



**CITY OF NEW YORK**      **COMMUNITY BOARD 3**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022**  
**COMMUNITY BOARD VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**VIA WEBEX**

**In Attendance:**

**Members Present:** Babatunde Awoke, Leah Asha Allen, Monique Antoine, Anthony Buissereth, Michael Catlyn, Evelyn Collier, Taina Evans, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Nicole Greaves, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Oma Holloway, Everett Hughes, Jada John, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Hardy “Joe” Long, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, Ellen Miller, Christine Parker, Santina Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Robert Providence, Annalee Reid, Karen Rhau, Carolyn Richburg, Miari Roberts, Wendy Robinson, Abitzel Robinson-Hobson, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Alicia Walton, Douglas Williams, TJ Wilson

**Members Absent/Excused:** Felicia Alexander, Dr. Kim Best, Marc Abou Faissal, Carroll “Rusty” Fields, Victor Iroh, Keisha Jerryman, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Simone Pratt, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman

**Elected Official/Reps:** Council Member Chi Osse, Tony Herbert – CAU, Petula Hanley – Assembly Member Stefani Zinerman, Shelton Jones – District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, Nickolas Perry – Comptroller’s Office, Dr. Zahirah McNatt – Asst. Commissioner, Dept. of Health

**OPENING REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chair Anthony Buissereth acknowledge Pearl Hayes who passed away after many years of service to community with hardware store. He also congratulated Rev. Dr. Waterman on his 20 years Pastoral Anniversary at Antioch Baptist Church. He thanked Dr. Debra Lamb for her service to the Board as this was her last meeting.

Chair Buissereth informed that the Board has updated the calendar tab on the website to make it interactive. It includes the agenda and link to join the meetings. It also allows you to add to your calendar.

In the coming week he added that he will be releasing the application for public members to join the committees.

**Update from the New York City Fire Department on Recent Fatal Fires in Bedford-Stuyvesant**

Battalion Chief Devon Maguire and Leonard Phelan gave an update on the three fires that occurred in the district. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, there was a fire at 367 Tomkins Avenue in which there was a fatality of an elderly woman. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, there was a fire at 6 Agate Court with had two fatalities, a young mother, and her baby.

In both cases, Chief Maguire informed that there were major issues with clutter which delays their response. Clutter is becoming a major issue. There was also a fire on Gates and Nostrand Avenues. He added that there is also the issue with e-bikes. People are storing and e-bikes near the doors which blocks the exit. E-bikes are not allowed in NYCHA buildings.

FDNY in partnership with the American Red Cross will be distributing smoke detectors and installation. To register please call, 877-733-2767.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS & GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

### **Council Member Chi Osse**

- His first bill is an Overdose Prevention Bill that will require nightclubs and bars to carry Narcan
- A housing attorney will be in his office weekly to assist residents
- On March 18<sup>th</sup>, he will host a Fire Safety event in conjunction with Assembly member Zinerman at 6:00p.m.
- On March 28<sup>th</sup>, he will host a Tax Workshop in partnership with Department of Consumer & Worker Protection (DCWP)
- He will be hosting some Rat Academy with the Department of Health on May 26<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Shelton Jones – District Attorney Office**

- The Brooklyn District Attorney is offering a one-week internship for high school juniors and seniors. Application deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Nicole Bryan – Macon Branch Library**

- No mask requirement beginning March 14<sup>th</sup>
- Sunday service will resume on March 20<sup>th</sup>

### **Det. Conrad Narcisse – 81<sup>st</sup> Precinct**

- There was a shooting at the bus stop on Malcolm X and Fulton. A student was shot in the leg
- There has been an increase in package theft and grand larceny
- Precinct Council meeting will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Capital & Expense Budget Committee**

TJ Wilson, Budget Coordinator gave a report on the Preliminary Budget for FY 2023. She informed that there will be a Public Hearing on the budget on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. -8:30 p.m. to get the community response.

[..\Downloads\CB3 FY23 District Needs Statement & Budget Request.pdf](#)

### **B. Health & Social Service Committee**

New Directions Outpatient Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Treatment Program was scheduled to present however, Ms. J. Boyd was not in attendance.

### **C. Economic Development Committee**

Carey Dunfey, Department of Small Business Services (SBS) gave a presentation on the Commercial District Needs Assessment for Bedford Stuyvesant. Avenue NYC grant was awarded to Bridge Street Development Corp. to conduct the study in 2020 for three years. The first year focused on collecting data.

The study focused on six commercial corridors: Bedford Avenue, Nostrand Avenue, Tompkins Avenue, Malcolm Blvd, Fulton Street and Dekalb Avenue. Bedford Avenue and Malcolm X Blvd had the highest vacancy.

