



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP.
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Kimberly Hill, Oma Holloway, Tarris Iriarte, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Marion Little, Dionicio Liz, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Santana Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Karen Rhau, Stacey Ruffin, Shekera Shehid, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Chinyelu Udoh, Omar Walker, T. J. Wilson

Members Absent: Babatunde Akowe, Dr. Kim Best, Taina Evans, Jamar Hooks, Danelle Johnson, Hardy “Joe” Long, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Michael McCaw, Kwaku Payton, Lydia Temples, Shanita Wells, Douglas Williams

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mary Jemison Head.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau asked for a moment of silence to commemorate the victims of September 11th.

He then read the agenda into the record.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Nicholas Perry – Hon. Scott Stringer

He reported that Comptroller Stringer released a report on the declining subway service and how it has adversely effected job security. To get a copy of this report, please go to www.comptroller.nyc.gov. Nicholas Perry can be reached at 212-669-3811 or 646-499-0749 and by email at nperry@comptroller.nyc.gov

Shakti Robbins – Hon. Velmanette Montgomery

Senator Montgomery in conjunction with Assembly Members Simon, Wright and Public Advocate James will sponsor a Town Hall on the NYS Conventional Convention. It will be held on September 19th at the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, 85 South Oxford Street, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

In addition, on September 20th, Senator Montgomery will be the Keynote Speaker at a forum on “Re-Thinking Re-Entry II. An Examination of NYC Services and Needs for the Formally Incarcerated.” It will be held at The Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Senator Montgomery in conjunction with Assembly Members Mosley and Wright will host a Town Hall on “Raise the Age”. It will be held on September 28th, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, at the Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA.

Shelton Jones – Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

Mr. Jones reported that because the “Begin Again” program was so successful over the summer, all the District Attorneys convened in a meeting with Mayor de Blasio which resulted in the dismissal of warrants that are over 10 years old. In Brooklyn alone, 143,500 warrants were dismissed.

In addition, there was an indictment of nine gang members on the murder of a college student and several other crimes around the City.

Please contact the Action Center at 718-250-2340 with quality of life issues in your neighborhood from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm to speak with someone.

Mr. Jones added that the office has hired two Immigration Lawyers to assist anyone with the ICE (Immigration & Customs Enforcement) issues.

Shantae Edwards – Hon. Tremaine Wright

Ms. Edwards reiterated the announcement regarding the NYS Constitutional Convention on September 19th and the “Raise the Age Town Hall on September 28th.”

She introduced Amanda Robinson as the new Constituent Service Liaison.

Lynette Lewis-Rogers – Brownstoners of Bedford-Stuyvesant

Ms. Rogers announced the Annual Bed-Stuy Alive! week which will Kick-off with the Festival on October 14th, on Fulton Street between Brooklyn and New York Avenues. The Brownstoners of Bedford-Stuyvesant will be honored at the Tohma Faulkner Award Ceremony for 40 years of service.

The 39th Annual House Tour will be on October 21st, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. This is a fundraiser for the scholarships for students at Boys & Girls & Brooklyn Academy High Schools. Tickets are available at Kafe Louverture, Peace & Riot and Bed-Vyne Wine.

Susan Knott – Brooklyn Public Library/Bedford Branch

Ms. Knott announced that basic literacy classes for adults are available. Young Adult Program for ages 17-24 years old who need to get their high school equivalency. Computer basic classes are also available four days a week. For more information, call 718-623-2134.

Hana Martinez – GrowNYC

GrowNYC is an environmental non-for-profit program which would like to raise the recycling rates in the community. It is funded by the Department of Sanitation. She announced that there will be a Textile Recycling event for used clothing on September 23rd. It will be held at 462 Halsey Street Community Farm from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Daniel Fisher – President 81st Precinct Community Council

Mr. Fisher announced the next meeting will be held on September 12th, at the Bedford Stuyvesant Multi Service Center, 1958 Fulton Street at 7:00 pm.

