

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, October 19, 2011  
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center  
195 Linden Street (Corner of Wilson Avenue)  
Brooklyn, New York 11221  
6:00PM

-Public Hearing Items-

MTA-NYC Transit Station Renewal on M – Line: Andy Inglesby – Assistant Director Government Relations  
The Central Avenue (Contract # A-36186) and Knickerbocker Avenue (Contract # A-36185) Stations  
The station renewal will start next year in the late spring of 2012. The project will be awarded by the end of 2011.

Mr. Inglesby introduced Mr. David Faell - Architect and Design Manager for project who informed why the station renewal project is needed. He noted that surveys revealed that the Knickerbocker Avenue and the Central Avenue stations to be in very poor condition. The survey was taken of the MTA's 468 stations and found the two stations to rate very low. This low rating has caused the Knickerbocker and the Central Avenues stations to be placed on a priority listing. It is projected that in 2 years the two stations will be brand new and they will be something that the community will be proud of.

The MTA will renew a total of 5 train stations at the same time on the Myrtle Avenue line. Included with the renewal of the Knickerbocker and Central Avenues stations will be the Seneca Avenue, Forest Avenue and the Fresh Pond Road stations.

Both station's mezzanines will be completely demolished leaving only the floor structure. The floor structure is in good condition being made out of steel and concrete so it does not need to be destroyed. The roof and walls of both stations are made out of wood and will therefore need to be completely demolished. The entrances of both stations will remain the same as they are at present having one additional turn stall. The two stations will have a wind screen, new guard rails, new doors with windows, new steel that will be painted, new siding, new windows and new stairs.

In order for the work crew to do the necessary work a 22 month schedule has been designed, from January 2012 to November 2013. Each station will be closed at a time for a period of 5 months starting with the Knickerbocker station and then the Central Avenue station.

To ensure that the community gets continuous service the MTA will have extra B54 bus service that will cover for the lack of service on the trains.

The MTA will enhance the existing B54 bus service during the overnight hours from midnight to 5PM. Currently the B54 runs every hour during those hours, however service will be increased to 3 buses every hour or one every 20 minutes. The MTA feels that at present they have adequate bus service during the AM and PM peak hours on the B54 line. They will have their Operation Planning Staff and their Brooklyn Road Operation Staff there starting on day one observing bus service and if they feel that there is a high demand to increase bus service they will do so.

Questions were entertained:

Martha Brown asked that they also consider increasing bus service during the AM and PM peak hours of the renovation period because the current B54 bus service will not cover the ridership during that time.

Mr. Inglesby stated that they heard what the Environmental Protection/Transportation presented to them during their October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting with them and since that meeting their Operation Planning Committee have already increased the overnight service by adding one additional bus service. Mr. Inglesby stated that he is taking the concerns of the Community Board seriously and if more bus service is needed they will act in accordance with that need.

The Knickerbocker Avenue station will be closed from June to November 2012. The MTA will monitor bus service during this time so as to not affect the ridership of summer school children.

Mr. Austen Martinez: Will the stations be handicap accessible?

Mr. Inglesby: We have an ADA program were 100 of the 468 stations are federal mandated to be ADA accessible by the year 2020.

We are looking to put elevators at stations were they have their heaviest ridership. The Myrtle/Wyckoff Avenue Station which is one to two stations away is ADA accessible.

The MTA does not have the budget to make every station ADA accessible.

Ms. Whitted requests that the MTA seek to increase bus service during the daytime hours especially during the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift and day shift hours. She mentioned that there are workers from the Buena Vida Nursing Home, school children and other workers coming home from other jobs that will need bus services during those hours. The District Manager will inform Mr. Inglesby of any problems that occur during the reconstruction period.

Mr. William Harris: How will this project impact The Department of Transportation's "Knickerbocker Plaza" project on Knickerbocker and Myrtle Avenue?

Mr. Inglesby: The MTA has not seen the plans of the DOT project; however they will work with them and at present do not feel that the Department of Transportation's project will interfere with theirs.

