

Brooklyn Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday December 16, 2020
WebEx – Via Virtual Meeting
6:00PM

Chairperson: Mr. Robert Camacho; District Manager: Ms. Celestina Leon

Public Hearing Item

1) Annie Tirschwell and Jill Crawford, Type A Projects and Getz Obstfield, Suydam Inc.: Presentation on the 34 Suydam Street rezoning.

Before the presentation Ms. Tirschwell thanked the Community Board. Her team including Jill and Matt have been working on this project collaboratively with both the Community Board and the council member for a long time, since 2015. Ms. Tirschwell mentioned that she is incredibly grateful for the relationship with the community that has developed because of the time that was spent on this project.

To view the “Cheever Development & Community Developers Inc. with Type A Projects, 349 Suydam Street, Affordable Living & Working in Bushwick” Presentation, please go to:

The building on Suydam street, was purchased around 20 years ago, and it has been vacant and abandoned. It was previously a beverage distributor.

Type A Projects principals have 15 years of building light manufacturing, public school buildings and affordable housing across NYC as not for profit developers. Their goal is to create responsive and community- centric real estate.

Some of their projects:

Bushwick Central 11 New Homes: NYC Partnership New Homes Program

EBC-Bushwick HS - 500 Students

Bushwick HS for Law and Technology - 700 Students

Cheever Development – A 30-year-old family owned and operated, Brooklyn-based construction & development firm with a commitment and track record of building quality affordable housing in NYC including:

- 3,750 units of low- & moderate-income housing
- 330,000 SF of commercial & 195,000 SF of industrial/manufacturing spaces
- Developing supportive housing for seniors and developmentally disabled adults since 1986

Gates Plaza Elderly Housing: Ridgewood-Bushwick Senior Citizens’ Council

Existing Building / Site

- ❖ 43,000 SF industrial building
- ❖ M-1 tenants: garment, furniture-making, artist/artisans
- ❖ 17,500 SF of adjacent developer owned lots
- ❖ Adjacent to both in-place residential and industrial buildings
- ❖ Adjacent to transportation
- ❖ Significant demand for additional small to mid-sized production spaces

Proposed Gross Floor Area = 86,400 SF

Proposed Building Heights = 9 Stores / 90'0

Proposed Dwelling Units Distribution:

- Studio – 9 (10%)
- 1 Bedrooms - 33 (35%)
- 2 Bedrooms – 38 (40%)
- 3 Bedrooms – 14 (14%)
- 3 Bedroom – 1 (Superintendent's unit)

Total D.U. – 95

1250-1280 Willoughby Avenue: 100% Affordable, Mixed – Income Rental Apartments

- 95 Units
- Height contextual to adjacent school
- Convenient to adjacent local jobs and public transportation

Preferred Housing Program:

100% Affordable Mixed Income NYC HDC M-Squared Program

*%15 of units will be set aside for formerly homeless households

- 10% of units less than 40% of AMI
- 10% of units less than 50% of AMI
- 5% of units less than 60% of AMI
- 30% of units less than 100% of AMI
- 45% of units less than 130% of AMI

For us to comply with requirements, we had to have a minimum of 100 units, or just there about, we got to 95 we've understood, that's close enough. We chose to prioritize affordable housing units in lieu of parking.

Questions and Answers

Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho:

Is a funding already taken care of? Has everything been already addressed and are all the issues in place?

Because, if we are voting to change the zoning from M1 to M1-5 and eventually you guys turn around and sell it, because you don't have the funding, then the deal is off, is it going to be done? Is the funding there? Do we need to do something regarding the deed instead of the owner because we spent a lot of time? We want to make sure that when there is funding that you are going to do it.

Also # 3, if it doesn't go through and it stays the way it is, what is going to happen?

A lot of times, when you guys don't get funding and things don't go through, you sell it to the guy next door, and then he does what he wants to do. We really do not want to change, because I don't know your status regarding your funding. As you know we are in a pandemic and HPD is tied in money. We do not want to change everything over, then you turn around and say, well, there's no funding.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: I can answer that in a couple of ways. I wish we had a crystal ball. One thing that we have been very pleased about, is even though it has been almost a year, it has been a real struggle with HPD with projects closing. We have a project closing next week with HPD. As most of you know, much of the budget was reestablished, I would say within the last month. We too would like to be further along, but we have been in conversation with HPD and we are waiting for their team sheet, which we understand will be out. So, we are in conversation with HPD, but HPD is not making any formal commitments now. What we do is affordable housing, so what made this project so interesting to us and why we have stuck with it since 2015 is because it is affordable housing.

So again, although, I don't have a crystal ball, I can speak to our combined experience and I don't think we would have stayed as committed to this project over the past 5 years if we were not committed to this sort of groundbreaking living and working project. So again, I wish, I could tell you that HPD was back in full swing. We are in conversation with them, but to be fair, we are waiting for them.

Mr. Getz Obstfeld: Let me just answer your question because this is a great question. What makes this project work is: We have owned this property for 20 years. We are not buying it at market price. We don't have acquisition price that makes the affordable housing workable, because Matlin, who's a cheaper developer, that can meet the cost of affordable housing in New York. They do a lot of projects and if anybody can do affordable housing in New York they can. We ought to be able to because we don't have a high acquisition price and we have a construction price that is right in there with what is acceptable.

2nd part of that secret sauce is that, if we were building a brand-new industrial building, the costs might be prohibitive, but here, we're adding on to an existing building, so, we don't have a lot of the infrastructure costs that you would have in a new construction. We already have water service, electric service, guest service in the building. We have an elevator, the design is to use those existing services, existing elevator, the existing water and gas services, existing sprinkler system that we would just expand. That's why we can keep costs low on the construction site.

District Manager, So, these are stipulations. If there is funding, if this is contingent on funding, that can also be a stipulation. So, as the project moves forward remember this goes to the Borough President, afterwards to the City Planning Commission as well as the City Council. So, this is a lengthy process, a 7-month process. Before we get to the very end, we need to be clear. The board needs to be clear on those stipulations. When those being funding, and then a commitment from the developer potentially, for what happens if that funding is not there. This is just food for thought, something to consider.

Desmonde Monroe: When you guys 1st started out you were talking about the economic development impact or the economic impact, towards your construction, was it because of the extra manufacturing that you thought that you would have an economic impact? Is that the only way that you see having an economic impact?

Ms. Annie Tirschwell I think that was. I think we can look at it two ways. Mr. Getz may look at the addition to manufacturing. We think that there's a positive economic impact by providing affordable housing. I think that we're both providing affordable working spaces to create more jobs and creating affordable housing for people to live more affordably within the neighborhood.

Mr. Monroe: Okay, but you're using and hopefully you're going to get funds. I didn't see anything in this proposal that mentions local hires or any MWBE compliance. I didn't see that sort of economic development plan that you are doing. How does your construction and what you are doing directly affect the community?

