

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – JUNE 23, 2020

Attendance

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

PUBLIC MEETING HELD VIA WEBEX

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Ms. Adrainer Coleman, Chairperson of the Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee, reported that the Equity Planning Work Group met on June 9, 2020 with the developers of the Bridge Rockaway, an affordable and permanent supportive housing development proposed for 803 Rockaway Avenue and 416 Thatford Avenue. The project will be a single building with two residential towers, consisting of 174 units of housing with 39,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space and 2,400 sq. ft. of community facility space.

At a public hearing held by Community Board 16 on February 25, 2020, a majority of the members voted against the proposal. Subsequently, the developers of the Bridge Rockaway requested to meet with members of the Community Board to further explain the benefits of the project and request a revote of the ULURP action. Several conversations were held, a virtual tour of a similar project was conducted, and the developers did provide a letter outlining community benefits of the project.

The Work Group also met with representatives from the Pitkin Avenue BID which is requesting a resolution from the Community Board in support of their application to New York State for the 4th Phase of the Main Street grant. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Pitkin Avenue District Management Association to work collectively with property and business owners through a public/private partnership with regard to the maintenance, development, and promotion of the commercial district; and

WHEREAS, the Pitkin Avenue District Management Association desires to apply for up to \$250,000 in financial assistance through the 2020 Consolidated Fund Application (CFA) under the New York Main Street program; and

WHEREAS, the application proposes funding to assist property owners to complete renovation of buildings on Pitkin Avenue between Howard Avenue and Mother Gaston Boulevard, and on Rockaway Avenue between Glenmore Avenue and Belmont Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Community District 16 has several mixed use commercial buildings in need of façade and interior improvements, and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding will contribute to ongoing community revitalization efforts, and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant obtain the approval and endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Brooklyn Community Board 16 of the City of New York does support assisting property owners to complete building renovation to Pitkin Avenue buildings on Pitkin Avenue between Howard Avenue and Mother Gaston Boulevard and on Rockaway Avenue between Glenmore Avenue and Belmont Avenue when the property owner and/or business owner (1) attends an orientation workshop with sessions on program eligibility, customer service and community engagement, (2) is in compliance with New York State and New York City Labor Laws, (3) agrees to participate as NYC Summer Youth Employment work sites and commit to hiring local residents, (4) provides a copy of the most current financial report to include profit and loss statement and balance sheet, (5) attends a quarterly meeting with the Economic Development Committee and the BID, and (6) must be compliant and free of violations according to the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs with regard to allowable store policies; i.e., baggage check, refunds, etc.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Brooklyn Community Board 16 approves and endorses the 2020 New York State Main Street program for assistance, prepared and to be submitted by the Pitkin Avenue District Management Association.

The Community Board is in receipt of an application by the owner of Daily Press LLC, located at 38 Somers Street for the renewal of their liquor license. The business has been operating as a good neighbor in the community. It is recommended that the Community Board support their renewal application to the NYS Liquor Authority.

Mr. David Alexander, Chairperson of the Youth Services Planning Committee, reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met via teleconference on June 10, 2020 with representatives from the Department of Education, Department of Youth and Community Development, Department of Homeless Services, and community-based organizations.

Mr. Alexander announced that many of the community-based organizations are fighting to get the Summer Youth Employment Program reinstated. He will keep the members updated on the outcome of the protest.

Mrs. Josephine Yeboah Van-Ess, Deputy Superintendent of District #23 and Ms. Paige Best-Hardy, Family Leadership Coordinator, informed the Work Group of the upcoming changes that will affect the students and families in School District #23.

Graduating students will have a virtual remote graduation ceremony, administered by their schools for the family due to the COVID-19 virus.

Students who will be attending summer school will be determined by grade. For example, elementary and middle school students who are required to attend summer school, remote learning classes will be from July 6th thru August 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. High school students will begin remote learning on July 6th thru August 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will not be a schedule change for students with 12- month Individualized Education Plans. Teachers will begin on July 1st and students are expected to participate from July 2nd thru August 13th. Students' parents were made aware if their child had failing grades. The student has until the end of June to make up the grade(s) to move forward.

