

Brooklyn Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, February 21, 2018  
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center  
195 Linden Street, Corner of Wilson Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11221  
6:00PM

The Brooklyn Community Board #4 Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent opened the monthly Community Board #4 meeting at 6:12PM.

- Agenda Items -

- 1) Irfan Ahmed, Mayor's fund to Advance New York City – Presentation on a soccer pitch project at P.S. 384, located at 242 Cooper Street, as part of the New York City Soccer Initiative.

A first of its kind public private partnership that will build and maintain 50 acrylic mini-soccer play spaces in underserved neighborhoods across the five boroughs over the next five years, as well as integrate after-school programming for as many as 10,000 New York City youth and young adults.

“These new soccer fields will be essential in keeping our young New Yorkers safe, active and connected with the community. With this partnership, we are tackling inequalities in all its forms – including in our parks and outdoor spaces. In the city of immigrants, with so many different languages and cultures, the New York City Soccer Initiative will be one of the great tools we use to unity young New Yorkers”, stated the Mayor of New York City, Bill de Blasio.

Agency Partners:

- A) NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) Is the steward of nearly 30,000 acres of land – 14% of New York City – including more than 5,000 individual properties ranging from Coney Island Beach and Central Park to community gardens and Greenstreets.
- B) The New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA) mission is to increase opportunities for low-and moderate-income New Yorkers by providing safe, affordable housing and facilitating access to social and community services.
- C) The New York City Department of Education (DOE) is the largest school district in the US, serving 1.1 million students in over 1,800 schools. The New York City Department of Education is committed to working collaboratively with parents, educators, school communities and external stakeholders to improve student achievement and ensure that every child graduates from high school prepared for college, a career, and a future as a productive, critically thinking adult.

The NYC Soccer Initiative will implement a variety of soccer programs offered by its founding partners and collaborate with other local organizations that have existing soccer initiatives and activities.

One primary program is “Soccer for Success” – a free after-school soccer program developed by the U.S. Soccer Foundation that has proven to help kids established healthy habits and develop critical life skills through caring coach-mentors and family engagement.

1 Uniform + 1 Ball

75-90 Minutes of Play per Day

3 Days per Week

24 Weeks per Year

Program Components:

Soccer for Success Impact –

- I. 89% of participants categorized as overweight/obese improved or maintained their aerobic capacity

- II. 86% of participants said the program helped them stay away from anti-social behavior
- III. 83% of participants who are at a greater risk for health issues – such as heart disease and diabetes – had positive health outcomes
- IV. 72% of participants said the program helped them try harder in school.

I.S. 384

Location: 242 Cooper Street, Brooklyn, New York 11207

Student Enrollment: 558

Grades served: Pre-K, Grades 1-8

Student Demographics: Asian: 1%; Black: 12%; Hispanic: 85%; White: 1%

English Language Learners: 28%

Student with Special Needs: 26%

PlaNYC Site: School yard is open to the public outside of school hours. Same rules will apply to the proposed soccer pitch.

\*(All data was drawn from 2016-2017 School Quality Snapshot)

Proposed Pitch Area and Specs:

- I.S. 384 – School has proposed area already
- Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. (100' in length, 50' in width)
- Fence dimension – fully enclosed pitch (4' fencing along the pitch length and 8' fencing behind the goal; post)- black galvanized fence, with open access points along 4' fence (no swing gates)
- Utilized existing fencing

Materials Used:

- Kwik Goal is the manufacturer for the goal posts.
- Two (2) futsal goals to be anchored into ground at each end of pitch
- Laykold Masters Color (LM) system is the manufacturer for the performance, all-weather, acrylic court surface
- Installation timing: 3-6 weeks (Spring-Summer 2018)

- 2) Ann McCrane, Policy Analyst – Presentation on the NYC DOT pilot test bike parking facility at the Myrtle-Wyckoff Plaza starting spring 2018.

New York City is committed to expanding bike cycling as part of a sustainable and multi-modal transportation strategy. One problem that can be a key barrier is the lack of secure parking for riders. If you wanted to park your bike for more than 30-40 minutes, it is good to have a secure place to put it, something slightly more secure than a bike rack.

Benefits:

- Can park bike 7-9 hours a day
- Seat will be on your bike when you return to pick it up
- Protection from the rain
- Added security

Department of Transportation wants to study how long-term, secure bike parking works New York City. Dept. of Transportation provides a custom facility at three locations. Locations will hold at least 30 bikes for a small fee. Includes space at the entrance to run a retail or repair-based concession.

Organizations submit proposals to manage valet bike parking: Final details regarding operations are dependent on proposals.

Winning proposer(s) runs initial concession from April to mid-November: This is a pilot. We DOT will evaluate its success and decide whether to run the concession in future years.

The pilot program term will be for 8 months, starting in April 2018 to November 2018. Hours: 7AM to 7PM. The fee will be very low.

Staff take the bikes and store them in the structure. Cyclists will not have access to their bikes outside of operation hours.

What DOT hope to learn from the pilot program:

- Parking behavior: bikes parked each day, average number of hours bikes remain parked, number of unique users in a month
- On-site surveys: do cyclists like the service, does it meet their needs?
- Financial feasibility: does the business model work? Is there interest from organizations to run this sort of concession long term?
- Community stakeholder input: were there any community concerns that arose during the pilot?

Questions were entertained:

Chairperson, Ms. Dent: Have you told Community Board #5 about the pilot program yet?

Answer: Yes, however they have not received a presentation as of yet.

Mr. Robert Camacho, Parks & Recreation Chairperson: What happens if the renter does not pick up the bike? The Department of Transportation should have come to the Community Board before this was approved.

Answer: If you leave your bike, if the owner does not pick their bike up, it will be locked up. They will have to get it the next day.

Abigail Ikner: This is the kind of feedback that the Department of Transportation is looking for. This is a pilot program, to see if the program is effective or not.

District Manager: DOT did come to a meeting

Ms. Martha Brown, Chairperson of the Housing and Land Use Committee: How long is the pilot program?

Ann McCrane: The program will end in November 2018. The pilot program is just for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. It will not be used again unless it is positive.

Ms. Mary McClellan: My car is parked outside. I do not think it is right that bikes are on the inside.

- 3) Andrew Inglesby, Assistant Director, Government and Community Relations, MTA Transit and Rami Metal, Director of Strategic Engagement, NYC DOT – Presentation on the updates on the L Canarsie Tunnel Reconstruction Project.

April 2019 - 15 month shut down on the L line until July 2020.

