

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, April 16, 2014
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center
195 Linden Street (corner of Wilson Avenue)
Brooklyn, New York 11221
6:00PM

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent, welcome all in attendance to the Community Board #4's Wednesday, April 16, 2014 monthly board meeting at 6:30PM.

-Public Hearing Items-

1) NYC Department of Parks and Recreation – Irving Square Park Concerns: Mr. Marty Maher
Mr. Marty Maher is the Chief of Staff for the Parks in Brooklyn and he has been working with parks for 30 years. 20 years ago there was no such thing as a dog run, now as we become more of an urban place people want dog runs. There are 4 things needed in order to be considered for a dog run:

- Maintenance and Enforcement - Organized group of people who will care for the park, cleaning it and enforcing the rules and regulations of the park (The Parks Department and the Police Department do not have the man power to police it) it is the dog owner's responsibility to clean up after their dogs.
- Overwhelming Community Board 4 support, neighbors and community support – The dog run must be supported by the Community Board and the residents living in the immediate area of the proposed dog run.
- Funding – The Parks Department depend on the funds from the Elected Officials Capital Budget. Elected Officials have to fund parks for kids, baseball fields, soccer fields, housing, schools, etc.
A dog run cost approximately \$450,000 to \$650,000. To build a dog run one must dig deep into the ground, pick up the soil and whatever is there, connect to a drainage, lay a base and gravel. Then the dog owners will pick the finished layer so that the dog run does not smell or stink, dog fountain and a fence around it, just to name a few things of the process. A separate dog run is needed for large dogs and for small dogs.
- Appropriate Spot – The Parks Department determines what an appropriate spot is. Usually people think that a good location is by a tree, but that is not the case. Usually what is on the tree above will be four times larger down under to the dog run below. A dog run by a trees can damage the trees in the area.
A dog run cannot be located near the entrance of the park.

The law is that the dog must be on a leash at all-times however the law will not enforce the law during designated off-leash hours which are the hours during 9:00PM to 9:00AM. Certain park areas allow dogs to be off-leash from the time the park opens until 9:00AM, and from 9:00PM until the park closes.

Dog owners / attendants with dogs off-leash in the designated area must obey all general rules, including having their dog under control at all times, licensing the dog, and carrying proof of the dog's rabies vaccination.

To complete a dog run is usually a four (4) year process.

The Parks Department was asked 2-3 years ago to consider Irving Square Park to have a dog run and during this time Irving Square Park DOES NOT have an appropriate spot at this time. An appropriate spot was found at the Maria Hernandez Park.

Dogs are never allowed in playgrounds, zoos, swimming pools/facilities, bathing areas/beaches, fountains, ball fields, or on basketball/baseball/handball/tennis courts.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent welcomed Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams to the Community Board's meeting. Ms. Dent stated that she is very proud of the Borough President, as he entered the room he walked around shaking everyone's hand greeting them and making everyone feel comfortable. She stated that she knew that he would be an excellent Borough President!!!

The Chairperson Ms. Dent welcomed Councilmember Antonio Reynoso and Assemblywoman Maritza Davila also to the meeting.

Ms. Dent stated that she has known the Assemblywoman for a long time they both served on the school board together. "We are so proud to have our Elected Officials that come here and grace us with their presence and letting us know that they care so much about us".

Ms. Dent introduced Councilmember Antonio Reynoso:

Mr. Reynoso said that he is very proud to be here with the Borough President, Mr. Eric Adams. Mr. Adams came to his inauguration.

Council Member Reynoso thanked Ms. Mary McClellan the chairperson of the HHH Committee for doing an excellent job. Mr. Reynoso is bringing Participating Budgeting to the community for the first time. Participating Budgeting will allow the community to see what they can do with one million dollars! The community will be able to organize and vote on projects that they want. The choice will be not his but yours he stated. Whoever votes the most and do a great job will be able to get their project fulfilled or many projects fulfilled. There will be a lot of town hall and informational meetings starting in May 2014.

Transportation Alternative: A group based on transportation alternative

Biking is the way that he gets around and he also uses the train. Biking he stated is the way a lot of people get around today.

His office is there to address anything that is important to the community, so all are welcome to reach out to Mr. Kevin Worthington if they have any concerns.

Ms. Dent thanked Councilmember Reynoso for the work that he is doing in the community and the surrounding areas.

