



CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD 3
MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020
COMMUNITY BOARD VIRTUAL MEETING

In Attendance:

Members Present: Babatunde Awoke, Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Monique Antoine, Anthony Buissere, Michael Catlyn, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Taina Evans, Marc Abou-Faissal, Carroll “Rusty” Fields, Richard Flateau, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Shia Greenfeld, Mary Jemison-Head, Abitzel Robinson-Hobson, Oma Holloway, Everett Hughes, Victor Iroh, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Dr. Debra Lamb, Lisa Lewis, Marion Little, Ellen Miller, Kenneth Mbonu, Christine Parker, Santina Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Simone Pratt, Annalee Reid, Karen Rhau, Miari Roberts, Wendy Robinson, Stacey Ruffin, Jamella Swift, Alice Walton, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Douglas Williams, TJ Wilson

Members Absent/Excused: Dr. Kim Best, Lillian Bowman, Sharon Forbes, Keisha Jerryman, Hardy “Joe” Long, Dovie Matthews, Melissa Plowden-Norman, Carolyn Richburg, Suzette Sheppard

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Richard Flateau

The moratorium for tenants has been extended until January 2021.

He stated that the Board held a retreat last month which was well attended. There were 34 members present. He thanked Abbi Robinson-Hobson, TJ Wilson and Anthony Buissere for organizing the event. The members participated in a Team Building Exercise, review of the By-laws, etc. Keith Forest is also working on a Board Directory.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Lee Church – Hon. Hakeem Jeffries, Candace Julien – Hon. Eric Adams, Hon. Tremaine Wright, Karen Cherry – Hon. Erik Dilan, Nadine Gayle – Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel, Elizabeth Adams – Hon. Stephen Levin, Shelton Jones – Hon. Eric Gonzalez, Nickolas Perry - Comptroller Scott Stringer, Sharonnie Perry – Interfaith Medical Center, Nicole Bryan – Macon Branch Library, Stefani Zinerman – Age-Friendly

Senator Chuck Schumer

Senator Schumer gave an update on the COVID-19 relief. He stated that it will cover relief for PPEs, churches, schools, hospitals. Under the Heroes Act covered unemployment relief, treatment, and money for the MTA. In addition, there will be no eviction, money will be provided to State and Local governments. The relief package has passed the House however, it is now stuck in the Senate. Monies will be retroactive to January.

He also discussed the Supreme Court Nomination, and the Economic Equality package which will help mass transit, childcare, 40% will be for jobs, Justice in Policing Act. The plan is to make Washington, DC and Puerto Rico a State.

Questions were asked and answered regarding layoffs, Green Goods Initiative, education equity, the census, small business, sports, issues with iPad for schools and assistance for veterans.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler advised residents to not return the faulty ballots that were received. The Board of Election will resend the correct ballots. The deadline to register to vote is October 9th, Early Voting will begin on October 24th – November 1st, and the deadline to submit an absentee ballot is October 27th. For residents of the 36th Council District, early voting will be held at Saratoga Square Park, 940 Hancock Street, St. John's Recreation Center, 251 Prospect Place and I.S. 33, 70 Tompkins Avenue between Park and Myrtle Avenues.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Park, Art & Culture Committee:

TJ Wilson, Committee Vice-Chair introduced Jada John, Executive Director of the Big Apple Leadership Academy for the Arts (BALAA) who gave brief introduction about the organization.

BALAA Started in June 2019. It offers the following programs:

1. BALAA Beauties for girls ages 5-18 years
2. BALAA Brawn is for boys ages 5-18 to sever the pupil to pipeline. The boys are matched with male mentors.
3. Urban & Multicultural Education
4. Empire Marching Elite serves children 5 years and up.
5. Legacy which provide mental and physical support

She also offers dance scholarships. On Saturday, October 24th, the battle of the band event will be held on the mural from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m. The program is free however, she relies on fundraising and contribution.

They are located on Gates and Ralph Avenues and they practice at St. Andrew's Playground on Saturdays. For more information, visit www.balaa.org

B. Education & Youth Committee:

Monique Antoine, Committee Vice-Chair introduced Dr. Ronald Blake, NYC Technical College who gave an update on the Bedford-Stuyvesant Heat Survey.

Dr. Blake stated that he has been conducting the study for two years in partnership with Marlon Rice, at Magnolia Earth Tree Center and NASA. They have been studying land and surface temperatures in Bed-Stuy using drones and satellites. So far, they have received 132 responses to the survey but in order for the survey to be valid, it needs 500 participants. They need more people to participate because it would help drive policy that affect climate change.

He will return to the November general meeting with the results of the study and the impact on the community.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Economic

Development

Committee:

Tywan Anthony, Committee Chair introduced Roger Brito, Branch Manager at Popular Bank Is seeking a letter of support for the Community Banking District Designation Grant.

Mr. Brito stated that Popular Bank is celebrating 127 years. In 2019, they participated in 317 events with 400 employees volunteering their time. They also sponsored \$5000 grants. The bank is looking to offer more lending to small businesses in the community, more mortgages for first time homebuyers and more financial literacy workshops. They would also like to partner with non-profit organizations in the community. The designation will allow the bank to get low and high cost deposits at the branch on Fulton Street.

This will be a two-part presentation, at the November general meeting Mr. Brito will present part two and the Board will vote on the designation. The committee is seeking recommendations which can be sent to Tywan, Mark or Keith.

Questions and Answers

Marc Faissal: Would the \$45 million be used to extend loans to people in Bed-Stuy?

Roger Brito: It is actually \$20 million and yes, the designation is for this branch.

Gregory Glasgow: What is the bank's track record in giving loans in this community?

Roger Brito: We are new to the community. We were originally in Crown Heights in Utica Avenue and Eastern Parkway. We moved here in 2014 and have on issued mortgages and some commercial lending.

III. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nicole Greaves, Bed-Stuy Works Alliance announced that the next meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7th, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

IV. ROLL

CALL

There were 41 members present and nine absent.

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES & RESOLUTIONS

- The Civic & Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6th, at 6:00 p.m.
- Tywan Anthony thanked Keith Forest, Abby Hobson, Anthony Buissereth, Monique Antoine, Simone Pratt and Oma Holloway for all the hard work they did on the Black Lives Mural.
- The Landmarks and Preservation Committee will meet on Thursday, October 15th, the topic of discussion will be on a development on Lewis Avenue between Chauncey and Bainbridge Streets.
- The Transportation, Sanitation & Environment Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 13th, with the Department of Sanitation and Department of Transportation.
- Parks, Arts & Culture Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 7th, at 6:30 p.m.
- Budget forms were sent out to committee chairs. The deadline to submit requests is October 15th, so it can be presented at the Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 20th.
- The Health & Social Services Committee will be meeting on Friday, October 8th, at 6:30 p.m.
- The Education & Youth Committee will meet on Thursday, October 8th, at 7:00 p.m.

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Richard Fleteau

Chair Fleteau stated that the New Board Member's Orientation was held on Saturday, September 26th. All new members were in attendance. He will be assigning new members to committees shortly. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 2nd.

VII. ACCEPTANCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 MINUTES

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Simone Pratt. The vote was unanimous.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Douglas Williams and seconded by Felicia Alexander the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack
October 21, 2020

Reviewed and Edited by,
Stacey Ruffin, CB3 Board Secretary
October 23, 2020