Joseph Erlick:

Half of the L line riders are going to 14<sup>th</sup> Street and the other half are going north of 14<sup>th</sup> Street. The contractor will have a bonus if they finished before July 2020 and they will be fined \$400,000 per day penalty for lateness.

125,000 people who take the L train in Brooklyn will still have service.

Community Board 4 is in zone 3 and they will have other train services nearby. For example the M train will go to Manhattan and riders can pick up the J train at Broadway Junction.

Fixing the L Line's Canarsie Tunnel:

Sandy Damage – The Canarsie Tube was inundated with saltwater during Superstorm Sandy causing corrosion of cabling, circuit breakers and power and track equipment. The tunnel needs a complete overhaul. The contract for Tube repairs was awarded in April 2017. The 15 month closure remains on schedule to begin April 2019. There will be a bonus for early completion and a \$400,000 per-day penalty for delays. Originally the repairs was going to take 18 months, however the contractor feel secure in finishing the job in 15 months.

Additional stairs will be added at Broadway Junction to allow easier travel.

Tunnel Work Needed:

- Repairing fire protection system
- Replacing Cable: Communication 176,000 ft., Power 126,000 ft.

- Installing 14,400 ft. of new tracks and 15,800 ft. of third rail
- Installing new tunnel lighting system
- Replacing pumping equipment
- Rebuilding two circuit breaker houses
- Building a substation
- Reconstructing 30,126 ft. of concrete duct bank

Challenge of Serving L Customers:

A total of 400,000 daily riders use the L train:

- 225,000 use the Canarsie Tube under East River: Nearly as many inbound passengers during the AM peak hour as in private vehicles on all six East River bridges and tunnels combined
- 50,000 travel solely in Manhattan: Greater than busiest NYC Bus route (Bronx 12-48,000 riders/day); 66% greater than current M14 ridership (30,000 riders/day)
- 125,000 travel solely in Brooklyn

The MTA plan to increase alternate subway service, have temporary bus and ferry service, station access and capacity improvements, more bike and pedestrian infrastructure and HOV 3 only during peak period traffic management strategies.

Subway Service:

Subway service will increase on the G, J, M and Z lines.

J, Z trains run local from Myrtle Avenue to Marcy Avenue to serve additional demand at Hewes St., Lorimer St., and Flushing Avenue.

Free Metrocard transfers between:

- Broadway (G) and Lorimer St. / Hewes Street (J, M, & Z)
- Junius St. (3) and Livonia Avenue (L)
- 21 Street (G) and Hunters Point Avenue (7)

Weekends and Overnights, (M) runs to 96 Street / 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

Permanent Station Improvements:

Prior to the tunnel closure, MTA is improving access to and capacity in stations along the G, J, M and Z lines, which will provide alternatives to L service. During the tunnel closure, MTA will enhance stations along the L line.

Williamsburg Bridge HOV:

How to make L train cross-river buses work:

- Combined frequency of about 70 buses per hour in peak
- Target: end-to-end bus run times of about 25 minutes
- Near free-flowing speeds across the bridge

Manhattan Bound – Inner Roadway: HOV 3+ only

Outer Roadway: Buses, Trucks, HOV 3+ to Clinton Street

Grand Street – Buffered curbed bike lane in the eastbound direction, parking protected bike lane in the westbound direction, maintain parking and loading along the south curb and restrict traffic to buses and local traffic only

Next Steps:

- Ongoing Through 2020 – Construction at street level to support tunnel project
- Winter 2018 – Present conceptual plan and solicit feedback at community meetings/open houses  
Present final plan to stakeholders and community
- Winter/Spring 2018 – Stakeholder outreach, design and service plan refinement
- Spring 2018 – Full M service restored
- Summer/Fall – Construction begins for street modifications

- Summer 2018 – March 2019 – Multiple weekend and overnight L closures to support tunnel project
- Winter 2019 – Completion of temporary street and /or site modifications for SBS service, bus terminal and parking, and ferry operations
- April 2019 – Start of Canarsie Tunnel Closure, alternative service plan begins

Questions were entertained:

There were concerns about the overcrowding of Grand Street with buses and parking.

- 4) Street Co-naming request – the family of Specialist Rasheed Sahib Request the co-naming of Woodbine Street and Irving Avenue in his honor.

The District Manger spoke in behalf of the Sahib Family.

- 5) Becky Simkhai, Head of School, Bushwick Montessori School – Presentation on the new Bushwick Montessori School located at 803 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207

- Bushwick Montessori School is a new, located at 803 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207
- The school serves families with children ages 2-5 years.
- They have 4 classes, with the primary classes covering ages 3, 4 and 5 years of age.
- Full day care runs from 8am to 6pm.
- Children enjoy organic, vegetarian lunches.
- Program utilizes the traditional Montessori curriculum, a scientifically based method that has been practiced all across the world for more than 100 years.
- Program is dual language (English and Spanish)
- Specials include Yoga and Mindfulness, Music and Mandarin

The Montessori Method of Education, developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, is a child-centered educational approach based on scientific observations of children for birth to adulthood. Dr. Montessori's Method has been time tested, with over 100 years of success in diverse cultures throughout the world. It is a view of the child as one who is naturally eager for knowledge and capable of initiating learning in a supportive, thoughtfully prepared learning environment. It is approach that values the human spirit and the development of the whole child, physical, social, emotional, cognitive.

The teacher, child and environment create a learning triangle. The classroom is prepared by the teacher to encourage independence, freedom within limits and a sense of order. Children are taught to learn how to wash their hands and to put on their clothing.

The child, through individual choice, make use of what the environment offers to develop himself, interacting with the teacher when support and or guidance is needed.

Younger children learn from older children and older children learn from younger children teaching them to have compassion for others. This arrangement also mirrors the real world, where individuals work and socialize with people of all ages and dispositions.

Children experience sensitive periods, or windows of opportunity, as they grow. Montessori teachers match appropriate lesson and material to these sensitive periods when learning is most naturally absorbed and internalized.

In early childhood, Montessori students learn through sensory-motor activities, working with materials that develop their cognitive powers through direct experiences: seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling, touching and movement.

This prepares the child for the world of adolescence, when thought and emotion evolve into understanding more abstract, universal concepts such as equity, freedom and justice. Montessori students learn to think critically, work collaboratively and act boldly, a skill set for the 21st century. Montessori students work with specially designed learning materials, manipulating and investigating until they master the lesson inside. A Montessori teacher can often be hard to spot in the classroom. She may be sitting with a preschooler next to a floor mat, arranging colored rectangles from darkest to lightest, or intently observing as a handful of elementary students dissect a leaf.

Question: How much is tuition?

Answer: It depends on whether it is a half-day or a full day. .