The Chairperson introduced the Assemblywoman Maritza Davila:

She stated that she is so blessed and thankful to be the Assemblyperson for the 53rd District. She has worked with Ms. Nadine Whitted, Ms. Barbara Smith, Mr. Robert Camacho, Ms. Julie Dent and others for many years. They all road the big storm in 1977 and she is so grateful to be here serving the people today.

She asked that everyone take seriously the information that will be presented by Transportation Alternatives. Sometimes it is not always the drivers that are at fault sometimes it is the pedestrians.

Ms. Davila thanked all of the Board Members for their service to the community.

The Chairperson welcomed Senator Martin Dilan as he enters the room. (A round of applause)

Ms. Dent introduced Borough President Eric Adams and welcomed him in giving a few words.

Mr. Eric Adams: He tells a story of a wedding that he went to in which the bridesmaid was late 1 ½ hours. She got it wrong, she must have thought it was about her. He does not have it wrong he stated, it is not about Eric Adams, I am here not to be served, I am here to serve, I am your servant. This is a continuation of a story book love affair with the city and a borough that I adore. When you put on a bullet proof vest for 22 years and stand on street corners protecting children and families you have a different emotional attachment to the city and this borough. The uniform may have changed but the commitment and the dedication is the same. I want this city; this community and particularly this borough of 2.6 million people to feel safe and be able to enjoy the beauty of diversity in a borough with 47% of Brooklynites speak a language other than English at home.

He went on to say that he wants this borough to be unified with things that we embraced from the beginning, One Brooklyn, One Borough, from Williamsburg, Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Brownsville, etc. He is not the Borough President of Bedford-Stuyvesant; he is the Borough President of Brooklyn.

Mr. Adams thanked Councilmember Antonio Reynoso and Assemblywoman Ms. Maritza Davila.

He especially thanked Senator Martin Dilan who started him when he first was elected and walking him through the process; he helped him so much in Albany. He allowed him to understand how to legislate. This gave him a head start and helped him to not be afraid to introduce and debate bills on the floor. This is what Senator Martin Dilan did for him during his first election. Senator Dilan was the first person to endorse him as State Senator and to that he thanked him very much for doing so.

President Adams thanked the Board Members for doing a job that seems thankless no matter what they do. The board members come out night after night to see that the community gets the needed resources that it needs. He said that the job often goes unnoticed but he knows what they are doing and he thanked them for their level of commitment.

What are we doing at Borough Hall?

A) We are leaving too many resources on the table. We need to get these resources out to the people. He has a staff of about 64 employees. He has created the largest unit there called: External Affairs Unit

It is time to engage with people who are hurting because he feels that when people hurt they hurt others. We must provide real services to people and we cannot wait for them to come to Borough Hall, we must go to them. He is teaming up with institutions like NYU / Free Dental Clinic / School of Dentistry, meeting people one on one, knocking on doors and standing at train stations, visiting senior citizen centers, etc. He and his staff are hitting the streets, and as long as you are energetic and you can get the work done you can be on his team age does not matter.

B) Developing an Artistic Community – Includes dancing, singing, etc. Our kids would not carry guns if they could carry a trumpet or a drum stick in their hands.

C) Affordability – This borough must remain affordable. Mr. Adams subscribes to the Mayor’s belief that we have to create 200,000 units of affordable housing. We also have to engage in a new conversation because people cannot continue to ask “affordable for whom”. The dollar amount must be real to the community and people must have the right to be part of the growth that this borough is experiencing.

Mr. Adams stated that he will push hard and he will use his capital monies and capital resources and sit down with developers in Brooklyn and let them know that if they want to develop in Brooklyn they must ensure that they will have affordable units of housing that middle income New Yorkers and lower income New Yorkers have a right to live in. Also they must be able to protect our seniors.

They have already met with all of the banks to be part of his financial literacy team; they are meeting with hospitals to deal with the issue of obesity and the other issues that are impacting us.

Mr. Adams said that he did some good things as a police officer and some good things as a State Senator and he will do some good things as Borough President so not to worry. The Joralemon Street building is available for anyone that needs it.

