

Boerum Hill Bulletin

THE BOERUM HILL ASSOCIATION IS A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OF RESIDENTS OF BOERUM HILL. WE SEEK TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE UNIQUE QUALITIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY BUILDING. VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.BOERUMHILLASSOCIATION.ORG

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

- Howard Kolins, President
 - Dwight Smith, Vice President
 - Rose Weber, Treasurer *
 - Doug Barnes
 - Leah Barrett
 - Larry Burda
 - Michael Cosaboom
 - Brian Gorlick
 - Trudy Katzer
 - Leslie Lewis
 - Hannah Mason
 - Sid Meyer
 - Steve Neiman
 - Stephen Radacinski
 - Anthony Rock
 - (*non-board member)
- Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from September through June at 7:00pm in the Hopkins Center.

HOUSE TOUR – A SUCCESS

What a way to celebrate the 50th Anniversary our neighborhood!

Our biennial house tour was held on a beautiful June day that showcased six amazing homes and two gardens. In keeping with our friendly tradition, a post-tour reception at the Invisible Dog Art Center was open to all. While a live band played our guests sampled Middle Eastern delights from Sahadi's, pizza from Sottocasa, sandwiches from Brooklyn Fare and cheese, crackers and cookies from Trader Joe. It was a perfect day.

In case you missed it, here's a visual recap of the homes with a wide array of styles and creativity.



SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL POT LUCK HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 6th

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Who are we now and who do we want to be?

It seems as if every square inch of Boerum Hill, and downtown Brooklyn, is under development. Next, I expect to see condos going up in every large tree bed!

The BHA has always been in favor of *intelligent* development so when we worked to re-zone the neighborhood we sought to protect the center of the neighborhood while encouraging taller buildings along Third Avenue. We continue to stress “contextual” zoning to preserve the low-rise, tree-lined streets we love but we also recognize the need for new housing. Read about the affordable housing agreement at the Atlantic Yards on page 5.

In the next five years downtown will have thousands of new residents but not one new school? Can our infrastructure handle the trash, sewage and traffic? We are adept at absorbing so much that happens in this city but what are we willing to give up in our quality of life?

The gentrification process continues with ever in-

creasing prices but home sales and little inventory available. In addition, rising rents on the commercial streets force many familiar businesses to close their doors. Circa Antiques is the latest example to move from storefront to only online.

Boerum Hill has been a great place to live. Neighbors have always been active, reaching out to each other to fight crime, calm traffic and support schools. The BHA will continue to ask neighbors to join us working to improve our neighborhood.

Please come to a board meeting. Speak your mind and get involved. Have an idea? Let us know but let's all dedicate ourselves to continuing our efforts in making this a great place to live.

In community,
Howard Kolins
BHA President



HOUSE TOUR CELEBRATES GREEN SPACES

Guests on the tour visited two of wonderful spaces that symbolize the strength and vision of Boerum Hill.

Once a rubble-strewn lot, the Hoyt Street Garden is celebrating its 40th anniversary. This small oasis has been a friendly venue for puppet shows, dance performances, small concerts, story hours and school group visits. But those traditions need to be reinvigorated, says Margaret Cusack, one of the Garden's founders. It's a peaceful leafy corner that's part of Boerum Hill's warm community history.

Around the corner from the Garden is the brand-new, eco-savvy, multi-use playground and garden schoolyard at PS 261. At 1.2 acres, it easily serves 880 students and the neighborhood as well: it's open until dusk and all day on weekends. There's a choice of baseball, track, hoops, a jungle gym, checkerboard/chess tables with benches, and both sunny and shady seating among newly planted trees or near the “rain garden” in the northwest corner. Make sure to stop in and visit with the kids.



OUR HOUSE TOUR SUPPORTERS

Super Hero

Barrett Design and Development, LLC
The Corcoran Group:
Kim Soule, James Crow & Sue Wolfe

Hero

TOWN Residential:
Terry Naini

Prudential Douglas Elliman:
Jim Kerby

Patron

Brooklyn Bridge Realty, Ltd:
Jean Austin & Ellen Gottlieb

Building On Bond

Sponsor

Atlantic Avenue Local Development Corporation

Stribling:
Emily Fisher

Sponsor

Smith Hanten Realty:
Peter McGuire

JS Realty:

Jean Sardo

Friend

61 Local on Bergen Street

Steve Radacinski

Trezza Management

Hope Veterinary Clinic

Our Friendly Ticket Outlets

Exit 9

Sterling Place

Gumbo

THE LICH SAGA CONTINUES

On Friday June 27th, the six community groups and the Concerned Physicians, called on the Department of Justice, the King's County District Attorney, the New York State Attorney General, and the New York State Inspector General to investigate SUNY Downstate's actions in the selection process.

For almost a year, we have been fighting in Kings County Supreme Court to protect and preserve LICH, a community teaching hospital, which has served the health needs of this growing community for 150 years - with more than 50,000 emergency room admissions a year.

We have always kept our focus on a health care solution. This is why we decided, on May 19 to resolve our differences with the Peebles Corporation, the second-highest bidder, because Peebles promised to conduct a meaning-

ful medical-needs assessment to determine whether the LICH-catchment area needed a hospital and, if so, to restore one under reasonable feasibility conditions. SUNY, after encouraging our settlement with Peebles, inexplicably reversed course and discontinued negotiations with Peebles. We stand by that settlement and we support Peebles in their continuing quest to take over health-care operations at LICH. Peebles has filed a protest with DOH, and we hope Peebles succeeds in reversing that decision.