There is a sliding scale and no one is paying full tuition at this point; scholarships are considered. Full tuition is \$21,000 per year however no is paying full tuition. The family must show proof of income for them to determine eligibility for financial assistance. Bushwick Montessori is the only Montessori school that accepts vouchers.

Question: Who determines eligibility?

Answer: They use a third party to determine eligibility for financial aid.

Questions: Can children with disabilities attend the school?

Answer: Yes, it depends on the circumstances of the each child after they are evaluated.

Question: Where they see the students going after? It ends at age 5. Are they considering expansion?

Answer: Becky Simkhai – They are hoping to keep more 5 year olds and would want to grow into elementary. 5 year olds currently attend Pre-K for All programs.

Question: Some parents receive public assistance. Do they accept vouchers?

Answer: Yes, they want to help families. The goal is to include everyone and offer this opportunity.

Question: How many students?

Answer: We can have 65 Students at one time. They want 50% from low income families and 50% from those families that can pay the tuition.

Chairperson Ms. Julie asked the District Manager, Celestina Leon to call the first roll call.

**First Roll Call: 8:08PM** – 38 members present this does constitute a quorum.

The acceptance of the agenda was made by Mr. Robert Camacho and second by Ms. Sharlene Moore.

The acceptance of last month's minutes was made by Mr. Joshua Brown and second by Ms. Elvena Davis.

**Chairperson's Report: 8:13PM**

Ms. Julie Dent welcomed all to the Community Board #4 Wednesday, February 21, 2018 monthly meeting.

Ms. Julie Dent asked that the Elected Officials and / or their representatives to introduce themselves and state their respective contact information with their address and telephone numbers.

- 1) Boris Santos Representing Councilmember Antonio Reynoso, 244 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221, 718-963-3141 & 212-788-7095: He represents the section West of Hart Street and South of Central Avenue up to Cornelia Street.
- 2) Fredrick Mitchell Representing Senator Martin Malave Dilan, 3215 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208, 718-573-1726
- 3) Paula Melendez, Representing Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, 249 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237, 718-443-1205, Ms. Yvette Lopez will be the representative until Ms. Melendez's return.
- 4) Anayeli Gomez Representing NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, 1 Centre Street, NY, NY 10007, 212-669-3568
- 5) Jonathan Pomboza Representing District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, 350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, 718-250-2349
- 6) Julio Salazar, Representing Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, 266 Broadway, NY, NY 718-669-5149

Ms. Dent asked those from Federal, State or City Agencies to introduce themselves and state their respective contact information with their address and phone numbers.

- 1) Boniface WeWe, Brooklyn Public Library Irving Branch, 260 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 718-628-8378
- 2) Martha Bayona, CEC 32, [CEC32@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC32@schools.nyc.gov), 347-731-6179

Chairperson Ms. Dent gave an overview of the role of the Community Board in the community. "The Community Board is the official municipal body whose primary mission is to advise elected officials and government agencies on matter affecting the welfare of the district. While the public is encouraged to attend and observe Community Board proceedings, only Board Members can discuss and vote on the motions before it. Community Boards were created by City Charter, and their roles and responsibilities are defined in Chapters 69 and 70." Community Board #4 also have nine committees, all board members are encouraged to attend their committees.

In accordance with the Community Board 4 by-laws, Article X-A. A total of three (3) unexcused absences during the year from regular monthly meetings or three (3) assigned committee meetings shall constitute sufficient cause to recommend removal from the board. The Community Board #4 has sent letters and contacted both Ms. Roberta Sutton and Ms. Evadne George, who are unable to make meetings in accordance with the by-laws.

During the recommendations portion of the meeting the District Manager will ask for a motion to remove them from the board. We thank both Ms. Roberta Sutton and Ms. Evadne George for their service and commitment to the Bushwick community throughout the tenure on the board.

Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, attended Congressman Hakeem Jeffries State of the District event. It was held at Brooklyn Tech School and was well attended. The Congressman provided an informative summary of his work throughout his district and updates from his office in Washington DC.

Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> attended the funeral of Amari Murriel Johnson, who lived with her family in Hope Gardens and was only eight years old. My heart goes out to the family (who I know very well) and friends, as she was taken away too soon. Amari was a gifted and talented student at PS 376, and will be sorely missed by all.

(Ms. Dent asked for a moment of silence in her behalf)

Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> attended a meeting with community leaders from East New York and Ocean Hill-Brownsville in reference to a study of the Broadway Junction station and surrounding area. These preliminary meetings are cohosted by Council Member Espinal's office, the Brooklyn President's office, and the NYC Economic Development Corporation with the goal of drafting recommendations for potential investments in the study area. The NYC Economic Development Corporation is planning to hold larger committee meetings later on this year. For more information, please contact the Community Board at 718-628-8400.

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> attended the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's Centennial Celebration with the District Manager Celeste Leon. During the event, I greeted and conversed with Brooklyn Borough President, Eric L. Adams, Council Member Rafael Espinal, former Chamber President Carlos Scissura, Frank Seddio and other community leaders from across Brooklyn. Ms. Dent thanked the Chamber for the invitation to attend and congratulate them on one hundred years of service to the business community.

Council Member Espinal's office is moving from 786 Knickerbocker Avenue to 1945 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY 11207.

Council Member Espinal was recently named by Time Out Magazine as a New Yorker of the year. To read more about this accomplishment look online at <https://www.timeout.com/newyork/new-yorker-of-the-year>. We congratulate our Council Member!

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> attended Mayor Bill de Blasio's State of the City Address. The Mayor outlined his plan for the next four years of his office and he provided a comprehensive summary of all that his administration has accomplished thus far. The community board is looking forward in working with him to help secure what is most needed by the Bushwick community.

Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> hosted another ThriveNYC training at the Audrey Johnson Learning Center, which trained participants to address the mental health of youth. Ms. Dent thanked the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and specifically our ThriveNYC liaison and Community Board Member Raul Rubio, for their swift coordination of the training and for making this opportunity readily available to the Bushwick community. Ms. Dent encouraged all that are able to attend a training session and learn more about mental health and how to respond to various situations.

Women History Month: Ms. Dent invited all to attend the upcoming celebration at the Audrey Johnson Learning Center on Friday, March 9, 2018.

District Attorney Eric Gonzales invites you to a Black History Month event on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at St. Francis College located at 180 Remsen Street. For more information please RSVP: [Communityaffairs@brooklynda.org](mailto:Communityaffairs@brooklynda.org) or call 718-250-3888.