Schools participating in the Summer School Program are:

- I.S. 323, which is the host school and is located at 210 Chester Street.
- I.S. 392, located at 104 Sutter Avenue
- KAPPA V, located at 985 Rockaway Avenue
- M.S. 363/IS 298, located at 85 Watkins Street
- I.S. 284, located at 220 Watkins Street
- I.S. 644/Eagle Academy, located at 1137 Herkimer Street
- M.S. 688, located at 76 Riverdale Avenue

M.S. 664, located at 241 MacDougal Street

Schools participating in the “Grab and Go” meals in Ocean Hill-Brownsville school are P.S. 41, 156, 178, 184, 284, 298, 446 and 599. The schools will continue to provide First Responders and their children with 3 meals and virtual learning support and special activities for the children. The program will be ongoing throughout the summer until August.

Parents or guardians can obtain a remote learning device by calling the Department of Education (DOE) at (718) 935-5100 and choose Option 5 on the menu for help getting a device with internet connection. You may also request an application to request remote learning devices at <https://coronavirus.schools.nyc/RemoteLearningDevices>. The DOE will use the contact information provided on the form to reach out to the family to schedule delivery of the device.

Students and parents who are experiencing any form of grief, depression, anxiety, or stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic, may call the United Federation of Teachers’ Brave Hotline at (212) 709-3222 on any weekday between 2:30 pm and 9:30 pm and you will reach a licensed mental health provider who will address the caller’s concerns. Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center, located at 592 Rockaway Avenue also offers these services and can be reached at (718) 345-5000.

Mayor de Blasio is proposing to dismantle the Single Sheppard Initiative in schools. To defund the program at such a time of social and emotional disparity of deaths and isolation is unconscionable. As a community, we must advocate for the continuation of this much needed program.

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EFT) or The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 has begun to issue meals under the National School Lunch Act in cash money due to the COVID-19 virus in the amount of \$420 per eligible child attending school in New York State. Families who are already receiving SNAP and Cash Assistance will directly receive the \$420 per child, ages 3 to 18 on their EBT card in three phases by June 30th. Families with eligible children with Medicaid only will receive a full \$420 per eligible child by June 30th. The benefits will be issued on a separate benefit card with the name of the case head.

Families with eligible children who are not living in the household and not receiving Cash Assistance, SNAP or Medicaid benefits will be enrolled in the NYC DOE. The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will develop benefit cards for each eligible child in the cohort. Benefits will be expected to be issued throughout July and August.

Students, ages 19 to 21, who are still in school will also be eligible for the \$420 meal grant and will receive their cash grant and will receive their cash grant by the end of August. College students, ages 19 to 24 are not currently eligible, the OTDA is working on a way to include this group.

Returning to school is being discussed, whether to have some students go to school on alternate weeks or on a blended learning model with some actual in-school time and some remote learning. Families and students in grades 6 to 12 will be completing the “Return to School Online Survey” to provide their view.

Mr. Alexander Betancourt, Director of Inter-Agency Coordination Office of the Executive Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs and Mitch Noel, Neighborhood Advisory Board Liaison, from the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) gave the Work Group insight on the modifications at DYCD pertaining to the funding for the existing programs funded by DYCD contracts that will end on June 30, 2020.

Mr. Betancourt stated that the program’s contracts will be extended, but the length of time has not been determined as of yet. He also stated that the Request for Proposals for renewed and new community-based contracts will be issued in August to be completed. The RFP.S. will be reviewed at the end of the year to determine which programs will be funded. The SYEP is under configuration, has been suspended for now, pending new resources to fund employment. DYCD is looking into businesses to provide the resources and employment opportunities for our youth. DYCD is also working on internships with businesses to get jobs.

The Department of Homeless Services liaison stated that there were no untreated COVID-19 residents in our family shelters. She also stated that those who self-isolated are sent to the

11,000 beds allocated to the COVID-19 ill individuals at commercial shelters. There's an SCO Drop-In Center for Homeless Youth between the ages of 14 and 24 at 774 Rockaway Avenue. The Drop-In Center provides meals and other resources. The contact number is (718) 685-3850 or (877) 4-DROP-IN (877-437-6746).

If anyone is aware of any adolescents, ages 20 to 24 years old, who are homeless and in need of services, there is a drop-in center at 774 Rockaway Avenue. If need be, you can also call them to setup an appointment to take in an adolescent that might need services. Their telephone number is (718) 685-3850.