Ms. Dent: Thanked the Borough President for coming and said that the Bushwick residents will take him up on his offer to visit him. Ms. Dent is the Commissioner of the Board of Elections so she sees Mr. Adams every month. She said that Mr. Adams is easy to talk to, and reachable. She also thanked him for sending Mr. Kevin Wolf as his representative at the community board meetings.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent welcomes Senator Martin Dilan. She stated that Senator Dilan has been doing many great things for Bushwick for many years and the surrounding communities. Senator Dilan especially cares for children and he has been fighting very hard for Early Learn programs and other children’s programs.

Senator Martin Dilan: I am happy to be here today and I am also happy to see our Borough President Eric Adams here. It was a pleasure serving with him in the Senate. After so many years serving on the Community School Board in Bushwick and the Planning Board also the City Council, and State Senate, I love Bushwick; I was born and raised here, the Senator stated.

The Senator had a hand in doing so much in Albany this year. In Albany they have put a good budget in place, provided programs for housing and set up programs for those who have HIV. Although we have done a lot of things in Albany there is still a lot more to do.

The Senator stated that we have lived here all of our lives and our children live here and they want to stay here and we want them to stay here. New ones are coming to our community and they are welcomed, however we would all like to live here together.

2) Transportation Alternatives (TA) Presentation on Safer Street Forums within the Bushwick District:

Presentation by Mr. Drew Levitt and Mr. Miller

Mr. Miller: Approximately 300 people are killed every year by cars and approximately 10,000 people are seriously hurt by cars.

Proposal: To have two neighborhood forums to identify short term street safety improvements and start conversations among community members and city agencies about longer-term solutions.

The goal of the first forum is to have a specific list of projects and topics for further discussion with community members and representatives of City Agencies at the second forum.

The second forum: specific list of improvements – in infrastructure, enforcement, and traffic safety instructions – requested by the citizens of Community District 4. City Agencies such as the DOT, DOH, etc., will be on hand to collect input and hear any new concerns from the community.

Following the two forums, we will continue to track the status of the requested improvements and we will keep members of Community Board #4 up to date on the progress.

Transportation Alternative will be working very closely with the Transportation Authority. They also asked that if anyone knows of streets that are dangerous and streets that one does not feel safe on that they let them know.

Ms. Dent said that she will volunteer her learning center as a meeting place in June 2014 if they need such a place to meet.

Roll Call: 8:00PM 29 members present constituting a quorum.

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. Rev. Grace Aytes moved to accept the agenda as written. It was second by Mr. Freddy Fowler. All board members present were in favor.

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the previous month's minutes with any necessary corrections. The March 2014 meeting minutes was accepted by Ms. Martha Brown and second by Mr. Robert Murray. All board members present were in favor.

Chairperson's Report, Ms. Julie Dent: 8:03PM

Ms. Dent asked that the Elected Officials and /or their representatives to introduce themselves and state their respective address and telephone numbers.

- 1) Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, 209 Joralemon Street, 718-802-3764
- 2) Kevin Wolfe Representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, 209 Joralemon Street, 718-802-3764
- 3) Senator Martin M. Dilan, 718 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-573-1726
- 4) Charvey Gonzalez Representing Senator Martin M. Dilan, 718 Knickerbocker Ave. 718-573-1726
- 5) Councilmember Antonio Reynoso, 244 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 718-963-3141
- 6) Kevin Worthington Representing Antonio Reynoso, 244 Union Avenue, 718-963-3141
- 7) Yanuski Rodriguez Representing District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson, 350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY , 718-250-2565
- 8) Kicy Motley, Representing Mayor Bill de Blasio, CAU, kmotley@cityhall.nyc.gov, 347-331-2327
- 9) Celeste Leon Representing Councilmember Rafael Espinal, 786 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-642-8664
- 10) Assembly Member Maritza Davila, 249 Wilson Avenue, 718-963-7029

Representative from City, State or Federal Agencies:

- 1) Det. Franco, 83rd Pct. Community Affairs Unit, 480 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-574-1697, damarys.franco@nypd.org
- 2) Maggie Mangual – Wyckoff Heights Medical Center -Positive Health Management Program, 342 Stanhope Street, Prevention Health Manager, 718-508-4669, mmangual@wyckoffhospital.org
- 3) Boniface WeWe, Brooklyn Public Library, Washington Irving Branch, 360 Irving Avenue, 718-682-7387
- 4) Mr. Robert Solano –CUFF (Churches United for Fair Housing)1080 Willoughby Avenue, 718-360-2906
- 5) Martin Maher – Dept. of Parks
- 6) Ramon Rodriguez, CEO of Wyckoff Heights Medical Center

