

Community Board 17 General Board Meeting January 2023

Chair Daley: Good evening ladies and gentlemen. My name is Rodrick Daley. I am the Chair of Community Board 17. The time is now 7:13 p.m, and I, therefore, call this meeting to order. We do not have a long agenda, but the discussion pieces of the agenda will be long. So we're going to try to - and again like I asked in our report (I said it earlier; please note) - please adhere to the time. I don't want our secretary Thomas to start gaveling to let you know your time is up. So you have about 30 seconds. Please note the time so that we can get everybody in and everybody have a conversation. If you know you're related to an issue, please come to the mic on my right or my left and then as soon as it's your turn to speak you go ahead you come to the mic and you speak. All situations only Board members can vote and only Board members who are in the edifice can vote. So even though we might have people online, you cannot vote when you're online. As per the resolution passed in October, Community Board 17 requires all members to be in person in order for quorum to be reached.

Last weekend we celebrated Martin Luther King's Day, which is about community service and I hope that people had the opportunity to spend some time doing community service spreading education and the like. The Community Board had the opportunity to partner and where we did the John Lewis film. Hopefully a lot of you were able to attend which was right there at Clarendon Road Church on Monday.

We have been without a secretary for September...since October. Treasurer - I don't know...I think my note says Treasurer, but I'm still saying (Secretary). Initially I wrote Secretary and then it's still on my mind. We've been without a Treasurer for a few months. Based upon the Bylaws I had appointed **{inaudible name}** Sierre Leone as the interim Treasurer. Tonight if Quorum is met, we will need to elect a Treasurer for CB17. Basically I do not have an election chair at this moment but I will in essence do that because I'm not running for an office. I'm gonna appoint a first vice chair to do that just for this proceeding.

Please note that the Borough President's office is still accepting applications for the upcoming term. If you are a Board member - so 25 of the Board Members (of the 50 but they're not 50) but hypothetically they're 50. 25 of you have to redo your applications this year. Please double-check. If you're not certain if you're one of those 25, you can contact the Board Office. I have a list as well to go out so Ms. Stevenson from the Borough President's office will discuss that a little bit more.

Bylaws update will be presented in the general Board today for a review. There are a couple of things on the agenda. Recommendations from the Bylaws Chair. We have to adhere to some of those things and vote on as per the Bylaws and what needs to happen.

I hope that like I said earlier about Martin Luther King Day representing this holiday that's approximate...I think it came up in either 1983 or 1986 so the celebration community service and the works - I hope a lot of people... first of all I hope nobody worked Martin Luther King's Day but if you did you gave them hell at the office for letting you work on Martin Luther King's Day. But hopefully you know in all seriousness it's community component, community activism, civic responsibility and education. Those are the tools. One of his most famous words is about time - that you cannot get back time so you just have to make sure that we get our work done.

At the last Board meeting those of you don't know that is every month on the first Tuesday of the month all Community Board chairs or designee are invited to a Borough Board meeting with the Borough President, There are three issues that came up. There are other things but there are three issues of the Board. One is about staffing and working with the Board to ensure that you're fully staffed and creating opportunities for all the Boards to work through some of the issues. I know we have some issues at the Board, which our co-Chair will talk about when she comes up about working with the Board to ensure that they're fully staffed. Two we're looking to bring in public banking versus privatization so that was the presentation that was given by the Borough President's office to talk. It's not yet in place so it's not something that the Board needs to vote on immediately, but to let you know that that's something that they're discussing about public banking; public ownership of banking. Third, Prospect Park - we voted on some repairs at Prospect Park. Community Board 9, 14 and 6 but the First Vice Chair will go over the policy on removal proceedings when he gets up to that.

Lastly, I want to thank the Board members who came out for our meeting earlier this month to look at hiring a new ADM and so Chair Graham will speak on that as well but I just want to personally thank everyone who showed up to the office or who were online for the hybrid meeting to discuss our hiring. Both candidates in my purview were neck and neck going right through the process but one candidate came out ahead and the candidate our Chair Graham will be discussing that. That ends my report. I look forward to seeing you next month, and I thank you for the opportunity of working with you guys.

With that being said the next item on the agenda is our District Manager, but she's not here. I'd ask her to send in a report . Did she send one in? No. Our District Manager's not feeling well and she extends her apologies for not being here. She's upset as this is the first time she's missed a meeting; second time in 20 years that she's missing the meeting so we know that she values her attendance at this meeting. I just want to say speedy recovery to our District Manager. Next up will be our Committee reports.

Chair Persaud: Good evening everyone. My name is June Persaud, Chair of the Commerce Committee. I just want to let you know of a save date. We are planning a business networking breakfast on April 4th so please mark your calendar. Flyers and more information will follow in the next month. Thank you very much. We also had a Quorum last night at our meeting. It's a big thing.

Chair Daley: I'm very proud of that. Let me just check these off. Education & Youth?

Chair Grandison: Hi good evening everyone my name is Gail Grandison. I am the Chair of the Education & Youth Committee. Our meeting last month we had invited all of our schools, and I just wanted to thank Miss Johnson from Lamad Charter School, Miss Jasmine from Great Oaks Elementary School, Miss Jones from Ebenezer Prep School and the Nandia Prep School for attending. We had a really great lively conversation. It was centered around Community Partnerships and what seems to be lacking thereof. We talked about the Shirley Chisholm Center; what resources will be available and how these resources will benefit our schools. In terms of programs; specifically after school programs and partnering with the Parks Departments who will be in charge of the center. Moving forward we have created a recurring link that will be added to the CB17 website in the EducationYouth calendar, and by next month I will also have a list of events that will be added there. So if you want to take part in our meeting, please go to the website and the link will be there. We meet the second Wednesday of every month. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Thank you Madam Chair. Housing.

Chair Fields: Good evening everyone. This is Pearlene Fields the Chair of the Housing Committee, and I just wanted to remind everyone that we will be having our Housing Town Hall on Saturday, the 28th at our residence hall high school from 1:00pm to 4:30pm so just mark that on your calendar and that's it for now that we're working on right now. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Land Use.

Chair Fray: Good evening everyone. On the first Thursday of this month we had our Land Use Committee meeting. The topics of discussion were surrounding the historical flooding issues that are currently happening in our community. Obviously, during recent storms there's been concentrated areas with flooding, ponding and basically getting that conversation reinvigorated and started again. If Ms. Frasier was here, she would have probably told you that there's going to be a community walk through with the Mayor's office at the end of February. She asked me to distribute an email, which I did to Committee members and just to basically canvas and get a new or updated list of quality of life issues that are occurring in your neighborhoods. All Committees will eventually be sending out these requests in preparation for this walkthrough at the end of February so if you see those requests, I'd encourage everyone to give any details, any opinions or any photographs you have of issues so that we could address it appropriately.

Next month we're looking to have a couple of people do some presentations for our upcoming Spring event - the Estate Planning Event - and we did get a communication from one of our members this evening before the meeting that the ongoing issue with 5381 Kings Highway has got some action behind it. Apparently they're moving forward with the application to go with the special permit so we should be expecting a yearlap application soon. We're not aware that they've changed process for yearlap. They're giving community members and community Boards 60 days to respond to a new application. This conversation also happened during our meetings so if the timing is right or if it happens in the summer, we may need to call a special meeting just to make sure that we have our concerns addressed within that time frame so we can have our responses submitted before that process continues without our opinion. And that's my report. Is there any questions?

Chair Daley: All right. Perfect. Thank you Chair James. Parks & Beautification.

Chair Antoine: Good evening everyone. My name is Burlot Antoine. I am the Chair for the Parks & Beautification Committee. Last month for our meeting we had orientation for the stewardship program. If you want to know how to take care of the trees in your neighborhood, that's the place to come - the Parks & Beautification Committee and if you want to be involved in the next training, you can see me in the back after I finish speaking. We are involved in two other projects. One is the beautification of Tilden Park. We have the spring Tilden beautification day that will come soon. We will be partnering with the Youth Committee and the Partnership for Parks. If you need to get involved with that, you can also speak to me. If you're living around children or even if you are not living around children, you want your area to be beautiful so see me so we can make that happen.

The next project I want to talk to you about is a project that I started talking about today with the 67th Precinct. This is a graffiti removal day so we'll be working with the 67th Precinct. Hopefully

everything will be okay so we can do this thing and community members, Board members and anybody who wants to be involved you are free to see me after I finish speaking. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Thank you so much. Public Safety is not here. Public Safety? Sanitation.

Chair Reneau: Hi everyone. Carol Reneau, Chair of the Sanitation Committee. I bring you greetings and even though it's an old year, I'm still going to say happy new year. The two issues that were reported by the community. We had two legal buses that were parked at Tilden and East 56th, and we also had illegal dumping on Nostrand between Church and Erasmus. I just drove by both areas before this meeting. We knew it was resolved, but I did a spot check and I can happily report that it has been resolved. Our subCommittees are planning cleanup and greenup. The first one would be either April 22 or 29. Passover and Easter will be behind us. That will be our major cleanup after which we're gonna have subsequent cleanups throughout the year so we invite you to collaborate with us. We're going to need all hands on deck for this. Our monthly meeting was moved from this past Monday. It will be held on January 30 because this was Martin Luther King's Day. We're gonna have a guest speaker, Teresa Cunningham, who will be the Department of Sanitation's Chair. So we invite you to log into these meetings. Again we're gonna need you. It's a change in mindset as to how we're going to hold our people accountable and how we're going to also keep Flatbush clean. Thank you so much.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Social Services. I did not see the email. Transportation Chair Cuomino. Thank you. If you have a transportation issue, that's our Chair of Transportation - Chair Cuomino.

Personnel. Actually Personnel I'm going to leave you for last. Do you mind? Just leave it for last for a minute okay. Circle that.

Block Association. I know she was having some issues today so hopefully that worked out. Postal Services.

Chair Postal Services; Good evening Chair. Good evening Community Board 17. My report in regards of our post office, I'm happy to say that there have been no problems coming to me from the community and I hope continuously. It makes it easy for myself and everyone else. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Thank you very much. I hope you also enjoyed your vacation. Communications.

Chair of Communications: I yield the floor.

Chair Daley: All right. Brooklyn CAB, Ms. Reid. Chair Reid? Chair James, Rezoning followed by Hospitality.

Chair James: I just want to extend an invitation to all to attend the Rezoning Committee meeting which will be held on next Tuesday which I think is the 24th. I implore you to come out. If we're going to do this in the community, we need community support because the odds are stacked against us. Next Tuesday - Rezoning Committee meeting. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Hospitality. Dr. Gallber. Chair Gallber.

Chair Gallber: Good evening everyone. Wanted to just to note and say thank you to those who were able to come out with us this past Monday as we had a partnership with Community Board 17. The Christopher Rhodes Foundation as well as Medgar Evers College Alliance Tabernacle for the screening of John Lewis Goods Trouble. It was well attended, and I believe that it created more space for folks to know about the Community Board as well as ask some questions that were addressed by Community Board members so thank you for all those who attended and all those who worked to make it a success.

Chair Daley: Thank you and by the way Dr Galber my birthday is next Wednesday so I'm expecting my card all right. Let's go to Bylaws. So you might as well just stay there, Chair James. Where's Chair James? She stepped out? Chair Graham. Personnel.

Chair Graham: Greetings everyone. I am Rose Graham chair of the Personnel Committee, and after a very long wait I'm so excited too that we now have an Assistant District Manager. Her name is Carly Gordon. Miss Gordon can you come on down. You could turn around so we see you. That's Ms. Gordon right there. Ms. Gordon is on the final processing step. She's awaiting word from the Brooklyn Borough President's office. Welcome Ms. Gordon, and thank you for joining us tonight. We are still experiencing some challenges with staff at the Board's office, but we are staying hopeful that we'll be able to resolve these concerns sometime in the near future and that is my report. Thank you.