The Health and Human Services Committee reminds everyone to get tested for a COVID-19 if you have attended any events where social distancing was not possible. You should get a swab test after five days. To find one of over two hundred locations near you visit www.nyc.gov/COVIDtest

Free COVID testing is available for all New York city residents, regardless of insurance or immigration status you can get a free test today. Please share widely to protect your loved ones and stop the spray. The Test and Trace Corp is making sure anyone with COVID-19 has the resources that they need to recover, including hotel rooms and delivery.

Juneteenth is now an official city and school holiday in New York State. The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation and the June Grove at Brooklyn has announced the Juneteenth Grove at Cadman Plaza. Nineteen trees in the Grove symbolize life and the roots reflect the black community's connection to this nation.

While you may be excited that the city has begun to reopen, it may also be stressful. If you are feeling anxious or overwhelmed, #NYCWell is here to help. Call 1-888-NYC-WELL, text "WELL" to 65173, or chat online at <http://nyc.gov/nycwell> for free confidential assistance.

Persons who are re-certifying S.N.A.P. (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and cash assistance, do not have to be alarmed if they do not do it by June, they have until December to recertify.

Currently, HRA (Human Resource Administration) is ready to receive applications for emergency rental assistance for those in need. In most cases, the entire process can be done without a visit to a local office.

Child Support Notary Service - The Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) is offering free remote notary service for child support documents. You will need a smartphone or a computer with internet and scanning or faxing capability, as well as a valid photo I.D. To request this service, email dcse.cseweb@dfa.state.ny.us, with "REMOTE NOTARY" entered as the subject line of your email. Please include your name, child support account number, and phone number where you can be reached. You will be contacted to schedule an appointment during these hours: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 10:00 a.m. to noon, or Wednesday, Thursday, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Community Board 16 Neighborhood Stakeholders and Wellness Group collectively with many community-based organizations, agencies, and individuals has continuously worked together and committed to bring about change and improve the quality of life in Brownsville before and after COVID-19. This commitment is strengthened even with the devastation and impact of COVID-19 in our community, exposing serious race inequality compounded by police brutality. Consequently, George Floyd's death, exhumed the systematic racism and the cry against intolerance. They joined the global fight in their own way. In an article on how Brownsville is waging its own fight against COVID-19 and racism, published in the latest city limits newspaper (<https://citylimits.org/2020/06/19/opinion-brownsville-is-waging-its-own-fight-against-COVID-19-and-racism/>). Please read and share the information.

Please be responsible and wash your hands, maintain social distance by staying at least six feet apart, use hand sanitizers, wear masks, and stay at home when you can. Stop the spread. Together, we will overcome this pandemic.

Ms. Deborah Williams asked if Mr. Alexander was talking about summer school for junior high school and elementary or just high school?

Mr. Alexander stated that it is for grades three through twelve. They are broken up with grades three to five attending certain schools virtually. This group will be hosted by Dr. Georgette.

Ms. Linda Harris will host students in grade six to eight, and another instructor will host grades nine to twelve.

Dr. Cleopatra Brown asked if the schools that are currently providing services for children of essential workers will be providing services in the school during summer?

Mr. Alexander stated that the program was ongoing and will be continued through the summer.

Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, reported that the Fiscal Policy Work Group met on June 19, 2020 via teleconference, and discussed several police reform bills that recently passed in Congress, New York State legislature and City Council. In the US Congress, the "Justice in Policing Act of 2020" was introduced and it includes HR 4408, the Eric Garner Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act, to make the chokehold and other strangulation tactics illegal under federal civil rights law. In New York State, the law known as "50-a" which shields police disciplinary records from public view was repealed. In the City Council, a law was passed, making it illegal for police officers to cover their name tags and shield to prevent someone from identifying the officer. These are just a few of the bills that are being introduced to reform the Police Department.

The Work group recommends approval of a request by the District Manager to award the Community Board staff, Jimmi Brevil and Hawa Barry a merit increase of 3% salary effective July 1, 2020 and approval of the Mayor's Personnel Order 2018/2, 2018/3 and for the District Manager to receive a 3%, effective September 24, 2019.

Ms. Margaret Brewer asked if the date of September 24, 2019 is correct or should it read 2020?

