



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORP.
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Babatunde Akowe, Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Taina Evans, Marc Abou-Faissal, Richard Flateau, Sharon Forbes, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Kimberly Hill, Oma Holloway, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Hardy "Joe" Long, Dovie Matthews, Kenneth Mbonu, Kwaku Payton, Santana Payton, Karen Rhau, Stacey Ruffin, Shekera Shehid, Suzette Sheppard, Jamella Swift, Lydia Temples, Chinyelu Udoh, Omar Walker, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Shanita Wells, Douglas Williams, T. J. Wilson

Members Absent: Dr. Kim Best, Pastor Gwendolyn Dingle, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Tarris Iriarte, Danelle Johnson, Marion Little, Dionicio Liz, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Michael McCaw, Melissa Plowden-Norman, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Sharonnie Perry.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

Mr. Flateau acknowledged solidarity with the people in the Caribbean Islands, Texas and Florida that have been affected by the recent hurricanes. He also offered prayer to the families of those who lost their lives in Las Vegas.

Mr. Flateau reminded the audience that Bed-Stuy Alive Kick-off will be on October 14th.

In addition, he stated that the Board received a resignation letter from board member Jamar Hooks indicating that he has started law school.

Mr. Flateau read the agenda into the record.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Olanike Alabi – 57th District Leader

Ms. Alabi announced that she will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting on October 26th. It will be held at The Teen Challenge Center, 444 Clinton Avenue at 6:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Senator Montgomery along with the Departments of Sanitation, Buildings, and Finance.

In addition, she informed the audience that there will be three questions on the ballot in the general elections on November 7th:

1. Should New York State have a Constitutional Convention
2. Should public officers lose their pension if they are convicted of certain felonies
3. Should New York State create a Forest Land Trust

Deputy Inspector Winston Faison – 81st Precinct

Deputy Inspector Faison introduced his Executive Officer, Capt. Anthony Brown. He stated that he has an open door policy. He also indicated that it was a good summer in the 81st Precinct.

Fabrice Armand – Department of Correction

Mr. Armand announced that there is a big hiring practice for correction officers. He stated that normally it would take 4 years to be called from the list, now applicants are being called in six months. The starting salary is \$44,000 and after five and half years it is increased to \$94,000. He also added that there are non-uniform positions available. He informed that he is a non-uniformed employee along with board member Babatunde Akowe who is an Attorney with the Department. The positions are open-competitive and start at \$45,000 and increase to \$180,000 a year.

He added that the Department of Correction in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, the Department of Small Business Services, and the Fortune Society will be hosting a series of forums to address Recidivism. The first forum will be held in Queens on October 19th, at Queen Borough Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the second will be in Brooklyn on November 16th, and the third one will be in the Bronx on November 30th. They will also be discussing the Mayor’s Jail to Job Initiative. He has allocated \$10 million to help individuals.

Candice Julien – Hon. Eric Adams

Ms. Julien informed the audience that Borough President Adams will be hosting “One Brooklyn Resource Fair” on October 10th, at 5:30 p.m. It is a good resource for block and tenant associations. She added that the package of upcoming events were available on the table. New Members and residents can reached her at 718-802-3981 with any concerns.

On October 30th, the Borough President will also host the Annual “Surviving & Thriving”, Domestic Violence event, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Amanda Robinson – Hon. Tremaine Wright

On October 17th, the Assembly Member will host an Access-a-Ride Fair. It will be held in Restoration Plaza, in the Multi-Purpose Room.

The 5th Annual 5K & Family Fun Run Thanksgiving Turkey Trot will be held on November 11th, at 8:00 a.m. at Von King Park.

Karen Cherry – Hon. Erik Dilan

Ms. Cherry stated that Assembly Member Dilan is hosting a disaster relief for Puerto Rico at Overcoming Love Ministries, 228 Pulaski Street. Donations can be dropped off between 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. They are collecting water, non-perishable items, pampers, formulas, flash lights, and batteries. For more information, call 718-386-4576 or 347-262-0408.

Ms. Cherry invited **Yori Polansky** to talk about a free weatherization program that Bedford-Stuyvesant resident are utilizing.

