

Brooklyn Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, February 19, 2020
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center
195 Linden Street
Brooklyn, New York 11221
6:00PM

Chairperson, Mr. Robert Camacho
District Manager Ms. Celestina Leon

Board Members in Attendance:

Rev. Grace Aytes, Brigitte Blood, Joshua Brown, Robert Camacho, Felix Ceballos, Gardea Caphart, Melissa Carrera, Daniella Davi, Carlos Feliciano, Victoria Fernandez, James Fitzgerald, Freddy Fowler, Edaudy Gomez, Christopher Graham, Anne Guiney, Migdalia Gutierrez, Jose R. Guzman, Michelle Hilliard, Tanesha Honeygan, Kristen Jock, Virgie Jones, Mary McClellan, Desmonde Monroe, Samy Nemir, Zulma Novoa, Luisa Jose-Olea, Acire Polight, Eliseo Ruiz, Julio Salinas, Vernedeaner Shell, Barbara Smith, Annette Spellen, Peter Tam, Jerry Valentin, James Wiseman, and Odolph Wright.

Board Members Excused:

Jo-Ena Bennett, Martha Brown, Elvena Davis, Barbara Jackson, Cheryl Jones, Gladys Puglla And Raul Rubio.

Board Members Absent: Louisa Chan, Sufia Chowdhry, Austin Martinez, and Dustin Sonneborn

The District Manger opened the monthly Community Board #4 meeting at 6:06PM

- Public Hearing Item -

- 1) Ramon Pebenito, New District Policy and Organizing Director, Office of New York State Senator Julia Salazar: Providing an update on Foundation Aid, the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, and information about a call to action for an upcoming rally.

We are having an issue funding of our public schools. Not too long ago there was a campaign for fiscal equity, and it was supposedly a victory, but that has not been so. The governor has spoken about financing public schools and providing more of what is called Foundation Aid. Foundation Aid is a fancy way of Albany saying that they are going to send money to long underfunded public schools. This looks good on paper; however, it has not been followed. Over the past few years, Governor Cuomo has used a series of loopholes and exemptions in the Foundation Aid Formula that has made it so that this district, in Bushwick schools have been deprived of tens of millions of dollars that are rightfully for your children.

Very often the state senator, Senator Salazar and our team were challenged because so much of the funding for New York City Schools and Bushwick is depended upon the Department of Education and the City of New York. We are often forced to say, let us work with our friends and counsel. Let us work with our educational advocates. Very rarely do we have an opportunity to go to Albany to demand tens of millions of dollars. What I need, what we need is on Tuesday, March 17th is to send an army up to Albany and demand the money that belongs to your children. The tens of millions of dollars by all rights belong to your schools. We are going to send a bus. It does not matter how many buses, if you are willing to go, we will get you on a

bus. We are working on it with another Senator and the Alliance for Equality Education. This is an opportunity for everyone to get involved.

Questions:

The bus will leave about 8am from Jay Street, however, please confirm your attendance with me before that date. The bus will return around 6 or 7pm.

Ms. Annette Spellman, suggested that a bus leave from Bushwick, so that more people from Bushwick can support the rally.

Ramon Pebenito: Good point, we will keep this in mind.

Resident: 1) Do the schools know about the rally? And 2) can a petition be done for those who cannot attend the rally?

Ramon Pebenito: My office met with Martha Bayona and CEC 32 many times. We are in close coordination on this. We are currently waiting for approval from the district superintendent. That way they can get a blanket form. This is an administrative issue that happens. Many schools including the district the schools in the district of Senators Brian Benjamin, Zellnor Myrie are also working out the administrative kinks. This will allow your children to participate meaningfully and have permission to attend. We are working on the forms so that they can attend. We have toured many schools, not your school particularly but I myself have went to other schools.

District Manager, Ms. Celestina Leon: As of March 1, 2020, the elimination of plastic bags takes effect. Please take the opportunity to get one of Sanitation's orange bags. There is a limited quantity, however if you would like to have one and we run out the board's office will order more.

Please thank Teresa Cunningham from the Department of Sanitation for being here with us tonight.

Teresa Cunningham, Dept. of Sanitation:

On March 1st, 2020, New York State's law banning single-use plastic carryout bags will take effect. In New York City, businesses are required to collect a 5-cent fee on paper carryout bags from customers, with some exceptions, or you can opt to bring a reusable bag in which we are giving out today.

The ban and fee are efforts to reduce the use of wasteful single-use bags and their negative impact on the environment.

You can avoid paying the fee by bringing your own reusable bags to stores. You can get a free reusable bag from giveaways sponsored by the Department of Sanitation.

Some stores may choose not to switch to paper and may only have reusable bags for purchase. The City does not set prices for reusable bags.

2) Tanjila Rahman, Director of Community Affairs, NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection – presenting on free tax preparation.

Community Affairs Associate, NYC Department of Consumer Affairs – we are going through a name change at present, so we are technically called "Department of Consumer and Worker Protection".

Visit your local NYC Free Tax Prep site to file for free and keep your whole refund. An appointment is needed. Call 347-682-5605 for an appointment.

Online: www.growbrooklyn.org/freetaxs

For families: Income of \$64,000 or less in 2019.