Ms. Pierre stated that September 24, 2019 is the correct date. It requires the Community Board's approval before the request is granted.

Ms. Beverly Tatham asked if District Manager Greene-Walker's increase would be retroactive?

District Manager Greene-Walker stated that it would.

Ms. Morgan stated that several members of the team representing 803 Rockaway Avenue are present to answer questions.

The developers are available to respond to additional questions and comments about the project, and if necessary, give a brief overview of the project to refresh our memory.

Ms. Anita Pierce asked if there was any follow up to the request for reaching out to a financial institution in between the last two meetings that were held. Has there been any progress in selecting prospects?

Ms. Gordon stated that they have had some follow up conversations. She reached out to the Brooklyn Co-operative Credit Union, and they indicated that they were considering expanding their two offices into the Brownsville and the East New York communities, because they have many members from the community that are members of the credit union.

They agreed to continue the conversation when they are further along in the process and closer to the start of construction and the completion of ULURP (Uniform Land Use Review Process).

She was delighted to hear that they would consider it. They are also looking to reach out to Popular Bank. They are extremely excited for the opportunity to provide financial services to the community. They heard and know that this is important to the community and they are actively pursuing it.

Ms. Beverly Tatham stated that she was not a Board member when this was first presented, but she read the report which suggests that the team was coming on to provide further

explanation as to the benefit of the project. She is wondering if they could share that to give her a little bit more insight and enable her to make an educated vote.

Ms. Gordon stated the properties are on three streets, Rockaway Avenue, Newport Street and Thatford Avenue. The site is currently zoned for manufacturing and they are asking for the Board's approval to change the zoning so that they can add 174 residential units, along with a community facility space, and ground floor will be the Greenpoint Manufacturing Design Center's (GMDC) 39,000 square feet of light manufacturing.

The light manufacturing will create businesses for about 10 to 15 businesses. They believe that many of the local entrepreneurs will want to participate in that space. GMDC will reach out to the community to fill the space.

Half of the 174 units will be affordable units, most at 60% and below the Area Median Income, and the rents will be very affordable.

They will be one-, two-, and three-bedroom units for families and there will be an equal number of supportive studio units.

The Bridge is a very experienced organization and will have an office suite from which they will be providing on site services.

There will be many community amenities in the building, including an 11,000 square foot community garden, which will be open to everyone to provide gardening, a play area for children, socialization and it is in keeping with social distancing.

There will be solar panels that will reduce the cost of energy, a green roof and many more amenities.

The building will offer a safe environment with cameras, twenty-four/seven front desk coverage.

They will be a lot of activity on the corner to keep it safe and with lights and cameras (currently, it is a deserted vacant factory building).

Ms. Tatham stated that it was stated that 50% would be affordable housing. What about the other 50%? Will they be rented at market rate?

Ms. Gordon stated that they be supportive housing for people with special needs and the formerly homeless, but the entire building is 100% affordable.

One of the things they discussed with some of the Community Board members about was reaching out to the Department of Homeless Services to have an agreement that will enable the Bridge to take some homeless people from the local community, instead of from other parts of the city. They have gotten their agreement that they can concentrate on the shelters within Community District 16.

The residential component will also have about 20 positions available and they have indicated that they will also provide job fairs to make jobs available to qualified residents from the community. They will do outreaching and do training and the job fairs will not only be to help fill the jobs in their building in Brownsville, they have three other residential buildings in other parts of Brooklyn, and will seek to fill available positions through these job fairs as well.

Ms. Margaret Brewer stated that she understands that this project is to house both light manufacturing as well as 174 units? In light of the current situation with COVID-19 and communicable diseases, has anyone given any thought about the additional density and its effect on this community?

Is it possible to have the light manufacturing and the social support and not have an additional 174 units in an already densely populated part of our community?

Ms. Kate Gilmore stated that there are separate entrances for the light manufacturing space and the residential portion of the buildings. They took a lot of time designing the entrances so that there is an entrance to the community facility along Thatford Avenue. The entrance to the residential is along Newport Street and the entrance for the manufacturing is on Rockaway

Avenue and more recently, they have been thinking about the new realities of living in a post pandemic environment and have been taking a close look at the design of the project for the residents and for the circulation space. The building, which has been designed with double the number of elevators that would typically be required for a building of this size, will reduce the crowding in the elevators.

