Watch the meeting here: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/cbidems/videos/1968239696689053">https://www.facebook.com/cbidems/videos/1968239696689053</a>

# **Executive Summary**

- Heard from CBID executive committee nominees
- Heard from CBID officer candidates
- Heard from six candidates running for NYC CD39
  - o Briget Rein
  - Doug Schneider
  - o Shahana Hanif
  - Justin Krebs
  - o Brandon West
  - o Mamnun Haq
- Heard from two candidates running for NYC Comptroller
  - o Brian Benjamin
  - Brad Lander
- County Committee update from Joe Criscione
- Ballots for the above races scheduled to be sent out on Friday, January 29, 2021

# Agenda

- CD39
- Comptroller
- Club endorsements

## Endorsements from the floor for CBID's executive committee

- **Joy Romanski** nominated herself
  - Longtime ex comm member and officer
  - o Organizes the CBID dinner
  - Sits on the constitutional committee
- Erica Cohen nominated Amanda Ritchie and Amanda accepted

#### Ex comm intros

- Joe Criscione
  - o Member since 2017
  - Leading the newly minted County Committee
  - Member of Electoral Strategy Committee
  - Helps Marty with some of the treasurer duties
  - Ran Rep Your Block for AD52 and recruited over 100 members to run for County Committee in AD52
  - Has enjoyed being on ex comm
- Mary Beth Carroll
  - Member of CBID since 1980
  - o Reactivated in 2016

- Ex comm for last three years
- Sits on events committee and helps with CBID dinner
- Sits on climate committee
- Feels she can contribute in her way
- Sharing computer with Jack Carroll
- Sharon Harkey
  - CBID member for two years
  - Ex comm for one year
  - Recording secretary for about one year
  - Has enjoyed working on the ex comm
  - Worked on events committee
  - Joined County Committee Committee
- Cheryl Krauss
  - Member for about sixteen years
  - Ex comm for most of that time
  - Currently serving on CCC
  - Also sits on constitutional revision committee and events committee

## Officer Candidates

- Allison Mingus: VP of Membership
  - VP of Membership for a year
  - VP #2 before that (constitutional title change ⑤)
  - Ex comm before that
  - Joined after 2016
  - Co-organized Womxn's Caucus
  - WHARR member
  - Always seeks to bring her feminist perspective to CBID
  - Wants to get members more involved in committees in 2021
- Nicole for Recording Secretary
  - CBID member since 2017 but took a break between 9/2017 and 9/2019 to work for federal judiciary
  - Back now and has been an ex comm member for one year
  - Sees RS role as a way to serve the club
  - Takes good notes ☺
- Ben for VP of Comms
  - VP of Comms for one year
  - Club has largely transitioned to digital this year, so it is even more important to communicate with members electronically
  - o Has handled CBID's social media, email communications, sets up virtual meetings
  - Loves logistics
  - Wants to acknowledge that our club's digital presence and ability to engage with community members and elected officials is a bigger job than just one person
  - Wants to work with more club members who have interests in social media, digital, graphics to promote the voice of the club
  - o Invites anyone with those interests to reach out

- Marty for Treasurer
  - Treasurer for 40 years\* \*Marty later corrected to say roughly 30 years
  - Believes he "can get it right this time" ©
- Erica for VP of Political Strategy (ceded speaking time)
- Rich for President
  - CBID this year
    - Updated our website
    - Won the friggin' election in November
    - Went on and worked and won the Senate
    - Won some local congressional seats
    - Everyone put in a ton of work in 60 days of action
  - Hopes we're ready to put in the work for 2021 elections let's bring that same energy to 2021
  - Looking forward to working with more committees

