## Members Present

- Glinda Andrews
- Deshauna Appleton
- Wayne Bailey
- LeeAnn Banks
- Princess Benn-James
- Julia Boyd
- Adem Bunkeddeko
- Helen Coley
- Faith Corbett
- Michael Cox
- Dian Duke
- Andrea Ferris
- Fred Frazier
- Tamika Gibbs
- Nizjoni Granville
- Elijah Gray
- Crystal Hudson
- Xeerxeema Jordan
- Shalawn Langhorne
- Tarves Lord
- Elaine Mahoney
- Kwasi Mensah
- Adelaide Miller
- Frederick Monderson
- Atim Oton
- Robert Puca
- Yahya O. Raji
- Adam Sachs
- Brian Saunders
- Stacey Sheffey
- Meredith Staton
- Edison Stewart
- Audrey Tait-Hall
- Mark Thurton
- Gregory Todd
- Ethel Tyus
- Yves Vilus
- Irsa Weatherspoon
- Sharon Wedderburn
- Vilma Zuniga

## Members Absent/Excused

- Gail Branch-Muhammad
- Phu Duong
- James Ellis
- Robert Matthews
- Sheryl Vassell
- Gib Veconi
- Robert Witherwax
- Deborah Young
- Pedro Zapata

## Elected Officials

- Senator Montgomery, 25<sup>th</sup> Assembly District
- Senator Jesse Hamilton, 20<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District
- Assemblywoman Richardson, 43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

## Elected Official Representatives

- Bella Pori, Assemblyman Mosley’s Office
- Darryl White, NYC Public Advocate’s Office
- Josh Pierre, NYC Comptroller’s Office
- Karen Chambers, Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office
- Amanda Robinson, Assemblywoman Wright’s Office
- Elisa Helligar, Senator Hamilton’s Office
- Nan Blackshear, Brooklyn Borough President’s Office
- Irfan Ahmed, Mayor De Blasio’s Office

## CB 8 Staff Present

- Michelle George, District Manager
- Julia Neale, Community Coordinator
- Melanie Grant, Community Assistant
The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 7:15 by Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson.

**Acceptance of Minutes** – Dr. Monderson made a motion to accept the June minutes with any necessary corrections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried unanimously.

**Correspondence** – CB 8 newsletter and other information was distributed.

Ms. Granville welcomed everyone back from the summer break and opened the floor for public comments and announcements. She invited the elected officials to say a few words.

**Senator Velmanette Montgomery** – 25th Senatorial District

Senator Montgomery congratulated Community Board 8 on receiving one of its newest affordable housing units located at 1552 Bergen Street. She announced that she will be collaborating with a few other elected officials to sponsor a Community Town Hall to speak on the NYS Constitutional Convention on Monday, September 19, 2017 at Lafayette Presbyterian Church located at 85 South Oxford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217 from 6PM to 8PM. This event will highlight parts of the NYS Constitution that guarantee rights and protection. All of which will be at risk if a Constitutional Convention is convened. Attendees will get information about what is at stake for seniors, public education, unions, workers’ rights, housing, safety net programs and the environment. Dr. John Flateau from CUNY Medgar Evers College is expected to attend and will be the keynote speaker at this event.

On Wednesday, September 20, 2017 she will be speaking at the “Re-Thinking Re-Entry II” Conference where New York City Services and the needs for the formerly incarcerated will be examined. The conference will also host a series of workshops related to housing, employment and educational opportunities. It will be held at the Interchurch Center located at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY from 8:30AM to 3PM. To RSVP for this event, please email RSVP@interchurch-center.org or call 212-870-2945.