The area has the highest rate of vacancy at 24.0%. There are 879 storefronts ranging from beauty and nail salons, delis/bodegas, liquor stores, restaurants, houses of worship, pharmacies, supermarkets, to name a few. Information were gathered from residents and merchants. For more information on this study, please visit, [www.nyc.gov/avenuenyc](http://www.nyc.gov/avenuenyc)

There was a question by Board member TJ Wilson as to why Ralph Avenue was not part of the survey. Oma Holloway stated that the grant has limitations as to how many areas can be studied.

## II. PUBLIC HEARING

### **Economic Development Committee**

Alcohol Beverage Control License application for “Things are Different Today LLC” (DBA Rita & Maria), located at 558 Halsey Street. Sarah Abramjuk, owner stated that she resides at 317 Stuyvesant Avenue.. This will be a coffee shop during the day and on Thursdays to Sundays operate as beer and wine bar from 5:00 p.m. She will be serving lunch items such as salad and soups and baking.

Sandra Hung Fong stated that they plan to open up early in the morning and closed at 4:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is a 600 sq. ft with outdoor dining as part of the Open Restaurant Program. There will be no stools

### **Questions & Answers**

**Jamelle Swift:** Will you be in the street?

**Sarah Abramjuk:** No, only the space in front the café.

Marcia, President of the Lewis Avenue between Lexington Avenue & Quincy Street Block Association wanted to know how the owner plan to share her job opening to the community.

**Sarah Abramjuk:** Through Bridge Street and flyer in the window.

## III. PUBLIC HEARING

### **Economic Development Committee**

Alcohol Beverage Control License application for “PMG Ventures at 30 Kosciuszko Street LLC” (DBA Singers). Presentation was given by the owners Brooke Peshke and Mike

This location was previously operated by Eva Jeans. They would like to operate as a cocktail bar but also function as a venue for events and fundraisers. The hours of operation will be Monday – Thursday: 4:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m., Friday – Saturday: 4:00 p.m. – 2:0 a.m., and Sunday: 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. The capacity is for 75 with 50 seats. There will be six cameras, and light music. She will be serving light bar snacks. She will be sourcing the food from a farm in Newberry with a CSA.

### **Questions & Answers**

**TJ Wilson:** Did you get a letter from the block association?

**Brooke Peshke:** There is no block association in the area however, she has a letter from the daycare.

## IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Jeremy Welsh-Loveman** had a complaint about dirty streets around Nostrand Avenue and Kosciuszko Street. Alternate Side Parking is not being enforced; therefore, the street s are not getting cleaned.

**Olaronke Akinmowo** informed that she will be opening a new space at 226 Marcus Garvey Blvd & Greene Avenue for the Free Black Women’s Library. For more information visit [www.thefreeblackwomenslibrary.com](http://www.thefreeblackwomenslibrary.com)

**Marcia Roberts** complained about the rat infestation in the neighborhood.

**Lauren Cawdrey** wanted support for the Masonic Temple on the corner of Willoughby and Nostrand Avenues. The building might be sold, and she wanted to see it landmarked.

**V. ROLL CALL**

There were 39 members present and 9 absent.

**VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING**

- Things are Different Today LLC request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License

Chair Keith Forest reported that the committee voted and is recommending a letter of support be given.

**Vote: 35 – For; 1 – Against; 2 – Abstentions**

[Vote for Things are Different LLC \(DBA Rita & Maria\).pdf](#)

- PMG Ventures at 30 Kosciuszko Street LLC request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License

Chair Keith Forest reported that the committee voted and is recommending a letter of support be given.

**Vote: 31- For; 5 – Against; 2 – Abstentions**

[Vote for PMG Ventures \(DBA Singers\).pdf](#)

**VII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

Chair Buissereth expressed condolences to Karen Rhau on the loss of her father-in-law. He reminded board member to submit their committee preference and thanked those who already did. Community Board 3 now have a Twitter account so please follow us a [@cb3brooklyn](#)

He added that he attended two virtual event, one which was hosted by Council member Restler to encourage community members to join the Board.

**VIII. DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT**

District Manager Butler gave an update on Amour Cabaret at 566 Nostrand Avenue. Due to the advocacy of the previous Chair, Richard Flateau who testified and sent letters to elected officials advocating for the closure. His efforts resulted in SLA revoking their license. They are now closed.

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS, UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS**

**TJ Wilson**, the Budget Hearing will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Wendy Robinson – Parks, Arts & Culture**

The committee will host a Friends Group webinar on March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

**X. ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2022 MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Evelyn Collier.

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2022

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Monique Antoine. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Beryl Nyack  
March 18, 2022