Chair Daley: All right thank you Chair Graham. Chair James, are you back just to give a report from the Bylaws Committee? Nope. Don't see her. She stepped out. All right. Agency updates. Let's start with NYPD.

Lieutenant Sally [**not sure of name spelling**]: Good evening everybody. My name is Lieutenant Sally. I'm a special project lieutenant on the 67th Precinct. Alongside me is Detective Skinner from Community Affairs and Sergeant Warren, the Nightlife Sergeant who deals with all the nightlife with clubs and any issues that go on. So far for the year we're trending down on crime which is very good. Two noticeable things that I want you guys to be aware of with our current prime Trends. Right now we have a robbery pattern that's going on on Linden Boulevard to Church from Troy to 53rd street. We have an African-American male in his late 40s displaying a box cutter or a knife and his victims are females between the ages of 40 to 50. That's one of the crime trends. The second one is a burglary regarding copper wiring.

Chair Daley: I'm sorry. What was the first one? Can you just remove the mask a little bit so we can hear.

Lieutenant Sally: Sorry. The first current trend that we have is a robbery that's happening on Linden Boulevard to Church Avenue and from Troy to East 53 Street. We have an African-American male displaying a box cutter and he's targeting females between the ages of 40 to 50 years old.

Chair Daley: So can you tell us how many incidents that we had because it's a very serious thing.

Lieutenant Sally: Right now we had two incidents with that.

Chair Daley: Timeframe?

Lieutenant Sally: Time period is on Saturday at seven o'clock in the morning and the other incident was on Friday at around two o'clock but as of tomorrow we're bringing additional resources. We're gonna have four cops and one Sergeant dedicated to that area over there between the hours of 5 a.m and 1:00pm to 2:00pm so we're gonna have a supervisor with about six cops patrolling that area in regards to that..

The other crime trend that we have right now is the copper wiring where we have people disguised as T-Mobile or Verizon workers. They go inside buildings. They go to the rooftop where they remove copper wiring so if you guys see anything like somebody from T-Mobile or Verizon and if you think they're not supposed to be there just call us and we'll come and investigate what we have to investigate and if you guys have any more questions every third Thursday of the month we have a community council meeting at the 67th Precinct.

Chair Daley: That's tomorrow. So I want to talk about the two shootings that happened within a Committee that didn't come up in the conversation. One was on Rockaway Parkway and one was a fatality - a homicide. Were there any arrests made in either of the two cases and do you want to tell us much? I know you can't discuss all of the details but to some extent some of the details about those two incidents.

Lieutenant Sally: So one is still being investigated by the detective squad and I believe they arrested one person just recently on the second shooting if I could remember correctly. Yep they have a person of interest in the Rockaway Parkway shooting and I think the shooting on Church you're talking about, the detective squad is still investigating that right now but they have certain leads.

Chair Daley: Okay no problem. Before anybody asks a question, I want to address Sergeant Warren for a minute and I just want to thank him. We had a situation last week within our local community partnering between the 67 and the Community Board. We were able to resolve an issue with a group of people within the community and so I just wanted to say thank you very much for your effort in terms of letting the community know that we're here as partners. We're not out to get you or anything like that so I just want to thank you and your unit for dealing with that situation in a very positive manner. I just want to publicly thank you for that.

Sergeant Warren: Thank you.

Chair Daley: Floor - are there questions for NYPD? Yes Chair Grandison.

Chair Grandison: There've been a couple of incidents at 123 Linden. Last night the latest one was the slashing. Have you seen an uptick in incidents like that in that building and were the perps caught for the slashing; and then there was an armed robbery in December. Was anyone held on those two incidents?

Lieutenant Sally: So in regards to the Linden one yesterday there's two people of interest. The CV knows the two perpetrators at this time so the detective squad is trying to get him to cooperate with more information of where these guys live and where they're at but the victim knows the two perpetrators at this time. The robbery is still ongoing with the detective squad correct?

Other NYPD Spokesperson: No. Not really. It's various times so I would say December and the last serious incident was yesterday with the slashing with the guy. That's all.

Chair Daley: Are there any other questions for 67? See none. You got an easy night. Thank you. Chair Persaud. Wait, don't move yet Lieutenant. The issue of the Lotus Lounge...was that ever...? Ok. Thank you. The reason why I had you wait Lieutenant for a little bit is because I know it was an ongoing issue with the Board and I just want to make sure that people understand that we really are working together to establish whatever you discussed. I just want to make sure that happens so thank you again. Chair James - any Bylaws update because I know you had stepped out so you'll do the updates. Okay no problem

Agency. Stephanie, Public Library. Chair Antoine can you bring me the agency - there's only one other agency. Is there any other agency in the room? Speak now or forever hold your peace. All right we're good. There's only one more. Go ahead Stephanie. Please tell us your first and last name.

Stephanie Sin: I'm Stephanie Sin. I'm the Branch Manager at the Rugby Branch on Utica and just a couple of updates and I brought some flyers. They're in the back, I'd just like to highlight our ongoing weekly programming. All programming is in person and we have most days after school for kids. We have crafts and games. We have active adult programming, Sit & Be Fit, which I have a flyer for and then a partnership with City Harvest that's going on for a couple of weeks called Eat Healthy/Be Active and they've made some delicious things so stop by. It's on Tuesdays. Also new for kids is our homework help volunteer will be with us weekly on Thursdays at 3:00pm to 5:00pm to help elementary school children. We just want to reach out. Again we're looking for partnerships in relation to our Branch focus in reconnecting with the community which is job readiness. So we're looking to promote those services within the library, as well as without so if you have a connection please come in and see us. And lastly for Rugby the whole library system will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of hip-hop in the upcoming months so Rugby Library is looking to have some sort of big Community event. We're looking for collaborators and artists and musicians and if you know anybody or you yourself would like to help participate and make this event happen, please come and see us. Again my name is Stephanie, and I'm the Manager at Rugby. Thanks.

Chair Daley: All right thank you so much. Are there any questions for Stephanie? You also have to give a report? Okay go ahead. You only have two minutes.

Donette Biker: Hi. Goodnight everybody. My name is Donette Biker, I'm the Assistant Manager at East Flatbush, and I have just general updates with Brooklyn Public Library. I wanted to share about BPL's home internet access program. As many of you probably know already, nearly 30 percent of Brooklynites lack home broad connection. In some neighborhoods this jumps to nearly 50 percent. To address this divide the FCC provides qualifying customers a \$30 credit to their internet for their phone bill. There are many ways to qualify, but those receiving SNAP, Medicaid, Veteran Benefits and other services may qualify, and Brooklyn Public Libraries is just trying to spread the word around. We have digital Navigators that are tabling at different branches and are hosting one-on-one support and that particular Outreach team is available to come to - let's say if you have a community event - they are available to come and talk a little bit more about it and for more info please feel free to visit thefcc.gov/ACP and also I have a phone number here. It's 877-384-2575, and of course if you go to the Brooklyn Public Library website, which is bklynlibrary.org, there's more information on there too. Thank you.

Chair Daley: Thank you. I have a question. She doesn't know yet but I would like the Chair of Youth & Education and myself to do a tour of the Library to look at the space and see what's

happening. Would that be something that...I'm inviting her along even though I'm the one doing it but - look at her face - but I would like to know how feasible is that and can you get in touch with our office on a date and time when we could do that because I believe that our young people need to use the library and we'd like to know how much more we can partner with the library. That's Chair Granderson.

Stephanie Sin: You can stop in at any time and if you want you can come to Rugby or East Flatbush when it opens, which hopefully will be soon. You can just stop in or give us a call. You can ask for myself or Donette. We're not in the same spot, but yeah you can.

Chair Daley: All right. so just let us know the time and date, and we'll show up. Thanks. Any other questions for the Public Library. Yes go ahead. Chair Secretary Thomas.

Chair Secretary Thomas: Location of the East Flatbush library?

Stephanie Sin: So that's 9612 Church Avenue. It's between 96 Street and Rockaway Parkway. They're slated to open sometime in the Spring. It's a gut renovation so the building is going to be completely new.

Unknown Speaker: And there's a question online from Principal Grant and she wants you to share more information about class trips to the library.

Donette Biker: So class trips to the library are organized by the children's librarian at whichever branch. That would actually be myself at the Rugby Branch.

Chair Daley: When you say the branch we're not sure where it is even though it sounds good but tell us where it is as Secretary Thomas had asked.

Donette Biker: Okay so the Rugby Branch of the library is on 1000 Utica between Tilden and Snyder, and class trips are organized usually by a school or the teacher. They'll come in and ask if they just want the class to visit or if there's a specific topic they're studying and just get in touch with the librarian at the branch so that it can be scheduled in advance. Usually we ask for at least two weeks' notice so that we can prepare as well as get the students library cards because we want to get as many cards in the hands of the kids as we can. Hope that answers.

Chair Daley: Any other questions? Thank you Principal Grant. Agencies that's it? Okay we're gonna have the community session.

VE: Oh wait. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to cut in but I'm Vladimir from Department of Buildings. I just had an announcement to make. Is that okay?

Chair Daley: Sure, go ahead.

VE: Okay. Hello everyone.

Chair Daley: So what's your name again?

VE: Vladimir Edward.

Chair Daley: Thank you. All right Vladimir.

VE: I'm from Department of Buildings. I just wanted to let you all know an update on local law 152, the periodic inspection of gas piping systems required. As effective of January 1, 2020 gas piping systems in old buildings except for buildings classified in occupancy group R-3 must be inspected by a Licensed Master Plumber or a qualified individual working under the direct and continuing supervision of an LMP at least once every four years according to the schedule set out and 1RCNY 103-10. I'm going to email this over to you and if you want I can give you my email just so I could spread this service notice out. If you have any questions, feel free to send an email back, and I can get you the direct answers from my supervisor. I just started the job since October so there's still a couple things that I'm new to, but it's a pleasure and thank you for having me here.

Chair Daley: We have a question. Chair _____.

Chair _____: Mr Vladimir, I've been getting some calls and some emails in regards to the gentlemen that are coming out to do these inspections. Could you just clarify that there's a third party or a third party contractor that is coming to these people's homes to review these gas pipes and gas meters.

VE: Oh yes yes so yes there will be a third party and the inspection is going to be done by the licensed Master Plumber. Did that answer your question?

Chair Daley: Yes thank you.

VE: Okay no problem.

Chair Daley: All right. My email is in the chat so you can send me an email. Again it's cb17chairperson@gmail.com. - cb17chairperson@gmail.com. .

The other agencies online - seeing none. Community session. This is where you stand up. Yes you can come up. You have one minute though

Speaker: Sure okay Happy Wednesday, So basically I'm just here to represent KAVI which is the Kings Against Violence Initiative. KAVI is a anti-gun violence organization that's located on 147 Prince Street. Essentially what I'm here to do

Chair Daley: I'm sorry. Where is it located

KAVI: 147 Prince Street man actually right here in Brooklyn.

Chair Daley: You said Prince?

Speaker: Yeah. It's a weird location. It's like just before the Brooklyn Bridge.

Chair Daley: Oh okay. Downtown Brooklyn; Dumbo.

Speaker continues:: Yeah. That's also my director right there. We're also located at Kings County Hospital right across the street. So essentially what we do is a number of things actually but because I have one minute I really just want to talk about the flyer that I left at the table. We

are doing a community gathering; basically a focus group to gather the thoughts of the community around gun violence in the community. We are offering sixty dollars (\$60.00) to the folks who do participate in this focus group so if anyone is interested, please do find the flyer or find me. I found your email so I can also send the flyer there too for it to be shared with everyone. Essentially we need the voices in order to make a change with what's going on in our community so as many folks as we can get to come out would be great. That's it and thank you for your time.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Any other community person? Any other community person going once. There's a hand in the chat. Go ahead Simone.

