Action Item:

1. LPC CoA Application for Rear Deck/Porch at 1003 Sterling Place (Crown Heights North Historic District)

Jarek Tresko, RA, made a third presentation of plans to convert the roof of the existing ground floor extension into a deck/screened porch/three-season room and convert the West parlor floor window into a door to the deck/porch. Mr. Tresko indicated that notices to neighbors were distributed on 4/19/20. Owner, Adam Kubert committed to sending copies of the notices to the CB 8 Office. The LPC hearing for this application was scheduled for 5/12/20.

On motion made and seconded to support the project application, the Committee voted 10 in favor, with one against and no abstentions. A letter reporting the Committee’s vote was sent to LPC on 5/11/20.
Discussions
1. MCROWN Rezoning Community Outreach
The Borough Director Winston Von Engel, Dep. Dir, Alex Sommer, City Planner Jonah Rogoff and other Representatives of the Dep’t City Planning (DCP) attended to facilitate planning for the community outreach desired for an inclusive scoping of public realm improvements to be included in the MCROWN Rezoning.

Various techniques for conducting the outreach and related concerns were explored, including but not limited to:
- Holding separate meetings for community groups;
- Reviewing CB 8 capital & expense budget items;
- Posting a separate site with a map for ‘pinning post-it note’ suggestions for improvements, e.g. empty tree wells, street lights, etc.;
- How to address over-crowding in low income neighborhoods;
- Public open space, including school playgrounds;
- What neighborhood planning issues have become especially salient in light of the COVID epidemic’s fallout in Brooklyn.

DCP is willing to attend the Land Use Committee meeting in June to continue Community Outreach for the MCROWN Neighborhood Rezoning project.

2. Urban Farms Concept
With prior notice that the CB 8 Land Use Committee is not supporting private rezoning applications while MCROWN is under review by DCP, Nick Liberis, R.A. provided a brief presentation of a proposal by Albo Liberis LLC. for a Use Group 4 community facility concept for urban farming. It would use UV/LED lighting, require a threshold of 5k SF, and provide approx. one living-wage ($15/hr) job per 400 SF. Examples offered refer to Square Roots and Aero Farms (one job per 1K SF). Aero Farms reportedly offers one year of paid training.

Mr. Liberis indicated that the zoning for farm model to grow on-site would be Use Group 17c.

A link to the presentation was shared Committee members by email on 5/8/20 and is provided again here.

In that same email, a link provided by Richard Bearak, Land Use Director for BBP was shared and is included again here:
https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=urban+farm+in+warehouse+in+newark&FORM=HDRS

Respectfully submitted,
Ethel Tyus
Date: 5/20/20