2014 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) is Now Accepting Applications: Applications have been extended to May 2, 2014. All youth ages 14-23 who permanently reside within the five boroughs of New York are eligible and encouraged to apply. To apply for SYEP, you only need to submit a complete application by going to www.nyc.gov/dycd. NYC youth are paid for the summer months of July and August for six weeks. Only one application will be accepted for each applicant. Complete applications will be submitted in a lottery to determine those applicants who will be offered an opportunity. Should your application be submitted by hand you should bring it to the SYEP provider you wish to work. DYCD provides online information to help with the selection of a provider. Note that the submission of an application does not guarantee a job.

L.I.F.E. (Labor and Industry for Education) Audrey Johnson Learning Center, 272 Moffat Street (between Knickerbocker and Wilson Avenues) and the John Coker Early Learn Center, 1375 Bushwick Avenue (corner of Decatur Street) are

enrolling children 3 to 5 years of age. Free HEADSTART and U.P.K., Creative Curriculum, Nutritious Meals, Family Services and Certified Teachers, etc. Audrey Johnson Learning Center: 718-574-0130; John Coker Early Learn Center: 718-452-1414

NYC DOE – City Announced steps to help community based Pre-k Programs attract and retain high-quality educators. The Mayor announced steps to help community based organizations attract and retain high quality pre-K teachers as part of the historic expansion of full day pre-K. The investment paid for through funding recently secured for the state, will make compensation for certified pre-K teachers at CBO's more competitive with that of their peers in public schools. Mayor de Blasio also stated that a great classroom starts with a great teacher and steps to help our grass-root community group attract and retain the best and the brightest educators is very important. In NYC early childhood teachers in community based organizations currently earn significantly less than their counterparts with identical qualifications and experience in the public schools.

LIFE – Audrey Johnson Learning Center-Health Fair: The Health Fair will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2014 from 10:45am to 5:00pm, 272 Moffat Street. Services Available: Free health screening, free blood pressure testing sponsored by Wyckoff Hospital, free flu shots sponsored by Walgreens, free dental exam, and free nutritional facts.

NYC-DOT Vision Zero Pedestrian Safety Workshop –Brooklyn!

On Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Plymouth Church, 75 Hicks Street and Tuesday, April 29th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Brooklyn College (Student Center, 2nd floor).

Learn about Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero initiative, prioritize street projects and discuss street where you live, work and travel.

Five Boro Bike Tour – Volunteers at the 37th Annual TD Five Boro Bike Tour Sunday, May 4th. No cycling experience necessary. Rest area and water station are staffed by individuals and community organizations. T-shirts and breakfast or lunch will be provided. For more information call 212-870-2079.

Housing Court Answers 2014 Spring Training Series: Starts Friday April 25th through June 20th. The workshops are for advocates who assist litigants in Housing Court or clients/constituents with housing problems. Training is free and refreshments will be served. The following workshops are offered:

- Overview of Housing Court
- Housing Benefits for Seniors
- Subsidized Housing
- NYCHA
- Getting Repairs
- Help with Rent Arrears
- Negotiating Settlements
- Overview of Rent Regulations

You must register to attend. All trainings are held at Legal Services-NYC 40 Worth Street on Fridays 2pm to 5pm. (No training on May 23, 2014)

To register online go to the upcoming events page at Hcanswers.org. Questions call 212-962-4795 x 206.

District Manager's Report, Ms. Nadine Whitted: 8:10PM

Meetings Attended:

March 20, 2014

Women's History Month – LIFE Audrey Johnson Learning Center
CB#4's Sanitation Committee Meeting (See Report)

March 24, 2014

NYC –NYPD Meet and Greet, hosted by the Borough President Eric Adams, Re-introduction to Commissioner Bratton and **All** of Brooklyn Commanding Officers of each Precinct and Police Service Area (PSA) and Transit District (TD)

At the meeting special acknowledgement and a proclamation was given to Osvaldo Valdez the hero from Bushwick who intervened and assisted while a NYPD Officer was involved in a scuffle.

