

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD #16 – SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Attendance

David Alexander
Margaret Brewer
Kaseem Clark-Edwards
Dr. Cleopatra Brown (E)
Adrainer Coleman
Christopher Durosinmi
Norman Frazier
Danny Goodine (A)
Sarah Hall (E)
Balinda Harris
Zalika Headey
Kevin Henderson (E)
Mawuli Hormeku
Michael Howard (E)
Lannetta Jeffries (A)
Carl Joseph
Maurice Joyner (A)
Eula Key
Dr. Betty Kollock-Wallace (E)
Charles Ladson, Sr.
Digna Layne
Carolyn Lee
Kelly Lee-McVay
Albion Liburd (E)
Deborah Mack (E)
Yolanda Matthews
John McCadney, Jr.
Ronella Medica (A)

Melanie Mendonca (E)
Shemene Minter (E)
Genese Morgan
Deidre Olivera-Douglas
Busayo Olupano (A)
Anita Pierce (E)
Marie Pierre (E)
Linda Rivera
Johnnymae Robinson
Keturah Suggs (A)
Richard Swinson
Eric Thompson (A)
Brenda Thompson-Duchene (A)
Ernestine Turner
Rev. Miran Ukaegbu
Deborah Williams
Pat Winston
Viola D. Greene-Walker, District Manager
Jimmi Brevil, Community Assistant
Hon. Latrice Walker
Kim Robinson for Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Melvin Faulkner for Hon. Charles Barron
Jamila Fynes for Hon. Bill de Blasio
Antonya Jeffrey for Hon. Yvette Clarke
Nicholas Perry for Hon. Scott Stringer
Frieda Menos for Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Carlos Soto for Hon. Rafael Espinal, Jr.

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

Chairperson Genese Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., said an invocation and requested a moment of silence for a student (Oluwadurotimi “Timi” Oyebola) who was slain while playing at Chester Street Playground and a motorcyclist (Julius Holloway) who perished in a crash with an automobile, during the past week.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Inspector Rafael Mascol, Commanding Officer of the 73rd Precinct.

Inspector Mascol stated that a 16-year old was struck by a bullet as an unintended party while playing basketball in the playground at Chester Street and lost his life.

As Commanding Officer of the Precinct, this hurts him to the core. He has seen this happen too many times. In his mind and heart, he asks how many more lives must be lost before we act and give all that we have to prevent this from going on and on. We say to ourselves: is this the one that will be the last.

Regarding the Precinct’s crime statistics, he has a mixture of good and bad news. During the summer, they had several events that took place within the Precinct. There was a 2K run, a record number of block parties, a new event featuring café and music was held on Belmont Avenue, the Precinct collaborated with the ASPCA on a Happy and Healthy pet event, and one of the best Old-timers events he has witnessed was held.

He thanked Councilmember Alicka Ampry-Samuel for allocating funds to help make the lobby of the precinct more community friendly.

He has been mentioning that body-cams are coming to the 73rd Precinct, for several months and it is now coming to fruition. All officers will undergo training on the use of the cameras beginning the first week of October. Shortly afterward, they will be carrying the cameras on their uniforms and will be recording their interactions with the community.

In conjunction with the Office of Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, the Police Department has launched a pre-arraignment diversion program to assist individuals who suffer from drug dependency and misuse. Under Project CLEAR (Collaborative Legal Engagement Assistance Response), individuals arrested for misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance will be offered the opportunity to receive treatment and other community-based services before their initial court appearance. If they meaningfully participate, the District Attorney's Office will decline prosecution of their cases before they ever appear in court and their arrest record will be sealed. Under CLEAR, individuals arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance will be a DAT (desk appearance ticket) and have the opportunity to resolve their cases by receiving services rather than appearing in court if they comply with assessment-based recommendations.

“Raise the Age” legislation will begin to be implemented in the State of New York beginning October 1, 2018. Beginning on October 1st, 16-year-olds charged with misdemeanors and most non-violent felonies will have their cases heard in Family Court. The law will take effect for 17-year-olds on October 1, 2019.

With nearly three quarters of the year having gone by, they find themselves slightly behind the record pace they set last year, specifically, felonious assault, grand larceny, and shootings.