Senator Montgomery mentioned that she had been asked to serve on the Commission on Women’s Suffrage. The Women’s Suffrage Movement has been in the works in the state of New York for over 100 years. On Wednesday, September 20, 2017 she will be joined by Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and Shola Lynch for a free special screening and discussion of “Chisholm ’72: Unbought and Unbossed” which is a film inspired by the Honorable Ms. Shirley Chisholm who was the first African-American woman elected into U.S. Congress and the first African-American woman to run for the U.S. Presidency. The event will be held at BRIC located at 647 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY. For more information, contact Senator Montgomery’s office at 718-643-6140.

Ms. Granville thanked Senator Montgomery for the information and invited Assemblywoman Richardson to say a few words.

**Assemblywoman Diana Richardson** – 43rd Assembly District

Assemblywoman Richardson congratulated Community Board 8 on receiving its newest affordable housing unit on Bergen Street. She reminded residents that she continues to hold her Civic Minded Meeting on the 4th Saturday of every month. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 2PM to 4PM at her office which is located at 400 Empire Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY. She encouraged everyone to attend these meetings where the goal is to unite community residents on issues that need to be conquered collectively for the benefit of the community as a whole.

Assemblywoman Richardson mentioned that Housing continues to be the number one issue in the community and that displacement is still alive and well. She stated that her district has the second highest eviction rate in the city of New York and encouraged the community to learn about their housing rights.
She stated that even though the Bedford Union Armory is physically outside of Community Board 8’s District, members of our community can still be affected by what happens to it. We need to be aware that gentrification and dislocation of existing residents could ultimately be the outcome of this project.

Legislation in Albany has been at the forefront of many of the issues that we face due to gentrification. The legislation that legalizes many of these larger scale housing projects is causing an immense strain on the community. She stated that she does not want us as a community to be taken for granted or to be taken advantage of. She advised residents to get connected with each other on the issues that affect the entire community and for them to get involved with their local elected officials to help inspire the change that needs to happen.

On Tuesday, September 19, 2017, two phases of the ULURP application process concerning the Bedford Union Armory are being discussed. For additional information, please contact her District Office at 718-778-3105.

Ms. Granville thanked Assemblywoman Richardson for the information and asked Senator Hamilton to say a few words.

**Senator Jesse Hamilton** - 20th Senatorial District

Senator Hamilton announced that on Saturday, September 16, 2017 he will be hosting a Hawaiian Workshop on Fulani Flute Making at Brooklyn Botanic Garden’s Discovery Garden which is located at 990 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, NY from 10:30AM to 12PM.

He mentioned a few services that his office provides for residents in the community. Senator Hamilton is offering free Immigration Legal Services on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 from 6:30PM to 8PM.

On Monday, September 25, 2017, free Legal Services will be provided to individuals who are 24 years old or younger.

They also provide services for seniors who are in need of assistance. His office helps seniors to apply for programs like SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption), DRIE (Disability Rent Increase Exemption), and Food Stamps, etc. These services are offered Monday through Thursday at his District Office located at 1669 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

Senator Hamilton stated that Brianna’s Law was recently signed into law. This law had been working its way through the legislative branches for a while. One of the major components of this bill is that it will push for stricter safety practices by the NYPD in the event of an emergency. With this law, the NYPD would be required to undergo CPR training every 2 years.

Senator Hamilton also brought awareness to the fact that each year thousands of kids are being fined and issued arrest warrants for minor offences like jumping the turnstile in the subway stations. When these kids are arrested and introduced to the prison system, they become 60 times more likely to commit suicide. At least 20 kids are sent to Riker’s Island each year for minor offences like these that should not require such harsh penalties.

Lastly, Senator Hamilton announced that along with Assemblywoman Richardson and Congresswoman Clarke, he filed a FOIL (Freedom of Information Law) request for the financial records regarding the Bedford Union Armory which is located at 1579 Bedford Avenue, but has not received any information as of yet.
Ms. Granville thanked Senator Hamilton for the information and asked for reports from elected officials representatives, announcements, and public comments.

