

Community Board 4

November Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 6pm

Webex

Chairperson: Robert Camacho

District Manager: Celestina Leon

Celeste called the meeting to order, welcoming everyone, before moving into the first public hearing item.

Meeting Start: 6:10pm

Public Hearing

Agenda Item #2: Corina Lozada, Staff Attorney, Communities Resist (CoRe) – providing an update on the Tenant Safe Harbor Act and eviction moratorium.

Hi everyone, my name is Corina Lozada, and I'm a staff attorney with Communities Resist. I'm here to talk about the eviction moratorium and things to expect moving forward and the Safe Harbor act. Um, I will reserve some time at the end for some questions but please feel free to jot them down for later.

So, in early March of 2020. Governor Cuomo declared a state of emergency in New York State. And he provided that an eviction moratorium was going to last about 90 days. This was an executive order tool 2.8 moratorium has been extended many times, both by executive order and by law. On May 27, 2020, the New York State Legislature passed the Safe Harbor act to further protect tenants and basically what the Safe Harbor act did was it extended the moratorium further. So, under the Safe Harbor act tenants can raise COVID related financial hardship, as a defense to a nonpayment case in court for tenants sued for rent between March 7, 2020 through stage four, which has come and gone but it continues through now. Tenants can show that they have financial hardship, and the landlord is not allowed to evict the tenant but can win a money judgment. So, what that means is if it's been proven that you owe rent, you can get the landlord can get a money judgment against you, but it's not able to just evict you so over the original safe harbor act tenants who owed rent before March 7, 2020 were not included in these protections. But this change, under Governor Cuomo's executive order from September 29, which is executive order 266 basically included some people who may have had warrants of eviction prior to March 7 and that allowed them to be under this protection. On September 29, 2020, the government formally issued an executive order to expand the Safe Harbor Act to cover tenants with nonpayment cases from before March 7, 2020. So, those that show the court that they suffered COVID-19 hardship during the pandemic cannot be evicted until January 1, 2021, some of the factors that the court would look at include but are not limited to income prior to COVID-19 and income during COVID-19, liquid assets, and eligibility of benefits. It's not clear whether the executive order applies to tenants who

are in holdover cases. So, we can see through the executive order and through the Safe Harbor Act that they mentioned over and over again nonpayment cases, which are, which are summary proceedings for rent the actual rent that is owed, but not just plain eviction proceedings so it's not clear. We want you to know that the executive order only delays evictions for tenants who can show that they suffered COVID related financial hardship. It doesn't mean that you can't ever get evicted. It just pushes it back to January 1, 2021, it doesn't stop the court from ordering these tenant evictions so for example if today I was in court and the judge said, well, we're going to issue an order an order of eviction a warrant of eviction. That's just stayed or held until January 1, 2021, it doesn't mean that the court is not allowed to issue them. On October 20 2020, Governor Cuomo issued another Executive Order Number two point 70 this extended the eviction moratorium for commercial tenants for nonpayment of rent or foreclosure mortgage due to nonpayment of mortgage to January first 2021. So, the beginning of the executive orders, the government was reluctant to issue it for commercial tenants and we only saw it for residency, but we also see that there is an expansion for commercial tenants under this executive order that was dated October 20 2020. Finally, last week or two weeks ago there was another executive order on November 3, Executive Order Number two 272 that did a total for the time limit to start cases. So from the beginning there was a total to start cases to find or serve any legal actions any notices and emotions and little by little, that was getting pushed back and allowed for like emergency cases tenants had repairs, like, also in October, some cases were allowed to proceed that were already filed, but now we see that there's no more statute of limitations where the time was not told and everything needed to be filed by November 4 that was basically told from March 7 till now. And this executive order also modified section 732 and 743 of the Real Property actions and proceeding law, basically, that law case tenants, a certain time limit to answer a nonpayment Summary proceeding. And so any nonpayment cases that were filed before November 3 tenants are forwarded to 60 days, or at least until January 2 2021, there's some confusion about the actual timing because it does limit it to November 3, and there were subsequent orders from the judiciary branch that kind of like confuses it, I'll talk about it later to show the differences. In September, the CDC on a federal level issued a national moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent until December 31, 2020. So the difference between the federal moratorium and the New York moratorium is that the New York moratorium gives more protection, it gives a few more days, the Federal moratorium would not apply and only applies to those states and to those cities that have given less protections but just for the purposes of talking about the moratorium, the setting moratorium that's covered tells me to give landlords a sworn declaration or an affidavit that says that they have tried everything in their power to get government help to pay their rent that they have income less than 99,000 did not have to pay income tax in 2019, or received this stimulus check. They also have to swear that they can't pay due to income loss or any extraordinary out of pocket medical expenses, they would have to wear as components, but it's a bit in close quarters in another residence. If they're evicted. And that they promised to pay their landlord, as much as they can, keeping other essential expenses in mind. All tenants should get legal advice before submitting the separation, because it could have legal consequences after the moratorium ends. And of course because New York has more protections.

This affidavit is not required under the New York State and New York City moratorium. This is just what the federal guidelines would look like. Verify receive a notice of eviction. And marshals

and sheriff's will be able to evict tenants in holdover cases and nonpayment cases where the tenant cannot show COVID-19 financial hardship. So, the key is to be able to show that before March 7 2020, you had an income that was x after March 7 2020, it has diminished and now it's more, and because of that you are not able to pay your rent. That is the way to total your eviction, and to move it back to January 1, 2021. So, marshals cannot evict those tenants for nonpayment of rent, if they can show a court that they have suffered COVID-19 financial hardship. And again, that's January 1, 2021, that's the first day that they can evict all pre COVID notices of eviction were invalidated by the moratorium. That doesn't make it expired, that just means that the landlord would have to attend court and continue to seek permission to move forward, so that way they would be able to evict after the moratorium date. If you receive a marshal notice or notice of eviction at any point, you must contact the court to file in order to show cause. Basically, what that is it's a motion that will stop the eviction from going forward. And that will allow you to plead your defenses. If you have COVID hardship. We'll talk about what marshals' notices and notices of eviction looks like a little bit later. Here. So, this is what a marshal's notice looks like. Usually, they're on yellow or pink paper depending on the copy and show you like what your name is and what the case is it'll show you who you can contact your martial is and the date of the notice at the bottom. Use the notices used to be six days, but I believe now their 14-day notices. But in any event, you need to contact either a law office to know your rights contact the court immediately because you don't want the time to pass where unfortunately you might be facing eviction because the moratorium is specifically for people who can show COVID related hardship so you don't want to let time pass and not do anything where you could be evicted if you're not showing this hardship. What about housing court. So quite open in limited circumstances that means, not a lot of people can physically go into a courthouse. So, it's open for people without attorneys to follow cases for example pro se tenants and pro se landlords, including tenants who want to file for repairs, of course are also doing some in person trials at 320 Jay Street for cases that started before March 17, 2020, but that depends on the court schedule and all that good stuff in stores by tenants without a lawyer, don't have to be filed in court, even though you certainly can. When you can file your answer over the phone tenants are given a phone number to call to respond to court papers in the papers themselves, and you can call that number to file your answer on a phone courts have moved forward with all types of cases not just emergency cases. So, a few months ago they were only hearing emergency cases but as of now, they're hearing all cases, even those that were filed after March 16, 2020. Most appearances can be done virtually, you can see on a virtual appearance where you're appearing like we are on video. However, they are still scheduling in person appearances for those who either don't want to or cannot appear virtually. But it's not news extra cases of November 4 and even a little bit before that maybe October 13 landlords can find new eviction cases as required by law. So, before there was still like some prerequisites that landlords had to do were like service was in a different way, but right now as of November 4, everything has what's French or usual. The only difference is now landlords have to put the notice on colored paper, and it must include a notice to the tenants telling them that they have more time to respond if that's the case so this was before November 3, but you've had 60 days. I'm also how to get legal services or more information. Landlords with attorneys, either have to file their cases using the E filing system, or by mail, whereas landlords without attorneys can file in person they're allowed to go into the courthouse. If a landlord's attorney asked you to consent to E filing. You don't have to

consent if you don't have a lawyer but if you wish to you should consult with a lawyer to see if that is a good option for you. Once an eviction case is filed tenants will be asked to answer by phone so they're trying to limit. All the tenants who are going to the courthouses even if you are pro se and you can, and so they're trying to encourage everyone to do their entrance by phone again for cases that are filed after November 30, you would only have 10 days to answer a nonpayment proceeding, according to the unified court system so judge marks issued a memorandum yesterday that states that everything is going back to normal so the normal 10 days to answer is one to apply for everything after November 4, some nonpayment cases that were filed before November 3 can enjoy the 60 day extension or until January 2 2021. If a tenant does not respond to a petition within the allotted time the landlord can get a default judgment. So, this is something that is new, that happened yesterday. Prior to yesterday, even if a tenant was unable to show up virtually or show up to court, they were not being defaulted, but because of this memorandum by Judge marks everything has returned to business and landlords can get a default judgment. What happens in eviction cases started before March 17. So again, all cases are being moved forward.