March 26, 2014
CB#4's Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting (See Report)

April 1, 2014
CB#4's Environmental/Transportation Committee Meeting (See Report)

April 3, 2014
Attended the second Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting (See Report)

April 10, 2014
Attended the Nominating Committee Meeting (See Report)

April 11, 2014
Attended the Joint-Meeting of the Civic and Religious/Health, Hospitals & Human Services and the Public Safety Committee

The Community Board #4 office has been flooded three times since February 14, 2014. The second time it occurred was on March 31st. Each time the District Manager and her staff have worked through it to make sure that the office could remain open. The last flood occurred on April 1st.

This has prompted the Executive Committee to instruct the District Manager to address a letter to our Elected Officials to make sure that the problems associated with these flooding are resolved once and for all. As of Monday, April 14, 2014 it seems that the problems have been cured.

City Agency Information:

NYC Department of Health: Measles Frequently Asked Questions

What is Measles? Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that causes fever and a rash.

Who gets measles?

Anyone who is not vaccinated can get measles at any age.

How is measles spread?

Measles is spread by contact with an infected person, through coughing and sneezing. The virus resides in the infected person's nose and throat mucus. The virus remains active and contagious on infected surface for up to two hours.

What are the symptoms of measles?

Early symptoms of measles include fever (which can reach 103 to 105 degrees F), coughing, runny nose, sore throat and red watery eyes. Two to three days later little white spots called Koplik spots may appear on the gums and inside of the cheeks, although they are rarely seen. Three to five days after symptoms start a rash of red spots appears on the face and then spreads over the entire body.

For more information visit these online resources:

Measles (Immunization Action Coalition): <http://www.vaccineinformation.org/measles/>

Measles Overview (Centers for Disease Control): <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/>

FDNY

On April 6, 2014 a fire occurred at 17 Menahan Street a four story commercial building. The fire was located in the basement and the 1st floor.

NYC-DOT

- 1) Speed Hump Approval – Pilling Street between Evergreen and Bushwick Avenues
- 2) Hosting a meeting on Proposed Traffic changes at Myrtle/Wyckoff Avenues and Palmetto Street
- 3) Citywide Paving on Myrtle Avenue from Palmetto Street to Himrod Street and Himrod Street to Bushwick Avenue
- 4) Summer Play Street: Definition and Process

Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation Expands Placement of Public Space Recycling Container Citywide. Placement of these Containers will be at various parks busy sidewalks, venue, recreational center, and Bushiness Improvement.

Transit Authority

The Transit Authority will present to the board at the May 21st Community Board meeting their Wilson Avenue L - Train Station Capital Improvement project.

Other Issues

Brooklyn Speaks: Communities Against Gun Violence-Date April 24, 2014 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm, at the Cobra Club, 6 Wyckoff Avenue, hosted by WE ARE ALL BROOKLYN, a project of the center for community leadership.

Bike Bonanza – NYC Saturday April 26, 2014, at 570 Jamaica Avenue
Free bike helmet fitting and distribution for the whole family from 11am to 2:30pm
Update your child's bike at the kids swap from 11:30am to 2:30pm
Free learn how to ride class from 12pm to 2pm

Committee Reports: 8:21PM

Civic and Religious Committee (CRC), Chairperson Ms. Elvena Davis

Meeting Held on Thursday March 13, 2014, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370

Members Attending: Elvena Davis,

Others Attending: Nadine Whitted - District Manager,

Items Discussed:

Planning the 9th Annual Bushwick Parade, to be held on June 5th, 2014, Brooklyn/Queens Day

The theme will be the same as last years: Health & Exercising

Route: Start on Knickerbocker Avenue & Weirfield Street, walk to Jefferson Avenue, Jefferson Avenue to Wyckoff Avenue, make a right on Covert Street, walk back to Knickerbocker Avenue, make a right on Halsey Street and end at the park.

The next meeting will be a combined meeting with the following Committees: CRC, HHH, & PSC, Friday, April 11, 2014, 83rd Pct., 480 Knickerbocker Avenue at 4PM.

Environmental Protection/Transportation Committee (EPT), Chairperson Mr. Eliseo Ruiz, 8:25PM

Meeting Held on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 9A.M., 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370

Members Present: Eliseo Ruiz

Others Attending: Nadine Whitted – District Manager, Det. D. Franco, Drew Levitt, Miller Nuttle, Rachel Alberfisle and Ken Bades

Items Discussed:

Transportation Alternative (TA) – Expansion of Local Organization List: At the last meeting with the TA, the committee recommended that the local list of organizations is expanded to include more organization from Community District #4.