#### CD39

- Briget Rein
  - Story
    - Teacher in Flatbush at a school in Ebinger's Warehouse Building
    - School housed children K-5 in that warehouse building
    - Brown water, no windows, mold, two exits
    - Thought this was a disservice to children
    - Called UFT and asked them to come in
    - Did an air/water/mold test and deemed school unsafe
    - Got evidence as tool to lobby elected officials in Flatbush Yvette Clarke and Marty Moskowitz
    - Got building cited and a school built
    - Her approach: Looks for evidence and looks for solutions
  - Experience
    - Worked for Randi Weingarten for eight years and now Michael Mulgrew
    - City Hall liaison for Weingarten and Mulgrew negotiated budgets of millions of \$ throughout NYC
    - Knows her way around City Hall
    - Ready to start from day 1
  - Endorsements and strategy to win
    - Full disbursement from CFB
    - Win strategy
    - Many members in the district from teaching profession
    - Good citizens people that want dog parks and fair justice for Gowanus rezoning
    - Support of two NYCHA developments Gowanus Houses and Wyckoff Gardens (D33 and D39)
  - Proposals
    - COVID response and support
      - Compensate families and victims and those who have lost

- Mother died July 25, 2020 in a nursing home not allowed any visitors and had gone in for rehab from cancer surgery
- Families like hers deserve an apology from the governor
- Education
  - Wants to build two good high schools in the district
  - Wants to promote money in coffers to support educational programs in the district
- Willing and able to work
  - Attended community board meetings
  - Wants to be our councilperson so asking us to give her a chance
- Q: transportation
  - Working alongside federal and state partners, will make sure NYC gets fair share of transit budget
  - Will make sure all trains are ADA accessible
  - Will bring back B71 bus to the district
  - Wants to provide a bus line through Union Street from Columbia Waterfront to the park
  - Would like to promote more bike lanes and pedestrian walkways on Union Street, like what they did on 14<sup>th</sup> Street
- O Q: will you accept real estate money?
  - No
  - Returning REBNY money
- Q: Gowanus development
  - Asked for a pause
  - Objects to rezoning / ULURP process being conducted through a canned meeting on Zoom where you can throw someone off when they aren't agreeing
  - Should be an open forum live and in person
  - We need to worry about COVID first and rezoning second
  - Rezoning should be halted
  - Barge just sank and toxic material is in water in rezoning area
  - Does not trust building to be built there
  - Wants to be sure any development is livable
  - No labor has been brought to the table
  - Wants a PLA and wants a workforce-housing discussion
- Doug Schneider
  - o Intro
    - Civil rights and criminal defense attorney
    - Democratic District Leader for 44<sup>th</sup> AD
    - Dad of two young children
    - Lived in district for last 15 years
    - Trustee of Park Slope Civic Council
    - Steering committee for Brad Lander's participatory budgeting
    - Volunteered at children's school and Beth Elohim

- Worked on pedestrian and biker issues (Ocean Parkway Bike Lane)
- Families for Safe Streets: fought for speed cameras

#### Values

- Empathy and kindness, service to community, commitment to family
- Wants to use his privilege to fight for workers over corporations
- Wants to take on police and expose unjust system
- Believes in government centered on empathy, kindness, integrity, and service

## Record

- As DL, has fought to bring democracy, transparency, and inclusion to Democratic Party
- Worked hard to represent every part of district
- Worked hard to diversify county committee and judicial delegates
- Fought with BOE to bring language access to the polls
- One of first electeds to host town hall when DOE announced reopening plan
- Found people to interpret
- We don't provide information or resources in languages people speak
- Will have satellite office in Kensington/Borough Park with linguistically appropriate staff

#### Issues

- COVID
  - COVID has exposed how much city is not working for parents and working families
  - City gave four days' advance notice
- Childcare
  - Decisions made by people who don't have to think about childcare
  - We need to extend the school day
  - We need to get working people back to work and we can't do that unless we solve the childcare crisis

## Police

- Fought over-policing in communities of color
- Comprehensive criminal justice platform focused on creating accountability, reallocation of resources, and decarceration

#### o Outro

- District wants leaders who fight and get results
- Nobody should have to pledge loyalty to political machine
- People should count on their leaders to do the right thing
- Q: Domestic workers are working in the middle of the pandemic. How will you
  make sure we are recognized and valued for our work in the recovery and
  beyond?
  - We have to look at and pay people who are frontline workers accordingly