SC: Hi. Good evening everyone. I'm joining from the New York City Department of Health. I work with our Brooklyn Bureau neighborhood of Health as a part of the New York City Department of Health and I just want to share that we're currently focusing on Family Wellness activities. We offer those out of our Brownsville site on Bristol Street between Blake and Dumont. Families can come there to get connected to Doula Services. We also offer pack and plays and car seats to families in addition to things like diapers, and we're also interested in sharing information about unlocked zone trainings. We're hosting those as well at our Brownsville site, and if any of the organizations that are here want an unlock zone training for their staff, you can reach out to me for that as well and we also are able to share health data with any agency so if anyone needs any specific data, we'd love to partner in that way as well and I will also forward our calendars to the chairperson here so that it can be shared out widely with everyone just in case there's anything that I didn't mention but thank you all for having me and have a good evening.

Chair Daley: Thank you so much. Your phone number Simone.

SC: I also put that information in the chat but it is 646-315-1109 and my email address is scolbert@health.nyc.gov

Chair Daley: All right. Thank you. Any other questions for Simone? Jay.

JS: Thank you. My name is Jay Sorid. I'm a member of the Brooklyn Community Board 9.

Chair Daley: We can't hear you Jay so can you turn up your mic please.

JS: Can you hear me now Mr. Chair?

Chair Daley: Better.

JS: Okay great. I put some things in the chat. I don't know if people had a chance to see it. There are web links, and the web links are for New York State public meetings. There's a public meeting tomorrow on 681 Clarkson Avenue, which is at the corner of Albany and Clarkson and it tells about the 1090 units development which is coming there which has zero parking for the 1090 units. The 1090 units is broken down into 764 units of general housing and 326 units of supportive housing most of which are funded by homeless sources. In addition to the supported of housing 326 units, there's 364 beds which are going to be rebuilt for two homeless shelters. On one corner you're going to have around 690 beds for the homeless. Across the street from that Camba has around 300 for the seriously mentally ill and disabled. 500 feet away there's 110 unit east you know homeless shelter also. My point is that there's a tremendous amount of

oversaturation of Social Services and there's also going to be a very big parking problem. It's going to go streets because if you have 1090 units and there's no parking for those 1090, some of them have an income where they're going to have cars. So the 764 it's from 40% AMI to 80% AMI so for 764 units half of them are probably going to have enough money to afford a car. That's 320 units with no cars. You have a supermarket which is coming there with 38000 commercial square footage and there's only 15 spots. So there's tremendous parking issues and in my opinion, if there's no place for people to park and people have cars in that region you're going to be affected and the people in Community Board 17 are going to be affected the same way in Community Board 9. There's no _____ so it's only an environmental issue. So they just say are you gonna be affected. So if you have an issue with it see the links and all the information. CB17 as well as CB9 has been in the dark by New York State. They came out. It was the winning proposal in July of 2021, and they just came to Community Board 9 in January (last week) after a year and a half when they had it and they refused my flow of request for over a year so if you want the info you want to see everything take a look at the links I have. You'll open up a window, and I think it's going to be a displacement of certain people when there's no place to park because they use cars in that neighborhood. Thank you.

Chair Daley: All right can you make sure that that is emailed to me, and I could also disperse it to the Board members especially our Land Use and Rezoning Chairs.

JS: Yes. So the links are there. You can copy the links and you could maybe save it to the favorites because it's Dropbox things that I have on Dropbox and everything else but it's there.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Can you repeat the location?

JS: Mr. Chair did you ask me another question?

Chair Daley: Can you repeat the location the locations of ...

JS: The public meeting is on Zoom but the location (cut off by another speaker)

Chair Daley: The only person who has the floor to speak is Jay.

JS: Okay so Mr. Chair the location is 681 Clarkson Avenue. It's the old Kingsbrook site and for point of reference it's Albany and Clarkson Avenue. The northern most point of CB17 is Clarkson Avenue so there's a whole bunch of people that live between Linden Boulevard and Clarkson Avenue and they're in for a shock.

Chair Daley: So just to give us an idea, we cover Clarkson Avenue which is Downstate, but we cover the other side of Clarkson Avenue.

JS: Right.

Chair Daley: So Clarkson Avenue - the middle of the street...

JS: It's right across the street so it sits on the Clarkson Avenue.

Chair Daley: Yes I'm just explaining to the Board that we have the even numbers and they have the odd numbers that are not ours so the building will be on the odd side, which is not ours. But

anyway, obviously, if you're across the street, the Community Board will be affected by it so I'm assuming you're looking for some level of support Jay in this issue?

JS: Not just support. There's no Euler because it's a New York state project so because it's a New York state project and they call it a blighted neighborhood there's no Euler. What there is is only secura(?) and in that case CB17 has just as much rights as CB9. It's just if it affects you, you show up which they're not telling you guys down there and they should have come to you with the presentation.

Chair Daley: That is very true. Can you do me a favor? I need you to shoot me an email. Let's see what follow-up can be done because that will be very much impactful in our community not even just the parking but the other issues that go along with that as well. Parking is just one major issue. Traffic is another because my son, as a matter of fact, Principal Grant - her school is right across the street as well and she's online so that's another issue. So there's a multitude of issues so if you just reach out to me on email. Also my phone number is in the chat. 646-504-5778 and First Vice Chair Cunningham will be putting that in the chat so if you have any questions you can put it in there as well. So please do reach out sometime and we can discuss it further.

JS: Okay great.

Chair Daley: I'd prefer a joint meeting with our Land Use and Rezoning. Thank you so much.

JS: If I could just mention, it's a Zoom registration for tomorrow at 6:00pm so you just got to register before with the links in the chat.

Chair Daley: All right. Thank you. Any other community session component? All right. We're not doing a legislative report; however, I do have Assemblymember Brian Cunningham online. I see him. The only reason I'm giving way to the Assemblymember not the office so give me a second. Assemblymember Brian Cunningham are you still online?

ABC: Hey everybody. Goodnight CB17. Good to join you virtually tonight. This is Senator Brian Cunningham representing the 43rd Assembly District in Brooklyn which is Flatbush, Prospect Gardens and Crown Heights. Just drove back in from Albany where the 2023 _____ session has just begun. We're really excited to be back in Albany and have already begun this week to begin to move legislation and move bills to the floor and to begin passing some bills. I know Debbie Lewis from my team is on the call and will probably give some more Community updates, but I really wanted to stop in to wish everyone a Happy New Year to remind you that our office is at 249 Empire Boulevard on the corner of Empire and Rogers, and that for the next six months myself and some of the state lawmakers will be back and forth in Albany three to four days a week trying to pass State legislation and also working on the state budget, which is due April 1st but really excited about out my first full term and looking forward to serving you in the this upcoming session.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Any questions for the Assemblymember? Roll call.

Roll Call (female speaker): Kwame Afren, Aaron Ampal, Burla Antoine, Joan Alexander-Bakridine (present but online), Kasan Bakridine, Barrington Barrett, Barrington Barrett

[roll call interrupted by unrelated audio]]

Sir, excuse me. We're in the middle of roll call. Can you silence yourself please. Thanks.

Mary Bell Downs (online), Teresa Brereton, Hermina Brown, Karen Charles deFreitas, Asher Cunningham, Daifi Cerulean, Rodrick Daley, Natasha Duncan, Pearline Fields.

DC: This is Daifi. I heard my name. I'm online as well.

Roll Call continues: Allison French Canton, Dr Charles Gallber, Rachel Goodfriend, Rose Graham, Gail Grandison, Shayla Hamlin, Julia James, Hilary Joseph, Rhonda Joseph, Victoria Langan Khalil, Osney Lewis, Francie Losencourt, Montserrat Oni, Rodney Pepesouvenir, June Persaud, Dion Kwamana, Patricia Ruddock, Dave Reed, Janice Reed, Dr. Carol Reneau, Antoinette Smart, George Tate, Tamara Thomas (present) Marguerite Viglianti (online), Jessica Welch, Kendrick Westcott.

JW: Did you get Jessica Walsh present online?

Roll Call: I did call Jessica Welch.

ND: Did you get Natasha Duncan online? I might have missed my name.

Roll Call: I called Natasha Duncan.

ND: Yeah. I might have missed my name.

Roll Call: Yeah. I'm just putting it on.

Chair Daley: I just want to remind all of the members online that the attendance only counts if you are in person in the room. I just want to make sure that based upon the... Yes to vote on any issues and count towards quorum as well. So both to vote and to count towards quorum. I'm sorry and to be recorded as president. So in order to be present you have to be in the room in order to be counted as present. So I just want to make sure of that and all of the privileges of that as well, except for the commenting. You can always comment and ask questions.

We do not have the minutes. They're almost done; however, there's some editing that needs to get done with them. So they will be October, November, December and will be presented to the Board. So now we have a few public hearing issues. 1. Let's do Commerce. Let's bring up Chair Persaud to start with there.

Chair Persaud: Good evening again Mr. Chair. The applicant will not be coming before the Board tonight. The Committee voted to have them resubmit their application, the 30-day notice due to some discrepancy but since I'm here I'd like to take the opportunity on behalf of all Board members to wish you a happy birthday. Sorry we couldn't get you a cake because we're not allowed to have food in the auditorium.

Chair Daley: You could always send it to 1121 Utica Avenue.

Chair Persaud: You just messed up my whole talk here (laughs). I wish we were back in Aruba like last year where you celebrated your 50th birthday. Continue to be strong. We appreciate

what you do for the Community in many circumstances. Once again Happy Birthday to my friend. Bye-bye.

Chair Daley: You're gonna make me cry. Thank you. I appreciate that.

Okay. Vote for Treasurer. According to the Bylaws...so we've been vacant without a Treasurer since October 1st. I've appointed Daifi Cerulean as the interim acting Treasurer for the Board so since we do have quorum and quorum is established so I'm going to yield the floor to first Vice Chair Cunningham to lead the nomination and vote for a Treasurer. So please note the basic rule is you can nominate yourself, somebody can nominate you and then we vote Okay and that includes the people online as well because the Bylaws did allow for you to be nominated, but because based upon not being present you cannot vote but you can be nominated.

FVC: So we're going to open the floor right now for any nominations from the floor. Daifi has already been nominated by you so she is present online.

Chair Daley: Now I was saying to everyone that based upon I believe under Chairmans Ampal and Kobe, we never changed the nomination component for being online. It's still in the Bylaws that says you could be nominated online. So it's nominated online, but because of the new thing they can vote only in person. The voting can only be done by the people in the room, but the nomination by anybody online. But please let it be known that if you are nominated online and you do not plan to attend the meeting in person, then it doesn't make any sense for you to be nominated for this Treasurer. I'm just telling that to those people online. All right.

Yes? [FVC had a question.] No. According to what I saw in the Bylaws from 2019 to 2020, which is when you were the Chair, it stated that the Bylaws were amended to allow for hybrid nomination for... I could look it up. Give me a second. If you disagree, just let me know so I can move forward.

FVC: Mr. Chair, respectfully, under my Administration I never made any changes or my Administration never made any changes to the Bylaws.

Chair Daley: I want to make sure to do it right so that I don't have any...

FVC: You may want to check who was Chair after my resignation.

Chair Daley: I can't hear you.

FVC: You may want to check who was Chair after my resignation or actually my decision not to run for re-election. It may have happened then.

Chair Daley: Oh that was Mr. Bakridine. Mr. Bakridine, do you remember that change about the nomination being online? That was the point of Kobe...that's when Kobe came about. I'm just trying to pull up the Bylaws.