What happens in eviction cases started before March 17. So again, all cases are being moved forward, but all cases before anything else happens. So, if you don't have your due date before a judge then nothing should really be happening in your case, but you want to make sure that you're not missing any court cases. So even if there is a case where a one of eviction is happening, you have to come before a judge, again, before the judge can decide whether they want to reFRESH that warrant, or whatever it is. Cases should proceed virtually whenever appropriate. But of course, there is that to go into court at the court date the judge has to review the impact of COVID on the tenant and possible relief. They had to refer tenants through legal services organization or try to resolve the case. So, this would be the opportunity to let the judge know that you've suffered COVID hardship, so that way you are able to be under the eviction moratorium wherever possible, you can and probably should sign an affidavit that attests to COVID-19 hardship. Again, this is not based on the CDC guidelines, it's just something where you're showing the court that it's a sworn statement that you have lost income, but of course you should always talk to an attorney before doing that. But it is one way that you can attest to your COVID related hardship so you can benefit from the same contract. After the court date the court can take all the steps that ordinarily happen in a court case, they can in case they can schedule a trial they can order an eviction. As soon as the game is over, it's up to the judge's discretion to decide what's happening to the case. The court does have to take into account any protections against evictions that the tenant has under the state or the federal law, so that's all of the things that we have been talking about what the executive orders the Safe Harbor Act on the left. What happens in eviction cases that started before March 17 continued. So as of June 22 all the proceedings that were dated before March 17, we're about to move forward on emergency proceedings we're about to be found by defendants. But right now, everything is game. The courts are handling these cases at a slower pace so right now we're trying to do the backlog, most cases that were told before March 17, but trials and court appearances are still being scheduled virtually or in person in New York City. If the court schedules a court date, whether its natural or person, and tenant, do not attend a tenant could be held in contempt, and even have an eviction order issued against them when they're not there. So again, defaults are moving forward, and this is decided yesterday. And so, it is very important that

you hold your case for new cases, again, Judge marks provided in his memorandum that the service requirements returned to normal for anything that's filed after November 3. So, if you receive court papers, it's very important to respond to the court papers and contact a lawyer, contact me first, see what your rights are. See if you can call in for an answer, all that good stuff but it's important not to sit on it because default judgments are moving forward. If you're seeking repairs. The HP part is open and if you have any conditions or violations in your phone, you can start a case, you don't have to wait for it to be an emergency they're not just doing emergency cases for you can begin an HP proceeding against your landlord to force the landlord to make the repairs and to correct building violations, starting June 22 tenants could file for a period, not just emergency repairs and so if you're filing without an attorney. You can get a template from the court, like going in person or calling. Or you can go online to just fix that NYC website, and they actually have a really easy way, where you can just like, have your information put in and they prefill out the form for you. If you're unable to start a case remotely you can go to court and file in person.

One major thing is contacting a community-based organization, whatever it is office like communities resist relief advice and so you can definitely contact us if you're not sure what organizations are around you. You can check for latest updates on the moratorium at Rights Council and you can like try to Google what's in your area. Know your options that's very important. So, if you are suffering COVID hardship, you can apply for a one-shot deal. You can wait and see what the recent legislations to see if like, there will be like a cancel rent or something or other. You can try to work out a payment plan with your landlord by trying to negotiate and you can definitely inform your landlord, and the court about your financial hardships. Make sure that you document everything that's very important a lot of repairs love any harassment love any retaliation. If you receive any notices log how you receive them when you receive them. And it's important to keep photographs and videos and if you can have audio recordings, just as much information as possible, just in case there is a court case you have the evidence with you. Who should seek out help anyone who cannot pay their rent is struggling to get repairs or is facing eviction or even if you have a question about your rights, it doesn't hurt to seek out information, and it doesn't matter whether you're a tenant whether you have section eight, whether you receive city faps, whether you're eligible for screen or DRI if you have children live or apartment wide or emergency repairs, anyone and everyone should reach out and know your rights, because you don't know if you'll need it later on at community based organizations, again, you know suitors in Williamsburg st mix as whether communities resists which does Brooklyn, Queens including Bushwick, you can contact your local council member on your city the public Advocate's the mayor's office, all these places will definitely put you in contact with a community based organization or an attorney that can help you. Additional resources could be unemployment insurance, if you qualify for any public benefits or one-shot deal on HRA food programs as well as the school grab and go also and as soon as right there and a Williamsburg has a full country. And if you go on the Coalition for the homeless website there's other resources that can probably be useful to you. And that is the combination of my presentation so if there's any questions, you can definitely ask them now, but also take down the community interest this telephone. If there are any case specific questions, call us there and an attorney will reach out to you. Advice. COVID. COVID. You can go to the code. Now, if a lawyer told me what they can do.

Okay, so tenants that wants to appear pro se and don't want to lawyer can definitely go to court so that way they're not defaulted. They can also ask the court for time to get an attorney, and then that's where you would have rights to counsel or one of our organizations that I mentioned, to see if you can get free legal counsel, so right now communities resists, we are providing free legal counsel usually we do groups, but in special occasions we might do individuals. And so, if we can't help you. We also know other organizations that might be able to. So, it would help if you wanted to go to court and appear, you know, just so you're not defaulted and say, I need extra time. Legal Aid could possibly assist you communities resist can possibly assist you. And you can probably just shop around if you do want an attorney. Thank you.

You're welcome.

What are you guys familiar with the tax abatements that these people will lose out on their homes? Furthermore, in regard to the tax abatement or water or sewer that I'm not particularly familiar with, I know that they did do a moratorium for foreclosures if you can't pay your mortgage, but I'm not really sure about the tax abatement I would probably have to do some research. And since you're one of our clients Mr Camacho we can get back to you pretty soon.

And you guys are meant to get funding. My question to you if I may. How many people in Bushwick, has there been are the issues now compared to the COVID? Are we having a big turnout, how is the percentage in English Bushwick, I don't know numbers per se, but it's affecting a lot of people. And so, we had a lot of people in Bushwick and Williamsburg everywhere basically even in East New York reaching out to us for Brief Advice. And so, this is why, when I was asked to do this presentation, I really wanted to because there's a lot of changes that have been happening since March and it happens very frequently, and it's affecting almost everyone and it's important for everyone to know their rights. And so sometimes they don't know where to go, but that's why we're here to try to bring it to you, because it's horrible the things that we're seeing.

Q and A from the chat:

All right. Going once, going twice, folks in the public eye see there's some Q & A questions here if you enter them into the chat and the Q & A. I'll take a look. All right, I do see one Just give me one second, so I can pull this up. Can judge Mark's decision slash memorandum be overruled by the state? Response: So, if the legislature decides something else and it becomes laws, I'm sure, but usually administrative orders and executive orders are temporary. And so, unless the state legislature does something else the administrative order stays in effect because even if the governor decides to do another executive order, they kind of technically have to coincide. And so, Mark says memorandum does represent a lot of almost executive orders and as we can see like they're kind of playing tit for tat for who can do what, but for the most part they kind of coincide together. So, I guess the short answer is yes, if there's a law but because this is something that's different, and it's in a state of emergency. I don't think that another law, other than the Safe Harbor law would be passed, just to figure out how the courts are going to function. Usually, the administrative orders by the unified court system are about how the court is going to function, and it governs that I hope that answered the question.

