

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, February 15, 2012  
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center  
195 Linden Street (corner of Wilson Avenue)  
Brooklyn, New York 11221  
6:00PM

-Public Hearing Items-

1) New York City Department of City Planning: Zone Green – Text Amendment

This proposal seeks to modernize the zoning resolution to remove impediments to the construction and retrofitting of greener buildings. It will give owners more choices for the investments they can make to save energy save money and improve environmental performances.

Presentation by Anna Slatinsky

New York City has been working on a broad range of projects that aims to increase sustainability of the city, such as planting trees, making parking for bicycles more available and tightening energy efficiency standards of the building codes.

There are many ways to increase the sustainability of the city and the proposal being discussed is only one piece of a much larger strategy citywide.

Zoning text proposal has been created to ensure that the zoning regulation do not exceed the development or the alteration of the building to make them more sustainable.

Buildings can be designed to save money for owners and tenants, provide a healthier environment, reduce the burden on city infrastructure, and support the ecology. In New York City about 80% of the greenhouse emissions come from buildings and the energy used to light, heat and cool them, etc. So there is a lot to gain by making buildings more efficient.

These proposals seek to modernize the Zoning Resolution to remove impediments to the construction and retrofitting of greener buildings. It will give owners more choices for the investments they can make to save energy, save money, and improve environmental performance. This proposal will help bring buildings into the 21<sup>st</sup> century while protecting the character and quality of life of our neighborhoods.

Features of the Proposal:

1. Energy-efficient building walls: Well insulated exterior walls reduce heating and cooling demands, lowering home heating bills and summer air conditioning bills. However, zoning today sometimes prohibits adding insulation to the exterior of existing building or penalizes thicker walls.
- The proposal: Allow existing buildings to add external insulation within the property line while exempting it from floor area calculations and yard regulations. This typically adds about four inches of wall thickness, but up to eight inches would be allowed to encourage highly efficient retrofits. For new buildings whose walls are substantially more efficient than required by code, up to eight inches of wall thickness could be exempted from floor area.
2. Sun control devices: These horizontal or vertical projections, such as awnings, screens or metal shutters can help reduce air-conditioning needs and lighting bills by providing glare-free natural light, while adding interest to the building façade. Zoning today often does not allow sun control devices to project over required open areas.
- The proposal: Will allow sun control devices and awnings to project 2'-6' over required open areas, but not to cover more than 30% of the façade from which they project.
3. Solar energy: Solar power can provide pollution-free energy for electricity or hot water, reducing utility bills, and carbon emissions. Today, zoning does not allow solar installations above the maximum permitted building height.

The proposal: Allow solar panels on flat roofs anywhere below the parapet, regardless of building height. Taller solar installations would be subject to limits on roof coverage and height. On slopping panels would be allowed to be flat-mounted (less than 18" high)

- 4) Other rooftop equipment: Under the current regulation solar panels, green roof or skylights are not permitted on a roof.
- The proposal: Will allow solar panels on a flat roof. A guardrail no more than 30% opaque would be allowed up to 3'6" above the top surface of the roof. By certification of the Chair of the City Planning Commission, allow a greenhouse to be exempt from floor area and heights limits, provided that it is located on top of a building that does not contain residences or sleeping accommodations. These greenhouses must not exceed 25 feet in height, must set back six feet from the roof edge, and must include practical measures to limit water and energy consumption. Commercial or manufacturing building can provide a greenhouse for educational or food production purposes on the roof. Unfortunately, limitations on floor area or building heights have constrained opportunities for these facilities.
- 5) Wind energy: Wind energy generation in New York City makes the most sense where winds are consistent – on taller buildings and near the waterfront. Today, small wind turbines are allowed if they do not exceed a building height limit.
- The proposal: On buildings taller than 100 feet, a wind turbine assembly may rise up to 55' above the rooftop (Including the pole and rotor), provided it is set back at least 10 feet from any property line. In order for a wind turbine to be effective generating electricity they have to have a lot of clear area around them and consistent strong winds. Though there are not many wind turbines in NYC, a free-standing or building-mounted turbine would be allowed in commercial developments near the waterfront. Installations must follow all requirements from the Department of Buildings. Those wanting to have a wind turbine of a modest size will be permitted to do so.
- This proposal will help New York City to be a more sustainable and greener city as well as a healthier city.

Questions were entertained:

Question: Is there a rebate for making major construction and making buildings more energy efficient?

Answer: The proposal from the Dept. of City Planning does not include and rebates, but PRATT Center has programs and incentives available that will be discussed after her presentation.

