



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP.
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Idris Abdullah, Babatunde Akowe, Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Dr. Kim Best, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Taina Evans, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Mary Jemison-Head, Kimberly Hill, Tarrisie Iriarte, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Hardy “Joe” Long, Dovie Matthews, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Michael McCaw, Melissa Plowden-Norman, C. Doris Pinn, Kwaku Payton, Stacey Ruffin, Shekera Shehid, Chinyelu Udoh, Shanita Wells, Douglas Williams

Members Absent: Gloria Boyce, Mulan Isaiah Burgess, Dolores Witherspoon-Dickerson, Gregory Glasgow, Oma Holloway, Danelle Johnson, Marion Little, Nelson M. Stoute, Rev. Jesse Sumbry, Lydia Temples, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, T. J. Wilson

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mary Jemison Head.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau invited Divinah Bailey, Watchful Eye to present on the 17th Annual AIDS Awareness Day on February 7th. She asked for a moment of silence and candle lighting in remembrance of HIV/AIDS, to get tested and know your status.

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the record.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Capt. Charles Minch – 79th Precinct

Capt. Minch announced that block parties applications are open. He encouraged everyone to reach out to P.O. McLeod or P.O. Charles early to ensure that they get the dates they want. He will try to accommodate everyone.

He also encouraged everyone to get to know their Neighborhood Community Officers (NCOs). NCOs have been operating in the 79th Precinct for six months now. They are great at addressing problems in the community, crime and any other quality of life issues. The Fulton Street NCOs have been working on the homeless issue near Perry Place and Herkimer Street with the Department of Homeless Services. He asked the residents to notify the precinct whenever they see any encampment, so they can assist the homeless.

Nicholas Perry – Hon. Scott Stringer

Mr. Perry informed the audience that Comptroller Stringer released a report on the impact that immigrants have on the New York City economy. The data shows that New York City has 3.3 million immigrants from more than 150 countries. They make up 46% of NYC employed population. A copy of the report was available on the table.

In addition, he announced that the Comptroller’s office has opened the summer internship program for college students. It is a nine-week program. The interns will work 28 hours a week, Monday thru Thursday at a rate of \$12.00 - \$14.00 for undergraduate and \$15.00 to \$19.00 for graduates. For more information, please contact Mr. Perry at 212-669-3811 or via email at nperry@comptroller.nyc.gov

Shakti Robbins – Hon. Velmanette Montgomery

Mr. Robbins announced that Senator Montgomery will be hosting a workshop at the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus on Re-entry. Panelist will be formerly incarcerated advocates along with Assembly Members Wright, Walker and Richardson.

In addition, Senator Montgomery recently introduced legislation on Safe and Secure School Act.

Shelton Jones – Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzales

Mr. Jones announced the new Bureau Chief, Danielle Eddy for the “Gray Zone” which encompasses the 81st Precinct. Steve Walsh is the new Bureau Chief for the “Blue Zone”, 79th Precinct. They are experienced prosecutors.

Acting District Attorney Gonzalez will host the Black History Month Celebration on February 28th, at Cornerstone Baptist Church, 562 Madison Street. Please RSVP on the website at www.brooklynnda.org or by calling Mr. Jones at 718-250-3146. Flyers were available.

Daniel Fisher – 81st Precinct Community Council

Mr. Fisher announced that the next precinct council meeting will be held on February 14th, at the Multi-Service Center, 1958 Fulton Street, at 7:00 p.m.

Sasha Sealey – Hon. Laurie Cumbo

Council Member Cumbo in collaboration with Assembly Member Mosley, Senator Montgomery and Congressman Jeffries will be hosting a Valentine Day Luncheon on February 3rd, at 55 Hanson Place. To RSVP, please call 718-260-9191.

On Saturday, February 4th, Council Member Cumbo will host a “Land Use, Zoning and Knowing Your Rights as a Tenant”. It will be held at Medgar Evers College.

In addition, residents can get there taxes done for free Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Candice Julien – Hon. Eric Adams

Ms. Julien announced that Borough President Adams has signed a petition to make Classon Avenue safer after the death of Lauren Davis. He would like to hear open discussions on the issue and for DOT to do a feasibility study.

