

Brooklyn Community Board 4  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 @6pm

Zoom Broadcast

Chairperson: Robert Camacho  
District Manager: Celestina Leon

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Meeting Start: 6:05pm

Celeste called the meeting to order welcoming everyone before asking Ms. McIntosh-Greene to begin as the first public hearing item.

**Public Hearing:**

- 1) **Isis McIntosh-Greene, New York State Independent Redistricting Committee** – providing an overview of redistricting and the current process.

So, New York's Independent Redistricting Commission, these are social media platforms that you can all follow us on specifically I would like to draw your attention to our YouTube page. Over the course of the summer, we had a number of listening tours happening where almost 300 New Yorkers came together to be able to share their ideas for what the new congressional State Senate and Assembly maps should look like, as well as to explain their community of interest. If you are interested in seeing some of those testimonies, you can go to our YouTube page to be able to review that. Let me just start off really quickly with a timeline. So back in 2014, New Yorkers voted to approve this ballot proposal--Proposition one to be able to take the initial map drawing process out of the hands of legislature, the state legislature and into the hands of this independent commission.

Now, moving forward to 2021 is when the 10 member commission finally received the resources from the state government to be able to begin its process, his process, all led up to, on September 15 when we release two sets of maps for both congressional districts, state senate districts and state assembly districts, and now the reason why I'm here with you all tonight is to be able to get you all to sign up to participate with our upcoming hearings. Our Brooklyn hearing is actually going to be taking place at Medgar Evers College on Tuesday, November 16, at 3pm, and today is actually our first day of kicking off our hearings. We just had our hearing in Buffalo if some of you may have participated in that one or viewed it. So, who are our commissioners? Our chair is David Imamura and Vice Chair Jack Moore.

Essentially, the biggest thing that we get the most questions about is with the after the US Census, we understand that New York State was slated to lose one to two seats, and based on the data

that was received New York State was slated to lose one meaning that we are going down to 26 congressional districts, I would just like to be able to show you kind of where congressional districts, over the last, essentially 50 to 60 years have been moving to across the country. The last time New York State was essentially at its peak was in 1951, at 45 congressional members, and as we're seeing the rate of population increase is really trending towards the West as well as towards the southern states.

Now I would like to share with you just some information about a ballot measure that is also going to be Proposition one on the ballot this year, there's actually going to be five ballot measures so I do encourage you to familiarize yourself with the language on the ballot measure, I can only speak for myself, but I know in past elections, I've gotten to the ballot I've known or felt pretty confident about who I was voting for. And then I flipped the ballot over and I said okay well what's this, I just wanted to just be able to make sure when you get to the ballot, it's not your first time singing one of the ballot measures.

So essentially, this proposed constitutional amendment would freeze the number of state senators at 63. Amend the process for the counting of the state's population, delete certain provisions that violate the United States Constitution. Repeal and amend certain requirements for the appointment of a co executive directors of the redistricting commission and amend the manner of drawing district lines or congressional and state legislative offices, shall the proposed amendment be approved. And on the right-hand side the bold text is really just breaking down what that paragraph would do. One would be locking the number of state senators at 63 as I go on with the presentation, you'll see that since 2010. New York State has grown in about 800,000 people in population according to the 2020 US census data.

What this would do was to ensure that regardless of how much more our population grows, that there would only be 63 state senators. It also would affirm that total population will be the basis for districts. So I know that, of course, under maybe the last federal administration, there were a lot of concerns going around with the census of will, non-citizens being excluded or will Native Americans be excluded. And this is to make sure that in future redistricting processes that New York State will continue to do what was done in the last census rounds which is utilizing total population. This will also handle or codify what New York State has also been doing regarding the reassignment of prison population, essentially for state prisons. Also, this would change the redistricting timeline.

So as it was back in 2014, when the redistricting commission came about or was voted on, primary elections were in September, however they've since moved to June. So since we don't actually have to provide maps, our next set of maps, after we get all of your lovely individual feedback. So the legislature and so January is a very tight timeline in order to go to the next step which is to actually get those maps passed and hopefully be able to be implemented for the 2022 primary election, as you know many of you may have taken part in campaigns or just the political process in total and understand that in February is usually when Petitioner was petitioning starts. People can't really petition a district that they don't know what is going to be the confines of their district.

What this would do would for our timeline, it would move it up to weeks, requiring the current independent redistricting commission to provide the maps by January 1 of 2022, so safe to say I'll have a long New Year's. But then, it will also make sure that in future redistricting cycles that the maps. The initial maps would actually have to be provided to the legislature by November 1. So really moving up that process, about two months. Also, this would eliminate a rule called black on border that has affected how Senate, how the New York State Senate lines are drawn. However,

I just would like to provide a disclaimer that I'm just sharing this information with you so you understand what is on the ballot, not telling you how to vote or what would be the best option for this. This is for you to be able to go back to your community, and figure out the, the, the needs of your community. Now, back to that population that I promise, probably no surprise as a Brooklynites, but 39 to 62 counties in New York State lost population with [see recording] County having the largest population on loss. Now 23 of 62 counties so growth with Kings County being the largest percentage of growth was 9.2%, essentially, that was about an additional 600,000 people added just alone to the Brooklyn population, and then this here is showing a more county level data with percentage loss as well as to the raw data.

What I will mention is that all of this information is available on the US Census Bureau's website, but it is something that we thought would be important to include in the presentation for you all. Now, as we also see New York City, continuing to, to serve, basically go into a surplus, but now also Yonkers overtook Rochester as New York's third largest city, and so we're starting to see trends that more people are moving into our urban centers.

Now, really the reason why I'm here is to get these numbers up so I mentioned before about the public listening tour that took place in the summertime. Now, just how we were able to just talk about the numbers at Kings County being the largest borough, or the largest county in New York State, the Kings County speaker list was actually paired with King County. There were only 56 speakers, and when we look at written testimony, there were only about 111 pages of written testimony. It is so imperative that now that we actually have the maps out. Now that we have been able to provide copies, which is available on our website, and why [irc.gov](http://irc.gov) And I will be putting it into chat for those that find it easier to just click the link there is a tab that caught that is called draft, maps, and I will share that, just so you can at least be familiar with it, where you can actually layer current maps with the, with the suggested maps to see what actually changed. Okay, great.

So when you go to the website that is [irc.gov](http://irc.gov). Click on draft maps. Now if you are on a computer or any device that can really take or have a lot of storage, you can actually download these maps, and you'll get a color-coded breakdown of the maps, as well as the data inside of them I wouldn't suggest doing it from your phone, because it'll probably slow the functions down. However, if you are using your phone or the computer, this tool right here I find to be the most helpful. I do have this legend over here and for right now, I'll just highlight the congressional district boundaries, and this is only for New York State so it's not going to be that helpful. If you would like to look at other states.

As you zoom in, you'll be able to see the current congressional district layout, and you'll actually be able to click on the map and you will see the info or essentially what the population is. Now, if you want it to be able to layer it or you want it to look at one map on its own, on one set of maps that were released was called the names map, you will have to click on it to be able to see the configuration, they didn't actually none of the commissioners actually labeled them numbers as not to confuse your will. And really not to confuse themselves. And then of course we have the congressional letters maps as well, so you can really just use this feature to play around with different boundaries. I heard of the healing that we all are asking you to participate in.

One thing that I would like to note is that in order to participate or sign up in the hearing, you can participate virtually, or you can participate at Medgar Evers College in person. I will note that the hearing starts at 3pm but does that mean that if you're not available until 6pm, that you won't be able to testify, we encourage you to sign up to testify. If you have any type of time constraint because we imagine that, especially for New York City hearings that the, the time will go or these presentations will go quite far, but long, you will have three minutes to testify and there will be two minutes available for questions and answers from the commissioners to the person testifying.

If you for some reason are a little bit shy and don't want to testify in person, or virtually, please submit written testimony, it's really important that even if you have a draft of a map that you'd like to see if you like the lines tell us that if you hate the lines tell us that. But as we move forward into the next process which is making the essential adjustments. The next step is sending that over to the legislature and thank you so much for allowing me to speak today, and I'll turn it back over to Community Board 4.

**Celeste:** Thank you, Isis. Any questions, board members?

**Question:** Yes, I pulled up the map, thank you for sharing that link. I'm a little confused. The difference between the draft letters plans and the draft names plan if you maybe you said it and I just I missed it but if you wouldn't mind just explaining that because I'm just looking at the district boundaries right now.

**Answer:** Sure, so the commission put out two sets of maps, one being letters, the other being names, and really is just looking for the public to be able to respond to either both of them, or whichever they prefer. Essentially, I know other states have put out several, some states have put out several maps I know a lot of people were wondering why we didn't put out one set of maps, but I think that the commissioners thought that they didn't really want to make concessions, behind closed doors, as opposed to just showing the public, which maps they came up with and allow the public to be able to decide, you know, what should they, what do they believe more intimately responds to the needs of their community.

**Question:** So is there an if maybe could you explain just a little What does letters mean what does names mean in that so it has no behind the scenes, meaning it's just what the actual coding of the map is.

**Answer:** So for instance when you go to one part of the map and you download the data, it will correspond with a as that map, or it may say, like, you know, pin border would be the names map.

Okay. Thank you very much, appreciate that.

**Jose Guzman:** Oh say good evening everybody. I think the great thing is, this will be proceeding for a rational estate in the city council. And I invited both the coordinators who played with them. I think that maybe we can have a wait that we're going to explain a little bit more in detail later on. Out is critical. There are some changes. I guess my question for you is to thank you so much for the percentage. Otherwise, I think that was not hearing the right theory of rights that there's going to be only appearance.