For single filers: Income of \$45,000 or less in 2019

There are more than 150 NYC Free Tax Prep sites in all five boroughs. Knowledgeable IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteers preparers help you complete an accurate tax return. Some sites let you drop off your tax documents and pick up the complete return later. For more information, go to nyc.gov/taxprep or call 311 and ask for tax preparation assistance.

Some sites are:

- ❖ Brooklyn Coop/Grow Brooklyn, 315 Grove Street, Brooklyn, NY 11237, Tuesday, Thursday, 6-8pm.
Saturday and Sunday, from 10am -5pm
- ❖ Riseboro Community Partnership, 90 Beaver Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206, Monday and Wednesdays, 10:30am to 8pm.
- ❖ Hope Gardens, 422 Central Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221, Mondays and Wednesday, 6:15pm to 8:15pm.
- ❖ Call 311 and they can direct you to your nearest location

The District Manager, Ms. Leon closed the public hearing agenda.

The District Manager introduce Senator Julia Salazar:

State Senator Julia Salazar – Normally at this time of the year Senator Salazar would be in Albany at a session on a Wednesday, however they received a break, and this has allowed her to be present at the Community Board meeting tonight on a Wednesday.

We are about to enter the state budget process in Albany which is not only a time when we decide the priorities for the state and keep the government running, allocate funding to different agencies but also it is an opportunity for us to advocate for policy. The state budget of New York really has a profound impact on all our lives. It is an opportunity for anyone, anyone in this room to let our office know that there are specific priorities that you have. Ramon from our office had an opportunity to share with you a little bit about our advocacy for foundation aid to make sure that our public schools are equitably funded. The 18th State Senate District is owed more than 58 million dollars by the State of New York and foundation aid to our public schools and it is critical that we finally see the funding that we have been pushing for. I had pushed for it in the budget last year, and we are advocating for it again this year.

We are also advocating for new sources of revenue in the budget to make sure that there are dedicated funding sources for the things that we need, that our families need, that public school students need across the seat but especially in our district.

This is just a little bit of what we are doing right now. Please feel free to contact my office at any time. My District Office is located at 212 Evergreen Avenue, off Myrtle Avenue in Bushwick.

Ramon is always here to represent the office, to take care of you all when I am in Albany.

Thank you.

Chairperson, Robert Camacho: I would like to thank you Senator, for working with us and for coming here and visiting us all the time. It is disheartening when we do not see our representatives. We want to see the people that we elect, and we want to make sure that even if we didn't vote for that person that representing is still representing us some way and some

form. It's good to see that we do have people that do care and especially your staff. Your staff is wonderful. Sometimes I have to tell him to get out of the office, because they are always bringing information... You and Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, you guys, I can't have enough, and everybody knows it. I hope that you continue to work here with us and help us in any way you can. Thank you.

We had a beautiful workshop. Bushwick had a workshop regarding taxes for people with two and three family homes and we had close to 30 to 35 people on a Saturday, from 11am to 1pm. They came and received a tax break. They saw what percentage they could get, what they can take away and what they cannot get. The Senator was also there helping us. So, thank you. It was held at the Brooklyn Public Library. I will bother her and hopefully we can have another one, even though this one took a long time. Thank you again.

Questions for the Senator:

Ms. Mary McClellan: I am so glad that you are here, Senator...I need to know whom I am voting for. I need to see them I need to and know what they think or what they are going to fight for when they get in the office, that we put them there to do. When we are talking about education and then money for the kids to educate them, I am a senior citizen and I have been hearing the same song many times over. It is time that we get these kids the equipment that they need in these schools, so they can come out and be competitive to go out and get the job. Not a \$10.00 an hour job, but a job so that they can take care of themselves and their family.

Ms. Barbara Smith: I also would like to thank the Senator; she came to my 83rd Precinct and Community Council, it is the first time a senator came to the 83rd Precinct Community Council in a long time. People were so happy to see you there because, as you go up the ladder, sometimes you forget to look down at the first step, but I am happy that you came. Now it is easier to find you because you have an office. We could not find her before because she was floating, but now you can find her. Me and Mr. Camacho went to her office when the opening was, it is not far, it is a nice office and everyone there is extremely helpful. When you call there, they answer the phone, they put you on hold and they find the information that you want. So, I am incredibly happy that you are out moving around now. Thank you, Senator.

Resident: It was mentioned that we keep hearing the same thing regarding our schools, I want to know what is your office doing differently, right now so that we can see more progress and to make sure that the money tickle down to our schools?

Senator Salazar: Specifically, for advocating for foundation aid funding, we as members of the Senate and Assembly, we submit priority letters to leadership, to the governor during the budget process and we are still putting together our priorities. That is why I encourage everyone here, if you have things that you really want to see me as your representative prioritize, then I want to include them in the priority letter. One of the top priorities is full funding of Foundation Aid. The executive, the governor has proposed an increase in Foundation Aid specifically for our public schools as well as community schools in the budget proposal but, it is not enough, we believe that it is not enough. It is not enough to make up for what is owed and so I am continuing to advocate specifically for that funding to make it a priority and I will also continue to keep all of you posted. The budget process is that the governor has a lot of control, submits the proposal the legislature and each house of the legislature of the Senate and the Assembly put forth our own

one House budget and then negotiations begin. So we have not even formed our one House budget yet but there are other Senators who are as dedicated as I am to seeing our public schools fully and equitably funded, so that is what we're doing right now to demand it.

