

Primary Elections

- We're done!
- Thanks to everyone who campaigned, canvassed, and handed out flyers for our endorsed candidates
- It's been a lot of work since at least January

Environmental + Climate Committee Update (Joanne Boger and Alice Boles Ott)

- Big bills have not gotten over the finish line
- CCIA
 - o Would collect fees on carbon
 - o Would use the \$15 billion as a spur for climate justice
 - o Received support from senate and assembly but leadership was not ready to move it onto the floor
 - o Significant opposition on Long Island and upstate re: gas taxes
- Public Renewables Act and Clean Futures Act gained momentum but did not cross the finish line
- City Council: Gas-Free NYC bill
 - o Would ban any new infrastructure for gas
 - o There are many projects that companies are trying to modernize and build
 - o Big move to have city council deny these activities
- Save Our Sunlight
 - o Monday night testimony
 - o There were 600 people registered to testify
 - o Alice presented CBID's testimony
 - o Marvin testified in his personal capacity
 - o Testimony was overwhelmingly against the high-rise building
 - o Unions, especially builder's union, testified in favor
 - o Ethan from Brooklyn Botanic Garden said Community Board 9 overwhelmingly passed a resolution disapproving the project without any modification
 - o Now has to go before the Brooklyn Borough President
 - o Alice will try to reread our testimony
 - o Not done yet but looking good that developer will not be able to go forward
 - o ULURP Hearing re: 960 Franklin Avenue and BBG: <https://www.brooklyn-usa.org/event/uniform-land-use-review-procedure-public-hearing-65/>

County Committee Committee (Joe C.)

- July 6 at 7:30 PM = next meeting
- Lots of work to do in 2022 locally
- To attend, email joecbid@gmail.com
- Rich's addition: Go, Rosemarie Montalbano for Surrogate's Court Judge! 😊

Electoral Update (Julie Kerr and Ariel Merkel)

- Key dates coming up

- Delays in releasing results are largely due to absentee ballots, not ranked choice voting
- BOE will release preliminary RCV rounds for all races starting next Tuesday, June 29
 - Tuesday release will just be in-person early voting and Election Day in-person voting
 - June 29 update will not encompass absentees
- July 6: another set of RCV for all races that will include the absentee and affidavit ballots
- Turnout was pretty good!
 - Mayoral primary: in person on June 22 and during early voting period: 853,825 ballots
 - Just under 800,000 ballots (before absentees) were from the Democratic primary
 - 692,000 people voted in Democratic primary in 2013
 - There are 221,000 absentee ballots citywide
 - As of close of business yesterday (June 23), about 105,000 absentee ballots were returned
 - Just over 100,000 are for Democratic absentee ballots
 - In Brooklyn, BOE sent out 54,700 absentee ballots
 - BOE will accept absentee ballots through next Tuesday (June 29) as long as they were postmarked by June 22
 - We might see close to 1,000,000 people turn out for this primary election
 - Canvass details from BOE: <https://vote.nyc/page/canvass-information>
- Ariel's presentation
 - She is the ADA Coordinator for the NYC BOE
 - She provides an accessible version of the absentee ballot
 - Reiterated that the delay in releasing results is not related to RCV, it's because of the built-in delay needed to count absentee ballots that were postmarked by June 22
 - People have seven business days to cure any issues related to absentee ballot envelopes
 - RCV process: an algorithm counts all of it
 - RCV counting is instantaneous
 - If you vote via absentee, you can then vote at your poll site, and the BOE won't open your absentee ballot
 - Returns might not all be valid
 - Just because absentee ballots are returned doesn't mean they will ultimately count because some of those voters could have decided to vote in person
- Q&A
 - If the delay in publishing returns is due to voters returning absentee ballots, why is the BOE telling us that there will be weekly releases of rankings?
 - On Tuesday, it'll be the release of EV and ED in-person tallies
 - And then afterward it'll be in-person and absentee
 - People are eager for results
 - This is a way for the BOE to appease the public and campaigns and show that things are happening