2) The New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA)

Zone Green Energy Audit information which can make your home or business more energy efficient

Presenting is Sam Fisher from PRATT. PRATT Center has the contract to coordinate for NYSERDA. Mr. Fisher spoke about programs available to property owners, tenants, small businesses and non-for-profit organizations such as churches or any other religious institutions. (Flyers listing the different programs were available)

The purpose is to help New Yorkers across the state to be energy efficient and use less electricity, natural gas and to lower the your energy bill. It offers a range of different energy incentive programs and these programs are all funded by a small charge on your Con Edison bill called a system benefit charge.

Mr. Fisher stated that if you have a Con Edison bill you are already paying into the program. He would like to help you get the information so that you can take advantage of the incentives so that you can get back what you as a Con Edison customer are putting into the program.

PRATT Center is the coordinator for NYSERDA for Brooklyn and Queens.

Please feel free to contact PRATT Center at <http://prattcenter.net>

Programs are available regardless of your income level. There are different programs for different income brackets. If needed the PRATT Center is available to speak to person individually and they are available to speak to a group or to business to help to locate a problem that will be the most efficient for you.

For most programs the first thing to do is to apply for a home energy audit. This will allow a certified contractor to come to your home and use special diagnostic equipment to determine where your home is losing energy and where your home could be more efficient. The diagnostic equipment will let you know if there are cracks in the walls and where you might be losing a significant amount of heat whether it is through the windows and/or doors in the hallways. The audit report will let you know what the recommendations are and what the cost will be. The report will also let you know what the savings will be from year to year and how quickly that work would pay off. Once you have that report you are under no obligation to do any of the recommended steps. You can decide which one if any you want to do yourself. Once that is done there are different financial step available.

Do not have the money up front to pay for example the new upgrade or a new boiler for your home, etc.? The ON Recovery Program will allow you to put the cost of the new improvements charges on your Con Edison bill and this will let you pay off those charges in a few months or payoff a portion of those improvements within several

years. Mr. Fisher stated that you will not necessary end up paying more money each month than you were already paying because you are able to finance the energy improvements with the money that you are saving on your energy bill.

Questions were entertained:

Question: Would this program work if I wanted to put new windows on my property?

Answer: Windows would not necessary work with this program because windows take a long time to pay back. The audit would let you know if it qualifies for the program.

Question: If I was paying Con Edison for example \$20.00 a month on my bill will this program allow me to pay \$15.00 on my bill?

Answer: There is no guarantee that your bill will go down. Mr. Fisher said you could do a couple of improvements in your home that would save you an average of \$10.00 on your monthly bill. Maybe your energy bill will be \$10.00 more than it once was; but it will not be money that is going to the utility company- that money will now be an investment in your home. It is good to have the audit because the audit will allow you to work with the program.

The audit is free for New York City residents making less than \$125,000 in combined household income. There is a sliding scale for those who make more than \$125,000. In that case the audit might cost \$100 or \$200 or more, but it will never be the full retail price as if you went out and spoke to a contractor.

Contractors have to pass certain certifications to be listed on NYSERDA website and to take part in the program. You can search the contractors that are in the program by county. PRATT Center is not allowed to recommend a contractor but they can give you a list of contractors in Kings County. All contractors on the list are certified by the State.

Mr. R. Rubio: What are the % rates for persons who have to finance?

Answer: With the On Bill Recovery Program the interest rate is 2.99%. There is another financing program that is not on your energy bill, that program is more like a traditional loan and their rates are 3.49% if you use a debit card or checking account and 3.99% if you pay separately or another means of repayment.

The company that does the audit does not have to be the company that does the upgrades. It is also recommended that you walk with the auditor as he goes through your home, because you know your home better than anyone else. You know which rooms in your home are usually cold or hot in the winter and you can point this information to the auditors and any other information that can be helpful. If you decide to use them or any other company it is best to ask them if they have done this work before and what kind of projects have they done? You would want to make sure that the contractor has had a lot of experience in the specific area that you are doing upgrades in.

For the audit application process you will need a print out of the last 12 months of your Con Edison bill, your National Grid bill or any other oil company that you are using along with their account numbers.

Ms. Whitted thanked Mr. Sam Fisher for his informational and enlightening presentation to the members of the Community Board and all those present.

Ms. Dent closed the public hearing item and opened the regular monthly board meeting

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent asked the District Manager, Ms. Nadine Whitted to call the first roll call.

**Roll Call:** 31 members present constituting a quorum.

**Chairperson's Report:**

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. The agenda was accepted by Ms. Martha Brown and second by Ms. Barbara Smith. All board members present were in favor.

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the previous month's minutes. The previous month's minutes was accepted by Ms. Maria Gomez and second by Mr. Cyril Joseph. All board members present were in favor.