Resident: I am not new at education, but I am learning these different things that is affecting our schools, I am new at this, so there is a lot of research that I must do. In some of the research that I have done, I find that this equity fund has something to do with property taxes and that the money that is owed is based on equity that was built in those property taxes that all of us is paying and when I learned that I felt like I was being robbed. They promised to take the money that they have been taking from us all these years and make sure that it would trickle down into our schools. Another thought I had was that, I think the kids are the most vulnerable, and given the sex trafficking, youth crime, things of that nature, and now our schools, our government is taking advantage of the vulnerable ones.

The children would be the first ones that they cut in education; I feel that over so many years we are being robbed. They are taking money from us that they said they were going to give to our children. That is our money and it belongs to us. It saddens me to think that with all these large companies and investors that is coming in our neighborhood, that one of these loans, the money they are actually taking, is the money that has been put to the side for our schools. These builders are building in our neighborhood, and then turn around and put us out. Thank you.

Mr. James Fitzgerald, Community Board 4 board member: Thank you Senator for coming out, my name is James Fitzgerald, outside of my membership to Community Board 4, I am also the Deputy Director of NYC Veterans Alliance and I am sure you are aware just as I am of the huge slashes that Governor Cuomo is proposing for veteran services across the board, specifically peer-to-peer which helps us when it comes to dealing with issues of post-traumatic stress and mental health which is a focus of all agencies across state lines. I am wondering what our approaches are when it comes to cutting down on these massive cuts, and what are we doing to supplement if these cuts do go through?

Senator Salazar: Yes, this is a real important question. I serve on the health committee as well as the social services committees in the State Senate and right now what you are referring to these cuts, there is a deficit in the state budget. Our governor is very resistant to new revenue proposals to generating revenue in order to make up for the deficit. In order to fund specific programs, in order to avoid making these cuts, but, for me, it is a top priority. Some of the legislation that I have introduced is dedicated revenue streams and additional I am supportive of our whole platform of legislation that we are fighting for in the budget. If it is included in the budget then we will have this additional revenue and we can make the case to the governor in the budget that these funds should be used to prevent any cuts, in fact to increase funding, to these services that are really bare-bones right now and are not able to cover everybody who needs them.

Mr. Fitzgerald: Thank you, I appreciate that. Also I would like to follow that up with a general fact that veteran's suicide each year the numbers are still on the rise, so slashing programs, is that really the right approach with all the options that are available to us, is this really the thing to do? Thank you.

Senator Salazar: Thank you very much.

District Manager: Thank you Senator for joining us this evening.

The District Manager, Ms. Celestina Leon called the first roll call

First Roll Call: – 35 members present. Constitute a quorum.

The acceptance of the agenda was motioned by Ms. Acire Polight and second by Mr. Joshua Brown. All board members present were in favor. Motion moved.

The acceptance of last month's minutes was motioned by Mr. Jose Guzman and second by Rev. Aytes. All members present were in favor. Motion moved.

Chairperson's Report:

Before I begin my report, I would like to make a formal apology to Community Board 1, to the chair of Community Board 1, and to the full board of Community Board 1 in regards to making a comment about how they purchased a new car.

I would like to say that they have every right to purchase a new car only because their by-laws say they can. They did their due diligence. This all came up because we were looking to give our District Manger a raise. We were told that certain procedures had to be followed in order to do so. All boards are different, and we learn as we go along. We do not get training and so some things that we do we learn after we do them.

Celeste and I went to a meeting for all the chairpersons and district managers of community boards. Community Board 1 was present, and it was brought to my attention that I should not have said that they should not have purchase a car. So, I am apologizing and that I made a mistake.

They went by their by-laws and the city charter; they went to the Executive Committee and they went to the Community Board and their Board approve it. So, who am I to say something different? Every Community Board works in different ways.

So, I am making it formal. I am apologizing to the District Manager and the Chairperson of Brooklyn Community Board 1 which is in Williamsburg and to the community at large. Thank you.

Meetings that Chairperson attended:

Friday, January 17, 10am - Meeting with Community Board 4 staff. Discussed time, attendance and leave requests, as well as staff updates and additional assignments. Upcoming events and assignments. Major project update. Technology upgrade.

12pm to 2pm – Attended Assemblywoman Maritza Davila's 2020 Census meeting. Let us be counted. Let us get some money for Bushwick. Let us step up and do what we must do to be counted.

Tuesday, January 21 – Shelter on DeKalb between Bushwick & Broadway.

The intake for October was 46, November 31, & December 25.

Employment in October was 2. They are getting jobs for the people that are in these shelters. November, they had 6.

In October and November, they had 4 move out each and in December they had 3 move outs.

Anyone of us can be in a shelter, anyone of us can be a homeless. We could have a fire, or anything could happen to us. We want to make sure that if someone must go to a shelter, we want them to do their due diligence and make sure that they serve our community too. I want to make sure that if people are homeless in Bushwick that they do not have to go to the Bronx, they could stay in Bushwick.

Also, there is an incident report that they have. I want to make sure that if they have critical incidents that it is reported.