February 17 & 18 weekend - Attended the annual Black, Hispanic and Asian Caucus Weekend event I Albany. She was happy to speak to Mayor Bill de Blasio, Public Advocate Leticia James, Senator Martin Dilan, and Assembly member Erik Dilan along with other elected leaders. She was able to engage in very comprehensive and informative workshops facilitated by both our Public Advocate and Assembly Member. Chairperson Dent was happy to see Community Board members Sharline Moore and Virgie Jones, who came up for the day with a bus bringing youths to the event.

Chairperson Dent sent out congratulations to the principal and students from both PS/IS 384 and PS 145. PS/IS 384 has received funds to renovate their soccer pitch. PS 145 was also selected through a separate and very important State planning initiative entitled "Vital Brooklyn" to receive funding for a playground renovation project. Governor Andrew Cuomo originally created the Vital Brooklyn initiative to set aside funds for investments in Central Brooklyn. Assembly Member Erik Dilan and Assembly member Maritza Davila, Bushwick has been included in the initiative to receive funding for much needed improvements throughout the community. Ms. Dent thanked all of Bushwick's Elected Officials for their work and a special thank you to Assembly Member Dilan for securing the funds for PS 145.

Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, NCO Sector A is hosting their second meeting at the Audrey Johnson Learning Center which is located at 272 Moffat Street. The meeting will start at 6:00pm.

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Woodhull Hospital is holding their "Annual Legislative Forum" from 10:00AM to 12:00PM. I encourage all to attend this informative and timely event. The event will be held at 760 Broadway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Level - Brooklyn, New York 11206  
Please RSVP Maria Hernandez, 718-963-8140

On Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> Council Member Reynoso is hosting a Black History Month event honoring black community leaders at Woodhull Hospital. The event begins at 1:00PM. For more information please call the Councilmember's office at 718-963-3141. Lunch will be served.

#### **District Manager's Report: 8:32PM**

Ms. Celestina Leon: Greetings from her staff and herself. "This month and this meeting marks one year since I was elected to serve as your district manager", stated, Ms. Leon. The District manager encouraged everyone to get involved. As the neighborhood continues to grow she asked that it is important to know ones neighbors, and to know the history that surrounds us all.

#### **Meetings Attended:**

Friday, January 19, 2018: CB4 Community Planning Fellow – Last year the chairperson and Ms. Leon applied for a fellow via the Fund for the City of NY. Since then, he has assisted with outreach for a historic preservation working group, considering both parts of Bushwick Avenue as well as Halsey Street to Putnam Avenue between Wyckoff and Irving Avenues. He is also assisting with a survey of the eastern portion of Broadway to further support the merchant organizing along the corridor.

Tuesday, January 23, 2018: Rheingold Coalition Meeting – Representatives from the Rheingold Coalition, including Bruno Daniel, Los Sures, Churches United for Fair Housing, Kevin

Worthington, as well as Boris Santos from Council Member Reynoso's office convened a follow up meeting to speak with Johnathan Greenspun from All Year Management.

Martha Brown, the Co-Chairperson of the Housing and Land Use Committee was also in attendance. "All Year" has yet to provide a breakdown of the # of units, the income thresholds, and other eligibility factors for their development. The Coalition has requested this information and is also coordinating with them for the upcoming marketing campaign.

#### NYC EM Community Boards Borough-based Conference Call

Wednesday, January 24, 2018: Goodwin Gardens meeting on Goodwin Place between Grove Street and Greene Avenue. Attended meeting along with the Parks and Recreation Co-Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho and Ms. Annette Spellman to discuss the ongoing revitalization efforts for the garden. A liaison from NYC Parks Green Thumb was present as well as Boris Santos from Council Member Reynoso's office among several other community volunteers, including a gardener from the People's Garden.

#### Thursday, January 25, 2018: Public Safety Committee Meeting (PSC)

Monday, January 29, 2018: Meeting with NYC Economic Development Corporation – discussed the ongoing efforts to organize merchants along Broadway as well as the various efforts along Knickerbocker Avenue and Wyckoff Avenue. Ricky Da Costa also shared an overview of the Broadway Junction study process thus far.

#### Youth and Education Committee Meeting (YEC)

Tuesday, January 30, 2018: USPS Brooklyn Advisory Council Meeting – Attended along with other fellow Brooklyn District Managers and representatives from Community Boards and congressional representatives. The USPS representatives in attendance acknowledged the ongoing issues with the postal service throughout the borough and provided a summary of updates for several stations.

#### Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting (HLU)

Thursday, February 1, 2018: Environmental Protection /Transportation Sanitation Committee Meeting (EPTS)

Monday, February 5, 2018: Health/Hospitals/Human Service/ Senior Citizen/Veterans Committee Meeting (HHHSC)

Tuesday, February 6, 2018: Bushwick Community Plan Executive Committee Meeting with the Council Members

Wednesday, February 7, 2018: Meeting with Dr. Easterling from the DOHMH – Chairperson, Ms. Dent along with the District Manager met with Assistant Commissioner Easterling to primarily discuss the status of the ongoing changes at 335 Central Avenue, the former Bushwick Public Health Office.

#### Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 8, 2018: Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting (PRC)

Friday, February 9, 2018: Call with Sam from Trees NY- during the January Parks and Recreation Committee meeting, those in attendance expressed interest in coordinating a Citizen Pruner workshop series in the neighborhood.

Saturday, February 10, 2018: Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Centennial Celebration

Monday, February 12, 2018: Arts and Culture Committee Meeting (ACC)

Tuesday, February 13, 2018: Borough Service Cabinet meeting at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Discussed with other District managers the need for technology upgrade, like a Customer Relations Management (CRM) software. This remains a concern for the boards as well issues with the bike lanes and double parking and the abundance of construction permits.

Wednesday, February 14, 2018: District Service Cabinet Meeting – Representatives from Con Edison, NYC Small Business Services, and USPS presented updates from the respective agencies and company. Others in attendance included the DOHMH, Office of Emergency Management, DOT, FDNY, DSNY, and SBS. The District Service Cabinet meeting is held on the even months on the second Wednesday at 10:30AM.

Economic Development Committee Meeting (EDC)

Thursday, February 15, 2018: Bushwick Community Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2018: Friends of Irving Square Park Meeting

Announcements:

Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow (OBT) - Open house paid Young Adult Internship Program

St. Nicks Alliance Workforce: They are excited to announce their new innovative Urban Greenscaping 5-week training.

NYC Summer 2018 Youth Employment Program (SYEP) is Accepting Application Now!!  
Who is Eligible? Ages 14-24, resident of one of the five boroughs of New York City, and legally allowed to work in NYC. Deadline is March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Affordable Housing for Rent: 16 Charles Place, 8 newly constructed units at 16 Charles Place, Brooklyn, NY 11249. Deadline March 6, 2018, [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect) to apply and for more information.