**Ms. Karen Chambers** from the Kings County District Attorney’s Office announced that September is Hispanic Heritage Month and that the District Attorney will be hosting a Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Monday, September 18, 2017 at the Brooklyn Law School located at 205 State Street, Brooklyn, NY from 6PM to 8PM. District Attorney Gonzalez will be honoring U.S. Congressman Adriano Espaillat of the 13th Congressional District. RSVP at communityaffairs@brooklynda.org.

**Mr. Irfan Ahmed** from the Mayor’s Office announced that they are jointly working with the NYC Parks Department, NYC Department of Education and NYC Housing Authority on the NYC Soccer Initiative which is a five-year plan to build 50 soccer pitches across the city.

Each soccer pitch will come with a free afterschool program and gear for the children. Programming will be offered by a local community-based organization. They have also set up a maintenance fund in order to ensure each of the sites sustainability.

They are proposing to install a soccer pitch at the P.S. 335 Woods Playground located at 130 Rochester Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11213 which is under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department and is jointly operated by the Department of Education. The soccer pitch will not be replacing any play spaces dedicated to other sports. Instead, it will be utilizing an empty portion of the playground.

The school is looking forward to the addition to their play area before the October afterschool programming starts. They are hoping to begin the installation during the last two weeks of September, but it depends on how quickly they can obtain approval from the community board. They have been invited to the October 3, 2017 Parks Committee meeting to discuss their plans in further detail.

**Ms. Bella Pori** from Assemblyman Mosley’s office announced that the Assemblyman, in conjunction with Assemblywoman Wright, Senator Montgomery and others will be sponsoring the Community Town Hall on the NYS Constitutional Convention on Monday, September 19, 2017 at Lafayette Presbyterian Church located at 85 South Oxford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217 from 6PM to 8PM. She also encouraged members of the community to come out and participate in the discussion.

They will also be hosting Raise the Age Town Hall on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at Bed-Stuy YMCA located at 1121 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11216 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM. They will be addressing the age of criminal responsibility which has been raised from 16 years old to 18 years old and opening the floor to community residents to address their inquiries to the elected officials, judges and advocates who made this change possible.

Ms. Pori also announced that on Saturday, October 7, 2017, Assemblyman Mosley will host his free E-Waste Recycling Event in partnership with Lower East Side Ecology Center. The event will be held at Fort Greene Park located on Myrtle Avenue between Washington Park and North Portland Avenue from 10AM to 4PM. It will allow residents to dispose of electronic equipment such as cell phones, scanners, printers, TV’s, VCR’s, computer monitors, etc. For additional information, please call his office at (718) 596-0100.

**Mr. Josh Pierre** from NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer’s Office stated the Comptroller Stringer has been strongly advocating for the community on affordable housing in light of the development of the Bedford Union Armory which is located at 1579 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. He stated that the units that will become available to the community need to be affordable so that the state of homelessness can improve. Mr. Pierre mentioned that there are currently over 1,000 vacant lots in the city that can be converted into affordable
housing through a Land Trust. Comptroller Stringer hopes that the Armory will serve the community and not
the interests of the developers.

**Ms. Amanda Robinson** from Assemblywoman Wright’s office encouraged residents to attend the Community
Town Hall on the Constitutional Convention on Monday, September 19, 2017 at Lafayette Presbyterian Church
located at 85 South Oxford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217 from 6PM to 8PM. For more information, call the
office at 718-399-7630.

**Mr. Darryl White** from Public Advocate James’ Office thanked Community Board 8 for being a part of the
over 200,000 votes that she received which resulted in her re-election and congratulated CB8 on scoring highest
citywide for clean Streets and Sidewalks.