Bakridine: Yeah. We put that specific language for you, but I believe we made that change during the Bylaws Committee. I was saying I believe that the Bylaws Committee made that change and we put language in there and we presented it to the Board as well but we can look at that and see where it is.

Chair Daley: So there's a twenty-six to zero (26 to 0) vote. In the meantime while we're looking up for online, is there anyone...

FVC: While we were checking the Bylaw laws, is there anyone in person who would like to nominate someone in person to be the next Treasurer of Community Board 17? Are there any nominations from the floor? Any nominations from the floor? I see a hand online. Ms. Bakiridine You're recognized.

Ms. Bakiridine: Yes sir. It's not to nominate anyone. Just to clarify the Bylaws amendment was done September 2020.

FVC: Thank you Ms. Bakiridine. Any nominations from the floor? Anyone in person while we are checking the Bylaws. Thank you. Just to inform everyone who's online Mr. Daley, the Chair is checking the Bylaws before we move ahead.

Chair Daley: There's a hand up.

FVC: Ms. Belyn.

CB: Yes. Some clarification so this combination is being done by only the current Board members?

FVC: Correct.

CB: Thank you.

FVC: Do you have a nomination Ms. Belyn? And to be quite clear we are clarifying the online portion at this point.

CB: I don't know most of these people.

FVC: Thank you Ms. Belyn. Ms. Bakiridine.

Ms. Bakiridine: I thought the motion had to be or the selection needed to be made by a Board Member?

FVC: Correct. That was just clarified. Thank you.

[inaudible background conversation]

Chair Daley: I can't find it. **[inaudible - someone asked a question]** Yes?

[inaudible speaking]

Chair Daley: I know it's there because I read it. I just don't know the exact wording of what it says but you're right. It's there somewhere. It's just the wording I'm looking for. I'm glancing through this...**[reading document]**. At this point I do not really want to table this because we do need somebody who's officially a Treasurer of the Board because of their business that needs to get done and it's been October, November and December. What I'm going to do in the

meantime...I'll come back to it while I look through the Bylaws. So I'm going to go to First Vice Chair to talk about removal proceedings for members brought up on charges of violating Article 1 Section 4 of CB17 Bylaws.

FVC: Good evening again to everyone so I've been talking for the past few months regarding our Bylaws regarding attendance and the need to meet Quorum. I know it was brought up earlier regarding the procedure for removal. According to the Bylaws the Vice Chair recommends the names of members who are in violation of various things through Bylaws to the Chair. The Chair approves the names and then we as a body vote to then dismiss a member from the Board. Those names are then sent to Borough Hall which will then finalize the removal proceedings. So according to CB17 Bylaws Article 1 Section 4 - "A member of the Board shall make every effort to attend Board meetings. Removal for cause shall include consecutive unexcused absences in any calendar year or a total of five (5) unexcused absences in any calendar year from regular Board meetings."

The following members have been charged with violation of this rule. Dave Reed, Vladimir Dorgely, Fonzi Losingcourt, Sheila Hamlin and Victoria Langan. Therefore, I move the Board vote to make the recommendation to Borough Hall to remove the following members who were stated earlier for removal from CB17 as a result of not adhering to our Bylaws, which is - trying to find the actual Article - Article 1 Section 3. Can I have someone to move - Section 4 - Article 1 Section 4. Thank you for the clarification. Can someone please move? Thank you Ms. Persaud for seconding the motion. Are there any questions regarding the removal proceeding?

Chair Daley: Just a quick point of order. I believe the notes are sent out to the members and also the due process so can you just explain that part of the process as well.

FVC: And so also according to the Bylaws, we are supposed to inform members of the charges and the removal so letters were sent out to every member, the names that were read, of the charges and they were also given the opportunity in the letter to attend this meeting to defend themselves or to answer any questions if necessary so that step was taken to inform the members. Any questions? Oh go ahead. Do you have a question online? Ms. Belyn, questions are only from Board Members. Are there any Board Members online who have a question? Anyone in person? Is there a quorum of people?

Ms. Thomas: Yes we do have quorum.

VCF: All right so I'm going to move it to Ms. Thomas who will now con...**[inaudible]**. Thank you. Ms. Belyn, questions can only be from Board Members. Ms. Thomas.

Ms Thomas: Okay so I'm going to take the vote now.

[inaudible]

Chair Daley: Ask if anyone made a call.

VCF: So I will restate the list we are voting to remove Dave Reed, Vladimir Dorgely, Fonzi Losingcourt, Sheila Hamlin and Victoria Langan. These are the members we are voting for removal from CB17. Does anyone have an objection to anyone who is on the list and would like to remove them from the list because our vote will be for everyone who is currently on the list. Hearing none. Oh Ms. Bakiridine. You're recognized.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you sir. I just have a question regarding whether or not these Board Members were ever present online?

FVC: No. The Members were never present online; not to my knowledge according to the attendance. I will double check. Give me one moment.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you.

FVC: According to the attendance they were never present. Mi. Thomas.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you.

FVC: You're welcome.

Ms. Thomas: Kwame Afreh. Aaron Ampal. Burlot Antoine. This is to vote yay, nay or abstain for the removal of the five members who have been absent per Article 1 Section 4 of the Bylaws and we're moving to remove them from CB17.

[Inaudible background question asked.] Yes means you approve removing them all en masse.

[Inaudible background question asked.] Yes we do. Should I proceed? So your vote is yes?

Chair _____: Yes

Ms. Thomas: Ok. Hassan Bakiridine. Theresa Burton. Asher Cunningham. Rodrick Daley. Allison French Kitten. Dr. Charles Gallber. Rose Graham. Gale Granderson. Julia James. Osney Lewis. Monserat Oni. June Persaud. Dion Kwamana. Janice Reed. Dr. Carol Reneau. Antoinette Smart. Tamara Thomas - I vote Yes. Kendrick Westcott.

FVC: So while Ms. Thomas tallies the votes I just want to inform the Board Members that we will carry out this process again next meeting because there are other members looking at the attendance who are also in violation of this Attendance Rule, and in order for us to establish quorum and to carry about the business of the Board, we need to ensure that we have consistent quorum in our Community Board. Hence, why we are very stringent on this Rule and so I'm going to encourage everyone to make sure you attend the meetings in person so your vote will be counted so we can continue to carry about the business of CB17.

Ms. Thomas: I think it could be 36. It'll be 36 once they're removed. Okay so with 18 yeses and 3 abstentions the motion carries.

Chair Daley: All right thank you. So I think with that being said please remind me now. The complement of the Board is 50. The full complement of the Board is 50 and if these again make the recommendation to Borough Hall, we should get an answer for that we'll be down to 36 at that point quorum will be 18×2 is 36 plus 1 is 19. Okay there are approximately six (6) individuals who are on the list for non-attendance whether it be online or in person, but based upon the Bylaws there are six (6) individuals who can receive the same choice so I'm just letting everybody know if you've if you know people who are who are on the Board who have not shown up to a meeting, please inform them that come next month those six (6) individuals might

get their notices. No. Might get their notices. Chair Grandison is correcting me and wants me to say "will." I'm still going to say "might." It doesn't make it incorrect.

Okay. Vote to amend CB17 Bylaws. She has 41 on her list? It was emailed to everyone I believe but she's going to bring it up so that people can read the amendments to the Bylaws. Can you also make sure to point people to the Bylaws Amendment in the Bylaws. It's on there as well.

Chair James: Good evening everyone. I just want to begin by thanking the members of the Bylaws Committee for the great work that they've done. The whole idea of having the Bylaws Committee work on amending the Bylaws is to ensure that we have efficiency and that's what the whole purpose is to drive efficiency so we can have very productive meetings and do the work we're supposed to be conducting as we're appointed to do. There are two action items we are going to vote on tonight and the first one pertains to elections and it will be brought up shortly. The Bylaws Committee is proposing that elections be held every two (2) years and just to give you some background over the years elections have been held every single year and changes in chairpersons as required as voted on. That's fine, but what happens is the reason for the recommendation is that very often that work started by a chairperson of a Committee or the chairperson does not get to be put into effect. So we have new chairs come in that change their existing chairpersons. There's often a lack of continuity so the whole idea is to make sure to give every chairperson the ability to carry on the work that they're doing and to see it to fruition. That's the purpose. So the first proposed amendment is to amend Article 2, Officers and Their Duties. The Bylaws Committee proposes that elections be held every two years, and as I mentioned to ensure the efficiency of the Board. So the amendment reads, as you will see on the screen, every officer shall serve for two consecutive fiscal years with a term beginning on July 1st and terminating on June 30th of the second consecutive year. For any interim vacancy that arises then a special election shall be conducted in the following month to fill such a vacancy. Can I have a motion? Sorry, not a motion. Can I have someone move? But does it have to be a move Mr. Chair? Probably not right? It's being proposed. It probably doesn't have to be moved

Chair Daley: Usually a proposal is done by 25% of the Board.

Chair James: Yeah. I just remembered that by 25...and it probably wasn't so can I have a motion to...? Well the Bylaws Committee is only above five or seven people whatever. **[unclear question asked by Chair Daley]** Yes it was. We've voted on it right. Yeah. My apologies. We did vote on it. So I open the floor for discussion at this point of time.

Chair Daley: It's a resolution; not a motion?

Chair James: It's a resolution. I open the floor for any comments. Any thoughts? **[inaudible person asking question]** Yes. We took special care to make sure we...

Chair Fields: I'm sorry. They're two hands raised online.

Chair James: I was addressing one of the questions.

Chair Daley: The person that's speaking online, can you wait to be acknowledged. I think Chair James was reading the comment online. Is that the same person who made the comment? Chair Fields? Go ahead Chair Fields. You had a comment.

Chair Fields: That wasn't me, but yeah I do have a comment that I want to make. I thought that when you said before they said that we have 30 days to review what she sent across to us in an email before it gets brought to the floor for a vote and I don't believe it's been a full 30 days. This just that came to us on January something right? So that part as well so shouldn't we be waiting for everyone to review it for the full 30 days before bringing it to the floor for the vote?

Chair James: Actually the Board received about 40 days notice because once the Bylaws Committee proposed it back in December it was sent out immediately, and then it was presented at the December meeting and opened for discussion. So this is a month later it's being presented in accordance to the Bylaws to be voted on.

Chair Fields: Yeah. It was presented to the Executive Committee Members, but not to the full Board and the full Board is voting on it but did the full Board have 30 days to review it? Because we discussed it in the Executive meeting, not in the full meeting. This is the first full meeting.

Chair Daley: Wait. Point of order. Point of order. Ms. Fields in December you stepped down...you yourself stepped down to the right microphone (my right) and you asked a question relating to the special meeting. That's (a). You also asked a question that people have a one year term. So in the December meeting when it was presented, you had two (2) questions that the Bylaws Committee were going to go back and look at. Just...

Chair Fields: Yes. That's true.

Chair Daley: Hold on. So as a point of clarity this was presented to the Board one month before for review.

Chair Fields: Yes. That's true, but she's made changes since that meeting. We discussed the changes that she made saying that she made the changes according to what my question of that meeting. So once those changes were made doesn't the time starts over again when we discussed it in the Executive meeting because they made changes after I brought up the questions. You know what I mean. So in the sense she made the changes as of the Executive meeting, which was different.

Chair Daley: Point of order. Point of order. The answer to your question is no because it was already presented. At this juncture you have options that you can do as it relates to any resolution that's on the floor. However, the Bylaws itself was followed based upon what's in the Bylaws. Now you have several options in front of you.

(1) You could move to make an amendment once it's presented. That's (a) but you have a whole bunch of options to be used to seek from the time. So if that's what you're asking for, then you can make a motion to do that.