Ms. Annie Tirschwell I have had a very high depth participation on all our projects. To be fair there are requirements at HPD that you must meet. I believe it's 25% of your workforce needs to be MWB certified in New York City. We have met and exceeded that on all our projects. We're currently working on a project now that's 35% MWB participation. HPD requires that we meet their requirements. So, that participation is also something that we prioritize as a business.

Mr. Monroe: I believe you should have a list of businesses by zip codes, so that they will have a chance to bid on the project.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell We will have a strategy for hiring both individuals and for companies within the area.

Mr. Desmond Monroe: All right. Sounds good. Thank you.

Jamie Wiseman : I mentioned this at the Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting. I do want to say that it was a very conciliatory process. They did come back a lot and try to shape their proposal to make it more in line with what the community wants. So, I wanted to make that point, because that does stand in contrast to what I've seen from other groups who try to just jam a ULURP through. (Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP))
The other thing I wanted to mention is the kind of nightmare Rheingold scenario. I think I just mentioned that. I think it's less likely in this scenario for the reasons the developer stated, but also, because there's going to be a sunset of the affordable New York program in June of 2022. If a buyer of this parcel with a rezoning would have to wait until the 7 or 8 months process for this ULURP, then we'd have to redesign and permit a market rental building under that abatement and they wouldn't have enough time to do that. So, even if you do the bad, bad group scenario, I think it would be very hard for them, their closest path to a successful project and financial return is probably through financing with HPD because of the sunset of the tax abatement.

Chairperson Camacho: We just want to be safe Jamie.

Mr. Jamie Wiseman: No, you should mention it. I'm saying condos could still be allowed and I don't think that, that's who these people are.

I just want the record to reflect what one person thought of what the viability of this would be. You're right. You're right, Mr. Chairperson.

Mr. Getz: If I could just address the whole question of local hiring, because I think that's important. If you look at one of the projects, we had done that had no local hiring requirements, was the redevelopment of an old theater at 1155 DeKalb Avenue, the Bushwick High School. In that project we were approached by Monsignor Palos. He had approached me to see if we could help with a project that was it was basically dysfunctional. Whoever they were working with couldn't manage to pull it together. He approached me because he knew the work that we had done. We resurrected that project and put in about 11 million dollars' worth of renovation to convert that building into a school. We worked directly with Monsignor Palos and churches and other variety of churches that are part of that group to get people to work on that project and they were great workers.

A lot of them, many of them stayed with us and with our subcontractors. They were fantastic folks. So, even projects that we didn't have a governmental requirement for MWBE we still work with the local community, because it works for us. People had a lot easier time getting to the job site, and they had connections into the community. It made it a safer and a more secure project. It also generates local support.

Ms. Louisa Chan: I was just wondering if you can speak a little bit about the parking situation.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: I'm happy to go back there. We are asking for a waiver for parking as I noted earlier.

In order for this project to be attractive to HPD and meet their guidelines, we were required to have a minimum unit of 100 units and at 95 units were just squeaking by to meet that requirement.

We basically prioritized affordable housing over parking and, we did so respectfully. We know that parking is a real need in the community and very much desired. We just simply couldn't

make the project work to provide the necessary amount of affordable housing units and parking.

District Manager Leon: I have a question from the public asking about how many units at each income.

Ms. Tirschwell showed slide showing the breaks down of percentage of units.

Community Resident: I was quickly wondering if you could speak to why you decided to use a special use district instead of just flipping or keeping the zoning the same for residential or manufacturer.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: Is the question why we don't have the same zoning over the whole lot or why we switched?

Community resident: Yes

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: That came out of a conversation, I think both with the community and the council member. I don't remember how we got there. I think that it's certainly that the district allowed us to build affordable housing, but it didn't do away with the manufacturing, and I think that there was a desire to make sure that both things were indeed possible at some point, given the mixed use nature of the community. Instead, everyone thought it was more aligned with community zoning to have it a MX district. This is another way of expressing that same thought.

Mr. Getz: City Planning felt this was a transitional area between the residential and the manufacturing, so they thought this was more appropriate to have a MX district. I don't think it was much deeper than that.

Anne Guiney: This is a question from a resident, and I am passing it on to you. If you can speak to how the manufacturing will be memorialized and that both the rates, the rental rates for the manufacturing spaces, and then the uses will be indeed manufacturing and not over time slide into a sort of more general commercial types of space?

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: It's part of why the zoning is a little messy on this site and why we didn't want to create a MX for this whole site. We wanted the manufacturing district to stay manufacturing, which is why we have kept it as M1-5 and no commercial overlay nothing else it's just a manufacturing building and so, as we stated for the last 20 years, we've had the same types of tenants and that's our goal moving forward. This project you can see from the renderings we're not intending to make it a glitzy building. We're keeping an existing workforce manufacturing building and adding an addition to it. We're able to invest in this project. And we think it's going to be a great manufacturing space, but it's going to be designed and dealt like manufacturing space and we are going to comply with all the use requirements of a manufacturing district. I think both by design and by zoning the M1-5 portion of the building will stay based on solidly manufacturing. The zoning designation is the primary sort of enforcement mechanism as it has been for the last 20 years.

District Manager, Ms. Leon: Someone has asked is gas included in the rent?

Mr. Getz: Yes, both gas and hot water is part of the rent.

And I believe cooking gas may also be included in that number as well.

The tenant's pay their own electric, of course. But other than that, all the gas is included in the rent.

Ms. Leon: Someone has asked what does it mean? Mixed income for this development.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: The way that this building is designed is to meet a range of levels. So, for a family size of 2 people, the income of 40% AMI for 2 people is \$36,400.

If you go for a family of 2 @ 60%AMI, they will have to make \$54,500. For a family of 2 with an AMI of 90%, is \$81,000. So, for a family of 2 that should give you sort of a range of how that goes.

Mr. Getz Obstfeld: We have done a lot of projects, affordable housing projects in Bushwick, in Central Brooklyn and throughout Brooklyn, and throughout the city, and we'd love it for you to take a look at any one of those projects, the ones that we still own and operate, the ones that we've sold homeowner's and to talk to the people in the community, and see what happened during the construction. Did we hire a lot of local people? And, that would be a great piece of due diligence that I know that some of members of the committee board have already done, and the councilman has done, to make sure that we are the kind of people that we say, we are.

District Manager: The impact on parking for teachers at the school. I know this was referenced before. We all know that parking is an issue in neighborhood. What is the plan for this project as it relates to parking?

Minister Dawn Baxter, Bushwick Family Ministries: Before you move on, I just wanted to piggyback off on the comment that was asked pertaining to the percentage number of locals that have been hired to the projects in Bushwick? I don't think I got an answer to that question. I did hear that we can ask other people that are involved. Can tell us, is there statistics, showing us out of all the buildings and projects that took place in Bushwick, what percentage of those projects that's our community persons or people who are hired? Is there a percentage that you could tell us tonight? How many people in our local areas are being hired?

