

**COMMUNITY BOARD 17
HOUSING/BLOCK ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
MEETING
JANUARY 14TH, 2025**

ATTENDACE

Bernadette Hokai
Nicole Julus
Monzurat oni
LeShan Freeman
Berlotte Antoine
Carol Reneau
Marjorie Faison
Leonie Logan
Kim Morman
Judith Douglas
Sicily Liverpool

Kyrn Leo Johnson
Kim Morman
C Roberts
Ayanna G
Brie DeCosta
Berlotte Antoine
Hermina Brown
Jillien
Fatima
Jacqueline Arthurs

Presenter:

Ms. Robin Redmond, Executive Director
Flatbush Development Corporation

The meeting of the Housing/Block Association meeting was called to order by the Chairperson of the Committee, Dr. Carol Reneau. The meeting was rescheduled due to New Year's Day falling on the usual meeting date.

There was a discussion on various topics including affordable housing, community development, income eligibility for benefits, and the importance of community involvement.

Presenter, Ms. Robin Redmond, Executive Director at Flatbush Development Corporation has been with the organization for over 20 years. The organization focuses on housing, economic development, youth programs, community revitalization, and immigration. They work to preserve affordable housing and provide support to tenants facing housing issues.

She shared the following information with those present:

- Flatbush Development Corporation (FDC) is an active organization on Instagram and Facebook is dedicated to meeting the needs of a diverse and vibrant Brooklyn, identify and respond, build partnerships creating programs and developing campaigns that promote enhanced quality of life, safety, equity, and preservation of our communities.
- There is a Housing economic development youth community revitalization and immigration. Today, the same basic program areas are provided. The program is in three schools, two community

centers, and its in the Glenwood houses. The program also serves over 1300 kids annually organize merchant associations and other housing work related issues such as evictions, .

- There are income guidelines for Medicare Part B that allow some individuals to not pay for it.
- SSI can be applied for in addition to social security benefits, depending on income eligibility.
- The affordable housing lottery is a random selection process, but there should be a set aside for community residents.
- Some organizations do not operate through the lottery system for senior housing, providing additional opportunities for housing.
- The current income requirements for affordable homes may not be suitable for the community, suggesting the need for a community-specific income measure.
- It is important to have knowledgeable representatives who can assist clients in finding available housing options and navigate the application process especially for seniors.

The chairperson thanked Ms. Robin Redmond for her presentation.

Ms. Fraser shared with the members tips on addressing issues affecting Block association,

- She encouraged everyone to first call 311 to report non-emergency issue and 911 must be dialed for immediate emergencies.
- Share the meeting link with neighbors and friends and encourage them to attend meetings.

Residents are encouraged to call the Board's office and register to become member of the Committee.

- Consolidating blocks is a potential solution to address issues within the community.
- Block associations coming together can have a positive impact on the quality of living in the community.
- It is important to spread awareness about the community board and its activities through email, newsletters, and sharing meeting links.

Funding:

Ms.

- Miss Perlene Feels was able to secure a large grant of over \$350,000 for a shower bus for the community.
- The details of the bus and allocation of funds are still being discussed with Congresswoman Clark's office.

To summarize some action items discussed:

Action items

- Obtain the income guidelines for Medicare Part B and SSI eligibility and email them to Carol
- Provide the organization's phone number (718-859-3800) in the chat
- Consider conducting seminars and providing additional support for seniors applying for affordable housing lottery
- Contact Pastor John to schedule seminars for the community and coordinate with the housing team for a visit to the church's food pantry
- Seek out and invite speakers from other organizations that focus on helping the community
- Gather names and contact information of individuals interested in joining the subcommittee and send it to Rita Joseph's office
- Follow up with Miss Redmond regarding housing assistance for tenants and homeowners, as well as access to senior housing opportunities
- Share the secret of walk-in hours on Wednesdays for assistance.
- Encourage community members to walk in or call organizations for assistance and put them to the test

- Email CB17housingandblock@gmail.com for any further information or to offer assistance
- Plan a workshop to engage younger residents and educate them about leadership opportunities
- Consider consolidating blocks to strengthen block associations
- Explore the possibility of forming an association of block associations
- Share the link for the monthly housing and block association meeting with friends and neighbors [0:53:25](#)
- Contact the board's office to share your email and sign up for the newsletter
- Encourage participation in the various committees, such as housing, sanitation, and land use
- Reach out to elected officials and assembly members to address community issues
- Make voices heard and discuss issues with council members and elected officials
- Take note of issues affecting the community and inform Dr. Renell
- Follow up with Congresswoman Clark's office regarding the shower bus grant and discuss allocation of funds
- Follow up with FDC for workshops
- Obtain statistics from 311 regarding community complaints and share with the board
- Address dirty streets and sanitation issues by calling 311 and contacting the community board office with complaint numbers

There being no further discussion, Dr. Reneau asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marjorie Faison made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Hermina Brown seconded.