

## MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – JUNE 27, 2017

### Attendance

David Alexander	Andrea McCullough
Margaret Brewer (E)	Ronella Medica (A)
Dr. Cleopatra Brown	Melanie Mendonca
Johnny Mae Brown	Shemene M. Minter (E)
Adrainer Coleman	Genese Morgan
Brenda Duchene (A)	Anita Pierce
Christopher Durosini (A)	Marie Pierre
Norman Frazier	Linda Rivera
Danny Goodine (A)	Evelyn Sanchez (A)
Chyanne Hairston (A)	Celina Trowell (A)
Sarah Hall	Ernestine Turner
Balinda Harris (A)	Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu
Jessie Hilliard (E)	Deborah Williams
Mawuli Hormeku (A)	Patricia Williamson
Michael Howard	Pat Winston
Carl Joseph	Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Eula Key	Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Danny King	Reginald Belon for Hon. Yvette Clarke
Bettie Kollock Wallace	Frieda Menos for Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Charles Ladson	Nick Perry for Hon. Scott Stringer
Wendy Lanier (A)	Malcolm McDaniel for Hon. Eric L. Adams
Carolyn Lee (E)	Shelton Jones for Hon. Eric Gonzalez
Albion Liburd	Melvin Faulkner for Hon. Charles Barron
Deborah Mack (E)	Joy Simmons for Hon. Inez Barron
Yolanda Matthews	Carlos Soto for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.
John McCadney, Jr.	William Williams for Hon. Darlene Mealy

### MEETING HELD AT BROWNSVILLE MULTI-SERVICE CENTER, 444 THOMAS S. BOYLAND STREET, BROOKLYN

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the public hearing to order at 6:40 p.m. and requested a moment of quiet reflection.

IN THE MATTER OF an application submitted by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (“HPD or the Applicant” for several actions (the “proposed actions”) subject to City Planning Commission (“CPC”) approval, including the disposition of City-owned property to the project sponsor selected by HPD, designation of an Urban Development Action Area and Approval of an Urban Development Action Area Project (“UDAAP”), a zoning special permit pursuant to Zoning Resolution (“ZR”) Section 74-903, a zoning map amendment from R6 to R7-2/C2-3, and a zoning text amendment to map a Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Area (“MIHA”). In addition to the CPC actions, HPD is seeking a Mayoral Zoning Override to waive the street wall height regulations set under ZR Section 33-431. These actions would facilitate the new construction of a supportive and affordable housing building (the “Proposed Development1”) on a currently vacant City-owned property (Block 3566, Lot 6) located on Livonia Avenue between Howard Avenue and Grafton Street (the “Project Area” or “Development Site2”) in the Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn, Community District 16. In addition to the above actions, the project sponsor would seek construction financing through HPD’s Supportive Housing Loan Program (“SHLP”) at a later date.

The Project Area/Development Site is 20,000 square feet of vacant City-owned land located at 3 Livonia Avenue (Block 3566, Lot 6). It is situated on the southern end of the block bounded by Livonia Avenue to the south, Howard Avenue to the west, Dumont Avenue to the north, and Grafton Street to the east.

Under the proposed actions, the Development Site would be conveyed to the project sponsor and redeveloped with the Proposed Development, a new 8-story mixed-use building containing approximately 125 affordable housing units (Use Group 3 non-profit institution with sleeping accommodations), one unit for a superintendent, approximately 4,915 sf of offices and common spaces for the delivery of on-site supportive services for building residents, and approximately 3,079 sf of ground-floor space to be used for either community facility space or for local retail (Use Group 6 and/or 4A, respectively). The building will have a total zoning floor area of approximately 98,800 zoning square feet (or approximately 115,538 gross square feet). Of the 125 affordable units, at least 60 percent of these affordable units would be supportive housing

units reserved for formerly homeless households. All of the affordable units would be affordable to individuals and households with incomes at or below 60 percent of Area Median Income (“AMI”).

Ms. Jocelyn Torio stated that she is a consultant with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). This evening, she is present with Samelys Lopez of Breaking Ground, Matthew Okibeyi of African American Planning Commission, other representatives of HPD, along with the architects for the project. The Edwin’s Place project has evolved over the planning process and incorporates many of the comments that they heard from the Community Board’s Land Use, Planning, and Zoning Committee. They are here to provide an update on the project and are excited to be working with Breaking Ground on this project which will provide affordable housing and introduce retail space to the area.

Ms. Samelys Lopez stated that Breaking Ground is a developer and operator of affordable housing with 3,500 units in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, upstate New York, and Connecticut. They have previously developed two projects within Community District #16 – the Domenech and the Hegeman. Photographs of the sites were displayed.

Mr. Matthew Okibeyi, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the African American Planning Commission (AAPC), stated that it is a multi service housing, social service, community, and economic development organization operating in Central Brooklyn. Their mission is to break the cycle of domestic violence, HIV/AIDS transmission, homelessness and poverty in our communities. Edwin’s Place will be their third project.

Photographs and drawings of the site and its physical relation to other facilities were displayed.

Mr. Okibeyi gave a brief history of the project. In 2015, Breaking Ground and AAPC presented a supportive housing project plan to the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee. This project began with 100% studios with no retail space. The Committee requested that plan be revised for a mix of studios and family units.

In September 2016, they returned and presented to the Committee a revised project plan with a mix of studios and family units, along with retail space. The Committee asked the team to consider adding family-units for formerly homeless families.

In November 2016, the team presented the revised project plan that included 6 family-units for formerly homeless and was issued a letter of support for the project in January 2017.

The latest iteration of the project plan is what they are presenting this evening and remains unchanged from what was presented in November 2016.

