

Brooklyn Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, December 19, 2018
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center
195 Linden Street
Brooklyn, New York 11221
6:00PM

The Brooklyn Community Board #4 December 19, 2018 Meeting.
Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho
District Manager Ms. Celestina Leon

The District Manger opened the monthly Community Board #4 meeting at 6:05PM
She acknowledged the presence of Assemblywoman Maritza Davila and asked her to say a few words.

Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, 53rd Assembly District:

She wished everyone a happy holiday. Assemblywoman Davila is on her way to Albany, NY to discuss:

- Abolish or extend some of the tenant laws
- Bring additional funding into the educational system

There is a lot to be done she stated, however she is extremely happy that now both the Senate and the assembly are working together.

She announced that as of yesterday December 18, 2018 the Honorable Carl E. Heastie named her as the new chair of the Puerto Rican Hispanic Task Force. This was a big surprise to her but nevertheless she will never turn down a challenge.

She thanked everyone for giving her the next 2 years as their assemblywoman.

She thanked Community Board #4 Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho for the hard work he is doing in the Bushwick community and thanked him for being the chairperson of Community Board 4. "He goes everywhere that I go and sometimes he gets there before I do", she stated. She went on to say "I can assure you that your best interest is always represented everywhere he goes, so you have picked a great leader".

Chairperson Robert Camacho: We are going to Puerto Rico to help fix it up, he stated. People are still dying out there and they are suffering. Nobody is talking about it but it is happening. Seniors are dying and starving. Crime is high and people are afraid to go out at night. Shopping and everything else is done in the daytime. Even when it is hot at night they stay inside.

Assemblywoman Davila position as the Chair of the Puerto Rican Task Force will cover not just Puerto Rico, but also Mexico, Ecuador and Santo Domingo, etc.

The District Manager, Ms. Celestina Leon called the first roll call.

First Roll Call: – 25 members present this does constitute a quorum.

The acceptance of the agenda was made by Gladys Puglla and second by Ms. Barbara Jackson.

The acceptance of last month's minutes was made by Ms. Mary McClellan and second by Ms. Sharlene Moore.

Chairperson's Report:

Mr. Robert Camacho welcomed all to the Community Board #4 Wednesday, December 19, 2018 monthly meeting.

No report. (Informational)

The Chairperson went to most of the same meetings that the District Manager went to.

He asked that the committee members please attend their committee meetings so that there can be a quorum. The agenda cannot be pushed forward if a quorum is not met nor can they make recommendations.

There are a lot of issues coming before the board and we need you and your help in order to help Bushwick, the chairperson stated.

The Elected Officials and / or their representatives that was present at the meeting.

- 1) Maritza Davila, 53rd Assemblywoman, 249 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11237, 718-443-1205
- 2) Evette Lopez, representing 53rd Assembly District, Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, 249 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237, 718-443-1205
- 3) Jonathan Pomboza, representing District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, 350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, 718-250-2500
- 4) Julio Salazar, representing Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, 7th Congressional District, 266 Broadway, Suite 201, Brooklyn, NY 11211

Federal, State or City Agencies

- 1) Sergeant Anna Serrano, 83rd Precinct N.C.O. (Neighborhood Coordination Officer), 480 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237
- 2) Norris Myles, Brooklyn Public Library, 790 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221
- 3) Boniface WeWe, Washington Irving Branch, 360 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 718-628-8378
- 4) Caroline Iosio, Opportunities For a Better Tomorrow
- 5) JoAnne McTiernan, Breaking Ground, Homeless Outreach
- 6) Gina Gerhart, Boy Scouts of America Greater NY Council
- 7) Azra Samiee, Brooklyn Cooperative Federal Credit Union /Grow Brooklyn
- 8) Richard Williams, Park Manager for District 4
- 9) Rolando Gonzalez & Nancy Jean-Baptiste, AHRC-NYC, 522 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Sergeant Anna Serrano, 83rd Precinct N.C.O. (Neighborhood Coordination Officer): In attendance with her are:

- PO Romero – Sector Adam: covers Jefferson Avenue to Eastern Parkway from Broadway to Wyckoff Avenue,
- PO Lagodo & PO Fredrick Nelson - Sector Charlie: Covers Himrod to Flushing from Broadway to Wilson Avenues, 917-514- 7641

Sergeant Serrano has been with the 83rd Precinct for over 25 years. She stated that this year the precinct has hit records low regarding crime.