### **Committee Reports, 8:42PM**

**Youth and Education Committee (YEC)**, Committee Chairperson, Ms. Virgie Jones  
**Meeting Held:** Monday, January 29, 2018, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

**Members Present:** Virgie Jones, Sharlene Moore, Joshua Brown and Acire Polight

Others Present: District Manager, Celestina Leon, Ciera Dudley, Coordinator from Y-Plan; Diana Delgado, Director of Community Center Programming at Beacon Center for Arts & Leadership, Hope Gardens and Cooper Park Community Center; Danice Crump, Beacon Community Center at IS 291, and Martha Bayona, CEC 32 President

Items Discussed:

- 1) Diana Delgado, Director of Community Center Programming at the Beacon Center for Arts & Leadership, Hope Gardens and Cooper Park Community Center and Danice Crump of Beacon Community Center at IS 291 – Presentation on the free youth development , community center and clinical services offered by the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services.

Ms. Delgado stated that the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services has two centers in Bushwick and one in Williamsburg.

Bushwick:

Beacon Center at IS 291, 231 Palmetto Street, Brooklyn, NY

Hope Gardens Community Center, 422 Central Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221, Monday – Sunday, 8:00AM to 11:00PM

Williamsburg:

Cooper Park Community Center

Available at these locations:

- Free after-school programming
- Gym, basketball programming
- Zumba
- Hope Gardens and Cooper Park Community Centers are within NYCHA
- The Beacon Center is under the DOE
- Programming for adults – ESL classes launches on 2/26/2018
- Middle School after – school programming from 2pm to 6pm
- After hours for adults
- Open to all, completely free

Ms. Delgado shared that there will be a play coming up on March 23, 2018. The youth will be performing *Beauty and the Beast* at IS 291.

- 2) Ciera Dudley, Coordinator, Y-Plan (Youth-Plan, Learn, Act, Now) NYC: Presentation on Y-Plan, engaging youth in planning and highlighting the work of students at EBC High School for Public Service to Brighten Broadway.

Y-Plan, Youth – Plan, learn, Act, Now is a n educational strategy that engages youth I authentic civic learning project through partnering students with civil leaders to create real, sustained impact in NYC. For the last 3 years, senior students at EBC High School have partnered with Council Member Reynoso’s office as well as Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, and NYC Department of Transportation to brighten the Broadway corridor and make it a safer, more vibrant, and inclusive space for all residents.

There have been three cohorts since 2016. Ms. Garcia, a former teacher at EBC High School, who started talking with her students about policy and why government works the way it does.

Their final event is May 23, 2018.

Bushwick Leaders High School and the Academy of Urban Planning are also participating in separate Y-Plan projects.

Announcements:

Sharlene Moore announced the Annual Harambee event put together by the National Council for Negro Women, Inc. Brooklyn Section. She also shared that she is their current president. The event will take place on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. Black Latino Caucus Weekend announced.

Ms. Virgie Jones announced the Bridge to Africa event put together by the Association of Black Educators of New York (ABENY).

Ms. Jones also reached out to the superintendent in reference to their annual essay contest. No one from Bushwick was represented this year. The ceremony will take place on Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Brooklyn Historical Society.

Ms. Jones shared that she is the former administrator of PS 377. Martha added that the CEC has been told that this is the last graduating class of IS 377. The sixth and seventh graders must transfer.

The meeting was motioned to adjourn by Ms. Acire Polight and second by Ms. Virgie Jones. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

ABENY is offering scholarship to seniors. The application is due 4/30/2018. The event will take place on June 26, 2018.

**Public Safety Committee (PSC) 8:48PM**, Committee Chairperson Ms. Barbara Smith  
Meeting Held: Thursday, January 25, 2018, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422, 6:00PM

Members Present: Jamie Wiseman, Annette Spellen, Victoria Fernandez and Elvena Davis

Others Present: District Manager, Celestina Leon, Abdo Najem, Jesse and Rona Davis, Matthew Maichel, Eric Goldsprey and Daury Grullon.

Not in Attendance: 126 Wyckoff Avenue, 419 Eldert Street, 1485 Myrtle Avenue, 1429 Myrtle Avenue and 40 Wyckoff Avenue.

Overview:

- a) Another Bar LLC – 899 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY 11206 – New request for liquor, wine, beer and cider license. Committee Recommendation: Approve with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday.
- b) Big Humble LLC – 191 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237 – New liquor, wine, beer and cider license. Committee Recommendation: Approve with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday.
- c) Hart Bar Inc. – 538 Hart Street, Brooklyn, NY 11221 – New liquor, wine, beer and cider license. Committee Recommendation: Approve with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday.
- d) 895 Hospitality Corp. – 895 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY 11206 – New liquor, wine, beer and cider.

Committee Recommendation: Approved with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday. Applicant was not sure whether or not they would be able to comply with the Recommendation. This was also their second appearance at the committee meeting, they were previously still under construction.

- e) Bushwick Taco Company, Inc. – 839 Knickerbocker Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207 – New wine, beer and cider license. Committee Recommendation: Approve with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday.
- f) South 4<sup>th</sup> Restaurant Company Inc. – 321 Starr Street, Brooklyn, NY 11237 – New liquor, wine, beer and cider license.  
Committee Recommendation: Approve with no sale of alcohol beyond 12 midnight on Sunday. Applicant did not consent to the above recommendation.
- g) 2 Guys from Tribeca, Inc. – 126 Wyckoff Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11237 – New liquor, wine, beer and cider. Committee Recommendation: Hold due to applicant not attending the required meeting.

Motion to adjourned meeting was moved by Mr. Jamie Wiseman and second by Ms. Annette Spellen. Meeting adjourned at 6:52PM.

**Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC) 8:51PM,** Committee Co-Chairpersons Mr. Robert Camacho and Ms. Annette Spellen

Meeting Held: Thursday, February 8, 2018, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Members Present: Robert Camacho, Annette Spellen, Jamie Wiseman and Carlos Feliciano

Others Present: Celestina Leon, CB 4 District Manager; Willie Morales, CB 4 Community Associate; Nilda Rosario, Fraqui Carraz, Edwin Vargas, Jose Jimenez, Veronica Willis, Eva Bowerman, Mario Delgado, Carlos Pilatosig, Richard Williams, PO Christian Romero, Sgt. Anna Serrano, PO Oscar Lopez, PO Ezuequias Gomez, Adrian Witzke, Hector Velazquez, Tommy Torres, William Jusino and Marisol Garcia

Item Discussed:

- 1) Eva Bowerman, Director of Programs and Veronica Willis, the Evergreens Cemetery
  - Presented on Public Programs at the Evergreens Cemetery
  - The Evergreens Cemetery is a historic cemetery in the rural style design by noted landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing.
  - It was incorporated in 1849 and cover 225 acres
  - Over 500,000 people are buries there, including notables such as tap legend Mill “Bojangles” Robinson, jazz musicians Lester Young, and painter Martin Heade.
  - The Cemetery is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places

They would like to expand programming, find partners within the community for new programs and funding, and are exploring ways to connect with the community to raise awareness of their programs.

