

COMMUNITY BOARD # 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Minutes of the
Economic Development Committee
Monday, January 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM at the CB 9 office.

ATTENDANCE

Warren Berke -	Committee Chairman
Pia Raymond-	Committee Co-Chair
Michael Liburd -	CB9 ULURP Chair
Veta May Clark –	CB9
Lauren Pfeffer –	EDC Resident Member
Yaacov Behrman –	CB9
Beverly Newsome –	CB9
Neil Morancie –	Resident
Valerie Fleming –	Crown Heights Block Association
Shirley Paterson –	District Leader

ABSENT

Augustine Blackwell – CB9 Note, 3 absences, has attended 1 meeting since September.

I. Shop Local Summary

CB9 EDC has raised funds, provided the materials, advocated for publicity and exposure for the event. We had an amazing kick off on Nov. 28th at the CB9 office. Our major financial sponsors are PLS Financial and Assemblywoman Diana Richardson. Hopefully you received the robocall from her office. Sen. Jesse Hamilton did a mailing for Shop Local that reached over 4,000 households and has highlighted businesses throughout CB9. Moreover, Hamilton's office has created and distributed printed flyers and materials and distribution at various community meetings over the past few months. DNA Info and the Q at Parkside have featured information about Shop Local CB9. Care Mark Pharmacy sponsored the Nostrand Avenue Merchants Association 2nd Annual Business Breakfast.

The EDC shopped local, utilizing local merchants to purchase our needs for the weekend; local vendors included S&B Florist, BFF Printing, IM Pastry, Michael Allens and Starliner Café. The EDC spent \$10,000 with local vendors.

We had great community outreach and a special thank you to Ada Terry, Dr. Zorina Frederick and Beverly Newsome for helping to man the tables.

Special thanks to the Nostrand Avenue Merchants Association, Parkside Empire Merchants Association, the CB9 EDC committee and especially Pia Raymond for her excellent implementation and management of Shop Local 2015.

II. Nostrand, Rogers, Franklin – Empty Storefronts

During 2015, CB9 EDC worked with six new businesses which opened in empty storefronts on these avenues, creating services for our community and more importantly creating approximately thirty-two new jobs, for local residents.

These three avenues have more empty storefronts, then those occupied. It was agreed that the EDC will formalize a program for the attraction of new merchants to our commercial corridors, with the emphasis on those that sell merchandise.

III. Pop Up Shop

The EDC is discussing creating a “pop up shop” to feature local merchants and craftsmen, highlighting their products to our community.

IV. Bedford Union Armory

The committee reviewed the NYCEDC proposal for the renovation of the Bedford Union Armory with emphasis on proposed commercial activity, job creation and economic impact. The committee members will be researching these items and reporting back on their finding at the February meeting.

V. Appointment of New Members

Valerie Fleming has been appointed as a resident member.

VI. Monthly meeting

The committee will meet on the first Monday of the month, 7 PM, at the CB 9 office. The next EDC meeting will be held on February 1, 2016. All are welcome to attend and contribute.

Respectfully submitted,

**Warren Berke
Committee Chairperson
January 9, 2016**