Twitter Thread by Julio Peña III ■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■■



Julio Peña III ■■■ ■■ ■■■■■■
@Julio_PenaBK

BK Dems can't continue with business as usual until we see real accountability for hate speech. We're calling on @bkdems leadership to hold DL Lori Maslow accountable & for candidates to boycott the Jan 31 public forum until they do. ■ https://t.co/DNYAumTuSJ

January 25, 2020

Attn: Brooklyn Democratic Party Leadership
CC: Chair Rodneyse Bichotte, Brooklyn Democratic Party

Leadership of Brooklyn Democratic Party,

In early January 2021, hateful, xenophobic, violent and racist remarks against Chinese, Palestinian and other communities of color by District Leader Lori Maslow were uncovered on Twitter. Since this discovery, there have been multiple calls from elected officials, Brooklyn political clubs, County Committee members, and Chinese, Muslim and Palestinian - American community groups for Leader Maslow's resignation as District Leader and State Committeemember from the Brooklyn Democratic Party and NY State Democratic Party. To date, Leader Maslow has not resigned nor has the Brooklyn Democratic Party officially called for Leader Maslow's resignation or denounced her violent rhetoric. Instead of denouncing these comments and taking swift action to hold Leader Maslow accountable, the Brooklyn Democratic Party made their official Twitter account private, blocking access and communication to Brooklyn Democrats, and going silent on the issue. More recently, the Brooklyn Democratic Party announced plans for a public forum hosting NYC Mayoral candidates, Comptroller candidates and Borough President candidates on January 31st.

From the poisonous legacy of the Trump era, we know the impact that words have. Words matter especially from a representative in our diverse Brooklyn borough. The Brooklyn Democratic Party cannot continue with business as usual while Leader Maslow and Chair Bichotte remain silent on Leader Maslow's future with the Brooklyn Democratic Party, and explaining the Party's handling of this egregious behavior when it came to light. At this point, the issue is not only the responsibility of Leader Maslow's but has become one of the Party's. This institutional problem with the Brooklyn Democratic Party must be addressed. We call on the leadership of the Party to take action on the following before the January 31st forum happens. We believe no event can take place unless and until the following actions of accountability are taken:

- Brooklyn Democratic Party unequivocally and officially denounces the racist comments against Chinese and Palestinians, and calls for Leader Maslow's resignation with deepest and sincere apologies for the delay in accountability
- Leader Maslow resigns
- Leadership details the failure to act in this situation and publicly charts a course of action with impacted community groups on how the Brooklyn Democratic Party can improve and show up for those community groups impacted by Leader Maslow's disturbing rhetoric

We end with a call to all candidates to boycott this forum if these actions are not addressed. Attending and participating in this event lends credibility and legitimacy to an organization that has not done the right and moral thing by standing up against hate in its ranks. What kind of message is our local Party sending by turning the page on racism and xenophobia without true accountability? We cannot begin a conversation about the future of our borough and city without finishing one that speaks directly to the moral integrity of our local Democratic Party. Brooklyn deserves better.

Respectfully,

Shaquana Boykin, District Leader AD57
Samy Nemir Olivares, District Leader AD53
Julio Peña III, District Leader AD51
Jesse Pierce, District Leader AD52

In early January 2021, hateful, xenophobic, violent and racist remarks against Chinese, Palestinian and other communities of color by District Leader Lori Maslow were uncovered on Twitter.

Since this discovery, there have been multiple calls from elected officials, BK political clubs, County Committee members, & Chinese, Muslim & Palestinian - American community groups for Leader Maslow's resignation as District Leader & State Committeemember from the Dem Party

To date, Leader Maslow has not resigned nor has the BKDem Party officially called for Leader Maslow's resignation or denounced her violent rhetoric. Instead the BK Dem Party made their Twitter account private, blocking access & communication to BK Dems & going silent on the issue

The issue is now not only the responsibility of Leader Maslow's but has become one of the Party's. This institutional problem with the Brooklyn Democratic Party must be addressed. We call on the leadership of the Party to take action on the following before the January 31st forum

1.) Brooklyn Democratic Party unequivocally and officially denounces the racist comments against Chinese and Palestinians, and calls for Leader Maslow's resignation with deepest and sincere apologies for the delay in accountability

2.) Leader Maslow Resigns

3.) Leadership details the failure to act in this situation and publicly charts a course of action with impacted community groups on how the Brooklyn Democratic Party can improve and show up for those community groups impacted by Leader Maslow's disturbing rhetoric

We end with a call for all candidates to boycott this forum until these actions are addressed. Attending and participating in this event lends credibility and legitimacy to an organization that so far refuses to stand up against hate in its own ranks.

What message are we sending if continue this kind of behavior from elected Brooklyn Democrats? If you would like to sign on to this letter and strengthen our message, please use this form: https://t.co/epkiGdyNud

@threadreaderapp unroll