Ms. Torio stated that they are grateful for the letter of support given by the Community Board. The project will have 126 units including one for a superintendent, and have 50% preference for residents of Community District #16. There will be 48 units for low-income working families from the community, 56 studio units, and 25 family units for formerly homeless families and individuals. Breaking Ground will provide property management services and the African American Planning Commission will provide onsite services.

Mr. Okibeyi stated that AAPC’s area of expertise is providing services to the community. When they decided to develop this project, they wanted to ensure that first it must create employment opportunities and second, it needs to prioritize safety.

Breaking Ground will be providing property management and AAPC will provide services onsite. They will provide counseling, access to medical services, assistance with independent living skills, referrals to day care centers in the community, assistance with job placement and retention, assistance with applying for public assistance, and many others will be offered to all residents. He believes that the most important service that they will provide is job readiness training. It is of utmost importance that they create jobs and therefore, they will have a job training program onsite.

They also identified financial literacy as a concern and will work with a couple of Wall Street Certified Professional Accounting firms who have agreed to provide free financial literacy courses (probably twice a week) to the community and Edwin’s Place residents.

Licensed Case Managers will be onsite to provide services to those who need the services or may come to need them in the future.

Ms. Torio displayed a chart with the affordable housing unit distribution and income bands for 40%, 50%, and 60% of Area Median Income.

The unit distribution remains unchanged from the time when they received the letter of support from the Community Board.

The building will have a variety of green features, such as solar panels on the roof, triple-glazed windows, a super-insulated building envelope, energy efficient appliances, systems, lighting, and water conservation features.

Renderings and schematic drawings of the proposed building were displayed. The building will have a yellow brick veneer. There will be retail space on the ground floor, along with laundry facilities and a digital library for the residents, and office space for Breaking Ground and AAPC. The remaining seven floors will consist of studios, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units.

Next, she displayed the project timeline indicating the completion of the construction in January of 2020 and lease signings and move-ins to begin in February of 2020.

Chairperson Morgan opened the floor to questions.

Ms. Tarris Iriarte, Community Partnerships Coordinator for the Center for Court Innovation, asked what was the criteria for selecting Breaking Ground for this project? It is her understanding that several complaints have been lodged against them with New York City's Human Rights Commission.

Mr. Okibeyi stated that he is unfamiliar with the complaints that are being mentioned. Breaking Ground is a well-known agency that has done a lot of work throughout the City of New York. AAPC, as an organization, is very familiar with them. Residents who they are familiar with who live in buildings managed by Breaking Ground have said good things about the agency. Most of the projects that are developed by Breaking Ground are large buildings with supportive services and have an expertise in this area. This is one of the major criteria for selecting them.

Mr. David Alexander asked how do they ensure that the units will go to homeless individuals and families from the Brownsville community?

Mr. Okibeyi stated that when apartments become available they will be announced to the community.

Ms. Torio stated that there is a lottery system in place which gives residents of Community District #16 a 50% preference.

Ms. Theresa Cassano of HPD's Supportive Housing Loan Program stated that there are two issues at play here. The affordable units, the units targeted towards the non-homeless, will all be marketed through New York City Housing Connect. Those units will automatically provide a 50% community resident preference. The units which are targeted for the homeless is a bit trickier. The Department of Homeless Services (DHS) is typically responsible for placing homeless individuals and families through referrals. They are typically reluctant in using a community preference model because the shelter that someone is in, may not reflect the last address that they came from. There is no in-place tracking system used by DHS to ensure a community preference.

Mr. Alexander stated that this is something that should be looked at.

Ms. Cassano stated that with the homeless situation being as it is, this something that they hear around the city. The developers can reach out to the service providers, however, DHS as not agreed to do community-based referrals.

Ms. Marie Pierre asked how are they dealing with security aside from security guards.

Mr. Okibeyi stated that the building design incorporates security cameras and lighting that brighten the otherwise gloomy streetscape of the area.

Ms. Torio stated that there will also be a desk in the lobby that will be manned by security personnel 24-hours a day.

Chairperson Morgan thanked the presenters and asked Ms. Iriarte to please inform the Community Board's office of any future issues concerning service providers, in order that the Board be informed of such concerns prior to meeting with the organizations on matters that affect the community.

Chairperson Morgan read the next public hearing item for a PROPOSED SELF-STORAGE TEXT AMENDMENT: The New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) proposes a zoning text amendment to establish restrictions on new self-storage facilities within Industrial Business Zones to ensure that their development does not unduly limit future siting

opportunities for more job-intensive, industrial uses. The proposed restrictions would apply within newly established “Designated Areas” in Manufacturing districts, which largely coincide with Industrial Business Zones (IBZs).

Mr. Antony Grande of the New York City Planning (DCP) stated that they have heard from communities across the city about their concerns regarding self-storage facilities. The proposal seeks to balance the development of IBZ with the need for self-storage facilities shown by the market.

IBZ exist in all boroughs, except Manhattan. (A map showing their locations was displayed.) These are areas where the city is seeking to promote industrial businesses. City Planning is proposing the requirement of a special permit to develop self-storage facilities within IBZ. This would mean a case by case review of applications for development of new self-storage facilities within those zones.

In November 2015, the Mayor’s Office and City Council announced a 10-point Industrial Action Plan that targets the city’s Industrial Business Zones (IBZs) as areas for employment growth and industrial innovation.

The plan sought to protect industrial neighborhoods and incentivize development by limiting personal storage in IBZs to support economic growth; align city services to help industrial businesses start, grow, and thrive, and train the city’s workforce to meet the needs of the sector.

The unregulated development of self-storage detracts from the City’s long-term goals for Designated Areas in M districts. Designated areas in M districts, self-storage may occupy land or buildings that could provide locations for industrial, more job-intensive businesses. Very large lots along designated truck routes or highways are in limited supply. Self-storage is in high demand, and is expected to continue to grow. In the last seven years, there were 10 self-storage developments in Designated Areas in M districts on sites larger than 20,000 square feet, which represented almost one quarter of new construction on large sites.