The Chairperson Ms. Julie Dent welcomed everyone in attendance to the Community Board #4's February 15, 2012 meeting stating that it is a honor and a pleasure to greet the audience officially for the New Year since she had other commitments that kept her away in January 2012. She thanked Martha Brown the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson for here leadership during the January meeting. She publically thanked Ms. Brown for a job well done.

The Chairperson, Ms. Dent asked PO Franco to come up with the new Deputy Inspector Anthony Tasso Commanding Officer of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct. She stated that as much as they loved former Deputy Inspector Capasso they are more than happy and extremely pleased to work with our new inspector.

Police Officer Damarys Franco, of the Community Affairs Unit gave out her phone number for any concerns that one may have and she took the opportunity to introduce the new Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector Anthony Tasso of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct.

Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector Anthony Tasso thanked Ms. Dent and those in attendance for the warm welcomed and said that it is good to be in Bushwick. He stated that he came from the 88<sup>th</sup> Pct. which is the Fort Greene/Clinton Hill area and he was the Commanding Officer there for 3 ½ years. He always thought that he would be at the 88<sup>th</sup> Pct. forever, so it was a surprise to him when 2 weeks ago he was told that he was being reassigned to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. He is looking forwarding to the opportunity to work with the residents' and the businesses in the Community of Bushwick.

He stated that he knows he has a lot to learn and a lot to live up to. He has heard great things about D.I. Capasso and he mentioned that he has worked with him before. He also mentioned that at the same time that he took over the 88<sup>th</sup> Pct. Deputy Inspector Capasso took over the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct.

The Commanding Officer has been a Captain in Brooklyn North which the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. falls in for the last 7 years. Previously he served as an Executive Officer of the 84<sup>th</sup> Pct. located downtown Brooklyn; he has served as an Executive Officer at the 90 Pct., the 73<sup>rd</sup> Pct., located in Brownsville Brooklyn and then the Commanding Officer of the 88<sup>th</sup> Pct.

Deputy Inspector Tasso ended his introduction by thanking everyone again for the warm welcome and he stated that he looking forward in working with everyone in the Bushwick Community.

Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent thanked the Inspector for taking the time out to meet them.

Ms. Dent asked that the Elected Officials and/or their representatives introduce themselves and state their respective addresses and telephone numbers.

- 1) Jeffery Denmon Representing Assemblyman Vito Lopez, 434 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 718-963-7029
- 2) Roy Sawyer Representing Congressman Ed Towns, 104-08 Flatlands Avenue, 718-272-1175
- 3) Yamilka Mena Representing Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 718-963-3141
- 4) Michael Olmeda Representing Senator Martin Dilan, 786 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-573-1726
- 5) Barbara Medina Representing Assemblyman Rafael L. Espinal, 840 Jamaica Avenue, 718-235-5627
- 6) Jason Otano Representing Borough President Marty Markowitz, 209 Joralemon Street, 718-802-3862

Representatives from City, State or Federal Agencies:

- 1) Zulma Novoa – NYC Dept. Of Health & Mental Hygiene, 485 Throop Avenue, 646-253-5855
- 2) Magdalena Mangual - Wyckoff Heights Hospital Medical Center, 718-508-4669
- 3) Judy Kamilhor – Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, 718-230-2014
- 4) PO Franco - 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community Affairs Unit, 718-574-1697
- 5) Deputy Inspector Anthony Tasso – 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, 480 Knickerbocker Avenue
- 6) William Fitchett, FDNY – Battalion 28, 392 Himrod Street, 718-965-8328

Representatives from Community Based Organizations:

- 1) Maggie Chency – EcoStation NY, 130 Palmetto Street, 646-393-9305
- 2) Catherine Teil – SCO Family Dynamics, 75 Lewis Avenue, 718-455-1166 ext: 46
- 3) Annis Manuel-Dry – Little Flower Children & Family Services, 44 Court Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Fl. 718-935-1791 ext 4207

These formal introductions are made in an effort to acquaint the public with those who may be able to assist and help with any type of problem or concern one may be facing. Additionally, by these introductions each agency representative has the opportunity to know one another.

The current Community Board office at 315 Wyckoff Avenue is in a state of disrepair with peeling paint and an overall dismal atmosphere. This setting creates an uncomfortable embarrassing setting for the District Manager and her staff while they conduct business of the board and as they represent the community. Finally it seems like the office's move to 1420 Bushwick Avenue is soon underway!!! Both the District Manager and the Chairperson have had separate conversations with Dr. Igwe and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). Each has said that many of the requirements have been met: any outstanding issues should not preclude the actual move. Currently, we are waiting for a formal letter, lease or license agreement, a document that officially states the move can proceed. Ms. Dent acknowledges and wishes to thank Councilman Erik Dilan for convening a meeting with the appropriate city agencies to discuss this matter in detail in May. Ms. Dent asked Ms. Whitted to contact Council Member Dilan's Office once again to assist in what seems like the last leg of this move. We are very hopeful.