Ms. Julien reminded board members whose membership expires on March 31st, to submit their applications. The deadline to submit applications is February 17th. Extensions will not be granted except for Mr. Stoute.

Copies of the upcoming events at Borough Hall were available. Free tax service is also offered at Borough Hall.

Olanike Alabi – 57th Assembly District Leader

Ms. Alabi stated that she will host a Senior Mobile Office event on February 22nd. It will be held in the Community Room at Ebbets Fields, 1700 Bedford Avenue. There will be another event in Bedford Stuyvesant in the future.

Stefani Zinerman – Hon. Robert Cornegy, Jr.

Ms. Zinerman reminded everyone that Free Immigration Services are offered in Council Member Cornegy's office every Thursday and every other Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Cornegy will host a “Red & White Senior Soiree” on February 10th, in the Community Room at 1368 Fulton Street from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

In addition, on Saturday, February 11th, Free Testing for HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C will be offered at Concord Baptist Church. It will be held between 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sarissa Phillips- Singletary – Hon. Darlene Mealy

Council Member Mealy will host a Pre-Valentine Day Senior Soiree on February 8th, from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. It will be held at St. Matthews Parish Center, 1345 Lincoln Place, 4th floor. To RSVP, call 718-953-3097.

In addition, Free Immigration Services are offered every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., in the District office.

Joshua Board – Hon. Walter Mosley

Mr. Board reported that the 4th Youth Job Fair hosted by Assembly Member Mosley was a success.

In addition, he announced that the State of the District will be held on February 23rd, at St. Joseph College, 245 Clinton Avenue between Dekalb and Willoughby Avenues. It will be held from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Board also informed that there are 80 affordable apartment units available at 38 Sixth Avenue. Flyers were available with information on how to apply.

Naomi Hopkins – Hon. Tremaine Wright

Ms. Hopkins is the Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Wright. She announced that the swearing ceremony will be held on February 11th, at Boys & Girls High School at 5:00 p.m. To RSVP, please call 718-399-7630 or email wright456AD@gmail.com

Elizabeth Canela – Forest City Ratner

Ms. Canela announced that the deadline for the affordable housing application for 38 Sixth is March 14th. There will be an information session on February 16th, at 5 Metro Tech at 6:30 p.m.

Michael Rieser – GrowNYC

Mr. Rieser informed that the City's Recycling Rate is 18% however it is 15% in Bed-Stuy. He would like to partner with the community to help raise the rate. He can provide workshop at the various community event. He added that the rate at Tompkins Houses is extremely low therefore, that will be one of their focus.

Martine Nivose – NYC Veterans Services

Ms. Nivose stated that NYC Veterans Services provide assistance with housing, mental health, jobs and other services to veterans.

Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp.

Ms. Holloway announced that Bridge Street also provide Free Legal Clinics on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 – 6:30 p.m.

In addition, recruitment for the My Base Program for anyone between the age 16-24 years old who are out of school and out of work. This is a paid internship for 14-weeks at \$11.00 per hour. They must be a resident of Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Cheryl Fecunda – Black Veterans for Social Justice

Ms. Fecunda informed that they provide supportive services for veterans such as housing, and employment. They are located at 665 Willoughby Avenue between Throop Avenue and Marcus Garvey Blvd between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Anthony Parker – The Fresh Air Fund

Mr. Parker stated that the Fresh Air Fund provides free summer camps for New York City Children from the five boroughs between the age of 7-12 years for girls and 7-16 for boys. For more information or an application, please see Edna Johnson or Beverly Slater.

Hon Darlene Mealy

Council Member Mealy encouraged residents to attend her monthly Advisory Board Meeting to meeting with lawyers to discuss the immigration issues at the airports. Her office assists residence with obtaining their green cards and citizenship.

