

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center
195 Linden Street (Corner of Wilson Avenue)
Brooklyn, New York 11221
6:00PM

-Public Hearing Items-

1) NYS Senate Census 2010 Complete Count Committee – Co Chairperson Senator Martin Malave Dilan

Michael Olmeda presented. Applications have been mailed out to residents in the Brooklyn area and must be returned by the April 1st deadline. The application is the easiest form to fill out in the past 30 years with just 10 questions taking about 10 minutes to complete.

Help is available for persons who need help filling out their applications throughout the district. The 2010 Census is a historic event that will help shape the nation's future for the next 10 years. With accurate census data, the census can create a portrait of the nation's growing population and determine what is needed to better provide for everyone.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share any information that they receive with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.

The response rate for the 2000 Census was:

- National: 67%
- New York State: 63%
- Kings County: 51%
- Community Board 4: 43%

Each person counts as \$3,000 per year for a 10 year cycle of \$30,000. Community Board #4 has an average of 125,000 residences which would mean \$375,000,000 of food and services to the community. Mr. Olmeda stated that at the last census rate of 43% that would mean that this community would be allocated only \$162 million which would be a lost of services of \$213 million per year. This equals to \$2.13 million that is not being funded in the Bushwick community.

Non-profit and municipal organizations will feel that cut so they are encouraged to let their clients know that it is very important that they fill out their census application and mail it back so that the services that they provide will not be cut. Schools are also being asked to let their parents know that it is very important that they fill out and return their census applications.

The State wants to project a 75% response rate however Bushwick needs a 100% response rate. The census dictates the political lines in the community. The increase in the county alone of ½ million people say that we are entitled to another Senate District. If the census is not filled out properly in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County then Bushwick has the opportunity of losing an extra Senate District and the possibility of losing 2 Assembly Districts. There is power in having representatives, and the more representatives that a community has the more power they have in bringing resources to the community.

2) The Department of City Planning: Vision 2020

The New York City - Comprehensive Waterfront Plan

Mr. Chris Gorman – City Planning announced an exciting new effort called Vision 2020. In 2008 the City Council mandated that City Planning update the old Waterfront plan that was issued in 1992. This plan will establish the city's long vision for a 21st Century waterfront, identifying opportunities for improvement and the strategies needed to realize this new vision.

There will be 6 meeting held beginning April 8 to December 2010. At these meetings City Planning will be able to solicit comments from the public. Public input will be critical throughout the year-long visioning process. A kick-off citywide public meeting to discuss the process and solicit feedback will be held on:

Date: April 8, 2010

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Location: Murry Bergtraum High School
411 Pearl Street, Manhattan, New York

Website: www.nyc.gov/waterfront

Visit the website for plan updates, work announcements and to share your ideas and comments. What is the Comprehensive Waterfront Plan? The City's Comprehensive Waterfront Plan is a framework for the citywide reclamation of the waterfront, guiding land use decisions along New York City's shoreline.

This includes the entire waterfront of NYC which is over 500 miles of waterfront.

Mr. Chris Gorman can be reached at: email: c.gorman@planning.nyc.gov phone # 718-780-8271
Recommendations for Vision 2020 are expected in the Fall, and a full report to be presented to the City Council and the public by the end of 2010.

The Chairperson, Ms. Dent thanked Mr. Gorman for coming and sharing this important information with the board and she asked that everyone get involved by sharing their input and comments.

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

Roll Call: 30 members present constituting a quorum.

The Chairperson asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. The agenda was accepted by Ms. Martha Brown and second by Rev. Grace Aytes. All members present were in favor.

The Chairperson asked for the acceptance of the previous month meeting minutes with the necessary corrections. The previous meeting minutes was accepted by Mr. Cyril Joseph and second by Mr. Freddie Fowler. All members present were in favor.

Chairperson's Report:

Ms. Dent welcomed all in attendance to the Community Board's March 17, 2010 meeting.

Ms. Dent asked for a moment of silence in honor of the former Assistant District Manager Juanita Soriano – Hammer.

Juanita was employed by Community Board #4 from 1978 until September 2005. Many residents of the community relied on her knowledge and application skills to help them navigate through the social service systems and housing departments. Her sense of humor and her pleasant disposition always made it an enjoyable experience to be in her company. Juanita left her position as Assistant District Manager due to health reasons. On Wednesday, March 3, 2010 she passed away leaving behind her loving husband Jack Hammer of HPD and her son Daniel Soriano. Services were held on Saturday, March 6, 2010.