- Have to make sure people are complying with the law
- In the domestic arena, we have to make it safe for people to get to and from work
- Home health aides: need to increase pay, worker protection
- Seeing shortage of home health aides
- As someone who has represented workers, we need to protect and provide fair pay and protection under the law to all workers – nannies, home health aides, bus drivers, and more
- Q: COVID has brought to light inequities in schools. What will you do to make sure schools in our district are more equitable and inclusive?
  - Think beyond monetary resources, although very important
  - Equity of nonmonetary resources: research shows that the experience of a teacher has a direct impact on success of a student
  - When you look throughout NYC, most experienced teachers are sent to the already succeeding schools, and newer teachers are sent to schools that most need experienced teachers
  - Creating equity = investments AND how we allocate experienced teachers
  - We have to talk about before- and afterschool programs
  - These extend the school day to allow people to work
  - We've taken arts out of school and placed them in inaccessible afterschool programs
  - Music: people who play an instrument perform better in math and science
  - Only people who can get enrichment are those who can pay
  - Exact opposite of equity
  - We need to make resources available to everyone
  - We have to talk about school-to-prison pipeline
  - Need to get rid of police officers in schools
  - Has been supervising remote learning while running for office
  - Kids will come back to school with tremendous deficits emotional, social growth
  - K-12 and beyond with real trauma, especially in areas hit hardest by
  - Need historic investment in counselors and trauma-informed specialists
- Shahana Hanif
  - o Intro
    - Born and raised in Bangladeshi Muslim community
    - Kensington: graduated from area schools and CUNY Brooklyn College
    - Lupus survivor: bringing fight locally to protect communities in pain and to build a city that builds care
      - Rejected for Access-a-Ride
      - Bringing cyborg energy to City Council ©
    - This district has never elected a woman to City Council

Need leadership that understands every corner of this district

## Record

- She has taken to the streets for accessibility
- Helped win funds for elevator at 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue stop on the F/G subway lines
- Over the last decade, has organized public housing for capital funds to address overdue repairs and to preserve and not privatize NYCHA
- When ICE agents targeted Kensington and Gowanus, she brought together a coalition of allies to build a community defense program to ensure the safety of our undocumented neighbors
- As only woman of color at the director level in Councilmember Brad Lander's office, she led participatory budgeting, which connected her to neighbors in every single neighborhood in our district invested in democratizing how city budget gets spent
- Thorough understanding of city agencies as a result of her PB work
- Fought alongside Kensington Stewards, a neighborhood association which she cofounded, to transform an empty, barren lot into Avenue C Plaza, which the community has activated with free arts programing for youth and families and where neighbors have had tough conversations about hate crimes targeting Muslim and Jewish community members
- During peak of COVID, turned to coordinating mutual aid and raised over \$40,000 in survival funds for undocumented neighbors

# Path to victory

- Raised \$70,000 from grassroots donors
- Majority of donations have come from Brooklynites
- First in district to receive full matching funds payout
- Galvanized support from Kensington to across the entire district
- Coalition includes folks who had never donated to a political candidate until now
- Includes Muslim and Jewish communities
- Includes public school parents fighting for integration
- Includes young people fighting for a GND
- New generation of leadership

## Values and priorities

- Quality education
- Comprehensive healthcare
- Accessible transit system
- We need to build progressive, multilingual, cross-class, intergenerational coalitions to win these fights
- Running to fight for what is possible in D39
- Bringing progressive vision and movements into halls of City Council

## Endorsements

- State Senator Jessica Ramos
- New York Communities for Change
- Communities United for Fair Housing