Mary McClellan: That is my question also, they beat around the bush and so they did not answer it outright.

Mr. Getz Obstfeld: I would like to answer it out right.

The data that we require to keep has to do with certified contractors and subcontractors, and we always in every project, we exceed the minimum of 25%. We go as much as 40% with local subcontractors.

We don't have the privy to have the addresses of the individual employees or the individual contractors and subcontractors. We know that when we start a job in a community, we have an office site, whether it's a trailer or an office in an existing building, and that's where people from the neighborhood that are interested in working on the construction can come and sign up. We hire as many as we can. We don't have data specifically stating how many people they are.

Minister Dawn Baxter: I would like to suggest going forward. I still feel that you are beating around the bush. So instead of people coming into our community and making money, going forward we would like to know how many individuals from our community are getting jobs from these contractors and subcontractors. We want to know what the percentage of our community men and women is, that are being hired through these contractors.

We need to know that the next time we meet pertaining to our community.

I can't recall having people in my community, or even from my local churches, talk about how they got a job working at a building up the block that they're building or down the block that they're building. When I look at the type of colors that I see building, they don't represent my community.

Robert Camacho, CB4 Chair: Maybe when they are ready to start the job, they can give application forms to the Community Board office to make sure that they hire from the community.

Sometimes we have to make sure that they hire from within the community, because you're 100% right. Right now, I'm trying to get numbers to see how many people from the RAD program, which used to be the old housing development and find out how many people are there from within our community that were hired as supers and managers. I haven't heard any. So maybe we should make sure that if he does get this or we vote on it, that'd be one of the stipulations is that he'll give us applications or forms so that we can give them to our kids so that they can get jobs.

Ms. Baxter: The 83rd Precinct, don't put names and addresses. And I think the same thing can be done in construction when they're hiring people. We don't need names and numbers. We just need to know how many people within the community is being hired.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: Jill and I are working in the Bronx. There we have put together a local hiring plan and not only do we work with the Community Board to do that we also work with local non-for-profits to do, what's called job readiness training and so that's part of what we do with builders anyway, and so I'm putting together a local hiring plan. This is something we'd be happy to do and share with you moving forward.

District Manager, Ms. Leon: As a reminder, these presentations these discussions, the board is an advisory body. The Board advises all presenters on all proposals and we, and the board makes recommendations that are based on these discussions. So, I think that there was a lot of the questions this evening. Think about them as well as recommendations as we move forward.

So, I know we're asking what's the percentage of folks being hired but if there's something that the community wants to see, for example, if they want 50% or more of the individuals hired, that could be a recommendation that the board makes.

I just wanted to give that for a frame of reference. We also had someone suggests. As Anne, I believe, mentioned partnering with the workforce development organization.

We know RiseBoro has workforce development and Saint Nick's has workforce development, and there are different organizations within the community that do this work. So, I just wanted to put that out there.

I will defer to the board if there are any final comments, otherwise we can move on to the 2nd, Public Hearing Item. Board Members?

Mr. Camacho: Just move on.

Ms. Celeste Leon: Thank you to our presenters, this evening. We will certainly follow up and make sure you have a record of all of the recommendations.

Ms. Annie Tirschwell: We want to thank you and again it's been a, a number of years that we've been in front of you and so we, we truly appreciate all of your feedback it really makes for better projects in a better city. So, we appreciate your time and your thoughts.

2) Family of Carmelo Sanchez presenting the Street Co-naming request for Gates Avenue and Myrtle Avenue in memoriam of Carmelo Sanchez.

Cyrus Sanchez, the son of Carmelo Sanchez: Thank you for pushing this along and for just considering this for us. It is an honor. Just having my father's name up on a street post, he would have loved it and it would have blown his mind. Thank you.

Ms. Celestina Leon: So that everyone knows, this is a Street Co-naming request for Gates and Myrtle Avenues. The family came before the board's Civic Public Safety Committee last week. They shared testimony and they were joined by neighbors. This is another opportunity for family and neighbors to share similar testimony. So that way the full board notes what was discussed that evening.

Mellany Sanchez, the daughter of Carmelo Sanchez: My father Carmelo Sanchez, was a big community advocate. He was an investor in many local businesses. He was a business and property owner who was such a helping hand in the community. He hosted for several years, a turkey drive where he gave away over 100 turkeys to families. A need in the neighborhood. He did school drives where school supply were given out. He did toy and was truly someone who the neighbors could rely on as someone who could keep projects moving along. He helped kept block safety on the block. He was someone who within his space, and within his efforts was able to gather people and keep people just keep this block a flow. He lived on the block his entire life.

Cyrus Sanchez: Like my sister was saying, he loved Bushwick and he loved Gates Avenue and he loved everyone on the block and that is why he tried his best to keep his dollar on the block and he tried to invest in anyone he believed in. He tried is best to keep everyone safe. I think that it was felt by everyone, even if you only knew him for a day. Everyone could see his enthusiasm with the community and the people that lived there. You could see his love for the block, and everyone felt it.

This would have meant a lot to him and for the family, obviously, this is big, but just the community overall, it's a good way for them to remember him. This is a block he had held down and that he took care of and that's something that will never go away whether the sign is there or not. That will never go away.

I really do thank the community board for even considering this big honor for us as a family and the community.

Chairperson, Robert Camacho: I'm going to take my hat off as the chair because I know these kids and I know that their father was a blessing in this community. He was born and raised in Bushwick. If anybody knows the car wash place on Gates, well that his fathers. He has a couple of stores. For turkey drives he gave people turkeys for many, many years. He gave schoolbook supply for the kids for many years. He was born, raised, business owned in Bushwick and gave to the kids. He gave to the people in the community what they needed. He was humble. Just to give you an example of what kind of person this man was, when he went to the hospital, I didn't go to the memorial service, but people told me. In his dying bed he told the people that he wanted to make sure that the people in Bushwick get the turkeys. That was his wish. He specifically told his kids to do the stuff that I used to do. For a father to tell his kids to keep the memory going, that tells you something about this man.

And I want to thank them for coming to us, to the committee and requesting this. It should be an honor. You should go there and see the place. His employees that he had there for so many years and he put services back to this community. So, we thank you.

You both are humble. I must come visit you both, but it is so hard with all these meetings. Don't sell your place. Don't leave Bushwick. Don't get out. If you kids need anything, please, we can make it happen, because a lot of times, family break up and a lot of things happen, all when they see is a dollar sign.

We want to make sure that you keep him in your heart and make sure that you keep whatever it is you need to do for Bushwick and to keep services, to stay here. So, we want to thank you. I hope the board push this request through. I am going to put my hat back on as the chair. I hope you push this through for these kids and make it happen. Their father was born, raised and own businesses in Bushwick. I never seen someone born, raised, have businesses in Bushwick and continued to live in Bushwick. So, thank you.