Celeste: I don't see any other questions in the chat or the Q & A. If there are any other questions, now's the time? And if we don't get to your question say that's okay, we can always send a follow up email, feel free to reach out to the board's office. All right. So, I don't see anything. Thank you so much, everyone.

Agenda Item #1: Monique Chandler-Waterman, Brooklyn Borough Outreach Director, NYC Test and Trace Corp - providing an update on the city's test and trace efforts.

My name is Monique Chang Waterman on the book and Outreach Director for Health and Hospitals Test and Trace. I've been working for about six weeks. And, as we know this is a new campaign because of COVID-19. I do have a presentation. Let me see if it will allow me to share it without any issue. Give me one sec. Okay. Just want to give everybody my information just in case you do want to reach out to me.

646-847-5327

watermam@nychhc.org.

My job is mainly to connect with the community stakeholders and make sure that we are amplifying the message of Test and Trace, making sure people are safe when it comes to COVID-19, and they know ways to partner. We made sure that people know the community is in the conversation and is up to date as much as possible. So, some of the partnerships may look like a partner for a particular event, giving out literature for COVID-19 prevention, things of that nature.

I'm going to go into a little bit about what our what our campaign is doing now and certain things that we need to know I know some of it is, we know already. There's a lot of repetitive but a campaign we try to make sure we get the message out as much as possible because people still not quite understanding what's happening, and various things when it comes to COVID-19. So, we know COVID-19 coronavirus disease is one and the same and it's common symptoms of two to 14 days after exposure. But we also know, we now know you can have no type of symptoms at all and still have COVID-19, so the symptoms that traditionally we talk about are the shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, sore throat, lots of cases, it could be one of those things, all those things but none of those things. So, we just want to make sure people are not having a false pretense that I don't have any of these symptoms so therefore, I do not have COVID-19, and that's why it's very important that we promote wearing masks above the nose, covering your mouth, and also wash your hands, stay home, if you do feel sick. Though you feel off in any type of way. And also, the distance, social distance and also getting tested, because like I said you can have no symptoms, and have COVID-19. So, isolation and quarantine something very harsh towards staying at home and away from people, but it does have a very big, big impact on reducing transmission, and it stops the chain of, you know, COVID breeding. So right now, we know we have an uptick when it comes to COVID in certain zip codes

The positivity rate right now 3.6%, so, this this community void area especially where you're located. Definitely is on the watch list when it comes to the cases up taking with COVID-19.

So it's no good like we know, just that one case is a thought in many cases, and that's what our biggest concern is when it comes, even for the holidays coming up. We know that people want to gather, we are, you know, social stars right with the physical distance. But if the person doesn't live in your house or they're not your everyday life. We would not want to have them over for Thanksgiving dinner or for the holidays unfortunately because you're not sure where they've been or what they've been exposed to. We want to keep it to the people that are in your household, for this particular for the holidays, especially because people are more to know they really want to have that contact so we do have a safety tip for the holidays that I definitely shared with you, Philip and also I can see back up, put it up on the screen so we just want to make sure people, isolated. This is positive, you'll get like a phone call and quarantine if you feel you've been exposed or you're not feeling well please stay home. So, you should get tested I know before when everything first started they were COVID there was, you only get tough em symptoms so you get tested, we recommend at least once a month or New York Michigan capital COVID-19, where the authentic one not by.

So, we want to make sure that happens that we've seen case reports and the younger people under 18, or we're trying to promote even what happened and it was kind of hard sometimes their parents may be at work and they can't take them to get tested, but we're trying to figure out what's the best way to make that happen as well. And we want to make sure we know when it comes to at first it was like well, certain people colors and not really getting exposed so we know that that before tourists and equity matters, and a bit New York will collide. Fortunately impacted by COVID-19 because underlying that health issue. so also, we talk about healthy eating, doing the best we can, making sure that we get tested and making sure we follow the four corners that I didn't mention before, when it comes to COVID-19. So, a lot of people have been in contact and it's because on the street saying, I do not want to get touched is uncomfortable. And I said that you have to be a mom at home, do you have someone that's totally and they say yes to that. And I said, Well, think about you're doing it for them, because you may be able to survive COVID-19 but maybe not that elderly person, your neighbor or somebody may be in contact with. So, if you are a person that want to also help promote this message and convince others to get tested, and they showed it to the Prophet the question. Sometimes we care more about the people than ourselves. So that's a way to also make sure the message gets out there. Get out there and we talked about that. There is a website, I'm not sure if everybody knows about it. But if you go to www.nyc.gov/covidtest, which is on the screen. You can plug in your address, and it will give you all the nearest testing sites, they will tell you the hours operation, if they have rapid testing. If they also if they have what ages because some people don't do under a certain age, so they tell you all that important information that you can find out. And we also have mobile sites in certain places for like a week type of field, houses, you have a perfect Avenue from 10 to four. I think it's 1230 Sutter Avenue. I'm not mistaken, you have testified before the week but then we have brick and mortar sites that kind of fear, or permanent basis. For now, on the website that you could check out for. We also have something called Michael site. So, Michael sites, is something fairly new. We also have a new presentation yet is the self-testing and it was something that we started off with home chip was the ticker COVID-19 home kit home that has the tournament's built in by FedEx or by the Postal Service. However, a lot of people have been sending that back. So, we're doing self-testing where we can set up like for instance let's say in front of the community board office, we have a health

and hospital staff, you can do have that effect in front of the office away in partnership. And what they do is they'll take information for iPad and take an email within 24 hours using the test results will be able to like swap in your nose, yourself, you will do that yourself. Some people like that testing better so they feel they have more control and will be more comfortable for them. So that's some of the options we're testing that we have, and we don't know very much I know they have rapid tests and from anywhere from 15-minute test results, and from 30 minutes, and on that. Also, when you go to nyc.gov forward slash COVID test you will find out who's doing self-tests and who has rapid tests. All of that is on that website. So, in the event. Someone from stuttering, or you. Please, please answer the poll find out what they're saying. And you'll get inside of what's going on all the controls will be controlled by phone and a phone call has been saved, and healthy and pick up the phone and figure out what's going on the computer that way we can work with you so please if you see NYC or look like the screen, I just show you, please. And for that, we just want to make sure people are safe. So, we have both the front one is tested positive, we have free resources during isolation or quarantine to help people stay safe. More people from getting sick. So, if you're in a household, and you do not have a safe place to be, where you could quarantine or isolate, there is hotel for free that we do have, which is our take care so we have tasks we have trade. And we have Take care. We have food delivery service medication delivery, and then you let us know what else you may need. I was with one of my team members and they said hey, I actually called somebody that was positive I was checking on them, they were having difficulties breathing, I was able to guide them to get in resources right on the spot. And this part, saved someone's life make them feel more comfortable, and make sure people know they're not alone so we want to make sure you are taking care of during this time. Now, we talk about partnerships, and part of the partnership, as I spoke about, is doing events like I did, we did 1799 events Sixth Avenue, I don't think that's in your area, and you could actually train speech I think that's close by you. And what we did was it gave off math. And we also gave out this literature that you see on the screen, how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 foot before course, what you see on the screen. The homelessness. Heat physical distance, where a face covering and keep your hands clean, and then of course get tested. We also want to make sure people avoid large gatherings and want to make sure that they do like he said answer the call gets you to get some test in shape. So, this slide has two sides, I don't have other side up, but the other side just tells you about the phone calls and different things like that so we get a lot of back we give up the literature, and we say, hey, the nervous sector site is, and we give them that information but I beg them to go to the website and like I said once a month is what we are saying is recommended for getting the word out we need help getting the word out and who's that to get the word out what community members like yourself. So that's why we partner with community stakeholders. I will my team member, we have canvassers that's been particularly all over the city that go out and give up math, they may not be from the neighborhood but if I'm able to partner, we're able to partner with the organization and community. Community Board, and we are able to have the characters come, they feel is more credible, they know who you are, they will engage more, they will have conversations that they probably afraid to have or don't know how to have just because we are partnered with a community board or a community-based organization, so we welcome partnership and partnership doesn't have to be complicated. It could be as simple as putting up a table, putting out the math and novel literature and we're out there standing out there maybe our to give out in front of the office given

our math, it could be setting up a self-testing site, it could be given out literature on a particular day, it could be how we think is best to reach your community members and also what you have capacity for. So, we just want to make sure this is done, the best way that you, as experts in your community as credible messages. So, I hope that you can hope we have get tested to Tuesday's day's action where it was a nice theme to put out there, whereby it's okay it's Tuesday, let's make sure we get tested and we send a team out and we go to different areas. and we do a lot of events when it comes to on Tuesday, that's something that the mayor pushes a lot of help in hospitals, and you will see a lot of media coverage around that because it's one of the things that is, it shows a lot of people to get tested as a campaign to make sure people are getting tested. So, how do we stay connected. We are on social media. We have our social media handles.