Regarding grand larcenies, he mentioned at the Precinct Council Meeting and is repeating here, that leaving your property unattended in places where they are visible such as on the seats of a vehicle, allows for a crime of opportunity. He encourages everyone to secure their valuables even if they only intend to be away for a short period.

There are no Citibike stations within the 73rd Precinct. However, many stolen Citibikes end up being recovered in the Precinct. Under New York City Police Department regulations, stolen Citibikes that are recovered are logged as a crime in the precinct they are recovered in. Unfortunately, many are recovered within the 73rd Precinct.

They are up about 6.2 % in felony assaults. Many stem from squabbles between friends who turn on each other. Simple things like spilling coffee on someone turns into a fight.

Chairperson Morgan recognized representatives from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT).

Ms. Melissa Farley of the MTA stated that they are present this evening to give an update on the Canarsie “L” Line Tunnel Reconstruction Project set to commence next spring.

Mr. Jay Krantz, Director of Rail Network Planning, stated that his team is charged with coming up with mitigation plans for the upcoming tunnel closure. The need for this project is due to the impact of Hurricane Sandy (October 2012). While the tunnel is structurally safe, many of the electrical and mechanical components were badly damaged, requiring the tunnel to be closed for 15 months.

During the tunnel repairs, service on the “L” will continue in Brooklyn from Bedford Avenue to Rockaway Parkway. There will be no service in Manhattan during the 15 months. They have come up with a series of plans which include ferry service, bus service and alternate train routes, depending on one's starting point and destination. Most commuters seeking to go into Manhattan from this community will be best served by alternate train routes. A free, out of system transfer will be introduced between the IRT #3 and the “L” line at Livonia Avenue. Transfers can also be made to the “A”, “C”, and “J” trains at Broadway Junction and the “M” train at Myrtle Avenue/Wyckoff Avenue. Although some riders may elect to use other means of transportation such bicycles, MTA's plans are designed to accommodate 100% of the ridership who normally ride the “L”. MTA will increase service on the “J” and “M” lines by a combined 14%. Additional service will be added to the “G” line and include longer trains.

They expect that 80% of the tunnel ridership will take alternate train routes, 17% will take buses, and the remainder will be on ferries. They will also be beefing up some local bus service, including the B6-, B14, B60, B16, B20, and B103 to help riders make connections to alternative trains.

At the Grand Avenue subway station, commuters will be able to take a bus (L1) that will provide service between Grand Street and First Avenue and 15th Street. Other buses will service several

routes between Williamsburg and Manhattan. MTA is working with DOT on making sure the buses will move along the streets efficiently.

Mr. Ryan Feller of the Department of Transportation stated that DOT is implementing bus priority on a series of streets which include Kenmare Street in Williamsburg and Delancey Street, Allen Street, and 14 Street in Manhattan. They will also be limiting traffic on the Williamsburg Bridge to allow buses, HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle), and commercial vehicles only between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. all days.

Mr. Krantz stated that the changes are bound to cause confusion and they will be flooding the affected areas with customer service representatives to help people navigate the changes. MTA will be monitoring the effect of the changes and will work with DOT to make any needed adjustments.

To help ensure that the Brooklyn segment of the “L” train runs smoothly during the tunnel closure, there will be weekend closures with no service on the “L” between Manhattan and Myrtle Avenue/Wyckoff Avenue or Broadway Junction.

Someone asked if the additional service on the B14 bus will reduce the wait time for the bus?

Mr. Krantz stated they are aiming to reduce overcrowding and will be monitoring to see if additional service is needed.

Chairperson Morgan stated that if there are issues currently affecting bus service in the community, please reach out to the Community Board’s office.

Mr. William Boone asked that consideration be given to making the B42 route a one-seat ride to Williamsburg instead of having to transfer to the B60.

Mr. Krantz stated that it does not fall into the scope of their plan. The “L” will continue to make all stops in Brooklyn. However, the suggestion should be presented when the MTA begins talks on the overhaul of all bus routes.

Mr. Adam Bunkedeko asked if there are plans to mitigate traffic on the other East River bridge crossings?