Mary McClellan: I don't know of the man, but I say, let's push this through so this man's corner can be recognized forever.

District Manger Leon: I did receive a question and I received this question often. What are the qualifications for a street co-naming?

The board has a history of reviewing these requests. For detailed information on the process, you can go to the board's website.

We ask for a biography to be sent to the board, and it must happen posthumously and justification and rationale for the street co-naming goes along with that as well. A list, a petition is also required with at least 65% of the resident's signatures on the block. They must know the person and must sign for the street co-naming. It's typically for individuals that have distinguish themself in some way, shape, or manner in service to their community.

So, we heard about that this evening, and we know exactly why this street request is being made.

Thank you to the family members for joining us.

Public Hearing Items Closed.

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. **1st Roll Call**: 30 board members present, that constitutes a quorum.
2. **Acceptance of the Agenda**: Andrew Ramos Choi moved to accept the agenda. The motion was second by Rev. Grace Aytes. All members present agreed. Motion Moved.
3. **Acceptance of the Previous Meeting Minutes**: The minutes were not prepared. We are short staff this month. However, we are working to get them to as soon as possible. Is there a motion to table, the previous meeting minutes? Motion to table the previous month's minutes was made by Ms. Elvena Davis and second by Jose Guzman. All members present agreed. No one opposed, no abstentions. Motion moved.
4. **Chairperson's Report, Mr. Robert Camacho**: Happy Holidays! Stay safe, wear masks!
We must fight, and we will be back stronger than ever before!

Tuesday, November 24th: Attended the HLU Committee Meeting
1001 Bushwick is gone. We need to save Bushwick. Soon there will be no owners, just renters. We really need to stick together and all our property and do something we need to work together. And we also have to do a community trust.
We must do something, if not we are going to lose Bushwick Avenue.

Tuesday, December 1st: At 12pm there was a press conference in front of 1001 Bushwick Avenue.

Anne Guiney was there, and elected officials were there. We tried to save it, but we couldn't. We need to do something guys I don't know what it is, but we all need to do something together.

Wednesday, December 2nd: Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, December 3rd: At 5PM attended the Sanitation Workman Taskforce Group Meeting.

Friday, December 4th: Another meeting regarding 1001 Bushwick on what we could do, write a letter or something. But the building is gone now.

I heard that the family members were having problems in regard to paying the bills, and they went to a developer and sold the house for cheap. That's what I heard.

Economic Development call at 2:30pm to implement grant an opportunity for small business with Evergreen Exchange.

Monday, December 7th: 2:30 to 4:30 the workshop on the community board conflict of interest resolution.

At 6:00pm, attended North Brooklyn COVID-19 Holiday Relief Zoom Roundtable.

Tuesday, December 8th: Borough Board Meeting 4:30-5:30pm

6:00pm attended the PLC Meeting (License and Permits Committee)

Wednesday, December 9th: District Service Cabinet Meeting

Thursday, December 10th: RAD Hope Garden / Bushwick Monthly Meeting

There are several problems – Property Management Hours

Mailbox - they do not want rent checks in mailbox, they are being stolen.

Roof leaks, leaking tiles, tiles popping up

There was a lot of complaints about that appliance being replaced and repaired.

Attended Civic Public Safety and Religious Committee & Transportation Committee Meeting – 6pm

Tuesday, December 15th: Bushwick Community Partnership Meeting

Wednesday, December 16th: At 10am Meeting with District 32 Executive Team for District Budget Consultation.

It'll be a rough time for our kids in our schools. I'm telling you that we need to support our schools. The Youth and Education Committee chairperson will speak about what is going on in district 32.

I attended the 83rd Precinct Clergy Council Meeting at 12pm.

I was with the RS, Alexandra, I am not sure if you remember her? She is doing what they're call a racial impact study.

District Manager, Celeste Leon: We are joined by the next council member for the 37th district with us.

Darma V. Diaz, NYC Councilwoman for District 37: She stated – I am looking forward to working with you all. I consider myself to be Bushwickite. I moved to Bushwick at the age of 10 years old and moved out at the age of 19. Since then I have been living in Cypress Hills/East New York. I am committed.

I have reached out to Karen Cherry, the new chief of staff, and she would like to meet with the board's committee members so as to get know where your heart is for Bushwick. I would like to be involved in moving forward in a progressive way.

I want to work with you on your vision.

I want you to know Citi bikes reached out to me last week and quite frankly, I said, I'm not interested in a meeting, but I know we're going to have to meet. I am not satisfied with the way Citi Bikes has invaded Bushwick.

I don't know if we're going to be able to undo some of what's been done with City Bikes, but I'm looking forward to a better stronger conversation. City bikes was looking to come in on Gates and Wyckoff Avenue. And I'm trying to delay on that conversation until we're able to meet collectively.

Robert Camacho: City Bikes want to put a rack on Gates and Wyckoff. If there is a rack on Menahan, why put another one on the next block On Linden. If Menahan is not working take that down and then put on Linden, so we could get the parking that we lost back. Then there is one on Grove, a block away from Myrtle. So, this is a dumping ground. I am not trying to complain. If it is working, then let me see the numbers, let me see the jobs in Bushwick. We are not saying that we do not want them.

Councilwoman Darma Diaz: You just want it to make sense where they put them.

Robert Camacho: Correct. Why don't they put them on Ridgewood side? It is only a block away. Why not cross the street and put them on the Ridgewood side? They are always dumping here. They never give us anything back. So, I want to see the money. I want to see where it is going. I want to see if these bike racks are beneficial. If it benefits and do what it is supposed to do, fine. If it doesn't work, they need to get it out and put it somewhere where it works. There's got to be areas that work. They took city own land that we pay tax for and they also took away parking spaces.

1st Vice Chair, Joshua Brown: Camacho I agree with you. Since we have Darma here, Darma what is your view on tonight's URLUP? Where should we lean as a community? What is your input?

Ms. Darma Diaz: Are you talking about the 17 buildings that they are looking to convert into cooperative equity? I just came on so, I did not hear the presentation.

District Manager, Leon: This is in Councilmember Reynoso's district.

Mr. Robert Camacho: We are talking about Irving and Wyckoff Avenues.

Councilwoman Darma Diaz: I don't have an opinion. I am not familiar with it. Celeste if you feel comfortable, after tonight's meeting, can you please share the information with me?

District Manager: I will do. Citi Bikes and the Dept. of Transportation is scheduled to come to the Community Board's Transportation Committee on Monday, the 21st at 6pm. Please contact the boards office for more information.

Councilwoman Darma Diaz: The lights on Bushwick Avenue is a pilot program. Next year we plan to expand the lights all the way down Bushwick. I hope everyone likes them. I also plan to have a staff member present at every meeting; however, I cannot attend every meeting. If you need me to attend a meeting, please reach out to me personally. Also, Celeste, can you forward me the email addresses of all the board members?