Self-storage development will be permitted by Special Permit on sites that are not appropriate for conforming industrial uses, based on such considerations as zoning lot size, lot or building configuration, proximity to truck routes, and capacity of local streets providing access to zoning lot. Existing self-storage facilities will be permitted to remain and extend or enlarge within the original zoning lot.

Mr. Nick Burn read a statement requesting that the Board not support the text amendment as it would have an unfair adverse effect on the self-storage industry. He stated that more 30% of self-storage space is used by small to medium sized businesses as they offer space that more affordable than larger warehouses.

There being no further comment, a motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. John McCadney, Jr., and carried to close the public hearing.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Captain Terrell Anderson, Executive Officer of the 73rd Precinct.

Captain Anderson stated that as the Executive Officer, he is second in command of the Precinct. Deputy Inspector Mascol is on vacation which places him in charge of the Precinct.

They are currently up .4% in major crimes in the Precinct. Their main concern is burglaries which is defined as the unlawful entry into a structure such as a home or business with the intent to commit any crime inside. They are up 28% year-to- date in burglaries. This is a significant number. They attribute this, in part, to booming amount of construction taking place in Brownsville. The sites are not being secured properly and thieves are taking advantage by stealing tools that are then sold. They encourage contractors to secure their locations and everyone to report suspicious activity.

Another concern is violent crime, in terms of shootings. Year-to-date, they are up 3 shootings with a total of 20 shootings as compared to 17 in the previous year. As the weather warms up, more people are coming out and there are precursors to some of the shootings in the community – crowds, and gambling. He asked for the community’s assistance in reporting these activities to the precinct to help reduce violent crime incidents.

A neighborhood resident reported that he has been experiencing a quality of life issue on his block and reached out to one of the Neighborhood Coordinating Officers and was told by the officer that he would get back to the resident. It has been a couple of weeks, but he has not heard back. Does Captain Anderson have any suggestions?

Captain Anderson apologized in behalf of the officer, stating that he knows the officer to be diligent at his work and may be slow in getting back due to his workload. He suggested that if there is an immediate issue, 3-1-1 be called as much as needed to get a response.

Mr. Charles Ladson asked Captain Anderson to explain the statement made by Commissioner O'Neil stating that the Department will no longer enter one's home to confiscate equipment that is creating a noise nuisance.

Captain Anderson stated that in the past, they would seize equipment that was creating noise nuisances from private property. However, they have lost several lawsuits brought against the Department for such action and may no longer enter upon private property for the sole purpose of confiscating equipment creating noise nuisances. They can and will enter if they witness other crime such as underaged drinking.

Someone stated that they recently called 9-1-1 after receiving threats from a resident of the men's shelter on Ralph Avenue. The responding officer proceeded to give her a history lesson on the neighborhood and asked her if she realized that she lives near the shelter. She explained that she is well aware of the shelter and complaint is not about the shelter, but rather about the individual, who happens to be a resident of the shelter, making terroristic threats towards her. The officer went on to tell her that they do not chase criminals. She was shocked to hear this and told the officer that she has worked in shelter and does not fear their occupants, however, she will not tolerate someone making threats. She called 9-1-1 four times to get this response. What would make one think that a burglary will receive a more favorable response? She wants to know that she is safe in her community, whether or not she resides near a shelter.

Captain Anderson asked to speak with the complainant one-on-one and stated as a general rule, calls are responded to base on the type of call it may be. They do consider threats to individuals important. He does not know the details of this particular call but, there may have been mitigating circumstances.

Mr. David Alexander stated that, earlier today, he was informed by a local resident that there may be gang activity in the area of Hegeman Avenue between Rockaway Avenue and Thomas S. Boyland Street. Is the Precinct aware of this activity?

Captain Anderson stated that there are gangs that frequent certain areas. Currently, he is unaware of any opposition gangs that live in the Precinct. Much of the violence usually incorporates someone coming from outside the Precinct, however, he will look into the activity at the location.

Min. Prince Issachar stated that the individual who threatened the woman is known in the shelter and the community. He is constantly harassing people but he is never arrested.

Captain Anderson stated that under New York penal law, harassment is a violation and not a cause for arrest unless it is witnessed by a police officer. Were the individual to repeatedly show up on one's doorstep or follow them constantly, it would become a misdemeanor be a cause for arrest even if not witnessed by an officer.

Dr. Cleopatra Brown stated there is a need for increased police presence near and in Betsy Head Park. In the bleacher area, there are often young people hanging out and smoking marijuana as early as 8:00 a.m.

Captain Anderson stated that amongst the functions of the Neighborhood Coordinating Officer is to walk their sectors. The 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct is divided into 4 sectors: A, B, C, and D. On the day and overnight tours, the same officers are assigned

The roll was called and a quorum was present.

District Manager Greene-Walker highlighted the following from her report:

1) Senior Citizen Homeowner and Disabled Homeowner Exemption

2) Brownsville Excerpts Podcast - A 10-week online radio course for young adults will be offered at the Brownsville Public Library located at 61 Glenmore Avenue on Thursdays, starting July 6th from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

3) NYC Public Pools Open June 29 - NYC's FREE outdoor pools will reopen Thursday, June 29, and most will be available through Labor Day. Betsy Head Pool and Howard Pool hours are from 11:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m., with a break for pool cleaning between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4) Safe in the City Grant

5) Request for Information - The Brooklyn District Attorney's Office has issued a Request for Information (RFI) in advance of an upcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) to invite ideas and discussion from community-based organizations with relevant experience in youth development about options available for implementing the program in several Brooklyn neighborhoods.