Dr. Igwe has agreed to address the board concerning this matter in March 2012.

On February 1, 2012 NYC Department of Education held a Joint Public hearing and distributed an Educational Impact Statement which was amended and received by the Community Board #4 office on February 9, 2012 regarding the proposal:

- 1) To phase out the Anna Gonzalez Community School beginning in 2012-213. What was approved was the gradual – over the next several years phasing out of the school and no longer accept new students after the current school year.
- 2) To co-located a new middle school I.S. 562 in the K296 building which would begin enrolling students in 2012-2013 school year and phase in gradually over the next several years. This new school would be co-located with both Achievement First Bushwick Charter School and the Anna Gonzalez School until such time as the phase out.

The amended Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) corrects the grade span that I.S. 296K serves which is students in grades (6) six through (8) eight. Copies of the amended educational impact statements are available at the main offices of the schools and at the DOE site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUS/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/20112012/Feb2012Proposals>.

On Friday, February 10, 2012: Woodhull Medical Center hosted their annual Legislative Forum where the state of the hospital was discussed. Local Elected Officials spoke of the importance of working together for the good of the Woodhull Hospital; as the State may close five (5) hospitals. Assemblyman Lopez eloquently suggested that in the wake of future hospital merges – Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and the Inter-Faith Hospital. The elected officials and community surrounding the Woodhull Hospital should make a concerted effort of doing all things to ensure that Woodhull remains a hospital that services our community both medically as well as provide many jobs for the community.

The NYC Department of Transportation – Urban Art Program: “Barrier Beautification deadline is February 24, 2012. Selected Artist can receive a grant for up to \$2,500.00. For more information contact 212-839-9892 or [Art@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:Art@dot.nyc.gov)

“Pioneers of Bushwick: We Call It Home”: A photographic Exhibit by Daryl-Ann Saunders is a series of photographic portraits of long time Bushwick Residents, paired with their text about Bushwick's history. Photo sessions were conducted in and “pop-up” studio by artist Daryl-Ann Saunders at the Diana Jones Senior Center located at 9 Noll Street. The dates for the exhibit are February 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 3pm, Monday through Friday.

### **District Manager's Report:**

#### **Meetings Attended**

Friday, January 19, 2012: Planning meeting for the event to honor Deputy Inspector Capasso

Monday, January 24, 2012: New York City Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting (MOFTB) held a meeting for Community Boards. It was noted that the department falls under the jurisdiction of the Office of Economic Development. There are 23 prime time series are produced in NYC; bringing in a revenue stream of \$3 million per week in production costs. It was also noted that the NYC is the number one city for independent film making

and it's anticipated that in the year of 2012 more filming is expected to take place in the borough. In the borough of Brooklyn filming studios include:

- Brooklyn Broadway Stages – Located in Greenpoint
- Steiner Studio – Located Downtown Brooklyn

The city has launched an online permit system where customers can now submit their permits 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week. Permits must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance of the filming and insurance certificates which can take up to 48 hours to validate. This is the same system that block party applicants use online. There has been an aggressive use of parking spaces in some neighborhoods which has created an unfair burden on residents and businesses. To heighten communication between productions and the neighborhood in which they work all production requesting parking and using the required "NO PARKING" sign must list a location manager's name and a production cell phone number.

The Made In NY Production Assistants Training Program – provides free training for entry level jobs in film and television. The 4 week program is taught by industry professional and is followed by job placement. Eligibility requirements: must be a licensed driver, at least 21 years of age, must be a NYC resident, unemployed or low-income and available to work full time.

To apply call 718-237-2017 x 145 or email [productioncareer@fifthave.org](mailto:productioncareer@fifthave.org)

Made in NY Discount Program – is a valuable incentive to the entertainment industry in bringing work to New York City. Over 32,000 discount cards have been distributed and there are 1,000 participating vendors in the program. The MOFTB encourages businesses to join as you can gain an automatic free listing in a directory, increase exposure of your business and an opportunity to attract new customers as well as generate and increase sales. If interested in enrolling and or learning more information please call 212-489-6710 x 212.

Wednesday, January 25, 2012: The District Manager co-chaired a very special ceremony honoring Deputy Inspector Capasso for the excellent job he performed at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct as the Commanding Officer.

