

Brooklyn Community Board 17
4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn NY 11210
Public Hearing and General Board Meeting
June 18th, 2024
SUNY DOWNSTATE AUDITORIUM
395 LENOX ROAD, BROOKLYN NY 11203

***Video began in the middle of the chairperson's report.**

Call to Order: This meeting of the Public Hearing and General Board was called to order by Chair Rodrick Daley.

Chairperson's Report:

- To ensure that parking is inclusive in any development in NYC, that resolution was tabled since many boards had not reviewed the City of Yes proposal. Brooklyn CB 1 and 18 have voted no on the City of Yes. We will have to make a decision tonight.
- There is a 141 million dollars given to the Shirely Chisholm recreational center, but a lot of minority owned businesses are not getting contracts. 108 million dollars has been awarded.
- There is 5 million dollars for contracts for our community. For MWBE's there are opportunities in the next few months. If your or anyone you know has a business reach out to the community board or Councilwoman Louis's office.
- We were able to award our former chair Lloyd Mills with a plaque for his years of service.
- Tomorrow is Juneteenth, and it is a national holiday. Please got out and celebrate.

District Manager's Report:

- This is our last meeting for fiscal year 2023-2024, I would like to thank the residents who have attended our monthly meetings. Thank you to the committees and the staff for all the work they have done this past year.
- There are no meetings in July & August, but the office will remain open to assist the residents of this district with any complaints.
- Please visit our social media websites to find out about all our summer activities.
- Please make sure you submit your budget for the capital expense budget early so it can get done.

Committee Reports:

Budget: Daniel McCabe:

- Focusing on ideas for the Capital Budget and Funds
- There are forms in the back that you can fill out to identify projects that you might want to see happen in the community in the next year.
- Submit forms by early October.

Commerce: June Persaud

- Yields the floor.

Youth and Education: Gail Grandison:

- Youth Happening is Thursday August 1st at Paerdegat Park. We are still looking for donations, you can reach out to the office.
- The Spelling Bee has been rescheduled and the date is October 14th at Crystal Ray High School open to any child in CB 17.

Land Use: Kwame Afreh:

- On May 24th the Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center conducted a ceremony and the final beam of support was installed and ceremoniously signed by the iron workers on site and is signified with the building's height and the American flag on top of the building.
- On or about June 6th the City of Yes economic opportunity was voted on and passed by the city council. It has been modified though, I do believe it was restricted to having the corner stores built in the middle of the block and that was approved.

Parks and Beautification: Berlotte Antoine:

- We have a Health & Wellness event on Friday the 21st at Paerdegat Park at 10:00 am and an honoring ceremony for three of our members, Member Tate, Member Turner and Member Williams.

Transportation & Public Safety: Ozni Lewis:

- In terms of congestion pricing, it is at standstill right now.
- In terms of public safety, there were two events by Assemblywoman Waterman. As it is getting hotter there tends to be a rise in gun violence, please try to avoid the conflict.

Sanitation & Environmental: Micheal Hill:

- The sanitation issues that were discussed in the past are still ongoing. I have made some attempts to reach out to officials and I still have not been able to communicate with them, but I hope to reach out to them soon.

Communications: Tamara Thomas:

- Yields the floor.

Bylaws & Zoning: Julia James:

- In regard to Bylaws the city council has asked whether or not it was in violation of the city charter to require that anybody who runs for office be a resident of the community. Waiting on the response to this.
- On June 27 we will be holding a town hall meeting with Brooklyn Level Up. So please put it on your calendar so that you can attend bring your friends, bring your neighbors. So, we can discuss issues face in our community.

- A workforce development will be happening, keep a look out for this.

First Vice Chair: Asshur Cunningham:

- We have been thinking about doing an event and end of year event for the board members, so I just wanted to inform you of the, so please write that down in your calendars and RSVP as soon as possible.
- Save the date June 25th at 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. This will be the end of year mixer, and just an event where we will all get together to do a year and review and also to mix and meet each other.
- It will be at Sugar. There will be some honoree's that night for board members that served for over five years, and we want to thank the committee, Melanie, Trisha and Kamara for the help with coordinating this event.