- Muslim Democratic Club of New York
- 21 in '21
- O Q: What are your thoughts on the proposed Gowanus Rezoning?
  - Opposes the current plan because she is standing in alliance with Gowanus Neighborhood Coalition for Justice
  - Demanding guaranteed, fully funded NYCHA developments
  - Need to continue to center NYCHA residents in the planning
  - Need to appoint NYCHA residents in community board
  - Need environmental, racial, public health impact study
  - Need to protect NYCHA land and residents that have not been fully shared with community members
  - Gowanus is among the most environmentally degraded lands in NYC
  - As someone surviving Lupus, which is caused by environmental racism and poor public infrastructure, she cares deeply about who will be housed in Gowanus
  - Wants to be in co-governance with GNCJ and colleagues in 33<sup>rd</sup> CD
- Q: If elected, how would you ensure non-English-speaking New Yorkers would receive information?
  - In Councilmember Lander's office, her entry point was to be sure that most vulnerable residents were receiving information in a post-Trump NYC
  - In a climate where the city does not adhere to language justice, all of that fell on Shahana to build out leadership when the team needed rapid response team to provide translation and interpretation
  - Example: MOIA's Know Your Rights literature was absolutely unreadable
  - Because she reads, writes, and speaks Bangla, she immediately caught that and received feedback
  - City cannot outsource translation to linguists
  - We need a citywide interpretation fund because our city has an abundance of bilingual and multilingual folks
  - We should think about economic recovery rooted in language justice
  - We can build out an infrastructure that ensures NYC is truly a sanctuary city
  - Language access is an essential service for building out a sanctuary city
  - We can hire community ambassadors and pay them
  - All agencies should adhere to a uniform style of translation, and that translation and interpretation support should come from our communities
  - Bring in staff and talent from our district who can speak, read, and write in multiple languages, particularly Bangla, Arabic, and Spanish
  - Otherwise, we don't see talent from our district in City Council, particularly at directorship levels
- Justin Krebs
  - o Intro

- Twenty-year progressive political campaigner
- MoveOn
- Living Liberally
- Author, parent leader, husband of nurse-midwife
- Founder of the Tank
- Established and expanded Camp Friendship Food Pantry
- Raising three kids who go to D39 schools
- Executive in school president council
- Lots of school leaders have endorsed him
- Wants to be part of multiracial coalition to prioritize schools
- Wants to build on D15 integration plan
- Camp Friendship Food Pantry serves hundreds of families
- Has support from Camp Friendship executive director
- The Tank
  - Nonprofit, noncommercial, collaborative performance space
  - Survival of the Tank has given him insight into challenges faced by small businesses, nonprofits, renters
- Worked for Senator Clinton's office handling constituents' affairs

## Values

- Strategic and people-powered coalitions, which CBID understands
- Fiercely principled and progressive
- Ally, neighbor, and friend no matter how CBID endorses
- Schools
- Vibrant main streets
- Small businesses protecting against dual plagues of pandemic and monopolistic practices of Amazon
- Bike lanes
- Parks and public spaces, arts and culture

## o Plan to win

- Built out a voter contact plan
- Busy virtual gatherings
- Most cash on hand of any campaign
- O Q: why a white male Park Slope candidate?
  - All D39 candidates are politically in a similar space
  - He can build working relationships around the city
  - No question we need women, nonbinary, POC representation
  - When he thinks about this race and I about what he wants in CD39, he thinks about the fact that he's parent, he's built and led organizations, he's hired and budgeted and staffed and managed and grown organizations
  - Parent leader: schools are living and breathing experience on a daily basis and they will be front of mind (cited Red Hook and Sunset Park schools)
  - Window into reproductive justice and birth work in NYC because wife is a midwife

- Staffing and promotions as way to promote gender equity
- Has done gender and equity work on NYCLU, MoveOn, RJ and birth world in NYC
- Q: How are you preemptively building relationships and progressive coalitions during your campaign that you can bring to City Hall?
  - Recognize you're one of 51
  - Oversight in committees
  - Use platform as a City Councilmember
  - Example: some of work Brad Lander did to support D15 integration plan was work he did not as a councilmember but as an advocate
  - Has helped bring folks together as an advocate
  - Need inside allies and outside forces
  - Need to know experts in post-incarceration reacclimation that run the Fortune Society
  - Need to know folks leading the Actors' Fund
  - Need to know folks like relationships with NYCLU to understand neighborhood folks working on civil rights and liberties
  - Affirmed premise of the question
- o Offered to answer any and all questions and provided email address
- Brandon West
  - o Intro
    - Community organizer for racial, social, and economic justice
    - Proud union member
    - Voting rights advocate
    - Reformer fighting Brooklyn political machine for seven years to open up democracy and challenge status quo
  - Goals
    - Running to represent all residents, not just the wealthy and wellconnected
    - Defund police
    - People before developers
    - Build power for workers and marginalized
    - He has dealt with systemic racism and experienced police violence
    - Has visited loved ones behind bars
    - Organizer behind Occupy City Hall
  - o Why run?
    - Initially saw himself as nerdy behind-the-scenes organizer but was tired of seeing government fail us so he decided to run
    - D39 community is not homogeneous and wealthy
      - One in three in D39 is a POC
      - One in four households lives on less than \$35,000 a year
      - About 40% of children who attend school in district depend on free lunch
      - When city suffers, so does our district, even if unseen