Tuesday, January 31, 2012: The NYS Liquor Authority will soon launch their Liquor Authority Mapping Project, at [www.LAMP.sla.ny.gov](http://www.LAMP.sla.ny.gov). This will allow users to highlight pending license status, get automatic daily updates, and get disciplinary history of schools, churches, precincts and it will list which community board the licenses are in. The system will work on GIS system showing in proximity to a location:

- 5 closest liquor stores
- Churches within 500 feet
- Schools within 500 feet
- On-premise licenses within 750 feet
- Pending licenses within 750 feet

The PSC and the District Manager are anxiously awaiting the launch of the site as it will assist in determining the next steps the board can take as they begin to look at the over-saturation of SLA requests.

Tuesday, January 31, 2012: Attended the Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting (HLU)

Wednesday, February 1, 2012: Attended the Executive meeting and the Public Hearing hosted by the NYC DOE concerning the fate of the Anna Gonzalez Community School

Monday, February 6, 2012: Attended the Health, Hospitals & Human Services Committee Meeting (HHH)

Tuesday, February 7, 2012: Met with members of Eco Station to become updated on what they are doing in the community. They are involved in Food-fitness collaborative: Healthy bodegas and Flip the Table – Youth Food Council and other CBO.

The District Manager provided a list of the 2012 Street Closing Denied List from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. Any block listed on the denied list would have to discuss the matter with the Community Affairs Unit in order to have a block party.

The School Construction Authority (SCA) has advised us of a construction project that involves Exterior Masonry Parapets, Exterior Doors and Flood Elimination at P.S. 145 located at 100 Noll Street. A notice was circulated to the parents and neighbors of the school. (See DM report for a copy of the letter)

Cristo Rey Brooklyn High School located at 2-12 Aberdeen Street is accepting 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade applications for the 2012-13 school years. Call Ms. Bathelmy at 718-455-3555 for more information or to arrange a visit.

The Cristo Rey High School offers:

- 1) An affordable college prep education
- 2) A unique corporate work study program
- 3) A small and safe environment
- 4) A faith based education
- 5) Co-curricular and extra curricular activities
- 6) Tutoring and college test prep
- 7) College guidance

Scholarships are available for those who qualify; the average family pays less than \$1,000. On March 7, 2012 there will be a learning session at 6pm.

Con Edison is warning its customers and other members of the public to be vigilant in protecting themselves against several types of scams that have been reported to the company.

The company places the safety of the public first and is working with authorities to catch those who have been trying to pull the scams. Con Edison advises people to guard against the following:

- E-mail viruses
- Green Dot scams
- Imposters

Feel free to ask or check for identification before allowing anyone into your home or business. If you feel the person at your door may be an imposter, you can call 1-800-75CONED (1-800-752-6633) to check. Anyone who feels they may have been a target of an imposter or Green Dot scam should call their local police department. They may also call Con Edison.

Con Edison's website is [www.conED.com](http://www.conED.com), offers a variety of approved and convenient options for bill payment.

### **Committee Reports**

**Civic & Religious Committee (CRC):** Ms. Elvena Davis, Committee Chairperson, Thursday, February 9, 2012, 6PM Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Members Attended: Elvena Davis, Avellar Hansley, Rev. Grace Aytes

Others in Attendance: District Manager Nadine Whitted, Robin Brown, Shacara McLaurin

Items Discussed:

- 1) The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Bushwick 2012 Parade

Theme: "BUSHWICK STOMPS OUT BULLYING"

- 2) This year's parade will take place on Thursday, June 7, 2012 (Brooklyn/Queens Day/Chancellor Day) from 10am to 3pm.

- 3) The Grand Marshal selected will be Shacara McLaurin – Teen Ambassador for the National Organization to Stomp out Bullying. Ms. McLaurin was born and raised in Bushwick, New York. Shacara known first hand that bullying is painful. She was bullied and brutally beaten in April, 2011 with a padlock in a sock by gang of high school girls determined to keep her from performing in the school talent show.

This senseless act left her needing six stitches near her left ear. Just months after this cruel assault, Shacara McLaurin is moving from being a victim to being victorious. She has turned this trauma into a campaign to education parents, teachers, and school administrators and to help other victims.

- 4) Last year the weather was brutally hot and it was recommended by the National Weather Association to stay indoors therefore causing the parade to be cancelled. The committee decided to use the same route that was planned for 2011.