Additionally, the report contains several grant opportunities as well as several complaints received by the Board's office which were forwarded to various agencies for resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Adrainer Coleman, and carried to accept the District Manager's report.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Mr. Andrew Ingelsby of the New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA).

Mr. Ingelsby stated that he is Assistant Director for Government and Community Relations at MTA New York City Transit. He is here with Ronnie Nettles of the External Affairs of the Department of Transportation (DOT), Dan Jankowsky of NYCTA's Operations Planning Unit, and Judd Peale of DOT. They are here to present an update on the work to be done on the Canarsie "L" line.

Mr. Jankowsky stated the reason they need to do this work is due to corrosion of cabling, circuit breakers and power and track equipment damage caused when the Canarsie Tube was inundated with saltwater during Superstorm Sandy.

Prior to doing the work on the Canarsie Tunnel which is scheduled to begin in 2019, they need to make repairs to the Myrtle Avenue Viaduct which will affect the M line service for several months.

The L line is used by 400,000 riders daily. Of the 400,000, 100,000 use the line solely within Brooklyn and will not be affected by the repairs. Large number of L subway riders travel to 14<sup>th</sup> Street stations, including 1 Avenue, which is not easily reached by other subway lines.

A contract was awarded in April 2017 with the 15-month closure scheduled to begin in April 2019. They expect the work to be done on time as there is bonus for early completion and financial penalties for delays (\$400k/day).

They have held several public workshops along the areas most heavily impacted by the repairs. The most frequent comments heard were: • buses need dedicated lanes • multiple options need to be provided, including ferry • simple, direct inter-borough bus routing, connecting to subways • bike lanes should be physically separated • street treatments should take emergency vehicle and delivery access needs into consideration.

Draft concepts of alternate routes were displayed with a focus on travel along 14<sup>th</sup> Street which is most heavily impacted by the scheduled service disruption. They included bus, bike, and ferry alternatives

Thankfully, there are several transfer opportunities: Broadway Junction, Myrtle -Wyckoff, and other subways services. For the Brownsville residents, subways will be the work horse during the repair period with Broadway Junction serving as a key point of interchange. He reminded the audience the L will run as near normal as possible within Brooklyn (Between Bedford Avenue and Rockaway Parkway). A free transfer is also being planned for the Livonia Avenue and Junius Street stations.

As the plan progresses they will return to update the community.

Rev. David Demera asked if there will be free transfer established between the Canarsie “L” and the IRT #3 lines at Junius Street and Livonia Avenue and will the stations be made ADA accessible?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that plans have already been made to establish free transfers between the two stations and should be in place by the time the work to repair the tunnel begins. Regarding the installation of elevators, this is something that he hears about very often. Without going into great detail of the ADA process, they basically have 100 key stations that must be made ADA compliant by 2020. Once those stations have been made accessible, they will be deciding what the next stations will be.

Someone stated that these stations need to be prioritized.

Mr. John McCadney, Jr. concurred with statement. He noted that there are five senior citizens centers near the location. The stations are essentially inaccessible by the seniors, the handicapped, and women with baby carriages. He stated that the Brighton Beach station platform is only one flight from street level and yet it has escalator service. All the elevated stations along the IRT #2 in the Bronx have elevator service. This community has been requesting elevator service for our stations year after year in the budget process. Why are these requests not being addressed? They have two years before the 2020 fiscal budget is in use. He thinks this issue can be addressed in that timeframe.

Mr. Ingelsby stated that the points are well taken and he will take them back to their office.

Mr. Charles Ladson and Ms. Anita Pierce related stories of how the lack of ADA accessibility to stations in the community greatly inconvenienced them. Many others showed concern about having this issue corrected.

Mr. Ingelsby reiterated that funding has only been appropriated for the 100 key stations which were selected by a panel consisting of MTA personnel, the Federal Transit Administration, and members of the disabled community in the 1990s. These stations must be completed by 2020.

Chairperson Morgan stated that the issue will not be resolved here this evening. She encourages the community to keep the discussion going and not just talk about when representatives from NYCTA come to present. We need to work on a plan of action, present it to the agency and hold their feet to the fire for it.

Ms. Joy Simmons, representing the Office of Councilmember Inez Barron, stated that they have been advocating for the installation of bus shelters, seats, and countdown clocks at bus stops in the community. How can this be done?

Mr. Ingelsby stated that they collaborate with DOT on the shelters and street seats. Regarding the shelters, they are currently out of stock. Regretfully, he is unaware of where they are in the procurement process. If there are locations where one thinks the shelters are needed, they can reach out to the community boards to submit a request that will be forwarded to NYCTA.

Regarding the countdown clocks, they are becoming a popular item. DOT does not have a line item budget for them. However, you can reach out to the community boards and the councilmember who can allocate discretionary funding for them.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Assemblywoman Latrice Walker.

Assemblywoman Walker thanked those who supported her during the fiscal year in which she was able to help pass some key legislation. Among them a law to protect individual's pensions. For the past few months, she has been working closely with the community on an initiative call “Vital Brooklyn”. She was able to get an additional \$700,000,000 over and above the \$700,000,000 that had already been allocated.

She is honored to have been elected by her peers to be the Chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Association in less than three years in office and looks forward to leaving a lasting legacy as they put together the upcoming Black and Puerto Rican Caucus event.

Tomorrow, she will head to Albany where they will be voting on whether to extend mayoral control of New York City schools. She is a product of Ocean Hill-Brownsville, home to the decentralization of school boards and is uncertain on whether or not we should keep mayoral control. She wants to hear from the community on how they want her to vote on the issue.