Mr. Feller stated that there are no plans for the other bridges. However, they will be monitoring the conditions and may revisit options.

Ms. Sarah Lorya noted that their literature states that they will be re-opening the secondary entrance to the “J” line at Broadway and asked if they will be re-opening the second entrance of the Chauncey Street station of the “J” line.

Mr. Krantz stated that they are not planning on re-opening the secondary entrance at the Chauncey Street station at this time. Ridership patterns do not show a need, but they would like to ultimately re-open many of the closed secondary entrances.

Mr. Carlos Soto from the Office of Councilmember Rafael Espinal, Jr. asked if there will be increased service for Access-a-Ride?

Ms. Farley stated that the new MTA President, Andy Byford, has hired a consultant to do a survey of all the stations in the system without ADA access and the results are expected at the end of the year. Mr. Byford has made a commitment to make the entire system accessible at some point. She will take back the question of increase Access-a-Ride service and return her finding to the Board.

Mr. David Alexander asked if they will be adding express route to this community?

Mr. Krantz stated that they do not think express bus services would be the most efficient use of the buses that they can come up with. He suggests that the issue be brought up when MTA begins talks on overhauling bus routes.

Mr. Burchell Marcus asked if a connecting bridge will be built between the “J” and the #3 train lines at Livonia Avenue and Junius Street.

Chairperson Morgan stated that this is budgeted under a separate item and is scheduled to begin in 2019.

Mr. Krantz stated that there will also be a free out-of-system transfer available beginning next year.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Dr. Torian Easterling.

Dr. Easterling stated that he serves as Assistant Commissioner of Health for the New York City Health Department and announced that trauma support services/mental health support service are available at the Brownsville Health Action Center, located at 259 Chester Street. They are also making the services available upon request by calling (718) 312-6131. The services are available to both individuals and groups.

Having acquired a quorum, Chairperson Morgan requested a motion on the minutes of the Board's June 26, 2018 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, and carried to waive the reading of the June 26, 2018 minutes.

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

- Last Day to Register to Vote - The last day to register to vote in this year's general election will be October 12, 2018. New York offers online voter registration at vote.nyc. You can register to vote by mail in New York by completing a Voter Registration Form which she has and mailing it.

To register in New York, you must be a citizen of the United States and be 18 years old by December 31.

- Senior Citizen Homeowner and Disabled Homeowner Exemption - The Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE, also known as the NYC Rent Freeze Program) freezes the rent for head-of-household seniors 62 and older who live in rent-regulated apartments. In order to satisfy the income eligibility requirement, the senior's household income must be \$50,000 or less.

Senior Centers that provide case assistance can also help with starting the application process.

- Additionally, the report contains information about various available grants and complaints received by the office during the month.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Mr. David Alexander, and carried to accept the report of the District Manager.

Chairperson Morgan recognized representatives from the Department of Education's Specialized High Schools Diversity Outreach Program.

Mr. Terrell Merritt stated that he is present with colleague, Ms. Krissia Bonilla. They go out to community meetings and to local libraries to spread information about the eight specialized high schools in the city, two of which are in Brooklyn (Brooklyn Technical High School and The Brooklyn Latin School). Their goal is to ensure that the enrollment at the schools are as diversified as possible.

Interested persons can see them this evening for informational fliers. The deadline for current eighth graders to register to take this year's test is October 11, 2018.

In behalf of Equity Planning Workgroup, District Manager Viola Greene-Walker reported that the Workgroup met on September 11, 2018 with representatives from the East Broadway Housing Development Corporation which is proposing to construct 108 units (1 apartment for a live-in super) on City-owned land at 1510-1524 Broadway at income ranges from 27%, 37%, 47%, 57%, and 70% of AMI. The building will consist of 8 stories with retail space on the ground floor and recreation and laundry room on the second floor.

The lot is presently zoned R6 with a C1-3 overlay. The City is proposing to rezone the lot to R7 with a C2-4 overlay district and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing.

During the discussion, the Work Group expressed the need for a quality tenant to occupy the retail space and a community benefits agreement.

This project is subject to ULURP and will be coming before the Community Board for a public hearing once the ULURP application has been certified by the Department of City Planning.