They also have a particularly large circulation space in the lobby area. If there is crowding on the ground floor, there is an ability to walk up to the second floor and enter the elevator banks there as well. There are components of the design that are sensitive to some of the additional social distancing requirements that they now must work with.

Ms. Tatham asked if the 50% of supportive housing will be focused on families or individuals?

Ms. Gordon stated that they will be targeted to individuals.

Ms. Morgan asked Ms. Gordon to explain the rationale for the 174 units as opposed to a smaller number of units.

Ms. Gordon stated that it fits zoning and when they went to the Department of City Planning, they talked about how tall the building would be. It was their suggestion that the tower on Rockaway Avenue be a seven-story building and the tower on Thatford Avenue be a six-story building. There are also economies of scale, and they felt that 174 units would fit that corner because it is a 46,000 square foot lot.

Ms. Gilmore stated that one of the reasons that they also have designed the building the way that they have designed it with the 174 units is to build a significant number of two-and three-bedrooms and create additional extremely low-income and low-income housing in the community by co-locating the light manufacturing and the residential. The density is what allowed them to create a significant number of larger units, and the very low-income units without losing the manufacturing that creates the jobs.

In previous presentations, they have noted that with the 10 to 15 businesses that will be in the manufacturing space, they are anticipating about 35 full time jobs to be created.

By combining the light manufacturing and the residential they can create both at the same time, each component on its own would not be able to get financing and exist independently. By co-locating them and creating the density is what allows them to have both uses.

Ms. Brewer stated that having the density will call for additional resources and add to us as a community having to support the needs of the people that are here.

Mr. Brian Coleman from GMDC stated that he understands Ms. Brewer's concern. It is a double-edged sword that cuts both ways. They will be bringing more people into the community, but they are more people that could also support local businesses. They will support the supermarket across the street. They will also support other small businesses that operate in the community and make opportunities available for other businesses to open to serve the community. This will be an economic engine for the community.

Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu asked if any feasibility studies were done to look at the impact the project will have on the community? How will it affect the quality of life of those in the community?

You bring in manufacturing, but you also bring in more people who need parking spaces in an area that is already densely populated. We know it is coming with a lot of benefits, but there will also be additional strain on the community.

Ms. Gilmore stated that one of the components of the design that was created as part of this building to help address the density as well, is the garden that was briefly mentioned earlier. To call it a garden is not totally accurate. It is an expansive green space that is between the two buildings about 11,000 square feet and designed with the intention that it be used by residents in the building in addition to the community spaces that we have planned for the project, which include a community room and a computer room, and the laundry room, which all open out into the garden space. They felt that that was really critical to having internal amenities within the community that will allow for circulation throughout the building and

allow residents to be both in their apartments and also to have a significant amount of amenities within the building itself.

Mr. Coleman stated that he thinks that it is important to talk about the existing facility that was there. They were not a good neighbor to the community of Brownville. They parked tractor-trailers on the sidewalk directly across from the school. They kind of operated in an open-air fashion. This project is something that has been completely vetted the Department of Environmental Protection and the City Planning. The design has placed the commercial operations on Rockaway Avenue where commercial belongs and the residential and the community facility off Rockaway Avenue where it does not belong. This project has been well designed and well thought out so that it will have less detrimental effects on the community than existing facility had for decades.

Rev. Dr. Ukaegbu asked if parking is available within the space of the development or any off-street parking for the 174 apartments.

Is there is parking provided by the developers?

Mr. Coleman stated that a large majority of tenants take public transportation walk or bike to work. That is one of the reasons that they are excited about doing this project. It is directly down the block from the I.R.T. #3. They do not expect to have any detrimental effects on the community with reference to parking or vehicular the movement.

Ms. Gordon stated that they operate three other buildings in Brooklyn and none of the tenants in any of those buildings drive. It is very likely that half of the people who will be living in in this building will not drive and there is no parking onsite.

Mr. Hercules Argyriou of Mega Development stated that there will be a loading dock that will service the GMDC spaces and remove the need of trucks standing by or driving on sidewalks which was happening before with the chocolate factory.