Yori Polansky – NYS Energy Audits

He added that the program offers free weatherization, installation of attics, basements and walls. The program replaces inefficient refrigerators, weatherize doors and windows. It installs light bulbs, carbon monoxide detectors. It saves 30% - 40% on heating bills and 15% 20% on electric bills.

The program is geared towards people who cannot otherwise afford it or who live on a fixed income. For more information, call 718-372-3000.

Joshua Board – Hon. Walter Mosley

On October 7th, Assembly Member Mosley will host an E-waste Recycling event from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The drop off site will be at Fort Greene Park on Myrtle Avenue side.

Oma Holloway – Bridge Street Development Corp.

Bridge Street will host an Anti-Displacement and Gentrification Town Hall on October 19th. It will be held at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., 1368 Fulton Street at 6:30 p.m. Prior to the panel discussion, there will be a Resource Fair at 5:30p.m.

Ms. Holloway added that there is also a Walk-In Clinic for tenants who are having issues with their landlords. The next clinic will be October 12th, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

In addition, there will be a Caregiver Distress 101 Workshop at Quincy Senior Center on October 5th, at 6:00 p.m.

Carolyn Smith – Hon. Darlene Mealy

Ms. Smith announced that Council Member Mealy will host her monthly Advisory Board Meeting on October 7th, from 10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon. HPD will be on hand to answer any questions and an attorney to discuss wills and estates.

In addition, free Immigration Services are offered every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Nora Daniel & Katie Beck Sutler – Brooklyn Navy Yard

Ms. Daniels stated that there are over 400 businesses at the Navy Yard and their mission is to connect residents of Community Board 2, 3 and 8 to jobs.

Ms. Sutler stated that the Workforce Development office is located in Building 92, at the corner of Flushing Avenue and Carlton Street. The office is open every day and on Tuesdays there is an orientation at 10:00 a.m. They are currently offering construction jobs for skilled workers. There will be a recruitment event for office workers on Wednesday, October 4th.

Ms. Daniels added that there is a Visitor Center at the Navy Yard and on October 21st, from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. they will be hosting an event

Sharonnie Perry – Interfaith Medical Center

Ms. Perry announced that there are a lot of changes at Interfaith. Ms. LaRay Brown, CEO will be coming before the Board to give an update soon. She stated that Interfaith has partnered with Kingsbrook and Brookdale Hospitals and is now called “One Brooklyn Health”. They fall under the umbrella of Maimonides Hospital.

Stefani Zinerman – Hon. Robert Cornegy

Ms. Zinerman stated that Participatory Budgeting that has begun. There will be an Assembly on October 3rd, at the Macon Library and one on October 4th, at Bed-Stuy New Beginnings. Ms. Zinerman added that this year the participation age was lowered, now children 11 years and up can now participate. If you cannot attend any of the assemblies, you can enter your ideas at www.council.nyc.gov/PB before October 13th.

Bed-Stuy Alive is on October 14th, however on the same day at 1:00 p.m. there will be a street co-naming ceremony for Joan Maynard Way at Weeksville.

On October 19th, in recognition of Domestic Violence Month, Council Member Cornegy will host the Annual Go Purple Day at the Utica Avenue Station Plaza.

Taina Evans – Brooklyn Public Library

Ms. Evans stated that there was a rally in protest of the noose that was hung in front of the Bedford Branch to let everyone know that this is not acceptable. The library is a safe space for everyone.

Ms. Evans reported that the Marcy Branch Library is slated to re-open in 2018.

The library is also holding a Veterans Scarf & Hat Drive to benefit the Brooklyn VA Hospital. Drop off can be made at any branch.

Monique Porter – P.A.L.

Ms. Porter stated that the program is not being utilized. It is a free program for children in Kindergarten to Grade 8. Pick-up service is available at P. S. 305, P. S. 308, P.S. 44 and P. S. 256. The program offers chess, basketball, homework zone, food is also provided from Two Steps Down.

Daniel Fisher – 81st Precinct Community Council

The next general meeting will be held on October 10th, at the Multi-Purpose Center, 1958 Fulton Street.