- Knows what it takes to turn values into public policy
  - Lots of policy experience
  - Believes in community-led solutions
  - Coalition building through CPD
  - Knows city budget inside and out: OMB and City Council Finance
- As former President of NKD, has gotten people involved in politics
  - Transparency and accountability
  - Helped create Rep Your Block
- Meet the moment and envision the city we want
  - For long road to recovery, we need worker protections, especially for small business owners
  - Need to de-commodify housing to end homelessness way to make the slogan "housing is a human right" real through policy
  - Need to change land-use process
  - Need comprehensive citywide plan and change ULURP
  - Need environmental justice
  - Need to defund police by at least \$3 billion and invest in Black and brown communities – holistic approach to getting us out of austerity
  - Need to desegregate schools
  - Need changes to fair student funding formula
  - All this is about power and solutions and bringing it to the people
  - We don't need to ask for permission, we need to demand justice
- Q: how can we reopen schools in 2022 and equitably address students' social and emotional needs? How do you see your role in making this happen?
  - Challenging situation and no win/win easy answer
  - Depends on how the pandemic evolves, given new strains of COVID
  - Need to advocate and work with all different parts of where city interfaces with people
  - DOE doesn't do a great job of solving people's problems or giving them information
  - People are isolated from knowing how to navigate the crisis
  - Need an as strong as possible remote learning program
  - Need to focus on students with IEPs
  - Need to focus on people who still don't have access to WiFi
  - Dealing with a crisis on top of a crisis because this was a crisis beforehand
  - Would love to be able to move us toward in-person learning but it's a dangerous climate to start doing that
  - We need to bring resources to most in-need students, particularly non-English-speaking families, first, and then build out in-person learning
- O Q: have you taken DSA's pledge to boycott travel to Israel?
  - DSA edited question after critique
  - He won't take any paid junkets to any country
  - It isn't really a councilmember's role to deal with foreign affairs issues

- o Q: How do you distinguish yourself from current councilmember?
  - Wants to build on Brad Lander's record
  - Wants to focus on housing-related Gowanus rezoning issue
  - Has released an explainer on the Gowanus rezoning
  - Will likely have to deal with implementation
  - Councilmember has identified communities in need and Brandon wants to center people who are most marginalized
  - Background in coalition work and government work is Brandon's lens

## - Mamnun Hag

#### o Intro

- Labor organizer
- Immigrant and working-class New Yorker
- Moved to NYC 30 years ago from Bangladesh and settled in D39, Kensington
- Drove for yellow medallion taxicabs in NYC
  - Experienced exploitation by brokers and garage owners and dangerous working environments
  - Experience of fellow cabbies led him to cofound largest cab drivers' union in the country
  - Organized two largest taxicab strikes in history of NYC
  - An act he proposed was passed by NYC Council in 2014
- became community health worker to help people manage chronic health issues and navigate public health system
  - Clients are limited English speakers, low-income, and undocumented
  - Work as community health worker includes securing housing, navigating SNAP benefits, teaching clients to use subways
- Has increased civic participation
  - Believes progress is community-led and community-driven
  - Has increased Bangladeshi community's involvement in PB
  - Worked with Lander to translate materials
  - Galvanized community support for Avenue C Plaza
- Speaking up, pushing back, and moving forward is how we progress
  - His run for city council is an extension of life's work
  - Everyday New Yorkers should be represented by everyday New Yorkers
  - If elected, would be the first Muslim city councilperson
  - Knows what it is like to worry about your next paycheck
  - We need that kind of personal experience in government
  - As a seasoned organizer, he can create effective change and bring much-needed perspective to city government
  - Received award from CBID in 2016 for community service and leadership

