

2013-J5566

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Flatbush Development Corporation upon the occasion of hosting its 39th Annual Awards Benefit Ceremony on May 8, 2014

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Flatbush Development Corporation upon the occasion of hosting its 39th Annual Awards Benefit Ceremony on Thursday, May 8, 2014, at Gargiulo's Restaurant in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, This year's Annual Awards Benefit was dedicated to the memory of long-time friend and supporter of the Flatbush Development Corporation, Wendy Weller-Jones, and celebrated both the Flatbush Development Corporation and its distinguished honorees who have made outstanding contributions to the Flatbush community; and

WHEREAS, Honorees for the evening included: Ron Schweiger, Brooklyn Borough Historian, recipient of the 39th Community Leadership Award; Dr. Widad Valme, O.D. of Grace Eye Care, recipient of the 2014 "Unsung Hero" Award; Reverend Dan Ramm, Senior Pastor, Flatbush Reformed Church, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award; Olgierd Bilanow, Beverley Square West, recipient of the Neighborhood Service Award; Dick Boschen, Ditmas Park, recipient of the Neighborhood Service Award; Pamela Brown, South Midwood, recipient of the Neighborhood Service Award; Nicole and Bob Buck, Fiske Terrace, recipients of the Neighborhood Service Award; MaryKay and Bill Seery, Prospect Park South, recipients of the Neighbor-

hood Service Award; Joel Siegel, Ditmas Park West, recipient of the Neighborhood Service Award; and Virginia Waters and Joe Enright, West Midwood, recipients of the Neighborhood Service Award; and WHEREAS, The Flatbush Development Corporation (FDC) was formed in 1975 by a group of homeowners and tenants who were concerned about growing signs of deterioration in the neighborhood; the group organized tenants in apartment buildings to combat poor conditions and prevent arson and abandonment and worked with merchants on the neighborhood's commercial strips; and

WHEREAS, FDC's mission is to enhance the quality of life for all segments of the Flatbush community; it identifies and responds to neighborhood needs and concerns, proactively creating programs and campaigns that work towards a healthy, safe and vibrant community; its economic development, housing, youth, and immigration programs serve the exceptionally diverse needs of its community; and

WHEREAS, FDC's dedicated and professional staff are led by a Board of Directors comprised of community residents, merchants, and business leaders who are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all members of the Flatbush community; and

WHEREAS, FDC continues to maintain the vitality, diversity, and quality of life that only an urban community can offer; with much to be done, affordable housing needs to be preserved and built, commercial revitalization must continue, and quality-of-life issues must be addressed to maintain a vibrant neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the

recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Flatbush Development Corporation upon the occasion of host-

ing its 39th Annual Awards Benefit Ceremony on May 8, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Flatbush Development Corporation, and to the aforementioned honorees.