From the beginning, there were indications that SUNY favored the Fortis Group, the third-ranking proposer, over the other bidders. The RFP process has raised real questions - that need to be answered.

The BHA remains committed to the fight for a full-service hospital.

ATLANTIC YARDS UPDATE

The BHA, along with other neighborhood groups, has been fighting for more community input and better governance for this massive project. We've been pushing for a realistic timeline for construction and a commitment to affordable housing.

On Friday, June 27th, following weeks of intense negotiations, [BrooklynSpeaks](#) sponsor organizations and local residents announced they have reached a landmark settlement with Forest City Ratner Corporation (FCRC), the developer of the Atlantic Yards Project in Brooklyn, and the Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC), with the support of the City of New York.

The accord, which includes a signed agreement with ESDC and another with FCRC, ensures at least 590 units of promised affordable housing are started within the next 12 months and delivers 2,250 promised affordable housing units ten years earlier than previously agreed. It also establishes an Atlantic Yards Tenant Protection Fund and penalties for failure to meet affordable housing milestones. The settlement will also result in the creation of the Atlantic Yards Community Development Corporation, a subsidiary of the ESDC charged with overseeing compliance with all project commitments.

Under the terms of the agreement, construction on the first of the affordable units will begin by the end of the year, and all affordable apartments must be completed by May 2025.

The terms include:

Completion of all 2,250 affordable apartments by May 2025 (with penalties for non-performance);

Start of construction of at least 590 affordable apartments within 12 months (with penalties for non-performance); and

Creation of an ESDC subsidiary, including locally-appointed directors, to monitor compliance with all project commitments.

In addition, through a complementary commitment by FCRC, the developer will make a contribution of \$250,000 to establish the Atlantic Yards Tenant Protection Fund to provide eviction prevention services to members of the community vulnerable to displacement.

The agreement was signed between New York State, [Fifth Avenue Committee](#), [Pratt Area Community Council](#), [Brown Community Development Corporation](#), [Boerum Hill Association](#), [Diaspora Community Services](#), [Park Slope Civic Council](#), [Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council](#), Benita Clark, Hermelinda Gumbs, Daron Hudson and Renee Mintz, and commits Forest City Ratner, through relevant project documents, to accelerated timelines and performance guarantees for the affordable housing and for ESDC to create the subsidiary within six months.

You can go to www.brooklynspeaks.net for more information on this agreement.

DID YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE?

We need your financial support to continue our work so please use the form on the next page to contribute for the half year that remains. Take a moment at the activities we undertake and pledge some of your time for one of them. Got your own ideas, just write them in or contact us through the BHA website, www.boerumhillassociation.org.

B E C O M E A M E M B E R O F T H E B O E R U M H I L L A S S O C I A T I O N

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Your contact info will never be shared or sold, and you may opt out of any communications at any time.

1/2 Year Membership (open to all residents of Boerum Hill) **HALF PRICE SALE FOR 2014**

- \$12.50 – Individual \$7.50 – Individual Senior/Student/Low-income
- \$20.00 – Family \$12.50 – Family* Senior/Student/Low-income

Business Supporters (listed on BHA website, newsletters, and other publications)

- \$75– Business Donor \$125 – Business Sponsor

Contributions (Not a resident or business owner? Or checked a box above but still want to do more? Contributions of any size are always welcome and help support the important work of the BHA)

- + \$100 “Good Neighbor + \$250 “Neighborhood Hero!” + \$_____ Other

The BHA membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Members in good standing as of June 1 may vote in the June board election. All others, including business supporters, may not vote but are welcome at all BHA events and activities.

* Family memberships (2+ adults in the same household), are entitled to two votes. Individual members receive one vote.

Contribute Your Talent and Energy

Join your neighbors who volunteer to work on BHA activities and community priorities. Identify your areas of interest.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic Yards | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations and Communication (neighborhood calendar, block associations, press releases, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain (help distribute BHA notices on your block) | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Playgrounds (improving Douglass/Greene Park) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boerum Hill History | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Life (public safety, sanitation, recycling, noise) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Events (meetings, holiday party, house tour) | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology (website, email, online tools) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greening & Neighborhood Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic and Transportation (transit, parking, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use (development, zoning, building noise) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring (homework help to neighborhood youth) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land marking | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership (recruitment, member services) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | |

Make your check payable to the **Boerum Hill Association**.

Mail this form and the check to the:

Boerum Hill Association, P.O. Box 020583, Brooklyn, NY 11202



Boerum Hill Association
P.O. Box 020583
Brooklyn, NY 11202-0583
www.boerumhillassociation.org

Growing a better Boerum Hill

C H E C K I T O U T

KITCHENSURFING

Jacqui Perlman contacted me about doing this during the House Tour but unfortunately we didn't have the time to put it together. Go to the website and take a look.

[Kitchensurfing](http://www.kitchensurfing.com/new-york) is an online marketplace where you can find outstanding local chefs to cook for you, in your home. Use code **boerumhill50** to take \$50 off your first booking with Kitchensurfing, when you book before the end of 2014.

www.kitchensurfing.com/new-york

Two new business coming to Smith Street:

We Olive, 116 Smith Street, The Olive Oil experience and wine bar. You can find them online, www.weolive.com.

Ugly Ducking, restaurant still under construction, next to Lululemon

JOIN THE BHA

Help us advocate for Boerum Hill by becoming a member. Join us on the web at www.boerumhillassociation.org