Thursday, January 21: I went to the 83rd Precinct Council meeting and I also went to the District Office meeting at the Community Board's office.

Monday, January 27: Youth and Education Committee meeting with Virgie Jones.

Forum, Land Use reform process the public hearing at the Brooklyn Borough President's office regarding the Old Stanley at 641 Chauncey Street, regarding Riseboro getting the Home Opportunity Program.

Ms. Polight: We went to the Borough President's office to discuss 641 Chauncey Street; they were presenting and basically gave the same presentation that they gave here. We were able to add some additional questions for example, can you make changes to the AMI? When they were here, they said that the lowest home for a family of 4, you would have to be making an average of \$60,000. They gave numbers to us and literally there is only going to be one (1) apartment out of eight (8) apartments in that building that will be for \$60,000. We pressed them with additional questions asking them, what if it is a family of 2, or 3, what does that look like. They did not have any of that information on hand. They said that they would get back to us. We left there not feeling comfortable or happy about what they presented there. However, at the Borough President's office the individuals that were the representatives did seem to be on our side and opposed many different suggestions by them. However, they kept pushing back staying that there are other apartments that they are building and that they are available for individuals that are below that AMI. Obviously, that is not what we care about, we care about that specific building that is going to be on Chauncey Street. We must continue to push them on that.

Mr. Camacho:

Tuesday, February 4: Attended Shape up Bushwick Planning Meeting

Wednesday, February 5: Executive Meeting, 6PM & at 7PM attended the ACTS Committee Meeting

Friday, February 7: MESA – 231 Palmetto Street – testify regarding MESA. We are not against charter schools. Co-location is bad because it takes away from our other kids and the services that they have.

The Elected Officials and / or their representatives that was present at the meeting.

- 1) Paula Melendez, Representing Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, 249 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237, 718-443-1205
- 2) Ramon Pebenito, Representing Senator Julia Salazar, 212 Evergreen Avenue, 718-573-1726

- 3) Julio Salazar, Representing Congressmember Nydia Velazquez, 266 Broadway, 2nd Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11211, 718-599-3658
- 4) Karen Cherry Representing 54th Assembly District, Assembly Member Erik Martin Dilan, 718-386-4576, 366 Cornelia Street Brooklyn, NY 11237
- 5) Fatima, Representing Councilmember Antonio Reynoso, 34th Council District, 244 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211, 718-963-3141
- 6) Darma Diaz, District Leader, 58 Vermont Street, every 3rd Saturday of the month

Federal, State or City Agencies

- 1) Randell Terrell, RiseBoro, 217 Wyckoff Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, 11237, 718-821-2064 ext. 1163
- 2) Cesar Rodriguez, Churches United.
- 3) Magdalena Mangual, Wyckoff Heights Hospital, Special Health Clinic, 718-508-4669

District Manager's Report:

Thursday, January 23: Bushwick rezoning update meeting. Councilman Reynoso and former Councilman Rafael Espinal organized the meeting on community stakeholder and the administration's response. For those of you who do not know we did receive a response from Deputy Mayor Vicky Beam stating that they would not move forward in Bushwick. This of course was bad news. There has been a lot of stock and frustration because of the years that have been put into this process. The meeting was open to the public, but it focuses mainly on those who have been involved in the project for years. I and Mr. Camacho have agreed on having a larger forum to update the community.

Tuesday, January 28: Attended USPS postal meeting

Wednesday, January 29: Office of Management and Budget Consultation Meeting.

Friday, February 7: Attended with Mr. Camacho Hope Gardens – RADS Bushwick monthly updates meeting

Monday, February 10: Meeting with Kayla Caleb Miller from Make the Music NY.

Tuesday, February 18: As a follow up, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Camacho and I joined our local representatives for a walk through of the Hope Garden's buildings.

Chairperson, Mr. Camacho: Double parking is against the law. They will be enforcing it and you will get a \$125.00 fine.

Committee Reports:

Youth and Education Committee, (YEC), Committee Chairperson, Ms. Virgie Jones

Meeting: Monday, January 27, 2020, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 326, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Committee Members in Attendance: Ms. Virgie Jones, Committee Chairperson; Ms. Tanesha Honeygan, Mr. Samy Nemir and Mr. Peter Tam

Others in Attendance: Mr. Robert Camacho, Community Board 4 Chairperson; Ms. Celestina Leon, Community Board 4 District Manager; Mrs. Sharon Fludd, Community Board 4 Principle Administrative Associate; Mr. Arthur Samuels, MESA Charter School; Joshua Brown, CB4 1st Vice Chairperson; Fazia Rahama, Pamela Pabon, Frank Gonzalez, G. Courtenay, Michael Ortiz, (231 Palmetto St.) Ramon Pebenito, Representing Senator Julia Salazar, Moneca Jackson; Charlene Nicholson, Colleen West, Efrain Marine, Alona Philips, DOE / IS291; Rebecca Lozada,

Community District Deputy Superintendent; Martha Bayona, CEC 32 President; Janice Bruce and Madeline Rodriguez, DOE/IS291; Lauren Reiss, Cherily Zhune and Stephanie Nunez, DOE/MS 562; Michelle Figueroa, Zoraida Gonzalez, Maritza Gonzalez, Yolly Vidal, and Kevin Gordon, IS 291; Emma Bonk and Narciso Plascencia, M.S. 562. Paula Melendez, Representing Assemblywoman Maritza Davila

Members Excused: Acire Polight Mr. Christopher Graham

Board Member not in Attendance: Gardea Caphart and Sufia Chowdhry;

Meeting started at 6:13PM

Agenda Item

Mr. Arthur Samuels, Executive Director, MESA Charter High School came before the committee requesting MESA's proposal to add grades 6-8 to its school, thereby making the school a 6-12 program.