Ms. Mary McClellan: City Bikes is on City property. They should provide safety equipment along with those bikes.

District Manager: I will take that to the meeting. Feel free to attend the meeting.

Elected Officials and / or their Representatives

- 1) Jonathan Pomboza Representing the DA's office. 718-250-2340 or 718-250-2810.
- 2) Julio Salazar, Representing Congresswoman Velasquez's office. 718-599-3658
- 3) Marcus Harris Representing Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President. 917-324-2680
- 4) Taeka Haraguthi, Representing Comptroller Scott Stringer's office: 917-594-2129
THaragu@comptroller.nyc.gov
- 5) Representing Assemblywoman, Maritza Davila 718-443-1205

83rd Precinct Commanding Officer – D. I. Ronald Casazza:

It has been a tough year, especially with the COVID-19. 7 of our officers have tested positive, and some are on the mends. We've struggled this year with high crimes. GLA, stolen cars were up between 30 to 50%.

I understand, the quality of life is a huge concern and it is a concern for me. I know it's important to everyone in the community and it's something that I constantly think about and look at ways to fix daily.

Moving forward to 2021, I am here for you and I will do my best to make sure that the Bushwick community is safe and that too are protected. I thank everyone for their support.

5. District Managers Report :

Happy Holidays!!! Stay Safe! Stay home if you are sick!

With the rapid rise of COVID cases and hospitalizations across the city, this is a reminder to take the necessary precautions to prevent further spread.

The Department of Health has sent an update regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine for the general public will not be available until mid-2021. Please do your part to help not spread the COVID-19. Stay home if you are sick, stay 6 feet away physical distance, keep your hands clean.

In the past month we rallied and tried to save a historic building.

Although we weren't able to save the building from demolition, I'm happy to note today that we were able to work with our community network to save some of the historic elements. The stones now have a temporary home at 1420 Bushwick Avenue.

It was on such a short notice and we certainly thank our partners at family services network for helping us out. We tried to get it to go to a park and we tried to get it to go to the emergency management warehouse.

No one was accepting the stones until we spoke with Family Services Network of New York (FSNNY) and were able to turn this around.

A very special, thank you, Dana for all of her help with this. For those of you interested in a preservation, please, please, please contact me.

You've also heard about the needs of our schools shocking budget deficits. We've heard from community members concerns about safety issues. We've requested Department of Transportation not only listen to our concerns, but sincerely work with us via the boards Transportation Committee to strategize a response to issues most. Principally everyone. I'm sure you heard about the death and fatal tragedy that happened on Bushwick Avenue and this isn't something that is new. We hear about these accidents happening all the time and time and time again.

We asked the department to work with us. We asked them to not just listen to what we're saying, but to help us formulate a response so that we're not just reacting every time. There is a crisis, but really planning for a safer future for everyone.

Whether you're driving, whether you're a pedestrian, whether you're a cyclist, everyone deserves to be safe on the street. And specifically, on Bushwick Avenue, we're also thinking about the future of Community Boards, how to better meet the needs of residents well as our agency and nonprofit partners. There's always a lot of work to do.

When I hear from you, newcomers and longtime residents who are asking, how can I help? I would like to express my gratitude to them, and to everyone here this evening for caring about your community, caring about Bushwick is with the holiday spirit in mind.

Although it shouldn't just be during the holidays, I encourage everyone to reach out to one another and check in.

Many of us have fallen ill or have had loved ones get sick and are dealing with all the pressures of navigating during these new times.

Check in with your elected officials, tell them about your concerns. Not just when something is immediately affecting you, but in general.

I often hear a tone of discouragement from residents, community leaders and even colleagues and I understand why.

I thought about this earlier when I was writing this report, but essentially, when there's a mountain in front of you, it may seem impossible to get over however, if we all grab a bucket imagine how much easier it becomes. The beautiful thing about this community, about Bushwick is that you are not alone we are always here for you. We might not be related by blood, but we are your community family.

For a copy of the District Manager, Ms. Leon report please contact her at the Community Board's office.

6. Committee Reports:

Joint Civic/Public Safety/Religious (CPSR) & Transportation Committee, Thursday, December 10, 2020.

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

Chairperson - Louisa Chan

December 10, 2020, 6:00PM

Members Present: Louisa Chan, Committee Chairperson; Jose Guzman; Daniella Davi, Kristen Jock

Others Present: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Celestina Leon, CB4 District Manager; Sergeant Schwingl, Highway Safety Unit Supervisor, 83rd Precinct/NYPD; Barbara Jackson, Veronica Shell, Elvena Davis, Dustin Sonneborn, Gladys Puglla, Annette Spellen, Jerry Valentin, Cyrus Sanchez and Mellany Sanchez

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

- 1) Sergeant Schwingl, Highway Safety Unit Supervisor, 83rd Precinct/NYPD – Presenting on Highway and Traffic Safety in Bushwick.

Ms. Louisa Chan: The Sergeant provide an update report on the traffic issues in the neighborhood in terms of the types of tickets and summons that have been issued. We had complaints on why some trucks are using Bushwick Avenue to travel instead of the required truck routes.

He reported on the number of accidents and deaths in the community. Traffic request that dealt with signage and crosswalks were discussed as well as why DOT rejected some requests. We asked the Sergeant to come back to give more data related specifically to accidents and just to deaths. We're following up with the 83rd for more specifics as to that request and hopefully following up with other elected officials, and the Department of transportation to ensure that the Bushwick community residence needs are met.

Civic/Public Safety/Religious (CPSR): Committee Chairperson, Annette Spellen
December 10, 2020, 6:40PM, via WebEx

Members Present: Annette Spellen, Elvena Davis, Dustin Sonneborn, Gladys Puglla, Jerry Valentin, Vernedeaner Shell

Others Present: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Celestina Leon, CB4 District Manager; Cyrus and Mellany Sanchez, Ana Berrios, Gabriela Im, Frank Im, Brenda Pagan, Bienvenido Garcia, Raphael Lopez, Melody Logan, Eva Lopez, Julio Jimenez, Rene Robiedo, Maryann Lebron and John Moreira

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

- 2) Mellany and Cyrus Sanchez, Family members of Carmelo Sanchez – Presenting a Street Co-naming request in honor of Carmelo Sanchez on the corner of Gates and Myrtle Avenues.

See Public Hearing Item #2.

Housing And land Use (HLU): Committee Chairperson, Anne Guiney
Meeting Held on November 24, 2020 via WebEx, 6:00PM

Members Present: Joshua Brown, James Wiseman, Jose R. Guzman, Andrew R. Choi, Felix Ceballos, Kristen Jock, Louisa Chan

Others in Attendance: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Celestina Leon, CB4 District Manager; Anne Tirschwell, Kate Richards, Jill Crawford, Getz Obstfeld, Max Meltzer, John Coogan, Fayanne Betan, Alexandra Diaz
Members Absent:

Member Excused:

- 1) Annie Tirschwell and Jill Crawford, Type A projects, and Getz Obstfeld, Suydam, Inc. – presenting on the Suydam Street rezoning application.