- 2) 2018 NYC Park Permit Requests: Community Board #4 has a unique relationship with the NYC Department of Parks and Recreations. The Community Board can recommend which organizations should be granted permit time in the districts local parks.

The Community Board requires organizations to provide the following documents concerning their permit requests: Rosters and ages; proof of insurance and 501(c) tax exempt nonprofit organization form and also schedules.

The following permit requests have been received:

Baseball or Softball:

Quebradillas Baseball Organization, Inc. – Mr. Carlos Feliciano  
Williamsburg Sports League Youth Baseball – Mr. Tommy Torres  
PSAL Athletic League – Ms. Yolanda Alford

Soccer:

Real Guadalupe Soccer League – Mr. Enrique Garcia  
S.C. Soccer Super Kids Corp. – Mr. Carlos Pilatasig  
Playsoccer2give Adult League – Mr. Adrian Witzke

Basketball

Brooklyn Ballers Sports Youth and Educational Corp. – Mr. Roger Beckford

3) Irfan Ahmed, Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC  
Presentation on the Soccer Pitch Initiative at PS 384. Funding has been set aside to renovate the soccer pitch through the initiative.

Mr. Camacho asked if they use the same model as the Trust for Public Land.

Irfan mentioned that they follow the regulations that are in place.

Robert asked if the custodian is responsible for helping in maintaining the new pitch.

Irfan answered yes.

Mr. Wiseman: What is the life of the pitch?

Irfan: It should last for five years.

District Manager: What is the installation period and what effect would this have on the school?

Irfan: The installation would last from three to six weeks during the summer. The basketball courts will remain open, as the project is isolated.

Mr. Camacho mentioned that there is always a need for improvement when it comes to students. He recommended that Irfan amend the language for the presentation to the full board.

Announcements:

Richard Williams, the new District Park Manager. He introduced himself and let everyone know that he is available in the event of any concerns.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, May 5, 2018: Annual Sport League Parade

The District Manager asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Robert Camacho and second by Mr. Jamie Wiseman. Meeting adjourned at 7:16PM

**Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU) 8:54PM**, Martha Brown, Committee Co-Chairperson, and Joshua Brown, Co-Chairperson

Meeting Held: Tuesday, January 30, 2018, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Members Present: Martha Brown, Joshua Brown, Jamie Wiseman, Victoria Fernandez, Robert Camacho, Desmond Monroe and Jo-Ena Bennett

Others Present: CB 4 District Manager, Celestina Leon; Florent Morellet, Evan Stern, Henry Hewes, and Noelle Francois

Items Discussed:

- 1) Henry Hewes and Evan Stern, Occam Suy LLC (Owner of the property) & Covert Supermarket II LLC (Supermarket Operator)

Henry and Evan shared updates on the proposed 605 Hart Street FRESH Supermarket.

Occam Suy LLC is proposing a 6,000 square foot food store, to be located on the ground floor of 605 Hart Street/ 118 Suydam Street

The new supermarket is going to be another Super Pioneer, similar to the one on Covert Street and Broadway. They are offering great prices and it will have two stories of basement space, as well as a food court with restaurant type vendors.

The full process will take approximately two years as they have planned for additional FAR.

They started planning for this project in September 2015. There will be onsite parking and a bus service for eligible seniors. 11,420 sq. ft. is set aside for fresh food (30%).

They are also constructing a new church for the Calvary Spanish Pentecostal Church, as the project is located on their land.

They are also be building 56 units housing, which will include studios, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms apartments.

They have also applied for a 421a tax abatement.

Discussion:

Mr. Monroe asked about their marketing monitor. Evan responded that the contract has yet to be solidified. Henry added that GLP has been mentioned, but they are not tied into them.

Mr. Brown asked if they know which was they are leaning towards in terms of affordability requirements, 80/20 or 70/30?

Answer: They have yet to solidify their contract.

The members in attendance encouraged as much affordability as possible on deep levels.

Ms. Brown asked about their connections with the church.

Henry, stated that they made a deal with the church. They are building them a new church and basketball court as well as parking in exchange for developing on the land.

Mr. Monroe asked about the cost of construction.

Answer: The estimate is \$24 million. Henry added that they are happy to work with subcontractors and the community to bring jobs to the community.

Mr. Hewes mentioned that he have potential upcoming projects at 1389 Broadway and 1441 Broadway.

Ms. Bennett asked about future hiring for individuals with police records and the immigrant community.

Mr. Hewes responded that all applicants must pass a drug test and have a visa, as is standard with all employment. They are looking forward to working with the Board and community at large to spread the word about job opportunities.

2) Noelle Francois, Executive Director, Heat Seek

- Presenting on Heat Seeks' mission and how their work impacts neighborhoods that have a high volume of heat/hot water complaints.
- Heat Seek help tenants resolve their home heating issues by providing the objective, reliable temperature data they need to expose the problem and hold their landlords accountable.
- Working closely with tenant's organizers, public interest attorneys, and city officials, they install proprietary temperature sensors and offer technical expertise to assist tenants in documenting when their landlords fail to provide adequate heat during the wintertime.

The Heat Seek team were winners of the Big Apps competition in fall 2014. The incorporated in November 2014 and within 8 months hired their first staff person.

Discussion:

Mr. Nunez asked who has access to the logs.

Noelle responded that the Heat Seek tech team, the tenant, their lawyer and the HPD inspector can access the log, however it is kept in a PDF format, which others are unable to edit.

Mr. Wiseman asked if they work with private developers to help them stay in compliance with the heating regulations.

Noelle responded that they have, however, the landlords have turned out to be not acting in good faith. They primary focus on working with non-profits, as their team is small.

Ms. Brown asked how much it costs to make the thermometer.

Noelle responded that each costs about \$100. She added that they have also done some work in NYCHA.

Ms. Brown: Who pays?

Noelle: They rely on grant funding from the tech incubator circuit and have also received money from the Borough President's office.

Other questions were entertained.

The District manager asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Martha Brown and second by Mr. Joshua Brown. All members present were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:51PM.