**Answer:** Thank you so much for your question, Jose. I just shared my screen to be able to show all of the hearings, so there will be a hearing in each county. Um, so it'll be a hearing in 14 regions across New York State. The buffalo one already took place today, we have Rochester tomorrow, but in respect to New York City, we're doing it in every county in New York City. So we have one in Bronx County, New York County, Richmond County, Kings County and Queens County. Our King's County is going to be at Medgar Evers College on Tuesday November 16, at 3pm, all of our New York City, and White Plains hearing is starting at 3pm because we anticipate that there will be a higher demand of people hoping to testify.

And you can participate in that hearing, either in person or virtually, but you have to sign up before 48 hours. So essentially, the latest you can sign up is Sunday November 14 So if you are interested, it's better to go online right now and sign up, and then figure out what you wanted to say, but because you can always withdraw.

**Celeste:** And just a reminder folks we know that everyone's very busy and sometimes you may be in noisy areas, please be mindful whenever there's background noise because we can absolutely hear it. Any other questions board members. Alright if you don't mind stopping to share your screen just so I can check to see if there are any other questions from folks in the chat. All right, seeing none. Last call. Any questions and I understand there are a few board members that aren't panelists yet I'm multitasking right now if you have a question, please just bear with me. You can drop it in the chat. I'm trying to add everyone and keep us moving along.

Isis, thank you for joining us this evening, since I don't hear anything else we'll go ahead, and we'll wrap up. Should we miss a question this evening I'll happily pass it along and make sure we get a response in case anyone has additional questions.

**Isis:** Great, thank you and thank you to Community Board 4 for allowing me to present.

**Celeste:** Alright, moving on to the Department of Health, I know we have Nicole Anderson. Nicole, are you there?

2) **Nicole Anderson, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene** – presenting on the agency's Nutrition Incentive program.

Yes, alright, I am going to share my screen so you can see my slides. One moment. Hi everyone, thanks for having me today. I'm really excited to join your meeting.

My name is Nicole Anderson and I'm the Senior Manager of the nutrition and sentence portfolio here at the New York City Health Department, and I'm really excited to join your conversation today to tell you a little bit about our nutrition programs. So the health department's Nutrition Incentive Programs work to address inequitable access to fruits and vegetables, by helping produce more affordable food, given the extraordinary levels of food insecurity currently in New York City, exacerbated by the COVID 19 pandemic. We understand that New Yorkers want nutritious food on the table but may not always have the resources to do so.

Our Nutrition Incentive Programs provide people with money to buy fruits and vegetables, helping address the cost barrier to eating more nutritious food, specifically fruits, vegetables and beans. Our programs are funded by city dollars, and two grants from the USDA, we seek to help make fruits and vegetables more affordable for community members with lower incomes through our programming and combined our incentive programs reach 10s of 1000s of New Yorkers and distribute more than \$2 million worth of produce each year. So today I'm going to talk about our screening programs, which are health bucks which are at farmer's markets, get the good stuff at supermarkets and half off farm box, which is that food box, and farm share site across New York City. So to start, what's a \$2 coupon that can be used to buy fresh fruits and vegetables at all New York City farmers markets?

The health bucks program aims to make fresh produce more affordable and to support farmers markets which are important access points for fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables. Currently there are over 130 farmers markets in New York City. Many operate year-round. The helmets program launched in the South Bronx in 2005 and has expanded to be the largest city run fruit and vegetable incentive program in the nation. Last year, in 2020, over 640,000 Health books worth more than \$1.2 million were distributed, and to locate a farmers' market near you can visit the Health bucks web page which I'll put in the chat a little bit later, or go to nyc.gov and search for health bucks or text so good 8777

So help books are distributed a few different ways, including one at New York City farmers markets, as a Snap incentive to buy community and faith based organizations through their nutrition and health programming, and three buy organizations and elected officials at purchase box, I'll go into a little bit more detail right now about each of those methods, community members who participated snack, also known as food stamps, can get help us when they shop at New York City farmers market, using their SNAP benefits on an EBT card. So for every \$2 spent using snap at New York City farmers markets, shoppers get \$2 and help bucks, up to \$10 and help bucks per day.

This incentive level is actually new this year; previously shoppers had to spend \$5 to get \$2 and under the old incentive model customers would have had to spend \$25 and snap to get \$10 and health packs, and under our new two for two. Model customers spend 10 and snap and get 10 and help books, doubling their spending power at markets. Just to give a sense of scale, like I mentioned that last year we distributed over \$640,000 worth of health books through the health Buck snap incentive. We also get health bucks to hundreds of local communities and faith-based organizations, distributed to their communities, every summer and fall. We do this through releasing an application for HealthBox and inviting organizations that serve New Yorkers with low incomes to fill it out.

Approved organizations given a limited number of health bucks to handout, along with farmers market maps and postcards, explaining the health Buck snap incentive, this distribution method helps promote farmers markets and the health but snap incentive. It's also a way to reach people who may not be able to access the health web snap incentive, because they do not participate in SNAP due to documentation status, or an income above the eligibility threshold. Each year, about 500 organizations distribute health books through their nutrition and health programming, and more than \$225,000 worth of health books were distributed by community-based organizations last year.

Lastly, elected officials, not for profit organizations, and for-profit companies can purchase health books, distribute them to community members. This is a really great option for community organizations that want more health books and we're able to provide them for free. And for-profit organizations that aren't eligible for free help us through the application. In recent years, local elected officials are just helping us to distribute to constituents to increase access to fresh, locally grown produce and to support local farmers markets. Last year five local leaders purchased over \$100,000 with the health bucks.

People love the health bucks and we're committed to continuing to support the program so that all New Yorkers can access fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, and so that farmers markets thrive in New York City. At the same time, we recognize that a small percentage of New Yorkers with SNAP actually shopped at farmer's markets and utilized the program. In an effort to reach more New Yorkers by meeting them where they are. We launched get the good stuff, your city's first supermarket-based nap incentive program in 2019 through get the good stuff for every \$1 spent on eligible fruits, vegetables and beans, you'd like snack shoppers get \$1 on their pink, get the good stuff card up to \$10 per day to buy more eligible food. Next time, They're at the supermarket.

Eligible foods include fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs, frozen, canned and jarred fruits, vegetables and beans, without any added sugar, salt, or fat and dry beans, lentils, and fruits without any added sugar, salt, shoppers can sign up for the program at a particular hitting supermarket, customer service desk, and get a pink card. This is a picture of the card right there.

And to get money on the paint card participants shop for eligible fruits, vegetables and beans, and then at the register, they scan their pink card before paying with their EBT card. The store's

computer system calculates the amount spent on eligible fruits and vegetables and adds that amount to the pink card up to \$10 per day. If a customer spends \$5 in SNAP, an eligible fruits, vegetables and beans, they get \$5 on their pink card if they spend \$10, they get \$10 then to spend the money on the pay card customers just have to scan their card next time they're at the store, and tell the cashier they want to use the money on the pay card to pay for their eligible purchases money in the pink card gets adapted and applied to the purchase.

So far, over 8500 community members have signed up for the program and redeemed, more than \$1.5 million dollars in fruit and vegetable incentives, currently six supermarkets, offer the program, including four in the Bronx, one in Brooklyn, and one in Queens, the stores are all located in New York City zip codes where 20% or more of a population with below the federal poverty level, then we're planning to expand the program to 18 more supermarkets, next year, for a total of 24 stores.

We're going to issue an RFP in the next few months to identify stores to participate in that expansion, and to be eligible stores will have to be located in a neighborhood, identified as a priority by New York City's taskforce on racial inclusion and equity, due to high COVID-19 mortality and case rates, high prevalence of chronic illness, and a large number of individuals experiencing poverty and preexisting health conditions, stores will also have to use an electronic point of sale system and contract with a POS vendor willing to work with us on the incentive program. And then we're also looking for stores that sell a wide selection of fruits and vegetables and have high snap sales.

In order to maximize program reach, and make sure we're partnering with stores that New Yorkers with snap want to shop. Here are a couple of quotes from program participants. I'll just pause for a moment so that everyone has a chance to read.

Third incentive program launched this summer and it's called hat offer. We're partnering with a box and Farmshare operators citywide to offer a 50% discount on pre-assembled boxes of locally and regionally grown produce for customers paying with snap arm boxes or pre-assembled boxes of fresh produce procured from local and regional farmers. Each box typically contains six to 10 items of fresh, high quality produce, and they must be pre ordered one week in advance, the cost of each batch varies by site, but typically is around five to \$10 with the \$10, or with the 50% discount.

We encourage New Yorkers to visit a site near them to find out more, and to get the half off Starbucks discount, community members with a snapshot visit a participating half off our website, which I'll share, share a list of the sites in just a moment. And then when they're at Farm Buck site, they can order a box pickup the following week, and pay with their SNAP benefits to get the half off discount. Participants should then return to the site. The following week, at the designated date and time, and pick up their box of fresh farm produce. And at that time they could order a box for the following week if they wish and get that same 50% discount, as long as they're paying us now. Currently we are partnered with three organizations that operate sites citywide, we are in touch with several more organizations that operate on feedback sites and farm shares and hope



to offer the discount at their sites and in the coming months, so we're really hoping to expand this list.

Over the next few months within next year as the program continues to grow. These are Manhattan and Staten Island sites. And that brings me to how your community board can get involved. We would really love if you could help spread the word about the health one SNAP incentive about get the good stuff and half off our books, am happy to share electronic or printed materials, including Farmers Market maps postcards describing the health buck SNAP incentive and a flyer with a list of stores participating and get the good stuff, and information about how the program works.

You can also encourage local community and faith-based organizations to apply for re health buffs distributed through their nutrition and health programming. And you can encourage local leaders to purchase health packs and distribute them to constituents. We're not taking any more requests this year to help us through that CBO application, or for purchases, but more HealthBox will be available next year. And we'll issue the application for CBO Health Bucks in spring 2022 and start distributing coupons in July 2022, and then local elected officials will be able to use their FYI 23 funds to purchase Health Bucks beginning next summer.

