

## **MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – MAY 26, 2020**

### Attendance

David Alexander	John McCadney, Jr.
Cynthia Bannister	Andrew McCoy
Margaret Brewer	Melanie Mendonca
Dr. Cleopatra Brown	Shemene Minter (A)
Kaseem Clark-Edwards	Genese Morgan
Adrainer Coleman	Deidre Olivera-Douglas (A)
Norman Frazier (A)	Busayo Olupano (A)
Danny Goodine (A)	Ariel Perry-DeCamp (A)
Chanel Haliburton	Anita Pierce
Sarah Hall	Marie Pierre
Balinda Harris (A)	Linda Rivera (E)
Zalika Headey	JoAnn Sexton (E)
Michael Howard (E)	Keturah Suggs (E)
Gabriel Jamison (A)	Richard Swinson (A)
Lannetta Jeffers	Rev. Eric Thompson (A)
Carl Joseph	Brenda Thompson-Duchene (A)
Maurice Joyner (A)	Christopher Toomer (A)
Leticia Knowles	Ernestine Turner (A)
Dr. Bettie Kollock-Wallace	Rev. Miran Ukaegbu
Charles Ladson, Sr. (A)	Deborah Williams
Digna Layne (A)	Pat Winston (E)
Kelly Lee-McVay (A)	Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Albion Liburd	Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Deborah Mack (E)	Hon. Alicka Ampy-Samuel
Yolanda Matthews (E)	

### PUBLIC MEETING HELD VIA WEBEX

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and an invocation was said by Mr. John McCadney, Jr.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker reminded everyone to complete the census form by going online, calling the number provided on the form, or by returning the form that you received in the mail.

Please report stores that are price gouging by calling 3-1-1 and providing the name of the store, address and product being sold.

Street cleaning has been suspended through June 2020. The following streets are open for recreation between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.:

- 1) Sackman Street between Truxton and Fulton Streets.
- 2) Somers Street between Rockaway Avenue and Fulton Street
- 3) Dumont Avenue between Thomas S. Street and Strauss Street

The Community Board Office is closed and the staff is working remotely. You can reach the staff by calling (718) 385-0323.

Ms. Deborah Williams reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on Thursday, May 14, 2020 via teleconference with Captain St. Forte of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, Deron Johnson of the Brownsville Community Justice Center, and Theresa Cunningham from the Department of Sanitation. A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office.

Mr. David Alexander reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 via teleconference. A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office.

District Manager Greene-Walker reported that the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee met on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 via teleconference. A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office.

Ms. Christina Serrano announced that Councilmember Alicka Ampy-Samuel will co-host a Town Hall on May 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Prisoners in Jail.

P.O. Angel Rodriguez from the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct reported that crime is down overall in the Precinct. This past weekend, there were two shootings, arrests were made, and guns recovered. One injury resulted from the shootings.

They have been distributing masks, gloves, and hand sanitizers to community residents, and encouraging social distancing.

Councilmember Alicka Ampy-Samuel stated that she called Mayor de Blasio on Saturday night from Bristol Street at Marcus Garvey Village. She and Assemblymember Latrice Walker were on Bristol Street on Thursday night with officers and community residents. She is very disturbed by what she is seeing on social media and in her face. She was not pleased with how the officers responded to the young people and families on Bristol Street on Saturday night. She felt that the residents were disrespected, and she felt disrespected as a leader in the community by the officers which led her to call the Mayor. She feels that it is over-policing and over-enforcement. They were using social distancing as another level of harassment. Although marijuana is a violation, the Mayor and Commissioner O'Neill stated 2 years ago that there would not be enforcement around marijuana or smoking that was small (not like ounces or pounds). What she witnessed on Saturday was not that at all. It was a tactic of we are out here, we are in charge, and we are going to make sure that nothing happens in this community or block in this area. We are the authority. It was disrespectful to the C.U.R.E. Violence workers who were already engaging with the residents and having a rapport that they were going to work with them. The police just came up on the scene like calvaries and decided to just take charge. She has heard the community's concerns and has addressed them with the Mayor and Police Commissioner. Something must change. This is not acceptable. What we are seeing is not appropriate.

As far as the 3-1-1 and 9-1-1 calls, they checked the call logs. There were no 3-1-1 calls made. As a people, we are hesitant to call 9-1-1 because something very negative happens. This is something that we discussed as a Council body. Last week, there was a hearing about police enforcement and tactics during the COVID crisis with social distancing. Moving forward, she would like to discuss this with the community.

P.O. Rodriguez stated that he will relay the message to the Commanding Officer.

Councilmember Ampy-Samuel stated that she spoke to the Mayor about providing more resources to community-based organizations so that they can be the front line as it relates to crimes we are seeing and making sure that our young people have programs this summer and jobs, even if they only receive stipends.

They allocated \$250,000 for a community space at the Precinct and have yet to see any movement on the community space.

Councilmember Ampy-Samuel stated that since the release of the Executive Budget, the Council has held hearings with the agencies with the highest impact on the budget. There has been a lot of reductions and negotiations are underway. Tough decisions will be made.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker read the Nominating Committee Report in the absence of Ms. Marie Pierre who was having technical difficulties. A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office.

The floor was opened for further nominations and there were none. It was noted that a quorum was not present to vote on the Nominating Committee Report.

Chairperson Morgan announced that the Street Activity Permit Office is not issuing any street closing permits for block parties due to COVID-19.

Renee Muir from the BMS Family Health Centers announced that they have the nasal swab test for COVID-19. It is offered 5 days a week at 592 Rockaway Avenue. You can call the New York State Health Department hotline at (888) 364-3065 to make an appointment. The antibody test is offered to BMS patients. You can call (718) 345-5000 to make an appointment.

Their sexual risk avoidance program, called Making a Difference, for youth 10 to 13 years old is offering virtual programming.

The food access program has distributions on Wednesdays and Fridays at Van Dyke, Seth Low, Glenmore Plaza, Ocean Hill and Howard Houses.

Sharon Pope-Marshall of Bike New York announced that they established a virtual hub on [bike.nyc](http://bike.nyc) to provide information about safe biking in the city.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by David Alexander, seconded by Deborah Williams and carried to adjourn the meeting.