Chair Fields: Can you repeat that? I didn't hear it.

Chair Daley: Pardon me?

Chair Fields: Can you repeat that? I didn't hear it.

Chair Daley: You have the option to make a motion, postpone, table or any of the sort. I did go through this when I did the Roberts Rule training. Once that motion is made - I apologize to everyone but I just want to make sure that we're clear - once the motion is made it's then presented to the floor to be voted on. So if you make a motion to table or to postpone, you can do that. Motion to amend, you can do that. However, the motion was presented to you for review. So this is your option at this moment. So if you want..

Chair Fields: Okay. Yes I want to do the motion.

Chair Daley: The problem is you're not present. So because you're not present you're gonna have to make somebody in the room, if you text somebody in the room to have them make the motion for you if they choose to.

Chair Fields: I thought we were allowed to participate, we just couldn't vote?

Chair Daley: You are. I'm giving you points of clarity.

Chair Fields: Oh. Okay.

Chair Daley: Because you can't make a motion because you cannot vote so if you cannot vote you cannot make a motion.

Chair Fields: Will someone in the room want to make a motion to postpone so we can review it better? I just want time to review it.

Chair James: Mr. Chair you've made the point. She does not have. So at this time any other comments from the floor at this time?

Chair Daley: Go ahead Ms. Bakiridine.

Ms. Bakiridine: I do have a question regarding whether or not we are now going to have to vote for each of them because I thought there were two amendments being made to the Bylaws. So is this something that we're going to be doing individually?

Chair Daley: Yes.

Ms. Bakiridine: And then I have an additional question based on what just occurred.

Chair Daley: Yes. It's going to be added to the Bylaws. The Bylaws will change. The articles that were mentioned will be changed to reflect what the outcome of the vote is. There's a change.

Ms. Bakiridine: No. My question was I thought there were two amendments that were being proposed this evening. I hear one.

Chair Daley: Yes. She only did one first because they're done one at a time.

Ms. Bakiridine: So they will be done one at a time. Thank you. And then my final question is regarding the... we were able to nominate from the WebEx, but we're not able to make a motion from the via the WebEx? Please clarify.

Chair Daley: Actually we cannot. After reviewing what it says it says if the Mayor calls or the Governor calls for a state of emergency, and there was no state of emergency called so there cannot be a nomination online either. It has to be in person.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you.

Chair James: There'll be no more comments.

Chair Daley: Yes Mr. Ampal.

Mr. Ampal: Just for clarity, so we are voting on this tonight right?

Chair Daley: Yes.

Mr. Ampal: Okay. I have more of a comment as opposed to a question. Now my understanding of Community Boards is that it's pretty much the most small D Democratic agency within city government mainly because of the fact that it's a city agency that's embedded in the community as opposed to going to Manhattan to speak to bureaucrats and whatnot. It's our agency and with regards to the Bylaws and how it's structured currently it's meant to be reflexive. It's meant to be reflexive for community members as well as Board members so that if there's something that collectively the Board dislikes, if there's something that collectively the Board feels like there needs to be going in a different direction, you have the ability to do that each and every year. It's hard for me to understand how expanding a term from one year to two years retains that level of reflexiveness and responsiveness to not only the Board members, but to the community and I find a lot of challenge in how that could be retained. One.

Two. With regards to succession planning or the implementation of a prior Chair when a new Chair comes in to do what the prior Chair had done, I don't think you necessarily fix that with regards to this proposal. I think it's more of a regards to making sure you have a pure, a very concise organization within the Community Board to hold that next Chair (the successive Chair) responsible for implementing something that has been done before by the prior Chair. The Board has powers within the Bylaws to propose things, to hold the new Chair accountable to make sure that whatever has been decided before can be done and I've seen it firsthand. So I just want to provide that feedback for consideration for Board members before they vote. Thanks.

Chair James: Thank you and I'll just point as probably the longest serving member on this Board that except for your tenure every single chairperson exercises...well have the opportunity to maximize the term. So meaning that they actually serve the four years.

Chair Daley: Point of order Madam Chair. I hate to do this to you, but you're not allowed to debate.

Chair James: Sorry. It's just a comment. So anybody else from the floor can? Fine.

Chair Daley: My apologies..Somebody else can debate it, but not you.

Chair James: Okay. I call for the vote right now Madam Secretary.

Chair Daley: For point of clarity you were asking for a two-year term. Did you mention how many terms or just changing from one year to two years?

Chair James: It just changes the term period, which many of the Community Boards in New York City...

Chair Daley: I wasn't asking for an explanation. I just want a point of clarity. Is it a two-year term? Two two-year terms? That's what I'm just asking.

Chair James: That will be dealt with separately.

Chair Daley: Okay. Thank you. That's all I'm asking. Thank you very much.

Mr. Ampal: Maybe I should have asked this earlier at the other times it was lifted up everyone's question _____ shared it with me. I want to ask other Community Boards here in Brooklyn as well as New York City is there a two-year terms or is it majority one year term? I just want to hear what is taking place in the other Community Boards.

Chair James: Am I permitted to answer? You want to answer?

Chair Daley: So each Community... well I'll just answer from the Borough Hall perspective. **[unclear words]** Each Community Board has the autonomy to amend your Bylaws as it fits your community. There are 18 Independent Community Boards that follow the laws up the chain so if our Community Board chooses to vote that way, then that's what happens. There are Community Boards with unlimited terms for their Chair, which we have not voted for that and there are Community Boards that extend how many terms you can serve. Each of the 18 has the autonomy to do whatever you want to do essentially within the confines of the City Charter and the State Constitution.

[inaudible speaking]

Chair James: May I? Okay. I didn't do a survey, but I did have the members of the Bylaws Committee collect as many Bylaws as we possibly could, and we did see Bylaws which have two years. Whether it's a majority of the 18 or less than the 18, I don't know. We didn't do that, but we did look at Bylaws that do have two-year terms.

Madam Secretary. Just to change the elections.

Ms. Thomas: We're voting now on moving to make one of the two recommended changes to the Bylaws. Kwame Afren, Aaron Ampal, Berlot Antoine, Hassan Bakiridine, Teresa Bereton, Asher Cunningham, Rodrick Daley, Allison French Kenton, Dr. Charles Gallber, Rose Graham, Gail Grandison, Julia James (Yes), Osney Lewis, Montserrat Oni, June Persaud, Dion Kuamina, Janice Reed, Dr. Carol Reneau, Antoinette Smart, Tamara Thomas (Yes) and Kendrick Westcott.

Chair James: While the votes are tallied the next resolution deals with Board attendance and let me just set the stage by saying the process of removal is under review by the Borough President so we are not discussing what must take place. Whatever happens, it has to comply with the City Charter and right on the City Charter I think does require majority vote. The Borough President may step in. What is only being discussed here tonight or holding on tonight is what constitutes absences and how many absences must occur before any action is taken. So we are not debating; we're not discussing. We're not voting on how it should happen. That will comply with New York City laws however the process unfolds, and I know the Borough President has been taking a look at it. The issue here tonight is to address the lack of quorum that we've had. This is January 2023 and this is the first time in the entire fiscal year we've achieved a quorum. So that's why it was necessary to take a look at the Bylaws. Currently the Bylaws permit for excused and unexcused absences. I will tell you the Borough President is not going down that path. The Borough President has completely eliminated this concept of excused absences. In addition to that, the Bylaw says it had to be consecutive. So somebody could be absent for three months, show up for one month and then be absent again for the next three months. That has been impacting the Board's ability to be able to do the community's work so the vote on the table today is to delete currently what's in the Bylaws.

The Bylaws say members of the Board shall make every effort to attend Board meetings. Removal for cause is outlined as three consecutive unexcused absences or a total five unexcused absences. The proposed chain says in-person attendance at regular Board meetings is required, and again that's consistent. We're not even debating the issue of in-person attendance that's part of the Bylaws already. It's just a matter of incorporating it here for consistency. The real issue is upon a Board member missing four meetings of the Board whether consecutive or not, steps shall be taken by the First Vice Chairperson within two weeks of the member's fourth absence to terminate Board membership for cause my first providing written notice to the Board member. Upon notification within two weeks the member may submit a written appeal to the Chairperson to be deliberated and voted upon at the Board's next scheduled Executive Committee. I open the floor for discussion.

Mr. Ampal: Hi. It's me again. I have a question and comment. Madam Chair of the Bylaws Committee you had said that the Borough President was not going for the unexcused provision within the Bylaws. Am I to assume that the Borough President has authority to preempt Community Board Bylaws by making a decree that they must all change or is it still within our power to craft the Bylaws as we see fit?

Chair Daley: Just for clarity, the Borough President's office has clearly stated that there's no such thing as excused absence so it's either you're present or you're absent so even though we say unexcused, it is not recognized as unexcused. Though you might call and say, "I have an emergency and I cannot make the meeting," and you say "I want to be excused," there is no such thing as an excuse and that comes directly from the Borough President's office.

Mr. Ampal: I assume that's been interpreted from City Charter basically right?

Chair Daley: Whether it's from the City Charter or not, I'm only answering based upon what the Borough President has stated.

Chair James: Mr. Ampal, point of order. What we need to bear in mind is that while all Bylaws are legal documents which are legally enforceable, we need to bear in mind it's the Borough President who appoints so we can't limit his right to remove as well.

Mr. Ampal: I think that's a little bit...it comes from the Borough President.

Chair Daley: The Borough President Council as well.

Mr. Ampal: I get the Borough President's appointment power. I'm not challenging his appointment power. I'm just looking for clarity as to what he can do with regards to the Bylaws. May I make a comment or is my time expired?

Chair Daley: The rule is that you can't do both right so either you come to ask a question for clarity or your stating again so you can't do both.

Mr. Ampal: I yield the rest of my time.

Chair James: Are there any other comments? Any other questions from the floor? There being none, can we take the vote please.

Chair Daley: For point of order can you just read out loud what the resolution is that is presented - the amendment is to the Bylaws. Not the resolution. The amendment to the Bylaws.

Chair James: The amendment is to delete the current article that states that *three consecutive unexcused absences are allowed or five unexcused absences* to replace it to insert in the Bylaws *in-person attendance at regular Board meetings is required. Upon a Board member missing four meetings of the Board, whether consecutive or not, steps shall be taken by the First Vice Chairperson within two weeks of a member's both absence to terminate Board membership for cause by first providing written notice to the Board member. Upon notification within two weeks the member may submit a written appeal to the Chairperson to be deliberated and voted upon at the Board's next scheduled Executive Meeting.*

Ms. Thomas: So with that said and hope everyone understands, I'm going to start the vote. Kwame Afren, Aaron Ampal, Berlot Antoine, Hassan Bakiridine, Teresa Bereton, Asher Cunningham, Rodrick Daley, Allison French Kenton, Dr. Charles Gallber, Rose Graham, Gail Grandison, Julia James (Yes), Osney Lewis, Montserrat Oni, June Persaud, Dion Kuamina, Janice Reed, Dr. Carol Reneau, Antoinette Smart, Tamara Thomas (Yes) and Kendrick Westcott.

Chair James: Thank you very much. Mr. Chair while she's tallying votes, can I just make a quick comment? Thank you. I want to clarify that according to Robert's Rules of Order, any Board member who has the support of a number of Board members can bring a motion to remove or censure a Chair. Misinformation was given to this Board I think it was last year so having someone elected for two years does not remove the right. You are empowered at any point of time as long as you have sufficient votes. I think it has to be like probably 25 percent of the Board. You can bring a resolution or motion to the floor. Doesn't even have to be _____ in advance to the floor to have a Chair or any other officer removed or censured. Thank you.