That's all I have. Thanks again for inviting me today and I'd love to take questions if there's time.

**Celeste:** Absolutely. Thank you, Nicole. And just a quick note so I know I've had some issues, making board members panelists so if you're not a panelist I have made you just have the option to be able to speak so I'm not sure what the problem is with that but just for the board members who aren't panelists, you should have the option to speak at this point I will be reviewing the attendance list throughout the meeting. But now we'll go to questions for the Department of Health, any questions board members.

**Hadiyah:** Hi, my name is Hadiyah. I do have a question, perhaps I might have, you may have already explained this, but I may have missed. Outside of the 50% discount for the farm box, what would be the incentive for say a SNAP recipient to utilize the help, bucks I understand there now is a one to one ratio where how however much your stamps are worth, you get that in equal amounts, but you can just shop, produce at whatever grocery store, existing it like what, what is the incentive, like how's this, like what's different, I don't. I didn't get that.

**Answer:** Sure, so the health foods program aims to make fresh, locally grown produce that is sold at local farmers markets more affordable. And so for every \$2 spent in snap at New York City farmers markets shoppers get \$2.12 bucks, up to \$10 per day. So we're really trying to make farmers markets produce older farmers markets more affordable so that all New Yorkers can access it.

**Hadiyah:** Okay so for somebody with a large family and they may need to spend more than \$10 a day. Do they have that option, or they just have to show up to the farmers market location every day?

**Answer:** They can spend however much they want on using their SNAP benefits, we will provide that too for two matches up to \$10 per day. They could spend \$20 in their SNAP benefits and get \$10 in health spots and have a total of \$30 to spend on the market.

**Hadiyah:** Okay, understood. Thank you.

**Carlotta:** I noticed the supermarkets, the woman, all the way over to Fort Hamilton the Brooklyn one, is there anything to look at.

**Answer:** Well right now, the program is at six supermarkets, and we've recently received two grants to expand the grocery store program, and so that we're working on that right now, we're actually drafting a request for proposals that we're going to issue hopefully before the end of the year. To select new supermarkets to offer the program, so we're really hoping to expand the program's footprint in Brooklyn, you know, with just one store, that's not enough.

**Carlotta:** There used to be a farmers' market on Greement Cook. What happened to that?

**Anne:** East Williamsburg, yes.

**Answer:** Yeah, I do know that some markets did not open last year due to the pandemic. I'm not sure. I think some of those markets have stayed closed and some have reopened, but I'm not sure what happened with that specific market.

**Carlotta:** What happens if you don't have SNAP that you need to buy some of these fresh fruits and veggies, because not everyone who has met money.

**Answer:** Yeah, I hear that all of the funding that we receive through the USDA is for people with SNAP benefits, and that's why our programs are targeting that population. Unfortunately, at this time, our incentive programs. For the most part don't really reach New Yorkers who don't have snap, we do have we do distribute health clubs through that community-based organization model, and that's where, community organizations, faith-based organizations can apply for a limited number of bucks, and distribute them to anyone who accesses their services. And so someone without snap could certainly access Health Bucks that way, but most of our programs are structured around SNAP benefits because that's where our funding comes from.

**Barbara Jackson:** It's hard to get snap if you make \$1 Too much you can't you can't get snap for responsible people.

**Answer:** You know I hear that we often hear that people who could really benefit from SNAP benefits, or don't meet the income threshold because of this.

**Anne Guiney:** Miss Williams actually asked one of my questions. We have a very large community of folks that do not have documentation or who are not aware that maybe they can get SNAP, if they have kids born here. So that's a huge issue.

And I guess the second question would be, what is the outreach to supermarkets because there are a couple supermarkets in this community do serve. I mean actually, all the supermarkets but what is the outreach to them, and what is when you say it's an RFP or request for proposals, I am guessing that they are getting some benefit from participating in this too. And I guess.

And then the third question would be, our mutual aid organizations or for community-based organization do you have to have a 50c3, or there's so many church groups in this community as in mutual aid groups who might not be 501c3, who could do incredible work in getting those health books out into the community.

**Answer:** Thank you for those questions. Here, first question I think about how we are going to promote the art, the supermarket RFP and disseminate it. It'd be really great if you happen to have the email contact information and email addresses for the stores in your community. I will be sure to send it to them when it's available. We're really trying to get the word out about the puzzles, through various presentations, including to supermarket groups through point of sale, vendors that we've worked with in the past. And just there are a variety of like connections that we have, but I will take any supermarket contact information you have, we want to get it out to as many stores as possible.

As far as the benefit to the store, I think the benefit is that I mean we've heard just anecdotally from stores that they, and that their produce sales have increased, and that their produce goes to waste. Because I think more people are buying it. And so, you know, for every dollar that is redeemed on fresh or on fruits and vegetables at the store through the incentive program, the store gets reimbursed. So we're hoping that the program is increasing sales and are trying to measure that, as well as the program goes on.

And then as far as distributing health books to organizations that are not 501 C threes. In the past, we've always stuck with, not for profits that are 501 C three organizations, um, but it sounds like something maybe we need to revisit, because it sounds like there could be okay it's a good way to get them out to through mutual aid organizations, or multiple mutual aid organizations in the community and multiple churches in the community, all of whom have food programs, maybe not as formal as a CBO, but are doing and have been doing especially during the pandemic, a lot of this work. So I think that would, if that would be a very helpful thing, if you guys can follow up on that and figure out just because we're nobodies incorporate it as a 501 C three, maybe there are other avenues to get it.

**Anne:** Yeah, thank you for that well on, we'll explore it more.

**Jo-Ena Bennett:** And I don't see how you could possibly have missed the Brooklyn Borough President's office, which has a farmers' market right downtown, it would seem to go all the way

to Fort Hamilton, and not have connected with the Brooklyn Borough President's office. It seemed like a big, you know, I hope that you plan to tap into that. And they've been existing for a while and people can come down there, there's the courthouses, they come down there for shopping. It's a great place. And I'm guessing that Antonio Reynoso, who will probably become the next Brooklyn Borough President, would love to continue that program and even help expand it if necessary.

My other thing is I'm listening to the SNAP program, which is great. But it seems to me that there needs to be some recalculation and eligibility, everybody is hearing on the news, how the price of everything is going up, period. And, and, and for people who have snap, they're pretty much covered for lunch stuff. But for the everyday person who may be working, and making a lot of money, those are the people who really need it, who can't afford to buy groceries anymore. And it seems as though the people that you're covering are already benefiting from the people who are working and paying tax, and that the people who are working to pay your taxes are being left out in the cold. Once again, we keep falling through the cracks, and you have really ended. And it's common knowledge, you go to the supermarket today. And things have not gone up by a nickel or a dime, they're increasing by 50 cents, \$1, and more.

So there's going to be another group of people who are working people who are going to be eating the very thing that you don't want them to eat unhealthy food. And I don't think you really need to do some sort of recalculation to determine your eligibility. This is not, you know, I don't work for MSNBC. But I know just by being a consumer, how the prices are going up on everything. And this is going to really hurt people. And your program is letting a lot of people fall to the safety net. And I'm sure that's what this is about, to provide a safety net to help people stay alive and healthy. So those are my comments, and it sounds like a great program. But I've already expressed my concerns, and I appreciate the presentation.

**Celeste:** I do have a question in the chat. I think this is going off of Anne's question as well, how do faith-based organizations obtain health bucks? I don't know if there's a process for them to do that.

**Answer:** So if these organizations can reach out to me, I put my email address in the chat. And we will send them the application for health bucks next spring when we release it again, we've already given out all of our 2021 health bucks. So we're out of the CBO health bucks this year. We're continuing to distribute them at farmer's markets, but we're out of the ones that go to community-based organizations. But next year, we will distribute them again and we will release the application in spring 22. So I'm happy to send it to anyone who will share their email address.

**Barbara Jackson:** I think the farmers market downtown is not the same thing that she's talking about. Because during the year we get coupons or once a year we get coupons that we can use at the farmers market, like on Knickerbocker or the Rheingold so I think it's two different farmers losses that she's referring to.

**Answer:** Just to clarify, um, I believe the farmers market in downtown Brooklyn is I think that's Brooklyn Borough Hall.

**Barbara:** If I remember correctly, we get coupons. Yeah. We get like five for our coupons in the book.

**Answer:** Yeah, so our program is actually in the store. So they're different from your farmers market. So again, just to clarify all just about all 130 or so, farmers markets in New York City distribute health bucks through the SNAP incentive program, that's where for every \$2 you spend at the market on an EBT card, you get \$2, and how plus up to \$10 on health bucks per day. So those health bucks are available at the market. When people swipe their EBT card, I think the program you're talking about might be the farmers market nutrition program. Those checks are distributed in booklets, and they go to, I think directly to people and community members, but those are just to spend at the market where you get when you make an EBT purchase, you'll get help. So the programs are a little bit different, which can be kind of confusing, but they vary. they overlap and they're all redeemable at these same farmers markets.

3) **Harold Miller, NYC Racial Justice Commission** - providing an update on the Commission's efforts thus far.

The Commission is empowered to, you know, to look at racial inequity that exists in city government and to use the power of the charter to start to root that out. And so, the mayor appoints 11 commissioners to this board, including Jennifer Jones, Austin, who is the chair, she is the so for those who may not know, the charter is amendments for voters to consider. The Commission may also invite New Yorkers and experts to share their experiences and ideas, which we have been doing. The mission is to empower; with the legal authority of the charter revision commission will seize the transformative potential of this moment in history to identify and propose structural changes and significant positive forms that will advance racial justice and equity and begin to dismantle structural racism for all New Yorkers. This work is necessary because systematic racism frames people's lives and defines which decision or prioritize access the ability to procure and benefit from services and resources, and capital, and opportunity, the ability to take meaningful advantage of power and access to achieve prosperity.