It was good to see Bushwick schools there representing.

After Mr. Samuels's presentation questions were entertained and the Ms. Martha Bayona, the president of CEC District 32 made a brief presentation providing data from the Office of District Planning meeting held in November 2019.

Questions were again entertained.

Ms. Paula Mendez, representing Assemblywoman Davila stated the office is proud of the charter schools however, the 8 middle schools will lose out if MESA school expands. Therefore, the Assemblywoman's office is opposed to the expansion.

Ramon, representing Senator Salazar's office feels the same.

We are happy that Ramon, from Senator Salazar's office came before the board tonight to speak to us about the March 17, Foundation Aid Campaign.

For a copy of the YEC report please reach out to the Community Board's office at 718-628-8400.

Permits and Licenses (PLC), Committee Chairperson, Melissa Carrera

Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Committee Members in Attendance: Melissa Carrera – PLC Chairperson; Daniella Davi, James Wiseman, and Gladys Puglla.

Others in Attendance:

Board Members not in Attendance: Egaudy Gomez, Jerry Valentin and Austen Martinez.

Others in Attendance: Robert Camacho, Community Board 4 Chairperson; Willie Morales, Community Board 4 Community Associate; Sandra Hung & Luvna Yeasmin, Indika House; Daniel Teran Farewell, Dioselina Quintana & Nan Zhang, House Pate Café, Ingrid Ammann.

- 1) Indika House, 943 Broadway (between Melrose and Jefferson Streets) New Wine, beer & cedar licensed restaurant. First time business owners. Hours are Monday thru Sunday from 11am to 11pm.

The restaurant will serve Indian food without all the spices. Recorded music will be heard in the background. Owner has reached out to the neighbors and other residents near the

location, through fliers and social media. Owner is in full compliance with the Community Board no sale of alcohol after 12 midnight on Sundays.

- 2) Farewell LLC, 143 Troutman Street (between Central & Evergreen Avenues) New liquor, wine, beer, and cider license in a bar/tavern. Hours are Monday thru Wednesday from 5pm to 2am. Thursday thru Saturday 5pm to 4am and Sunday 12pm to 12am. The owner Mr. Teran has two establishments on Wilson Avenue, where he lives. The Wheelhouse Gourmet Grilled Cheese located at 165 Wilson Avenue and Millie's Cuban Café located at 151 Wilson Avenue.
The bar/tavern can hold an occupancy of 74 persons. 12 tables and 44 seats. 27-foot bar with 9 stools. Live music, a sound check has been conducted with the current tenant. No outdoor area, no promoters, and will have security personnel on the weekends.
- 3) House Party Café & Lounge, Inc., 1178 Bushwick Avenue (between Cornelia Street and Jefferson Avenue) New sine, beer & cider license in a café.
Hours are Monday thru Thursday from 7am to 11pm, Friday & Saturday 7am to 3am and Sunday from 11am to 11pm.
12 tables and 30 seats, 20-foot bar with 6 stools and recorded music.
- 4) Mad Tropical, 236 Troutman Street (between Wilson and Knickerbocker Avenues) Method of Operation change from bar/restaurant to bar/tavern. Documents needed to be submitted. If no documents are submitted there was no vote on this location.

Agenda Item #2:

A few locations from the previous meeting were pending due to a quorum not met at the October 24, 2019 meeting.

For the full report with its locations please contact the Community Board's office at 718-628-8400.

Parks and Recreation (PRC), Committee Chairperson, Ms. Annette Spellan

Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422, 6:00PM

Members in Attendance: Annette Spellan, Carlos Feliciano and Barbara Jackson.

Committee Members not in Attendance: Denisse Reyna-Dolin

Committee Members Excused: Louisa Chan and Gladys Puglia

Other in Attendance: Robert Camacho, CB 4 Chairperson; Willie Morales, CB4 Community Associate; Joseph DiMartino, NYC Parks; Franqui Guadalupe, Quebradillas Baseball Organization; Carlos Pilotsig, Soccer Super Kids; Henry Garcia, Real Guadalupe Youth League; Ellis Williams & Nathaniel Hemingway, Project Black Flag; Chrliie Reynoso, NYRP; Richard Williams, NYC Parks.

We have 4 parks in Bushwick that are solely for our children. We have received several applicants from adults, particularly from those who do not live in Bushwick, who want to use our fields. Our fields are for our children only, and for the kids that are 12 years of age and under.

Mr. Camacho brought up at the meeting that he would like to make sure that all teams have the proper documents. They need the 501c3, insurance, and their AED certification.

On Sunday, April 5, a one -day event will be held at the Barry Sly Morrow Field. The event is called "Autism T-Ball". This one-day event will be held for kids with special needs. Guadalupe Soccer League will not have the park permit for that day. Guadalupe Soccer League gladly complied with the request.