There is however a problem regarding package theft. She asked that everyone:

- 1) Please be present when your packages are delivered or have someone pick them up
- 2) Pick packages up at the post office
- 3) When sending gift cards or checks in cards, drop them off at the post office. Do not put them in the mail box.

District Manager's Report:

The District Manager, Ms. Celestina Leon took the opportunity to thank all of the board members for their hard work and time. She also thanked the familiar faces that are frequently at the Community Board meetings.

She encourage everyone to meet at least three people that they do not know during the meeting and get to know three more people that they are already acquainted with. This information will be useful during the holiday party's game "Community Board 4 Jeopardy".

Please contact the community board's office if anyone have questions or concerns about Bushwick.

Ms. Leon went to several meetings since the last community board meeting. Here are just a few:

Wednesday, November 28, 2018: PS 377K Playground Design Session – Along with Chairperson Mr. Camacho attended The Trust for Public Land's NYC Playground Program, representatives from the New York Road Runners, and PS 377K students to review their initial designs for the playground. It was incredible to see the youngest students in the community engaging in a design activity and learning about project funding. Mr. Camacho has asked for them to attend an upcoming board meeting to share more information on the project.

Memorial for Ms. Elaine Jackson, the sister of board member, Ms. Barbara Jackson. Along with Chairperson Robert Camacho they attended the memorial services for Elaine Jackson. Elaine was and remains a source of light for her family, friends, and those who knew her. She had a great love for her community, for Bushwick and she will be sorely missed.

Ms. Leon asked for a moment of silence for Ms. Elaine Jackson.

Thursday, November 29, 2018: NYCHA Hope Gardens RAD Open Space Session – Along with Mr. Camacho the session was to learn more about the impending RAD transition at Hope Gardens. The residents expressed concerns about correspondence they had received and their uncertainty about the changes before moving on to the activity. The Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program remains a large community concern, as NYCHA transfers their management responsibility to a private management company.

There will be a Candlelight Vigil Memorial Service for Hailey and Payton, two young girls that died in a fire in Bushwick. Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, December 20, 2018, 5pm to 7pm. South Bushwick Reformed Church, 855 Bushwick Avenue, on the corner of Himrod Street.

Committee Reports:

Arts and Culture Committee Report (ACC), Committee Chairperson Ms. Zulma Novoa, Vice Chairperson, Ms. Kweighbaye Kotee

Meeting: Monday, December 10, 2018, 6PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207

Members in Attendance: Committee Members In attendance: Committee Chairperson, Ms. Zulma Novoa, Mr. Dustin Sonneborn, and Mr. L.A. Blacksmith.

Others in Attendance: Robert Camacho – CB 4 Chairperson; Celeste Leon, CB 4 District Manager; Willie Morales, CB 4 Community Associate and Juan Pablo Siles

Board Member Excused: Jo-Ena Bennet, Victoria Fernandez, Kweighbaye Kotee

- 1) Committee Planning Session – a discussion of committee issues, projects, and planning for the 2018-2019 meeting year.
 - HighBreedMusic - Allows upcoming artist to come and express themselves through recording. They do beyond studio quality music videos to help and promote local artist to help them get a head start. They make copies and give it to the artist all at no cost.
 - Letter of introduction from Mr. Luke Griffin was read by committee chair to both committee members and guest. Mr. Griffin is the founder of Bushwick Podcast, a local audio series made to support a stronger, more informed, more loving community here in Bushwick. They share local stories that celebrate diversity, explore the trends changing the neighborhood, and unpack the personal journeys that unite the many subcultures in Bushwick. Mr. Griffin would like to connect with CB 4 to talk about the opportunities, how they can otherwise partner up and sharing community's stories
- 2) Old Business – 1st Summer Arts Mixer Debrief, Bushwick Arts and Culture Directory Updates.
 - A. Art Mixer event occurred in June 2018 but being talked about at this particular committee meeting all due to the fact that this is first time the committee meeting after the event occurred. To the committee members surprise there was more people than expected a very nice amount of people from all age ranges and different walks in life, which made it into a very nice affair. The event was very educational due to the good conversations had by everyone in this event. There was a little introduction done and this enable the local artistes to get known. Lot 45 was the location where the event was conducted. From this very educational and successful initial event the platform will make the Art Mixer of 2019 an even greater event.