So our mission support and this methodology in July we began our public engagement. We took a couple of different tracks, but one we brought in experts around the city and had been called issue area panel sessions. As you can see on the screen here, we had discussions around health and mental health education, housing, you know, planning for ratio, equitable future economic and closing the wealth gap, early foundations making sure from the public directly. Some of the themes that we heard from the public engagement process. I'm not going to go through each of them, but you know, just highlight some budget, justice, measurement, disparate impacts and remedy disparities and race neutral decision making. Making sure that we prioritize priorities, prioritization or ratio, equity and city, the city A website [nyc.gov slash racial justice](https://nyc.gov/racial-justice) to get a copy of the report and number six enforcement and accountability of government entities.

So we're asking New Yorkers to consider a couple of questions here. How has this pattern of inequity impacted you and your community? You can choose any of the six of the inequities who needs to be involved to address this pattern equity. This could include city agencies or like what the ballot proposals will be for you to consider to vote to move big and bold structural change to make our city a more equitable place.

And so our next steps as I talked a little bit about with you is that we have our report out now when right now in our next phase of engagement along with our team harder work doing the research and legal so you know, we want to spread the word see on Instagram and Facebook, assuming those two platforms are working. And then all you've got to watch is the racial justice Commission on our YouTube channel, whether it be our public input sessions, the commission meetings themselves, or the panel, the extra panels that I talked about earlier on our YouTube channel [youtube.com slash racial justice](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC.../racial-justice).

**Desmonde Monroe:** Both these acronyms pick up the same thing. So how can we guarantee that this is going to come to fruition? especially under a new mayor?

**Answer:** No, that's a great way to do something about it and to actually have accountability measures in play. We're not when I know that we're not going to end racism with one charter commission. But what we want to do is actually use this opportunity to take significant chunks out of racial inequity that are so rooted into city government and actually do something that has some structural changes to it.

But I will stress that, you know, and here's the compliance behind that. And what we're saying is that we actually want to take something directly to voters is not going to go through the sausage making of the mayor's office and the City Council. Bushwick, which is a community of color, has one of the highest burdens. And, you know, the way that we kind of ran, you know, like that the number three inequity bucket that we laid out is to talk about that, you know, and to talk about how, you know, we are looking into what, what can the city do to make sure that we have again, and I'll put my information in the chat.

- 4) **Omar Suarez, NYC Votes, New York City Campaign Finance Board** - educating voters on the upcoming election, including what offices and ballot props will be voted on.

Hey, everyone. Good evening. Thanks for having me back.

I believe that was last year in the spring to speak about the rank choice voting and that's a very relevant topic this time around. We have some ballot proposals that are on the ballot on November 2 that I'm going to talk about. And if you remember rank choice voting also came into effect with a ballot proposal and share my screen. Yeah, just talk about voting and why ballot proposals. And they're going through the constitutional amendment process. The state reps pass these things in two consecutive terms. And then they need to go to the voters to get a yes or no vote. If they get a yes, if a majority of voters say yes, then the change will take effect. Otherwise, it will not become popular. Everyone was living in a city in the state, regardless of if they're a citizen or not that they

are counted as part of the census and for the districting process. And it also requires that people who are incarcerated are counted where they last lived in their community, not where they are in prison.

Some of you may know the background information that many times people from New York City are imprisoned and to appoint people to the ship moving forward. And I'm here to answer any questions. The second one touches on actually I was here listening to the earlier presentation about environmental justice. So this would create a right being violated or not being met. If government is not taking that into consideration when they're passing laws, when they're By the election, it will take that 10 day limit, let's say, found out about an election that you weren't registered for whatever reason, and it's happening in a week, you can vote even though otherwise you would be eligible if you hadn't registered. So this would make it so you can just find out, you know, you could vote in an election on this and register on the same day. Other 20 other states and Washington DC allow same day voter registration right now for context. Therefore, for the civil court, from 25,000 or less, up to 50,000. That number has not been increased since 1983. There's been a lot of inflation. And also, this would help with the backlog.

In the Supreme Court that has built up over the pandemic, that's the reasoning that people are giving for it. Just to provide that context of not free, none of the folks in any of these cases, we're just sharing the information, you make up your own mind. Of course, we don't push one side of the other, I just try to provide context. So that's the five ballot proposals. I will just touch on a reminder of some of the key things you need to know for voting. The key dates, the voter registration deadline, how to the board of elections, you could drop it off at a poll site, website, you put in your name, or the candidate is running where you live. And you can also see more information about the ballot proposals voting dot NYC and then you go to meet the candidates. We have the voter guide, there's a candidate profile, there's a video statement that they submit, and you can see who these people are running for the different offices voting dot NYC then you gotta meet candidates.

Okay, here's what that looks like. You just type in your address, and it gives you everyone that's going to be on your ballot for the city for the major offices mayor, public advocate, comptroller borough president City Council. There's also info on the ballot proposals Have your public voting record sealed and the organization's safe horizon is the resource for this. If you are an individual in permanent housing, you can register using shelter or school badges of a friend relative or another location you do need to provide a mailing address.

Voting. NYC is our website. We have everything there to check your registration status, the voter guide, and find your poll site. We do text as well if you want to text alerts, Vote Smart to 917976. And which specific part This was referring to but there was an anonymous attendee that asked if candidates refused to answer can they be removed from the ballot? So I'm not sure I think it's for the voter guide. We cannot remove them from the ballot. That's a board of elections area of responsibility. So they need to apply to get public financing for, you know, running their campaign. And we're in charge of that program

## **Regular Meeting:**

### **1) First Roll Call**

**Board Members in attendance:** Jo-Ena Bennett, Joshua Brown, Martha Brown, Rawle Brown, Robert Camacho, Gardea Caphart, Melissa Carrera, Andrew Choi, Felix Ceballos, Daniella Davi, Elvena Davis, James Fitzgerald, Freddy Fowler, Christopher Graham, Anne Guiney, Jose Guzman, Hadiyah Harrison, Barbara Jackson, Virgie Jones, Andy Marte, Mary McClellan, Desmonde Monroe, Kyle O'Rourke, Raul Rubio, Eliseo Ruiz, Barbara Smith, Annette Spellan, Dustin Sonneborn, Jerry Valentin, Carlotta Williams

**Excused:** Jared Hicks, Kristen Jock, Zulma Novoa, Gladys Puglla, Odolph Wright, Frank Zimmerman

**Not in attendance:** Marcus Alston, Grace Aytes, Louisa Chan, Egaudy Gomez, Cheryl Jones, Luisa Jose, Imini Mitchell, Samy Nemir Olivares, Acire Polight, Gladys Puglla, Vernedeaner Shell, Leo Tineo

**Resigned:** Rev. Migdalia Gutierrez

**Celeste:** 28 (announced, 30 actual) board members present. That constitutes a quorum. Thank you.

I know some folks weren't able to speak. Ms. Brown, Mr. Fowler, and Ms. McClellan. I do see them here. I'm not sure why they haven't been able to unmute themselves and Barbara.

### **2) Acceptance of the Agenda as Presented**

Jose Guzman made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and it was seconded by Robert Camacho. All were in favor, so moved.

### **3) Acceptance of the Previous Meeting Minutes**

Barbara Jackson made a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes and Elvena Davis seconded the motion. All were in favor, so moved.

### **4) Chairperson's Report**

I hope everyone's safe. I miss all you guys even though I see on zoom, but I don't know how good that is, but then I just want to shelter zoom at 11.

Thursday, September 16 at 530 the NCO met Charlie. Friday, September 17 we met at zoom with Chief Harrison. Monday the 20th from 9:30 to 5pm the borough budget consultation. Monday the 20th see we'll see before six o'clock youth education and resume. Tuesday, the 21st or Hope



Gardens 422 Central Captain meeting building Captain big meeting. Thursday the 23rd at 5:30pm Me and Celeste, I was invited to RiseBoro gala 2021 in Dumbo Park, and it was boring. But we had a nice time. We were swimming and dancing at the same time.

NCO David Knickerbocker on Monday the 20 September 27 at 12 pm meeting when we met when our new council person which will be in January, Jennifer Gutierrez, on Wednesday, September 29 at 12, the New York City Civic Engagement Commission there was a seminar they had and resources on Wednesday the 29th that to the Bushwick Community Plan meeting on Thursday the 30th from 9:30 to four o'clock, borough budget consultation are Thursday the 30th at 6pm. CB4 District Office.

Thank you to Carlos from Salazar's office because I stormed in there. I was very upset when I heard that. She was still bouncing around in people's sofas and all it was somebody putting some things through for her to get her apartment. I don't know what happened on September 17 NYCHA inspected apartment on edify primarily the senior I'm talking about Mrs. Betty Bunty that I will talk to you that they removed her and chilly one go to 140 so I just I got a call and also for Miss if it wasn't from responding system. She gave me a photo. So I went over there and she's home. She's gonna have a nice senior building and she's waiting for a home attendant to come back to her. So she's going to have a decent little place to home. You know now enough to one, the fourth one at 12 and one and one.

And then on Tuesday on October 6, the open restaurants hearing. Saturday, October 9, I went to the eighth rep for 10 minutes you through the food feast that they do with the clergy and Knickerbocker. 10 minutes we gave food to a lot of people on Monday the lemons from two to four leaving bread bridges gave for a PC or in the 9:45pm Zoom. Maria Hernandez Park in regard to updates on the soccer field. And what happened to the trees. The trees were sick, they had the trees now, they didn't look sick, they looked up data, but they will show a picture with roots in the bottom right No way. And little insects so they had to get down. So a lot of people will complain about that. So they send pictures and videos and the arbor unless we licensed Arbor we would know. But yes, they cut the trees down.