Her office is located on the second floor of 400 Rockaway Avenue and she hosts their Advisory Board meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

She was also able to obtain \$1,400,000 to have refrigerators and stoves replaced in apartments at Brownsville Houses. They are working on getting camera for NYCHA as well. These are our neighbors and everyone deserves a decent place to live.

They have had an astronomical year. They are supporting senior centers, youth centers, and our families all around. There is a new pre-k initiative which Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Farina have seen fit to introduce first in School District #23. Three-year olds are now able to go to school. She encourages the community to take full advantage of the opportunity, less it is lost.

Rev. David Demera asked Assemblywoman Walker if she might say a few words about the One Brooklyn event scheduled to take place at First Baptist Church on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Assemblywoman Walker stated that on Thursday, there will be a town hall meeting at First Baptist Church of Brownsville, located at 357 Chester Street, to discuss the future of healthcare in our community. There has been \$700,000,000 appropriated for healthcare in East Brooklyn. However, there are other communities that are trying their best to take away some of the funding for themselves. Interfaith, Kingsbrook, and Brookdale Hospitals are to be consolidated, with Brookdale as the hub of the hospitals under the One Brooklyn Health umbrella. Beyond the consolidation, there is a large amount of wellness money, money for job force development, and resiliency funding. The town hall is to bring together stakeholders and the community and get their input of the future of healthcare.

Mr. Charles Ladson asked Assemblywoman if she can speak to the shop owners on Pitkin Avenue and have them hire youth from the community.

Assemblywoman Walker stated that they were able to obtain \$900,000 in what is called Multi-Modal money which is being used to fix streetlights and streets, but not used to fix sidewalks. She receives a number of complaints from people in wheelchairs and walkers who are having trouble navigating the ramps and sidewalks of Pitkin Avenue. Some have fallen and been injured, but she gets pushback from the city when she asks them to use the funds to repair sidewalks. She encourages the community to do a letter writing campaign to have the city do the repairs. Government listens to numbers. The more people that say they want something done the better government responds. She can be reached by calling (718) 498-8681, via email at walkerl@ny.assembly.gov, via facebook, or twitter.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Ms. Lucy Robson of New Yorkers for Parks.

Ms. Robson stated that she works at New Yorkers for Parks as an urban planner. As their name says, they are New Yorkers for parks. In Community District #16 there are many parks. She is here for two purposes. She is here to share information about the community's parks and to ask for your input and help. They are New York City's independent advocates for parks and open spaces. They work in all five boroughs. They provide information to communities to help the city determine what it should be doing better, in terms of parks and open spaces. They have been collecting data in Brownsville for the past three years and created the Brownsville Open Space Index which shows that of 14 goals that they set, Brownsville meets 4. They are a correct number of parks, athletic fields, athletic courts, and community gardens. However, there are not enough open space acreage and this a difficult issue to resolve as there is a finite number acres in the city. What they are seeking is the community's assistance in looking at ways to use what land is available. Whether it is through looking at open spaces on NYCHA property or asking private developers to open spaces to the public, or through some other means. More recreation centers are needed and this will be exacerbated as the Brownsville Recreation Center undergoes renovation. There is much more, however, in the interest of time she can be reached at (212) 838-9410 or lrobson@ny4p.org, if you have ideas on how we arrive at the goals that have not yet been met, please reach out to her.

Ms. Adrainer K. Coleman, Chairperson of the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee, reported that the Committee met on June 13, 2017 with representatives from the Department of City Planning who updated us on the East New York Rezoning Plan. They were informed that a progress report will be released shortly and will be done annually for the next 5 years.

The Committee also met with the developers of Edwin's Place which is a proposal to develop 125 units of affordable housing and retail commercial space on City-owned vacant land (Block 3566, Lot 6) at Livonia Avenue and Grafton Street which you heard at tonight's ULURP public hearing.

The developers were requested to provide in writing a commitment letter with local hiring protocols to which they will commit. The Committee is in receipt of the letter.

The Committee also heard a presentation on the self-storage text amendment which you heard earlier tonight.

The Committee recommends that the Board vote in support of the ULURP actions for Edwin's Place which will erase a blighting condition on Block 3566, Lot 6 and create 125 units of affordable housing and retail commercial space.

She turned the matter of Edwin's Place and the self-storage text amendment over for a vote.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. Danny King, and carried to accept the report of the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee.

In a roll call vote of 22-in favor, 0-against, and 1-abstention, members of the Board voted to support the application submitted by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD or the Applicant" for several actions (the "proposed actions") subject to City Planning Commission ("CPC") approval, including the disposition of City-owned property to the project sponsor selected by HPD, designation of an Urban Development Action Area and Approval of an Urban Development Action Area Project ("UDAAP"), a zoning special permit pursuant to Zoning Resolution ("ZR") Section 74-903, a zoning map amendment from R6 to R7-2/C2-3, and a zoning text amendment to map a Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Area ("MIHA"). In addition to the CPC actions, HPD is seeking a Mayoral Zoning Override to waive the street wall height regulations set under ZR Section 33-431. These actions would facilitate the new construction of a supportive and affordable housing building (the "Proposed Development1") on a currently vacant City-owned property (Block 3566, Lot 6) located on Livonia Avenue between Howard Avenue and Grafton Street.

In a roll call vote of 11-in favor, 9-against, and 3-abstentions, members of the Board voted to support a proposed self-storage text amendment by the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) to establish restrictions on new self-storage facilities within Industrial Business Zones to ensure that their development does not unduly limit future siting opportunities for more job-intensive, industrial uses.

Mr. Albion Liburd, in behalf of Genese Morgan, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the Committee met on Thursday, June 15, 2017 and reviewed three (3) applications for State Liquor Licenses.

A new application for a beer and wine license in regards to Daily Press - Ocean Hill. The establishment is a cafe located at 38 Somers Street.