Ms. Whitted: Can you speak about the art work?

Mr. Inglesby: 1 % of the budget is for Arts for Transit. MTA will communicate with the community and the Elected Officials for panel discussions that the Arts for Transit Unit will have for art work.

Mr. Inglesby: Signs will be posted 3-4 weeks in advance letting people know of train closure.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson, Ms. Martha Brown asked the District Manager, Ms. Nadine Whitted to call the first roll call at 6:55PM.

**Roll Call:** 26 members present constituting a quorum.

**Chairperson's Report:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. The agenda was accepted by Mr. Cyril Joseph and second by Ms. Sharline Moore.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson asked for the acceptance of the previous meeting's minutes. The previous meeting's minutes was accepted by Ms. Miriam Lamboy and second by Ms. Saundria Simmons. All members present were in favor.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent was absent from tonight's meeting due to her attending a Family Funeral. Ms. Martha Brown welcomed everyone in attendance to the October 19, 2011 meeting.

Ms. Brown announced with profound sadness the passing of Mr. Juancito Jose the father of a fellow board member Ms. Louisa Jose Olea. Services were held Wednesday, October 19, 2011 from 3pm to 7pm at the San Juan Funeral home located at 317 Central Avenue.

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

- 1) State Senator Martin Malave Dilan – 17<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District, 786 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-573-1726
- 2) Assembly Member Rafael L. Espinal – 54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, 840 Jamaica Avenue, 718-235-5627
- 3) Evelyn Cruz Representing Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, 268 Broadway, 718-599-11211
- 4) Antonio Reynoso Representing Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 718-963-3141
- 5) Yamilka Mena Representing Councilmember Diana Reyna, 217 Havemeyer Street, 718-963-3141
- 6) Cathy Holtzmeister Representing Assemblyman Vito Lopez, 434 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 718-963-7029
- 7) Sam Pierre – Office of the Mayor, CAU, 253 Broadway, New York, 212-788-7446
- 8) Johnny Joyner Representing Senator Dilan, 786 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-573-1726
- 9) Roopesh Remjit Representing Assemblyman Rafael L. Espinal, 840 Jamaica Avenue, 718-235-5627

**Representatives from City, State or Federal Agencies:**

- 1) Zulma Novoa – NYC Dept. Of Health & Mental Hygiene, 485 Throop Avenue, 646-253-5855
- 2) Mr. Boniface Wewe – Manager of the Brooklyn Public Library Washington Irving Branch, 360 Irving Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11237, 718-628-8378
- 3) Magdalena Mangual, Wyckoff Heights Hospital Medical Center, 718-508-4669

**Representatives from Community Based Organizations:**

- 1) Ishmael Feliciano, RBSCC, 217 Wyckoff Avenue, 718-366-3800

Ms. Martha Brown invited State Senator Martin M. Dilan to address the Board Members and the public. Senator Dilan was invited to the Community Board's meeting to speak about re-districting.

State Senator Martin M. Dilan serves as a ranking member of the Transportation Committee in the New York State Senate and as its former Chairperson for the past 2 years he has had the opportunity of working on the Capital Budget. Monies from this budget will pay for the renovation of the two train stations.

There are issues with 2 different budgets

1. The Operating Budget: In which MTA has a 8 million gap in their budget
2. Highway and Bridge Budget: A \$26 billion budget was supposed to be passed for 5 years. Due to a shortage of money a 3 year Capital Budget was passed 2 years ago.

Senator Dilan guaranteed that he will monitor the MTA's service along with the District Manager, Chairperson and other community members during the renovation of the Knickerbocker & Central Avenue train stations.

The 2010 Census Bureau showed that Senator Dilan District has had a 32,000 increase in growth. Therefore, his district and every other district in the state will have to be redistricted, this redistricting happens every ten years.