They're gonna put them back. I think it was 10 little ones back. So eventually. We don't know how long it's going to go like that. But that's been there for a long time. So Thursday, October 14 6pm, the civil public safety religious committee on Tuesday the 19 1pm meeting with I had a meeting with 1083 Broadway, the guy with the shoes and another printing thing, they were there. Something's got to be done. Those people are out there ramping and they're saying that they have every right to do what they have to do because I don't know they lost their jobs and I don't know to COVID so now everything is cold. So I say the 20 for today, CB4 meeting and I was gonna tell you about a lot of people who didn't know that you got to turn over your ballots. I had already written them all down, but we really need to turn over our ballot because that's the reason why and when they did the side of it term limits with board members. When they could you turn down a line and they didn't fight for what was going on.

#### **CB4 Capital Budget Priorities**

Celeste shared her screen to show the budget register for the current fiscal year.

Mr. Camacho summarized the board's top five priorities. The full list is available [here](#).

**Celeste:** Just before we go into questions, I'll just elaborate a little bit more on the budget process for the board. So each year the board holds the annual budget meeting, which is where the board members as well as the public, anyone is welcome to attend, go through the priorities. This list that you're looking at here, which includes both capital and expense budget requests. So during the meeting, we'll go through all of them and the committee will prioritize them based on Bushwick's needs.

### **Introduction of Elected Officials (Representatives)**

Good evening, everyone. Marcus Harris, here, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams office. We're at 209 Joralemon Street downtown Brooklyn. The phone number is 7188023700. My number is 718-802-3909.

Mr. Camacho: Thank you, Marcus.

Mr. Camacho: You're the best. Marcus: Good to see you Mr. Camacho. Good to see everyone.

Mary Gasparian, Assemblywoman Maritza Davila's office  
249 Wilson Avenue, 718-443-1205

Hi, everybody, this is Jackie from Assemblymember Dylan's office. It is great to see everybody again. 366 Cornelia Street, 718-386-4576, office open by appointment only

### **Introduction of Agency and CBO Representatives**

**Celeste:** We'll keep moving on with our agency representatives and community-based organizations.

Hi, everyone, my name is Corina Lozada. I'm a staff attorney at Communities Resist. We're still working remotely, but if you need me, you can call me at 646-974-8773. Thank you.

Yes, my name is Vanessa Pereda. I am the education and community director for The Bushwick Starr. We are now located at 419 Eldert Street. 917-300-9538.

83rd Precinct Commanding Officer - Captain Abraham Sanabria

Mr. Camacho and Celeste were informed the Captain wouldn't be able to attend. Mr. Camacho mentioned that the Captain had plans for his son's birthday.

**Mr. Camacho:** Yes, he has somewhere to be and I gave him a pass.

Mr. Camacho asked Ms. Davis if she would summarize the Captain's report from the clergy council meeting earlier that morning.

**Ms. Davis:** There've been a lot of robberies and they've made a rest a lot of arrests on these robberies. But the area is on Linden Street between Wyckoff and Broadway, and also around Maria Hernandez Park. And he was asking everyone to do you have to be conscious of what's going on around. You have to get your heads out the phones and be able to observe what's going on around you. Also, he was he, you talked about? I said the grand larceny because, you know, you had a great set of grand larceny already, rehabbed man this part.

And what else he talked about, Robert, what else do you talk about? All right, he talks. They're asking you to give any kind of funds. You want money, but they're asking you for funds. They're asking you to send the money as a scam. And people even like my cousin got scammed. We have to be very careful. If it's too good to be true, it is a scam. So be very careful. Do not give your information out to anybody. No one at all. And if you're not sure about something, because I'll give you an example of what this one scam I heard, well, they said that they won \$9 million from Walmart. And they have to spend X amount of money to get that \$9 million. Well, they had to send money orders, and they because he checked first before he went through with it. So please double check before you give money to anybody.

And I think that's about it. Was there anything else that says you did the best to see that I didn't eat? We didn't ring the bell. You got it. You're right, Robert.

Carlos Calzadilla, Senator Julia Salazar's office  
Evergreen Avenue, our office number is 718-573-1726. Also feel free to reach out to me at 786-720-9476.

**Mr. Camacho:** And cool, but you did Joe work, and she is so she's no longer sleeping on a sofa bouncing around. Anyone does Oh, so I thank you. I appreciate that, I imagine but it couldn't have happened without you.

**Carlos:** Thank you for being such an incredible advocate for everyone in the community. Um, so thank you for bringing that case. And you know, without the work he did, no one would have known that Miss Bunty is dealing with that. So thank you, and in any other case anything, please, please reach out to our office. We were responsive. We want to make sure that our committee has a voice always. Thank you.

Hi, good evening. My name is Sarah Lorya. I'm the deputy director of Adult Education at St. Nick's Alliance. 790 Broadway, (718) 302-2057 x 401

## 5) District Manager's Report

**Celeste:** All right, so good evening, everyone. Happy belated indigenous people's day. A reminder that the official NYC heat season began October 1 and runs until May 31. During this

period, property owners must provide tenants with heat and hot water under the following conditions day between 6am and 10pm. If the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees. If you have any heat or hot water issues, please do not hesitate to contact the board's office. Additionally, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps those with low income pay the cost of heating their homes. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular heat benefit per program year and could also be eligible for heat emergency heat benefits if you are in danger of running into utility service shut off. For more information, connect with a local HEAP contact and I've included that information in my report. I'll drop it in the chat once I finish.

And I'm also happy to share as Mr. Camacho referenced earlier that the vacancy in the board's office was recently filled. Kimberly Maldonado, CB4's new community liaison, is scheduled to start on Monday, October 25. We received 17 applications and interviewed five candidates earlier this month. It was a very competitive process. Ultimately Miss Maldonado was selected, and we look forward to welcoming her to the team.

There is another week to go before the conclusion of the board's current budget process for the fiscal year 2023. If you have yet to do so I encourage you to fill out the statement of community district needs surveys. Thus far they were shared via the board's newsletter, you might also have seen the feature in both the Brooklyn Paper and [edit: the BK Reader]. Thank you to both publications for their help with getting the word out.

Another big thank you to El Puente and CB4 board members Jose Guzman and Samy Nemir for their help translating the surveys into Spanish. We are in the process of coordinating with RiseBoro and other local senior residences to make paper copies available as well as potentially coordinating a pop-up to automatically enter info into the forms.

We're looking forward to reviewing and publishing the results of the surveys with the help of Michaela Brochetti, our Fund for the City of New York fellow and graduate student. Michaela will be helping the board's office with a couple of exciting projects this year. And then below are the meetings and events that I attended. I will not be reading all of these.

However, I will summarize. As Mr. Camacho mentioned, we attend many of the same budget meetings, similar meetings in terms of investments in the communities. Often, I received emails from different types of groups. For example, a contact from the Perelman Performing Arts Center in Manhattan was asking for how they can better connect with folks in Bushwick.

I've also continued the conversation about the future of community boards' draft report. I'm very excited about the draft for boards to review by this Friday. It's a very exciting process. The report focuses on the challenges faced by community boards citywide. And just it's been incredible to have different boroughs involved in the conversation. And moving us along. This is also the season it seems for all of the journalism students to contact the community board. So I've been speaking to many different journalism students about the various issues in Bushwick. Hopefully that will help by shedding a light on those.

And we've been talking to our agency partners, like city planning about community district needs, the civic engagement commission about their tools, you can check out their first report, which is now available. And we also had a Bushwick Community Plan Next Steps check in. We all know well, for those that were heavily involved, we know that the plan was permanently paused right before the pandemic. And now that we're seeing a significant change in leadership, we want to be prepared to continue that conversation, however, is most appropriate.

Generally, we just discussed where we are and what we might expect come the new year. And also, some conversations about Broadway Reconstruction, getting some attention from the press to help us move that project forward. And check-in for the sanitation working group where we discussed primarily the town hall that's going to be happening tomorrow evening. And towards the last two weeks, I've been speaking to our new non-board committee members.

I just want to say welcome and shout out to all of them. We have Isa Abney. We have let's see Alicia French, Kristine Malden, Derek Lilly, and a few more that I'm still in the process of coordinating a time to speak with. As a reminder to everyone, you're welcome to join a working group at any time, you can join a committee, we encourage it towards the beginning of the year to get the most out of it. But if you're interested in becoming a non-board committee member, please feel free to reach out to me for more information.

And just final comments, it's Fire Prevention Month. And last week, it was also Fire Prevention Week. For more information about how to prevent fires and fire safety, you can visit [FDNY smart.org](https://fdny.smart.org). And then for folks that are interested, there's more information about curbside composting. They are not looking to expand the program. They're only looking to resume the program in areas that had it prior to it being temporarily suspended. However, it's important if folks are interested to make sure that the Department of Sanitation knows so that they can use that information for the future if they do plan to expand. And that concludes my report. Thank you.

**Mr. Camacho:** May I say that the non-board members are not voting bodies. They're only allowed to participate in the discussion.

**Celeste:** Thank you. All right, any other questions, comments, if not, we will move on to our committee reports.

## 6) Committee Reports

### **Youth and Education- Virgie Jones**

Good evening to everyone.

So we had a meeting on Monday September 28 At six o'clock. And we had Olga Atkinson, the program director and administrator for Girl Vow, Incorporated. She gave us an overview of girls

Val, Incorporated, mission and its purpose. It was founded in 2014, and apparently, she says that they are stationed up in the Bronx and she wanted a letter of support and they offered a lot of nice services and everything, but we told her that we couldn't give it because we didn't really know about them and they weren't located in Bushwick. She also indicated that they were doing a lot of virtual meetings and went to other community boards, and she said the CEO was waiting to do some presentations, and she said that they're funded by DYCD and Robin Hood. But like I said, they have a lot of nice programs and everything. We told them thank you for the presentation. And we also encouraged her to be one of the members of the committee and also encouraged her to continue to go on social media, and also someone suggested that she research Kassa New York. And they have different chapters so hopefully we'll get a chance to get her back until one of our meetings in the future, but we thanked her for a presentation, and that was it for her.