Anne Guiney: The committee discussed 249 Suydam Street URLUP application in detail.

- Market rate for Bushwick
- Affordability – levels of affordability
- Concerns about memorialize in the manufacturing status to make sure that unlike other projects that the Community Board has seen where there's been a switch on the affordability or the uses.
- Parking

- 2) Alexandra Paty Diaz, Urban Planner/CD4 Liaison, NYC Planning- presenting an update on Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency.

Kate Richards from Department of City Planning presenting on the zoning for coastal and flood resiliency.

This is an effort in D. C. that was born after Hurricane Sandy. It turns out there was a lot of lessons learned from that rebuilding process. A lot of things went very poorly, some things went very well, and some things went not quite as planned. What we are really trying to do now is focus on how to rebuild and how to prepare flood zones.

Bushwick is not located in a flood zone, but we want to make you aware of what is being done. A lot of it is geared towards things like the power and energy systems.

For example, folks in Red Hook, which is very much in a flood zone, we want them to be able to prepare themselves, so when inevitably a big flood comes, there'll be okay.

Old Business: Brownfield opportunity. Raul Rubio will be back to talk to the HLU Committee and give us an update.

New Business: 1001 Bushwick Avenue as Mr. Camacho mentioned, we rallied, and we lost. I think that there is a lot of interest in landmark, and I think we should capitalize on that interest and also figure out the larger preservation strategies. As Mr. Camacho said that one of the reasons why this happened is because the family who own the house was struggling, financially and selling it was one opportunity that would help them. That's another form of sustainability that we really need to be exploring and keeping people in their houses. We want to make sure that somebody's hardship does not lead to this sort of cascading problems in the neighborhood. I think that's really important.

Also, some things that are on the agenda as Mr. Camacho said we participated in racial impact analysis. We've been participating in that process.

I mostly just listen in on the calls to keep informed, there was one call this morning. It was going to go before the City Council. It has been tabled. One of the reasons it's been tabled is that there is a Comprehensive Planning Bill that is coming before the City Council, it just came out, however, I haven't had a chance to read the bill yet, but I may be taking a look at it.

What's interesting about this bill, is that instead of having individual community district, or at least a spot rezoning, there becomes a comprehensive plan for the whole city. And I think this was so exciting to me about this: stop putting neighborhoods against each other. A lot of folks who participated in the whole Bushwick Community Planning process felt like, wait, we're being put against resources. Like East New York already got all this money for housing, there's not enough left for you, Bushwick. So why should one neighborhood be fighting against another neighborhood? The same goes for things like location of shelters.

We have more than our fair share in our community district of shelters.

If there's comprehensive planning, then you can look at the entire city as you start to locate parks for schools and shelters, etc. So, I think that could be really exciting. It could stop putting neighborhood against neighborhoods fighting for resources.

So, as we learn more about that, I'll be bringing it before the committee. That is the end of my report.

Permits and Licenses (PLC), Committee Chairperson, Melissa Carrera

Monday, December 8, 2020 6pm via virtually

Members Attended: Daniella Davi, Gladys Puglla

Members Accept: Egaudy Gomez and Jamie Wiseman

Others in Attendance: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Celestina Leon, CB4 District Manager; Willie Morales, CB4 Community Associate; Paul Wong, Sea Trio Inc.; Jacob Rabinowitz, Cornelia Café 523 LLC; Matthew Maichel, Stanwix Bar LLC; Justin Ahiyon, House of Yes; Yanilda Valdez and Adam Powell, Bushwick Burger; Jose L. Orgega and Jack Chang, Plaza Ortega Corp.

Agenda Item - Recommendations

Motion: Melissa Carrera – Sea Trio Inc. – 27 Wyckoff Avenue - New LWBC

- Moved to approve with the hours of 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 A.M.
- However, needs to show proof of reaching out to his neighbors.

Second: Robert Camacho

All in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, so moved

Motion: Robert Camacho - Cornelia Café 523 LLC – 523 Evergreen Avenue – New LWBC

- Moved to approve only if location owners are willing to shorten their closing time from 4:00 A.M. to 2:00 A.M. from Monday through Sunday. Location located in a residential block.
- Not particularly keen on shortening his closing time and will be discussing it with his partners but looking forward to further discuss with the committee on the suggestions and comments they made regarding establishment requested operating hours.
- Mr. Rabinowitz was informed of the Community Board's compliance with no selling liquor after 12:00 A.M. on Sunday's but didn't state if he's willing to comply.

Second: Daniela Gladys Puglla

All in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, so moved

Motion: Melissa Carrera – Stanwix Bar LLC – 412 Troutman Street (A/K/A 29 Wyckoff Avenue) – New LWBC

- Moved to approve with establishment closing time be set at 2:00 A.M.
- Must be willing to adhere with the Community Board's compliance of no liquor selling on Sunday after 12:00 A.M.

Second: Robert Camacho

All in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, so moved

Motion: Melissa Carrera - Houses of Yes – 2 Wyckoff Avenue – Method of Operation Change – LWBC

- Moved to approve the change of method of operation as is, with updates from Anya and Kae on how they plan to operate during Covid-19.
- We acknowledge HOY contributions to the community over the years and are a staple in Bushwick.
- Complaints with littering and crowd control were discussed and will be fixed.

Second: Gladys Puglla

All in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, so moved

Motion: Melissa Carrera – Bushwick Burger Corp. d/b/a/ Bushwick Burger – 354 Cornelia Street – New WBC

- Moved to approve as is.
- However, needs to show proof of reaching out to his neighbors.

Second: Robert Camacho

All in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, so moved

Motion: Robert Camacho – Plaza Ortega Corp. – 140 Stanhope Street – New BC

- Moved to approve however establishment needs to find out about the Bushwick United Head Start.
- Need a letter of support from Head Start Executive Director Mr. Jose Gonzalez.
- Need to reach out to residents on Stanhope Street between Myrtle and Central Avenues.

Second: Melissa Carrera

All in favor, no abstentions. Motion Moved

New Business:

Good Neighbor agreement, which we hope to bring to the board sometime next year. Celeste is following up with other Community Board to find if there is an iteration of this agreement somewhere and how we can apply this to our board and to businesses and to other committees. So, this is something that we are looking into.

Celeste Leon: Are there any questions about any of the reports you have heard tonight?

Ms. Barbara Jackson: I have a question. Mellissa, you mentioned 523 and mentioned the name Jacob. Is this the same person that owns 109 Moffat Street?

Mellissa: Yes.

Ms. Jackson: This is bad news.

Mellissa: That's a good flag, thank you.

Chairperson, Mr. Camacho: Yes, that is a good one. If you are on a committee, or you see, or you know something that we need to know let us know. We will bring it up because they normally don't say anything to us.