The owner of the establishment has submitted to the interview process and business visit by the Committee.

- The business is not located within 200 feet of a place of worship
- The business is not located within 500 feet of a school house.
- The business has submitted to a tour of business
- The establishment has no existing complaints on file with the 73rd Precinct.

The Committee recommends that the Board support this application.

A new application for a beer and wine license in regards to Forde's Sport Bar. The establishment is a Sports Bar, located at located at 85 Dumont Avenue.

The owner of the establishment has submitted to the interview process and business visit by the Committee.

- The business is not located within 200 feet of a place of worship
- The business is not located within 500 feet of a school house.
- The business has submitted to a tour of business
- The establishment has no existing complaints on file with the 73rd Precinct.

The Committee recommends that the Board support this application on condition that the sale of alcoholic drinks begin at 6:00 p.m.

A new application for a beer and wine license in regards to Loma Restaurant #5. The establishment is a restaurant located at located at 454 Rockaway Avenue.

The owner of the establishment has submitted to the interview process and business visit by the Committee.

- The business is not located within 200 feet of a place of worship
- The business is not located within 500 feet of a school house.
- The business has submitted to a tour of business
- The establishment has no existing complaints on file with the 73rd Precinct.

The Committee recommends that the Board support this application.

Additionally, the Committee discussed progress on projects that the Committee is currently working on with regards to banking, FHA mortgages, small business and employment.

Manvir Singh of the NYC Department of Small Business Workforce 1 Division is present to give us an update on the East New York Workforce 1 Center and how one can access services.

Also, Kenyada McClean will share with us updates on the Office Anchor Strategy RFP which was released by NYC Economic Development Corporation on June 21, 2017 to develop 300,000 SF of office space in the Broadway Junction area of our district; and Mayor Bill de Blasio's New York Works plan which aims to create 100K jobs over the next 10 years in New York City.

Information session for the Office Anchor Strategy RFP will be held July 12, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at 110 Williams Street in Manhattan.

You may view the New York Works plan at <https://newyorkworks.cityofnewyork.us/>

In a roll call vote of 14-in favor, 4-against, and 2-abstentions members of the Board voted to support the liquor license applications of Daily Press - Ocean Hill, Forde's Sport Bar, and Loma Restaurant #5.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, and carried to accept the report of the Economic Development Committee.

Ms. Linda Rivera, Chairperson of the Women's Committee, reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on June 19, 2017 to conclude each committee's outstanding item and events for June 2016/June 2017 and determine possible integrated goals for the next fiscal year (July 2017 through June 2018). The members discussed which committee's goals and objectives and resolved to research, examine and re-evaluate the extent, and impact of mental health on the total family structure with special focus on youth and children.

The Work Group also met with two Health Advocates from the Brooklyn Perinatal Network who you will briefly hear from tonight regarding the work they're doing in the community.

They also met with Ms. Nicole Robinson-Etienne, from the Institute for Community Living (ICL) who shared their vision for a health hub at 2581 Atlantic Avenue. ICL is in the process of constructing an integrative health program with the total and major objectives to provide integrated primary care and maintain services, build intervention program capacity to identify and respond to individuals in need increase community partnerships, and operate new programs to expand their impact on improving life in the community. The desired outcomes include

improving overall population health, reduction of avoidable emergency room visits, better communication and care among providers of physical and social services, and improve culturally responsible care, resulting in increased engagement with community residents.

Ms. Robinson-Etienne also informed us about ICL's Employment Information Fair on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and their website: [www.ICL.INC.org](http://www.ICL.INC.org), for additional employment opportunities.

ICL is also seeking community residents to serve on their advisory board. If you're interested, please call District Manager Viola Greene-Walker at (718) 385-0323 for additional information.

The Health and Human Services Committee continues to encourage community residents to take the Mental Health First Aid Training being offered by the Health Department. For more information about the Mental Health First Aid Training and workshops, email: [BrooklynActionCenter@health.nyc.gov](mailto:BrooklynActionCenter@health.nyc.gov).

The Work Group also met with Ms. Vega from the Medgar Evers Oasis Beacon Program, located at 210 Chester Street who informed us about their plan for a carnival on August 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Betsy Head Park.

The Women's and Senior Citizens Committees will work with Ms. Vega to incorporate intergenerational activities and provide services for all family members.

The SONYC BIZ Entrepreneurial Program and GED Program continue to enroll students. For additional information, contact Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street; telephone number: (718) 498-4513.

To enroll in the CAMPUS Afterschool Tech and Arts Program for Middle School Students, located at 85 Watkins Street, call (718) 284-4700.

The Senior Citizens Affairs Committee met on June 21, 2017 with Dr. Bernstein of Brookdale Hospital on the topic of Arthritis - Its Causes and Effects.

He stated that most people are affected with rheumatoid arthritis which is an inflammation of the joints, muscles, nerve, and even pain in the chest. Once you get arthritis, it doesn't go away.

Lupus is another type of arthritis that affects the heart, brain, and other organs. Dr. Bernstein stated that residents of Brownsville have a high rate of Lupus. He also informed the Committee that a history of the patient is necessary, as well as an examination and assessment to determine the type of arthritis the patient has. There are several effective medications on the market to relieve the pain of arthritis.

It was a very educational session with Dr. Bernstein who will be invited back to an upcoming meeting as time did not allow for responses to the many questions asked by Committee members.

The Senior Citizens Affairs Committee will be meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Board Office to work on the "Breast Cancer Awareness Walk" on October 12, 2017 at Betsy head Park.

The next meeting of the Community Resident Planning Work Group will be on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, seconded by Mr. David Alexander, and carried to accept the report of the Community Resident Planning Work Group.

Chairperson Morgan recognized representatives from the Brooklyn Perinatal Network.