**Ms. Nan Blackshear** from Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams Office announced that the Borough
President hosted an event called “A Talk with Dr. Gregor” on Friday, September 9, 2017 in which he addressed
how people can get on the path to better health. The Borough President was diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
many years ago and has adjusted his eating and lifestyle habits to curb the affects it could take on his health.
The video footage of the event can be seen by logging onto https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgNjYjfZfX4&t=1458s

Ms. Blackshear also announced that BP Adams is partnering with the New York Academy of Medicine’s
Center for Health policy and programs to make Brooklyn the first age-friendly borough. The process will
include a series of surveys conducted throughout the community to gain insight about their quality of life,
community needs and neighborhood planning. They are asking for the participation of block associations, civic
groups and organizations to disseminate surveys. The roll-out of this program will commence at a press
conference which is slated for Monday, October 2, 2017. If you are interested in participating, please contact
Ms. Sandra Chapman at programs@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

Lastly, Ms. Blackshear announced that on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 the Borough President will be hosting his
4th Annual One Brooklyn Resource Fair where more than 40 different agencies, companies, and organizations
will be in attendance to provide resources to Brooklyn’s neighborhood associations such as block/civic
associations, houses of worship, condo/co-op boards, etc. This event will be held at Brooklyn Borough Hall
which is located at 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY at 5:30PM. If you require additional information,
please contact 718-802-4299 or email community@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

**Mr. Robert Callohan** encouraged the community to partake in the upcoming fundraiser to save the Imani
Gardens Willow tree. Imani Garden is a historic site which was preserved in honor of Mr. James Weeks whose
home was in close range of the garden. The site is also next to the first integrated public school in Brooklyn.
Imani Garden volunteers believe that by securing the willow tree they can demonstrate the importance of
African American history and show that it is worthy of preserving.

The fundraiser will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at the Society for Ethical Culture which is located at 53
Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, NY at 2PM. For more information, visit https://wastenotpermaculture.org.

Mr. Callohan also mentioned that Imani Garden is located at the corner of Dean Street and Schenectady Avenue
and is open from 10AM to 11AM on Saturdays.

A representative from **New Haven Temple Seven Day Adventist Church** announced that the church’s Soup
Kitchen is open every Sunday and their Food Pantry is open every other Thursday. The church is located at 634
Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY. Please contact 718-622-0370.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for the announcements and asked for a report from the following committees:
**Economic Development Committee** – Ms. Atim Oton, Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY.

The committee discussed the results of the supermarket survey. They also discussed how to assist residents who have issues related to employment such as how to increase wages and employment opportunities for people having difficulties with the educational requirements for jobs. The committee is also focusing on how they can bring services to the community and grant access to the residents that need them.

All future meetings for the Economic Development Committee will now be held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) which is located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 6:30 PM at BNIA. All are invited to attend.

**Health & Human Services Committee** – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair

The Health Committee met on Monday, September 11, 2017 at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. Present were: Chair Kwasi Mensah and Ms. Audrey Taitt-Hall. They discussed plans for their 3rd Annual Health Fair event, objectives for the committee as they approach a new year, and the resolution for Smoke-Free NYC Initiative.

The committee discussed new ideas for the Health Fair next year. They are planning to focus more on Mental Health, Diabetes, and Obesity. They also want to implement lesson plans on learning how to grow healthy foods.

All future meetings for the Health & Human Services Committee will now be held on the 1st Monday of each month at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) which is located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. The next Health Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 2, 2017 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30 PM.

**Housing Committee** – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Housing Committee met on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) which is located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. In addition to the Chair Nizjoni Granville, present were: Meredith Staton, Fred Frazier, Xeerxeema Jordan, Katherine Perko, Greg Todd, Rebecca Pryor, Corey E., Shanique Dashiire, Yahya Raji, Dian Duke, Robert Puca, LeeAnn Banks, Irsa Weatherspoon, Yves Vilus, and Brian Sanders.

The committee discussed their goals for the upcoming year. All future meetings for the Housing Committee will now be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) which is located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. The next Housing Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at BNIA at 6:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

**Land Use Committee** - Ethel Tyus, Chair

The Land Use committee met on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. In addition to the Chair Ethel Tyus, present were: Princess Benn-James, Fred Frazier, Nizjoni Granville, Danae Oratowski, Katherine Perko, Adam Sachs, Meredith Staton, Greg Todd, Gib Veconi, Yves Vilus, and Irsa Weatherspoon, Peter Krashes, and Josh Rhinesmith.