Recommendation

- To explore public art options at the Wilson Avenue L train station at the intersection of Wilson Avenue and Moffat Street was unanimously approved by the committee.

Civic and Religious Committee (CRC), Committee Chairperson Ms. Elvena Davis, Vice Co-Chair, Mr. Ernest Estime

Meeting: Thursday, December 13, 2018, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, New York 11207-1422, 3:00PM

Board Members in Attendance: Committee Chairperson, Ms. Elvena Davis

Others in Attendance: CB 4 Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho; District Manager, Celestina Leon; CB 4 Community Associate, Mrs. Sharon Fludd; Minister Ms. Dawn Baxter, Bushwick Family Ministries

Members Excused: Rev. Grace Aytes, Virgie Jones, and Ernest Estime

Items Discussed:

Follow up discussion on the Street Co-naming request on Cornelia Street and Evergreen Avenue (Akeal Christopher Way) in honor of Akeal Christopher: Akeal lost his life to gun violence at the age of 14 on Cornelia Street on June 27, 2012. His mother, Natasha Christopher, has since become an activist advocating against gun violence. For the past six years vigils have been held in honor of Akeal and she ask for support to co-name the street in memoriam to him.

The CRC Committee could not vote on this item because a quorum was not met. The item was tables until the next CRC meeting which will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2019.

Old Business

Tree guards for tree pits: What can be done to help residents with tree guards?

Announcements

Brooklyn Community Board #4 Economic Development Committee (EDC) are hosting a Minority Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) Procurement and Resource Fair on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at the NYCHA Hope Garden Community Center, 422 Central Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11221. The event is open to the public! For more information contact Brooklyn Community Board 4 at 718-628-8400 or BK04@cb.nyc.com.

Economic Development Committee Meeting, (EDC), Committee Chairperson, Mr. Odolph Wright, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Desmond Monroe

Meeting: Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422, 6:00PM

Board Member Present: Odolph Wright, Desmond Monroe, Gardea Caphart, Sharlene Moore, Julio Salinas and Jamie Wiseman,

Others in Attendance: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Celestina Leon, CB4 District Manager; Mr. Willie Morales, Community Board 4 Community Associate; Tiera Mack, Giselle Ramos, Rawle Brown and Kevin Worthington

Items Discussed:

- 1) CB 4 EDC endeavors to plan an MWBE forum and small business resource fair in the winter, with the event scheduled for Wednesday, January 9, 2019 from 6pm to 8pm at 422 Central Avenue between Palmetto and Woodbine Streets. All are welcome to attend and participate in the planning. Local organizations and stakeholders that work closely with the small business community are encourage to contact the board's office in advance for more information.

All those who are thinking about starting a business are encouraged to attend, for there will be resources and information available to them.

Environmental Protection/Transportation/Sanitation Community (EPTS), Committee

Chairperson, Mr. Eliseo Ruiz; Committee Chairperson, Mr. Raul Rubio; and Mrs. Nancy Liao, Committee Vice Chairperson

Meeting: Thursday, December 6, 2018, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, New York 11207-1422, 6:00PM

Members in Attendance: Mr. Raul Rubio, Ms. Jo-Ena Bennet, and Ms. Louisa Chan

Others in Attendance: District Manager Ms. Celeste Leon; Community Associate, Mrs. Sharon Fludd; CB4 Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho; Bryan Perrea, Leroy Branch, and Rami Metal - NYC Department of Transportation, Paul Suhey & Frank Reig – REVEL, Erwin Figueroa and Matthew Cox – TransAlt, Debora Rivas, Florent Morellet – residents, Taj Ali - Goodwin Tenant Network, Ron Roth - Independent Consultant, and Tiera Mack - RiseBoro.

Excused: Eliseo Ruiz, EPTS Chairperson, Nancy Liao, EPTS Vice-Chairperson, Jose R. Guzman, and Sufia Chowdhry

Not in Attendance: John Scheaffer

- 1) Frank Reig, Co-Founder/CEO, Revel: Presenting on Revel's shared electric mopeds. Revel has been operating throughout Bushwick with 68 shared electric mopeds since July 2018. Their vehicles are available to rent through an app and provide Bushwick residents with an affordable, emissions-free and convenient transit option. Presentation to discuss Revel's current operations and the improvements they will be making for 2019.

