

Brooklyn Community Board 17
4112 Farragut Road, Brooklyn NY 11210
Land Use Committee Meeting
ONLINE
October 5th, 2023

Call to Order: This meeting of the Land Use Committee Meeting was called to order by Kwame Afreh.

Chairperson's Report:

- Approval of the meeting minutes I didn't receive the meeting minutes the last month. There will probably be a period where we will have to approve the meeting minutes for several months.
- There were 2 issues on Lennox Road, Rita Joseph, some officials from DOD and our community representative from the Department of sanitation was there on the block to discuss 2 issues that were happening at 2 properties on the north side of the street. There is a neglected property that was picked up from a developer. We're assuming they're a developer. It was transferred under an LLC sometime in 2019, and they just haven't been keeping up with the property. The action that's being taken from the departments that were present and sanitation was notified. They're going to do their best to try to clean up the area.
- Up the block at 311, there is a stop work order. They were trying to do a high rise or mid-rise building there. Some cracks started to appear in the adjacent building, which ceased construction. The stop work order was issued preventing any further construction. They have a hearing date on November 8, but in the meantime the issued violations for not maintaining the infrastructure fence.
- We drafted a letter and tonight we will figure out what the language will sound like.

Unfinished Business:

Kwame Afreh: Any questions; This is regarding the zoning variance, to reduce the parking from the required 45 to 5 at 3002 Farragut Road.

Julia James: We need to create an environment whereby doctors who are going to come to work in the surgeons, as a matter of fact, at least are comfortable. So that when they are providing services to members of this community, they're endeavoring to provide the highest quality of service.

Sherly Legros: Response to Ms. James: Our doctors who are working here are backlogged at the hospitals and they are coming here because they can see their patients faster and within weeks, and the surgeons are not coming in rushing for two hours to do surgery, but according to what procedure they are coming to do, they hear all day. All of them are vetted. They are board certified, double, certified surgeons that are working in Kings County and Downstate.

Marguerite Vigliante: To keep the pressure off the rest of the community, you need to provide parking.

Allyson Martinez: [In regard to the letter] We need to be negotiating something, so you must be more specific about what the asks are. I think there's no mention about potential space for a cooling sensor or anything like that. I think, when you discuss, it's too general talking about the participation with youth program, we need to say specific things.

Adele Bennett: I like to see them partner with some of the homeless shelters to give them some opportunities to do something during the day.

Marguerite Vigliante: I'm concerned or that having all these other asks takes away from the main thing that we're asking. It's a good thing to have those things, but I don't think it's good to leverage that against the parking.

Gale Dawes: I understand the concerns about joining the 2, but we can send the 2 separate letters or just create a separate paragraph. Also, I was talking about maybe partnering with the upward bound program if we're thinking about some high school students that can be some sort of shadowing program.

Ozni Lewis: Regarding the Shirley Chisholm Center, I don't see a tangible effort to really get the community involved. So, I have made a proposal in terms of providing basic site safety training to allow community members to get involved in this training without any cost to them to get them prepared for these specific opportunities. I don't want us to be in a position for them to make an excuse as to why our people was not working on our sites. I think we should get a letter and sent off to them for this.

MOTIONS:

***Unofficial motions due to the lack of quorum.**

- **Marguerite Vigliante:** I make a motion that we separate the variance letter from the quality-of-life issues that we would like the establishment to provide.

Julia James: Seconds the motion.

VOTES:

YES: 7

NO: 8

ABSTAIN:2

MOTION DENIED

Kwame Afreh: All in favor of voting in opposition in the 5 spots in lieu of 45 please say Yea.

VOTES:

YES: UNANIMOUS

NO: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

VOTE PASSED

New Business:

Michelle representing Say No to Less: A very pressing issue for me is on Utica Avenue, between Lennox and Linden and there is a big car wash by the name of Tropical Breeze. It is an abandoned lot and it's creating an environmental issue. A quality-of-life issue they are fenced in people are hopping the fence at graffiti and garbage everywhere. Then they do the demolition, and they want to knock down a solid brick wall, which is existing and replace it with just a fence so that the back of my home can be completely vulnerable and visible to all the turbulence on Utica Avenue.

The 2nd concern is with Vital Brooklyn project, and there are a lot of homeless people in the area and there is an oversaturation on the healthcare system.

Jay Sorid: I do not have any clients from Long Island that own any property near this project. I have no personal interest [Vital Brooklyn]. The narrative is we can't do anything because it's in CB9. I'd like you to if you can Mr. Afreh bring in the city public advocate.

Marguerite Vigliante: Maybe we can get people to sign a petition. So, at least if you come to community board 17 with the petition, from all these people that live in community boards 17 that they want this to be addressed it will help us a lot and get a lot of people involved.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Adele Bennett
Allyson Martinez
Bree DaCosta
Hazel Martinez
Marguerite Vigliante
Gale Dawes
Ann Hudson
Julia James
Vanessa Quashie
Joan Alexander Bakiriddin
Ozni Lewis
Pearlene Fields
Gale Dawes
Yolanda Arlene
Darryl Hollon
C. Johnson
Lilith Robinson
Timothy Davis
Kwame Afreh
Samantha Lewis

Absent:

Adjournment:

Marguerite Vigliante: motioned the meeting for adjournment.

Joan Alexander Bakiriddin: Seconded the motion for adjournment.

Meeting Adjourned.