This redistricting will effect:

- Congressional Lines
- State Senate Lines
- Assembly District Lines

In 2010 a Prisoner Count Law was passed in which a prisoner located upstate will now be counted by their last known address. If this law is followed by the Senate Majority then more than 1400 additional persons will be counted in addition to the State District. This will cause NY State to increase in population by approximately 34,000 individuals causing the lost of 2 Congressional Districts from 29 congressional representatives to 27 congressional representatives. A decision will have to be made about where the 2 districts will be cut from.

The current Congressional Members are protected by the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Twelve hearings have already been held throughout the entire state of New York with 2 more hearings scheduled in the preliminary round. The next hearing will be held in Old Westbury in Nassau County on Thursday, October 27 with the last hearing to be held in Plattsburg, New York on November 2<sup>nd</sup> ending the first round. After those hearings the Commission or the Task Force that Senator Dilan serves as a member on will come out with the Assembly & State Senate Line. Then there begins another round of 14 hearings to be held throughout the State that will include Brooklyn. The last meeting in Brooklyn was held at Borough Hall, which not many local residents attended. Senator Dilan hopes that in the future that he will have more participation from community individuals at those hearings.

Some Issues that concern Senator Dilan:

- Short changed New York City by 1 State Senate District
- Should be increased by 1 Latino District based on the Census and the increase of the Latino population
- The current congressional members that we now have consist of 4 black and 2 Latinos in NYC should be increase of perhaps 1 more Latino district.

Senator Dilan is working towards having the districts in New York City and the districts located Upstate New York to be fair and even so that all districts will have even representation. Senator Dilan is fighting to have every single Senate District and every single Assembly District to be equal in population and to keep communities of interest together as well as keeping communities together. He stated that there is not too much leeway regarding the Congressional Districts. Congressional Districts can only deviate by one person. Congressional Districts lines will be handle by the courts system.

Questions were entertained:

The Senator will let the District Manager and the Chair know when and where the next round of meeting will take place.

The leaders of the assembly and the senate have an agreement that you take care of your house and I will take care of my house to the benefit of their members and party. The Senate deliberately make NYC's district larger because the majority of the population there is democratic. This makes the districts of states smaller so they can have more districts with a constriction of Republican voters. Prisoners that are in other states are counted as living there and as there population; however they are not providing them with service. The service that an inmate gets is money that comes from the Department of Correction which is tax dollars.

Ms. Whitted thanked Senator Dilan for coming to the meeting and speaking to the board. She asked him to keep the Board abreast of what is going on. She asked that he let the board know how they can help him as he continues to help the community.

Senator Martin Dilan stated that he will come back and speak to the board anytime the board feels that it appropriate.

Mr. A. Martinez expressed concern for the increase of liquor stores in the community to Senator Dilan.

At the September 2011 community board meeting the District Manager stated that the board expressed concern over the increasing number of liquor stores in the district. In writing a letter to the NYC Liquor Authority about this concern the Liquor Authority responded by stating that unlike bars and taverns liquor stores do not need community board oversight. The board feels that this increase will be of concern in the future.

Senator Dilan: Perhaps that will require legislation that will provide oversight for the liquor stores. We can request a representative from the Liquor Authority to come and address the issue. In terms of legislation he will look into that, and he will put it before the assemblyman to make sure that it passes both houses.

Ms. Whitted thanked the Senator for answering the call, he was called and he came she stated. She wished him much success.

Ms. Brown thanked the Senator as well and continued with the chairperson's report.

The Chairperson provided a list of Day Care and Head start Programs operating within the district along with the names of their directors and phone numbers.

On October 13, the District Manager and Ms. Julie Dent were invited to a special meeting held at I.S. 296 located at 125 Covert Street. The school has been renamed as the Anna Gonzalez Community School. This school has been labeled as a Persistently Low Achieving (PLA) school. They were invited to attend the meeting by a member of CEC #32, who explained that the community is not supporting the school, including the parents of the students attending the school.

The purpose of the meeting was to report to the community on the performance of the school which seems to persistently failing in major categories.