- Q: if elected, what would be your top three priorities in office?
  - Labor leader, organizer, and public health advocate
  - If elected, first legislation would be making sure NYC taxicab business comes back
    - 1: need to address suffering of taxicab drivers
      - Without yellow cabs, NYC doesn't look good
      - Drivers are suffering, largely immigrant communities looking to raise their children
      - Bloomberg and DeBlasio destroyed this business
      - Stop predatory lending city needs to return money to cab drivers
    - Secondly, making sure medallion prices do not drastically increase
      - Will eliminate medallion transfer fee
      - Wants to put money on the meter for health and benefits and retirement for cab drivers
    - Third, Uber and Lyft should be classified employees
  - Secondly, community health
    - As community health worker, understands how effective the role is
    - Community members can work with community re: chronic health
    - Can advise community members so they prevent chronic health problems (we saw that those with preexisting conditions suffered the most during COVID)
  - Third, small businesses
- o Q: Gowanus Rezoning Plan
  - Is not as familiar with the plan because he entered the race in November
  - Knows the plan must be changed
  - City land should be used for city people
  - Wants to see affordable housing, which we don't have in Kensington
  - No NYCHA housing in our district
  - Wants 100% affordable housing in Gowanus

## Comptroller

- Senator Kevin Parker was unable to attend and David Weprin never responded to our messages
- Senator Brian Benjamin
  - o Intro
    - Upbringing
      - Born in Harlem
      - Family of immigrants
      - Parents worked in labor unions and now are retired on pensions
      - Spent life in NYC
      - Attended Catholic schools, Brown University, and Harvard Business School

- Professional experience
  - Investment and financial management
  - Gained relevant experience that would prepare him to manage
     \$230 billion pension fund (needs to hit 7% annual rate of return)
  - Wants to build affordable housing in Harlem
- Served on community board, became chair of board, and made sure rezoning and land-use projects benefited the community
- Became State Senator in 2017
  - Led fight to prevent private prisons to obtain funds from state comptroller's office
  - Leading fight in Albany to stop New York-chartered banks from lending to private prisons
  - Not just investment piece but also lending
  - Revenue committee: leading conversation in Albany about revenue ideas
  - Job is to make sure colleagues are aware of revenue ideas
  - Wants to think about how all this intersects with federal government
  - \$15 billion state budget issue
  - \$5 billion city budget issue
- Vision
  - Comptroller should spend time with public pension fund resolving affordable housing crisis
  - Affordable housing plan across the city for the need, not just spot rezonings that are not coordinated
  - We need to solve homelessness crisis with permanent supportive housing
  - Hotels can be converted into permanent supportive housing
  - We need to lead the fight around NYPD accountability
    - We need to move forward to audit NYPD budget
    - Any part not essential to public safety should be removed
  - We need to register contracts and make sure POC-owned small businesses can get contracts in NYC
- Q: Are you accepting donations from real estate industry, fossil fuel industry, or law enforcement associations?
  - Only real estate, not the other two
- Q: What experience do you have managing, investing, and overseeing enormous sums of money?
  - Used to manage massive budgets re: affordable housing
  - Budgets raised from \$70 to 100 million
  - Served on development team
  - Managed and led projects that provided affordable and supportive housing

- O Q: How do you distinguish yourself?
  - Sees the role as CIO of enormous funds
  - He has managed large sums of money before
  - We need a comptroller who is knowledgeable about how to manage money
  - On Board of Trustees at Brown University
  - Strong asset management and asset selection
  - Familiar with investment management
- Q: NYC politics is male dominated. How will you use the comptroller's office to ensure more women have the chance to run for and win elected positions?
  - Has helped women win in the past
  - Was one of Kamala Harris's earliest supporters in her run for president
  - Has helped Black women run and raised money for them, especially to get a foothold in Harlem
  - Endorsed a Black woman, Cordell Cleare, over Bill Perkins
  - Has put his comfortability as an elected on the line, particularly locally in Harlem
  - Knows women can be perceived as electable only if women are elected
- Councilmember Brad Lander
  - Intro
    - Has worked closely with CBID across several decades
    - Has built strong political relationships with Bobby Carroll and Josh Skaller
    - Joined CBID in fights to reform Kings County Democratic organization
    - Valued fighting alongside CBID, GoBK, BVA to fight back against hate and corruption of Trump regime
  - Record
    - Ran two nonprofit orgs in the area for 15 years
    - Record as a Councilmember
      - Freelancers
      - Living wage for Uber and Lyft \$1 billion into pockets of drivers
      - Strong tenant protections
      - Banned plastic bags
      - Held reckless drivers accountable
      - Helped end stop and frisk
      - Participatory Budgeting
      - Bold integration plan for middle schools of D39 serving as model citywide
      - Worked with community leaders to keep our values as a north star and win systems change that makes government work better
  - Bold investments that have worked in the past
    - CUNY
    - Subwav
    - Mitchell Lama

