**Fourth Rockaways and Broad Channel Long Term Recover Group Meeting Minutes**

February21, 2013

6:30 PM

454 Beach 67th Street

**Mission Statement:** The Rockaways and Broad Channel Long Term Recovery Group provides collaboration, resource identification and allocation and advocacy for individuals and families who reside in the Rockaways and Broad Channel areas affected by Superstorm Sandy an all hazardous disasters.

The LTRC Steering Committee has done vital work to develop an organized group under National VOAD/FEMA structure.

Elections for Steering Committee officers were conducted with the following results:

**Chair:** Dr. Edward Williams

**Vice Chair:** Leni Calas

**Treasurer:** Jim Killoran

**Secretary:** Andi Broffman

**Post Super Storm Sandy Hot Wash**

**When:** February 28th, 2013

10 AM – 2 PM

**Where:** Rockaway Revival Church

1526 Central Avenue

**What:** Many local community members in the storm affected areas have not yet been given an opportunity to give firsthand knowledge of how the emergency response was to the storm. Ready Rockaway and the Rockaway & Broad Channel Long Term Recovery Group invite the local community of Queens to their Hot Wash event where they will openly discuss the successes and shortcomings on the part of first responders in the aftermath of super storm Sandy. National and local government agencies, officials, and emergency response teams will be on hand to discuss their response and actions after the storm and hear from community members in attendance. Among the topics of discussion will be Response, Evacuation, Mass Care, Shelter Ready, and Communication, and the local community will be encouraged to lend their voice and suggest alternatives to response.

Please look out for an invitation to this event.

**Reports from Sub-Committees**

7:30 PM – 8:00 PM

1. Case Management

1. Creating a master list of resources
2. Discussion of using the Coordinated Assistance Network (CAN) as a data system to catalogue resources and store cases
   1. Need to expedite getting groups access to CAN
3. Bottom line is getting people the resources that they need as quickly as possible, perhaps at the risk of duplicating efforts

2)      Community Assessment

1. Gaining a stronger sense of the geographical layout of the Rockaways
2. Create an assessment form that will serve to capture the needs of the community
3. Thinking through the best way to do outreach (social media, door knocking, other types of media outreach)

3)      Emotional and Spiritual Care

1. Working with other groups (especially case management and community assessment) to determine where their services are most needed
2. Discussion of the resources that they currently have and those that they will likely need so they can provide care

4)      Construction Coordination

1. Discussing base flood elevation requirements and what that means for rebuilding homes
2. Understanding the variety of materials that will be needed and the services each rebuilding group offers

5)      Volunteer Coordination

1. Understanding that this sub-committee needs to understand the needs of other sub-committees to funnel volunteers to projects that need them
2. Discussion of finding housing for out of town volunteer groups
3. Discussion of ensuring there is meaningful work for all volunteer groups to participate in

6)      Donations Management

1. Identify permanent and long-term locations for multiple warehouses throughout the Rockaways for accessibility, especially since the peninsula can be very isolated during hazardous situations
2. Discussing multi-agency warehouse concept
3. Manage donations and inventory in an efficient and practical way
4. Create consistent messaging so that the donations coming in match the needs of the community

**Small Business Administration Presentation**

1. Small Business Administration (SBA) is a federal partner to FEMA
2. They provide low interest disaster recovery loans to homeowners, renters and businesses
3. Interest as low as 1.68% for homeowners
4. Interest as low as 3% for non-profits
5. Interest as low as 4% for businesses
6. **If you get an application it is IMPERATIVE that you apply**
   1. **Even if you do not get approved for the loan, you will be referred back to FEMA for a potential grant**
   2. **If you do not fill out the application, you cannot be considered for an SBA loan OR a FEMA grant through this process**
7. If your application is denied, there is a reconsideration process
   1. Draft a letter requesting a review
      1. Provide reason you would like your loan application to be reviewed
      2. Must submit request for review within 6 months of your notice that you were denied the loan
      3. A different loan office will complete the reconsideration of your application
8. There is no cost to apply
9. If you are approved, you do not have to accept the loan and there is no fee associated with not accepting the loan

**THE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR A SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION LOAN IS FEBRUARY 27th, 2013**

**Registering Undocumented Individuals with FEMA**

The Hispanic Political Club and FEMA will be working to register Undocumented Individuals in the Rockaways for FEMA benefits.

**Where:** 1032 Beach 20th Street

**When:** Saturday, February 23rd 10AM – 1 PM

Monday, February 25th 9 AM – 3 PM

Tuesday, February 26th 9 AM – 3 PM