The Work Group also heard a proposal from Alembic Community Development and JMR Residential Development which are proposing to construct a total of 42 units of affordable housing for individuals and families earning 30%, 40%, 50%, and 60% of AMI on 3 City-owned vacant sites at 609 Osborn Street, 47 New Lots Avenue, and 120-122 Liberty Avenue.

Also at the meeting was Mr. Daniel Murphy from the Pitkin Avenue BID who reported that 4 projects were completed with the 2016 Main Street grant funds. They are awaiting a decision on their 2018 Main Street grant application.

The Pitkin Avenue BID is working with Small Business Services on a Commercial Needs Assessment. The report will be released early next year.

Zion Triangle at Pitkin Avenue is presently under construction.

The next meeting of the Equity Planning Work Group will be on October 9, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

District Manager Greene-Walker asked the developers from Alembic Community Development and JMR Residential Development to come forward to make a brief presentation on their project.

Mr. Mike McCarthy of Alembic Community Development stated that he is present with their development partners from JMR Residential Development to present on their project, as was mention by District Manager Greene-Walker. The sites are all within Community District #16 and are covered by Councilmember Rafael Espinal's (120-122 Liberty Avenue) and Councilmember Charles Barron's (609 Osborn Street and 47 New Lots Avenue) Council Districts.

There will be a total of 11 studio units, 18 one-bedrooms, 5 two- bedrooms, 7 three-bedrooms, and a super's unit for all three buildings. The units will be offered to families and individuals earning 30%, 40%, 50%, and 60% of AMI. A rubric of the current rent and income guidelines was displayed.

All three sites are presently vacant and city-owned. The buildings will be developed as-of-right with zoning changes requested. Each of the buildings will include a laundry room, bike storage, an elevator, and a rear yard. They will be developed to Enterprise Green standards. Each will have landscaping to help control storm water runoff. 47 New Lots Avenue will include approximately 2,000 square feet of retail space. They are proposing to finance the project through a combination of HPD subsidy programs and 9% tax credits.

They are looking to close on financing in March of 2020. They hope to certify the project by the end of the year and will apply for tax credits in about a year from now. They expect the properties to be occupied in early 2022.

This project is also subject to ULURP and will be coming before the Community Board for a public hearing once the ULURP application has been certified by the Department of City Planning.

Mr. Burchell Marcus expressed concern about the affordability of the units by low-income earners.

Chairperson Morgan stated that she understands the concerns as there is an affordability crisis. However, this is a small-scale project with a total 42 units being developed.

Mr. Marcus stated that all projects developed in the community should be developed with affordability by community residents in mind.

Mr. Mawuli Hormeku stated that retail space should not house predatory businesses.

Ms. Ruth Haliburton stated that the community needs to be wary. The environment is changing. If we continue to let small projects creep in, we will be priced out.

Mr. Hormeku stated that along with being affordable to live in, the properties need to be profitable enough to be sustainable by owners.

Ms. Deidre Olivera-Douglas asked if they will be hiring local contractors for the project.

Mr. McCarthy stated that their current plan is to work with Brownsville Think Tank Matters to work with the local hiring process. They not only are required to do this but want to do so.

Ms. Digna Layne stated that it is important that those who live in the community but earn a little more not be shutout of the process. We have youth who are returning to the community after having earned their degrees who also need a place to call home.

Ms. Susalet Julien asked if there will be parking spaces included in the project?

Mr. McCarthy stated that there will not be parking. If they were to include parking it would diminish the number of units, they would be able to build.

Chairperson Morgan reminded the audience that this matter will come before the Board again and that the comments and concerns mentioned this evening were heard and will be considered.

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Ms. Balinda Harris, and carried to accept the report of the Equity Planning Work Group.

Ms. Deborah Williams, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, reported that the City Services Planning Work Group met on September 13, 2018 with Mr. Marty Maher, Brooklyn Borough Commissioner and staff of the Department of Parks.

Commissioner Maher informed the Work Group that \$900,000 has been allocated to renovate P.S. 125 Playground on Rockaway Avenue between Blake and Dumont Avenues. In addition to new play equipment and basketball court, security lighting and a bottle filler water fountain will be provided.