#NYCtestandtrace

#fightCOVIDNYC

www.nyc.gov/covidtest

www.nyc.gov/covidzone

Q & A/Discussion:

Unknown board member: I don't have a question I just, I just liked the idea. I just like the idea that if I don't, if I don't like no one in my family to come to my house I have an excuse not to tell him to come home. Response: We definitely, you know, we're hoping that this could enter soon as possible. But the best way is for us to follow. Discipline during this time even though it's difficult. And we could do virtual events, right, we could decorate outside our house and right away because we carol by the house there's different ways that you can engage without being physically there. I hate saying the word physically but that's the best way I can describe it. And I don't know if you're able to okay do you see what I have on the screen as far as testing. We have flyers like this, we'll be sending out what for. We do have the website, but some people are very visual they want the flyer of all of the testing site, we have in the booklet. So, the ones at the top is the site that will say booking more than me to do more than a week, but well as you go down to the bottom it says local pesticides, from the 16th to 20th, so we know some of these testing sites may not be walking distance from people home so what we did was we found, as we have one at Cypress Hills which I believe is nearby. So, we set up these sites by request.

You may say, Hey, we don't have a lot of testing we need one. And then we will study in certain areas based on need based on what's on a watch list. However, with the mobile testing site, if it's below 50, or if it's raining, whether they're not going to be open for that date. So that's why we make sure that people don't have brick and mortar sites, and a self-testing site also would be in itself testing is where you do it yourself. But it's wanting to make sure people have that information I'll email it to her to be shared out as well.

Felix Ceballos: I have a question. My name is Felix have I use it, you mentioned the CDC recommend people made the test at one time on my question and that's for anybody and also, they can get a text, and what I was thinking. **Response:** Yeah. So whether you have something from

that you get a cup. And it could be for anybody. So you just basically go through the site you get the top button if you feel you want to get it more than once a month, you're welcome to do so as global we're promoting TESTING and so you should have no barriers. If you do, you could definitely go through one you could call me directly if someone is giving you any type of issues with that, but you should not have any problems with that and at that no Co Op. I want to say that too because some places may ask you for your insurance. But if you do not have insurance you should not be turned away on charge. Nothing should come out your pocket to pay for COVID tests. **Felix:** Thank you very much.

Questions from the chat:

Celeste: We do have some questions from the public. **Are self-tests, or rapid tests free?** So I know you mentioned that but just to reiterate, okay. **Response:** So if we say, at no cost. because if you have insurance, they'll take your insurance. If you do not have insurance, you will not be charged you should not be charged and if you are, you call 311, and then go to nyc.gov for gosh COVID tab to find images want to go to hospital claims that you know, you definitely won't be.

Have you done any partnerships with community organizations in Bushwick? Do you have any planned upcoming partnerships? Response: Okay, unfortunately, right now we are looking for partnerships as we have watches and we also even if you're not enough don't want to watch us, we still want bush with I have not answered what's the code. There's not a follow up question back. **Celeste:** They didn't specify their zip code. **Response:** But, yeah, just within Bushwick where they can reach out to me, or we could talk about partnership is. So we're looking for partnerships in various areas. We are throughout the city. I cover Brooklyn, but my colleagues if you know somebody else my colleagues, I can connect you to others, as well.

Celeste: Okay, and other questions. Going once, going twice. Thank you very much for joining us. Okay. One question. Somebody has a question. Thank you.

Monique: Sorry, can you give me the zip code for your community if you happen to have it. If not, you can email it to me. **Celeste:** Sure, 11207, 11237, 11206, and 11221. **Monique:** Okay, I'll email you the positivity rates in those areas. **Celeste, Mr. Camacho:** Thank you very much.

Celeste: All right. So that concludes our public hearing portion for this evening. Again, if there were any questions that we didn't get to we will certainly follow up and make sure you get an answer. Feel free to please use the chat feature, if you have any information you'd like to share or if you have questions you can use the Q & A tab, question and answer tab, we will be looking at them throughout the meeting. I also want to just say to everyone. If you're calling in. There may be a moment where I have to pause to cross reference these phone numbers. I am keeping an active look on the attendance page and we should have everyone that's joined with us this evening on. If for whatever reason you're not, I will be taking another look. We'll go ahead and get started with our regular meeting this evening. We have our first roll call. Let me pull up our attendance sheet, board members please be ready to unmute yourselves and then to mute again if you need to.

1. First Roll Call

Board Members in attendance: Grace Aytes, Joshua Brown, Rawle Brown, Robert Camacho, Gardea Caphart, Felix Ceballos, Louisa Chan, Daniella Davi, Elvena Davis, Freddy Fowler, Egaudy Gomez, Anne Guiney, Jose R. Guzman, Tanesha Honeygan, Barbara Jackson, Kristen Jock, Virgie Jones, Luisa Jose, Mary McClellan, Samy Nemir Olivares, Zulma Novoa, Acire Polight, Gladys Puglla, Raul Rubio, Dustin Sonneborn, Annette Spellen, Jerry Valentin, Carlotta Williams, James Wiseman, and Odolph Wright (technical difficulties/called-in)

Excused: Melissa Carrera, Andrew Choi, and James Fitzgerald

Absent: Victoria Fernandez, Migdalia Gutierrez, Cheryl Jones, Desmonde Monroe, Julio Salinas, and Vernedeaner Shell

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Camacho made a motion to accept the agenda and Barbara Jackson seconded the motion. All were in favor, so moved.

3. Acceptance of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Annette Spellen made a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes and Reverend Aytes second the motion. All were in favor, so moved.

4. Chairperson's Report

Introduction of Elected Officials and Representatives:

Andres Aguirre, Assemblywoman Maritza Davila's office
249 Wilson Avenue, 718-443-1205

Evelyn Cruz and Julio Salazar, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez's office

Jackie Reyes, Assemblyman Erik Dilan's office

John Blasco, Speaker Corey Johnson's/District 37's office
(718) 642-8664

Jonathan Pomboza, Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez's office

Marcus Harris, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adam's office

Nadeen Gayle, Assemblywoman Latrice Walker's office

Ramon Pebenito, State Senator Julia Salazar's office

Taeka Haraguchi, NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's office

Celeste: All right, thank you. That should be everyone if for whatever reason I missed you, please do send me a message in the chat. It's not intentional I just went through the list a few times. I want to move down at our agency and community-based organization representatives.

Introduction of Agencies and Community-Based Organization Representatives:

Richard Williams, Park Manager, District 4

Tom Brogan
Brooklyn Public Library Dekalb

Mayra Mera, North Brooklyn Coalition Against Family Violence
718-302-4073, www.northbrooklyncoalition.org
Unfortunately, we can't disclose our address, due to confidentiality.

Randall Toure, Community Engagement Manager, RiseBoro Community Partnership
718-416-4563. And as you know, we are a community organization with many different services so just reach out to me, and I'll direct you to the correct office in within RiseBoro.

Celeste: I did see earlier, Luis from El Puente, although I don't see him now. Luz Martinez put some information in the chat earlier.

Bruno Daniel Garcia, Communities Resist
BDaniel@communitiesresist.org

Officer Jones, Community Affairs, Brooklyn North

83rd Precinct Commanding Officer – Deputy Inspector Casazza's Report:

So moving us along now, we usually have the Deputy Inspector, sharing with us the report from the precinct however, we were informed earlier today by Community Affairs that Deputy Inspector Casazza was not able to attend due to a scheduling change. We will go straight into my report, which is the district manager's report.