That was good that we flag that he has one on Moffat Street and that has had a lot of problems.

District Manager: Ms. Jackson, I actually had you in mind specifically when I mentioned that during the committee meeting, because he did not mention that he has other businesses, but he did not say where. I referenced the one on Evergreen Avenue, the one on the corner. I mentioned the concerns of the people living there, they were saying that as people leave the bar, they talk loudly, have drunken behavior throwing garbage in people's garbage cans and wherever. Just inappropriate behavior. Also, the food vendor.

7. Recommendations

1) HLU: Anne Guiney

The housing and land use committee after our discussion voted to approve with stipulations and these are the stipulations which are important to us:

- a) Determine some form of memorialization for the requirement for manufacturing, there are a number of different ways. The Type A Team had mentioned that it is pretty much cooked into the zoning. If there's some other way to follow up, if there's some form of reporting that will allow us to do that, that is something that we would love to see.
- b) Re-examine the unit mix and to make sure that there are a few more units below 60% AMI. Preferably in the 30 to 40% AMI range. Because 30 to 40% is a lot closer to what we are talking about for the needs of this community.

There are financial realities, there are HPD term sheets, we recognize that, but within that mix, if we can push more to do some tweaking to get more at 30 and 40% AMI range, that would be very important.

100% AMI to 130% is market rate for Bushwick, so we would like to see a lot lower. Those were our primary stipulations and we voted after some discussion; I believe it was unanimously voted to recommend with those stipulations.

District Manager, Celestina Leon: To share some notes from the meeting and from the presentation earlier, and then the discussion portion:

There was a request to them asking for them to a) continue to be an informative partner. B) also, to partner with workforce development in the neighborhood job readiness local hiring.

I would suggest that the board consider either noting a percentage or making something more definitive in terms of how they're hiring from the community. I will let you have that discussion. C) then there was also a request asking for community preference for apartments. Some of us may know there was ongoing litigation. I do not have a current status of that. However, if it still remains, I encourage us to ask for that as well.

If other communities are asking for their neighbors to have a preference, then it should be no different if it exists. So, if it does not exist and that's a different story.

Also discussed earlier is the stipulation for the entire project. Is the approval of the project potentially based upon the approval contingent on HPD funding?

Is that something that the board wants to consider? Concerns that if there is no funding from HPD, what happens? On the other side of that, a commitment from the developer that it stays the same without funding.

Anne Guiney: Thank you for raising those points. The community preference is, as I understand it, it is winding its way through the federal courts. I think the cases, I believe in California, I could be wrong. A lot of people do not expect it to community preference to survive. And so therefore, right now, I think it still exists or is it 50% CD community preference, however, if that goes away by the timeframe of the completion of this project, I think what we can ask for in its place is an incredibly robust marketing plan with local organizations to make sure that people in this community who are eligible are flooding those applications so that they just statistically have a better shot of getting it.

Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho made a motion to except the project with stipulation. The motion was second by Ms. Zulma Novoa. All in members present we in favor. A blanket vote was held. Motion carried.

- 2) Civic Public Safety Religious (CPSR) - The Street Co-naming

Motion from the board to approve the street co-naming request for Gates Avenue and Myrtle Avenue in memoriam of Carmelo Sanchez was made by Gladys Puglla and was second by Elvena Davis. All members present were in favor. Motion carried.

3) Melissa Carrera –

Sea Trio Inc. – 27 Wyckoff Avenue - New LWBC

- Moved to approve with the hours of 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 A.M.
- However, needs to show proof of reaching out to his neighbors.

Cornelia Café 523 LLC – 523 Evergreen Avenue – New LWBC

- Moved to approve only if location owners are willing to shorten their closing time from 4:00 A.M. to 2:00 A.M. from Monday through Sunday. Location located in a residential block.
- Not particularly keen on shortening his closing time
- with no selling liquor after 12:00 A.M. on Sunday

Stanwix Bar LLC – 412 Troutman Street (A/K/A 29 Wyckoff Avenue) – New LWBC

- Moved to approve with establishment closing time be set at 2:00 A.M, not 4AM.
- Must be willing to adhere with the Community Board’s compliance of no liquor selling on Sunday after 12:00 A.M.

Houses of Yes – 2 Wyckoff Avenue – Method of Operation Change – LWBC

- Moved to approve the change of method of operation on how they plan to operate during Covid-19.
- We did receive a few complaints about littering and crowd control. They made a promise to fix.

Bushwick Burger Corp. d/b/a/ Bushwick Burger – 354 Cornelia Street – New WBC

- Moved to approve as is.
- However, needs to show proof of reaching out to his neighbors.

Plaza Ortega Corp. – 140 Stanhope Street – New BC

- Moved to approve however establishment needs to find out about the Bushwick United Head Start.
- Need a letter of support from Head Start Executive Director Mr. Jose Gonzalez.
- Need to reach out to residents on Stanhope Street between Myrtle and Central Avenues.

Motion for a blanket vote was made by Anne Guiney and 2nd by Mr. Robert Camacho. Motion to approve committee’s recommendations. Ms. Novoa abstained. All other members present approved. Motion carried.

8. Old Business

District Manager, Celestina Leon: You have likely heard about the HLU Committee's responsible development policy. I know that there's been a lot of work and effort put into this on behalf of the committee and I hope that they're ready to recommend full board with you in January so please keep your eyes open for that information shortly and hopefully, we'll be able to use that in discussions with developers, moving forward.

A lot of the same questions we ask every time a lot of the details, the information, it's a framework that really is supposed to inform developers before they even come to our meetings of the expectation from the community as it relates to development in Bushwick.

9. New Business

Chairperson, Robert Camacho: Assemblywomen, Maritza Davila hosting a forum tomorrow December 17 on Zoom title "Know Your Rights". You must register to attend. Sponsored by the Bushwick Housing Independence Project and Assembly Member Maritza Davila, 6:30PM.

On December 22 there will be a food drive. There will be a lot of people bringing food stuffs. We can give out to the people what is really needed in Bushwick. Everybody is giving us stuff and we are getting it together. I'm getting things from different places. We're doing our best it is there for whoever needs it.

Let's get the message out! There's a lot of organizations involved. So if you are interested in getting involve please give me a call or let me know at the end of the meeting, and I'll connect you with the person that's doing it and where we're going to meet.

District Manager: I also have a request from a resident that wanted to speak just briefly Mr. Camacho in reference to the lot that used to be the Secret Garden located on Gates and Linden.

He briefly would like to share the information with the neighborhood about what's going on there. Is that okay for him to speak to our new business? He wanted a moment to address everyone. Is that okay?

Chairperson: yeah, just briefly

District Manager: Juan are you there?

Juan: Yes, I'm here. Yes, Hi I'm going to take your attention in this development. At the beginning, it was supposed to be a mixed-use development on the corner with a 6 story height, now it is said to be a 20 story building instead apartment building.

