

## BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD #7

APRIL 20, 2016

Assemblyman Abbate reported that the Assembly had passed new legislation on raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and paid family leave.

Emmanuel Gonzalez, Captain of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct introduced himself to the members. He spoke about a new initiative from the NYPD called the Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCO) program. Captain Gonzalez reported that the district is split in four sectors. Each sector would have two officers dedicated to deal with the various concerns and issues in their assigned sectors.

He stated that with the 72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct's participation in this program, he has access to valuable resources such as additional officers assigned to the 72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct and vehicles. He answered questions from the board members. He reported that the officers assigned to the 72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct speak several languages such as Spanish, Chinese and Arabic. Officers Andersen, McGrath & Martinez introduced themselves to the board members.

A quorum was present. The agenda was amended and passed unanimously. Ms. Ruiz made a motion to adopt the minutes and was seconded by Mr. T. Murphy.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Transportation

Mr. Jasie reported that the committee met to discuss speed hump requests for 44<sup>th</sup> Street between 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues and East 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Greenwood Avenue & Fort Hamilton Parkway.

Mr. Jasie reported that the request for 44<sup>th</sup> Street was submitted some time ago to DOT and that since that request was filed, a STOP all way sign was installed on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 44<sup>th</sup> Street outside Sunset Park. Mr. Jasie stated that the committee discussed and agreed that the speed hump was no longer necessary. Mr. D. Murphy called for a vote: **29-Yes, 0-No, 1-Abstention.**

Mr. Jasie reported that there was no one in attendance that spoke in favor or against the proposed speed hump for East 4<sup>th</sup> Street. He stated that the board office received a phone call from a resident that was against the speed hump but no further testimony. Mr. Jasie

reported that the committee took no position. He stated that Ms. Parmenter from DOT informed the committee that due to the backlog of other speed hump requests, they would remove East 4<sup>th</sup> Street from the list.

## **Housing**

Ms. Mitaynes reported that the committee met and screened a documentary called “My Brooklyn”. She reported that the documentary focused on the zoning changes in Downtown Brooklyn which included the Fulton Mall and the impact it made on the local businesses and residents.

## **Education**

Mr. Pena reported that the committee met to hear a presentation from the New Foundations Charter Middle School on their proposed charter middle school for the district. Mr. Pena reported that the school was originally slated to be a male only school but would now be coed with single gender classes. Mr. Pena stated that he was asked to be on the board of New Foundations. Mr. Pena answered questions from the board members.

## **Elected Officials**

Assemblyman Ortiz reported that he was in contact with the State Department of Transportation regarding the lighting underneath the Gowanus Expressway and stated that as of today, all the lighting has been repaired. Assemblyman Ortiz stated that if the lights are in need of repair again, to contact his office he would reach out to State DOT for repairs.

Assemblyman Ortiz reported that he developed legislation for a Textalyzer. He stated that it would be used to determine if a driver was texting while driving and became distracted which would cause an accident.

Ms. Granshaw from the Borough President’s Office reported that their office is hosting a free dental screening for children ages 2 and older and adults on April 28. She also reported that their office offers free legal services every month for foreclosure intervention, domestic violence, family, and veterans’ issues. She stated that more information is available in their newsletter this month. Ms. Granshaw reported that board members should be receiving their reappointment letters soon.

Mr. Polauf from Congresswoman Clarke’s Office informed the board members that their office is available to assist with issues such as immigration and social security. He stated that their office covers the Windsor Terrace community.

Mr. Yang from the District Attorney's Office gave an update regarding the case of the Sunny 39 Hotel. Mr. Yang reported that Amy Vincent, desk manager of the hotel pled guilty to a violation and would be sentenced next week. He also reported that Lucy Lee, principal owner of the hotel has been charged with promoting prostitution, falsifying business records. He stated that she has a court appearance coming up next month.

Ms. Mitaynes asked for the results of the participatory budgeting voting.

Mr. Sun from Councilman Menchaca's reported that their office would be making an official announcement soon on the projects that won.

Councilman Brad Lander announced the following projects which were voted on in District 39 from participatory budgeting:

- **Aquatic weed harvester for lake in Prospect Park**
- **Freeze resistant drinking water fountains in Prospect Park**
- **Countdown clocks for the B67 and B69 buses**

Councilman Lander spoke about the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and the Zoning Quality Amendments. Councilman Lander stated that he and Councilman Menchaca voted for both the MIH and ZQA with amendments. There was a discussion with the board members. Councilman Lander announced that the Windsor Terrace PTA 5K run would be taking place in May.

Mr. Cerna asked what is the NYC Council's role regarding oversight of the Board of Elections. Councilman Lander stated that NYC Council holds a public hearing annually after the elections to discuss issues that came up during the elections.

Mr. Carroll asked that the Board of Elections should notify voters if they are about to be purged from their records. He also asked that the voters be given an opportunity to object to that decision.

Mr. Jonas from Senator Montgomery's Office reported that the Senator is looking to create a feeder school for the Harbor School on Governor's Island. He stated that the Senator held a meeting to discuss the feeder school and create a list of possible locations. He stated that the Senator is looking to meet with the School Construction Authority to discuss the proposed school.

## **District Manager's Report**

Mr. Laufer reported that on March 30, a town hall meeting was held with Samaritan Village, Department of Homeless Services and the Human Resources Administration. There was discussion regarding the 49<sup>th</sup> Street shelter and  $\frac{3}{4}$  housing on 39<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Laufer reported that HRA does not have to give community boards prior notice about  $\frac{3}{4}$  housing coming into the community. Mr. Laufer reported that the location on 39<sup>th</sup> Street is still running as hotel even though that 21 residents from a previous  $\frac{3}{4}$  housing site were placed at that site. Mr. Laufer reported that 28 of the 30 jobs at the 49<sup>th</sup> Street shelter have been filled. He stated that Samaritan Village is meeting with a security company to install security cameras at the 49<sup>th</sup> Street site.

Mr. Laufer also reported that he attended Samaritan Village's community advisory board meeting and took a tour of the facility. Mr. Laufer stated that he attended the NCO event on April 18. He stated that it was well attended and informative. He also reported that he met with representatives from NYU/Lutheran to discuss community issues.

There were 11 liquor license renewals for the month of April.

## **Chairperson's Report**

Mr. D. Murphy announced that Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Ruiz are co-chairs of the Health Committee. He requested that the committee meet with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to discuss the Zika virus.

Mr. D. Murphy introduced Martha Kamber, newly appointed to CB7. Mr. D. Murphy reported that he attended the opening of the Innovation Lab at Industry City. He thanked Mr. Peers for his leadership as Chair when the Board was developing its 197-a Plan to revitalize the waterfront.

## **Old Business/New Business**

Ms. Ruiz announced that the Boriqua Festival is taking place on Saturday, June 25 at the 58<sup>th</sup> Street Pier. She reported that they have several sponsors supporting their event such as El Diario de la Prensa, Home Reporter, Circ Moda Media and Jet Blue.

## **Public Comment**

Heather Chin announced that she is a reporter with the Sunset Park Voice, a digital online newspaper. She stated that she could be contacted at [editorial@sunsetparkvoice.com](mailto:editorial@sunsetparkvoice.com) with tips, suggestions or topics that the community would like to see covered in the newspaper

A local Sunset Park resident was advocating for improvements of the handball courts at Sunset Park.

Ms. DeSapio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Joan Botti.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Rodriguez-Novoa  
Assistant Secretary