She also invited seniors to come to the Senior Soiree.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Karen Cherry – Hon. Eric Dilan, Det. William Jenkins – 81st Precinct, P.O. Nwajei Keneji – PSA3, P. O. Robin Edwards – PSA3, Sharonnie Perry – Interfaith Medical Center, Michael Lambert – Bedford-Stuyvesant Gateway BID, Bishop Ismael Claudio – 81st Precinct Clergy Council President, Dr. Kim Best – 79th Precinct Community Council

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler informed the audience that the Mayor’s Town Hall meeting schedule for Wednesday, February 8th, has been cancelled and re-scheduled to March 9th. The location and time is the same, P.S. 23, 545 Willoughby Avenue between Marcy and Tompkins Avenues at 7:00 p.m.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Health & Social Service Committee:

The Committee hosted a presentation by Elmy’s Special Services Inc. Edna Johnson, Committee Chairperson introduced Micaelle Lafontant

Ms. Lafontant stated that Elmy’s is a social service agency. They offer a multitude of services: Early Intervention, Medicaid service coordination, home care, nursing home diversion program, an after school program for developmental disable children, autism and there is also a program for adults with mental disabilities. They are located at 163 Van Buren Avenue corner of Marcus Garvey Blvd. Please call her for referrals and questions at 718-789-7539.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Economic Development Committee:

Secret Project Robot Gallery LLC (DBA Cloud Cuckoo) is seeking a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control license at 1186 Broadway between Lafayette Avenue & Van Buren Streets.

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chairperson introduced Rachel Nelson, Owner

Ms. Nelson informed that they were established in Brooklyn since 2004. Their last location was in Bushwick. She stated that they have been trying to make the gallery sustainable because of the rising rent. Therefore, they would like to open a bar in tandem with the gallery. She stated that she and the husband, Eric Nelson are the owners of two other bars: Happy Fun Hideaway and Flowers for All Occasions; one in Bushwick and one on Broadway and Dekalb Avenue.

This location is 2000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. will be dedicated for the gallery and the other 1000 sq. ft. will be for the bar. The group is made up of seven partners, they are all artist. She introduced them to the other partners. She explained that this is an artist run art gallery. They do Installation Art, it is not usually for sale.

There are three fire exits, there will be security cameras and security guards to check IDs. The store front will be renovated. They are not allowed to have a kitchen but they will have some food. They currently employ 28 people and would like to add 7-14 additional employees. However, they only hire artists and musicians from the neighborhood.

Questions and Answers

Joe Gonzalez: Do you see a contradiction, in that you expect the alcohol to pay for the gallery especially since the area is oversaturated with bars.

Ms. Nelson: This location was licensed for 12 years. I don't see a contradiction.

Resident: In regards to your hiring from the community, which community are you referring to?

Ms. Nelson: Bushwick and Bedford Stuyvesant.

Joseph Grant: How are you disguising a bar with a gallery? Is this open to the community because it seem that only your artist are benefitting?

Ms. Nelson: We have an open submission policy. We are a not-for-profit, we don't sell the art.

Eric Nelson: The gallery has existed for 10 years. The majority of the space is dedicated to the gallery. The bar will help fund the installation and the artist.

B. Economic Development Committee

Johnson Industries LLC is seeking a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License at 257 Malcolm X Blvd between Halsey & Macon Streets

Katrina Marshalleck stated that she is the owner of 257 Malcolm X Blvd. She would like to change her four-family building into a three family with a restaurant on the bottom. She will be sole proprietor of the restaurant. The hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. This will be full-service restaurant. She will employ eleven people. It will be family-oriented serving healthy dishes. The prices will be moderate. A PowerPoint presentation of the layout was done.

Questions and Answers

Resident: What are the hours you will serve liquor?

K. Marshalleck: It will be from Noon to closing.

Resident: Did you get the support from the block association and do you live at the location?

K. Marshalleck: Yes to both questions.

Felicia Alexander: Is this a full restaurant with a bar and is there backyard access?

K. Marshalleck: Yes, it is a restaurant with a bar and yes, there is backyard access. The backyard will close at 9:00 p.m.

Mary Jemison Head: Was there a restaurant at the location before and what is the seating capacity?