**Health/Hospital/Human Service/Senior Citizen/Veterans Committee (HHHSV) 8:56PM**, Co-Chairpersons Ms. Mary McClellan & Ms. Luisa Jose

Meeting Held: Monday, February 5, 2018, 3PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Members Present: Ms. Mary McClellan, Ms. Luisa Jose, Ms. Barbara Smith and Ms. Barbara Jackson

Others Present: District Manager, Ms. Celestina Leon; Oni Tongo, Asenhat Gomez, Tejumade Ajaiyeoba, Rae Gomes, Isella Ramirez, and Luciano Contreras

- 1) Androniki Lagos, Program manager, and Luciano Contreras, Bushwick Cooks Program, RiseBoro Community Partnership.

Presented on the finalized Comprehensive Community Food & Health Survey, roll-out strategy, responses to date and request for partnership on outreach to Community Board 4 and broader Bushwick Community.

Thus far they have engaged individual throughout the RiseBoro residences. They have also held events at their senior centers and the youth center to gather input. They have already started going door-to-door, as well.

Barbara Smith asked if they are working with Wyckoff Hospital.

Mr. Androniki responded that they still work together and RiseBoro is hoping to involve them further.

They have collected 861 surveys surpassing their target number of 500 and still have two months left.

- 2) Asenhat Gomez, Resident + El Puente rep, Maria Viera, Resident + RiseBoro, Isella Ramirez, BCP Facilitator/Hecter Street

Presented a preview of community health and resources objectives and recommendations for the Bushwick Community Plan (BCP)

The presenters provided a glossary sheet for agencies, programs and policies named throughout the recommendations as well as a copy of recommendations as they were voted on by the BCP Steering Committee.

- 3) Oni Tongo, MS, RDN, Nutrition and Food Standards Registered Dietician, NYC Mental Health & Hygiene

Presentation on the Implementation Manual for Healthier Meetings and Events.

Oni and her unit at the DOHMH work with groups, organizations, and boards based on the NYC Healthy Eating Guidelines, which are mandated by law in the Department of Education, DOC, and seniors centers.

There is a three stage process, including a self-assessment, starting implementation, and full implementation.

The goal of their meeting with the committee is with two asks:

- 1) Consider partnering
- 2) Promote and connect them to/with community partners.

The District manager asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Ms. Barbara Smith and second by Ms. Barbara Jackson. Meeting adjourned at 4:37PM.

### **Environmental Protection / Transportation / Sanitation Committee (EPTS) 8:59PM,**

Co-Chairpersons Eliseo Ruiz and Raul Rubio

Meeting Held: February 1, 2018, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Members Present: Mr. Raul Rubio and Ms. Barbara Jackson

Others Present: District Manager, Celestina Leon and Ms. Sarah Back

- 1) Sarah Back, Founder of “Keep Bushwick Beautiful” (KBB)
  - Presented on their volunteer efforts and goals in the Bushwick Neighborhood
  - They are a community group dedicated to neighborhood trash cleanup, park beautification and awareness about littering.
  - KBB partners with local businesses to provide added incentives for volunteers to participate (i.e. free drinks, t-shirts, food) and helps bring in customers to said businesses.

Ms. Backs discussed the success they have had with their volunteer clean-up projects and partnerships in Bushwick.

Keep Bushwick Beautiful was awarded a grant for digital advertising. They are open to feedback from the community and encourage everyone to get involved. The group started in September 2016 and have about fifteen to twenty participants per event. Their mailing list includes about one hundred people.

They currently promote their events in the Bushwick Daily and on social media to increase visibility. The District manager and Raul Rubio suggested that they also advertise in the Times News Weekly (aka the Ridgewood Times) and the Bushwick Observer.

Mr. Rubio suggested that they work with youths and give credit to the students. He suggested that they contact El Puente, EBC H.S., Bushwick Campus and MESA Charter School, as all youth participate in at least one community service day.

#### Announcements:

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 – Earth Day Celebration on the Knickerbocker side of Irving Square Park. There will be E-Recycling as well as other Community Based organization and agencies tabling.

Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, SAVE THE DATE: Community Board 4’s “Shape up Bushwick” VI Annual Parade.

In general, it is important for residents to report any illegal dumping, quality of life issues such as dog poop, or rat sightings to 311 to help generate a response from City Hall.

The District Manager asked for a motion to adjourn. Raul Rubio made a motion and Barbara Jackson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:22PM.

### **Recommendation, 9:05PM:**

- 1) Street Co-naming request to Co-name Woodbine Street and Irving in honor of Specialist Rasheed Sahib. A motion was made by Mr. Robert Camacho and second by Ms. Mary McClellan. All member present were in favor. Motion moved.
- 2) Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC) request  
Motion to accept the recommendation of the PRC with the stipulation that the parks can be used by the community when the school is closed. The motion was made by Mr. James Wiseman and second by Mr. Freddy Fowler. All members present were in favor. Motion moved.
- 3) Public Safety Committee (PSC) Recommendation to send a letter of support to SLA for all the applicants they met with the committee except 321 Starr Street and 895 Broadway with the stipulation that they do not agree with the Community Board's recommendation to stop selling liquor after midnight on Sundays. Motion was made by Ms. Barbara Smith and second by Mr. Robert Camacho. All members present were in favor with two abstentions. Motion moved.
- 4) Board Member removal: Motion made to proceed with the removal of board members, Ms. Roberta Sutton and Ms. Evadne George. Motion made by Mr. Robert Camacho and second by Ms. Barbara Jackson. All member were in favor with one abstention. Motion moved.

Old Business:

NCO – Sector Charlie will hold a meeting Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 61 Montrose Avenue.

### **Announcements, 9:13PM**

Earnest Estime': Brooklyn Borough President having a meeting Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for young people (generation Z) ages 16-18 to talk about school violence at 10:00AM.

Julio Salazar, Representing Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez: The Congresswoman held a meeting for her district leaders at a roundtable meeting. The meeting served as an opportunity to discuss some of the most pressing issues ranging from safety, education, immigration and other local concerns. The meeting was held at the Williamsburg Library located at 240 Division Avenue on January, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

House Passes Velazquez's Bill to Aid Small Firms after Natural Disaster: On January 30, 2018 the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill authorized by Rep. Nydia M. Velazquez to help small businesses recover from natural disasters. Following the costliest year on record for damage inflicted by natural disaster, Velazquez's bill, H.R. 4792, the Small Business Access to Capital after a Natural Disaster Act, would help local small businesses secure the loans and capital they need to rebuild.

Velazquez on Appropriations Legislation, Dreamers: Rep. Nydia Velazquez issued the following statement regarding government funding legislation to be considered in the U.S. House of Representatives on February 8, 2018.