Agency Report:

67th Precinct – Deputy Inspector Rachel Kosac:

- I am newly assigned to the 67th precinct.
- There has been an uptick in crime so additional officers have been sent down daily to specific areas such as Flatbush Gardens, Church and Utica.

Graham Eunin and Maurise Durant : Consultants for Shirley Chisholm Recreational Center:

- We would love to partner with the community board to hear feedback and take suggestions on events that we can do and make sure the process is reflective of our goals and the community's goals. Especially for awards. The last 11 awards have all gone out to MBE's.
- Email and phone number will be shared by the board. Every week I will send out advisories and weekly bulletins and I will leave my email so you can ask to be added onto it.
- The workforce event had been postponed and we are working with the community to pick when would be the best time to do this event.
- We have a progress report that will be going out this week that will highlight all the stuff we are doing on the project.
- PS 361 4th and 5th graders will be doing artwork for the basketball court. If any committee boards would like to partner on events, please reach out.

Community Session:

Brooklyn Level Up: Allyson Martinez:

- Spoke about upcoming events, all info shared with the boards.

Charles R. Founder of a community facility called Town Home:

- We help people strengthen themselves and build a place of community, we are spending 100,000 on resources per year and hiring 10 peers from right here for full time employment. It is a community facility, a one family house with no signage. Facility for

anyone experiencing any mental health crisis, it is a referral process where clients are referred from a licensed psychiatrist.

Reverend Doctor Williams: Church of God:

- American foundation for suicidal prevention New York chapter will be presenting at our Church of God, 2310 Cortelyou Road 10-2pm on September 21st. It is designed for black and brown people, and we partnered with mental health clinics for anyone who is in need.

Vanessa Quashie:

- On June 5th the streetlights were installed on four corners on Troy Avenue and Farragut Road and an additional light was added. This has been in the works for three decades and thank you to Councilmember Lewis and Assemblymember Waterman for their efforts.

MOTIONS:

SPECIAL ORDER:

Julia James: I rise to for a special order of business that was sent to all the board members with regard to this issue which says whereas the honorable Shirley Chisholm a Brooklyn born politician and the first African American woman elected to serve in the united states congress was a champion of equity and advocating for equal opportunities for minorities and woman owned businesses and increasing diverse representation in the workforce and whereas African American elected officials and legislators public advocate Jamani Williams, councilmember Farah Louis and Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte advocated funding for the creation of and whereas in 2019 Mayor DeBlasio allocated 141 million dollars for the creation of the Shirley Chisholm recreational center in her honor and with the goal of a lead minority and women's own business enterprise contractor for the project and whereas on November 20 2019 ,CB17 voted affirmatively in support of the creation of the Shirley Chisholm recreational center and where the department of design and construction was tasked with the opportunity to contract the SCRDC in fulfilling the dream of honorable Shirley Chisholm and procuring a lead MWBE contractor and diverse workforce committee for the construction of said projects in addition to ensuring the 30% MWBE utilization rate and whereas Mayor Eric Adams inherited this project and his administration now has a responsibility in overseeing its completion and whereas lend lease an Australian based construction management firm which is comprised of predominately white male executive s is not an MWBE vendor was selected and hired by DDC to be the prime contractor for Shirley Chisolm recreational center contrary to public demand for diverse representation and contribution from local contractors and whereas studio gang a predominantly a non-local firm from Chicago was selected by DDC as the main architectural firm as opposed to a local vendor based in the city of New York and whereas DDC, studio gang and lend lease have not fulfilled the obligation for MWBE and continues to exercise a lack of transparency in meeting this commitment as CDC has failed to identified and award the majority of top tier contracts to local MWBE's and have been continually underrepresented in the design and construction phase...