The Cristo Rey Brooklyn High School located at 2 Aberdeen Street will have a dedication ceremony on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 from 5:30pm to 8pm. Call 718-455-3555 to RSVP.

The District Manager, the Senior Citizens Committee Chairperson Ms. Simmons and Ms. Dent will be joining Assemblyman Lopez and fellow Brooklyn Elected Official for a dialogue/plan of action to assist seniors in obtaining the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption program (SCRIE) and the application process with 311. More information will be presented next month.

#### **District Manager's Report:**

October 3, 2011: Meeting with the Department of Transportation to discuss the possibility/ramification of the repaving of Bushwick Avenue from Woodbine Street to Eastern Parkway Extension during the daylight hours in the summer of 2012.

October 3, 2011 – Attended the Health Hospitals & Human Service Meeting – see report

October 4, 2011: Borough President Marty Markowitz called a meeting with Community Board's Chairs and District Managers to introduce the new officer in charge of the USPS Brooklyn Post Office Mr. Edward Roggenkamp.

First class mail (single piece) will take approximately 2 to 3 days longer instead of the standard overnight to be received.

220 facilities are being studied for closing in Brooklyn, Staten Island and Queens. Approximately 600 people will lose their jobs. A list of stations with manager's telephone numbers was giving out with a list of those facilities being considered to close.

October 5, 2011: The Chairperson Julie Dent and the District Manager Nadine Whitted met with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation Brooklyn Borough Commissioner Kevin Jeffery concerning several items which directly impact the district:

- The renaming ceremony for the Bushwick Playground Ball Field in the memory of Barry "Sly" Morrow on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 11:00am.
- Commissioner Jeffery "Tree Care Campaign" - Asking that residents occasionally water sidewalk trees.
- Park Steward Initiative – Budget cuts precipitate that possibly 400 seasonal staff workers will be laid off. They are looking for at least 15 volunteers per park to help maintain the following parks
  1. Maria Hernandez Park
  2. Irving Square Park
  3. Bushwick Playground
  4. Green/Central Noll Park

October 5, 2011 – Attended the Executive Meeting

October 6, 2011 – Attended the Environmental/Transportation Committee Meeting

Met with the representatives of FEMA to ascertain if residents of the community experienced any damages as a result of Hurricane Irene and to discuss what reimbursement for damages they can receive.

October 11, 2011 – Brooklyn Borough Service Cabinet Meeting

Agenda Items included:

- 1) Illegal Conversion Task Force – discussed the way in which the task force has been addressing the issue of illegal conversions.

The District Manager officially request a list of the 85 illegally converted properties. Her concern is those that are in the Community Board #4's district which have been closed.

- 2) NYC Health, ALCOPOPS - Legislation Statement of Support: The moving of alcopops to liquor stores instead of having them in local stores will significantly reduce the number of opportunities for youth to purchase them. Alcopops contain 12% alcohol and is a soda-like alcoholic beverage also known as a flavored malt beverage. Because they are sweet and do not tastes like alcohol, alcopops appeal to children who might not otherwise drink alcoholic beverages.

October 11, 2011 – Attended the Youth and Education Committee Meeting

October 13, 2011 – Attended a special meeting at The Anna Gonzalez Community School at I.S. 296: The school was recently re-named in honor of the past Community Board Chairperson Mrs. Anna Gonzalez. According to members of the committee and staff at the school the decision to name the school in her honor was one that her family was well aware of. They noted that the protocol did not involve the Community Board #4; however the Community Education Council 32 will soon make a formal announcement of the change.

October 18, 2011 – Attended the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community Council Meeting

#### Responses from Recommendation from the September 21, 2011 Community Board Meeting

- A) NYC Department of Design and Construction: Regarding updated data on NYPD Accidents. The District Manager has received updated information on October 19, 2011. DDC are again looking forward to the board/committee members receiving it and sending out a letter of support.
- B) NYS Liquor Authority – Noted that liquor stores forms and instructions are on their website, which explains what is necessary to apply.