Ms. Thomas: Miss French Kenton asked me to come back around for her vote. Thank you.

Chair James: The motion to amend the Bylaws to change the term limits - eleven (11) Yes, four (4) Abstentions, six (6) No. With regard to changing the number of absences before removal - eighteen (18) Yes, one (1) No and two (2) Abstentions.

On January 18, 2023 at 9:11pm I present to the Board two other proposed changes for your review for your 30-day notice. I am bringing to the Board's attention other proposed changes to the Bylaws to be voted upon next month, and specifically a cause for changes - well an addition to the Second Vice Chairperson's duties. It says the Second Vice Chairperson shall assist the First Vice Chairperson in the execution of duties pertaining to the oversight of Board members and Committee members attendance as delegated by the First Vice Chair. That's a resolution that will be voted on in February.

The second resolution is with regard to special meeting attendance. In December the issue of special meetings was raised. The Bylaws Committee listened, and we took it into account. We could not just come up and suggest or propose that you can be absent from as many special meetings with no consequences because if that were the case then we would fail to get a quorum many times. What it says is Board members are required to attend special meetings, which shall be held virtually when called. Failure by a Board member to attend two (2) special meetings shall be counted as an absence of one (1) regular meeting. Remember earlier we voted for four (4) regular meeting absences? You have an additional... if you miss two (2) special meetings, it counts for one (1) regular. Any questions on either of the two items so far? Any clarification needed? Okay so one more time. Board members are required to attend special meetings. They will be held virtually, and if you miss two (2) special meetings when they're called, then that constitutes one regular meeting.

Marguerite: I have my hands raised.

Chair James: I recognize whoever Marguerite.

Marguerite: I'm just wondering why are special meetings allowed to be held virtually as opposed to regular meetings? What's the difference?

Chair James: As a matter of technicality since the New York State Public Offices Law did not cover special meetings, we took the liberty to make it as easy as possible for Board members. So I had New York State Public Offices Law say that even for special meetings you're required to be in person as it does right now. Actually the quorum has to be physically present. We took the liberty to do that so that's why we provided for virtual meetings.

Chair Daley: And also special meetings are only for Board members so whereas the general public meeting is for all Community people so that's also part of that conversation as well.

Chair James: And given the short notice of seven days we try to make it as easy as possible for members.

Chair Daley: Right and Matt when we say seven days also location to find location in a short period of time that creates an issue as well. Whereas the public meeting is monthly and is established.

Chair James: Thank you. The third item that will probably...

Female Speaker: I do apologize. I have my hand raised. May I be acknowledged please.

Chair James: Yes.

Ms. Bakiridine: I do have a question regarding the special meetings and the cancellation of said meetings, which then put a burden on Board members who have already made accommodations to attend said meetings. What then?

Chair James: I'm not sure I follow the ideas.

Ms. Bakiridine: It is stating that if you do not attend two special meetings, then you will be held accountable as if you have not attended one regular meeting. So the question comes in about... I can use a recent example where we did have a special meeting called. Board members made arrangements and provisions to be at the meeting, and the afternoon of the meeting it was canceled.

Chair Daley: So are you proposing, Member Bakiridine, that we make every special meeting one absence? Is that what you're proposing?

Ms. Bakiridine: I'm not saying to make it one absence. I'm asking for clarification of what happens if the reason the person misses the meeting is because it was rescheduled at the last minute within a shorter time frame.

Chair Daley: So all special meetings have to be scheduled within seven (7) days.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you.

Chair Daley: So it's within seven days and what I did for the last special meeting was I think it was a month late that I scheduled it; I think or close to a month late.

Ms. Bakiridine: It was scheduled for the Wednesday and then on that Wednesday it was rescheduled for the Monday which was less than seven days away.

Chair Daley: Yeah. I rescheduled for the Monday?

Ms. Bakiridine: It was a Monday.

Chair Daley: Oh it was a Monday? You're right but it wasn't for that Monday. It was two weeks, but I think as I'm understanding I wasn't at that meeting.

Chair James: Point of order. It was called as an Emergency Meeting, not a special meeting. An emergency meeting does not require seven days' notice and I made sure the District Manager .

Ms. Bakiridine: So the special meeting was changed to an Emergency Meeting, so therefore, we did not require advanced notice.

Chair James: That's incorrect. You are required to have at least three days' notice for the Emergency Meeting, but the meeting that you're referring to was not a Special Meeting. I spoke to the District Manager to make sure everything was okay. It was an Emergency Meeting, not a Special Meeting so it did not require seven days' notice.

Ms. Bakiridine: I will check my messages, but thank you. That is not how I recall it. Thank you for clarifying.

Chair James: You're welcome. This does not address it. It just addresses the Special Meetings.

Chair Antoine: **[difficult to hear]** I have a question regarding seven days because sometimes I will plan my calendar three months ahead. I cannot be penalized for something that someone... **[unable to hear remaining audio unclear]**

Chair James: Can I answer the question? If you missed every Special Meeting - I hate to say this but that's a reality - if you missed every Special Meeting and you attended every regular meeting, there's no penalty. But if you missed three regular meetings and two special meetings, then you're penalized. So I think it would be incorrect for anyone to say that they're going to be... under this proposal that they are... and that was to accommodate the persons who raised the issue. We went back and said well okay we'll take it into consideration because if we didn't incorporate some level of penalty for missing a special meeting, then there would be no incentive for anyone to attend the meetings. Fair enough?

Chair Daley: I would also like to respond to Chair Antoine's point. We only had a second special meeting because we didn't have Quorum at the first. So we wouldn't have had two if the members showed up to the first. I think that we had 16 people, but there was an incident also right so we knew that at the last moment. So we only had one Special Meeting this year as of right now.

FVC: I do understand the significance for a penalty for a lot of these rules, but I do believe hearing what I've heard in the room the members being concerned about the penalty. My recommendation would be to remove the penalty and put a strong recommendation to members to really attend Special Meetings. I do believe that the virtual component should encourage members to at least attend, and because I hear Miss Antoine's point of booking in advance, trips being planned, but at least if you are virtual you should be able to attend. My recommendation is honestly to remove the penalty after hearing a lot of the comments.

Chair Daley: Madam Chair? So I'm going to disagree with my First Vice Chair, and the reason why I'm going to disagree about the penalty component is for some of the reasons that he stated. I would also remove the word virtual, and make it hybrid. Because hybrid means that you can be both in person as we did with the ADM. So I would remove the word virtual and put hybrid. I believe that the only way that this issue becomes a problem is if you don't want to attend the monthly meetings because you could miss six Special Meetings without getting a letter. You could miss six Special Meetings. I've been on the Board for nine (9) years and in that nine years I think we've had three Special Meetings; maybe four. A lot of times people are concerned about this penalty because you're missing regular meetings, and the regular meetings are far more important, in my mind, in terms of attendance, because they're more regular. It's more scheduled so unless you're concerned that you're not going to show up to monthly meetings, then you need to be worried about the hybrid component. That's just my thought when you really think about the logic of it. For example, I have not missed any meetings. I'm not going to be worried that I'm going to miss two Special Meetings because I have zero **[inaudible words]**. That's something that we need to think about. I do get that, but it's only for...then it's hybrid so the additional thing that goes along with... but it doesn't say hybrid. I would like to amend it to say hybrid, That's where I am with that.

Chair James: And to the Vice Chair's point, the Chair has been pleading for members to come out for the September, October, and November meetings. This is the first time we've had a quorum. So if you're pleading with members for the regular meeting, how much more can you plead for Special Meetings? Any other questions, comments, observations? Okay so I want to just recap in seeing these three items with the amendment that instead of saying virtually, we'll say in hybrid, will be presented 30 days from tonight to the Board to be voted on. Thank you very much.

Chair Fields: I had my hand raised..

Chair James: Go ahead.

Chair Fields: On the Committee one, y'all removed the Housing Committee and why would y'all do that? When they did the survey to find out what were the top priorities, Housing was one of the three top priorities for our community so why would you remove the Housing Committee? That is a very important Committee and not to be thought of as an afterthought. We have affordable housing issues in our community. We have people who are homeowners who have issues with taxes, lower property taxes, things of that nature. We have a lot of issues with Housing in this area so why would Housing be removed as a Committee? That is not an afterthought. That is a very important Committee.

Chair James: Okay. Housing has not been removed.

Chair Fields: I'm looking at the list that you have here, and also who determines which ones we need and which one we didn't? I didn't see a survey go out to show that we could ask the community what is our priorities, what we want and what we need because each neighborhood has different needs.

Chair Daley: Wait. Ms. Fields...Chair Fields. Point of order.

Chair Fields: Yeah.

Chair Daley: I hear the passion. It's not up for discussion as yet so we have to close out one issue before you bring up a second. So we need to close out.

Chair Fields: She was just closing the whole thing though.

Chair Daley: Ms. Fields, when the motion comes to the floor for discussion, you asked to be recognized by the Chair. Right now you're out of order because they're discussing Special Meetings. So once we finish that then you can have the conversation.

Chair Fields: Okay. I thought she was finished. That's why I did that.

Chair Daley: All right..

Chair James: Thank you. So okay I will move on to Committees. All Board members are required to serve on at least two Committees. That's something the Borough President had established.

Chair Daley: Not two. One.

Chair James: One Committee? Yeah?

Chair Daley: That's an amendment to the Bylaws.

Chair James: It's always been two right?

Chair Daley: No. It's one.

Chair James: Okay. Even if it has been one, the Borough President from the time I've been on this Board has been insistent it should be two.

Chair Daley: I'm not saying no. What I'm saying is that the Bylaws says one. This is the General Board. You're nominating to make it both.

Chair James: And that is to make it consistent with the Borough President's mandate from ever. Okay. Any comments besides the Chair?

Chair Fields: I don't understand what just happened there. Can you repeat what was being said so I can understand.

Chair James: All Board members are required to serve on at least two Committees.

Chair Fields: Okay. Yeah that's what I wanted to bring up. That's what I thought you said. If you look at the Borough President website, it says that you're required to be on at least one Committee. It just says a Committee, but we're saying two Committees. So when the person applies to be on the Board, they think they only have to be obligated to be on one Committee and then you're telling them once they are already here that it's required to be on two Committees and that takes away more time. They didn't put aside time for that so I think we should be consistent with what's being told to them on the official Borough President website because I looked on it and read it when I seen this came across, and that's what it said. It just says "a" Committee, not two Committees. So we can be consistent.

Chair James: I appreciate you bringing that to our attention. That has to be a very recent change because for decades, forever, it was always two Committees. I will communicate with the Borough President's office to see if they reduced it to one, and I would say I've looked at other Bylaws and other Bylaws do require two Committees.

Chair Fields: It's right on the website. Just go to the link and you can _____.

Chair Daley: Ms. Fields. The rule of talking and arguing - it's not back and forth. So you have to wait to speak. You need to be acknowledged before you speak.

Chair Fields: I'm sorry. Sorry.

Chair Daley: Hold on Ms. Fields. I'm not done. Let other people speak before you speak again.

Chair James: Mr Westcott, one second okay.

Chair Daley: So all I'm asking is not that you can't speak, but you have to allow...I know you're very passionate about it, but you're gonna be out of order if you don't allow other people to speak. .All right.

Chair Fields: Okay.

Chair James: One second please. In the interest of making next month's meeting as efficient as possible, can I see by a show of hands how many people would want it to be only one Committee? Just a show of hands.

Chair Daley: I just have a question for clarity? Do you consider the GB as a Committee, the General Board?

Chair James: No.

Chair Daley: No. So we're saying you're saying for example you're supposed to be part of Housing - well whatever - Housing and Youth for example.

Chair James: I'm on four Committees.