We were happy to have our superintendent community district 32, Sheila Gorski, and the Deputy Superintendent Dr Rebecca Lozada. They gave us a presentation about the overhaul of district 32 some of the needs and they, they just re-emphasize that this 32 is committed to cultivating safe, orderly and healthy environment where students and our diverse community are appreciated, and we're similarities values, differences, and they wanted to make sure that that was understood and that, in spite of the pandemic that the students, and district 32 had achieved.

And of course, you know that they're all back in school now everything is in house. And doctor, Dr. Lozada gave her presentation, and Nicole in this year of the year of perpetual hope and exceeding excellent always believing and promoted successful all the students, teachers and staff success with the principles and teaching holistically with a growth mindset, and always serving and executing with integrity, honesty, and excellent, and then they talked about safety, and most of this has had happened already, but they just brought us up to date about the walkthroughs that were done. You know they're encouraging kids to open up to get vaccinated. All staff, thankfully, are now vaccinated. Or if not, you know they're taking the proper precautions for it, but all staff, to my understanding, have received at least one vaccination, and they strongly emphasize that masks are required for entering the school buildings. It talks about school leadership changes.

A new system principal at 151, a new principal entering acting at 377. 383, also assistant principal, and they talked about the numbers of students that are enrolled, but of course this goes up and down, and the final determinations come out at the end of October for budgeting and everything. Mr. Camacho already talked, and touched on the homelessness, which is a big, big concern here in our district. And yesterday at the Bushwick community partnerships, they did have a representative there from the Department of Ed and she talked about the temporary housing, and they said that Brooklyn and Queens has a lot, the largest temporary homeless students, and she said, a lot of that is due to resources, so we're gonna follow up with the BCP, to see if they'll be able to give us more information on this, but I did let them know that that was a great concern of ours, and we will going to reach out to our elected officials in that regard. I thank Mrs. Gorski and Dr. Lozada for attending our meeting, and for bringing us up to date on our district 32 elementary and middle schools.

And we also are encouraging our members to please attend the CEC meetings which are usually the Thursday after our Wednesday meeting, because it's very informative and they're having one tomorrow night and it is virtual. The Abney Association, black educators to have in their Black History Month, and it's a contest which they've had every year, and we're strongly encouraging all the students in grades two through 11 to participate, and that final presentation is going to be on February 5, 2022.

That's that. And I thank everyone for attending our meeting, and our meeting was adjourned at 734. Thanks to all who attended, and I think I left out anything. Thank you so much.

**Celeste:** If there are any questions, now's the time.

**Mr. Camacho:** I know someone put in the chat where they can find the information for the meeting tomorrow. I was going to drop the information, the email, and the phone number for CEC32 in a moment. Someone I think beat me to it.

### **Economic Development + Permits and Licenses - Desmonde Monroe & Melissa Carrera**

Celeste provided an overview of the economic development portion of the meeting (Desmonde provided notice that he had to leave the meeting temporarily).

**Celeste:** There was one presentation for economic development. Regarding the Brooklyn Center for Technology and Arts. Aaron Dean, the President attended. They're not a formal 501c3 yet. They're a group of working professionals who are hoping to create a workforce development program that will serve central Brooklyn. We were connected to them.

Thank you to Council Member-Elect Nurse who shared the information with us and made the connection, we mentioned that there was space potentially within our building at 1420 Bushwick Avenue. That is a conversation they would have to have with the building manager, which right now is Family Services Network of New York, however they wanted to make sure that we knew what type of services they would be providing. And what kind of jobs that they're hoping to bring into communities, they are helping right now with the carpenter's apprentice program, I believe the deadline to enroll in this initial one was last Friday. We did include the information in the newsletter that went out, so hopefully folks will take advantage of that, and we will be continuing the conversation. It was generally just an introductory meeting, and we asked them to keep us posted about any opportunities.

**Melissa:** Good evening, everyone.

So the economic development permits and licenses Committee met on Tuesday October, 12 at 6pm. Celeste went over the first agenda item, and we had two new liquor license applications for review. The first is Rico Chimi, located at 1492 Myrtle Avenue, as most of you know, on Myrtle Avenue takes in an existing business for some time now. They're interested in increasing revenue by adding a beer and wine license to, to their menu, and they are in something. Sales of alcohol

hours are stated in the application in the meeting, seven days a week, Monday through Thursday from 12pm to 2am, Fridays and Saturdays from 12pm to 4am, and Sundays from 12pm to 12am, and the committee is to adjust the 11pm closing time for the outdoor space.

As for the stipulation, this is just something that we are trying to keep uniform with all businesses to really reduce noise complaints and it's something that you know, we want to really be mindful of especially with quality of life, the residential area, it's you know, in fact Myrtle Avenue has a lot of nightlife, as well, but this location is really special because there's no other surrounding businesses on that side of the street. But there, there is a lot of residential, and the establishment is in compliance with no selling of alcohol after 12am On Sundays, we excuse me the second application is BK Taco Factory LLC, located at 195 Stanhope Street, they're applying for a new full liquor license they are a Mexican cuisine restaurant that has been in the neighborhood for some time now.

This is really just to increase revenue as well. And you know, provide a margarita, with you know the tacos that you buy with all the Mexican food that you want the full experience for, so their intended sales of alcohol, ours as stated in the committee are as follows, seven days a week, Monday through Thursday from 11am to 2am Friday through Saturday from 11am to 4am, and Sundays from 11am to 12am. They have an 11pm Closing time as well as suggested by the committee, due to our CD for stipulation, and the establishment is in compliance with no selling of alcohol after 12:30am On Sundays.

So these two establishments are just two restaurants that have been in the neighborhood for some time now that are really looking to, you know, increase revenue. The gentleman from BK Taco Factory could share with us that you know a lot of people come for food and will leave and go to a bar to have drinks elsewhere so he wants to be able to keep the same clients problem is always drink while they have their food, which I think this is a current case you don't want to lose you know business for that one reason so they are deciding to expand and add their liquor license to their, their portfolio and their establishment in terms of new business,

We did have an introduction of Club Feast by Jannice Donald so it's a for profit organization that provides opportunities for local businesses to promote their menu items at a fixed rate for the consumer, and it's, I would say a very layered for profit organization that is intended to you know get businesses that might be having a hard time, you know, selling a certain menu items, or that are having a hard time just having things in their restaurant, and this will increase visibility for businesses that might be having a challenging time, and their focus right now is to expand the growth here in Bushwick.

So if anyone knows of any businesses that might want to sign up for this program. It would be like a year I believe in a contract with them. And the cost would be at 30% of the regular price item. And there is a ton of more information that I know Celeste probably has with her but if anyone is interested, or wants to reach out to Club Feast, please reach out to the district office. And that sums up my report and I'll get some recommendations. Thank you.



## **Civic/Public Safety/Religious Committee - Annette Spellman**

There were no reports for the Civic or Religious committees, the MTA announced the installation of security cameras at 472 subway stations. We also had the New York City Office of Prevention of Hate Crimes report six incidents, including one here in Bushwick, which included an anti-sex robbery incident on Broadway. The board of corrections variants meeting. They requested seven variances, only three passed, and they also requested additional correctional officers.

There were two fire incidents in Bushwick. No injuries to report. The Committee met on October 14. We had a guest speaker, Captain Sean Claxton from the 83 Precinct, the executive officer, who gave a presentation on Highway and Traffic Safety in the neighborhood of Bushwick. For the most part we have our collisions down, but we have other issues that he reported on. We have chronic locations Bushwick Avenue and Myrtle Knickerbocker Avenue and Troutman to Dekalb Avenue and Knickerbocker and Halsey and Wilson.

There were other discussions about traffic in Bushwick, especially about the commercial traffic along Bushwick Avenue, and about the left hand turn on the corner of Bushwick and Myrtle. The meeting was over at 6:52pm. And that's a brief report on the Public Safety Committee.

**Barbara Smith:** We got to get those signs off the trees that have covered them. Years ago, we had an officer sitting in the car. When he saw the commercial vehicle, they would stop them and give them a ticket. Now I don't know about that. So I sent him a little text, after the meeting. I told my Chairperson Ms. Spellman, he has to do this as soon as possible, because those fail is 18 hooded baby flying numbers for Davenant, And it's not right.

David says the following one all the way down this way and it was going straight on down like you're supposed to be on this, we fought so hard and we wrote murders and many things that make for commercial traffic being someone visual download, so I'm hoping that this. Thank you.

**Ms. Spellman:** Barbara asks the same question I was going to ask, because it's been a lot of accidents lately between the construction and everything on Bushwick with you correct they fly down and they go through life, and they make wide turns and everything so I hope that something will be done, because I'm like four years ago. You know, they had to be out there and they stopped them. Like I said, he said he wasn't aware of certain things that we told him about and he said he was going to follow through. So I will follow through with him, and Barbara Smith to make sure that he looks into it.

**Barbara Smith:** There they are. Yes, some of the signs are Maru. One sign and the other side is on Porsche consulting. What it is that back in the 80s a little kid got killed, on what you can because of the truck for him all he has to do is cross the street, he's there. And that's what happened to a kid who just went there in a truck and hit him then. That was in the 70s, and then they were forced them to put no commercial traffic because one side they go fast because they want to area Pikachu or the lights repetitious, and on the other side when they come back home,

they catch all the lights so it's getting crazy Bushwick Avenue is getting crazy so they'll work on that.