- Beginning at I.S. 383 (Greene & Knickerbocker Avenues)
- Greene Avenue to Irving Avenue
- Irving Avenue to Putnam Avenue



- Bushwick Avenue to Menahan Street
  - Menahan Street to Knickerbocker Avenue
- 5) Host location: The New Jerusalem United Methodist Church, 484 Knickerbocker Avenue under the privilege of Rev. Milagros Solorzano who is owed a major debt of gratitude for allowing the use of her church.
  - 6) Community Barbeque has become a tradition with the parade with the generosity of the Bogopa Corporation in which the board is hoping to receive again this year.
  - 7) Schools, Day Cares, Explorers from the NYPD, FDNY and others will be invited as well as Youth Councils through the Borough. There will be tabling opportunities for organizations to disseminate literature.
  - 8) A Marching Band is needed in order to have a successful parade. Suggestions are requested.
  - 9) The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 6pm

Health and Hospitals and Human Services (HHH): Ms. Mary McClellan, Committee Chairperson, Monday, February 6, 2012

Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue at 4pm

Members Attended: Mary McClellan and Miriam Lamboy

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted (District Manager), Magdalena Mangual (Wyckoff Heights Medical Center Positive Health Management), Ivone Rodriguez (Excellent Home Care), Zulma Novoa and Chris Jacques (NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene)

Items Discussed:

- 1) Chris Jacques- New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Bureau of HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control

Mr. Jacques stated the Bureau work involves trying to reduce the spread of HIV and AIDS. He noted that every 9 ½ minutes someone in NYC becomes infected.

The current data is compiled up to the year 2009 as it takes at least two years to clean up and confirm the validity of the information. In 2009 3,669 new cases of HIV were documented in NYC.

- HIV Positive is the infection
- AIDS is the disease

The change in the disease at this point in history is that it takes a rest for 10 to 12 years from infection to disease. In 2009 – 22% of the infected New York City residents learned they were HIV POSITIVE at the same time they got the diagnosis of AIDS. One and One half million people in the US are infected with HIV. HIV/AIDS testing is not mandatory. When comparing it with Tuberculosis (TB) which does require mandatory testing, TB is passed in the air and there is a cure, however HIV is passed by intimate behavior, sexual and drug use and there is no cure. In NYC 125,000 people are living with HIV and AIDS; 50,000 people are HIV Positive and don't know it. 15,000 are living in Brooklyn. NYC Department of Health has an active campaign to test an additional 500,000 people in Brooklyn in the next 4 years of person who would not normally be tested.

The law in NYC is that anytime you go to a medical facility you are offered a HIV test. The idea is to make HIV testing part of a person's routine test. Since 1994, there has been a 75% drop in the HIV infection. The last cluster 4,000 infections a year seems to be the hardest to crack in the Black and Latino communities.

There will be a free testing date in the future.

- 2) EXCELLENT HOME CARE – Ivone Rodriguez, Account Manager: Reported on the services provided such as nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, medical social services and more. Excellent Home Care Services is committed to ensuring an optimal level of personal, clinical and psychosocial care for individuals in the community. They provide services to clients with developmental disabilities, neurological deficits and behavioral difficulties. For further information call Ms. Rodriguez at 347-866-1599

- 3) Wyckoff Heights Medical Center – Positive Health Management (PHM): Ms. Maggie Mangual highlighted the free services offered by PHM such as counseling, outreach, referral and education. Inclusive are confidential rapid HIV testing. She will be communicating with her superiors concerning working with CB#4 and other services providers to sponsor HIV Testing Day in Bushwick

On March 22, 2012 Wyckoff Heights Center will host the President's Advisory Meeting at 5:30PM.



Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU): Ms. Martha Brown, Chairperson, Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 6PM  
Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Members Attended: Martha Brown, Cyril Joseph, Gladys Puglla, Deborah Brown, Roberto Camacho, Victoria Fernandez

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted (District Manager), Leonardo Arias (Pratt Institute), Meredith Hoffman (Reporter), Anna Slatinsky (NYC Dept. of City Planning)

Items Discussed:

- 1) Dept. of City Planning – Green Building Text Amendment Proposal – Proposed changes to the current resolution which would remove barriers to development and renovation of sustainable buildings. Ms. Slatinsky informed on the proposal.
- 2) HPD New Foundation Project – Construction of 9 three family homes.