Achievement First will be using Hope Park from 4-6PM during the springtime on the weekdays.

Charlie Reynoso from the New York Restoration Project spoke a bit about the Aberdeen Community Garden redesign project. Mr. Reynoso has held meetings with the residence on both sides of the block. Ms. Spellen, the committee's chair has asked for a petition of names of the residents that are supporting the project.

For a complete copy of the Parks and Recreation report, please contact the Community Board's office at 718-628-8400.

Mr. Eliseo Ruiz: Most of the kids that use the parks are not from this community and they are over 12 years old. Whenever, you want to take a stand on this would be good. We have let it go in the past. Carlos brings a list of the kids that are going to play in the park. The same must be expected from everyone else.

Chairperson Camacho: We need everyone to get involved. Once the permit is issued, we do not know who uses it. We want to make sure that our kids use the parks.

Ms. Barbara Smith: Most of our kids play baseball. Not many of them play soccer. So, we must check and see if they have a full team. I will investigate this because I honored them last year. They are exceptionally good managers, so, I will investigate it to make sure that they are doing the right thing. I am not the chair of the committee, Ms. Spellen is the chair and she is doing a great job.

Health Hospital Human Services Senior Citizen and Veterans Committee (HHHSV),

Committee Chairperson, Ms. Luisa Jose.

Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6:00PM, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Board Members in Attendance: Ms. Luisa Jose, Ms. Barbara Smith, Ms. Barbara Jackson and Mr. James Fitzgerald.

Board Members Excused: Cheryl Jones and Mary McClellan

Others in Attendance: Sharon Fludd, Community Board 4, Principle Administrative Associate; Mo Urzola Tellez, GRIOT Circle; Maggie Mangual, Wyckoff Heights Hospital, PHM; Hana Mastrogiacomo, Wyckoff Heights, Prevention Specialist; Desiree Bullock, Wyckoff Height Hospital, PHM; Jessica L. Arocho, Woodhull Hospital, Director of Community Affairs; and Gregory Calliste, NYC Health & Hospitals Woodhull Hospital, CEO.

Ms. Tellez spoke about GRIOT Circle, Inc.: programming includes their Friendly Visiting Program for LGBTQ and homebound elders of color that are 60+. GRIOT Circle is a community-based multigenerational organization serving LGBTQ plus elders of color based in

Brooklyn. They have a multitude of affirming programs including case management, lunch programs, cultural, health, art and literature classes.

Ms. Mo Urzola Tellez would like to come before the do a presentation before the full board.

The CEO of Woodhull Hospital, Mr. Calliste visited the committee meeting and said that he would be willing to give an update on what is happening at the hospital if requested. Ms. Fludd asked them to send an email to the District Manager so that they can come before the committee in the future.

For the full report of the meeting please contact the Community Board's office at 718-628-8400.

Civic/Public Safety/Religious Committee (CPSR): Committee Chairperson, Ms. Barbara Smith

Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422, 7:00PM.

Members in Attendance: Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Mrs. Sharon Fludd, CB4 Principle Administrative Associate; Lilly Shell, Ana Moreno, James Santos, Carla Muniz, Cristhian Chano, Andy Marte and Cynthia Santos.

Members Excused: Ms. Elvena Davis

Board Members not in Attendance: Mr. Freddy Fowler

Street Co-naming request for Sade Sanchez Way on Menahan Street and Wyckoff Avenue/St. Nicholas Avenue to commemorate Sade Sanchez who was killed as a result of domestic violence. James Santos, the brother and Ms. Sanchez the mother, along with Mr. Andy Marte, a local community leader are requesting the support of the community board.

The 37th Council Member, Rafael Espinal has resigned. Ms. Smith suggested that the request be tabled until his replacement is in office. Doing so will stop their request from being put to the side or on hold. Ms. Barbara Smith requested that they also go back and get signatures from the residence of the block. Even though the family has a lot of signatures to support their request, most of the signatures are not from the residents that they on the block. The committee asked for two listing. 1) Get signatures from the residents that live on the block and 2) get signatures of supporters. Both list of signatures must be separate from the other. The family has also requested that the new sign be done in the color purple, which is the color of domestic violence. The family will have to make that request to the NYC Department of Transportation, not the Community Board.

Arts and Culture Technology (ACT), Committee Chairperson, Ms. Zulma Novoa

Meeting: Wednesday, February 5, 2020. 1420 Bushwick Avenue, Suite 370, Brooklyn, NY 11207-1422

Members in Attendance: Zulma Novoa, Jo-Ena Bennett, Bridget Blood and Dustin Sonneborn

Others in Attendance: Mr. Robert Camacho, CB4 Chairperson; Ms. Celestina Leon, CB 4 District Manager; Mr. Willie Morales, CB 4 Community Associate; Asenhat Gomez and Luis Munive, El Puente; Noel Allain and Lauren Miller, The Bushwick Starr; Gabriele Maurello, Brooklyn Garden.

Brigette Blood read report:

A presentation was made by El Puente and the Bushwick Starr.

Both organizations were selected by the Department of Cultural Affairs to conduct an Asset Mapping of Arts and Culture in Bushwick. Besides Bushwick, two other communities were selected, the Morrisania section of the Bronx and the Far Rockaway in Queens.