The Work Group also received an update on capital improvement projects at various parks in the District:

- a) Newport Playground at Riverdale and Thatford Avenues is presently under construction and is scheduled to be completed by spring 2019.
- b) Callahan Kelly at Fulton Street and Eastern Parkway is scheduled to begin construction in Spring 2019 and completion in fall 2020.
- c) Brownsville Recreation Center at 1555 Linden Boulevard is scheduled to begin construction in January 2019.
- d) Betsy Head Memorial Playground Comfort Station at Bristol Street and Dumont Avenue is scheduled to begin construction in spring 2019.
- e) Betsy Head Park Phase 2 at Dumont Avenue and Strauss Street is scheduled to begin in summer 2019.
- f) Ocean Hill Playground (lower level) on Bergen Street between Rockaway Avenue and Thomas S. Boyland Street is awaiting a scope preparation.
- g) Osborn Playground on Linden Boulevard and Osborn Street has been funded for \$2.9 million and is awaiting a scope preparation.

The BMS Family Health and Wellness Center's 2018 Art in the Park at Betsy Head is scheduled to be completed by October 2018.

LinkNYC Kiosk which provide free high-speed Wi-Fi, free nationwide calling, a dedicated 911 button, free charging ports for mobile devices, and free access to maps, 311, and the Community Board's website are being installed. The following sites have been identified by DOITT and their franchisee, CityBridge: 1501, 1645, 1669, 1718, 1747, 1771, 1800, and 1809 Pitkin Avenue, 282, 354, 430, and 484 Saratoga Avenue, 457 Thomas S. Boyland Street, 408 Mother Gaston Boulevard, 283, 305, and 317 Sutter Avenue, 1813 Park Place, 642 Rockaway Avenue, and 16 Belmont Avenue.

The following sites are being submitted to DOITT for consideration: 592 and 985 Rockaway Avenue, 1555 Linden Boulevard, Dumont Avenue and Thomas S. Boyland Street (In front of Betsy Head Park), at Livonia Avenue and Saratoga Avenue at train station, 581 Mother Gaston Boulevard, 216 Rockaway Avenue, 249 Thomas S. Boyland Street, at Mother Gaston Boulevard and Sutter Avenue (In front of Dr. Richard Green Park).

The next meeting of the City Services Planning Work Group will be on Thursday, October 11, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

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

Mr. David Alexander, Chairperson of the Youth Services Planning Committee, reported that the Community Resident Planning Work Group met on September 13, 2018.

In upcoming months, the Youth Services Planning Committee will undertake the following:

- Review English and math scores going back to 2015 to determine what is needed to improve deficiencies, if any, and to assemble resources to help our children reach their academic potential on time
 - Review after school programs within School District #23 schools to determine what programs are most effective or least effective to bring up the grade levels of our school children, who are performing poorly
 - Identify programs that support our high school students' social and emotional needs, like the implementation of a boys and girls club within the public high schools
 - Explore ongoing Employment possibilities for our youth within the Ocean Hill-Brownsville community by working with the Pitkin Avenue BID, and other community organizations
 - Explore what services are being provided to the Crossroads Juvenile Detention Center and how the community can be of assistance to improve the lives of this population, and
 - the formulation of the 2019 Youth Conference.
- Central Brooklyn has the following programs open:
 - SONYC BIZ Entrepreneurial Programs for student attending middle schools
 - Youth Community Ambassador Program recruiting middle/high school students
 - Open Enrollment for GED Program ages 17 and up. Both programs are located at 444 Thomas Boyland on the 3rd Floor – telephone number (718) 498-4513
 - The CAMPUS Afterschool Tech & Arts Program for Middle School Students is open at the Brownsville Collaborative Middle School (BCMS) – Located at 85 Watkins Street. To enroll call 718-284-4700 for applications
 - Fathers and mentors are now meeting. If you are interested in the Fathers and Mentors Program call Mr. William Rochford at (718) 240-3657 or (917) 428-0647, to obtain the date and time of the meetings because the meeting moves from location to location.