Congestion, Access, affordability and safety. Meet Revel – shared electric mopeds.

Revel e-mopeds are space efficient – Trips replace rideshare, reducing congestion caused by cars; parking on the street, not on sidewalk; utilize spaces too small for cars, bike corrals, or bike stations.

- 2) NYC Department of Transportation – presentation on the expansion on Citi Bike in Bushwick.

Old Business:

Committee Study Proposal - Mr. Ron Roth, Independent Consultant shared the following information however, he did not have a copy of the proposal summary during the committee meeting. The committee members in attendance recommended that due to the lack of time that he follow up with the district manager and provide a copy of the proposal for the committee to review.

Street Scope: Store front Improvement - Sign Guides good for store owners and shoppers. The Streetscape Project will refashion the District into a more attractive urban space and remove the impediments that are preventing the corridor from reaching its economic potential as a business destination. The project aims to increase consumer traffic and support the attraction of new and diverse businesses to the neighborhood. The project also seeks to increase pedestrian, bicycle, and transit use, and to provide business owners with space to live, work, and shop.

EPTS Sanitation Town Hall Follow Up

Raul Rubio: Town Hall meeting to focus on what the committee can do regarding sanitation. In January 2019 would like to invite the commissioner of Sanitation and Council Member Antonio Reynoso who is the Council's Sanitation Committee Chairperson.

Recommendations:

ACC Community: To explore public art options at the Wilson Avenue L train station at the intersection of Wilson Avenue and Moffat Street. This recommendation would involve writing a letter to the NYC Transit Authority MTA.

Motion to write letter to the NYC Transit Authority MTA was moved by Ms. Louisa Chan and second by Ms. Julie Dent. All board members present were in favor.

Announcements:

Joshua Brown: Request that residents be vigilant when it comes to their property. 5 days ago the NY Daily News investigation reported that the grand jury found wide-scale deed fraud in NYC Real Estate transactions. The City have a free automated city registry system called ACRIS to help home owners. Mortgage fraud is being done as well. Please protect seniors and friends.

Rolando Gonzalez: AHRC NYC: Supporting adults living with disabilities in the Bushwick community. Their motive is to make sure that each person living with a disability is treated fairly. The city provides resources for families including respite, training workshops, educational advocacy, sibling services and guardianship information. In the Community AHRC NYC encourages people to engage with and become valued members of their community in programs like Adult Day Services, Camping and Recreation and Care Coordination. At home they provide a range of in-home support for those with developmental disabilities including individualized services, community habilitation, respite and residences. Get work AHRC NYC has a long-standing tradition of supporting people with disabilities as they: prepare for employment, obtain employment and maintain employment.

You can help by donating, volunteering, becoming a member, hire a person with a disability or simply share our news o social media.

Location: 522 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, New York

Cooper Street Community Associated Inc. invites you to their fundraising Family and Friends Bowling Event!!!

Saturday, February 16, 2019, 1pm to 4pm; Location: Bowl 360 Cozy Bowl (Formerly COZY Lanes), 98 18 Rockaway Blvd. & 98th Street, Ozone Park, NY 11417

Cost: Adults \$25 and children \$20.

311 Homeless Person Outreach Assistance: Throughout the city, DHS Street Homelessness Solutions division deploys teams 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with the intention of engaging street homeless individuals and encourage them to move from the streets into housing.

311: If you are concerned for a homeless person you seen outdoors, you have the ability to request “Homeless Assistance”. A team will arrive at the location within the hour to offer assistance.

Eric Gonzales District Attorney Kings County: Brooklyn DA Eric Gonzalez moves to erase past convictions and outstanding warrants for low-level marijuana possession. He moved to vacate over 1,400 open warrants for offenses his office no longer prosecutes.

La Cima Elementary Charter School: Climb High! Enroll Today

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www.lacimacharterschool.org

The mission of La Cima Elementary Charter School is to prepare their students for academic and life-long success through a rigorous and relevant academic program. They provide an academic and cultural environment that embraces all learners including students who are English language learners and students who require special services.

Meeting Adjourned: 33 Members Present.

Streaming of Community Board 4 meetings can be found on YouTube under “Brooklyn Community Board 4”