

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Meeting Will Discuss Diversity on Boards, Environmental Justice and the Asbury Park Waterfront

The Asbury Park Women's Collective will be hosting a community meeting entitled, **Let's Talk About Diversity on Asbury Park Boards and Commissions, Environmental Justice and the Asbury Park Waterfront**, on Tuesday, December 11th at 7pm at Second Baptist Church of Asbury Park located at 124 Atkins Avenue.

Since Asbury Park's Boards and Commissions are not reflective of the community, organizers have created an educational session on the benefits of diversity on city boards. Participants will learn about environmental justice and principles from long time advocates. Key speakers include Dr. Nicky Sheats and Laureen Boles of the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA). Dr. Sheats is Director of the Center for Urban Environment at the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of Thomas Edison State College and Chair of NJEJA's Board. Laureen Boles is the State Director of the NJEJA, an alliance of organizations whose mission is to promote equity in the implementation of statewide policies with environmental impacts.

Also on the agenda will be a core group members of the newly formed Save Asbury's Waterfront Committee, a coalition of Asbury Park residents and non-profit organizations that seek to foster and encourage appropriate development along Asbury Park's waterfront to maximize social inclusion, access and encourage an open and participatory planning process.

The meeting is cosponsored by the Asbury Park Affordable Housing Coalition, Asbury Park Transformative Justice Project, Black Lives Matter NJ-AP, Save Asbury's Waterfront, Asbury Park Complete Streets Coalition, and Second Baptist Church of Asbury Park.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information contact Kerry Margaret Butch at (732) 982-6942. Light refreshments will be served.

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