5. District Manager's Report

Good evening, everyone. Happy belated Veterans Day to all Bushwick veterans. We hope everyone is staying safe and taking the necessary precautions as we prepare for the first holiday

season with COVID-19, as we've heard earlier from Miss Waterman. The COVID infection rate has been rising in recent weeks. The test and trace core Hospital Corporation and Community Affairs unit for the mayor's office are reminding all of us to continue to take all necessary precautions. I won't go into this since we had a really comprehensive presentation, however I did include some of the information that we were shared in my report as well, including the websites. For more information on testing sites as well as COVID 19 information in general. Additionally, there are many exciting changes behind the scenes in the board's office, such as the board's new e newsletter. I'm sure many of you that are on the call this evening have received that newsletter that's how you're able to join. For now to learn more about the board's committee meetings committees in general and operations for the board's office, please join our email list so if there's anyone on this evening that would like to receive the updates and the links for the meeting directly, please go to our website, you can go to the homepage, there's a link says join our email list. If you require assistance signing up please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Below are the meetings and events that I attended in the past month, along with other notices. Mr Camacho and I to attend a lot of the same meetings so I won't go through the same ones. I do want to pull out a few in particular that everyone should know more about.

On Friday, October 23, I had a call with the Mayor's Office of Data Analytics, I was referred to the office by the New York City Civic Engagement Commission. Currently, we are looking and exploring at doing a mapping project. Bushwick has, according to our liaison at the Department of City Planning, about 318 blocks throughout the entire neighborhood. Our goal with the newsletter is to have at least one person per block sign up. It's really exciting and we want to make sure we share this with the community because it's a project really meant to encourage engagement and then eventually build and become something a little bit more elaborate. We'll be able to know where we need to do more outreach, etc. So it's really exciting mapping project please stay tuned for more information.

On Monday, October 26, the board's office was cleaned. We hired a vendor to come in and do a thorough cleaning of the office. As some of you may have heard, that since we've been out of the office still working from home, we have had a series of different incidents with birds that have made the office a temporary home. Thankfully, we were able to take away all of the entrances for those birds to access the office and now we have a thoroughly clean office prepared for when we do return.

On Tuesday, October 27, I had two calls. One was with Lin Zeng from NYC Housing Preservation and Development and another call with our liaison from City Planning, Alexandra Paty Diaz. Both of these were really just check-in calls to prepare for the housing and land use committee meeting that evening. We do work closely with both agencies. We always want to make sure that we're on the same page and that any information that developers are sharing with the city that the board also knows and is aware of as we go in and begin reviewing those applications, so that we both the community and the board is prepared, whenever it comes time to provide feedback and make recommendations.

On Wednesday, October 28. I had a call with Gabriel Halili or Gabo, as many know him, has been helping with the Bushwick Brownfield Opportunity Area study. The study is still under review and their team will likely be ready to present in January. You may recall, they came to a housing and land use committee meeting in June. Since then they've been reviewing their initial findings and will likely be prepared to present the final report next year.

On Monday, November 2. I had a staff training for Webex event format. Many of you may not know this however, in November we switched over formally to registration for all board meetings so now instead of having to call the office and request the link or info you're now sent the registration links in every newsletter. It's another reason signing up for the newsletter is important. I promise you'll only receive two per month. One will include the calendar with all the links and the agenda for those meetings and the second will be the monthly newsletter for this meeting.

On Thursday, November 5. Mr Camacho and I hosted the fifth sanitation working group meeting. This group continues to meet and talk about creative strategies and solutions to tackle the waste issues in Bushwick. So far, we've worked together on cleanups throughout the neighborhood. We're also planning more outreach for both residential and business areas.

On November 12 I had a call with Veronica Popsis from NYC Planning. This was regarding the Zoning Application Portal (ZAP) walkthrough. For those that don't know, this is also known as ZAP. It is a tool that City Planning created online for the review of all zoning applications. I encourage you to check it out. I've also linked it in this month housing and land use agenda, the information, directly to that.

On Friday, November 13. I had a call with on this Andres from the Assemblywoman's office. We were able to meet one another and talk a little bit more about the issues that are going on in Bushwick right now. We always try to make sure that we have direct contact within every elected official's office so that way we can stay on the same page with issues and concerns, and really meet the community's needs more efficiently.

The same day, I hosted a future of community boards working group meeting. This was the second meeting. It is really incredible district managers from across the city, all five boroughs received the email, we may have just had district managers from Queens, the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Manhattan on the call. We talked about the issues we have and the goal of coming up with a consolidated report for how community boards can better operate in the future and continue to serve our communities effectively.

And lastly, yesterday, the 17th I had a call with Andy Toledo from the Civic Engagement Commission. This was a check-in regarding land use training for community boards. This is a big topic that comes up. It's the most formal responsibility that the boards have and making sure that board members have the training, resources, and tools they need to understand those applications is essential to being effective as well as having access to those resources for the community.

And that concludes the majority of my meetings. I wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving. Thank you everyone. Any questions? (There were no questions)

6. Committee Reports

Youth and Education

Virgie Jones: So we had our youth and education committee meeting on October 26th at 6pm. The members that were present were myself, Josh, James, Tanesha, Samy, Acire, and also Mr. Camacho. Thank you to Mr. Brown from St. Nick's Alliance. So, Mr Brown began the meeting. He is the director of the Learn to Work program. He did a presentation on the program and the opportunity for us to collaborate with the community. It consists of career readiness, post-secondary readiness, social emotional learning, or career readiness. Students have an annual Career Day, mental health fair, things of that nature, some of the places they have visited include Madison Square Garden, Microsoft, Temple University, Princeton University, University of Kansas City and more. They've also been on college tours.

And he would also like to be able to understand what the community board members do. Now this program, this one is that crucial community. The Community High School is an alternative transfer High School and with over 100 accredited. Young people have the opportunity to make progress towards graduation in a small, caring, and challenging environment. They also indicated to us today over 1200 students in the last six years. He also one wanted to let us know about funding that was going to be cut from the budget and he wanted us to sign the petition, which we were able to do. And to be able to participate in the annual curriculum. As I already said we told him that we would. And he said that, you know, he was happy to be partnering with us, and we will be collaborating first.

The next thing on our agenda was Martha Bayona, our CEC president, and we know that you're doing a wonderful job here, advocating for our students and parents in the community. She talked about the office. It is not open, but their phone numbers are working. And today she also told us that there were 70 teachers. This was back in October. That's what's missing in the elementary school and district 32 schools that there was a shortage. She gave us the breakdown. Also she talks about only 20% of the students being tested and that's been a big concern across the city. And as she mentioned that this is city wide and 20% basis on how many students are in the schools and some districts have 30. And she also brought to our attention, that there were a lot of devices that are missing and that was also brought to the Chancellor's attention, and I understand that they're working on that.

Samy asked if we could spread the word about the afterschool program. We will reach out to the school to see if they have afterschool programs. Recommendations, with that we would make a motion to sign the petition which we did. And that's pretty much it. And I want to say thank you to Celeste, and Sharon publicly for helping me out with the report. We got it done on time. Thank you everyone. Have a wonderful evening and a nice holiday.

Robert Camacho: Thank you very much. Any questions for Virgie before we move on? Just to let everybody know that school is an alternative high school. Sometimes kids are over age and they

age out. This school gives them time because I graduated at one of them high schools. Some of the people also, when I was in one was, they might have young girls that were pregnant and got into trouble or something. I graduated, out of Redirection. We need to help, especially those kids and older teachers that are doing a good job and making sure that our kids have a diploma, and maybe get into college, or maybe get a skilled trade, or maybe get into something that they can help us in any way. They want to volunteer. They want, as you know now, with the COVID. Maybe they want to get internships and want to work with us to learn about the board. They want to know what is it that we do. How is it, and this is a good time to let them kids come to ours and, and help them and guide them, because that's the same way I did when I came in, Ana Gonzalez. Barbara Smith. Miss Dent. All of them, they all picked me up and said no you can do this you can come in. I've been 30, almost 32 years on the board so we really need to have people that are going to retire or do. We need to pass the torch to these young kids that live in the community and we can help them and maybe they can be successful.