#### Other issues

- 1) MTA – TA schedule changes effective summer 2012: By the summer of 2012 the full implementation of the Communication Based Train Control (CBTC) on the line enable the increased service frequency.
- 2) DOT approval a Street Closing to vehicular traffic for crane operation on Palmetto Street between Irving and Knickerbocker Avenues from 8am to 5pm from October through November 2011.
- 3) Teen Ambassador for the National Organization STOMP Out Bullying – Ms. S. McLaurin hales from Bushwick. She is interested in sharing her story and helping others through her organization. Victim2Victorious – Unlock your voice anti bully campaign. To read more about her appointment go to [www.stompoutbullying.com](http://www.stompoutbullying.com)

Environmental Protection/Transportation Committee: Mr. Eliseo Ruiz Committee Chairperson

Members Attended: Eliseo Ruiz, Anne Guiney

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, David Faell, Abraham Pulhota, Fausto Garzon, Andy Inglesby – NYC Transit Authority

Meeting Held: Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 10:00AM, Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue

Items Discussed

NYC Transit Authority – Station Renewal along the M Line at the Central & Knickerbocker Avenues Stations

Health, Hospitals & Human Services Committee: Ms. Mary McClellan Committee Chairperson

Members Attended: Mary McClellan, Freddy Fowler, Miriam Lamboy

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, Magdalena Mangual (WHMC-Positive Health Management Program), Sherry Davis, Cheryl Jones (Woodhull Hospital, Zulma Novoa (NYC Department of Health), Carla Bleiker (Student from Columbia School of Journalism)

Meeting Held: Monday, October 3, 2011 at 4:00PM, Location: 315 Wyckoff Avenue

Items Discussed

1) NYC – Department of Health, Ms. Zulma Novoa introduced herself as the new representative from the Health Department. The former representative Ms. Evelyn Ortiz has been reassigned due to budgetary adjustments.

- Free Flu shots will not be available in the district this year. The Free Flu shots will be offered at Fort Green Clinic located at 295 Flatbush Avenue Ext. Pharmacies within the district will be giving Flu Shots – Insurance should cover all that is involved
- Also Free Flu Shots at Borough Hall on Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 11am to 2pm. Call to schedule an appointment at 718-802-3531 or email [iguerrero@brooklynbp.nyc.gov](mailto:iguerrero@brooklynbp.nyc.gov)
- Save BIG ON PRESCRIPTIONS – Prescription Discount Card. Call bigappleRx.com or call 311 or 800-697-6974 for pharmacies.

Central Brooklyn Cancer Services Program – Free Cancer Screenings for UNINSURED Brooklyn Residents! – call to schedule for free exam at 718-567-1384 or 718-567-1385

Women age 40+ receive:

- Clinical Breast Exam (CBE)
- Pap Test
- Mammogram

Men & Women age 50+ receive:

- Take - Home Colon Cancer test (Fit Kit)

Housing and Land Use Committee: Ms. Martha Brown, Committee Chairperson

Members Attended: Martha Brown, Freddy Fowler, Robert Camacho, Cyril Joseph, Ann Guiney

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, Rob Lowe (RBSCC), Ms. Cathy Holzmeister (State Senator Vito Lopez's Office), Leo Arias (Pratt Institute Urban Planning Intern)

The District Manager introduced Mr. Leonardo Arias, a Pratt Institute Urban Planning Intern who is working with Community Board #4 to help research and advise the Community Board regarding Contextual Zoning issues that affect the Bushwick Community.

- Zoning separated uses that could be incompatible such as manufacturing and residential zones, heavy commercial zones and residential zoning.
- The zoning regulation seeks to preserve the characters of neighborhoods in the grand scheme of the city planners.

Public Safety Committee: Ms. Barbara Smith, Committee Chairperson

Members Attended: Barbara Smith, Gladys Puglla, Rev. Grace Aytes, Elvena Davis, Julie Dent.