**Celeste:** If I may, I know Louisa Chen, our transportation committee chairperson isn't here this evening, but the committee has been working on a Bushwick Avenue traffic safety report or a study. So there are recommendations to not only address this particular issue, but to also emphasize the need for enforcement on Bushwick Avenue in addition to other specific recommendations hopefully by next month, the full Board meeting will be able to share a little bit more about what those recommendations look like for the full board to have a better understanding of the work they've been doing. Okay. All right.

### **Arts/Culture/Technology - Dustin Soneborn**

Hi, everyone this is Dustin Sonneborn from the arts, culture, and technology committee. I want to thank, first of all, Zulma for leading us well the last couple of years, and I will get into our meeting notes. I'm going to just summarize a little bit, there's a very thorough report. Thank you, Sharon, that will be available with all the other reports. We had Natiba Guy-Clemente from the Center for Brooklyn History and the Brooklyn Library come to talk to us about an archive project or something like that, that we've kind of had in the works for a while or had the idea for a while, for a while. Unfortunately, the way that they operate or the way that this would need to operate is to be self-funded by us or with grants. That's not something they come in and say we have the money for and we can do.

So, it sounds great, but that's something that we as a committee and the arts working group are going to be working on is trying to work and find if there's some way that, that we can find some funding that's outside of the regular community board budget to, to work on programs like this, you know some of the other neighborhoods have a Friends of park slow, or whatever other neighborhood. We don't necessarily have that, but that's something that I would like us to work on.

So if anybody has any ideas or knows of anything in this neighborhood of course please reach out to the office. The other thing that we spoke about in our meeting was Bushwick is next on the list to get the Link NYC kiosks, and we were informed of a 60-day window to comment on his right before our last meeting, as a committee we are now reaching out to some of the merchants along the corridors where these proposed sites are, and we'll have a recommendation for that for the next meeting.

### **7) Recommendations**

**Celeste:** I believe we have permits and licenses recommendations as well as the executive board. If I've missed anything, it's not intentional, just let me know. Melissa, if you want to get us started.

**Melissa:** So the recommendations from the economic development permits and licenses committee are as follows. We recommend voting on the establishments presented today with

hours stated earlier in my report. So Rico Chimi at 1492 Myrtle Avenue with the intended sale of alcohol hours, seven days a week, Monday through Thursday from 12pm to 2am, Friday, Saturday from 12pm to 4am, and Sundays from 12pm to 12am. And with the stipulation of 11pm closing time for outdoor space.

And we are also recommending BK Taco Factory located at 195 Stanhope Street for a new full liquor license, with the intent of sales of profitable hours as follows, seven days a week, Monday through Thursday from 11am to 2am Friday through Saturday from 11am to 4am, and Sundays from 11pm to 12am, with of course the CB4 stipulation of the 11pm closing time for the outdoor space, and in compliance with no alcohol sales after midnight. Those are the recommendations. Motion for a blanket vote?

**Motion for a blanket vote** - Robert Camacho

Second - Joshua Brown

All in favor, so moved.

**Motion for the committee recommendation** - James Fitzgerald

Second - Anne Guiney

All in favor, so moved.

**Celeste:** All right, thank you. And we have the executive board, Mr. Camacho.

**Mr. Camacho:** Yes, I have two recommendations but before I go on to these recommendations, I want to make a little comment. I have seen, I really have seen officers in other precincts, community officers in a precinct, get their gold badge. I don't understand why none of our officers, our community affairs officers receive any promotion. I don't know why. I don't know if you know, EZ Gomez and Oscar Lopez have been with us for a long time. I think it's time they deserve it. We need to write a letter of recommendation to make sure. I know that the 83 Precinct Council, the President, Barbara Smith, sent out a nice letter for them. I think this board needs to read a letter and give them a recommendation and find out what's going on.,

**Annette Spellin:** I motion that this board write a letter to the police commissioner, requesting that Gomez and Lopez get promoted to detectives, because they bust their tails in this community and have been overlooked and it's not fair. Elvena Davis seconded the motion.

All were in favor, so moved.

**Barbara Smith:** Yes, so we were writing for the community affairs officers. Since 2017 they've been community affairs officers. They both came into community affairs. Lopez came in January; Gomez came in February community as a unit. Another thing, there have been three different commanders in the last four years, the 83rd percent have had three different commanders that they have to work under in the last few years.

**Jo-Ena Bennett:** This is a loaded question because they've had such a high turnover of quick turnover and commanding officers that have done that have anything to do with the fact that they haven't been promoted.

**Barbara:** No, no, not really. It's meant it shouldn't be because they shouldn't look at it as a tremendous thing, but community affairs are the right hand to every command--demand from the community. Hopefully this will help because we only have two images. At the moment October 31st, don't have to take it. We have one shredding papers, taken down to what they will, because the new top people will come in November. Yeah, thank you know that it gives them that output. All right, thank you.

**Mr. Camacho:** Another one the district office requested to give our district manager first. I had a letter no because I had to check. If we had any money? As you know, we keep purchasing pens, paper, everything. We haven't been there the whole year. So, the committee had requested. She is a low number. I'm sorry to say, so let's see number two on this list, you know, of board managers, you're number two on lists in regards to salaries and recommend that Celeste Leon gets an increase of 8% percent. The committee also requested it. She only grows. If I tell you that I'm here it is ridiculous. So I'm requesting their recommendation to go to the board.

Barbara Smith asked about the money the board used to spend on food for the meetings.

**Celeste:** It went back into the Other Than Personnel Services budget and then of course there were budget cuts. I didn't speak on this earlier, but there were budget cuts that were applied during the pandemic. Thankfully earlier this year after many of the boards, specifically Manhattan boards made noise, we were able to get those funds returned to our budget so we're now at our regular baseline. So those that would just be considered savings for other than personnel services, any merit increases or hiring comes from the personnel service budget.

So I will defer since it's a conflict of interest for me to speak on this. I will defer to our parliamentarian Jo-Ena to ask for any motions. If you don't mind.

**Jo-Ena Bennett:** I'd like to ask for a motion for Celeste Leon for salary increase, which is stated by our Chair Mr. Camacho, that we'd want to do a blanket vote.

Joshua Brown seconded the motion.

All in favor, so moved.

**Celeste:** So, that sounded like that was a motion for a blanket vote. Someone would still have to make the motion for the increase.

**Annette Spell:** motions that we vote to get an increase first Celeste.

**Celeste:** I'm so sorry you have to be specific. Jo-Ena thank you very much for your intervention

**Celeste:** If I may, just for context, they typically request that you specify the percentage, if you wanted to make the recommendation based off of the executive board, that would be the 8% that Mr. Camacho mentioned. I just want to make sure that's clear for everyone.

**Motion for Celeste to receive an 8% merit increase** - Annette Spellman

Second - Jose Guzman

All in favor, so moved.

8) **Old Business**

None

9) **New Business**

**Joshua Brown, 1st Vice Chair:** Yeah, so let's, so I had the opportunity to attend a meeting this week in regards to 97 Wyckoff Avenue, as we all know there's a men's shelter at that site. And there's been community issues recently and regards to people selling drugs as well as loitering.

So I was able to get on a call. Diane Reyna also, along with concerned citizens with the director of the program, and they smuggle out how they're going to have a personnel replacement at that site, given that the current site manager wasn't doing a competent job, we got reassurance from the director that they've addressed the loitering issue as well as the individual who was selling drugs he's been removed from the facility with that they employ the new site manager, and they've extended the invitation to the whole board to come and do a site visit as early as Friday or sometime early next week, they said, all our members are welcome so that we can see the services they provide as well as the quality and condition of the building that people receive the services that are living.

**Mr. Camacho:** Yeah. Josh, but they came, they came to this board with intentions of doing something positive, that there was security what happened to the security that they had in the corner that they were going to bring outside. With this security they say that those individuals who wander, they were classified as on a wall, those individuals that were outside the buildings, they weren't in violation of on roll call. That's why those individuals were out there. And once they've been removed. But as far as internal security procedures, we can actually deep dive. When we go to the site visit, just so we can be reassured so we can give a first account.

**Josh:** Yeah, I encourage everyone to go to the site.

**Mr. Camacho:** And I encourage everyone because Maritza, who lives right in that block, is our Assemblywoman, so you need her to go in and start wrapping it in there, so we really need to go in there and see that site and find out what's going on.

**Josh:** Well if you want to go to the site, you can email them at the office. And I'll find what day is best, but we can get a group of up to 15 So go and walk the site and meet the new site manager, So that we can contact them if there's any further issues.

**Celeste:** Thank you, Josh.

**Josh:** Doing what Mrs. Davis said earlier, in regards to scams, although they're the lottery scams in which you send money to and receive money. Let's continue to be vigilant about real estate scams that still affect our seniors.

**Mr. Camacho:** And also I forgot we need to let our people know, if there's a new building being built, you can get compensated for whatever it is that they're doing to make sure that you don't make deals with developers because I see a lot of people make deals had deals and when things go bad, they want to go to court. And then the judge is gonna say well we made a deal. You need to go to court and you get to start work again. And then they can turn around and force them to put insurance in your house. Just something happens to their insurance, and make sure you get compensated for whatever services are supposed to be a baseline, when they have that they put the tripod if it goes over your part. You should be compensated for that structure on your property. They can't be doing it for free, because that's your property.

So we really need to educate and let everyone know. Listen, we are, if there's a situation like that, or we should get together and find out and help for that. Don't get into No, no problems or lose their home, especially now, these times with scrupulous developers breaking their foundation or making you a hard time just because they want to resell, so we always got them out there, so we got to cross our t's and dot i's.

**Jo-Ena:** I'm sorry. I don't know if this comes under the heading of old business because I mentioned it in a previous meeting and suggested it, but I would like to invite our newly elected officials to attend a community board meeting to particularly talk about homelessness, and what their solutions are going to be. This issue has been replete throughout this meeting, what we talked about the food box program, when we talked about voting that now homeless people can vote. We talked, it came out in so many issues that came out tonight, and that we have so many homeless people in Bushwick, it comes out with talking about crime, and we can't continue to talk about Bushwick thriving, until we address this homeless problem. It came out in the report about the schools that have been replete throughout this meeting, and I would like to hear.