Samy Nemir Olivares: I'm also part of the CEC and I want to give an update that this week we had the meeting with the chancellor of the DOE that happens every three years, and Bushwick got its opportunity this week. So one of the questions that we asked, or confronted the Chancellor was the disparities and inequality in Bushwick about the tablets that the chair, shared and the Chancellor did not commit to anything in any timeline whatsoever to fulfill the tablets for families in Bushwick, however we express our frustration of the over 600 tablets that are missing in Bushwick. Then there was news present at the meeting, and the DOE received 30,000 tablets, and they're going to send 500 by Friday. He told the news. We pressure them that they might by Friday send the remaining one so that that's a welcoming news, but we have been waiting there's like families in which that will for months, but there's not going to be at least one wave of parents that might need additional tablets because of remote learning and also because some of them get broken and etc but at least the that that amount will be soon fulfilled so that's an update on the Chancellor's panel. Thank you.

Mr. Camacho: Samy, there was there was, if I'm not mistaken was 637. So they only given us 500. **Samy:** Yeah, they sent 501, and then, apparently, according to the news, they say that by Friday, they are sending the remaining, but we cannot count on that with the echo that is happening with the school closing now so we need to keep an eye on that, and the pressure so if any parent anyone knows about families without tablets, please email the CEC or the community board so we can follow up.

Celeste: Thank you, Samy. Just a note that I did formally document this request with our Department of Education liaison. We've been in communication as soon as I got additional information as well in response, I sent them an initial email they got back to me. It wasn't a very clear answer. However, when the CEC president, Martha Bayona, elaborated I did send essentially what you summarized Samy to have a formal record of that situation.

Permits and Licenses

Celeste: At this time I will ask committee members if there are any volunteers to summarize this report this evening since the chairperson is excused. If there are no takers and I will gladly summarize. Committee members, anyone? (No one volunteered)

Celeste: I will go ahead for the sake of time and summarize. The meeting was held on Monday, November 9. There were three committee members in attendance and two members not in attendance. We had about eight establishments that were there.

Yuan Zheng & Jianie Huang – Lucy’s On Irving LLC d/b/a Lucy’s Vietnamese – 262 Irving Avenue – New WBC

- Small untraditional Vietnamese restaurant
- Small menu with only 10 items on the menu.
- Reason for requesting for beer and wine license is that they feel it would help them generate a bit more income during the difficult time.
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:
- Monday through Sunday from 12am to 10pm
- Establishment in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays since they close before the midnight curfew.

Ben Savitsky & Lara Jacobs – Rigolo Production LLC d/b/a MoonRise Studios – 1329 Willoughby Avenue – New LWBC

- A simple art space that contains all kind of art that can be shown to Brooklyn, other New Yorkers and the world.
 - According to the floor layout of establishment the performance space would be in the front and the small bar with a total of 4 seats would be in the back.
 - Snacks will be served which requires no real kitchen; it’s just a station to prep the food.
- The whole idea for the space is that it’s a performing arts space. It’s not going to be a restaurant or even a typical bar.
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as follows: Monday through Wednesday from 11am to 12 midnight, Thursday through Sunday from 11am to 2 am.
 - Establishment also agreed to the stipulation of no liquor sales after 12am on Sundays.

Sergio Barrios – Santa Salsa LLC – 234 Starr Street – New LWBC

- Venezuelan street food mix with art and design
- The goal of the space is to exchange culture with the community that’s around it.
- Establishment right now has a full kitchen, and they’re open from 12 noon to 11pm with outside sitting and following all of the Covid-19 protocol.
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:
- Monday through Friday from 9am to 7pm and Saturday & Sunday from 9am to 9pm.
- Establishment also in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays since they are close long before the compliance.

Jose Rodriguez – Marthita’s Kitchen 2 Corporation – 1571 Broadway – New WBC

- A Dominican food restaurant
- Operating from 7am to 9pm, the liquor serving start at 2pm to 9pm.
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:
- Monday through Sunday from 7am to 9pm
- Establishment also in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays since they're closed long before the compliance.

Magdalena Hernandez – Tikal Café – 1312 Decatur Street – New WBC

- Café bar establishment
- Serving a small menu of vegetarian/vegan food and eventually the menu will be added on to.
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:
- Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 10pm and Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 10pm
- Establishment also in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays since they're closed long before the compliance.

Iveelt Bayart – Tutem LLC d/b/a Za-Ya – 321 Starr Street, Ste. D – New WBC

- Japanese Restaurant
- It's going to be the second ramen shop for the owner
- Already operating a ramen shop here in Brooklyn in Carroll Gardens
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:
- Monday through Friday from 5pm to 11pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 11pm
- Establishment also in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays.

Kae Burke – 2 Wyckoff Avenue – House of Yes

- She has two items to discuss at this committee meeting
 - o The first one is that their liquor license was suspended in August and she's been working on getting it reinstated.
 - o The other item is the 2 restrictions which is no music of any kind, not even a radio inside or outside of business location and the other is closing at midnight which during this pandemic is absolutely reasonable. Ms. Burke also has been told by SLA that she needs to put on their license all the restrictions besides the \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand) dollar fine she has to pay.

It would be tricky for them to reopen with everything going on, if they're facing those restrictions as well so they were requesting a letter of support from the committee.

Arelija Taveras – El Encebollado de Rossy Corp. II – 238 Wyckoff Avenue

- Husband and wife team running the organization
- Latin food establishment
- Seeking approval of liquor license in advance from their opening, they're actually still under construction
- Already operating another El Encebollado de Rossy restaurant in another part of Brooklyn and doing very well
- Their intended operating hours as stated in the committee meeting are as followed:

- Monday through Thursday from 9am to 12am and Friday through Sunday from 9am to 1am
- Establishment also in total compliance with no selling of liquor after 12am on Sundays.

And I know we have a couple of businesses that have joined this evening. I will ask the board, if they would like, like to hear from them, to check to see if they're still on. But this would be the time that we could hear from them. Is that okay with the board?

Aurelia, Rep for El Encebollado de Rossy Corp. II: It's a husband and wife team that has another successful restaurant on the other side of Brooklyn in Carrol Gardens. It's Latin food. It's fast food, and really rare. Take out not much sit down and they've never had a violation with the SLA, no issues at their other locations with any city ordinances or state mandates. They're the cutest couple, and I think this was a welcome restaurant to the area. I think it'll bring a lot of much needed jobs. Also, they work as a team so when one is not there the others there. So it's just, it's really refreshing. And even though they have to they would be rotating between the two of them. And again, this is a family run restaurant I don't think this is a source of concern for the community they'll agree to midnight. No alcohol after midnight and, you know, they close early because a little earlier anyway but they you know they wanted the hours just in case they, you know, with now we need a every minute of service with what's going on. So I hope that they're welcome to your community.

Thank you.

Celeste: thank you and for those that don't know usually we asked for the owner to speak. We appreciate you summarizing on their behalf however, did they join as well this evening? (One of the owners was no longer on the call. **Samy:** When asked if they are very engaged with the community in the wake of COVID and have money for this and drives on Wyckoff Avenue. They've been very welcome and engaged in the community.

Celeste: I want to summarize the recommendations for the report very briefly. The committee recommended support for all of the establishments unanimously. All establishments are recommended for approval with the stipulation of no liquor sales after midnight should their hours have them open longer, and there was only one abstention from Jamie Wiseman, and this was specifically for 234 Star Street.

Housing and Land Use

Anne Guiney: Hello everyone. We, the housing and land use committee had a meeting on Tuesday, October 27. And, again, there were seven members plus Camacho and Celeste as well as a number of other folks calling in from the community. There were a few, there was one primary issue on the agenda, which was a development proposal for 900 Wyckoff. It is a sort of auto parts depot situation, and the family, who owns it, are proposing to develop it into mixed-use residential. It is currently zoned as, M1-1, which is light manufacturing. They are proposing an R7A with a commercial or manufacturing overlay which allows a little bit more density on the first floor, and what they're also proposing is using the FRESH provision which allows for a grocery store on the ground floor. They had looked at the community district needs assessment and had spoken with the borough president's office in terms of getting some ideas. This is a pretty preliminary proposal.