Ms. Kathline James stated that she is a Community Health Advocate for Brooklyn Perinatal Network (BPN). They are located within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene building, located at 259 Bristol Street. They provide several different resources and have left flyers on the distribution table. They are not just about pre-natal and newborns, they offer a variety of service around nutrition.

Ms. Princess Cronniett stated that they bring attention to the health crisis and disparity within our community. Though only about nine miles apart, Brownsville and Battery Park have over 10 years between them in the average life expectancy of their residents. In Brownsville—a neighborhood consistently ranked among the poorest and most dangerous in the city — life expectancy, at 74.4 years, was at a citywide low in the most recent Summary of Vital Statistics released by the city’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In the predominantly white, upper middle class Battery Park, meanwhile, the rate was 85.9 years — over four years above the city’s average.

Oftentimes, we do not pay attention to how things in our community affect our health and inherently, the health of the children being carried by the women. Crib death is a problem that is not thought as being affected by stress. However, if the mother is stressed, it does affect the baby in her womb and will still be affected after birth. Disparities in stress management, acknowledging mental health, and being able to communicate what we are going through as individuals. They want the community to pay attention to these types of thing. As community health advocates, they want to teach the community that healthy eating, having access to healthy foods and getting grocers to make them available is important. However, we also need to be aware of the mental health issues and not be afraid to seek help. If we do not take care of these issues it can adversely affect our children and plays a part the manner that we see our children acting out today.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Mr. Tim Curry of WorkForce1.

Mr. Curry stated that they suffer from lack of knowledge of their existence by community residents. They are in twenty locations and place approximately 25,000 individuals in jobs each year. In Brooklyn, they refer about 4,500 people a year to jobs. In this community, they connect about 700. They want to get the word out about their locations. They have four locations in Brooklyn with the newest one being at Sheffield Street at Atlantic Avenue. That is a mere 1.3 miles from 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street. They have 5 staff members on-site to assist job seekers.

Someone asked what type of jobs or job training does WorkForce1 offer.

Mr. Curry stated that they work with hiring employers and find out what their needs are. They then go into the community and find matches for the jobs. If someone is not a match, they have career development services to assist with resume writing, interview preparation, interview practice, and one-on-one scenarios to help them get to where they need to be.

They offer training in healthcare, technology (web development), food service, and a construction pre-apprenticeship program which is designed to help individuals who no construction background get into the trades.

Someone asked if participants need to be collecting public assistance to make use of the programs?

Mr. Curry stated that they are open to everyone. The only requirement is that they are at least 18 years old and have documentation to prove it. If you cannot prove your date of birth, they will not simply turn you away. They will try to help you obtain it through one of their partners.

Information on the trainings is available at all of their locations.

Ms. Kenyada McLean of the Economic Development Corporation stated that she is here to inform the community of a RFP (Request for Proposals) that was released last week which for a long-term lease or condominium interest of up to 300,000 square feet of office space to be occupied by the Human Resources Administration (HRA). The RFP will preference proposals offering office space in the East New York neighborhood of Brooklyn.

The objective of the RFP is to identify a lease and larger office development project that satisfy the City’s need for office space while creating additional office and retail space for non-City uses. This will allow developers to go into their negotiation for funding with the security of the long-term lessor in hand.

Ms. Marie Pierre, Chairperson, Legislative Committee, reported that the Fiscal and Policy Work Group met on June 20th and hosted two presenters to enlighten the Committee on the question of

whether there should be a New York State Constitutional Convention which is a question that will be on the November 7, 2017 election ballot.

Mr. Thomas Bergdall from Citizens Union Foundations presented arguments in favor of voting "YES" on The New York State Constitutional Convention, and Mr. John O'Malley, Legislative Coordinator, CWA Local 1180 presented arguments to vote "NO" on The New York State Constitutional Convention. Both presented very strong points, however due to time constraints, they decided to have a healthy discussion at their September 19, 2017 meeting and will be making their recommendations at the next Board meeting on September 26, 2017.

She encourages members of the audience to join and voice concerns with matters such that lack of elevator service at our train stations.

The committees remind you that this is summer and they would like you to be vigilant and look out for unhealthy practices at the nail salons. She would also like to thank the members who worked tirelessly to keep this Work Group going.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Ladson, seconded by Ms. Marie Pierre, and carried to accept the report of the Fiscal and Policy Work Group.

District Manager Greene-Walker announced that the Department of Health will be hosting a block party on June 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to about 5:00 p.m. on Bristol Street between Blake and Dumont Avenues. Resources and information will be available.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker, in behalf of Ms. Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on June 7, 2017 and discussed the state of public safety in our community. They concluded that the community is in a pivotal place-it can go any way. It is up to the community.

The Public Safety Committee compiled a list of summer programs being offered in the District which were listed in the report.

The community messaging project that was mentioned at last month's meeting has been postponed. The Public Safety Committee will continue to refine the message for a launch later in the year.

Through the Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety, there's a plan to engage community-based organizations to reduce violence by activating community space. As the Work Group gets information to share with our residents, they will do so.

To improve traffic safety, the NYC Department of Transportation is proposed that Junius Street between New Lots Avenue and Linden Boulevard be made one-way south bound which will prevent traffic from making a right turn from Linden Boulevard onto Junius Street. By changing this section of Junius Street from two-way to one-way traffic, it will make Junius Street one-way southbound from East New York Avenue to Linden Boulevard.

The next meeting of the City Services Work Group will be on Wednesday, September 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Timothy Harrell of the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board was asked to come forward.

Mr. Harrell stated that the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) is an independent agency. It is empowered to receive, investigate, mediate, hear, make findings, and recommend action on complaints against New York City police officers alleging the use of excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or the use of offensive language.