They were given less than 6 months to conduct the work.

The community was broken down in 4 quadrants to make sure community residents and community institutions were surveyed about the Arts in Bushwick and how they are serving our customers.

Over 500 residents from all over the neighborhood were surveyed and one apparent result was that the arts in Bushwick better served visitors to Bushwick over its own residents.

Also, discussed were the lack of block parties. People are seeing less and less of them. Mr.

Camacho and the district manager will speak to the 83rd Precinct Community Affairs Unit to see how some of the blocks that are on the denied list could be taken off the list.

For the full report please contact the Community Board's office.

Recommendations:

Permits and Licenses: a) Indika House – Approval with the stipulation, that no liquor will be sold at 12 midnight on Sundays.

b) Farewell LLC, 143 Troutman Street – Approval with the change of hours

c) House Party Café and Lounge, 1178 Bushwick Avenue – Approval upon getting the method of operation modified, which they did. Also making sure that they are staying within the property lines.

d) Items from the October 24, 2019 meeting.

A blanket vote was taken: Motion to except the recommendation of the Permits and Licenses Committee was made by Joshua Brown and second by Ms. Barbara Smith.

Motioned Past.

Old Business:

Mr. Joshua Brown, 1st Vice Chair: Councilman Espinal step down. We do not have a councilman for the interim period. There will be a lot of grassroots candidates or perhaps just smart educated people within the community who will be looking to run, so we encourage those people to come and talk to us. There will be a special election since he resigned before his term was to end. There are still some lingering issues in which the councilman did not rectify.

We want it to be on record that we know that we do not have a councilman.

Questions or Comments?

Mr. Jamie Wiseman, CB4 Member: I personally am trying in that district to get affordable housing for the East New York District. We have initiatives that we are pushing that are deeply affordable and all of that is stalled until we have someone in place that we can do business with. It is especially important that we get that seat filled so that we can get on with the business of providing affordable housing, it is desperately needed.

Mr. Joshua Brown asked was there anyone present who is running for the seat, to come up and make the announcement.

Ms. Darma Diaz, Ms. Sandy Nurse (917-678-5395) and Mr. Chris Durosinmi were present.

New Business:

Mr. Corwin Carroll, Resident: MTA is opening a station on the A train line (Fulton & Bedford) that has been closed for 30 years. We need to let our elected officials and the MTA know that we would like for our stations, that have been closed for years to be re-opened also. For example: Palmetto, Jefferson Ave., Halsey Street, etc. If they can open a station that has been closed for 30 years, then they can do it for us.

Mr. Jamie Wiseman: There has been a recent change at HPD in how they are administering what is called Family Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement. What they are doing is taking a new 421a building and 50% of the affordable units are now available to formerly homeless into families. The church that we develop on Bushwick Avenue, we were the first to take a building in NYC to take the formerly homeless in that new program. As part of that, what we tried to do is, say can we allocate half of those units that are going to the formerly homeless through the shelter program to people who from Bushwick, but we do not have that opportunity. We also have another building at 594 Bushwick, were we are going to have 20 affordable units that we expect to participate in the program, we would love to be able to have HPD say, fine to that. When we listen, it is a lot of single mothers with children and it is gratifying to see that there are not kids sitting on the train for 3 hours to go to school. I would like to allocate a preference through that program for any of the tenants that are in Bushwick under that program. That is something that I would like to talk to the board about. Maybe sending a notice to HPD about that only because I think we are doing our fair share to try to alleviate this problem. I am sympathetic to the folks outside of the district. I think there should be some units for people that are from Bushwick. Thank you.

Chairperson Robert Camacho: We will make sure that we get together, and we will create some sort of list to make sure that we the people from Bushwick especially if they are homeless and they were here in Bushwick. Anyone one of us could be homeless.

Announcements:

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams partnership with The NYC Department of Finance and New York City Tax Commission: Invites you to Notice of Property Value Public Sessions. Monday, February 24, 2020, 5pm to 7pm, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
You can: Consult with the NYC Dept. of Finance or NYC Tax Commission to discuss your property, ask questions about your property assessed value, learn how to dispute your property value, and more. Call to RSVP: 718-802-3700 or email cassistance@brooklynbp.nyc.gov

Ride for Half Price: Starting on January 27, 2020, low-income New York City residents who are at or below federal poverty level may qualify for a half-priced transit fare using a Fair Fares Metro Card. Check your eligibility at www.nyc.gov/fairfares or call 311 for more information.

Office of the Brooklyn Borough President & BKLYN Commons: BEDSTY BUSHWICK Small Bushwick Roundtable Forum. With Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams. Do you own a business in Brooklyn? Join Borough President Eric Adams at their next Small Business Roundtable Series! This is an opportunity to share with Brooklyn Borough President your daily challenges and the issues you face running your business. Their goal is to address these underlying problems and provide real solutions to you by assembling a legislative platform and action item agenda. If you own a business in Brooklyn, get your voice heard.

Wednesday, March 4th at BKLYN Commons Bushwick. 7 Marcus Garvey Blvd., Brooklyn, NY, 6:00PM – 9:00PM. Email: Charlyn@Bklyncommons.com or phone at 718-989-5700.