The committee discussed the following applications:
1. ULURP Application (# 150282PQK) by ACS and DCAS for Lease Renewal of 671 Prospect Place as a Child Care Center - Friends of Crown Heights 2 Child Care Center

Kenneth Robinson, Esq., General Counsel to Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) and Michael Bitar, Facility Manager for ACS, presented an application by ACS to renew a lease on 671 Prospect Place between Franklin Ave and Bedford Ave (Block 1224, Lot 45) for continued use as a child care facility for an indeterminate term. The particulars of the lease renewal have not been set. The existing lease arrangement expires April 2020. The existing zoning is R6B with a C2-4 Commercial Overlay. The site has been used to provide child care services since approximately 12/14/94. This application is a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c)(26) which governs instances where: “license, lease and permit renewals, or transfers of ownership thereof, where there will be no material change in permit conditions or the scope of permitted activities.”

The building reportedly has 13 classrooms and serves 142 children, including 30 toddlers and 104 pre-schoolers.

Given that the facility has four open violations from earlier this year (two concerning the elevator and two concerning the electrical room), the Committee had several questions regarding maintenance responsibilities. Mr. Bitar explained that ACS can make emergency repairs if owner representative Joe Cortin, of Prospect Ave Property Corp does not.

After a discussion of the District’s need for pre-school child care, the committee voted 9 in favor with 1 abstention to support the application and hopes that the full Board will support the its recommendation.

Mr. Stewart asked what the ratio of students to staff would be. A representative of 671 Prospect Place responded that there will be a total of 206 students with 36 adults servicing and supervising them which would be approximately 5 students assigned to each adult. A resident then inquired about the monthly costs for rent. Their representative mentioned that as of February 2017, the rental cost was approximately $12,000 per square foot. The lease agreement for this project is still being negotiated with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). Dr. Monderson made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. It was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried unanimously.

2. ULURP Application (#s 170357ZRK & 170367ZMK)(CEQR # 17DCP163K) for 587 Bergen Street (Construction of New Building and Zoning Map Amendment)

Joshua Rinesmith, of Akerman LLP, presented an application for a zoning boundary adjustment and amendment to 587-597 Bergen Street to change the site from M1-1 to R6B. The City Planning Commission requested that the zoning amendment include three existing town homes with frontage on Dean St. The application will change the zoning for Block 1137, Lots 15,16,17, and part of 18, plus Lots 77, 81 and 82. The application’s Zoning Text amendment will change the commercial overlay from 100’ from Carlton Ave to 150’ from Carlton Ave. The application will convert a surface parking lot into a four-story, 50’ tall apartment building with a Floor Area Ratio of 2.2 including 26 dwelling units and 13 underground parking spaces. Of these dwelling units, 16 will be market rate and 10 will be affordable in compliance with Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Option 2. The building will have a 15’ setback above three stories.

Members of the Dean Street Block Association were in attendance and voiced their concerns that the building is over-sized, too bulky, and insensitive to the architectural character of the abutting Prospect Heights Historic District.
After a discussion of the setback and heights of the dormers (which are windows that project vertically from a sloping roof) at 587 Bergen Street, the committee voted 9 in favor with 1 abstention to support the application with the following conditions:

- The owner, 1121 Delaware LLC, will provide a phone number to community residents for 24/7 access to the owner’s representative.
- Change the setback of the dormers to 10’ to reduce visibility.

Mr. Rhinesmith, representative for 587 Bergen Street stated that the owner is willing to adhere to the two conditions voted on by the Land Use Committee. They are willing to provide contact information so that a representative can be reached 24 hours a day. The owner also made a commitment to investigate the ability to amend the dormers.