- *Be it resolved** that Brooklyn community board 17 overseeing the community district where the center is located called on Mayor Eric Adams, DDC, Studio Gang and Lend Lease to honor their commitment to implement a fair and equitable process to diversify the selection and hiring of quality local MWBE'S as recommended in the most recent NYS MWBE disparity study and be further resolved that CB17 demand Mayor Adams DDC Commissioner Thomas Floyd and NYC parks commissioner Sue Donoghue immediately halt Lend leases awarding the remaining contracts to end Lend Lease's discrimination against MWBE contracting firms and made finally resolved that the project ceased and desist the furtherance of hiring any new non MWBE contractors sub-contractors or contractors with the purpose of increasing set participation and the department of design and construction sincerely engage in identifying MWBE construction firms to award the remaining prime contracts and a meeting with administration at city hall and participating companies is convened immediately to strategize and implements said plan of action in order to increase diverse involvement in the project.

Kwame Afreh seconded the motion.

YES: ALL NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIES.

Motion to call the question by board member.

Seconded by Rose Graham.

All in favor of presenting this resolution on behalf of community board 17:

YES: ALL NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION CARRIES.

- Approval of May 2024 Minutes.
Tabled until the September meeting since it was not received by all members.
- Kwame Afreh makes a motion:** (In regard to the city of yes) to vote on the on the ten points that would be changed to the City of Yes including the UAP, updates to the MIH, parking mandates, additionally, expansion of city housing, smaller shared apartments, another citywide amendment to eliminate barriers to contextually infill new contextual housings, and a change to the far.
- THIS IS A VOTE ON THE ENTIRE PROSPAL AS A WHOLE FOR THE CITY OF YES.**
Motion is made by Ozni Lewis to call the question.
Seconded by Marguerite Vigliante.
YES: NO: ABSTAIN:
MOTION FAILS.
- Asshur Cunningham makes the resolution:** for whereas in light of the recent conversations and decision son congestion pricing CB 17 recognizes the need for innovative solution to enhance transportation options alleviate road congestion and provide sustainable and efficient travel means for residents and visitors alike whereas our city is blessed with an extensive network of waterways that remain underutilized for public transportation purposes, therefore.

Second Vice Chair:

- No nominations for second vice chair. Monzurat Oni is the only candidate.
- Monzurat Oni is the Second Vice Chair.

Treasurer:

- Board member nominates Chair Julia James for treasurer. No other nominations.
- VOTES:
Chair James : 21 Chair Lewis: 8 Abstained: 0
- Chair Julia James has been elected treasurer.

Secretary

- No nominations for second vice chair. Jibrill Morris is the only candidate.
- Jibrill Morris is the new secretary for CB 17.

Legislative Sessions:**Council Member Farrah Louis****Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte****Representative Yvette Clarke****Bianca Stepheson: Community Board Coordinator for Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynosa****Adjournment:****Motion made to adjourn by board member.****Seconded by board member.****All in favor, Meeting Adjourned.****ROLL CALL:*****Unsure of everyone who was present, but quorum was established.****Present:****Absent:**

Rodrick Daley

Asshur Cunningham

June Persaud

Sherif Fraser

Tamara Thomas

Kwame Afreh

Tiffany Anderson

Julia James

Kendrick Westscott

Brandon Alfonso

Berlotte Antoine

Celia Berlin

Jibrill Morris

Theresa Brereton
Lewis Brown
Hermina Daniels
Kayla Draghine
Natasha Duncan
Natalie Ferguson
Lenna Fenidson
Alison French Kenton
Charles Galbreath
Rose Grahman
Michael Hill
Gail Grandison
Trisha Louison
Ozni Lewis
Brandon Mathurin
Edith Mark
Najla Austin
Khadijat Oluwo
Monzurat Oni
Rodney Pepe-Souvenir
Janice Reid
Daniel McCabe
Dr. Carol Reneau
Simone Sylvestor
Menachem Sanowitz
Antoinette Smart
Jorge Tate
Aaron Roth
Marguerite Vigliante
Jessica Welch
Ivor Wood