Mr. Coleman stated that this is a very good point. The loading dock plan for this new project are internal to the building as required by City Planning. When there is a delivery, whatever vehicles making the delivery will pull completely inside the building to make the delivery. They will not be on the sidewalk. They will not be double-parked on the street.

Ms. Gordon stated that as indicated in their commitment letter, 50% of the units will be a community preference. Meaning that there will be people from the community who, by having gone through a lottery will be able to move into the building. Thusly, parking for those individuals is almost a moot point, because if those people have cars, then they'll continue to park wherever they had been parking.

Ms. Brenda Thompson-Duchene asked if they will be housing homeless persons from the shelters?

Ms. Gordon stated that they will.

Ms. Thompson-Duchene asked which shelters in Brownsville will these residents come from?

Ms. Gordon stated that they looked at a number of shelters in Brownsville and those are the shelters that they indicated to the DHS and discussed with the Department and agreed that they would allow the Bridge to take referrals from those shelters. Unfortunately, she does not have the list of the shelter names with her.

Ms. Thompson-Duchene stated that she is concerned about bringing people from outside of the Brownsville community and increasing density of the area's population.

Ms. Gordon stated that this was why they talked to the DHS about trying to take people in the community already and not increasing the density.

Ms. Thompson-Duchene asked if that is a guarantee? Trying is one thing and one hundred percent is a different thing.

Mr. Argyriou stated that on the affordable rental apartments there is a 50% preference for the Community District. In other words, you have to lease from the community before you can lease from outside of the community.

Ms. Gordon stated that as far as from the shelters, it is honestly the first time that that she has heard of DHS allowing that, which is huge. It is the first time they have seen a positive understanding. That is because Carl and Susan went to them and told them we need to not bring in people from outside the community. They need to be able to keep people from the community in the.

Ms. Susan Wiviott stated that they have had discussions with DHS. This is completely outside of their process, and they really talked to them about how important it was to really do outreach in the local shelters as much as they possibly can.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel from the Office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams stated that all this amalgamation and cooperation with everybody sounds fantastic. However, the fact remains that there is no parking space. Whether or not you take people from within the community who already have parking spaces, we will still have the same problem.

Mr. Argyriou stated that up until recently, when the manufacturing facility was working, the parking was restricted loading and unloading for trucks only. The area around the facility, was not used for parking cars. Now it will be a residential street and will provide some street parking.

Ms. Wiviott stated that what Mr. Argyriou is pointing out is that some new spaces will be created around the site. Currently, there are no spaces. Although it is not going to provide 80 spaces, it will provide several. She thinks the other point of it is that we should not lose sight of the creation of quality housing with larger apartments. It may not be perfect in terms of the number of parking spaces, however, she thinks it will be a real amenity to the community itself to have more affordable apartments that are larger and can house families.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. John McCadney, Jr. and carried to accept the minutes from February 25, 2020, April 28, 2020, and May 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu and carried to adopt the District Manager reports from February 25, 2020, April 28, 2020, and May 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Christopher Toomer, seconded by Ms. Deborah Williams and carried to accept the report of the Nominating Committee and its recommendations

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Brenda Thompson-Duchene and carried to accept the report of the City Services Planning Work Group to include their recommendation to support the Department of Parks and Recreation schematic for Ocean Hill Playground that was presented at our April 28th meeting as well as the request for a letter of support to do a community service and mural project at Floyd Patterson Playground.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Ms. Deborah Williams and carried to accept the report of the Community Resident Planning Work Group from February 25, 2020, April 28, 2020, and May 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Ms. Linda Rivera, seconded by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu to accept report of the Fiscal and Policy Work Group and their recommendation to approve 3% pay raises for Community Assistants Jimmi Brevil and Hawa Barry effective July 1, 2020 and a 3% pay raise for District Manager Viola Greene-Walker per MPO 2018/2 and 2018/3 effective September 24, 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander and seconded by Ms. Linda Rivera and carried to accept the reports of Equity Planning Work Group from February 25, 2020, April 28, 2020, and May 26, 2020, to include their recommendations to support a new liquor license application for the Daily Press Café, located at 38 Somers Street (28 – in favor, 0 – against, and 0 – abstention), a resolution to continue to support the Main Street Program along Pitkin Avenue BID, which would allow funding to continue for those who want to do storefront renovations along Pitkin Avenue (28 – in favor, 0 – against, and 0 – abstention), and the

803 Rockaway Avenue with the additional recommendation that the developers revisit the issue of off-street parking (22 – in favor, 6 – against, and 0 -abstention).