Ms. Dent welcomed back and thanked P.O. Franco of the 83rd Precinct for attending the meeting.

Ms. Dent thanked Jessica Rivera, the City Youth Coach and Steven Ochoa, the City Youth Intern from the Municipal Art Society.

The Chairperson then asked that the Elected Officials and/or their representatives stand to introduce themselves and give out their respective telephone numbers.

- 1) Italia Guerrero – Brooklyn Borough President's Office, 209 Joralemon St., 718-802-4032
- 2) Yanuski Rodriguez – District Attorney Charles Hynes, 718-250-2565, 350 Jay Street
- 3) Michael Caver – Assemblyman William Boyland, 476 Thomas Boyland, 718-498-8681
- 4) Allison Frost – Assemblyman Vito Lopez, 434 South 5th Street, 718-963-7029
- 5) Abby Bello - Councilman Erik Dilan, 387 Arlington Avenue, 718-642-8664
- 6) Johnny Joyner – Senator Martin Dilan, 786 Knickerbocker Ave., 718-573-1726
- 7) Carolyn Sanders-James – CAU Mayor's Office, 100 Gold Street, 212-788-7418

- Ms. Sanders-James is retiring after 24 wonderful years of service with the City
- 8) Judith Rodriguez – NYC Comptroller John C. Liu, 212-669-8720
 - 9) Alejandro Echeverri – Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 718-963-3141
 - 10) Evelyn Cruz – Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, 266 Broadway, 718-599-3658
 - 11) Barbara Medina - Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 718-963-3141
 - 12) Manny Burgos – Assemblyman Darryl Towns, 840 Jamaica Avenue, 718-235-5627
 - 13) Roy Sawyer – Assemblyman Darryl Towns, 840 Jamaica Avenue, 718-235-5627
 - 14) Karen Cherry – Congressman Ed Towns, Flatbush Office, 718-272-1175, Cell #: 718-309-9755

Public Advocate Mr. Bill de Blasio has released the following statement on the Mayor's New Charter Revision Commission: "Any fundamental change to our City's Constitution must begin first and foremost with the people". He notes that the Mayor's appointments to the Charter revision Commission represent a good start. Now we must ensure the public is fully engaged in this process. The Commission should hold public forums in all five boroughs, web-cast all charter commission hearings and create a process to ensure the public's feedback is represented in the final recommendations made by the commission.

Public Advocate Bill de Blasio has asked for Community Board's across New York City to endorse and sign his letter address to the Charter Revision Commission.

The Executive Committee decided that Community Board #4 should begin a local campaign to get signatures from the community concerning the NYC Charter Revision Commission. It was strongly suggested that the board develop a letter and a petition addressing similar issues stated by the Public Advocate.

The Executive Committee established a Charter Revision Committee consisting of: Ms. J. Dent, Mr. A. Martinez, Mr. O. Wright, Ms. B.L. Tramble, Ms. V. Fernandez, Ms. V. Jones, Ms. E. Davis, and the District Manger Ms. N. Whitted. The function of the committee will be to keep our community abreast of all developments of the NYC Charter Revision Committee and to collect signatures on a petition to ensure that our voices are heard and our recommendations are included in the Commissions findings.

The board's Charter revision Committee began collecting signatures at tonight's meeting. When all the signatures have been gathered together the District Manager will send those signatures to the Commission along with the letter that she has written.

The Wyckoff Heights Medical Center will host the President's Advisor meeting on Tuesday March 23, 2010 at the hospital's 5th floor conference room located at 374 Stockholm Street from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm.

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provides New York City's youth between the ages of 14 and 24 with summer employment and educational opportunities. In 2009 DYCD enrolled 52,255 participants and placed them at 8,688 worksites. Participants work in a variety of entry level jobs at government agencies, hospitals, summer camps, nonprofits, small businesses, law firms, museums, sports enterprises and retail organization and day care centers.

Applications are not available at present however now is the time to prepare for youth employment by getting the required forms. Please take the time now to gather the documents needed for summer employment, 311 can tell you what forms are needed or you can call the Youth Center at 718-381-9653.

The MTA has developed a Title VI – Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) to ensure meaningful access to the transportation services provided to individuals whose primary language is not English and have a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. MTA's guidelines states that the nature of language assistance any agency provides should be based in part on the number and proportion of LEP persons served, frequency of contact and the importance of the services provides by the MTA.