I would like to have the community board invite these elected officials to come and talk about what their solutions are going to be about homelessness in Bushwick.

**Celeste:** Yes, just a reminder, yeah absolutely so and just a note so when we had that discussion, I know Miss Jones also mentioned that she would like to continue the conversation, particularly about schools under the youth and education committee umbrella, so we can absolutely do both.

**Mr. Camacho:** Celeste, Marcus has put clarification on the recommendation is needed.

**Celeste:** That was early. Yeah, that was earlier, I believe. Marcus, was it clarified? Yeah, I believe that was the one that we had clarified. \*Marcus had issues unmuting\* So, but that's why I specified right that they have to be specific for OMB, so there was the motion for the blanket and that's why I said there has to be a distinction.

**Mr. Camacho:** Okay he said yes, so right yes okay, okay, we are clear. All right, thank you.

**Annette Spellman:** For Jo-Ena, I attended the meeting today, in reference to the STH program in the schools is a program for homeless children, where the schools are allotted monies to help the children with food, transportation and other areas. Celeste, if you want, I can give you the name of the person who presented today, and maybe we can have them come to the meeting, because it was a very good presentation, but it's very involved.

**Celeste:** That would be great. All right, final call for any new business.

**Carlotta Williams:** about the scams, you're also getting scams on your email. I've been getting a lot of email scams. So it's not only, you know, phone calls, it's email where everything. Yes, we have to be vigilant, be careful. Keep an eye out for all scams.

## **10) Announcements**

**Celeste:** We'll move on now to our announcements, please be ready. A minute and a half for folks. I'm just going to name off our elected officials and others in attendance CBOs, did you have something Mr. Camacho?

**Mr. Camacho:** LIFE Audrey Johnson in Bushwick, are working to fill a class that offers free early learn programming to children ages three to five on my street, please, if you know any kids that need, we need to go in there, she wanted to make a comment, but she can't but you want me to make an announcement. So please find out kids three to five years old, early learn program is in Moffat Street. Audrey Johnson, we need to put our kids in there.

**Josh:** Is it free? **Mr. Camacho:** Yes, it is, yes, it is free.

**Felix Ceballos:** There are a lot of rats because of renovation and garbage at some point in the container. The thing is, I hope the city, you know, plans something for that because all the garbage, people put in the sidewalk or progress is a disaster. I hope the city does something with that.

**Celeste:** We were just contacted by The Times this week about rats, we can speak offline and I'll see if we can get there actually trying to send folks out to get some photos. I'll coordinate with you offline Felix to follow up on this. Okay.

**Barbara Smith:** Oh yeah, I'm going back to Audrey Johnson. They use this voucher system. So every parent pays differently, they go by your income. So it's good you know some parents have low income, some parents I am. And that's how your child gets accepted. So it's a good thing if you could get your child close to a public school, And then we might confirm after school over to the daycare to, you know, it's a good program, and also with the rest.

People don't understand, we're eating on the sidewalk and bringing the rats. Because when the rest of mine close, they don't really come outside and sweep, they close down, and they go home, all the paper and leftover food, despite being on the curb. So, I don't know how we're gonna get rid of the bad eating them healthy, every single day.

**Marcus Harris, Borough President Adams' office**

Okay yeah definitely very clear on the recommendation. I appreciate that because I just don't want to hear it to be a delay, making sure that Celeste gets what she deserves. Anything that's coming up virtual events you can look at Brooklyn dash usa.org

We have all upcoming events listed on that site and if you need me again 718-802-3909

**Jonathan Pomboza, Brooklyn DA's office**

Good evening everyone, this is Jonathan again from the DHS office.

Just want to remind everyone that this Friday, there'll be a virtual event roundtable discussion crime prevention and protection for seniors, the guest speaker will be district attorney Eric Gonzalez, and it'll be an informative discussion I think on the topic, which a lot of folks have concerns about it this Friday October 22 at 2pm. It's a Zoom meeting and the information will be online and I'll be sending emails out. You could also reach out to me with the information at 718-250-2817.

Thank you and have a good evening.

**Sarah Lorya, St. Nick's Alliance**

Yes, good evening my name is Sarah Lauria, I'm the Deputy Director for adult education at St. Nick, I wanted to tell you a little bit about our adult programs so for over 21 years, St. Nick's Alliance adult education program partners with New York City Department of Education and NYC Department of Youth and Community Development to offer free. Morning, evening and Saturday classes, so it's high school equivalency classes, adult basic education English for Speakers of other language and basic computer classes.

We're very excited to launch our Pathways program, it's for students 17 to 21. We partner with D 79 to offer classes for students to earn a high school diploma. And there's also an exciting part



for an internship where students can work up to 15 hours a week, and they get paid to be part of that program. The classes are at our office at 790 Broadway in Brooklyn.

Our phone number is 718-302-2057 extension is 401 You can go to our website@[www.st Nex alliance.org](http://www.stNexalliance.org) and our email address is [adult education, W F D at St. Nick's alliance.org](mailto:adult.education@stNexalliance.org) Please feel free to reach out should you have any questions, we have a lot of availability and we'd be happy to, you know, offer any type of programs or resources into the community.

**Mr. Camacho:** They're 790 Broadway.

**Sarah:** Yeah, exactly 790 Broadway.

**Jose Guzman:** That was Mr. Camacho, that was workforce headquarters. Eight years. Yeah. Downstairs used to be the social security app. We've been waiting there in the door, really encouraged. This is a great resource, and I think right now is a great opportunity for people to go in person, I believe 780 Broadway has very good COVID-19 protocols for safety distancing mass mandating, and it's a great opportunity for our committee members to get to move ahead, you know, their professional careers.

**Mr. Camacho:** I'm happy that you're doing something like that because I went through a program. When I went to school and I went through and after I got the training I went through alternative high school, I graduated I got the training I was working in Con Edison for a while until mid-14 So they went on strike, but it's good that they give you hands on training, but there's good jobs out there that these kids can get everybody can't be a lawyer or Georgia something so maybe they can get a nice skill trade where they can get a good job, but that's very rigorous and very good I'm happy.

**Sarah:** Right, thank you so much for your support.

**Desmonde:** Are you, you're actually teaching trades, you're just doing like high school education, English, but you're not teaching hard skills like carpentry or anything like that, that currently.

**Sarah:** We are as part of our workforce development so I'm the Deputy Director for adult education, but I can put you in touch with our Deputy Director for workforce, so we do have hands-on training. We partner with Solar One with a lot of those trainings as well, so happy to share more information. Okay.

**Jose Guzman:** If I can add, just real quick, workforces to some very exciting jobs. Some are constructions, and many of the affordable housing developments. They also are mandated or respected to do local hiring. So I think that's something to consider, you know, every time that there is a development, how can we make sure that our community members get those jobs.

In terms of construction carpentry, but also landscaping so maybe my suggestion Sarah is maybe you can come one-time, important agenda so you can present a little bit more than 1.5 minutes,

and you can block right all the programs that you guys provide them, do our I'd be happy to, I would be happy to.

**Barbara Jackson:** They keep saying the age is 17 to 21. There's age 55 to 60 employable seniors willing to work.

**Sarah:** Yes. So, for our pathways. Yes so far our Pathways Program at 17 to 21, that's just our specific pathways program but we have a variety of programs for, you know, all ages. We think it's really important to provide a diversity of opportunities for the wide range of communities so I can send some information on that as well. I'd be happy to come in and do a full presentation on all the types of programs and resources we offer. I think, one, that it was very interesting that it was for adults, you know like mature family adult participants. It was pillar framing.

So in PV those who are training how to become pillars in financial institutions. And we were so happy that we were able to enroll that many of the participants were able to get jobs, you know, with some of the financial institutions like Chase Capital One. So I think that's one that is an option, also for adults.

**Celeste:** So, just to note the best form to continue this conversation in depth would be the Economic Development Committee. Generally when folks reach out, I always let them know their options for presenting to the board at length because we know our announcements are limited just to be mindful of time.

**Carlotta:** Yeah, well just wanted to know if you teach Spanish, English.

**Sarah:** Yes, we do. Yes we do, we have high school equivalency programs in Spanish, on all six days of the week.

**Carlotta:** Oh, good. Thank you. I have the info.

**Celeste:** All right, so we have multiple workforce development providers that serve Bushwick and the surrounding area so we will continue this conversation and make sure everyone has access to these resources.

## **11) Second Roll Call**

Celeste: Alright, moving on from our announcements will now go through our second roll call please be ready board members, I will try to be as quick as possible. And as a reminder, \*6 to unmute if you're on the phone. I did speak to Mr. Wright today. Just so folks know, he said that he would try but he wasn't sure if he'd be able to make it.

**Board Members in attendance:** Carlotta Williams, Jerry Valentin, Annette Spellen, Dustin Sonneborn, Barbara Smith, Eliseo Ruiz, Raul Rubio, Kyle O'Rourke, Desmond Monroe, Mary McClellan (had sound issues), Andy Marte, Virgie Jones, Barbara Jackson, Tanesha Honeygan, Hadiyah Harrison, Jose R. Guzman, Anne Guiney, Christopher Graham, Freddy Fowler, James

Fitzgerald, Carlos Feliciano, Elvena Davis, Daniella Davi, Andrew Choi, Felix Ceballos, Melissa Carrera, Gardea Caphart, Robert Camacho, Rawle Brown, Martha Brown, Joshua Brown, Jo-Ena Bennett.

## **12) Adjournment**

Barbara Jackson made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Camacho. All were in favor, so moved.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:06pm