End-of-session legislative update (Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon)

- NYS Legislative Session ended on June 10 (well, really June 11 at 4:00 in the morning)
- Passed a bill that would allow NYS to monitor excessive bus weights on BQE

- Electronic monitoring
- Started being used in other parts of the country
- Couldn't use it on the BQE before because needed state approval
- BQE is deteriorating, particularly the triple cantilever
- Buys time to be able to keep roadway open long enough to figure out planning
- Amount of enforcement that can be done is currently limited
- Huge personnel issue
- Firearms legislation
 - Research institute – funded on a regular basis going forward
 - Pay for gun violence research by payoff on state taxes
 - Way for the public to contribute to conducting gun violence research as a matter of public health
- Whistleblower protections
 - Whistleblower protection for people who have been retaliated against for calling attention to fraud, abuse, discrimination in the workplace
 - Before, had to prove the reported conduct was a violation of the law
 - So, for example, violations of executive orders previously didn't count
 - People had raised issues about the lack of PPE but there was no relevant law, only an EO
 - Includes availability of damages
- Q&A
 - New York Health Act – what happened? Why was it stymied?
 - Wasn't passed in the Senate. Passed in the Assembly.
 - Jo Anne Simon doesn't know precisely what happened
 - Senate is still a bit more conservative
 - A lot of those Democratic seats were flipped from Republican to Democratic control, and those members are in more purple districts
 - We also didn't get marijuana legislation
- No longer under emergency COVID orders as of today
 - Remote notarization executive orders are expiring, and notaries are sounding the alarm
 - Legislature is trying to pass legislation on it now to continue allowing remote notarization
- BBP campaign update
 - Jo Anne did not come out on top in #1s
 - With number of absentees, those will tend to skew toward voters in areas where Jo Anne is strong
 - She may overtake Cornegy on absentees
 - They didn't get to the 52nd AD until the very end
 - Possible that 44th, 52nd, 57th ADs will not be counted until later
 - We figure it will take some time
 - We are anticipating not knowing very much/a final analysis until July 12
 - Depending on RCV, some people were ranking only 1 or only 2
 - People tended to focus on city council and the mayor's race

- BBP was an afterthought in a lot of people's minds because it's an amorphous position and there hasn't been a competitive BBP election since 2001, so voters weren't used to voting for that position
- We don't know how many absentee voters voted in the BBP race
- So far, 100,000 fewer people voted for other races than voted for mayor's race
- Numbers will shift but we don't know how many people voted for a #2
- There were 12 candidates, and the vast majority did not crack into double digits in terms of first-place rankings
- We don't yet know who those voters' 2s and 3s were
- It was a hard-fought race, and it would have been better to see higher numbers
- Jo Anne got into the race late and there were already endorsements and promises made
- Gender and age are still barriers
- Jo Anne feels good about the race her campaign ran
- People have been calling and telling her what a good race she ran
- Rich commented that CBID is proud to have supported Jo Anne and honored to have played a role in the campaign
- Jo Anne said it was gratifying to have the support of CBID and many reform Democratic clubs as well as a broad base of support throughout the borough
- Disappointing how big a barrier gender still is
- People gravitate toward a male depiction of leadership or what is an interesting comment
- Some folks were reacting to completely empty statements during forums
- Difficult to overcome subtle barriers
- Like how it's difficult to overcome structural racism when you have been acculturated in a racist society
- U.S. society has also skewed very male
- Women's leadership would bring our society forward
- Next meetings
 - In-person meeting in July
 - We are going to do our best to continue streaming events because doing so offers a great opportunity to those who cannot make in-person meetings for whatever reason
 - Meeting will take place at Methodist Church
 - Ex Comm is discussing hosting it outside if possible
 - Comment in the chat: we should have accessible in-person meetings