The MTA feels that to better analyze the above factors there needs to be consultation with community organizations serving LEP persons who would be equip to answer the following questions.

- What geographic area does your organization serve?
- How many people does your organization provide services to?
- Has the size of the population your organization serve increased, stayed the same or decreased over the past five years?
- What are the languages spoken by the population you served?
- What needs or expectations for MTA public services has your population expressed?
- Are there locations that the population you serve has expressed difficulty accessing via MTA public transportation system?
- What is the best way to obtain input from the population that you serve?
- Who would the population trust most with delivering language appropriate messages?

The Community Board will forward this information to the MTA.

For more information regarding the Chairperson's Report please contact Community Board #4's District Manager, Ms. Nadine Whitted at 718-628-8400. Willie or Sharon can also help if the District Manager is not available.

Ms. Dent stated that normally at the meetings she always thank Nadine Whitted for doing such a super job but you are only as good as your team, so she publicly thanked the District Manager's staff Sharon Boyd-Fludd and Willie Morales for doing such a wonderful job.

Ms. Dent publicly thanked Ms. Carolyn James-Sanders from the (CAU Mayor's office) for her work and professionalism over the years. She stated that she respects her and that Community Board #4 love her and wish her all the best in her retirement.

District Managers Report:

The District Manager thanked the elected official's representative for coming to the community board meetings. Their presence let the public see that they have immediate access to the people that they place in office. She publicly thanked them for their support and stated that the board supports them as well.

The District Manager attended most of the meetings that the Community Board hosted:

1. Executive Committee Meeting
2. Environmental Protection Transportation Committee Meeting
3. Joint Meeting with the Civic and Religious & Youth and Education Committee
4. Public Safety Committee Meeting
5. Health Hospitals & Human Services Committee
6. 83rd precinct Community Council Meeting

The work of the Community Board is done through its committees. The committees consist of volunteers who give up their evenings, when most meetings are held. They work very hard to make sure that community is provided with programs and services. The District Manager thanked them for their service.

NYC Charter Revision – The Mayor's establishment of the NYC – Charter Revision Commission whose role is to recommend changes in the NYC Charter. NYC Charter is the constitution that the City of New York runs under. Once these recommendations are made they will be brought to voters at an upcoming election. Very reliable sources have indicated that the NYC Charter Commission Team is looking to eliminate the Office of the NYC Public Advocate, Borough Presidents and Community Boards.

The Executive Community has asked the District Manager to draw together a letter highlighting what the NYC Charter Revision Commission must do.

Some concerns noted in the letter states:

It is imperative that the voting public understands the implications. As community leaders it is our responsibility to assure that the public understand the role of the Charter Revision

Commission. But most significantly we must make sure that Community Boards are not altered and remain the local voice for the community. Current board members as well as a great number of others have devoted and served countless hours of volunteerism for the betterment of their communities. Although not always agreeing with one another, members have learned to trust in a system build on consensus building designed to affect change through public participation. This system as we know it could very well be in jeopardy.

The Charter Revision Commission must recognize and be prepared to advocate for a system of local government that still believes in transparency and decentralization, and most crucially one that promotes local involvement. This will only occur through an organized major effort that involves the board members and the general community alike.

We need help and assistance from all community leaders to assure the following:

1. That any process which would recommend changes in our government as we know it is open and transparent. This means all meetings must be held without any barriers-meeting must be accessible and easy to reach. Not just in one portion of the borough of Brooklyn; but in other segments of the borough reaching in to neighborhoods traditionally known for low turn out for meeting as this.
2. Communities must be well informed of the Charter Revision process. Clear and concisely outlined dates must be advertised throughout the borough using all available modes of communication –social networking media, civic, community and religious organization, web-casting, etc. which should maximize participation.
3. Because NYC voters will be asked to vote on the NYC Charter Revision's recommendations questions on the ballots must be direct and easy to understand. Every single recommended change must be outlined and specific.

Board members and others will collect signatures so that they can be pro-active in order to ensure that the Charter Revision Commission hears their collective voices and not take them for granted during this most crucial time. The signatures will be collected from the community and will be submitted to the Charter Revision Commission as well as to Elected Officials.

Should these recommendations become reality our sense of democracy, local government with oversight on local projects and local voices may cease to exist as we know it. This would represent a backward sense of movement. Inasmuch as many leaders have fought for a system that provides for the Uniform Land use procedure (ULURP), Project Developers who share their plans with the Community Board, a familiar face representing our district when advocating – as opposed to just hearing a voice through 311.