- Goals
  - Divesting from fossil fuels and investing in renewable future
  - Balance budget while investing in jobs, infrastructure, affordable housing
  - Plan to treat housing as a public good
  - Sees role as the city's chief accountability officer
  - Ambitious climate justice plan to hold private and public actors accountable
  - Investments were platforms for city's growth and success for over a century
  - Government cannot deliver on promises when city agencies are run poorly
- Endorsers
  - LAMBDA
  - IND
  - Freelancers Union
  - Working Families Party
  - Make the Road
  - Rep. Nadler
  - Senator Salazar
  - Senator Gounardes
- Only candidates in the race not taking developers' contributions
- Won't participate in Brooklyn Dems re: Lori Maslow
- O Q: What are your oversight priorities?
  - Council does some oversight work
  - Focus on capital project management in the city council
    - \$10 billion we spend every year
    - More than half the projects are over budget and overextended over time
    - Waste hundreds of millions of dollars
    - No transparent way to track capital projects across agencies
    - Passed a bill to make it happen
    - There will now be a transparent way to keep track
    - We will form a team in the comptroller's audit bureau that focuses on capital project management
  - Agencies critical to look at: NYPD, traffic safety, DOE (cited Carter cases biggest single new need in budget)
  - Aggressive oversight is a progressive task
- Q: Are there any strategic departures you're looking to make compared to how Scott Stringer has run the Comptroller's office?
  - Will extend his record on climate
    - Next eight years will be critical in mitigating climate change
      - Stringer announced \$4 billion divestment
  - Will do something different re: audits bureau

- Unit to focus on capital projects
- Wants to stand up equity and sustainability audits
- Need to audit for waste, fraud, and abuse, and against our values
- Contracting, hiring, services = race and gender equity
- Audit agencies around sustainability targets
- Q: How would you use the comptroller's office to make the city do a better job
  of planning so we can have a better response to disasters/pandemics in the
  future?
  - Responsibility: taking long view, identifying most likely catastrophic risks, getting us ready to be resilient in the face of them
  - We can see climate change coming
  - What are next pandemic risks? What are the city's economic risks?
  - Putting out public report of big risks and what we're doing collectively to ensure against them
  - That's why it's a democratic job, not simply one for an accountant

# County Committee Update from Joe Criscione

- Last organizing meeting took place over two days, thirteen hours each
- First half of meeting ended on positive note large slate of NKD reforms had passed
- That all changed when meeting resumed on December 23
- Started out with vote as to whether to adopt Roberts Rules of Order
- Reformers were skeptical of County's motivations
- We did not get to see the raw vote totals
- Roberts Rules of Order were passed
- Parliamentarian used RRO in a convoluted, opinionated way to undo reforms from first half of organizing meeting
- Firestorm from reformers
- County chair was switched in between meetings: Carlo Scissura resigned, and so Josh Skaller should have taken his place, but Tremaine Wright was installed in his place
- County proceeded to vote for appointments before officers even though the order had originally been to have officers before appointments
- No appointments were allowed from the floor
- Only slates of appointments submitted before first part of meeting were allowed
- Reform-minded folks left meeting early and boycotted the rest of the meeting
- Meeting continued, County got slates of appointments and officers and rejected reforms we thought we had passed with exception of financial disclosure reforms
- As expected, lawsuit was filed on December 30
- Lawsuit is to invalidate December 23 meeting
- There are seven causes of action in the lawsuit to reinstate omnibus motion that had been passed on December 16
- Lawsuit seeks to put Josh Skaller as head of County
- Lawsuit has not been decided
- Judge Walker was switched out and moved to the Bronx, but the case may have been placed back on his docket after having been removed

Meeting adjourned following discussion on the Comptroller and D39 candidates