Mr. Staton asked if this project will take away from affordable housing. Mr. Rhinesmith responded that it would not take away from affordable housing and added that the façade of the affordable units will remain unchanged.

A resident inquired about the amount of affordable units that will be made available. Mr. Rhinesmith clarified that there will be 10 affordable units in addition to 16 market priced units because the space is mixed-use which requires you to mix the type of units that will be made available.

After a brief question and answer period, Mr. Staton made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bunkeddeko and carried to a final vote of 37 in favor, 2 opposed with no abstentions.

**M-CROWN Sub-Committee Update**

An inquiry will be sent to the Department of City Planning regarding the MCROWN project. The committee will update the board office on the next M-Crown Sub-Committee meeting date.

**Parks & Recreation Committee** – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at the St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY at 6PM. In addition to the Chair, Ms. Glinda Andrews, present were: Dorothy Bembry-Guet, James Larson, Thomas Montford, Donna Algood-Walls, and Lennie Owes.

The committee discussed the upcoming Groundbreaking Ceremony at Stroud Playground that will take place on Friday, September 8, 2017 at Park Place between Washington and Classon Avenues at 7PM.

Ms. Andrews stated that she met with Ms. Wedderburn (CB8 Youth & Education Committee Chair) in reference to Imani Garden on Schenectady Avenue to figure out what can be done to save the Garden. Ms. Andrews stated that this challenge has been going on for a long time and that the Community Board can only suggest ideas but cannot force the owner to renegotiate usage of their property. It was stated that the owner is willing to switch the middle property to the corner property which is a larger area. The Imani Garden group was not on board with that idea. They know that time is of the essence and they will try to reach out to the elected officials for assistance.

Mr. James Larson from the Crown Heights Mediation Center stated that they received a $13,000 grant to install a sculpture that will show abstract images on a rock at Brower Park. The sculpture will be activated by sunlight. The installation of this sculpture is scheduled to take place by September 29, 2017 and will be on display at Brower Park for at least one year. The grant will cover the equipment needed to show the sculpture and
maintenance costs. On October 14, 2017 they are planning to have the general introduction of the sculpture to the community.

Ms. Donna Algood-Walls, Deputy Director of St. Johns Recreation Center gave updates about the center’s Drop-In Summer Program. She reported that the turnout was exceptional with over 80 children attending daily, a great support team. The center is still currently renovating some of its space but is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Mr. Lennie Owes stated that cracks on the basketball court at Brower Park are in need of repairs and suggested that lighting be installed on the courts as well. He requested that the Community Board inquire about the possible outstanding discretionary fund allotted for Brower Park.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY at 6PM. All are invited to attend.

Public Safety Committee – Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chair

The Public Safety Committee will now be meeting on the 4th Monday of each month. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 6 PM at the 77th Precinct which is located at 127 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6 PM. All are invited to attend.

Seniors Committee – Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

The Seniors Committee met on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue. In addition to the Chair, Gail Branch Muhammed, present were: Essie Spivey, Xeerxeema Jordan, Calvin Sherman, Jerome Michaux, Frances Langley, Martin Wade, Dennis Brown, Andrea Ferris, Faye Jones, Leola Mills, Yvonne Bailey, Brenda Green, Annabelle Boyd, Patricia Washington, William Boyd, Regina Kinsey, Lienetha Gooding, Leroy Gripper, O. Clarke

The committee discussed future agenda items, including the possibility of having a representative from Access-A-Ride attend the upcoming October meeting. With the approaching Primary Election, members were encouraged to go out and vote.

Ms. Branch-Muhammad provided a booklet to the guests which showcased some of Crown Heights historic homes and buildings. She informed everyone about the many treasures that are often overlooked in the neighborhood and reminded everyone that our community has a rich history worth learning about.