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, Representatives of the NYPD 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, I. Feliciano (RBSCC)

Items Discussed:

NYS liquor Authority Request for Licenses

Youth and Education Committee: Ms. Virgie Jones, Committee Chairperson

Members Attended: Virgie Jones, Linda McKinley, Omar Lopez

Others in Attendance: Nadine Whitted, Victoria Lugo (CEC#32), Trevor Alexander & Carlos Infante (NYC HRA office of Child Support), Keith Norris (Salvation Army)

Items Discussed

1) NYC Human Resources Administration office of Child Support Enforcement - Mr. Infante & Mr. Alexander gave a presentation on the services offered by their agency.

They noted that OCSE works with NYC families regardless of income or immigration status, to ensure that children receive financial support from both parents. OSCE guides custodial parents through the child support process. Services includes locating the non-custodial parent, establishing paternity, serving the summons, helping to establish court ordered child support and medical support orders and collecting and enforcing those orders. OCSR assists non-custodial parents by offering programs to help them meet their child support obligations and manage their support cases.

If you need more information or to schedule an appointment for DNA testing, you may contact the NYC Human Resources Administration at 212-480-7564/5968

2) Ms. Victorina Lugo of CEC #32 invited members to attend meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at IS 296 concerning Persistently Low Achieving School (PLA) where the Department of Education was present.

#### Recommendations:

1) Last month the District Manager sent out 6 certified return receipt requested letters to Board Members who have had repeated absenteeism as required CB#4 By-laws. The letter stated that those board members be present at the October 19, 2011 meeting, if not it would be assumed that they are no longer interested in serving as a board member. It also stated that they will be removed from the board. The board members who have not responded are:

- Alvin Aviles
- Angelina Rodriquez

The District Manager asked that a motion be made to remove the members from the Community Board, based on the board's bylaws.

A motion to be removed from the board was made by Mr. Cyril Joseph and second by Ms. Saundria Simmons. All board members present were in favor. The District Manager will write a letter to the Brooklyn Borough President to remove Mr. Aviles and Ms. Rodriquez from the board.

2) The NYC DOT would like to repave Bushwick Avenue from Woodbine Street to Eastern Parkway during the daytime hours in the summer of 2012. During that time they will also repave some of the side street in the area. Mr. Cyril Joseph motioned to let the NYC Department of Transportation repave Bushwick Ave to Eastern Parkway during the daytime hours in the summer of 2012. The motion was second by Mr. Freddy Fowler. All members present were in favor.

3) ALCOPOPS – Legislation Statement of Support: The Community Board will go on record stating that they too are opposed to the selling of this alcoholic beverage to minors.

A motion was made to support the ALCOPOPS Legislation of Support from Community Board #4 was made by Ms. Martha Brown and second by Ms. Barbara Smith & Ms. Saundria Simmons. All board members present were in favor.

4) Items presented by Ms. Smith under the Public Safety Report items number 1 through 5.

A motion to accept the Public Safety Report as presented on items # 1-5 was motioned by Mr. Robert Camacho and seconded by Ms. Grace Yates and Ms. Ms. Gladys Puglla-Jimenez. All members present were in favor.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson thanked the two Police Officers that were present from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct and thanked them for their support.

#### Announcements:

Barbara Smith, President of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct Council – Fund Raising for Thanksgiving and Christmas, except can goods, food and donations. Please call 718-574-1697 the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. Community Affairs office.

Martha Brown: High School students needing to transfer to another school can do so if they are between the ages of 16-17 and have at least 19 credits. Brooklyn Academy High School located at 832 Marcy Avenue is still accepting applications for this term. Students can receive a regent degree.

Magdalena Mangual, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center – NYC! Go Sugary Drink Free celebrated October 24-28, 2011.

Combat obesity and promote health at your school.

1. Have the Principal commit to going “Sugary Drink Free” for a week

2. Host an event to encourage staff, students and parents to go “Sugary Drink Free” for a week
3. Educate staff, students and parents/caregivers about the health consequences of consuming sugary drinks and provide information about healthy alternatives
  - In the classroom, talk about the appeal and health consequences of sugary drink consumption.