He announced some upcoming events that the council will be hosting: the Annual Thanksgiving Day Senior's Dinner will be held on November 21st, the Christmas Concert will be held on December 16th, and the Children's Christmas Party will be held on December 23rd.

Hon. Tremaine Wright

Assembly Member Wright thanked everyone for their support in the election.

Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp.

Ms. Holloway announced the Free Legal Clinic is being offered by Brooklyn Legal Services. The next one will be held on September 14th, from 4:00 – 6:30 pm.

She is currently recruiting for the MyBase Program which is geared for anyone between the ages of 14-21 years old. The deadline is September 22nd.

Bridge Street is partnering with VIDA to hold a Drive for the victims of hurricane Harvey and Irma. Donations can be dropped off at the Community Board office, Bridge Street Development Corp. office and the VIDA office.

P. O. Devonish & P. O. Burns – 79th Precinct NCO, Sector B

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Olanike Alabi – 56th Assembly District Leader, P. O. Christopher Charles – 79th Precinct, Det. William Jenkins – 81st Precinct, Sharonnie Perry – Interfaith Medical Center, Judge Betty Staton – Brooklyn Legal Services, Patria Frias-Colon – Candidate for Civil Court, Connie Melendez – Civil Court Candidate

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Education & Youth Services Committee:

The Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center (BEOC) presented the free BEOC programs for vocational training. Programs include: Security Guard, OSHA, ESL, Hospitality, Allied Health, College Prep and GED.

Oma Holloway, Committee Chair introduced Donna Holloway, Representative

Ms. Holloway stated that Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center (BEOC) is a State funded program. It provides tuition free training in several areas. Brochures were available. For more information, call 718-802-3300 or email admissions@beoc.cuny.edu

Mr. Flateau introduced the new Board members and thanked them for volunteering.

B. The Budget Coordinator gave an update on the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Requests Status for the Bedford-Stuyvesant District.

Richard Flateau, Chairperson introduced TJ Wilson, Budget Coordinator who gave a brief synopsis of the process.

Ms. Wilson asked everyone to complete the survey which was distributed. She stated that the surveys and the 311 log of complaints will help gage the needs of the community. September 15th, is the deadline for the Committee Chairs to submit their request. On September 22nd, there

will be a review of submission and on October 10th, the Coordinators will finalize the budget request for submission on October 31st.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application request for a letter of support by Dreams Duo LLC is 1202 Fulton St. between Bedford Avenue & Arlington Place
Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Oba Stephens and Beatrice Gibson, Owners and their Attorney Neil Visoky, Esq.

Mr. Visoky stated that Dreams Duo LLC will be dba Nzuri which is Swahili for beautiful. He added that it will be an upscale lounge. There will be 10 employees, the seating capacity is 74, 26 chairs, seven tables, five stools around the bar area. There will be an extensive menu but not a full kitchen. The Manager Charles was also in attendance. A PowerPoint presentation was done.

Ms. Gibson stated that this is a 2000 sq. ft. space, a mezzanine is on the 2nd floor. The hours of operation are Mondays thru Sundays on limited hours. Tuesdays – Thursdays: 2:00 pm – 2:00am
Saturdays and Sundays: 10:00 – 11:00 am

They will be partnering with the Mosque to provide security during large events. Construction permit was approved on August 17th. The backyard will be utilized in the future. They will be hiring 10-15 people from the community.

Questions & Answers

Simone Pratt: do you have another photo of the façade and the entire building and in the future will you be applying for an outdoor café?

Beatrice Gibson: No, we have residents above and a pharmacy next door.

Chinyelu Udoh: What were the two establishments that Mr. Stephens managed? Were they in Bed-Stuy? Are they still open and if not, why did they close? In your presentation, it says that you plan to open Monday to Thursday: 2:00 pm – Midnight. Is that time concrete with respect to the residents above or will you be extending that time?