Ms. Branch-Muhammad also gave an update on the Bergen House men’s shelter located at 1173 Bergen Street, Brooklyn, NY. She confirmed that during her tour she found it to be very clean and noticed that the men residing there were in fact seniors. Overall, they have been good neighbors and no major incidents have been reported concerning the shelter. She noted that she has witnessed security patrolling the perimeter of the building and that there was also a Community Advisory Board keeping watch.

The Recreational Life Skills Specialist at the shelter reassured the committee that it is a transitional facility and that the staff strive to make sure that the men make a smooth transition into the community. The facility operates unlike a typical shelter, partly because it caters to men ages 62 and above. Community Coordinators are in place to make sure that the men are not harmed or harassed by neighborhood guys looking for trouble. He also stated that the purpose of attending the meeting was to seek outside resources that the gentlemen could benefit from. Ms. Branch-Muhammed extended an invitation.
A presentation was also conducted by Mr. Jerome Michaux of Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly’s New York City chapter. He provided a senior friendly resource guide that includes a series of services within the Crown Heights region of Brooklyn.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 6 PM at David Chavis Apartments which is located at 230 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All, regardless of age, are invited to attend.

**SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)** – Mr. James Ellis, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Vice-Chair

The SLAC Committee met on Monday, September 12, 2017 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. In addition to the Chair James Ellis and Vice-Chair Robert Witherwax, present were: Wayne Bailey, Cheryl Brown, Jamie Hardt, Oliver Hardt, Atim Oton, Robert Puca, Brian Saunders, Stacey Sheffey, Mark Thurton, Gib Veconi, and Irsa Weatherspoon.

The committee discussed the following applications:

1. **Renewal Applications:**

   A. Barboncino, 781 Franklin Avenue, Lincoln & St. Johns Places, Full
   B. 95 South, 778 Franklin Avenue, Lincoln & St. Johns Places, Full
   C. Dorsett, 677 Washington Avenue, St. Marks Avenue & Prospect Place, Full

   The committee supported all 3 renewal applications and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

   Ms. Sheffey made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tyus and carried to a final vote of 36 in favor, 2 opposed with 1 abstention.

2. **New Applications:**

   A. **Shimizu Sushi, 345 Flatbush Avenue, Corner of Carlton Avenue, Beer & Wine**

      - Seeking 32 seats at 12 tables, 8 seats at bar
      - Hours of Operation: 11AM - 12 AM daily
      - No outdoor space

   The committee supported the application as presented and hopes that the full Board will support its recommendation.

   Ms. Tyus made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried to a final vote of 35 in favor, 3 opposed with 1 abstention.

   B. **Kingston Public House, 100 Kingston Avenue between Bergen and Dean Streets, Full**

      - Seeking 20 seats at 5 tables, 9 seats at bar
      - Hours of Operation: 11AM - 12AM Sun, 5PM - 2AM Monday - Wednesday, 5PM - 4 AM Thursday - Saturday
      - No outdoor space
      - Local block associations in support so long as establishment remains good neighbor
The committee supported the application as presented and hopes that the full Board will support its recommendation.

A resident asked which block associations were notified about this application. Mr. Atkins stated that his block of Bergen Street between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenue was given notice. Ms. Neale added that residents of Dean Street between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenue were also notified.

Ms. Benn-James asked how long they have been in the community. The representative of 100 Kingston stated that they are new to the community. Ms. Oton added that they have other businesses outside of our district.

Ms. Lord made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried to a final vote of 37 in favor, none opposed with 2 abstentions.

C. Bierwax, 556 Vanderbilt between Bergen and Dean, Beer & Wine

- Seeking 47 seats at 11 tables, 3 seats at bar
- Hours of Operation: 11AM - 1 AM Sunday, 12PM - 2 AM Monday-Tuesday, 12PM - 4 AM Wednesday - Friday, 11AM - 4AM Saturday
- Rear yard: 7 tables, 28 seats, open 12PM-12AM
- Soundproofing: vinyl DJ, reserve right for karaoke

The committee voted 12 in favor to support the application with the following conditions:

**Stipulations:**
- 3AM closing on Wednesday,
- NO Amplified Sound in rear yard
- 11 PM rear yard closure

The committee hopes that the full Board will support its recommendation.