The Board holds monthly public meetings alternatively at 100 Church Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, in Manhattan with the following meeting held in a borough. On Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at 210 Chester Street, they will hold their meeting in the 73<sup>rd</sup> Precinct which has one of the highest amounts of complaints. The meeting will be held in a town hall format allowing for open discussion by the community. They invite the community and its stakeholders to come out and begin the dialogue that needs to take place between the police and the community in an effort to improve police/community relations.

Information on how to file complaint you are involved with or witnessed can be found on the distribution table. Once a complaint has been filed, an assigned investigator will attempt to contact you within 48 hours of receiving the assignment. The investigator will need to interview you in person to get a description of the events and alleged misconduct. After speaking with you, the investigator will contact witnesses and visit locations where incidents occurred to find video from surveillance cameras or to find other people, who may be able to provide information or eyewitness accounts.

He can be reached by calling ((212) 912-7280 or by emailing [tharrell@ccrb.nyc.gov](mailto:tharrell@ccrb.nyc.gov).

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Linda Rivera, and carried to accept the report of the City Services Planning Work Group.

Mr. Carlos Soto, representing the Office of Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr., stated he concurs with Chairperson Morgan statement about speaking with a unified voice through your community boards. Let your elected officials know about your concerns. Councilmember Espinal's office is available to assist with a variety of issues from immigration to housing concerns. They can be reached by calling (718) 642-8664 or by visiting the office at 786 Knickerbocker Avenue.

Mr. Melvin Faulkner, representing the Office of Assemblyman Charles Barron, congratulated the Board on the work that they accomplished during the year. He stated that regardless of what is said outside this community, it is one of the best in the city.

He heard the response to the request for elevators at the subway stations in the District and he is not satisfied. To say that Broadway Junction, one of the busiest stations in the system does not need an elevator is unacceptable. We need to insist that one be installed there.

Ms. Frieda Menos, representing the Office of Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, stated that Congressman Jeffries, along with Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, is working hard in Washington to combat the assault on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other issue affecting the community.

He has started his Summer Congress on Your Corner events. The next event will be at Broadway Junction on August 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be the 5<sup>th</sup> of a series of 10 events. For additional information, please call their office at (718) 373-0033.

Mr. Malcolm McDaniel, representing Borough President Eric Adams, announced that the Borough President's office hosted several events during the month. There was the New York City Dance Week Kickoff, a Men's Health Symposium and Expo, and a Community Maternal Health Forum, to name a few.

They will be receiving the list for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert series in the coming week; person interested in being placed on the VIP list should call Karen Forde at (718) 802-3837.

The Borough President offers a limited number of \$200 grants for block party events in the borough. If you wish to be reimbursed for expenditures made for your block party event, please contact Keisha Humphrey at (718) 802-3868.

The Borough President's office offers a variety of constituent services. If you have any questions or need assistance please call him at (718) 802-2681.

Mr. Nickolas Perry, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer, reported that divesting from private prison companies has been a goal of Comptroller Stringer for some time. This industry is morally bankrupt, it makes money by putting people in cages. Across the country more than 126,000 individuals are house in 130 private prisons. Investigations have found numerous problems in these prisons. People are dying the prisons are being sued. Investing in these companies is risky and reprehensible. This is why earlier this month Comptroller Stringer announced that all \$48,000,000 of New York City pension fund money has been divested from these companies. New York City will no longer be complicit in profit off the suffering of others and Comptroller Stringer hopes that other cities and states follow our lead.

Mr. Reginald Belon, representing the Office of Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, as was stated by Ms. Menos earlier, Congresswoman Clarke works very closely with Congressman Jeffries to

ensures that our communities voices are heard in Washington. She is keeping a watchful eye on the ACA and working make certain that the needs of the community are met.

A major bill that Congresswoman Clarke introduced this week is called the Community College Student Success Act. The Act will provide funding for community colleges across the nation with priority to underserved communities, allowing these institutions to expand support services. For more information on the bill, please visit [clarke.house.gov](http://clarke.house.gov).

If you have questions or concerns with constituent services, you may call their office at (718) 287-1142.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Ms. Keturah Suggs who stated that she placed a transportation survey on the chairs this evening. The purpose of the survey is to determine means of improving transportation resources for the community's seniors. She is requesting that the survey be completed and returned to her. If you have questions about the survey, please call her at (347) 504-1371.

Chairperson Morgan recognized a representative of the New York City Department of Education who announced that the Department is seeking to increase diversity within the City's specialized high schools. She is looking to out reach to to the community to bring awareness of the testing for the schools. If anyone would like to have her attend an event she can be reached by calling (212) 637-8037 or (212) 637-8032.

Someone asked why are there not specialized high schools located within the community so the children need not travel to Manhattan?

The representative stated that there are nine specialized high schools in the City with at least one in each borough. In Brooklyn, there are two – Brooklyn Latin and Brooklyn Technical. Brooklyn Tech is one of the biggest schools in the state and offers many opportunities for youth to learn specialized skills.

Mr. Clayton Dyer announced that Legal Hand, located at 650 Rockaway Avenue offer free legal information, assistance and referrals to help you resolve issues that affect your life, in areas such as housing, family, immigration, divorce, domestic violence, and benefits, and prevent problems from turning into legal actions. Flyers can be found on the distribution table and he invites the audience to come visit their office.

Mr. Yuri Polansky of EmpowerNY who announced that EmpowerNY provides no-cost energy efficiency solutions to income-eligible New Yorkers to help them save energy and money with at no cost. They provide free energy upgrades such as:

- Air sealing to plug leaks and reduce drafts
- Insulation to make your home more comfortable all year round
- Replacement of inefficient refrigerators and freezers
- New energy-efficient lighting

Flyers can be found on the distribution table.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.