Public Safety Committee (PSC): Ms. Barbara Smith, Committee Chairperson, Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 6:30PM Location: 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct., 480 Knickerbocker Avenue

Members Attended: Barbara Smith, Rev. Grace Aytes, Avellar Hansley, Linda Mckinley, Mary McClellan, Victoria Fernandez

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, PO Franco (83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct), Dora Benitez, Ben Warren, Gina Leone, Jonathan Plaza

Item Discussed:

Request for NYS Liquor Authority Licenses;

- 1) NYC Department of Consumer Affairs Unenclosed sidewalk Café – Request for Recommendation for The Bodega – 24 St. Nicholas, Brooklyn, NY 11237
- 2) CornerSpot LLC., 50 Wyckoff Avenue requesting a Liquor Wine Beer License for Bar/Tavern with back ground music. The business owners noted that a name change to Heavy Woods LLC is being requested
- 3) 156 TexBar and Lounge – 156 Knickerbocker Avenue

### **Recommendations:**

Mr. Cyril Joseph made a motion to accept the Public Safety's report as read. It is recommended that The Bodega scale down to the following: 5 tables (instead of 8 tables) on the St. Nicholas Avenue side with seating for no more than 20 persons. Business owners are not to extend the seating on the Troutman Street side to the backyard.

The motion was made by Cyril Joseph and second by Martha Brown. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

### **Old Business:**

Mr. Victor Villamar: National Secretariat for Migrants HOUSE UNITED STATES-CANADA & Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation: Invite you to "Open Call Scholarships 2012" Continue your master's, doctoral and postdoctoral studies in the United States.

- Friday, February 17, 2012 at Consulado General del Ecuador en New York, 800 Second Avenue, Suite 600
- Saturday, February 18, 2012 at Consulado General del Ecuador en New Jersey, 400 Market Street, Newark, NJ 07105
- Sunday, February 19, 2012 at Escyela Clinton Avenue, 292 Clinton Avenue, New Haven, CT 06519

### **Announcements:**

Nate Suball – Interested in having a dog run at the Irving Square Park (Corner of Halsey Street & Wilson Avenue) instead of a garden.

The District Manager stated that the process of having a dog run is long; however the issue has been brought to the attention of the Community Board. Ms Whitted suggested that Mr. Suball get the support of his surrounding neighbors and the matter will be brought before the Elected Officials.

Jason Otano is the legal advisor for the Borough President Office: Now is the time for board members to renew their appointment as community board members. Mr. Otano asked that members up for re-appointment to send their notarized applications mailed to him as soon as possible.

Those who are interested in becoming a board member can download and applications at the Brooklyn Borough President's website or they can contact their Elected Official.

Maggie Chency: Announcing the Formation of an EcoStation: They have raised \$16,000 so far. NY- Community Advisory Board! Bushwick Campus farm & Greenhouse is seeking community minded individuals interested in taking an active role in shaping the policies an guiding the activities. EcoStation is devoted to food and environmental justice in Bushwick. Your commitment will be to attend quarterly meetings and check in monthly via email. Advisory board members will be asked to advise EcoStation on various matters, as well as help promote the mission of building a stronger community through healthier eating habits and environmental awareness. If interested please respond by March 15, 2012. Email [Sean@EcoStationNY.org](mailto:Sean@EcoStationNY.org) for an application or more information, or call 646-393-9305.

Annis Manuel-Dry, Little Flower Children & Family Services: Looking to identify resources within the community that may be able to provide job opportunities and / or volunteer / internship and programs / agencies / individuals within the community that can provide positive activities / opportunities for the youth that they work with. If you are interested in learning more about the program, or if you have any job / volunteer opportunities, community activities, or community programs that may be beneficial to the youth that they serve, please contact Ms. Manuel-Dry at 718-935-1791 ext 4207 Email: [Manuela@lfchild.org](mailto:Manuela@lfchild.org) or Ms. Shavonne Ceruti at 718-935-1791 ext 4206 Email: [cerutis@lfchild.org](mailto:cerutis@lfchild.org)

Trenise Wright, Save the Date!!! "A Black Tie Affair": Saturday, April 14, 2012 for the First Pastoral Anniversary Banquet of Pastor Odolph Wright. For more information please contact Trenise Wright at 718-825-4672 Register at [jubilee.2012@yahoo.com](mailto:jubilee.2012@yahoo.com) Donations will also be accepted

Rashid Littlejohn & Jamel Evans, Brooklyn Beautification: "G\*CAMP" My Green Campaign is a non-profit Organization that spreads awareness about having a more eco-friendly environment. The campaign encourages successful living and environmental appreciation with the theme, "Genuinely Care About My Planet". My Green Campaign will use elements of Education, Health and Nutrition, Music, Fashion and Sports to deliver its message. Workshops:

1. The Green You – Introduction to what going green means on a basic level and how it connects to individuals at the beginning stages
2. Reduce Reuse Recycle - Focuses on three areas. Water and Energy reduction, the garbage crisis and how to turn potential trash into New Treasure
3. Gardening & Air Quality - Focuses on some of the many benefits of green spaces, community gardens and trees have on the community
4. Nutrition & Food Justice – Will focus on healthy eating, the availability of healthy food in the urban community and how one can use their voice to address concerns for the lack of
5. Conscious Consumerism – Will focus on the purchasing power of today's consumer and how they can shape the world of supply and demand based on what they choose to support