The Health and Human Services Committee discussed forming a survey exclusively for youth with mental health issues living in Community District #16. By obtaining this data, the Committee will ascertain who is providing these services within Ocean Hill-Brownsville, or whether these services are needed here.

The Veterans Affairs Committee met on June 27th with the Chair of Community Board #3 Veterans Committee and representatives from Veterans Service to plan events to reach out to veterans living in the District and surrounding communities. During Brownsville Old-timers events on July 27th and 28th, we had close to 15 veterans to complete a survey and the Veterans Administration is assisting the veterans with services to meet their needs.

The Veterans Affairs Committee of Community Board #16 will host an Inaugural Celebration for veterans on September 27th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street. Resource tables will be set up by agencies that provide services to veterans.

The Senior Citizens Affairs Committee met on July 18th, August 15th, and September 19th to plan for our Annual Breast CANCER Awareness Walk on October 18th at Betsy Head Park from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event is being co-sponsored with Assemblywoman Latrice Walker and the Wayside Senior Programs.

The committees cannot function without the community's involvement. If you would like to join any of the committees, please contact Ms. Greene-Walker at (718) 385-0323 or e-mail her at bk16@cb.nyc.gov. The next Community Resident Planning Work Group meeting will be on October 10, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. Miran Ukaegbu, seconded by Mr. John McCadney, Jr., and carried to accept the report of the Community Resident Planning Work Group.

District Manager Viola Greene-Walker, in behalf of the Fiscal and Policy Work Group, reported that the Work Group held a teleconference on September 18, 2018 and discussed several pieces of legislations that have been introduced at the City Council level.

Intro 164 is a law to amend the administrative code of the City of New York in relation to a study to determine the cause of the decline of gas stations in the City and which areas are most affected, the impact that this can cause to a community and recommendations for preventing this from further happening, and actions the City can take to prevent this decline. This study will begin immediately by the Department of Consumer Affairs which must report their findings no later than September 30, 2019 to the City Council to make any recommendations and come up with a solution.

The next piece of legislation reviewed was Resolution 511. This resolution calls on the New York State Department of Labor to eliminate the tipped minimum wage for workers in restaurants, nail shops, and car washes to provide these tipped workers with New York State full minimum wage. What is happening under the present situation, in these industries where mostly migrant workers are employed, in many cases the tips have been calculated as part of their salary. In some cases, they are required to work 84 hours a week with no overtime and their salary can be as little as \$21,000 and \$22,000 a year. The Center for American Progress found that 81% of tipped employees, working in the restaurant and hospitality industry account for the largest source of sexual harassment charges filed by women through the Equal Opportunity Commission with many workers experiencing harassment and racial bias due to their dependence on tips. According to the U.S. Department of Labor in Fiscal Year 2017, the Wage and Hour Division found more than \$270 million in back wages for more than 240,000 workers of which included more than 21,000 cases with violation regarding minimum wage and overtime.

Intro 1105 seeks to amend the administrative code of the City of New York in relation to requiring the Police Department to submit reports on complaints of misconduct. This bill requires the NYPD to make monthly reports of the number of complaints of police misconduct that it receives, by precinct, and any action taken by NYPD in response to such complaints. It must be noted however, sharing of or access to information considered confidential pursuant to Section 50-a of the civil rights law. This Local Law will take effect 60 days after it becomes law.

On Friday, September 28th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and Friday, October 5th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Borough Hall, located at 209 Joralemon Street, the Brooklyn Community Boards will have group consultations with City agencies to discuss FY 2020 capital and expense budget requests. All Board members are welcome to attend.

Because of the current political climate, the Work Group hopes to plan voter education forums for the coming year. The next Fiscal and Policy Work Group meeting will be held on October 16, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

Mr. Charles Ladson asked if the minimum wages has reached \$15 per hour?

Chairperson Morgan stated that it has not. It is currently \$13.00 (for large employers) and will scale up until it reaches \$15 per hour (employers with 11 or more employees must pay a minimum of \$15.00 per hour beginning December 31, 2018, employers with 10 or fewer employees must pay a minimum of \$13.50 per hour beginning December 31, 2018 and \$15.00 beginning December 31, 2019).