Chair Daley: No, I'm not debating how many Committees anybody's on. I'm just asking if that's what you mean. Just a point of clarity.

Chair James: Yes. A Committee's a Committee.

Chair Daley: Okay.

Chair James: By show of hands and can somebody count online because I'll give them that leeway. How many people here would want to have two? Let's just make it how many people would prefer to have it to be only one? Just raise your hand very quickly. How many people would prefer to have it as two? Two. One. Two. Just bear in mind we have fewer Committees. Okay so is it fair to say that the consensus of the Board is to only have one?

Chair Daley: **[low audio]**

Chair James: Okay we'll put it to a vote, and the majority will decide. Very quickly to the next one. Committees we have an abundance.

Ms. Bakiridine: I had my hand up.

Chair James: I recognize Ms. Backiridine.

Ms. Bakiridine: I do have a clarity question regarding the anomalies of membership of said Committees. I've been on the Committee for many years, and quite frequently I'm not receiving the alerts with the access point for the meetings.

Chair James: Excuse me.

Ms. Bakiridine: So would that also be addressed as a part of this addition?

Chair James: What is she talking about?

Chair Daley: Ms. Bakiridine I agree with you 100 percent. She's saying that we're not getting needed notifications.

Chair James: That's not a point for this right now.

Ms. Bakiridine: But if you're holding people accountable for being on certain Committees, then we need to be....

Chair Daley: Hold on Ms. Bakiridine. Hold on one second. Let's clarify.

Chair James: On point of order, that's something you as the Chair can address.

Chair Daley: So we'll just talk about the number of..so Ms. Bakiridine my understanding and for clarity, it's not about attendance. How many Committees should the Board members be inclined to be part of. A minimum of two. That's all she's talking about, but notification is a very good point. I just want to point that out again although I'm out of order.

Chair James: That's for you to address.

Ms. Bakiridine: Thank you Mr. Chair.

Chair James: Committees shall consist of standing Committees as specified herein and such other special Committees as a Chairperson or majority of the Board members at a regular meeting vote to establish. Land Use, Personnel, Beautification, Youth & Education, Transportation, Social Services, which incorporates Housing, Budget, Commerce, Executive. So we are not eliminating Housing. It should be a critical component of Social Services. I open the floor for comments.

Chair Fields: My hand is raised.

Chair James: Yeah. We deliberated about that. I think it was going to be part of Social. What are your thoughts? I'm opening...the whole idea is to get your views, you know. What are your ideas about Public Safety?

[Unable to hear speaker - possibly Chair Fields]

Chair James: Okay. We'll make that change. Okay. Great. Point well taken.

Male Speaker: So I believe some of the excitement and some of the emotion we have to be very specific and very straightforward about what's going on. The reason why all of these, some of these Committees are together is because of the attendance.

Chair James: Thank you.

Male Speaker continues: And we don't want to make it seem as though we taking somebody's position or whatever the case may be because you could still be effective inside of a Committee right but the issue we have is attendance. So it's nothing personal, but remember the most embarrassing thing, I believe, was to hear the Councilwoman say that Community Boards 17 and 9 are two of the most dysfunctional Boards in the whole of New York City. And when she said that whatever we do now to mitigate that, I am for it. So I'm sorry if somebody feel a how. If they feel thing, this is about the community and being effective. So if it is that we have to put Committees together, the people that were Chairs of those Committees, you could still come there and push or co-Chair. You understand what I'm saying? We could do that to be effective, but right now what's going on is a wake-up call and you have to shake up. Wake up and shake up.

Chair James: I thank you very much because that's a critical...I mean that's really why this is being done so I really thank you for bringing it up. And for example I was so pleased tonight to hear the Commons Committee had a quorum because that could have been the first time in five years. And back then business people were coming to meetings to do business and they had; it was very embarrassing. Let me repeat. I know at least for years we didn't achieve a quorum. When did you end your Chair?

Female Speaker: I was a Chair for only six months. Oh five months.

Chair James: Okay. When did your Chair end?

Female Speaker: I'm still the Chair.

Chair James: But before that?

Female Speaker: I don't remember. It was a long time ago.

Chair James: Yeah but I'm saying during that period of time a quorum was never achieved. Isn't that embarrassing? So that's why we're trying to reduce the number of Committees to have less meetings because people complain about meetings. So everybody can just attend on these particular nights. Okay.

Female Speaker: I stand here to talk about the Committees. Committee Board 17 has the most Committees in the whole of Brooklyn or the whole of New York City so by combining some of the Committees we will have great attendance, and we would actually you know be quality than quantity and that's what the key is all about. Be productive and get things done the right way and the meetings will be shorter, which will encourage people Board members to attend and get home at a decent time. I thank you. Have a pleasant night.

Chair Daley: I would also like to add. I don't see Hospitality there, but I'm sure it's somewhere in there and it would be Services? Services. Okay so the one thing that I would like to add. I'm always going to push for co-Chairs in every Committee. Secondly, I was able to attend Youth & Education who have sub-Committees. Sub-Committees can report out at the Committee meetings for that to happen right. So if we combine Committees, not only do we hope to increase attendance and participation, but we will minimize the amount of Committee meetings that people will attend. There's one Board member I think who's part of about seven

Committees when I go through the Committees and outside of him, when I look at the attendance, I don't see it a lot. I wasn't at this meeting, but this looks very interesting.

What about the item on Committees? What did you do with them?

Chair James: That's up to you.

Chair Daley: I'm saying we have currently standing ad hoc Committees.

Chair James: You reappoint them as you're...you reappoint the Committees as the Chair.

Chair Daley: Not me. The Chair.

Chair James: You do. The whole idea here is not to have people to last. It's to do more in a shorter period of time. So as the Chair made mention, you can have a sub-Committee. So Hospitality can have a sub-Committee within Social Services, Housing. I mean we want you to be involved and active, but we don't want to drain you by having you attend so many meetings. That's what we're trying to avoid.

I recognize the one on... Mr., do you have a comment before you leave? Thank you. Thanks for staying.

Chair Daley: There are some hands.

Chair James: Can you recognize _____ please.

Ms. Bakiridine: I just had a question about the message that it sends to others outside of our Committee community and looking into Community Board 17 that we're now going to get rid of the Housing; a truly stated housing Committee.

Chair James: I have looked at other Bylaws and I didn't see Housing. That does not mean it isn't critical. It's probably one of the most critical aspects right here, but they can incorporate it into Social Services and just have everything dealt with there so there'll be more attendance at the particular Social Services Committee meeting.

Ms. Bakiridine: And then my final statement was to read something that was placed in the chat regarding you stating that the Commerce Committee never had a quorum and there was a challenge to that in the chat.

Chair James: Thank you well that's fine because I served for a period of time and I got the comments. It did not have... there were years there was not a quorum.

Chair Fields: My hand has been raised for a while.

Chair James: Any other comments?

Chair Fields: Yes. My hand has been raised for a while.

FVC: Ms. Field's hand has been raised.

Chair James: Yes.

Chair Fields: Yeah. my comment is that to combine Housing instead of having to stand on its own and it's a much needed thing and is very important, but most importantly if we've been doing this because of the quorum, the main General Meeting doesn't even get quorum lately because all this happened because of the pandemic. So to say oh now this is out of the question is ridiculous. What we need to do is determine what's needed in our community, and then we all act on that. Yes we can combine some of the meetings. but combining them is not going to make quorum either if people are not showing up because of the pandemic. So what you need to do is start making sure the community knows what's going on and get their input on something like this instead of just telling us what we need because we've already said that Housing is a very important thing so I'm very much against that. I don't care if I'm the Chair or someone else is Chair, but the Housing Committee itself still needs to stay in place because that is a very important Committee and I don't think it's right that y'all should just get rid of it and combine it with something else as if it's an afterthought when this is very important for our community. I don't care if I'm the Chair or not. Someone else could be the Chair, but the Committee itself needs to stay and be worked on and get work done in the community so that these things that are going on in our area can be a kibosh to it and we get support that we need here. Seriously y'all need to rethink this process and not think about what other people think as far as we have too many Committees.

Chair James: Ok. Point of order. Point of order. You've made your observation. We've heard it, okay, because we're not this we're not voting on this tonight. This is being presented for your 30-day review, so you would have sufficient time to, but I will reach out to the Social Services Chairperson and actually that was what the Committee has recommended we reach out to the Social Services Committee Chairperson and have a meeting, talk to that person and get that person's viewpoint as to whether or not what they're doing warrants at this particular point of time having a separate or combined Committee.

Yes Mr. Vice Chair.

Vice Chair: I just want to make a comment, probably looking at maybe the combination. I don't think I particularly agree to the combination of the Housing where it is. I do believe it should be combined, and when I'm looking at the City Planning website when we go through the budget process, maybe a different placement may be better. Maybe Housing and Land Use because that's where it is on the City Planning website when we go through the actual budget process that's how they categorize it. So maybe looking - and I could tell you how it is actually here and we could look at that together. Maybe looking at that list of how they categorize the Committees that we have, could be a better way to go about it.

Chair James: Can I get your viewpoint based on the work? What we really need to assess is what is the workload of the Committees. Are they just meeting for meetings sake because there's a Committee, or are they actually doing something? So if it's just a matter of having a Committee meeting, then I think we can look at combinations so I would defer to the Land Use Chair. Do you think it's viable to come based on the workload you've had for the past two years?

Chair Fray: It depends. Ultimately there's logistical issues. To make sure that every issue gets addressed with enough time I can't really see from my meetings and the way that they're run

and attended at the length that I'm required to try to keep them to have those issues addressed as well. I would have to probably extend the time of my meetings by probably 30 minutes to just make sure that I cover because when we actually do have Land Use business, it's overwhelming.. There's other communities that are coming in. If we have landmarks issues, we have entire blocks that are coming in to speak on situations. So logistically for me it may be possible to happen, but we just need to talk about how we're going to address it from the meetings. I can't foresee being able to combine meetings without extending the time to make sure that all the components get addressed. So I think that we need to not forgo this, but discuss it further. Discuss what needs to be changed from the meeting perspective. Maybe co-Chairs for each subsection to make sure that they're all getting addressed and nothing gets ignored because a lot can be placed on one particular Chair to hit three or four things they may fall under his purview. So it's more logistics I think that need to be addressed, and maybe some meetings may need to be expanded or extended to make sure that, when the business side comes to it. I can speak maybe for just Commerce because I know that they deal with a lot of business that we have enough time to address.

Chair James: Just one point. I have to point out Housing has some critical issues they need to address, but I anticipate in the next two, three or four months those issues will be addressed one way or the other. It's not like it carries over for the next year or two so they're critically important. Nobody is minimizing their importance. They need to be addressed and the Housing Chair will have the opportunity to address them for the next couple of months, but once those issues have been addressed, do you really need to meet separately on Housing? What else are you doing? I'm really just speaking from the perspective of what are we doing? What tasks are we accomplishing? Mr. Chair.

Chair Daley: So I'm just thinking that when the Bylaws Committee meets, I'm still concerned that Public Safety is not there so I would propose that you combine, that you think about amending that amendment to say Transportation and Public Safety and maybe pull Housing. I think that A, C, D, E, F and H are really the Committees that meet every month and to add Housing. I don't think that would be an issue to pull Housing as its own separate Committee and combine Transportation and Public Safety.

Chair James: Okay. I just want to point out too that Public Safety has not had a quorum or meet for whatever it is so we're not trying to have meetings for people, calling meetings, people show up and they're not able to do anything because they don't have quorum.

Chair Daley: Right and that's why I'm thinking Transportation and Public Safety together as one Committee and then pull Housing by itself. That's just a proposal as well.

Yes? **[inaudible speaker comment or question]** Yeah but technically it's actually supposed to be _____ find out what's going on with the staffing issues but it's not like a regular Committee that meets every month. Those two are not issues. It's the other ones. That's just my...