For more information or if you would like to partner with them please call Rashid Littlejohn at 347-302-4315 or Jamel Evans at 347-332-9734, <http://mygreencampaign.blogspot.com>

Catherine Teil, SCO Family of Services/New Horizon: Young Adult Internship Program-Get Your Foot in the Door! New Horizons Adult Education Program is a component of SCO Family of Services. SCO is committed to strengthening families and individuals to meet their full potential and become self-sufficient. The program is funded by the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). SCO is seeking employers who can benefit from an 11 week internship, paid by DYCD, by the work of the intern (s) assigned to their site. More importantly employers will be able to test a potential employee and train him or her before they are responsible to pay them. Registration on Wednesdays: February 15, 22, 29 March 7, 14 Bring photo ID, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate and proof of address. Ages 18-24

For more information please contact Ms. Teil at 718-455-1166 Ext: 46, Website: [www.sco.org](http://www.sco.org) or email [info@sco.org](mailto:info@sco.org)

Heidi Kleister, Boswyck Farms: Come Celebrate! Bushwick Campus Farm & Greenhouse - Tour the Greenhouse and Farm!!! Join with the schools of Bushwick Campus, Boswyck Farms, and EcoStation: NY as they celebrate

their recent and successful Kickstarter.com fundraising campaign on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 400 Irving Avenue from 3pm-5:30pm.

There will be a kick starter thank-you party afterwards at Brooklyn fire Proof East from 6pm-9pm at 119 Ingraham Street, corner of Porter Avenue.

"Pioneers of Bushwick: We Call It Home": A photography exhibit by Daryl-Ann Saunders

A community exhibit featuring portraits of long-time Bushwick residents, [www.PioneersofBushwick.com](http://www.PioneersofBushwick.com)

February 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Mon-Fri 9am-3:30PM

Join Us!! All are invited to the opening reception, Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 5-7PM at Diana Jones Center, 9 Noll Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206 - Free of Charge

Amy Blumsack,  $\frac{3}{4}$  House Tenant Organizing Project: The organization works with people who live in or use to live in  $\frac{3}{4}$  housing. This organization does not represent the owners of the  $\frac{3}{4}$  houses, but represents their tenants that live there or use to live there. For more information contact: [amy@neighborstogether.org](mailto:amy@neighborstogether.org) or 718-498-7256

Louise Manning: In Celebration of African American History Month, "How Money Works" Seminar: The three root causes of the financial problems most families face are:

1. Failure to Plan
2. Being uninformed
3. Misinformation

This informative seminar will discuss the following issues:

- The Rule of 72
- Debt Stacking
- Revolving Debt Traps
- How Your Life Insurance Policy Works

Understanding and apply these principles, and you could change the face of your financial situation. Thursday February 16, 2012 at 7:30PM

For more information, to reserve a seat or to request a personal appointment, please call 347-248-5826 or the office at 718-832-5616

Gabriel Morales, The Learning Center: Starting Saturday, March 3, 2012 students that need help in mathematical skills and tutoring for upcoming test can call 347-292-4852 for help. Location: Christ Tabernacle Church at 1661 Myrtle Avenue

Lucy Belardo, C.I.A.L., Inc.: Free Softball Training every Monday from 6-8pm for young girls ages 4-17 During the winter months free softball training are available and during the summer months there is team competition. Training is provided at the gym of IS 347/349, 35 Starr Street between Central & Wilson. For more information contact Lucy Belardo at 347-204-8854

Mary McClellan, Community Representative of Broadway Bushwick Community Coalition: The coalition's monthly meeting is Thursday, February 16, 2012. The meeting will be held at 871 Bushwick Avenue (corner of Himrod Street) at 7pm.

Carlos Feliciano, Quebradillas Baseball Organization, Inc: Registration every Saturday starting January 14, 2012 at 11am-5pm. Location: Celestial Church of Christ, 1380 Jefferson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237 All boys & girls ages 4-12 also 13-14 traveling team. Managers & coaches are welcome. For more information contact Carlos Feliciano (President) at 347-251-1458 or Roberto Cervera (Commissioner) at 347-920-0447

Ms. Barbara Smith, 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Council President: The next meeting will be held next week Tuesday, February 21, 2012 which is the third Tuesday of the month

Also in attendance at the meeting were:

- Sam Goldman – Ridgewood Times – 718-821-7500

**2<sup>nd</sup> Roll Call:** Meeting adjourned 9:05PM