Mr. Fisher added that the Senior Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on November 21st, at Cornerstone Baptist Church from 12:00 Noon – 4:00 p.m. Donation forms were available.

Acknowledgements

Capt. Lashanda Dyce – 79th Precinct; P. O. Christopher Charles – 79th Precinct; Det. William Jenkins – 81st Precinct; Sharonnie Perry – Interfaith Medical Center, Rev. Kenneth John – Mt Carmel AME Church

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler gave an update on the Brevoort Station which covers 11216. He stated that there is an internal investigation regarding the delivery of packages. The Bushwick Station which covers 11221, there is currently no Manager, he suggested that residents call the Board office with any issues. The Adelphi Station Manager is being assisted by the Manager from the Kensington Station to help improve services. At the Shirley Chisolm Station assistance was provided however, there are still a lot of complaints.

He advised residents to call the following number (800-275-8777) whenever they are on a long line. Residents can also register with the post office to get an alert of how many pieces of mail they are scheduled to receive on any given day. Its call “Informed Delivery”. Please see package on the table for more information.

There is a new policy to obtain a passport. Starting October 2nd, you must make an appointment online.

The United States Postal Service is now hiring.

In addition, the City only allotted \$50 million for trench restoration for the entire City for FY2018 which is not enough to cover all the work needed. The Board submitted several locations for the district but only Hancock Street between Marcy and Tompkins Avenues will be done in the fiscal year.

Mr. Butler informed the residents that DEP notified the office about rain gardens. They indicated that they will no longer installed rain gardens in front of one, two and three family homes where a sprinkler systems have been installed in the right of way, the homeowner has a parking permit for the disabled issued by the DOT.

He added that Sanitation will begin recycling pick-up October 1st. They had previously discontinued the service.

Con Edison will be installing Smart Meters in Brooklyn beginning in April so that they will no longer need to come into your homes to read the meters.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Health & Social Service Committee:

The “Ask for Life Campaign” is an educational program of the Healthcare Equality Project of Pulse Center for Patient Safety Education and Advocacy

Shekera Shahid, Committee Vice-Chair introduced Dr. Leslie Farrington, Board Member

Dr. Farrington stated that the “Ask for your Life Campaign” promotes racial equality in Healthcare. The “ASK” in the campaign denotes:

Ask questions until you understand the answers

Speak up if something’s not right

Know your body, your conditions, your medications and test results

Dr. Farrington stated that 400,000 people a year die from preventable medical errors. The third leading cause of death behind heart disease and cancer. She added that 265 people of color die per day from preventable and pre-mature death.

This campaign is focusing on educating and empowering the community to address the unequal treatment and unconscious bias amongst healthcare providers. The goals of the campaign is to:

- Raise awareness of rights to respectful, safe, quality healthcare that is free from discrimination
- Increase clear and compassionate communication between the patient and the healthcare providers
- Empower patients of color and their families to be active participants in their healthcare

They provide interactive workshops. The next workshop will be held on November 13th, at Restoration from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

B. Economic Development Committee:

Restoration Plaza Corp. will give a presentation about their Job Plus Program

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced India Cusak, Engagement Coordinator

Ms. Cusak informed the audience that the Job Plus Program and the Economic Solutions mission is to assist people with accessing benefits such as: food stamps, unemployment, and insurance. They also offers vocational programs. The program provide support for the residents of Marcy, Lafayette Gardens and Louis Armstrong Houses. The Job Plus Program is located on the Northern end of the district whereas the Economic Solutions is on the Southern end. There is also a program in Penn-Wortman Houses in East New York and Paul J. Cooper Center in Brownsville.

Mr. David stated currently they are trying to create a good match between the community and the employer. He mentioned that there are tax incentives for employers who work with community Based programs. Job Plus screen candidates for the business. Internships are also available. Please visit www.restorationplaza.org for more information.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Capital & Expense Budget Committee:

The Budget Coordinator held a Public Hearing on Community Board 3 Fiscal Year 2019 budget request.