Food Day: Helping Youth Eat Real, a classroom curriculum to transform youth and their communities (pages 47-52): <http://foodday.org/files/food-day-lessons.pdf>

- Are you pouring on the Pounds? Materials: [www.nyc.gov/health/drinkingfat](http://www.nyc.gov/health/drinkingfat)
- Missouri dental Association’s Stop the Pop presentation: <http://www.modental.org/mx/hm.asp?id=stopthepop>
- 4. Create posters and other signage about going “Sugary Drink Free”
- Organize a poster contest, encouraging students to design posters about the health consequences of sugary drink consumption.
- Have students created signs for “sugary drink free” zones around your school.

Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, Positive Health Management: At some point in life, we all need to reach out for a helping hand...Are you ready to see how we can help you?

Services provided:

- Supportive counseling and referrals to mental health care, GED programs, job training & more
- Screening for Depression
- Screening for Substance and Alcohol Abuse
- Confidential Rapid HIV Testing
- Health Education & Free Condoms

For more information: 718-508-4600, 718-302-8483 – 342 Stanhope Street, Brooklyn, New York 11237  
Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm

Join Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation for the Verde Summit, Saturday, October 22, 2011, 10am-4pm. Free!!! Come work with your neighbors to Re-Envision the way Cypress Hills/East New York look, feel and work for you. You know best what your neighborhood needs! For more information contact Betsy MacLean 718-647-2800

NYC Human Resources Administration, Department of Social Services: DNA Testing for \$30.50 per person: DNA testing is the most accurate way to determine the father of a child. If you decide to use the services:

- You will be referred to a state-certified laboratory. A swab is used to take DNA samples from inside the cheeks of the baby and both parents; the test is quick and painless.
- You do not have to go to the lab the same day as the other parent; if you are under 18, the laboratory may require you to have one of your parents accompany you.
- Results will be sent to you by mail approximately 2 weeks after the lab receives all of the samples.

For more information or to make an appointment for DNA testing you may call 212-480-7564/5968

RBSCC – “Lead Poisoning”, has your child been tested? For further information call: Nicole Stanczyk at 347-920-4284

- What is lead poisoning?
- How do children become exposed to lead?
- How can you tell if your child is lead poisoned?
- How often should your child be tested for lead poisoning?
- How can I protect my child from lead poisoning?
- Where do I go if my home tests positive for lead?

Living Wage NYC, Pass the Wages for New Yorkers Act Now! – [www.livingwagencity.org](http://www.livingwagencity.org)

The fair wages for New Yorker’s Act will:

1. Guarantee that workers in large development projects receiving taxpayer funded subsidies are paid at least the New York City Living Wage of \$10 an hour plus benefits or \$11.50 without benefits.
2. Index the Living Wage to inflation so that it keeps pace with the cost of living.

3. Cover all employees at a subsidized development project, regardless of whether they work directly for the developer or for the project's tenants or on site service contractors.

There will be a rally on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30PM at the Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive. (Take #1 train to 116<sup>th</sup> or 125<sup>th</sup> Street). For more information call 212-684-5300.

Mr. Carroll: On November 6<sup>th</sup>, the United Postal Service will host a passport fair at their Williamsburg Station, 263 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211, 9am to 3pm. If you are traveling soon and need to obtain a passport or renew your passport, come to the passport fair! Download forms at [www.usps.com/passport](http://www.usps.com/passport) or [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) and prepare them before you come. No appointment needed.

Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz and SUNY Downstate Medical Center University Hospital of Brooklyn at Long Island College Hospital are pleased to offer Free Flu Shots, Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 11AM -2PM. Location: Grand Rotunda, Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street. Please call to schedule appointment at 718-802-3531.

Also in attendance at the meeting were:

- Sam Goldman – Ridgewood Times – 718-821-7500
- Aaron Short – Bushwick Currier – 718-260-2500

**2<sup>nd</sup> Roll Call:** Meeting adjourned 8:55PM