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing the Office of Borough President Eric Adams, reported that concerns have been heard about firecrackers being set off throughout the borough and Borough President Adams is asking people not to call 9-1-1. Mayor has created a task force to deal with the issue.

COVID-19 is still here and the more we protect ourselves, the more we are protecting others as well. He asks that everyone continue social distancing to keep the numbers down.

Borough President Adams is in discussions with the Mayor to seek locations such as museums, and the aquarium that can allow the public to participate for free and safely.

He can be reached directly by calling (347) 942-1692.

Ms. Kelly McVay asked how is our community performing in the census?

Chairperson Morgan stated that we are at about 41% and need to do way better than we have done. We need all the support and funding that we can possibly get to fund the programs to ensure that our residents have an appropriate quality of life

The Legislative Committee formed a Complete Count Committee and were out going door-to-door before COVID-19. Because of COVID-19, we had to stop.

We need our community to reach out to family members, friends, neighbors and ensure that they have completed their census. So that our numbers can go up. We are considered one of the hardest communities to count in all of New York City. We really need to make a difference with the showing this year or we will lose representation and we will lose funding that is needed to operate all of the programs that we really need. It is going to take all of us to make sure that that census percentage of completion goes up.

Police Officer Rodriguez, Community Affairs Office of the 73rd Precinct, reported that overall crime is down, but they have a spike in two major crime areas. One is a homicide and the other is grand larceny auto. There has been a minor spike in both, but everything else is down. They have been taking a few more shootings than last year and are trying their best to combat the situation. They no longer deploy directed plain clothes crime officers in the Precinct.

Everyone is going back on patrol and outreach units such as NCOs and YNCOs (Youth Neighborhood Coordinating Officers). It will be one stop shop for anything that the community needs or any questions they can basically address.

Mr. David Alexander asked if they are still giving out masks?

Officer Rodriguez stated that they are. They usually give them out at random intervals. Their Community Affairs Officers, YNCOs and NCOs, when they are in the field, are giving masks to people who are not wearing masks and try to advise them to social distance to avoid contracting the COVID-19 virus.

If members of the Board need masks, call him and he will reserve a box for any community board member, or any, any block association president. His number is (347) 534-8834.

Ms. Brenda Thompson-Duchene announced that Isabellia Ladies of Elegance Foundation will be giving away produce from their garden to the first 50 people to arrive at their Rockaway Avenue and Sutter Avenue site, on Monday, June 29th.

Mr. David Alexander announced that CBOs that have Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) contracts scheduled to end on June 30th will have those contracts extended. He does not know for how long the contracts will be extended, however, DYCD will reach out to the organizations.

Ms. Anita Pierce announced that the Brownsville Minute, a broadcast that has been on the Board's Facebook page during the COVID-19 era to provide updated information to our residents on Saturdays. This Saturday, June 27th, will be the last Saturday broadcast and it will

move to a weekday broadcast. She is hoping that the community is taking advantage of the replays, comment and watch future broadcasts.

Because these are community broadcasts, they are looking to involve as many trusted messengers from the community who are doing the work. She will train you and guide you through the process. She encourages any community-based organization or resident who is looking to express their concerns or provide information to the community to please feel free to contact her.

Ms. Beverly Tatham announced that the ladies of Sigma Kappa Zeta, the Brooklyn chapter of Beta Phi Zeta Sorority, Inc., invite the community to join the third part of their Community Conversation series entitled: Investing vs. Trading-A Beginners Guide to Building Legacy and Wealth for You & Your Family which will be held via zoom webinar.

Chairperson Morgan stated that information about event is posted on the Board's Facebook page.

Ms. Margaret Brewer announced that Deputy Inspector Terrell Anderson is arranging an impromptu meeting at the Brownsville Recreation Center on Thursday to have a conversation with the community.

Chairperson Morgan stated that there have been some amazing things happening in the community even in this odd environment. She thanked the audience for their participation and stated that she has been watching or participating in many virtual meetings, taking in the information and bringing the conversations to our social media platform.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Linda Rivera, and carried to adjourn the meeting.