And we had not seen it before the meeting, we did not, there was no vote on this, and there were a lot of questions asked about it. This is what R7A looks like that's about seven to nine stories, and the development proposal is for 243 units. 36 of those would be for seniors. Another 28 under mandatory inclusionary some 421a, which is a tax credit program and then 170 are market rate.

Some of the questions that came up in the committee:

There are a lot of supermarkets, very close by the Food Bazaar, C-town. Is FRESH requirement, really the right thing? They seem to think it made sense for their development, but we asked them about that. Another question was, have you looked at things other than the community district needs assessment, which is what we produce in the community board. Have you looked at the Bushwick Community Plan? Have you considered light manufacturing? It's not clear. We have asked them to do that. They said they would. We asked about the AMI there. You know area median income levels for what they would be proposing for affordability. They said 30% of the units at 70% AMI. So basically, a lot of questions about what they were looking at. As far as we could tell they were in such a preliminary phase that they didn't have very strong answers to those questions yet. But there was a question from a committee member to look into getting HPD financing. Housing Preservation and Development from the city, which would potentially allow them to do 100% affordable, as we have talked about on this committee a lot before when we are going from M zoning to residential. So far that proposal, the proposal has not shown anything that I think we could comfortably get behind right now, but again this was very preliminary.

Number two was some old business. Celeste gave us an update on the Brownfield Opportunity Areas program that Raul Rubio and Gabo Halili have been working on. It was an update to say that they will be presenting again soon but we don't know the date yet. Then last thing along Bushwick Avenue this is something that people have been reaching out to the district office and Celeste. There is interest in the church study that Celeste and Joshua Brown and others have been working on. It's very much a work in progress, but people are interested in that and we want to support religious organizations and communities, who have real estate that they're talking to developers about developing. There is a long and pretty ugly track record of those folks when they don't get the support they need. And the last update was on the responsible development policy, which is basically in the same way that the permits and licensing committee has a sort of checklist of things that we as a community have agreed on that we want to present to people before they even come to us. We have been talking about that for about a year at the housing and land use committee we will of course present it to the entire community board before it goes any further, but we're still working on that draft.

Finally for new business, a community resident came from Decatur between Knickerbocker and Irving. She is in a 421a building, which has gotten a subsidy and it was never completed so she was raising a huge number of concerns she had about how HPD enforces this or in this case does not enforce it. And really wanted to bring that to our attention. One of the questions that we asked her was can we connect the very specific problems in your building to a larger a larger sort of push against for 421a fraud or lack of enforcement? So that was some of the conversation, it did get a bit salty, I will say there was some animosity towards some folks from Assemblymember Davila's

office, so we just wanted to keep it not personal. And, you know, direct it towards the right fight which is against a lack of enforcement on the part of the city. And making sure that when public dollars are being spent, they're being spent wisely and in the benefit of the community.

Those were the main points from the housing and land use committee, there was no vote. The final thing Corina Lozada, who presented earlier and then Bruno also spoke about the racial impact analysis study that they are working on. I have been participating in some of those meetings as a community board member just to keep abreast of things, but basically the racial impact analysis study that would be attached to ULURP, which is the universal land use review process anytime there's a zoning change. Any questions or committee members anything I'm forgetting?

Mr. Camacho: No, I just wanted to know that. I think they pulled out. 900 Wyckoff. They are the guy said, the owner said that he didn't like the way they did the presentation and was a little upset. They pulled out and apologized. They wrote me a letter to me and I didn't get back to them. I was a little upset. They said that it was too steep and the guy said he's not going to go through it.

Anne: For the whole community board there was, I believe it was a member of the developer's team, or the architect made what he said was a joke, but it made it sound like there was some backroom deal situation going on and that was really unacceptable. Because it was not true. Number one, that's just not an appropriate kind of joke to make in a meeting like this. And so, Mr Camacho quite rightly pushed back on that. And it sounds like there has been some fallout to the point where they're not going to move forward with that. Okay. Well, good to know. It's something to be aware of that they will probably try and go for something else at some point.

Health/Human Service/Senior Citizen/Veterans

Celeste: If there are any committee members that are on that would again like to volunteer to briefly summarize the report? I didn't see Cheryl.

Celeste: the committee met last Tuesday. I believe it had a quorum. Everyone was in attendance. There was a presentation from WellCare on their Medicare 2021 plan. Unfortunately during the meeting the presenter had some technical issues and wasn't able to share the video that she wanted to share. She did provide a run through of the plan of Medicare 2021, the different parts from A to D. I encourage everyone to read the committee report for more information. If there are any community members on the call that would also like the details of that meeting, please contact us in the board's office. There was just the one presentation. However, there were also some community partners that participated in the meeting as well, including Mayra Mera from the North Brooklyn Coalition Against Family Violence, sharing that they are present and doing work within the community to protect our neighbors, our friends, our family members that are experiencing anything that relates to domestic violence. And then we also had brief informal announcement about veterans' resources however, that individual was not able to make the meeting. To my knowledge, there was no old business or new business, and the meeting, wrapped up within an hour. Mr Camacho or any other committee members, am I missing anything? **Mr. Camacho:** No, no. That was the fastest meeting I had.

7. Recommendations

Mr. Camacho briefly spoke about and expressed support for House of Yes and the work they do in the community, including their support of youth and other community activities.

Blanket Vote – Letter of Support for the House of Yes: Mr. Camacho made a motion and Jamie Wiseman second the motion. All were in favor, so moved.

Mr. Camacho made a motion for a blanket vote for all new liquor license applicants and Annette Spellens seconded the motion. All were in favor, so moved.

Blanket Vote – PLC Recommendation for New Liquor License Applicants: Mr. Camacho made a motion and Jerry Valentin seconded the motion. Raul Rubio abstained. So moved.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

Samy: I see there's no report on transportation because it meets next week. I wanted to see how as a board we can have a discussion, more intentional conversation, and whether that's joining the next meeting of the Transportation Committee next week to discuss the car crashes and the cyclist crashes that are impacting Bushwick greatly. As some might know, a woman, 29 years old, was killed this month on Bushwick Avenue and there was a media report that highlighted that just in the past year and a half there has been 4000 crashes in Bushwick. That means one every 36 minutes. Sorry, 36 crashes per day in Bushwick. That means trucks, cars, cyclists so this is not a new conversation for this committee, but I do think that this death and the reactions that I saw on social media to the news coverage. Dozens of Bushwick residents sharing their stories of how they were just one step away from death. I'm also sometimes a cyclist in the community and I've had one of those times. So we do know that the Citi Bikes were not consulted on the first phase and the pedestrian bike lanes are not protected so just to see how we find any recommendation as a board to request the Department of Transportation. We need urgent action to increase safety for everyone.

Celeste: Okay, thank you. Just briefly I want to make sure Louisa Chan is on. **Mr. Camacho:** I also heard about the young woman and we wrote a letter to the commissioner. Maybe Louisa can share what we asked them want. We want some answers. **Louisa:** Thank you very much for bringing that up. Yeah, when we heard about the news. The woman who, you know, the fatality, we immediately reached out to the Commissioner of Transportation to emphasize our concerns and reemphasize the need for a safety study on Bushwick Avenue. I don't know if they've necessarily agreed to something specifically, but they responded to that message. Celeste would probably be continuing work on behalf of the community board to get some answers but in that letter, we had requested that they commit to looking at a safety study in Bushwick because of the

very high incidents, fatality rate, and accidents in the community. And also, as Chair I asked that the commissioner come speak to us about some of the ideas or plans, they have for our community, so we'll continue to follow up on that.

Celeste: I'll send the letter to all board members just so you have a copy. It was sent on the holiday last Wednesday because this isn't something new, as you mentioned, Samy and all of our board members, especially those that have been on the board for a long time asking for a study is not a new request for DOT. It's been a part of the statement of community district needs for decades, I imagine at this point. And I think that this was you know unfortunately one of those moments where we had to, again, reach out to the agency to basically say this is overdue because so many people are at risk and it shouldn't be happening in the first place. A preventable tragedy. So thank you, Samy, Mr. Camacho, and Louisa.