Ms. Duke made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried to a final vote of 27 in favor, 4 opposed with 4 abstentions.

3. Sidewalk Café Applications:

A. Sweet Chick, 636 Carlton Avenue between Park and Prospect Places, Full

- Seeking 34 seats at 15 tables fronting Flatbush Avenue and Park Place ONLY
- Hours of Operation: 11AM – 12AM Sunday to Thursday, 11AM – 1AM Friday – Saturday

The committee voted 12 in favor to support the application with the following conditions:

**Stipulations:**
- Close at 11 PM Sunday-Thursday and at 12 AM Friday – Saturday

The committee hopes that the full board will support its recommendation.

Mr. Cox made a motion to extend their Friday and Saturday closing hours to 1AM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Corbett and carried to a final vote of 15 in favor, 23 opposed with no abstentions. The motion failed.
A community resident raised concerns about the potential overflow of traffic along Park Place and Carlton Avenue. Mr. Cruz explained that they are not planning to place any seating on the triangle parameter on Park Place and Flatbush Avenue.

Mr. Puca asked members to understand that the hours indicated on this application reflect the hours of their sidewalk café and not their regular business hours.

Ms. Corbett made a motion to support the committees’ recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried to a final vote of 33 in favor, none opposed with 5 abstentions.

The committee also discussed a new application for a full liquor license for 516 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, NY and an alteration application for 137 Schenectady Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. Both items have been tabled for discussion at the next SLAC Committee Meeting. The next SLAC meeting will be held on Monday, October 2, 2017 at 6 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. All are invited to attend.

**Transportation Committee** – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Vice Chair

The next Transportation committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue at 7PM. The committee will hear a presentation from the Department of Transportation (DOT) on the Eastern Parkway Safety Plan and Blue Marble Ice Cream Street Seat. All are invited to attend.

**Youth and Education Committee** – Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chair; Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Vice Chair

The Youth and Education Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY. In addition to the Vice Chair, Mr. Kwasi Mensah, present were: Audrey Taitt-Hall, Laurel Djoukeng, Yves Vilus, and Xeerxeema Jordan.

The committee discussed the plans for the upcoming College Fair tentatively scheduled for February 2018. Mr. Djoukeng, Executive Director of the Catalyst Network Foundation, provided a rough draft of his organization’s Pathways to Education program which focuses on the Kindergarten through High School transition process.

The next Youth and Education committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at BNIA which is located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, NY at 7PM. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committees for their reports and thanked everyone for attending. She stated that the next meeting of Community Board 8 will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at Weeksville Gardens Community Center located at 1640 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, NY at 7 PM and adjorned the meeting at 10PM.
GUESTS

Alex Joseph
Chip Cruz
Melissa Cruz
Hazel Hurley
Katharine Perko
Dorothy Bembry-Guet
Morris Denmark
Val Henry
Francis Langley
James Walker
Andrew McCormick
Amanda Blair
Leroy Reid
Shirley Mondesir
Jacob Miller
Valerie Nero-Reid
Cindy Bradshaw
Tanlyn Little
Dwight Nelson
Rodney Murrell
Carmen Reyes
Robert Callohan
William Pridgen
Elliot Bey

Mae Fraser
Todd Arena
William Bitarm
Regina Kinsey
Robyn Berland
Margaret Ruder
Anthony Taylor
G.E. Hall
Chris Maestro
Rob Brown
Cherie Washington
Pam Harman
Jonathan Villgram
Leonard Pinnock
Irma Hollare
Linda Ferrette
Chanelle Dorsett
Gabriel Pestre
Anne Broomfield
William Jenkins
Carolyn Johnson
Hellen Denman