I think it's something to be unprecedented to have a 20 Story building in this area. But I'm not an expert, but the reason I bring this up is not only for that. According to the person I talked to, zoning the city of New York is it's not up to code. So, I would like to know how we could challenge this with the Department of building. Thank you

District Manager: Just so everyone knows as soon as I heard that from Juan I had a chance to take a look at the schematics, which is all publicly available through the Department of Buildings, Building information system.

I was able to flag this with our Department of Building's liaison, our City Planning liaison as well as the Economic Development Corporations liaison as well. They have all been involved in these discussions since the summer. I haven't just heard from Juan, I've also heard from his neighbors also in regard to this project. Everyone is concerned and there's been a variety of proposals that have not at least to my knowledge, been approved by the Dept. of Buildings yet. I did mention that specifics that we saw was the parking that is not supposed to be allowed. There is a respective declaration on this land that dates to many, many, many years ago.

When Ms. Hansley was stewarding the space and had a relationship with the previous owner. I spoke with the Economic Development Corporation over the summer they said it's supposed to be a publicly accessible green space. I've emphasized this for all, three of those liaisons is

looking into it and they said they will get back to me. That email was sent earlier this week and I'm still awaiting their response.

What I would like to do with the committee's blessing of course, is have them come. It's not a requirement, I want to be very clear. This is a private development. However, I will reach out and perhaps we will have someone that is receptive that would like to share more information. However, they are not required. I want to make that distinction to the community, because they're not seeking a zoning change.

They are acting within the current zoning, or at least that's what they're trying to do. However, we are certainly watching this project as it develops.

Thank you, Juan, for attending this evening. I know it's been a long meeting, but we appreciate you sharing this information with the community.

Juan: Thank you. As the board follows up on this, I would like to be part of it.

Anne Guiney: We should absolutely bring this to the Housing and Land Use Committee. I will follow up with Celeste and then we will both follow up with you. Whatever makes the most sense.

Ms. Elvena Davis: The Green Space that was the old Secret Garden. One of the things we need to preserve that is because there is a lot of nature back there. It is behind my house and I could see it all the time.

It is basically a bird sanctuary. You have so many different breeds of birds that live behind that large space there. Any development, parking lot or anything would totally ruin it. We need to keep that space because even some of the neighbors were talking to me about seeing birds that they have never seen before in the community. When you can turn around and see a Red Tail Hawk in this community, most people don't even know what a Red Tail Hawk is, or a Black Cat Chickadee, we even use to have woodpeckers back there. If there were to have construction there, the ecosystem back there. So, we need to make sure that we preserve that.

Juan: Not only that, the plan is for 114 spots and that they are going to have a 3-level forklift. There is going to be 3, 6 spots and there will be a lot of noise at any time of the day, just to move cars around.

Chairperson, Camacho: That is no good. So, we'll, work on that and we'll make sure that we get on top of it.

10. Announcements

Cindy Ezcurra: I am a personal and career counselor for Job Corps Scholars at Kingsborough Community College.

We are offering a couple of options for students from ages 18 to 24. They run from health care to business to trade programs.

We want to point out that this is free, tuition money towards books, supplies and certification exams. Job readiness, workshops and events, personal and career counseling and college enrollment.

The program will begin in March. We are basically recruiting a lot of students and in the communities in Brooklyn, we're really excited!

Raul Rubio: Is it only for students in Brooklyn?

Cindy: It's geared towards the communities and groups because of the location, but we are open to students in New York. In general, we just thinking about transportation and all things of that nature, but because of the virtual world that we're living in right now they are accessible online and for instance, for boroughs.

Marcus Harris, Representing the Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams: Regarding the first public hearing item there will be a ULURP regarding that on Monday December 21 at 6PM. It will be done virtually. I will send the information over to Celeste. So, if you want to voice testimony, the vice president will make his decision based on what the community is saying. Regarding the meeting that was held tonight, I will report back today's vote. If anyone else would like to speak about it, attend the meeting Monday at 6pm.
Happy holidays. Everyone.

Jonathan Pomboza Representing the DA's office: I don't have the information in front of me, but there was a press release. A Bronx man was indicted. He ran a scam calling senior citizens. Calls were made all throughout Crown Heights, Bushwick, Bedford Stuyvesant and he stole anywhere from \$2 to \$1500.
The senior citizens said that they received calls saying that they were lawyer, and their grandchild was in jail on bail. So, just please keep an eye out on our seniors. Contact them, make sure that they're okay. Be aware that there are people trying to take advantage of a vulnerable population during this time, especially when people are so isolated. And that's my only announcement. Just also wishing everyone happy holidays and happy New year.

Julio Salazar, Representing Congresswoman Velasquez's office: Good evening everyone first happy holidays to everyone, our district manager and chairperson, and the entire board and attendees.
Hopefully in the coming days, I'll send the chairman and the district manager an update on the stimulus. Talks are happening, right as we speak, we're waiting for news ourselves. Our team is waiting to hear back from the legislative team on what's happening. It was a pleasure working with you this year. I am looking forward to the next year and connecting with you all. Thank you.

Taeka Haraguthi, Representing Comptroller Scott Stringer's office: The office just released the Annual Making the Grade Report. This is an annual report that issues letter grades to city agencies based on the levels of spending success to MWBE, Minority and Women owned Business Enterprise. The grades are based on the framework of local 1 of 2013, which set MWBE participation goal for mayoral agencies. So, essentially, the goal of the report is to shining light on the city spending and to encourage all the agencies to increase utilization, to further increase transparency. There's a set of dynamic interactive maps that illustrate the city's spending with certified by race, ethnicity, gender, community district and borough from fiscal years 2011 to fiscal years 2016. It just highlights where the spending is and is not. We know that in terms of ethic, advocacy, and concentrating on making this a priority for agencies that all agencies can improve their grades.
I thought this could be an interesting update for board for. And I will share the report in the chat box. Thank you.

Ms. Zulma Novoa: I just got worried about this while we were doing this meeting tonight. We're going to be doing a PPE distribution. I have a team set up I will give you everyone the information, but I'm going to give everyone my work cell #. I will into chat box which is 347-633-5249. The reason I'm giving myself work number is because I will like any organization,

houses of worship, anyone who wants to hand out sanitizers and PPE items to please give me a call. Everyone is welcome to call me.

Ms. Barbara Smith: We just want everyone to know this year. We couldn't have a toy giveaway. I'm supplying toys to families that had been laid off from their job and anyone that had someone in the family that had the virus. I'm supplying toys for those families. Donations are needed. We can give 141 kids at least 3 toys.

The District Manager shared a video with the audience, however there was no sound. The DM will send the video link in the chat and email it to the board members to view later.

11. **Second Roll Call:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Anne Guiney and second by Raul Rubio. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04PM

Robert Camacho: Merry Christmas! Love you! Happy New Year!