K. Marshalleck: Yes, there was a restaurant at the location before I brought the building. The capacity is 74.

III. ROLL CALL

There were 32 members present and 12 absent.

IV. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

Stacey Ruffin – Civic & Public Safety

The meeting will be held on February 7th, in the Board office at 6:00 p.m.

Evelyn Collier – Landmarks & Preservation

LPC Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness #17-5742 for Constructing a Rear Yard Addition for 346 Macdonough Street between Lewis and Stuyvesant Avenues

Ms. Collier asked the Board Members to read the resolution for the vote.

Douglas Williams – Veterans

Mr. Williams announced a new committee for Veterans. The committee will meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Board office.

Edna Johnson – Health & Social Services

Ms. Johnson informed the audience that the committee is planning a Holistic Day in June. There will be planning meeting on Monday, February 13th, in the Legal Aid office on the 3rd Floor, 1360 Fulton Street at 6:30 p.m.

Applications are available for construction jobs at 500 Gates Avenue in the Board office and at Council Member Cornegy's office.

V. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Victoria Heath-Credle – Mt Pisgah Baptist Church

Ms. Heath-Credle invited the audience to the 2017 MAAFA Performance on February 25th, at the church, 212 Tompkins Avenue between Dekalb Avenue and Kosciusko Street. She advised those who did not get a flyer to call 718-388-3900 to obtain one.

Imani Williams – Pawza Fest

Imani and her Grandpa invited pet owners to Von King Park on March 19th, at 9:00 a.m. to participate in the First Annual Pawza Fest.

Babatunde Akowe – Children of Promise

Mr. Akowe stated that he volunteers for Children of Promise. The organization is a clinician after school resource program for children of incarcerated parents. They are located at 54 Macdonough Street. He stated that they are in need of mentors. Volunteers meet every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. For an application, please visit www.cpnyc.org or call Joe at 718-483-9290 ext. 305.

Mirza Molberg – Ghost Bikes NYC

Mr. Molberg stated that the organization places white bikes at locations where a cyclists were killed in all five boroughs. Last year his girlfriend Lauren Davis was killed on Classon and Lexington Avenues. Her sister has spoken to Borough President Adams for a bike lane on Classon Avenue.

Abou Okeke Diagne – Renewable Energy

Mr. Diagne reported that several homes in Brownsville participated in the program which offers tax incentives to homeowners for solar panels. For more information, please contact him at 917-436-5831

Gloria Sandiford – Bedford-Stuyvesant Real Estate Board

Ms. Sandiford invited real estate professionals, architects and anyone in a related field along with residents to attend the monthly meetings. They are held on the third Monday of the month at 1368 Fulton Street from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

In addition, Ms. Sandiford invited the members to a celebration for the newly elected Chair, Richard Fleteau. It will be held at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum on February 10th, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. To RSVP, email richardfleteautribute@gmail.com .

Dr. Geronimo Williamson

Dr. Williamson informed that there is a lot of unclaimed money that people should check. He also mentioned that the Slave Theatre is torn down.

VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

A. Resolution for 346 MacDonough Street

Ms. Collier read the resolution

A motion was made by Idris Abdullah and seconded by Douglas Williams to accept the committee’s recommendation.

[Resolution for 346 Macdonough St.pdf](#)

[Vote for 346 Macdonough Street.pdf](#)

B. Secret Project Robot Gallery LLC (DBA Cloud Cuckoo) is seeking a letter of support for an Alcohol beverage Control License

Tywan Anthony reported that the committee recommended giving a letter of support. A motion was made by Edna Johnson and seconded by Douglas Williams.

[Vote for Secret Project Robot Gallery, LLC.pdf](#)

C. Johnson Industries LLC is seeking a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License.

Tywan Anthony reported that the committee recommended giving a letter of support. A motion was made by Felicia Alexander and seconded by Edna Johnson.

[Vote for Johnson Industries, LLC.pdf](#)

VII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau

A vote was taken in order to commence the executive session. A motion was made. A voice vote was done. It was unanimous.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

[Vote for the executive session.pdf](#)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Dr. Debra Lamb.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack
February 17, 2017