10. Announcements

Kat, Student, Kennedy School of Public Health

I lived in Bushwick over the summer right on Menahan and Evergreen and did some research on food insecurity. I just wanted to bring attention to a current city council Bill 0802-2018, which is a bill that will require the Department of Education to donate all unconsumed meals to local food bank organizations. It's just an additional step to help with food insecurity in all boroughs in New York City. I just wanted to make sure that everyone on this community board was aware. During my time in Bushwick I saw a lot of a lot of lines just wrapped around blocks at food pantries and I thought it would be beneficial to bring attention to it. And this is my first community board meeting, ever. So this was a really cool experience and thank you so much for the opportunity to speak.

Raul Rubio, NYC Department of Mental Health and Hygiene

I know that Thomas isn't here from the library so I'm going to make this announcement for him. The library is a partner with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and we're going to be doing a COVID-19 mental health presentation. It's a virtual presentation that's happening tomorrow, Thursday and it starts at 3:30pm. It's a one-hour presentation. It's in conjunction with the Library, happening tomorrow. There's a link in the chat to be able to register for the training. It's about COVID, its effects on depression, anxiety, understanding and dealing with grief. I have information about some local resources and actually even apps and other programs that people can tap into. This is what I used to do and talk about the Mental Health First Aid. But the Department of Health is changing gears and wants to do something a little bit more to kind of address what's going on right now with, you know, the people in New York, particularly as we start getting closer to a possible opening and the issues are going to come up. We're talking about dealing with stuff from the election, the racial equity issues that we've been dealing with, and the fact that now we're also talking about coming into that third wave where we're getting like spikes and on. So it's a way to start a conversation about how to adjust self-care, and how to be able to talk to maybe some of your neighbors and family members that might be going through something, as well. Again, free training tomorrow three o'clock only one hour. It's, you know, just click on the link and you can register there and hopefully I'll see you guys tomorrow.

John Blasco, District 37 Office

Thank you for having me once again I just wanted to share that the council district 37 sent out a November newsletter on November 12 last week. A ton of information there. I hope it's useful and helpful and as always, we're still doing constituent services.

Jackie Reyes, Assemblyman Erik Dilan's office.

No, nothing right now.

Evelyn Cruz, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez's office

I want to wish everyone wellness and let you know that the Congresswoman continues to fight and advocate for those issues that are near and dear to us as we enter the new administration, we can count on us to fight for the COVID funding education piece housing etc so we'll be sending out more information shortly, but I just wanted to say hello. Thank you.

Julio Salazar, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez's office

Hi, good evening everyone. Just fairly quick, a few updates. I know initially that's very near and dear to the chairman is small businesses. All in all our corridors just some figures that I wanted to share with you in regards to some of the federal funds PPP funds. Throughout the members district there was 1.5 billion that was distributed. There's approximately 18 million throughout the member's congressional district. The member knows that there's more work to be done so that's something that's going to be on her agenda in the coming session. Additionally, we did receive a number of calls today. I know a few members that are in the meeting here in regards to some heating concerns at Hope Gardens. We were able to work that out with management as of an hour and a half ago, heating is fully up and running. Our neighbors at Hope Gardens have heat and hopefully it will remain like that. And finally, any federal concerns, postal security stimulus checks we're still receiving some of those concerns, as well. Immigration always feel free to reach out, phone number is 718599365. Thank you.

Mr. Camacho: We have stuff that people really need so we want to make sure if the second round comes around, it becomes apparent, make sure that people have got to be in it to win it. And also, if you want to put the heat on, we were going to go with it now. Now we've got two because those people need to step up their game and start giving services to our people in that area. So thank you for that.

Julio: No. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I know you advocate. We are together on our monthly meetings with the management we hold their feet to the fire so we'll do that together. Thanks.

Marcus Harris, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adam's office

Go to www.brooklyn-usa.org. It has the current monthly newsletter. In addition, the borough president will be doing a third phase of honoring on Brooklyn COVID heroes, those people who have done a lot to support the community. If you go online you have until December 4 to actually nominate either an organization, business, or individual for all the work that they have been doing.

Once all nominations are received a decision will be made on which ones will be honored and we will post the virtual service. Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Camacho: Let him know he better get one of our people from Bushwick. I see people out there and I didn't see nobody from Bushwick because I know a lot of people that are doing good work and helping the people in this community, and the lines that people out there and they're giving food and doing services in this pandemic, making sure they take care of themselves at the same time. Marcus: you let me know who and I'll make sure I submit it for you.

Taeka Haraguchi, NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's office

The plan is that the city should offer subsidized and redeemable internet passports for low income families to purchase broadband service providers in the areas, the comptroller outlines solutions to these challenges recommending that the city convene all of the internet service providers as well, and carriers operating in the five boroughs, to discuss all possible options to quickly provide affordable and reliable internet to every student in the city who lacks a high speed broadband connection. And I will drop the link to our report in the chat as well.

Willie Morales, Community Board 4 District Office

Hey, Happy Thanksgiving to everybody. And I just want to let you know I am retiring.

Mr. Camacho: I want to thank you for your service. I know you, your family, and your loved ones. We want to thank you. We're gonna miss you.

Celeste: Willie. Thank you very much.

Joshua Brown, CB4 1st Vice Chair

The local law 152 was passed and will take effect in Bushwick next year. I'll be doing a future presentation on it. This is a law that will impact everyone and moving forward specifically property owners, and it's just something I want to give a heads up for as I believe this will negatively impact -three family homeowners as well as those who own commercial businesses. So I'll be speaking about it further with elected officials so that this doesn't impact us in a detrimental way.

Annette Spellen: I'd like to add to that. We need the information now because what happened was Bed-Stuy was notified last minute and it's affecting them poorly. They have to have this done by December 31 and if they don't, it can cost the homeowner \$12,000 in a fine. This is very important information that we need, not only for the homeowners but it's for churches as well.

Celeste: Just so everyone knows it was in this month's newsletter.

Barbara Smith, 83rd Precinct Community Council President

I just want to tell the community, thank them all for all the help they gave during this pandemic. I was doing shopping for some unfortunate families and I'm so happy that my Vice President Elvena Davis told me to open up a Cash app. And with people dropping money in our Cash app, we were able to shop for over 100 people. So I just want to thank everyone that donated, and we won't be able to do Thanksgiving baskets this year. I'm only concentrating on the public schools because

the kids that's going to be home doing work from home. They eat a lot of food. So I reached out to all 15 public schools and asked the parents coordinators to give me four families out of each school and the precinct council is going to give them a turkey meal, a fresh turkey, and everybody's shocked because they donated 15 turkeys and \$500 voucher to buy groceries. I want to thank everyone that helped us out this whole time and keep helping us out and anything the Community Council can do for you guys just reach out and for me. Thank you, guys.

Unknown: Barbara, what is your cash app handle? **Barbara:** Don't ask me to I'll text it to you I might say the wrong thing.

Celeste: Quick note, it's less of an announcement but just to let everyone know the board's office has received multiple emails regarding the beautiful, historic mansion, at 10 01 Bushwick Avenue. Unfortunately, I believe it's been at least a couple of years now that the property, changed ownership and they're looking to redevelop and most likely demolish the mansion and redevelop it. You know unfortunately we're going to keep seeing these types of things happen. I did reach out to Jen from Councilmember Reynoso's office and hopefully we'll be able to get the group together because it wasn't just one person, but multiple neighbors have reached out, they would like to save the building. Unfortunately, if the owner who seems to have other plans about development if they're not in favor. It's very tricky when it comes to preservation and it's unlikely that this building will be saved. But if more people want information, please let me know. This is definitely a housing and land use issue.

11. Second Roll Call: Celeste conducted the second roll call.

12. Adjournment

Celeste asked the board for a motion to adjourn. Barbara Jackson made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Annette Spellen. All were in favor, so moved.

Happy Thanksgiving. Good night everyone.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:53pm