As this process develops and unfolds the Community Board will keep all informed.

The new process regarding the selling of beer, liquor and wine in the Bushwick Community is going well. The Commanding Officer stated that in working with the Public Safety Committee the 83rd Precinct was able to issue 126 summonses based on the information that they receive from the committee and they issued 7 nuisance abatement summonses in which these people will now have to get a lawyer and appear before a judge. This has allowed the quality of life to improve in the community.

The District Manager thanked the Public Safety Committee members for their excellent work.

Temporary Pedestrian Street: Starr Street to Suydam Street on Sunday, July 11, 18, 25 & August 1, 2010 from 11am – 5pm. There will be activities, food, art, fitness and more.

Ms. Whitted thanked Rachel Fuentes and her team from the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizen Center for bringing such an event to the Bushwick Community.

Ms. Dent noted that for the upcoming primary in September and the elections in November the old lever machines will be replaced with new voting machines. Training will be made available in all 5 boroughs. Most training will be done at the NYC Board of Elections office at 345 Adams

Street, 718-797-8803. The Chairperson encouraged all to attend the training sessions so that they can help others in their community learn how to use the new machines. More information will be made available at the next community board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Joint meeting of the - Civic & Religious Committee, and Youth & Education Committee, chaired by Ms. Elvena Davis and Ms. Virgie Jones respectively. The meeting was held on Thursday, March 11, 2010, 6:00pm

Ms. E. Davis – discussed the following: The 5th Annual Bushwick Parade scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2010 on Brooklyn/Queens Day. Due to a lack of participation from the local school's Principals, PTA Presidents and their Parent Coordinators the theme of the parade has been changed from "Bushwick Youth let's Go Higher in Education" to "Bushwick Youth Marching Forward". The committee's goal formerly was to honor the graduating valedictorian and salutatorians. The committee will now focus on honoring youngsters attending community based organizations who are High Achieves and who have done extremely well. The committee will reach out to the following: Beacon Programs – IS 291, IS 296 and IS 347/349, RBSCC Inc. Youth Program - NYC Housing Authority Community Center, NYPD 83rd Precinct Explores/Youth Program, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Salvation Army Youth Program, Make the Road by Walking, Coalition for Hispanic Families services, Baseball Leagues, Bushwick Impact and Local Churches.

Please submit any recommendations to the District Manager.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2010 at 6pm at 315 Wyckoff Avenue.

Ms. Dent acknowledged Ms. Anita Haines, the Director of the Hope Gardens Center located at 422 Central Avenue. The Bar-be-Que will take place at the Hope Gardens Center after the parade on June 3, 2010.

Health/Hospital & Human Services Committee, Deborah Brown – Chairperson: Meeting held Monday, March 15, 2010 at 6:00pm, 315 Wyckoff Avenue

Health Plus – Is looking to expand coverage for children under the age of 19. For further information please contact Health Plus' Community Relations Associate Naama Francois cell # 646-413-1423 or call the Health Plus marketing call center @ 1-888-809-8009 or visit their website at www.healthplus-ny.org.

Parks & Recreation Committee, Austen Martinez – Chairperson: Meeting held Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 6:15pm, 315 Wyckoff Avenue

Items Discussed:

1. 5 leagues were asked to inspect the baseball fields and give a written report on the condition of the park. The details of the inspections will be forwarded to the Department of Parks and Recreation in hopes of having the baseball fields ready for the start of the season.
2. Where the leagues will be playing:
 - Bushwick Playground – Knickerbocker Ave. between Putnam Ave. & Woodbine St.
 - Hope Park – Knickerbocker Ave. between Grove & Menahan Streets
 - Knoll Park – Flushing Ave. between Evergreen Ave. & Noll Street for children 12 and under
 - Thomas Boyland Park – Broadway between Granite & Aberdeen Streets
3. The leagues were asked to collectively develop a working schedule which will benefit all the leagues involved. The schedule will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee and the full board for recommendation to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

In the past, children living in Bushwick have had difficulty in playing at other baseball fields in other communities, although children from other areas are welcomed to play in the baseball fields located in Bushwick it is requested that the children who live in Bushwick have the first priority.

Public Safety Committee, Ms. Barbara Smith - Chairperson: Meeting held Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 6:00pm, 83rd Precinct, 480 Knickerbocker Avenue

Items Discussed: NY State Liquor Licenses

The goal in the liquor licensing process is not to hurt any business, but it is to help businesses to get their paper work in order and to make sure that the community is safe.

