

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – APRIL 26, 2022

Attendance

Lorenzo Andrews (A)
Cynthia Bannister
Eramas Beras-Monticciolo (A)
Margaret Brewer
Dr. Cleopatra Brown
Kaseem Clark-Edwards (A)
Adrainer Coleman
Linda Dorceus
Norman Frazier (A)
Chanel Haliburton
Sarah Hall
Balinda Harris (A)
Zalika Headley (A)
Michael Howard
Gabriel Jamison
Leticia Knowles
Dr. Bettie Kollock-Wallace
Charles Ladson, Sr. (A)
Digna Layne
Kelly Lee-McVay
Albion Liburd (A)
Deborah Mack
Yolanda Matthews (A)
John McCadney, Jr.
Andrew McCoy

Melanie Mendonça (E)
Shemene Minter
Genese Morgan
Rose O'Neill (A)
Deidre Olivera
Luz Ortiz (A)
Shelevya Pearson (A)
Marie Pierre (A)
Shaneek Samuel (A)
JoAnn Sexton
Khadijah Smith
Dr. Sonia Smith
Keturah Suggs
Beverly Tatham
Sydone Thompson
Brenda Thompson-Duchene
Christopher Toomer
Rev. Miran Ukaegbu
Deborah Williams (E)
Pat Winston
Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Viola Greene-Walker, District Manager
Hon. Nikki Lucas
Juan Bravo for Hon. Charles Barron
Ezra Pean for Hon. Darlene Mealy
Orlando Ross for Hon. Yvette Clarke

PUBLIC MEETING HELD VIA WEBEX

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the meeting to order at 7: 02 p.m. Mr. John McCadney, Jr. gave an invocation.

A public hearing was convened in the matter of an application to the New York State Liquor Authority for the renewal of a license to sell liquor, wine, beer, and cider at Daily Press Coffee House and Bar, located at 38 Somers Street.

Mr. Josh Thies, Manager of the Daily Press, appeared on behalf of the owner. Mr. Thies stated that they open every day, except Monday, at 7:00 a.m. and serve coffee until 12:00 p.m. At 12:00 p.m., patrons are allowed to purchase beer and wine if they choose to but no liquor is sold until 4:00 p.m. They are open until 1:00 a.m. on Thursday and Fridays when they have jazz and karaoke night. On the the other days, they close at midnight.

The floor was opened for comments. Ms. Patricia Winston stated that she and other seniors have visited the establishment and found it very nice.

Mr. Johnny Reed, representative for Legal Shield spoke about the services they offer. For additional information, you may call him at at (646) 973-8070 or email at johnnyreed449@yahoo.com.

Ms. Francesca Leopold from the NYC Commission on Human Rights spoke about the new law that became effective on March 12, 2022 to protect the rights of domestic workers.

Ms. Leopold also spoke about the rights of employees and tenants who are discriminated against due to COVID-19.

Ms. Jadayah Spencer, representing Communifi and NYC Mesh, spoke about an opportunity for 50 Brownsville residents to receive affordable internet services through NYC Mesh.

Communifi trains youth from the community to earn a stipend installing internet equipment while increasing broadband access.

The roll was called and 26 Board members were present, 3-excused.

A motion was made by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, seconded by Mr. Christopher Toomer, and carried to accept the minutes of March 22, 2022.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker read the District Manager's Report (A copy is on file in the Community Board Office).

A motion was made by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, seconded by Ms. Digna Layne, and carried to accept the District Manager's Report.

Capt. Carol Hamilton, Executive Officer of the 73rd Precinct, reported that she surveyed the bike lane along Powell Street between Livonia and Sutter Avenues last week and found only two cars parked in the bike lane.

They are still waiting for the Department of Transportation to install the bollards. Double parking along Pitkin Avenue is being enforced and the condition is getting better.

For the 28-day period, they are up in robberies (19 versus 14), down in felonious assaults (42 versus 62), down in burglaries (9 versus 13), and up in grand larcenies (118%) which includes unattended property and stolen credit cards. For grand larceny autos, they are up 16 versus 15.

Lt. Michael Podber, representing Transit District 32, reported that during the 28-day period, there were 2 felonies.

Ms. Adrainer Coleman reported that the Equity Planning Work Group met on March 8, 2022 (A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office). Ms. Coleman also read the Equity Planning Work Group report for April 12, 2022 (A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office).

A motion was made by Mr. Christopher Toomer, seconded by Ms. Kelly Lee-McVay, and carried to accept the Equity Planning Work Group Reports.

A roll call vote was taken on the State Liquor Authority application for Daily Press at 38 Somers Street. The vote was 24-in favor, 0-against, and 2-abstentions.

Mr. Andrew McCoy reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on April 14, 2022 (A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office).

A motion was made by Ms. Sydne Thompson, seconded by Ms. JoAnn Sexton, and carried to accept the City Services Planning Work Group Report.

District Manager Greene-Walker reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on April 13, 2022 (A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office).

A motion was made by Ms. Digna Layne, seconded by Ms. Sydne Thompson, and carried to accept Community Resident Planning Work Group Report.

Ms. Deidre Olivera reported that the Fiscal and Policy Work Group met on April 19, 2022 (A copy of the report is on file in the Community Board Office).

A motion was made by Ms. Khadijah Smith, seconded by Dr. Sonia Smith, and carried to accept the Fiscal and Policy Work Group Report.

Chairperson Morgan appointed the following members to serve on the Nominating Committee: Ms. Linda Dorceus, Dr. Cleopatra Brown, Ms. Chanel Haliburton, Ms. Deidre Olivera, and Mr. John McCadney, Jr. Ms. Patricia Winston will serve as an alternate.

A motion was made by Ms. Khadijah Smith, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Mr. Orlando Ross, representing Congressman Yvette Clarke, announced that the period for funding requests for 2023 community projects is now closed and all submissions are under review.

Congressmember Clarke issued a statement on the end of Title 42 this month which affects immigrants seeking refuge in this country. She also celebrated the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Juan Bravo, representing Councilmember Charles Barron, announced that their office is open, however, they are still servicing constituents by phone and email. If you need assistance, call (718) 649-9495 or email jbravo@council.nyc.gov.

Ms. Ezra Pean, representing Councilmember Darlene Mealy, announced that on Wednesdays they host a pantry from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in front of their office at 400 Rockaway Avenue. They also hand out PPEs.

Assemblymember Nikki Lucas spoke about a human rights bill she is sponsoring to give additional protection to victims of domestic violence. She is also sponsoring a bill to give discounts on water, energy, and cable bills to seniors and people with disabilities. She presently sits on the Social Services, Aging, Economic Development, Housing, and Energy Committees. She will be sponsoring several bills and looks forward to working with her constituents.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Linda Dorceus, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.