1) The following organizations have been included: Make the Road NY, Bushwick United Head Start, L.I.F.E.- Audrey Johnson Day Care Center, All City Leadership Academy (parents association) and through conversation El Puente would soon be added.

2) Two Safer Streets Forums – The first one will be held during the first week of May 2014, the second will be held during the first week of June 2014. The dates were chosen to coincide with the school year. The first forum will seek to collect the insights and experiences of members of the Bushwick Community and will be collected at the first forum and shall provide an opportunity for citizens to present and discuss their ideas with representatives from relevant city agencies. (ex: DOT, NYPD, Dept. of Aging and others) City Agencies shall incorporate their presence at the second forum into their action plan for Vision Zero. Mayor Bill de Blasio's new Traffic Safety Initiative.

Prospective forum locations in CB#4 include: Diana Jones Senior Center, 9 Noll Street; PS 145 – 100 Noll Street; All City Leadership Academy - 321 Palmetto Street and LIFE - Audrey Johnson Learning Center - 272 Moffat Street. Desire outcomes: Development of specific list of topics for discussions with city agency representatives. Thereafter a specific list of improvements in enforcement and traffic safety instructions. Tracking of requesting improvements by coordinators of TA, with status updates to Community Board #4.

Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC): Mr. Robert Camacho, Chairperson, 8:26PM

Meeting Held on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 3:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370

Members Attended: Robert Camacho, Committee Chairperson and Julie Dent, Board Chair

Others Attending: Nadine Whitted – District Manager, PO N. Robinson & Det. D. Franco – NYPD 83rd Pct., Eddie Vargas- NYC DPR Kevin Jefferies - NYC Department of Parks and Recreation-Brooklyn Borough Office-Commissioner, Martin Maher-Chief of Staff, Emilio Llopiz - Special Event

Items Discussed:

CEQR Number: 14DPR010K- 282 Moffat Street City Map Change. The proposed mapping and acquisition of a currently vacant lot for park purposes -Commissioner Jefferies .Currently formal analysis is being performed environmental impact (boring and testing to make sure that there are no toxins at the site) Thereafter the ULURP process will begin. The Community Board, NYC Council and the Borough President must vote.

The site is a linear site with the ability to accommodate skate-park, toddler playground and seating area. The original request that came in to the then Councilmember Dilan was for a skate park. Councilmember Espinal supports this as well.

A formal scoping must be done to make sure that the ideas that were discussed then still exist now and also build a construction time-line. Once everything is determined it will take approximately three years to build the park. The design process cannot begin until the property is actually owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Det. Franco questioned testing at this site in relationship to the testing that is ongoing at the Wolf Alport Site. Ms. Dent noted that testing in the area is ongoing in the area at both the learning center and at the public school. The Commissioner noted the testing is best for all involved.

Money to maintain the parks is always a battle at City Hall as reported by Andres Ledesma from NYC Councilmember Espinal's office, however Commissioner Jefferies stated it will not be an issue here as parks are so needed by the Community and newer parks are easier to maintain.

Status of Acquisition of Block 3137 Lot 1, 6, and 9 Beaver Street/Garden Street: Lot owned by HPD. Department of Parks is hoping to do a few things: take care of the sidewalk and remediated the buildings. HPD had knocked down the building but they have not fixed the sidewalk as of yet. The property must be free and clear from contaminants. The main argument there is that since the development funds are limited the Department of Parks and Recreation does not want to use the monies for remediation.

DPR has been assured that the site has been cleared and a draft letter is in review by the agency (HPD) now. Approximately one month later is when DPR has the property transferred into its jurisdiction. The Scope has been done. Previously has a passive park with seating area. Nine months off from when DPR actually has the property, will be the Design Phase.

East Brooklyn Churches expressed interest in two local parks, Heckscher and Green, Central & Knoll. DPR has already begun work at Heckscher Park based on a mayoral allocation of \$750,000 and are well down the path of design with community input.

Green Central Knoll: Is a huge project – synthetic turf \$6 million dollars with lights and additional \$2 million, comfort station approximately \$1.8 million.