"I will be voting against this legislation. The fact is we have a solemn obligation to protect the hundreds of thousands of young Dreamers..., This bill provided a rare window to remedy this situation and ensure these young people, who are American in every way but on paper, remain here, in the only country that they have ever called home."

Save the Date!!! Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> – Non-Profit Organization Workshop: How to start one, promote it and succeed.

Rep. Nydia M. Velazquez is hosting a workshop. If you are starting a 501c3, or are an existing one join her. Learn about the legal procedure, governance, tax rule, funding and the do's and don'ts.

Where: Woodhull Medical Center, 760 Broadway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY

Time: Registration, 9:00AM, 9:30am to 11:30am. For more information please call 718-599-3658.

SAVE THE DATE – National Council for Negro Women, Inc., the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual HARAMBEE: In Honor of Our Founder, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune: ACHIEVEMENT Awards Celebration

“A New Agenda for A New Age: Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 11:00AM – 3:00PM.

For more information contact Chair: Nydia Southerland 347-873-9864 / Co-Chair: Michelle Cook 347-865-2251. Email: [NCNWBrooklynYouthSection@Gmail.com](mailto:NCNWBrooklynYouthSection@Gmail.com) Tickets are \$45.00

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Jonathan Pomboza Representing District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

Honorable Eric Gonzalez invites you to LIVE. Featuring Ted Shaw, Esq., Par Director-Counsel and President of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) on “The Urgency of Now”. Black History Month 2018. Event Host: L. Joy Williams, Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 6:00PM – 8:00PM. St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street between Clinton & Court Streets. Light refreshments, meet and greet.

RSVP: [Communityaffairs@brooklynda.org](mailto:Communityaffairs@brooklynda.org) 718-250-3888

RiseBoro Community Partnership: Community Farm Design Workshop, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1:30PM – 4:30PM, 1474 Gates Avenue. The Bushwick Grows? Community Farm needs your ideas and vision! Join them at RB Youth Center on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to walk the future farm site, plan and design a space that reflects the community. All are welcome! [www.RiseBoro.org](http://www.RiseBoro.org)

Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams: Free Stop 'N' Swap: In partnership with the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President, Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 11AM – 2PM, Brooklyn Borough Hall Plaza, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Drop off items from 8AM at the Greenmarket. (The outdoor event, will be moved indoors with inclement weather)

Bring clean, reusable, portable items such as clothing, housewares, electronics, books & toys that you no longer need. Take home something new-to-you, free! You do not have to bring something to take something. For more information 212-788-7964, [Recycle@GrowNYC.org](mailto:Recycle@GrowNYC.org); [WWW.GrowNYC.org/Swap](http://WWW.GrowNYC.org/Swap)

The Office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adam is partnering with Benefit Kitchen, a Brooklyn-based company that is helping New Yorkers learn about their eligibility for benefits like Child Care, Public Assistance, SNAP and many others.

Download the app or visit **app.benefitkitchen.com** to get started. Log in with an email address and take 10 minutes to answer the questionnaire. When you are done, you will have eligibility information and dollar amounts for all the benefits you and your family can receive. Once you have this information the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President can help you apply. You can contact the Constituent Assistance Center at 718-802-3700 or visit/call Brooklyn Job Centers [on.nyc.gov/2b6ewl2](http://on.nyc.gov/2b6ewl2).

When prompted, use the “agency code”: bbpbenefits

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Monday, March 12 & 26, 2018 - 12:00PM – 5:00PM

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 – 12:00PM – 5:00PM

Wednesday, March 7 & April 4, 2018 12:00PM – 5:00PM

Thursday, March 8 & April 5, 2018 – 12:00PM – 5:00PM

Monday, April 9 & 16, 2018 – 12:00PM – 7:00PM

Tuesday, April 10, 2018 – 12:00PM – 7:00PM

Thursday, March 15, 2018 – 12:00PM – 7:00PM

Schedule your appointment online at [www.growbrooklyn.org/taxes](http://www.growbrooklyn.org/taxes) or call for an appointment at 347-682-5605.

You are invited to participate in Brooklyn Crochets for a cause: Homeless Outreach, Be Crafty! Crochet with us as we make blanket and scarves that will be donated to individuals who are homeless. Yarn will be provided free of charge. Wednesdays 10:00AM to 12:00PM, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 21 and 28<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Tuesdays 10:00AM – 12:00PM, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Donation day will be held on Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. For questions call: 718-802-3700  
New Yorkers that earn \$66,000 or less may be eligible to get their taxes done for free online and at over 200 sites across the City, click on our [NYC Free Tax Prep Map](#) to find locations near you!

Join the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President for the Fifth Annual Black History Month Celebration – Ancestry and Genealogy Voyage Through Kings County  
Brooklyn’s Journey from Slavery to Freedom, Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:00PM to 9:00PM, Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
RSVP to: 718-802-3729 or [www.Brooklyn-USA.org/blackhistory2018](http://www.Brooklyn-USA.org/blackhistory2018)

The Office of the Brooklyn Borough President in partnership with Council Members Rafael Espinal and Antonio Reynoso and the Consulate General of the Dominican Republic in New York, Cordially Invite You to Celebrate Dominican Independence Day. Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 5:30PM - 7:30PM. Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
RSVP: 718-802-7300 or [www.brooklyn-usa.org/DRday](http://www.brooklyn-usa.org/DRday)

**New Yorkers with simple tax returns need your help!** Tax time can be a chance for families throughout the city to use their refunds to pay bills, get out of debt and save for their future. All too often, New Yorkers pay high fees to complete their tax returns, losing hundreds of dollars from their refund. **Now that the tax season is in full swing, [NYC Free Tax Prep](#) still needs tax preparer volunteers to serve eligible filers.**

**You do not need tax or finance experience to join NYC Free Tax Prep in making a difference.** As a volunteer you will receive high-level training and support with every return, preparing you to work one-on-one with clients to complete returns and help them claim important tax benefits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). You will see the impact of your work immediately and gain hands-on knowledge of the tax system. We have over 200 sites throughout the city, open days, evenings and weekends, making your commitment easy to schedule.

To get started and receive **more information on NYC Free Tax Prep providers and their volunteer opportunities**, go to [nyc.gov/volunteertaxprep](http://nyc.gov/volunteertaxprep) or contact the NYC Free Tax Prep program at [FreeTaxPrep@dca.nyc.gov](mailto:FreeTaxPrep@dca.nyc.gov).

**2nd Roll Call:** Community Board #4 Wednesday, February 21, 2018 Meeting adjourned at 9:42PM.