

**Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225**

**Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes - January 14, 2020**

Members Present:

Debbie Timothy, Chair
Robert Mitchell
Sylveta Hamilton-Gonzales

Community Members Present:

Greg Clarke
Tiffany Yarde

Members Absent:

Pia Raymond

Guests:

Deshaun Mars, NYC SBS
Sherman Mars
Adrienne Sykes

The monthly meeting of BK-CB9 Economic Development Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:10p.m. on January 16, 2020 at CB9 office by Debbie Timothy, Chair of the committee.

Next there was a brief welcome and introductions by committee members and guests. The minutes of December 16, 2019 and the agenda of January 14, 2020 dispersed and accepted.

New Business:

The committee received an awesome presentation by Deshaun Mars, Director, Business Outreach, NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) on the services offered by SBS for businesses, communities, and residents across the 5-boroughs of NYC.

Careers:

SBS prepares and helps New Yorkers to find jobs by:

- Developing job search skills through resume and interviewing workshops
- Training local residents to acquire skills in growing fields
- Connecting jobseekers to employers with open positions.

Services are provided in all five boroughs through a network of 18 Workforce Career Centers.

Businesses:

SBS helps businesses start, operate, and grow by:

- Helping minority and women-owned businesses (M/WBEs) get City-certified and compete for contracts
- Connecting entrepreneurs to free resources ranging from business courses to legal services

- Explaining government rules and regulations
- Helping entrepreneurs apply for funding to launch or grow a business

Support and resources are provided to entrepreneurs across the five boroughs through on-site consultations or in one of the city's seven Business Solutions Centers.

Neighborhoods:

SBS works with community-based organizations to build vibrant neighborhoods where New Yorkers can shop, work, and live by:

- Overseeing the largest network of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in the country, which delivers more than \$134 million in additional services throughout the five boroughs
- Offering training, tools, and one-on-one assistance to local community-based organizations
- Administering grant programs to strengthen and revitalize commercial districts
- Working with community partners to identify local commercial district needs and plan targeted solutions

Following the presentation, the committee members came to a consensus with Mr. Mars that we would love to have SBS mobile unit in the community in April, 2020. A date will be forthcoming along with the details. In addition, NYC-SBS will be hosting

The Committee next discussed the following agenda items:

- Committee members attendance - Committee members was reminded that their attendance was imperative to the committee/community to achieve positive outcomes.
- Vice Chair for EDC - The chair made a request for someone to provide support for the committee as a vice chair and Robert Mitchell agreed to fulfill the role. In addition, there was also a request made for a recording secretary however; the request was not fulfilled.
- Brainstorm on small business events/partnerships for future community events - Contact the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, the local BID, and other business entities to build on partnership.

The Committee next discussed the following old business items:

- BETA-NYC contact information for schools, churches, and businesses within Community Board 9 - Chair has copy of excel contact information, will format and share with Community Board office for future outreach use.

Other Business:

- Committee members has agreed to work together on behalf of the community.
- EDC Community Resident Greg Clarke, rather creative and community involved individual has designed his website BklynBridges.com which has a host of events, activities, employment, training, and more at your fingertips, check it out! He has also been involved in activities with youths and has inquired about space to host these activities, please share any information that you me have with the board office about possible space. Find events,

employment opportunities, various types of training/certifications and more happening around Brooklyn and New York.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie C. Timothy
Chairwoman