Commissioner Jefferies also mentioned that the EBC group had recommended the repair of water fountain and scoreboard. EBC had identified a group who had done a greening project whereby they would maintain it; the Commissioner suggested that the board reach out to EBC.

Process of instituting "Friend of" for local parks – Ms. Emily Sherrod who works in outreach for the Partnership for Parks helps groups who are interested in forming friends. Volunteers contact her and she informs them of the steps that are needed to take to form friends groups. Ms. Sherrod also explains to them of the resources that are available to support as well as NYC non-profit resources.

Ms. Dent stated that many volunteers have express interest in working at both Irving Square and Heckscher parks. Also members from the community have planted many flowers and shrubbery in the park. The area is used as a dog run. Det. Franco stated that complaints have been received by the 83rd Pct. only sporadically, however more complaints are needed more frequently so that the precinct can address the problem more.

El Puente has expressed interest in stewardship at Hope Ballfield due to the canine waste problems there. Steward of the park can tell residents what could happen should one not clean – up after canine waste. Thereafter should the problem persist then enforcement would be in order.

Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC): Mr. Robert Camacho, Chairperson, 8:33PM

Meeting Held on Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 6PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370

Members Attended: Robert Camacho

Others Attending: Nadine Whitted – District Manager, PO N. Robinson – NYPD 83rd Pct., Eddie Vargas- NYC DPR

Purpose of the Meeting:

Receiving required documentation in order to recommend to the following rules continue to apply

Baseball – 12 years and under

No amplified sound

No selling

No BBQ Permits in Parks

NO Food

Playing games only (Not for Practice)

CENTRAL / GREEN / NOLL

SUNDAY: QUEBRADILLA – 8AM TO 2PM

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY: QUEBRADILLA – 4PM TO 8PM

SATURDAY: QUEBRADILLA – 8AM TO 8PM

SUNDAY: WILLIAMSBURG SPORTS – 2PM TO 8PM

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY: WILLIAMSBURG SPORTS – 4PM TO 8PM

HOPE BALL FIELD

SUNDAY AND SATURDAY: QUEBRADILLA – 8AM TO 8PM

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 4PM TO 8PM

BARRY MORROW (BUSHWICK)

SUNDAY: REAL GUADALUPE SOCCER - 8AM TO 4PM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY: REAL GUADALUPE SOCCER - 4PM TO 8PM

SATURDAY: REAL GUADALUPE SOCCER - 8AM TO 8PM

SUNDAY: LIGA LIBERTADOR BOLIVAR SOCCER- 4PM TO 8PM

Community Board #4 made these recommendations to the Parks & Recreation Department

Sanitation Community SAN: Mr. Raul Rubio, Chairperson, 8:36PM

Meeting Held: March 20th 2014, 4pm to 6pm

Members Attending: Nadine Whitted, CB#4's District Manager, Raul Rubio, Annette Spellin, Tari Sunkin

Others Attending: Renee Peperone and Veronica Sandy

Due to circumstances, the committee has not met in several months. The charge of the committee members since the last time the committee convened was to do site visit to the schools in the area and report back if there were any sites where the trash was becoming problematic or lingering for more than a day. Of the information gathered some sites do not have an issue, particularly the sites that are equipped with "Easy Packs". These are large metal receptacles that hold large amounts of trash that are emptied directly into a truck so that the trash stays contained.

IS 296 was determined by our visits that they still have issues with its garbage disposal. A meeting with the local representatives of the Department of Sanitation and the School Custodial staff took place and the pickup schedules was amended to coordinate more efficiently, but this has not corrected the situation.

Suggestions were made to organize a 311 call campaign from local residents. A more diplomatic suggestion was to have

conversations with the Principal and the School PTA to see if IS 296 would be willing to be considered for a composting Pilot Program through the Dept. of Sanitation. This could be a good way to address the food waste that seeping into the sideway and possible feeding the local rat population.

The committee will be reaching out to the School and the Department of Sanitation about considering IS 296 for the Pilot Program.

The committee is looking at other locations where lingering trash may be an issue.

Ms. Veronica Sandy from the Hope Gardens Tenant Association is also concerned about this matter and attended the meeting. She and her tenant association have worked to beautify her building and have through an RFP, gained funding that they used to create and maintain a garden and they have planted flowers around their building.

