair at their office yesterday and she was amazed that the turnout was not what they anticipated for people applying for work. Another date is being planned and the community will soon be informed of the date.

Senator Persaud's Brooklyn Office is located at 1222 East 96th Street and the telephone number is (718) 649-7653. She invites the community to contact them about any community concerns.

She reminded the audience that early voting starts on October 26th and that there are pamphlets on the distribution table with additional information on early voting.

Senator Persaud will host a homeowner's and tenant's rights event at Canarsie High School on October 26th. They will also host a Halloween event at their office on October 31st.

They encourage persons who need legal assistance to reach out to them to arrange to meet with attorneys free of charge.

Someone commented that perhaps the elected official can come out into the community and reach out to the residents and make them aware of the Census jobs in order to have better turnouts.

Ms. Boone stated that of course there can always be more done, but they reach out to the community in many ways. They are on social media, they visit churches, libraries, and go to subway stations throughout the district and pass along information.

Mr. Charles Ladson, Sr. asked what is the pay for the census jobs?

Ms. Boone stated that it ranges from \$21 an hour to about \$40 an hour depending on one's qualifications.

Mr. Shelton Jones, representing the Office Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, stated that as was announced earlier, District Attorney Gonzalez will be in Brownsville for a Justice for All Town Hall meeting along side Attorney General Leticia James on November 13th.

In honor of Sexual Violence Awareness Month, they will host a Campus Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Symposium at Medgar Evers College on October 29, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event is free and attorneys will receive CLE (Continuing Legal Education) credits for attending.

Earlier this month, District Attorney Gonzalez announced the overturning of the conviction of a man who spent 26 years in prison for a crime that he did not commit. He was released after an extensive investigation found that the witnesses against him were not credible. This marks the 27th conviction that has been overturn since 2014, when the late Mr. Ken Thompson took office. In the previous 24 years there were only three. District Attorney Gonzalez will continue to be tough on crime, but will be fair in doing so. Additional information can be found on their website at www.brooklynda.org or follow @brooklynda on Twitter.

Mr. Jones can be reached by calling (718) 250-3146. He encourages callers, who do not reach him when calling, to leave a message. He guarantees a call back within 24-hours, if they leave a message.

Rev. Eddie Karim, representing the Office of Assemblywoman Latrice Walker, stated that as he was listening, he is pleased to hear the message coming from our elected officials regarding the 2020 Census is uniform. The challenge now is for the community to respond. It is of utmost importance that every resident in our communities be counted in the census, regardless of their citizenship status. He urges everyone in the audience to pass this message to everyone they know. He announced that there are fliers on the distribution tables summarizing legislation that Assemblywoman Walker has been working on.

On Tuesday, October 29th, at the Brownsville Collaborative Middle School, there will be a press conference to announce the return of Midnight Basketball to our community. The program is designed to attract youth and offer supportive services to them.

The telephone number for Assemblywoman Walker's office is (718) 342-1256. They are accepting requests for Thanksgiving turkey for families in need.

Someone asked if the citizenship question will appear on the census?

Rev. Karim stated that it will not. It is important that every individual in every household be counted including youth and seniors.

Chairperson Morgan stated that children are amongst the most undercounted segment of our community's population and this causes underfunding for youth programs.

Someone asked what happens if their landlord fails to include them on his/her census form?

Chairperson Morgan stated that census forms are sent for each apartment. Your landlord should not count you, but you should count each individual residing in your apartment.

Rev. Karim stated that anyone with a youth living with them is encouraged to have them apply for a census job.

Mr. Nicholas Perry, representing the Office of Comptroller Scott Stringer, stated that Comptroller is working hard to make New York City a better place to live.

In his latest report, which is entitled "Fees, Fines, and Fairness How Monetary Charges Drive Inequity," it outlines how the formerly incarcerated and their families can be saddled with outstanding debt, even before a prison sentence is served. Many people get caught in the system simply because of their inability to pay fines or fees. On page 37 of the report, Comptroller Stringer makes four recommendations on how to improve the system.

The report shows that in 2017 the formerly incarcerated in New York had to pay \$20 million in court fees.

In New York State, mandatory surcharges and fees of up to \$375 can be imposed on those convicted of or pleading guilty to a crime, according to the report. The report highlights, though, that the majority of funds gathered in New York City courts are for non-criminal violations and non-DUI traffic violations.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Mr. William Wilkins of the East New York Local Development Corporation who announced that applications are being accepted for affordable housing at 463 Livonia Avenue near Van Sinderen Avenue. This property is in Community District #5 and while residents of Community District receive a preference, residents of Community District #16 are encouraged to apply. The application portal (nyc.gov/housingconnect) is open through December 3, 2019.

When Joseph Papp created the Public Theatre, he did so because he felt that all New Yorkers should have access to theatrical works of art. To that end, a mobile unit of the Public Theatre will be performing Measure by Measure at YMCA, at 570 Jamaica Avenue near Highland Park on Saturday, November 2, 2019. The performance is free and features top-notch performers.

Mr. Maurice Crawford of Brooklyn Defenders stated that their office is located at 566 Livonia Avenue which is four blocks from the Junius Street station on the IRT Line.

The office accepts walk-in consultations on a variety of legal issues including ACS/child welfare, housing, and criminal matters. They also offer regular Know Your Rights workshops open to community members. Past training topics included education rights, seeking employment with a criminal record, and what to do when ACS knocks on your door.

The office also has a variety of informational material and community resources, including know your rights fact sheets, community events, and voter registration forms.

For more information, call (646) 971-2722.

Mr. William Boone of the Medgar Evers-Oasis Beacon Program, located at 210 Chester Street stated that they currently serve youth from kindergarten through 12th grade. Space is limited and he encourages guardians who want to enroll their children to call him at (917) 627-9243.

Information on their programming can be found on the distribution table.

Ms. Barbara Chaney announced that she leads a Girl Scout Troop at the Gregory Jackson Center and they are recruiting girls from kindergarten through 5th or 6th grade to join their multi-culture group. She can be reached by calling (347) 210-8112 or come to one of their meetings which are held on Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing the Office of Borough President Eric Adams, stated that anyone who has an issue they want to relay to the Borough President or needs attention, you may call Mr. McDaniel at (718) 802-2681 or (347) 942-1692.

Ms. Sarah Lorya of the Brooklyn Neighborhood Advisory Board stated that she has a survey that she would like the audience to complete to assess the programmatic needs of the community.

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