New Business

Laura Braslow: Interested in forming an Arts and Cultural Committee. This committee will deal with issues as it relates to culture, creativity, involving organizations that deal with artistic projects including schools, senior citizen centers, churches, etc. This will allow organizations and individuals to meet with the board to bring more culture and creativity to the community.

The chairperson thought that an Arts and Cultural Committee is an excellent idea and Community Board 4 will probably be the first Community Board with such a committee.

The Parliamentarian, Mr. O. Wright: noted that in the event of forming new Arts and Cultural Committee, the board will have to form a committee to review the constitution and by-laws which should be done every 2-4 years. A by-laws committee should be formed to amend the constitution to make sure that the board is up to par.

A resident residing on Willoughby Avenue was very concerned about a halfway house located at 979 Willoughby Avenue. He and other residents with him were very concerned about the halfway house's proximity to two daycare centers.

Chairperson:

- The issue was discussed at the last board meeting
- The board is aware of this address
- The District Manager has compiled a list with at least 15 other locations with the same problems
- The Elected Officials and Community Board #4 are working on a solution to the problem
- Some halfway houses are in two family homes
- Residents must call their Elected Officials to make them aware of the situation

Ms. Dent stated that the Board Meetings are conducted in a professional manner with respect and dignity and those who wish to speak are also required to conduct themselves in such a manner.

It was noted that Mr. Ashley Kohn the care keeper of 979 Willoughby Avenue was in the audience and was filming the residents of Willoughby Avenue as well as the board meeting without permission. Mr. Kohn was approached by PO Franco and instructed to stop filming. Mr. Kohn's camera was confiscated and what was previously filmed by him was deleted and the camera was returned to him.

The Community Board is the eyes and ears of the community -however residents must be the Community Board's eyes and ears as it is virtually impossible for the board to know everything going on in the community. The Community Board is relying on the residents to let us know what is going on. Community Board #4 does not want halfway houses in the community which are not legitimate.

The Chairperson thanked the resident of Willoughby Avenue for coming before the board and bringing this information to our attention. The Community Board will do everything that is humanly possible to do to get this matter resolved. The Chair asked Mr. Kohn if he had anything to say.

Mr. Ashley Kohn, 979 Willoughby Avenue: Stated that he himself lives at the property located at 979 Willoughby Avenue and that it is not a halfway house. Anyone interested can come and look

at the property. Mr. Kohn said that he does not tolerate drug use at the property and that most of the people who live there have been with him for several years at different locations. Mr. Kohn was asked by the board what does he do there at Willoughby Avenue? Mr. Kohn said that he houses anyone who comes to him and say that they need a place to stay.

The District Manager related a conversation she had with Mr. Kohn yesterday on March 16, 2010. Community Board #4 received a letter from residents of Willoughby Avenue. The letter indicated that the building at 979 Willoughby Avenue was built as a condo however it has now been transformed into a shelter. It was indicated that beds were brought into the property in the middle of the night.

The District Manager indicated to Mr. Kohn that whatever business he is conducting at 979 Willoughby Avenue will have to be put in writing.

On March 15th the District Manager received a phone call from a Ms. Smith from ARTC (program located at Myrtle Avenue and Broadway). This program dispenses methadone. Ms. Smith stated that she heard that the Community Board is having problems with one of the sites that she has clients in. The location of the site that Ms. Smith was referring to was the 979 Willoughby Avenue address. Ms. Smith said that she was calling to straighten out any problems that the board was having. The District Manager stated to Ms. Smith that she should speak to her supervisor since this problem is not on a social workers level. The issue involves the owner of the property. It was suggested to Ms. Smith that she document the conservation that they were having.

Ms. Smith asked Mr. Kohn to give the District Manager a phone call he which he did on March 16, 2010. Mr. Kohn stated that he provides services for his clients. He was then instructed to put the following information in writing and address it to the District Manager

1. What his business is?
2. Who is he?
3. Name of the owner of the property
4. Documentation is also needed if building was originally built as a condo and has now been changed to something else – this change would call for the zone to be changed

The Community Board has no oversight when the building was constructed because the developer did not come before the board prior to construction. The only oversight role of the board is to ensure:

- That the C of O is being used in the way the building was developed for.
- If the building under went any changes, the board will need to be diligent in finding out what the changes are.
- Find out who the owner is

The District Manager thanked the residents of Willoughby Avenue for coming to the meeting and she stated that this problem will not be resolved over night but hopefully it will be resolved sooner than later.