Renee Peperone attended the meeting to discuss BK ROT and their concept of a Bushwick Community Composting Initiative (BCCI). Currently they coordinate a weekly home Composting Collection, where for \$15 a month, your composting is collected by bike messenger between: March 20-June 21. You get a how to guide, composting bags, and a bag of finished soil. The program hires local youths to make the pickups. The program is growing and they are looking for space to put up more composting sites. To get more information and /or to sign up please visit: WWW.BKROT.ORG.

Recommendations: Public Hearing

Transportation Alternatives request the support of the Community Board to conduct a series of public forum on improving street safety in Bushwick.

The Audrey Johnson Learning Center is on location at 272 Moffat Street and the second location can be at PS 145 or in a nearby location.

The motion to have two public forums was motioned by Mr. Cyril Joseph and second by Mr. Robert Camacho. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

Election of Officers: 8:28PM

The Election of Officers was conducted and yielded the following results:

- 1) Chairperson – Ms. Julie Dent
- 2) 1st Vice Chairperson – Ms. Martha Brown
- 3) 2nd Vice Chairperson – Ms. Victoria Fernandez
- 4) Recording Secretary – Mr. Cirilo Nunez
- 5) Corresponding Secretary – Ms. Virgie Jones
- 6) Financial Secretary – Mr. Eliseo Ruiz
- 7) Treasurer – Ms. Gladys Puglla
- 8) Parliamentarian - Mr. Odolph Wright

Announcements: 9:29PM

Brooklyn Public Library – Bike the Branches, Saturday, May 17th: Bike our network of 60 branches to explore the borough in a fun, new way and support the library. This fun and rewarding one-day bike ride gives people a chance to choose their own route to experience Brooklyn's diversity and our network of 60 branches-all while helping raise critical funds for the library. Register at www.bklynpubliclibrary.org/support-the-branches

Follow the 83rd Precinct on Twitter!

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Enter your full name, email address and a password

Click Sign up for Twitter

On the next page, you can select a username (usernames

The City of New York Department of Housing Preservation & Development in partnership with Councilmember Rafael Espinal and Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, cordially invites you to a Tenant's Forum on Tuesday, April 22nd at 6:30PM to 8PM, located at I.S. 171, 528 Ridgewood Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208

This will be an opportunity for tenants to get information on issues such as rent stabilization rules, HPD housing code enforcement, housing court, rent protections for seniors and the disabled, NYCHA housing, Section 8, bedbugs, tenant's rights and much more.

Bike Bonanza NYC! Saturday, April 26th, 11AM to – 2:30PM. North Brooklyn YMCA, 570 Jamaica Avenue, Cypress Hills, Brooklyn, NY 11208
Free bike helmet fitting and distribution for the whole family! Upgrade your child's bike at our kids bike swap! Free learn how to ride class!
Children under age 18 must be present and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to sign their waiver.
Adults must be present and sign a waiver to get fitted for and receive a bike helmet.

Silent Barn: Yard Party
Saturday, May 3rd, 2014 from Noon until 7PM, located at 603 Bushwick Avenue between Jefferson Street and Melrose Street.
Please join them for an afternoon of outdoor family fun and activities! There will be games, vendors, arts n' crafts, BBQ, and a performance at 4pm by Educated Little Monsters.

Ridgewood Bushwick Respite Center (RRSCC): The Center is designed to assist families of the elderly in maintaining Their loved ones at home by providing Caregivers with temporary relief from their 24 hour responsibilities. Eligible clients must be age 60 and over and under the care of a medical doctor.
The program offers the following services:
Social Adult Day Care – available Monday – Friday from either 9AM to 4PM or 10AM to 5PM.
Overnight Care – is available from one night up to two or three weeks at a time, as scheduling allows.
1175 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221 for more information call 718-443-1903, Fax# 718-443-1926

Visit Assemblywoman Maritza Davila at her new office, she is representing the communities of Williamsburg and Bushwick. She and her staff are here to help the community access the resources that they need.
Location: 249 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237; Phone #: 718-443-1207, Email: davilam@assembly.state.ny.us

Ms. Dent thanked the Hope Gardens Multi Service Center for allowing Community Board #4 host their meetings at their facility.

2nd Roll Call: Meeting adjourned 9:37PM