Richard Flateau, Community Board 3 Chairperson introduced TJ Wilson & Sharon Forbes, Budget Coordinators

TJ Wilson informed that the online survey closed on October 1st. 45 surveys were received online. The top three issues that were identified are: housing, preservation (developmental trends) and trash and cleanliness. Schools and social services followed in fourth and fifth place. She advised committee chairs, co-chairs to contact her or Sharon Forbes with their requests. Ms. Forbes added that the deadline is approaching.

B. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application request for a letter of support by Kleinberg's located at 165 Tompkins Avenue between Willoughby & Hart Streets

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Alex Kleinberg, Owner however, Mr. Kleinberg was not in attendance.

III. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oma Holloway

Ms. Holloway announced that at Bed-Stuy Alive there will be also be a chess tournament for children 18 years and younger under the tent.

On October 18th, participants will be able to visit restaurants on Lewis Avenue at Feast Bed-Stuy between 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fine Art & Wine Crawl will be held on October 15th, from Noon – 5:00 p.m.
All this information can be found on Bridge Street's Facebook page.

IV. ROLL CALL

There were 34 members present and 14 absent.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

Douglas Williams – Transportation, Sanitation & Environment/Veterans

Mr. Williams informed the residents that the committee will meet on October 10th, at 6:30 p in the Board office

Mr. Williams added that the Veterans Committee on October 18th, at 6:30 p.m.

In addition, at the Bed-Stuy Alive event on October 14th, the Veterans Affairs mobile unit will be registering veterans for medical assistance and performing testing.

Felicia Alexander – Education & Youth

On October 21st, District 16 will host a District-wide School Crawl from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Families will be able to visit the schools to see what is being offered at the various schools.

The Community Education Council will have their monthly meeting on October 11th, at 6:30 p.m., at P.S. 262, 500 Macon Street.

The committee will have their monthly meeting on October 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board office.

Babatunde Akowe – By-laws & Constitution

Mr. Akowe informed the audience that the committee meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be held on October 26th, at 6:30 p.m.

Stacey Ruffin – Civic & Public Safety

The committee meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Any safety issues can be discussed with the Community Affairs Officers of the 79th and 81st Precinct. Please attend the meeting.

Tywan Anthony – Economic Development

The committee meets the 1st Thursday of the month. He invited everyone to attend the meetings to have a voice in the liquor license applications. The committee is also planning a business mixer.

Evelyn Collier – Landmarks

Ms. Collier stated that the next meeting will be on October 9th, the agenda will include 375 Stuyvesant Avenue, 524-540 Halsey Street.

Evelyn Collier – Landmarks Resolution

The Landmarks Committee is seeking approval for a LPC Application No. 19-16338 for “Seven”, 470 Nostrand Avenue (between Jefferson Avenue & Hancock Street. Installation of two (2) Folding Operational Windows with four (4) panes.

Ms. Collier stated that the committee met with the owner on September 14th. This is a 5-story mixed-use building with 95 feet of Nostrand Avenue frontage. The Applicant is seeking approval for the renovation of storefront bay unit (14’6”).

The committee voted to support the installation of the two (2) folding operational windows with four (4) pane in the store front center bay with the stipulation that the architectural elevation front and rear wood and metal trim detail, signage, hardware, lighting, awning changes be submitted for approval by LPC and simultaneously sent to Community Board 3 Landmarks & Preservation committee for record.

A motion to accept the recommendation was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Edna Johnson.

Vote: 33 – For; 0 – Against; 0 – Abstention

VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

A. Kleinberg’s request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License

Tywan Anthony, Chair of the Economic Development Committee stated that in a matter where the applicant does not show, the committee recommends a letter of non-support.

A motion to accept the committee recommendation was made by Hardy “Joe” Long and seconded by Edna Johnson.

Vote: 33- For; 0 – Against; 0 - Abstention

VII. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Richard Flateau

• Nominating Committee

Mr. Flateau appointed Shekera Shahid as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The following members volunteered:

Ivy Gamble-Cobb; Mark Faissal; Hardy “Joe” Long; Santana Payton; Keith Forest; Mary Jemison Head

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 MINUTES

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

I X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack
October 19, 2017