Marcus Harris, representing Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams: Internship program – they are looking for high school and college students, college grads, and law school students as well. Please go to www.Brooklyn-usa.org to apply.

Marcia Clark, Reading Partners – Reading Partners is a non-profit organization and we need volunteers. A high need for volunteers is in schools in East New York and BedStuy. If you have a child that is 14 years old or older, from 14-18 years of age, we can use them as well.

Assemblywoman Maritza Davila: Saturday March 21, 2020, 12:30pm to 3:30pm. RisBoro Youth Center Gym, 1474 Gates Avenue, New York 11237. Age 16 and up, join us for employment and volunteer opportunities, as well as work and skill development information. Co-sponsored by Senator Julia Salazar, Congresswoman Nydia Velasquez, and Councilman Antonio Reynoso. This event is free and open to the public. To RSVP or get more information please email Lopez@nyassembly.gov or call 718-443-1205.

Free Tax Preparation & Filing January 21 – April 14, 2020 - IRS Certified VITA/TCE Volunteer Preparers.
Call for an appointment at 347-682-5606. Schedule online at www.growbrooklyn.org/freetaxes
Brooklyn Coop/Grow Brooklyn, 315 Grove Street, Brooklyn, NY 11237
Hope Gardens, 422 Central Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221
RiseBoro Community Partnership, 90 Beaver Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Save the Date!! Join the Alliance for Quality Education in Albany to demand NYS fully Fund Our Public Schools. All Day Event. Buses departing from Brooklyn, The Bronx, Manhattan, and Queens. Contact: PEbenito@NYSenate.Gov

Community Education Council 32: Calendar and Business Meetings, Thursday, February 27, 2020, 6:00PM, P.S. 299 Auditorium, 88 Woodbine Street
Calendar Meeting: NYC Department of Education representatives will join us for more about one of our district's major sources of funds, the Fair Student Funding allocation.
Business Meeting: CEC32 Members reports, updates, a collaborative planning. Email at CEC32@schools.nyc.gov or call at 718-574-1203

May Day Festival: Sunday May 3, 2020, Maria Hernandez Park
Theme: Workers Rights
For more information: Festival@maydayspace.org

Julio Salazar: The administration is putting forward their Federal Budget for the year 2021. \$150 Million will be cut from Medicare
\$270 Million will be cut from Medicaid
\$30 Billion cut to Social Security. The member will not support nor stand by these cuts. She will work with her delegation in the house to make sure that they put forth a bill and budget that reflects the needs of our community Congressional district 7 and the community of Bushwick. Updates will be forthcoming. As soon as there are any updates regarding the Federal Budget, Julio will bring them back to the Community Board and to the 83rd Precinct Council meetings.

The Congresswoman also lead a congressional delegation to Puerto Rico to oversee what is going on over there regarding the recovery efforts on the island.

Fatima, from Councilman Antonio Reynoso's office, voting time is coming up the last week in March and there are a few projects on the ballot. 1) An upgrade to Maria Hernandez Park. 2) A media library at P.S. 299. 3) An upgrade to the gym at I.S. 347-349.

Annual Black Leadership event coming up, Friday February 28, at 6:00pm, Woodhull Hospital. Barbara Smith will be honored, so please come out and support her. There will be food and live entertainment.

If you are interested in seeing the MESA testimony from the councilmember, please reach out to Fatima and she will send it over. His opinion is basically the same as chairperson Camacho's is. He is not against charter schools necessarily, but he is against the co-location

Ms. Virgie Jones: Black Educators of New York. Every year they have a fundraiser, this year it will be Saturday, June 20th. Tickets are \$100.00. If you now of any seniors that are graduating from High School, please have them apply for the scholarship. The deadline is April 30th. They do not have to be Afro-American to apply for the scholarship.

Randell Terrell, Riseboro: Census – hiring people as outreach worker in the community. Workers are needed to inform the community about the importance of the Census. This is a part-time position, that pays \$18.00 per hour. If anyone is interested, please let him know.

Vanessa Felix, Bushwick Starr Theater: Bushwick Starr is taking part in the job fair on March 21 at RiseBoro. They are seeking interns to come and intern with them for their theatrical season. Those that are interested are asked to attend the job fair on March 21.

Senior Storytelling class will be held at both Roundtable and Ridgewood Senior Centers. If you know of anyone who would like to be creative and get their voices out, please let them know.

Open for registration – Quebradillas Baseball Org.2020. Girls: Ages 13-17; Boys: Ages 4-12 January 18 – April 2020. 11am to 3pm, every Saturday. For more information call Carlos at 347-251-1458 or call Franqui at 347-459-7140.

DM, Celestina Leon: Ms. Davis has had a few deaths in her family, and we send our condolences to her.

It is that time of the year again!!! Shape up Bushwick! Shape up Bushwick is a parade and it is a resource fair focused on health and healthy living in the Bushwick Community. We encourage all to get more involved. There will be a series of planning meeting and this year Sharon Fludd from the Community Board's office is helping and taking a leadership role with planning this event. Please let the District Manager know for more information.

Second Roll Call.

Meeting Adjourned: 36 Members Present

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Ms. Barbara Smith and second by Mr. Jerry Valentin. All members were in favor.