Mr. Stephens: I sold both businesses because of my military obligations because I had no one to manage them. They were not in this community.
There will not be a DJ, only a Pandora...

Jamella Swift: Where is the second egress?

Architect: There are two means of egress, the second door leads to the back.

Tarisse Iriate: What are your average price point?

Mr. Stephens: The appetizers will start at \$9.95 - \$11.95, the sandwiches will run from \$11.95 - \$13.95. The brunch will be a set price except for the kid's brunch.

B. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application request for a letter of support by Etnagigante Production Ltd. dba Concrete, 906 Broadway between Lewis Avenue and Stockton Street Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Francesco Alessi and Candace Fong, Owners

He stated that they will be providing traditional food from Sicily. He is a Jazz musician and a drummer. Candace is a painter and a dancer. They are currently restoring the space and plan to open between October 1st and 15th. They are also creating a mural. They plan to hire at least 10 people from the community.

Candace mentioned that they will be offering commuter services since they are close to the Flushing Avenue and Myrtle Avenue J, M, Z lines. A service window was installed at the corner of the building. They will offer a venue for other artist.

The hours of operation will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday: 4:00 pm – 1:00 am for events; Fridays and Saturdays: 10:00 pm – 2:00 am; Sundays: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm for brunch only. There will not be any DJ. There are four egress. The capacity is 75, at the bar, the seating area will be for 14 people. SJ Solutions will be providing security.

Questions & Answers

Jamella Swift: What are the square footage?

Francesco Alessi: It is 6000 sq. ft. including the basement. Will you be hiring from the community.

Candace Fong: Yes, there will be a staff of 4-10 on every shift.

Resident: Can you hire people who are longtime residents and not the ones who are recently gentrified to the community?

Francesco Alessi: You can email us names of anyone who is looking for jobs at 906broadway@gmail.com

Tywan Anthony: The Economic Development Committee is working to form a partnership with Jobs Plus because they assist people with finding jobs.

III. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

P. O. Devonish & P.O. Burns – 79th Precinct Neighborhood Coordinating Officer (NCO)

P.O. Devonish they cover the perimeters between Classon Avenue to Marcus Garvey; Lexington Avenue (even numbers) to Jefferson Avenue (odd numbers). They will be hosting a Safety Summit Meeting for the residents within perimeter on September 13th. It will be held at the P.A.L. at 495 Gates Avenue from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Oma Holloway/Robert Ali

Ms. Holloway read an announcement from Robert Ali regarding National Chess Day Children's Tournament on October 14th, at Restoration Plaza Outdoor Amphitheater. It will be from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

IV. ROLL CALL

There were 36 members present and 13 members absent.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

Felicia Alexander – Education & Youth

Ms. Alexander announced that Chancellor Farina will be at a Town Hall meeting on September 14th, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. It will be at M.S. 267, 800 Gates Avenue.

Gregory Glasgow – Transportation, Sanitation & Environment

The next meeting will be held on September 12th, at 6:30 pm in the Board office.

Stacey Ruffin – Civic & Public Safety

The next meeting will be held on October 3rd, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board office. Officers from the 79th and 81st Precinct along with PSA3 will be in attendance.

Tywan Anthony – Economic Development Committee

The committee is in the process of planning its first Mixer. He invited everyone to join the committee to assist with the review of the applications every first Thursday of the month.

VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Dreams Duo LLC request for 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 to accept the recommendation by Edna Johnson and seconded by Gregory Glasgow.

[Vote for Dreams Duo LLC.pdf](#)

- B. Etnagigante Production Ltd. d/b/a Concrete request for 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 to accept the recommendation by Tarris Iriate and seconded by Chinyelu Udoh.

[Vote for Etnagigante Production Ltd.pdf](#)

VII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE 26, 2017 MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes by Edna Johnson and seconded by Gregory Glasgow.

VIII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau held an Executive Session.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned after the Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack and Stacey Ruffin

September 28, 2017