Chair James: Thank you very much for your cooperation, and your comments are very well taken and will be incorporated. Thank you very much. Mr. Chair.

FVC: Thank you Chair James. I will recognize at this moment Councilmember Lewis who's online and who would like to speak... Thank you so she's not online anymore. Thank you. So Daniel can speak on her behalf.

Daniel: Good evening everyone. I will be very brief in light of the time. Let me just pull up my points real quick. I hope you all are having a great evening so far. Thank you for all of your dedication to this. I just want to give some Community updates. The Council Member joined Community groups with the 67 Precinct on the intersection of 56th Street and Church Avenue in regards to the shooting that had occurred on the 10th so we are currently working with the Precinct and the family. We're conducting a tour of the neighborhood with the Commissioner of Small Business Services to do some more revitalization on Avenue D and Utica Avenue. We heard some feedback from the Commerce Committee to also expand to Church and we will be doing so. Thank you for that feedback. We're also working with our Federal elected officials to bring more attention to replacing the bank that was lost on Avenue D, and we're currently working with them actively to bring some more attention to that area. We're also launching a school survey to bring more attention to how we can improve our community schools, and we thank our cooperation with the Education Chair and Committee, and we look forward to joining all the upcoming CB17 events and continuing our advocacy for the neighborhood. Thank you so much.

FVC: Thank you so much Daniel, and thank you for the Council Member's office for speaking. Are there any other elected officials online, legislators online who would like to speak quickly for one minute?

Rachel: This is Rachel from Congresswoman Yvette Clark's office. I just wanted to just let you know that I was here, but I don't have any updates. Thank you.

FVC: Thank you. Any other? You can just unmute and speak.

Portia(?): Good evening. This is Portia from State Senator Myrie's office. How are you? Thank you so much for just convening this meeting. Just a quick update. We are doing our State of the District Address on February 26th at Medgar Evers College. I've put the information in the chat already, but that was a very long time ago so I'm going to post it again so that you guys can see it. It is going to be from 2:00pm. to 5:00pm. The address is 1638 Bedford Avenue. The Senator will be talking about his priorities for the District for the next two sessions and we will move from there. We've also just convened the Judiciary Hearing today to where the Senator voted No for Justice LaSalle. So just wanted to give that update if you haven't received that email. Thank you, and I hope you guys have a great night.

Chair Daley: Thank you very much. Mr. Robinson from member Chandler Waterman's office.

Mr. Robinson: No. I'm from Councilmember _____'s office.

Chair Daley: No. Dalton Robinson from Assemblymember...

Mr. Robinson: Okay. My fault.

Dalton Robinson: Good evening everyone. Real quickly; an abbreviated report. The member was actually on her way, but I told her the meeting was winding down so she didn't bother to turn up but I just want to announce our Ecumenical Service and Inaugural Gala on Saturday, January 28, 2023, 6 p.m at Holy Family Church and all are invited. She went back to Albany with the real purpose of fighting to make sure the community gets the resources that it needs.

Her office is at 903 Utica Avenue. The number is 718-385-3336. Thank you very much. Have a blessed night.

Chair Daley: Mr Robinson it's the quietest I've ever seen you. Is everything okay?

Dalton Robinson: I'm tired.

Chair Daley: Ms. Stevenson and then Ms. Destin and then Mr. Roberts.

Bianca Stevenson: Goodnight everyone. My name is Bianca Stevenson, and I'm from the Brooklyn Borough President's office and I'm sure wherever he is tonight, his ears were constantly ringing the amount of times I could hear Borough President and Borough Hall. I'm gonna just touch on what the Chair asked me to touch on during his opening remarks; one being the virtual meetings. I just want to say that the Borough President absolutely believes that we should be able to have virtual meetings. However, we're all subject to the open meetings law which is the State, which is Albany so this is not anything that's going to be happening soon and he did indicate in the meeting that the Chair referred to that it would require community support and a pressure campaign; one being he would have to work with the other Borough Presidents and also to ask the City Council to pass a home rule as well as pressure Albany to just bring this whole process of meetings in line with what's happening already in the private sector and what's happening among non-profits. So for the time being, yes there are virtual meetings, but whatever your Bylaws say, however it works, that's just the way it's going to be because it's only because of the state of emergency that these virtual meetings can even be a thing right. So there's that.

I wanted to reinforce that the CB application season is open, and we're fast approaching the deadline, which is February the 14th. The Chair indicated earlier that if you are a Board Member, half of your Board basically, your term will expire, and if you do not reapply, then you automatically drop off. So it's important and not only that, but there's some flies at the back and we have a lot of flyers at Borough Hall - electronic and paper. Please do circulate it among people that you may know who you may think is a good fit for the Board. Young people 16 to 18. It's really important because just from what happened here today, five people were removed. The next time six people might be removed, and then there are people who may just not come back because of personal reasons. For you guys to have your Committees functioning properly and have the kind of energy you want behind Community work - this kind of work is supposed to be exciting work. It's not supposed to be slow. So if you have your full complement of Board Members who truly want to be there, it's for the best of the Board. So please do circulate it. Tell people. The application is open. It's online. It's very simple so that we can really be able to seat a Board of people who want to be here, and that's basically what it comes to because everything in life is choices. Right? And the Borough President is also going to be looking at absences in terms of his reappointments. I know you have your process here, but absence is gonna be part of whether you get reappointed or not because there's no point. Well I don't want to belabor the point, but you guys get it. Right? So Community Board applications and I just want to let you all know that the State of The Borough - I know some of you came - the Borough President just did his State of The Borough address first, and we're really excited about it and there he outlined like four main priorities going forward one of which is also the Community Board Reform effort because he absolutely thinks that in his vision that Community Boards is the grassroots of our local government and he wants to make sure that they're fully, funded fully resourced and just represents the diversity of all the Districts. So I'll just leave it there, but you know exciting times are coming and I know this hasn't always been the case, but this Borough

President fully intends to be involved and ensure that Community Boards are dynamic and really represent all that Brooklyn is - so strapping. Thank you very much and have a good night.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Judith Destin. Judith Destin. Come on down.

Judith Destin: Hi everyone. Thank you guys so much. I just want to say hello, Happy New Year. DA Eric Gonzalez brings his greetings for a new year and blessings. So that's what I have to say. Thank you all, and have a good night.

Chair Daley: I thank you. Do you want to give a number for the DA's office?

Judith Destin: My number is 718-250-2580, 718-250-2580. That's my direct number where you can find me, and also the number for the DA's office is 718-250-2000, 718-250-2000. Also we're here to do workshops on anything that our office prosecutes. That could be immigration law. predatory lending, date rape, rape, domestic violence. Basically we will do any type of things that you're looking to do, and also please let us know how we can help you. Thank you all.

Chair Daley: Thank you. Michael Roberts of Councilmember Darlene Mealy's office.

Michael Roberts: Yes. Goodnight everyone. I'm Mike Roberts from Councilmember Darlene Mealy's office, and in this time I will be brief. There are three things I want to just bring our community up to date. On January 24th from 9:00am to 1:00pm the Councilmember is launching her Housing Tuesdays at 400 Rockaway Avenue at her District Office and you can call 718-953-3097 for an appointment. On Saturday, January 28th the Councilmember will have her first Community Advisory Board meeting at 1757 Union Street, the 2nd Floor from 11:00am to 12:30 pm and our guest presenter will be Ms. Ebony Jefferson, who is a certified Life Coach and she would be speaking on Wellness and Well-being. And finally on Thursday, February 9th the Councilmember is launching her immigration assistance at her District Office again at 400 Rockaway Avenue between Pitkin Avenue and East New York Avenue from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm and you can call 718-953-3097. Today she had a successful Food Pantry; the second for 2023, and that continues with the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 400 Rockaway Avenue from 11:00am to 1:00pm and that's it. That's what I have to report. Thanks for the opportunity.

Chair Daley: I have a question on the floor Mr. Roberts.

Michael Roberts: Say again.

Chair Daley: You have a question on the floor.

Michael Roberts: Thank you.

Female Speaker: Hello Mr Roberts. I just want to know if I go on the website, will I find this information on the website?

Michael Roberts: We don't have all the information on her website yet, but that will be up by the weekend. All of the information will be there.

Female Speaker: Okay. Thank you.

Chair Kwame: Mr. Roberts my name is Kwame. I'm the chair for Land Use for Community District 17. I've been attempting to communicate with your office for several months regarding the 98th Street Development Project, and I haven't been getting any responses.

Michael Roberts: Okay I have my email in the chat. If you send me an email and call me tomorrow anytime after 9:00am, I'll be happy to speak with you.

Chair Kwame: Thank you very much.

Chair Daley: Can you repeat the office number.

Michael Roberts: 718-953-3097 and my email and that number also is in the chat so you can reach out to me tomorrow morning after nine o'clock. We open promptly at nine o'clock every morning.

Chair Kwame: Thank you. Mr. Roberts, but I also gave you my communications inside of the private chat.

Michael Roberts: Yes. I have it.

Chair Daley: Can you repeat that number 718-903...

Michael Roberts: No 718-953-3097.

Chair Daley: Okay thank you. Are there any other representatives from legislative offices online?

Celia Griffin: Yes. Hi. My name is Celia Griffin. I'm the Director of Legislative Operations for Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn's office. Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn extends her well wishes to you all. As you know, last year the Member has passed major bills that the Governor has chaptered into law that has impacted our community. The first is Carlos Law, which protects workers from corporations and their agents that fail to comply with safety protocols by amending the Penal Code to create new offenses and substantially increase the fines that can be imposed upon a corporate defendant convicted of certain crimes, and the second is Cedric's Law, which was named after Cedric Simon who was struck by a Manhattan bound Q train at Newkirk Avenue and it was a while ago, but this bill will mandate that MTA have surveillance cameras on all Subway platforms. So that was chaptered into law last year.

As you know, session has started and the Member has hit the ground running. She has been appointed as Majority Whip in the Assembly; a role in which she plans on bringing all members in the State, all electives in the State to get work done in our State. She is still an advocate for our Maternal Health. Our office has reintroduced Mickey's law, which requires Healthcare Providers to inform the patient of their options for treatment following confirmation of fetal or embryo death in their uterus, and she also plans to push Michael K. Williams Law, which establishes a grant program to incentivize counties and municipalities to reduce prison populations. Assembly Bichotte Hermelyn plans to address all her upcoming plans for the 2023-24 legislative year during her State of The District address. The date is soon to be announced in the coming days; however, it will take place next month in February. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at phone number 718-940-0428. Again that's 718-940-0428.

We are by appointment only so I stress to just call us. However, our address is 1312 Flatbush Avenue. Again that's 1312 Flatbush Avenue. We're between Foster Avenue and East 26th Street if you choose to make an appointment with us. Thank you. Have a good night.

Chair Daley: All right. Thank you very much. Are there any other representatives from elected officials? I see none. Any special report Board Members? Yes. Old business; we have none. New business; we have none. Are there any new business? Yes. The funding? Oh, right. So all of the elected official representatives who are online, the Board is looking for money. We'll be sending your office a letter asking for money to support community activities. Please expect that letter from myself, the Budget Chair and our Land Use Chair reflecting that. So all of our elected official representatives please note that that letter is coming by the end of next week.

All right. Very excited. Happy birthday to me when it comes. I'm celebrating from today, and happy birthday to everyone of the January babies. Could I get a motion... you. Gail cannot make the motion. Can somebody else make the motion to adjourn. Dr. Reneau. Seconded by Gail Grandison.

Everyone, please enjoy your weekend. I'll see you next month. Thank you very much.

MEETING ADJOURNED.