A motion was made by Mr. David Alexander, seconded by Mr. John McCadney, Jr., and carried to accept the report of the Fiscal and Policy Work Group.

Ms. Margaret Brewer, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, reported that on September 5, 2018, the Committee met and discussed the following projects that were not completed prior to June 2018:

Safe Travels - A Safe in the City grant opportunity - Where together with a community partner, they will affix reflector tape to bicycles, strollers, helmets, walkers and any other means of transport that can use more visibility in the night. This is our neighborhood in cooperation with Vision Zero.

Establishing "Safe Spots" - This program will closely mirror the "Safe Stop" program offered by the Brooklyn District Attorney's office years ago. The idea is to identify businesses in the District, have the employees trained and connected to the network, to serve as a safe place in case of an emergency for community members who may be in immediate need of a safe place, immediately.

The Committee is currently working to compile a database for mass communication in critical situations. (i.e. missing child, emergency plan.)

This was discussed in the aftermath of children in the neighborhood going missing for an extended period. To answer the need for an "Apparatus that Works" we are moving to further assist ourselves. This will also aid those who feel helpless as a community member with a way to help. She will be on the streets collecting names as well as posting a list on the information board in the waiting area of the 73rd Precinct where you can leave your contact information; including your email address and street you live on and zip code. (ex: bringservices@gmail.com - E. New York Ave, 11212)

She would like to have this completed by November 2018 and will use the Saturdays in October to collect this information.

She has communicated directly with the residents of Howard Houses in response to a shooting incident that took place on September 15, 2018 in that development. I feel it is necessary to communicate with people directly, when you are servicing them.

An open dialogue is needed to properly assess and re-mediate.

Theoretically, this information moves in layers- people meet as a group, the information would, at some point make it to the Community Board for recording, referral and monitoring. From my own experience, things are not happening in that order.

Groups are meeting. - Information is not being recorded, the details, concerns and suggestions from "grassroots" aren't clearly being heard. The facilitators of these meetings, often do not share the results with the District, leaving an opportunity for only a few to benefit and creates difficulty in monitoring the situation.

She will do her best to cover public safety related meetings and events, as well as encourage everyone to be the best neighbor they can be.

The Public Safety Committee will next meet on October 3rd, 6:00 p.m., in Room 103 at 444 Thomas S. Boyland Street.

Someone asked if the "Safe Spot" locations have been determined?

Ms. Brewer stated that they are still in process.

A motion was made Ms. Balinda Harris, seconded by Mr. Charles Ladson, and carried to accept the report of the Public Safety Committee.

Chairperson Morgan recognized Assemblywoman Latrice Walker.

Assemblywoman Walker stated that it gives her great pleasure to be able to attend Community Board #16's general meeting. The State Legislative sessions are normally held Monday through Wednesday and sometimes Thursday in Albany from January to June and prevent her from attending this meeting as often as she would like.

She is excited to announce that history was made recently with the election of Letitia James as the first woman of color as the Democratic Nominee for State Attorney General. Today is National Voter Registration Day and we must exercise the franchise. It is nearing time for the Voting Right Act of 1965 to be reauthorized. It is vitally important that we ensure that we do not lose the right to vote in this political environment.

In Washington, a new appointee is about to be made to the Supreme Court. Some may say that it does not matter to us, however, she stresses that the Constitution of the United States abolishes slavery, except in the case of criminal punishment. The one thing that separates us from returning to the hell of slavery is criminal punishment. How many young men and women of color cross that line each and every day.

The person that has been nominated to be our next Supreme Court Jurist threatens this freedom. As you engage in social media it is important know that you can also use it to exercise all the ideologies, ideas, feelings we have here at home.

She stated that they had a good session year. Vital Brooklyn was recently announced by Governor Cuomo at the Brownsville Recreational Center. She's proud that \$10,000,000 was allocated to the Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center to help them expand their building to 50,000 square feet and bring better health care opportunities to the community.

She holds Community Advisory meetings every third Saturday where they continue to give updates such as \$250,000 being allocated to building new community schools such as those at P.S. 12 and P.S. 73. Another \$75,000 was allocated to help schools that are considered to be underperforming such I.S. 298, Brooklyn Collegiate, and P.S. 284.

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