The Chairperson noted that our Elected Officials were elected to serve the community. She directed attention to their representatives and suggested that the residents of Willoughby go to them with this issue. Write a letter to them and let them know that they do not want these halfway housing in your neighborhood. If anyone needs help in writing a letter to them the community board will assist them.

Barbara Medina, representative of NYC Council Member Diana Reyna office stated that Councilwoman Reyna is aware of the problem and is working on it; however some of that information is confidential at this point. .

Mr. Odolph Wright stated that this is a perfect example of why Community Boards can not get wipe out of existence by the Charter Revision; without Community Boards there would be no one to talk to or go to with problems such as this.

Announcements:

Michael Caver representing Assemblyman William Boyland announced Free Mammograms!!! Early detection of breast cancer can save lives!! Office of Assembly member Boyland, Jr. 467 Thomas Boyland Street, Saturday March 27, 2010, an appointment is necessary call 718-498-8681

Eligibility Criteria: Woman age 40 and older, New York City Resident and no mammogram in the past 12 months.

Barbara Aubel Wyckoff Heights Medical Center announced the first President's Community Advisory

1) Council Meeting (PCAC) of 2010 on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 5:30pm -7:30pm.

Location: 374 Stockholm Street, 5th floor Executive Conference room, Brooklyn, NY 11237

2) The Completion of the new emergency room for adults and pediatrics is soon to be announced. NYC Council Member Erik Martin Dilan was instrumental in securing funding for the program.

3) A letter was writing by the President and CEO of the hospital address to the MTA's director of community affairs voicing their strong opposition to the cutting of the B13 bus line and the elimination of the M subway line, both in which provide direct access to the hospital for the residence of both Brooklyn and Queens.

For more information call Barbara Aubel at 718-963-7741, Hospital # 718-963-7272

Laura Braslow: The 4th Annual Bushwick Open Studios Festival opens June 4-6, 2010

Registration starts mid April, All Creative people are welcomed. For more information please call Laura at 917-771-9683 or email at openstudios@arts.Bushwick.org

Jason Andrew: STOREFRONT, 16 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn announced the 3rd Thursdays: a literary series featuring the work of emerging Bushwick writers and poets. March 18, 2010 at 7:30pm, seating is limited, reservations encouraged, RSVP at storefrontbk.com

Karen Cherry, representing Congressman Ed Towns: Space is needed for training persons who have taken the Census test in the Bedford-Stuyvesant and Bushwick areas. Two weeks of training is requires for 40-50 people at each site. If you have or know of a site that is available please contact Karen Cherry at 718-272-1175 or cell 718-309-9755.

Manny Burgos representing Assemblyman Darryl Towns stated that their office is a training site hosting approximately 70-80. The training site is open 6 days a week. They are also a questionnaire help center for person who need help filling out the census application. For information call Manny Burgos at 718-235-5627

Dine in Brooklyn - Marketing Initiative from the Brooklyn Borough Presidents Office: From March 15-25, 2010 you can have lunch for \$20.10 and dinner for \$25.00 for a 3 course meal at over 200 participating restaurants in Brooklyn. For more information call 718-802-3846 or www.visitbrooklyn.org

Mary McClellan, Community Representative of Broadway Bushwick Community Coalition: The next meeting will be held at 871 Bushwick Avenue (corner of Himrod Street) on Thursday March 26, 2010 at 7:00pm. Topics:

- Census – Manager from Broadway
- Rodents – Speaker from the Department of Sanitation

For more information email: Marymcclellan@hotmail.com or 718-453-9105

Evelyn Cruz, representing Congresswoman Nydia M. Velazquez: It has been 14 years in the making; City Housing Authority will get \$415 million from federal's stimulus and state. Monday March 15, 2010 Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez was successful in the federalization of public housing in NYC. This includes the Bushwick and Rutgers facilities located in New York's 12

Congressional District, with the help of Senator Charles Schumer and Assemblyman Vito Lopez on the State side. Though the use of resources in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, NYCHA will now be able to make immediate improvements and repairs to 20,000 units. Over the long term, additional annual federal funding will ensure New Yorkers have stable, affordable housing options.

Ms. Dent, Chairperson: Nominating Committee is:

1. Ms. Barbara Smith – Chairperson
2. Ms. Elvena Davis
3. Mary McClellan
4. Rev. Grace Aytes

2nd Roll Call: Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm