### Members Present

Kim Albert  
Akosua Albritton  
Glinda Andrews  
Desmond Atkins  
Wayne Bailey  
LeeAnn Banks  
Princess Benn-James  
Julia Boyd  
Dr. Flize Bryan  
Adem Bunkeddeko  
Helen Coley  
Dian Duke  
James Ellis  
Diana Foster  
Fred Frazier  
Nizjoni Granville  
Philip Hawkins  
Jamell Henderson  
Xeerxeema Jordan  
Shalawn Langhorne  
Tarves Lord  
Priscilla Maddox  
Kwasi Mensah  
Adelaide Miller  
Dr. Fred Monderson  
Atim Oton  
Robert Puca  
Mary Reed  
Patricia Scantlebury  
Stacey Sheffey  
Meredith Staton  
Gregory Todd  
Ethel Tyus  
Sheryl Vassell  
Gib Veconi  
Yves Vilus  
Sharon Wedderburn  
Rohon Williams  
Robert Witherwax  
Greg Yerman  
Vilma Zuniga

### Members Absent/Excused

Gail Branch-Muhammad  
Phu Duong  
Curtis Harris  
Robert Matthews  
Audrey Taitt-Hall  
Irsia Weatherspoon  
Deborah Young

### Elected Officials

Senator Velmanette Montgomery, 25th Dist.  
Assemblyman Walter Mosley, 57th Dist  
Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo, 35th Dist.  
KC District Attorney Kenneth Thompson  
Jesse Hamilton, District Leader, 43rd Dist.

### Elected Official Representatives

Stefan Ringel, Borough President Adams  
Octavia Brown, Assemblyman Camara  
Cory Provost, NYC Comptroller  
Akhurapa Ambon, Councilman Cornegy  
Nora Daniel, Councilwoman Mealy  
Kristia Beaubun, Councilwoman Cumbo  
Jim Vogel, Senator Montgomery  
Karen Crawford, KC District Attorney  
Wayne Williams, KC District Attorney

### Liaisons

Ronda Messer, Dept. Of Transportation

### CB8 Staff

Michelle George  
Melanie Grant  
Julia Neale
The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 7 PM by Chairperson Nizjoni Granville. Ms. Granville welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new fiscal year and asked those present to take a moment of silence in honor for those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

**Acceptance of Minutes** – The minutes of the last meeting were accepted with any necessary corrections.

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

**Concern for Independent Living** – Mr. Jim Mutton, Director of Operations

Mr. Mutton welcomed everyone to Concern and stated that he hopes everyone had a wonderful summer. Additionally, he stated that the day was a solemn day due to the tragedy that occurred 13 years ago and deserves reverence. On a brighter note, he informed those present that a wonderful article was written about the new Concern housing development project on Bergen Street in the *Commercial Observer*, and distributed copies of the paper.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Mutton and Concern for not only accommodating the Community Board, but also for being a great community member. Concern has helped build the community by taking dilapidated properties and turning them into community assets. She informed him that she, on behalf of the Board, hopes to continue making great strides by continuing to foster the positive working relationship. She then asked for an update on Priority Initiatives from the Dept. of Consumer Affairs.

**Dept. of Consumer Affairs** – Mr. Doug James, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner

Mr. James announced that there are a number of priority initiatives designed to provide relief to small businesses and provide access to services in the City. DCA enforces and licenses 80,000 businesses in 55 industries citywide. The department recently launched 12 reforms to increase transparency in businesses and reduce fines by $5 million annually. The purpose of the reforms is to help businesses survive and thrive in NYC rather than face challenges and leave. DCA also operates 30 financial empowerment centers offering various services, helping to provide access to mainstream and lower income residents to access banking. This reduces the amount paid to check cashing places and the under-utilization of banks.

DCA made a major push to ensure that New Yorkers know about the paid Sick Leave campaign. The effort being made is to not only provide assistance to employees, but stability to employers. Enforcement of law is entirely complaint driven, with no audits of employers. DCA is working hard to ensure consumer protection, but protecting and aiding businesses is not in opposition to this number one goal.

Mr. Atkins stated that as he was disseminating info on “Day of Action,” an issue was brought to his attention. He stated that DCA needs to highlight pay theft, as he gave an anecdote of a woman that had almost 20% of her pay stolen from her by her employer. Mr. James said he would bring the issue to his superiors.

Dr. Monderson asked if DCA is looking into fraudulent use of identification. He was informed that the agency is, but it is actually a law enforcement issue. He urged victims of identity theft to
call the police and pursue the issue with the District Attorney’s office. Also, the financial empowerment centers are very good at helping people identify and work through identity theft.

Finally, Mr. James asked those with questions or particular concerns to contact him via email at djames@dca.nyc.gov or to call 212-436-0360.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. James for the information and asked for a report from Brooklyn Housing and Family Services.

**Brooklyn Housing and Family Services** – Mr. Larry Jayson, Executive Director

Mr. Jayson announced that Brooklyn Housing and Family Services was founded in 1971 by former Borough President Marty Markowitz and is funded on 3 levels of government to work with tenants in multiple family dwellings. The organization has a foreclosure counseling program and has worked in CB 8 for the last 15-20 years.

At the end of the legislative session in June, the Legislature made great strides for seniors regarding the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE). The Legislature raised the income threshold from $29k to $50k for seniors in rent stabilized units to be eligible for the program. With the increase, a large number of seniors once excluded are now eligible for rent freezes.

Also, in June, the Rent Guidelines Board signed the lowest rent increases in decades; if you signed a lease today, the rate would be 4% for a one year lease and 7.5% for a 2 year lease. However, if you sign after October, the increase will be 1% for a one year lease, and 2.25% for a 2 year lease.

Brooklyn Housing and Family Services is Dept. of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) funded for CB 8 and has been coordinating with Stuy Park housing, whose management company has agreed to let them set up a satellite office in the development, located at 77 New York Avenue. For more information or for assistance, call 718-TENANTS.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Jayson for his information and asked the new Director of the St. John’s Family Center to say a few words.

**St. John’s Family Center** – Ms. Valerie Figueroa, Executive Director

Ms. Figueroa introduced herself as the new Executive Director, replacing Louis Rodriguez after many years. She stated that she looks forward to working with CB 8 as Mr. Rodriguez did and fostering a great relationship.

Ms. Granville welcomed Ms. Figueroa to the community and asked Ms. Powell-Harris to say a few words about Weeksville Heritage Center.

**Weeksville Heritage Center** – Ms. Tia Powell-Harris, Executive Director

Ms. Powell-Harris introduced herself to the community as the new Executive Director of Weeksville, stating that she is excited to be part of the historic institution. She stated that she is proud to help to continue the work of Joan Maynard and Pam Greene. She stated that the center will host a variety of monthly activities and enhance its programming while continuing to be a
gem in the community. One of the events it will host is “funkgodjazz&medicine: Black Radical Brooklyn,” a public art exhibition presented in collaboration with Creative Time, pairing with four artists for a walkable month-long art exhibition that explores 150 years of self-determination in Brooklyn’s Bedford Stuyvesant and Crown Heights neighborhoods. The exhibition will run from September 20th thru October 12th on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from Noon to 6 PM. All art projects are supplemented with free public workshops and events.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Powell-Harris and stated that she looks forward to working closely with her to improve Weeksville Heritage Center. She then asked for a report from the following committees:

**Education** – Ms. Sharon Wedderburn and Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Co-Chairs

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (CNR) but did not have any action items. The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Economic Development** – Ms. Atim Oton, Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at CNR. Present were Atim Oton, Gwendolyn Crouch, Celeste Farmer, Duane Frankson, Noah Potter, LeeAnn Banks, Michael Williams, and Andan Eddy.

The committee discussed its shop local initiative in collaboration with CB 9, potential CB 8 workshops focused on starting businesses, and the next Economic forum to be held at a later date. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Environment/Sanitation** – Ms. Helen Coley, Chair

The Environment/Sanitation Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 and again on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 6 PM at the Community Board 8 District Office located at 1291 St. Marks Avenue (between Rochester and Buffalo Avenues). The committee is seeking new members to work on the slew of environment and sanitation issues facing the community. The Chair called for support in making the committee a productive standing committee of the Board. All are encouraged to attend.

**Health and Human Services** – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair; Dr. Flize Bryan, Co-Chair

The Health and Human Services Committee will meet on Monday, October 6, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. The committee is seeking new members to work on the slew of health related issues facing the community, and is seeking to have special guests at each upcoming meeting to highlight a specific issue. The Chair called for support in making the committee a productive standing committee of the Board. All are encouraged to attend.
**Housing/ULURP** – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair; Ms. Ethel Tyus, Co-Chair

The Housing Committee met on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (CNR). Present were LeeAnn Banks, James Ellis, Nizjoni Granville, Stacey Sheffey, Margie Smith, Meredith Staton, Yves Vilus, Sharon Wedderburn, Vilma Zuniga, Xeerxeema Jordan, Irsa Weatherspoon, Ethel Tyus, and a host of community residents.

The committee discussed its goals and plans for the coming meeting year. Additionally, it discussed the activities of the M1-1 subcommittee, which is scheduled to meet on September 22nd at CNR. The M1-1 subcommittee is in the process of conducting a survey with property owners in the M1-1 zone to get their input on how they would like the space utilized. Surveys will go out by the end of the month and the results will be discussed at the October M1-1 meeting.

The next Housing Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Parks** – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair; Ms. Kim Albert, Co-Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at the St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues) but had no action items. An update on the District’s parks was given at the last meeting by CB 8/9 Parks Manager Mr. C. Ron Taylor. He informed the committee that Councilwoman Darlene Mealy completed a walk-thru of Lincoln Terrace Playground and has allocated funds to rehabilitate and upgrade the dilapidated playground.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 6 PM at the St. John’s Recreation Center. All are invited to attend.

**Public Safety** – Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chair; Mr. Desmond Atkins, Co-Chair

The Public Safety Committee will meet on Monday, September 15, 2014 and again on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue (corner of Bergen Street). The Chair announced that the committee will be working on a Public Safety Forum to increase community awareness and build better relationships with the officers patrolling the District. All are encouraged to attend.

**SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee** – Mr. James Ellis, Chair

SLAC met on Monday, September 8, 2014 at CNR to discuss the following liquor license applications:

1. Kelso Bistro, 648 Franklin Avenue (between Bergen and St. Marks)—Full License
   Details:
   a. Restaurant has been in operation for many years without a liquor license; the one approved in 2013 was never obtained.
   b. Previous approval (September 2013) rejected by SLA, as submitted application in conflict with CB8 documentation.
   c. Issues addressed, resubmitted, with no operational changes
d. Hours of operation until 11:30 PM Sunday thru Thursday, 2:30 AM Friday and Saturday, opening at 10:30 AM on Sundays and 11:30 AM every other day.
e. Establishment seats 49 at 20 tables and an additional 6 at a counter with a maximum capacity of 74 persons

The committee voted unanimously to support the application in hopes that the full Board support its recommendation. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Dr. Monderson and seconded by Mr. Staton. It passed with a final tally of 38 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention.

2. Global Square, 893/897 Dean Street (between Classon and Grand)—Full License

Details:

a. Space used for artists of various genres to showcase their talents
b. Interior space quite large, with total capacity in excess of multiple hundred people (square footage of 7000)
c. Outside space quite large, with a total capacity in excess of multiple hundred people (square footage of 5000)
d. Space divided into 3 rooms on the interior, one room that has standing capacity of 300, the other two divided in such a way that a collapsible wall can merge the two rooms for increased capacity depending on the event. The 300 capacity room does not merge into any of the other spaces
e. For quality control, the standard Dept. of Health 80/20 split will be used to control smoking
f. Events in the outdoor area where liquor will be served will be capped at 200
g. Proprietor is using ticket sales to ensure proper crowd controls. That is, all events will be ticketed events, with most tickets sold online to reduce the need for box office sales and unnecessary crowds in front of the venue.
h. There will be no queing on Dean Street; all event attendees will be invited inside to wait.
i. All events in backyard will end by 10 PM
j. The Board denied the original application due to insufficient information; as a result of the Board’s denial, the SLA denied the application until the applicant can get full Community Board backing

Committee determination:

- Approval is contingent upon the State Liquor Authority’s determination that only one liquor license is needed for the two different addresses. If a second license is needed, both licenses will be subject to the same stipulations herein set forth.
- All 3rd party events will be subject to Global Square’s license. No event organizer can obtain a separate temporary liquor license.
- Support is subject to letter of support from residents west of outdoor space.

The committee voted 10 in favor, 2 opposed to support the license with the above stipulations and restrictions and hopes the full board support its recommendation.

Mr. Vecconi stated as a point of clarity that the closing time is 2 AM daily. Ms. George asked the proprietor how the establishment planned to keep track of the 200 people with alcohol in the backyard. She was informed that there is a very controlled access to the outdoor space. Counters
will be used to ensure that the number of people with liquor does not exceed the maximum capacity. A community resident whose backyard abuts Global Square’s backyard, stated his support of the space in the manufacturing zone, and that he looks forward to the place enhancing and increasing the cultural capabilities of the community.

Mr. Veconi made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation contingent upon stipulations presented. It was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a vote of 30 in favor, 2 opposed, with 8 abstentions.

3. The committee voted to support the following renewal applications and hopes the full Board support its recommendation:

   --Mayfield, 688 Franklin Avenue, corner Prospect – Full
   --Essence Lounge, 1662-1666 Atlantic Avenue, corner Troy – Full
   --Cheryl’s, 236 Underhill Avenue, Lincoln/St. John’s—Full

A motion to support the 3 renewals was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Monderson. It carried with a final vote of 37 in favor, 1 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

The next meeting of the SLAC Committee will be Monday, October 6, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Transportation – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Co-Chair

The Transportation Committee met on May 27, 2014 and June 24, 2014 to discuss four applications for bike corrals. Each of the merchants made their case for why a bike corral in front of their business would be good for the neighborhood. After a spirited open discussion, the committee voted to support the following locations:

· Bar Chuko: 565 Vanderbilt Ave (SE corner at Pacific St)
· Branded Saloon: 603 Vanderbilt Ave (SE corner at Bergen St)
· Milk Bar: 620 Vanderbilt Ave (NW corner at Prospect Pl)
· Bar Corvo: 791 Washington Ave (between Lincoln Pl and St Johns Pl on the east side)

Please note that the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council’s Livable Streets Committee assisted merchants with outreach for the businesses located on Vanderbilt Avenue, which included an open community meeting, followed by surveying community opinion via paper and online petitions. As such, the committee voted to support all four locations at the June meeting and recommended that the full Board support its recommendation.

Ms. Wedderburn asked if there was any discernible difference in response to any particular location. More specifically, she inquired if people were more in favor of a particular location or another. To respond to her inquiries, Mr. Veconi stated that the 3 corrals on Vanderbilt Avenue were presented as a package in the public meetings. 299 people supported the 3 corrals on Vanderbilt with only 13 opposed.

Additionally, Ms. Wedderburn asked what the merchant’s rationale was for the Washington Avenue location considering its proximity to many liquor serving establishments with Bar Corvo, the Japanese restaurant next door, the liquor store, and the bodega selling beer all within
a few feet. She was informed by the manager of Bar Corvo, the requesting entity, that people are parking bikes all over trees, in front of businesses, very much near the curb, blocking car access in some cases. The location was chosen because the area is in need of much more bike parking.

Jason Atkins voiced his concerns over the petition, stating that it did not identify whether people were drivers or not, thus creating a poor avenue for compromise between drivers and bikers and even walkers. David Christini responded to the concerns stating that he is a Carlton Avenue resident that helped organize the petition drive and worked with merchants. He stated that he is both a driver and biker and noted that only 1 parking space per location will be converted, each holding 8 bikes. Extensive outreach was done at the behest of the Community Board District office and support for the corrals was 10 to 1 in favor of them.

Mr. Bailey made motion to support the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellis and passed with a final vote of 29 in favor, 8 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be Tuesday, September 23, 2014 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Youth and Family Services** – Ms. Akosua Albritton, Chair

The Youth and Family Services Committee met on Monday, September 8, 2014 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (CNR) but had no action items. The Chairwoman announced an important breakthrough in the fight against the synthetic but legal drugs, bath salts and K2. Senator Schumer is assisting in leading the charge to remove the items for sale in delis and convenience stores.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014 (as the second Monday is Columbus Day) at 6:30 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committee chairs for their reports and asked the following elected officials to say a few words:

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

Senator Montgomery welcome the newly elected officials and stated that she is looking forward to working with new members of the legislature. She also congratulated Assemblyman Mosely on the birth of his second child. She informed the board that earlier in the day, she and Ms. George, District Manager, met with representatives from the State University of New York (SUNY) and the EOC (Education Opportunity Center) Opportunity Programs, to discuss a proposal to create an ATTAIN Lab at 1644 St. John’s Place between Buffalo and Ralph Avenues. She asked for community support for an organization that is particularly important and helpful to young people in the borough called DREAMS Youth Build that is located across the street from where the ATTAIN Lab would be. The interesting thing about DREAMS Youth Build is that they help young people get back on track and prepare them with job development skills. The program is focused primarily on skills with the building trade; however, that group would benefit a lot from the ATTAIN lab program. She stated that she would like to invite a few young people from the program to speak at an upcoming CB meeting to tell their experience.

Senator Montgomery can be reached at her district office by calling 718-643-6140.
**Kings County District Attorney Kenneth Thompson**

District Attorney (DA) Thompson stated that he is honored to meet with CB 8. The purpose of his visit is to give a sense of some of the work being done in DA’s office. Many don’t know that the KCDA’s office is the 3rd largest DA’s office behind only the cities of Chicago and Los Angeles.

DA Thompson announced that the department is looking into the many wrongful conviction cases, many of which are related to one detective. They are currently reviewing 100 cases they believe were wrongful convictions. 8 of the first 25 fully investigated cases have been overturned so far. The two detectives assigned to investigate wrongful convictions were not given the resources they needed to do their jobs under the former regime. To combat this, one of his main initiatives was the creation of a true conviction review unit. In 8 months, the unit has gone through cases fairly and thoroughly, and moved to vacate the cases of 8 men that were wrongfully convicted. He stated that we simply cannot have a national reputation as a place where men have been framed for murders they did not commit. A Harvard law professor was hired to assist the unit review cases.

He stated that as a city, and as a department, something has to be done about gun violence. 426 people have been shot in Brooklyn so far this year. There have been 76 homicides, which is a decrease compared to last year. However, the gun violence has many people in jeopardy. To combat it, the DA’s office created a Crime Strategy unit to identify shooters. It is a small percentage of men carrying out the crimes. The goal is to keep these people off the street so they do not cause more damage and carnage. A number of new units that Brooklyn needs have been created, including a Labor Unit. More people in jobs equals fewer people committing crimes. Another goal of the Labor Unit is to ensure that people get their deserved paychecks. People that go to work deserve their pay, and the city does not need unscrupulous employers. He stated that a Brooklyn contractor was recently indicted for defrauding 70 workers of their labor at the former St. Mary’s Hospital site. This was a prime example of an employer that stole nearly $100,000 from workers. Ms. George thanked DA Thompson for his work in ensuring that the culprit of the St. Mary’s scam was captured, and stated that the scam would not have been illuminated without the assistance of Leroy Reid, a community resident, as it was Mr. Reid that got the Community Board and police involved after workers complained of their checks bouncing and not getting their pay. She stated that he needed to be acknowledged for his diligence in trying to protect workers and also fighting for justice for exploited workers.

Additionally, DA Thompson stated that the Immigrant Unit was designed to assist immigrants and convince them to come forward when they feel exploited. The Immigrant Unit also protects immigrants from wage fraud. Other units created are the Cyber-Crime and Forensic Crime Units to help solve more crimes. The KCDA’s office has 500 prosecutors. There is a need for DNA evidence to help make and prove cases. The Forensic Unit will help with this. There are hate crimes that need investigation to be classified as such, so a Hate Crimes unit was formed. He stated that we do not want anyone walking down the streets of Brooklyn afraid. No one should be attacked for any reason of dislike. Brooklyn is beautiful and diverse and the population must be protected.
**Assemblyman Walter Mosely, 55th Assembly District**

Assemblyman Mosely welcomed everyone back from summer break. He offered his condolences for anyone that lost a loved one on 9/11. He stated that there are a number of things taking place on economic and affordable housing fronts. The city has designated an area of the NW corridor of the community board as a mandatory inclusionary housing zone. This does not mean developers have to build there, however. The goal is trying to offset the “separate but equal” campaign where developers promise affordable housing, but put it off site.

Assemblyman Mosely announced that he met with Attorney General Eric Schneiderman two weeks ago where the AG was able to lead his department against a bank that contributed to the housing collapse. Additionally, the Assemblyman announced that he is hosting a seminar with other electeds on where allocated money is going. The forum, designed to be a “working forum,” will be held in November. The Assembly is also discussing predatory equity, and identifying the multitude of commercial landlords that are not doing justice with their properties. Commercial tenants are suffering just as badly from bad landlords as residential tenants. However, right now, the main focus is on landlord harassment of residential tenants, and on September 18th at 6:30 PM at St. Francis School for the Deaf, there will be a Crown Heights Tenants Union meeting to distribute information to tenants that may be facing harassment by their landlords.

An affordable housing forum is scheduled in collaboration with a number of electeds to synchronize the affordable housing outreach programs. The next forum will be held on November 13th at Hanson Place Seven Day Adventist Church. One goal is to create a uniform process in terms of criteria, finances, credit, etc. for those applying for affordable housing. We need to protect the affordable housing stock from going back into open market when developers state that they cannot find enough qualified candidates to occupy the affordable housing that is available because of bad credit or other disqualifying issues.

**Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo, 35th Council District**

Councilwoman Cumbo announced that she passed her first piece of legislation in the City Council, in reference to making sure that the high school graduation rates are posted with the Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) to make sure that we understand what happens to those that age out of foster care. ACS will have to post this information on their website so that the community and elected officials can keep track of graduation rates of teens not placed in foster homes. This will increase accountability and visibility. Also, the Councilwoman announced that she is hosting a press conference on Monday, September 15, 2014 at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, honoring the $23million allocated to cultural institutions in Brooklyn.

The city council passed Municipal ID Card legislation so that immigrants can get critical services and have proper, government issued identification cards. Also, the council managed to get Mayor deBlasio to keep senior centers and community centers slated for closure in housing developments open, with later hours in the evening.

This is the first time each City Council member has received an equal amount of discretionary funds for allocation. Usually, allocation rates are based on friendships and allies formed within the council and with the Mayor. She gave an update on the Atlantic Yards Project, stating that building B2 has been stalled in a dispute over money. During the delay, she stated that she and her colleagues are spending a lot of time on the affordable component of the project.
Agreeing with DA Thompson about the large number of hate crimes, Councilwoman Cumbo stated that she gets frustrated that when a hate crime happens, and we as a community need to come together to say “no more!” Her office is creating a program called Crown Heights Cultural Exchange to bring young people together because they are the ones committing the crimes in the community.

**District Leader/Senator-elect (20th Senatorial District) Jesse Hamilton**

District Leader Hamilton stated that it is always a pleasure to attend a CB 8 meeting. He thanked everyone for their support in helping him obtain 65% of vote during the primary. He stated that the 20th Senatorial District office is still operating at 1669 Bedford Avenue.

Brownsville has one of the largest NYCHA complexes and also one of the highest homicide rates—yet no one is talking about it. Black on black crime is terrible and must be addressed. He stated that one of his primary goals if he beats his Republican challenger is finding a way of reducing black on black crime, not only in Brownsville, but citywide. Also, the Senatorial district is facing a big issue of predatory lenders giving reverse mortgages to seniors. He anecdoted a situation where a man was convinced to take his wife off of the deed in order to obtain a reverse mortgage, and she wound up losing the house after he died because the loan was in the husband’s name only and she could not afford the high mortgage payments. He urged caution before you take out a reverse mortgage, and stressed the importance of getting an attorney to go over the details. The problem is that children are losing family homes because the repayment costs are more than the house is worth.

Ms. Granville thanked all of the elected officials for coming out en masse to the meeting and for providing such detailed updates on what is going on in their respective branches of government. She then asked for announcements and public comments.

**Mr. Stephan Ringle** from Borough President Eric Adams’ Office announced that Borough President Adams is hosting an Emergency Preparedness Forum on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 6 PM at Borough Hall. Registration begins at 5:30 PM. Special Guests include Joseph Esposito of the Office of Emergency Management. For more information, call 718-802-3717 or email programs@brooklynbp.nyc.gov. Also, on Sunday, September 21, 2014, Borough President Eric Adams will co-sponsor the 9th annual Brooklyn Book Festival, taking place at Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street. For more information, please visit [www.brooklynbookfestival.org](http://www.brooklynbookfestival.org).

**Mr. Akhurapa Ambon** from Councilman Cornegy’s office announced that on November 18th in front of Barbara’s flower shop on Nostrand Avenue at the corner of Bergen Street, the Councilman is launching the Chamber on the Go initiative, which brings Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce resources to business corridors. The city council is voting on next round of street co-namings in November. He asked everyone to send worthy nominations to his office for review and support.

**Ms. Nora Daniel** from Councilwoman Mealy’s office announced that Reso 257A passed regarding the Work Experience Program. The resolution is a statement in favor of ending work requirement that inhibits welfare recipients from furthering their education. She also announced the Councilwoman’s upcoming Community Advisory Board meeting at her office on October 4th from 10 AM to Noon at 1757 Union Street.
Mr. Corey Provost introduced himself as the new Comptroller’s liaison. He told constituents to call him with their city related issues at 212-669-3811.

Ms. Granville thanked the elected official representatives for their announcements and opened the floor for public comments.

Ms. Ethel Tyus announced that the next Crown Heights North House Tour will be held on October 4th. She asked everyone to collect additional information from the newsletter post or by visiting www.crownheightsnorth.org.

Mr. Leroy Reid thanked CB 8 members and the CB 8 district office, especially District Manager Michelle George, for the assistance provided with the St. Mary’s debacle. He expressed his gratitude for the appreciation and recognition of his efforts trying to bring work to the jobless in the community. He stated that because of the Community Board, the St. John’s Labor Outreach organization has seen positive results.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for their comments and announcements and adjourned the meeting at 9:10. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 7 PM at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue. All are invited to attend.

GUESTS

Lula Staton          Lukesha Landers
Edison Stewart      Mahayana Landowne
Natasha Watterson   Valerie Figueroa
Leroy Reid          Lisa Martenssow
Tia Powell-Harris   Jim Mutton
Sandra Spady        Zach Schwambeck
Genice M. Reid      Jennifer Tucker
Asha Samuels        Hassan Christopher
Cheryl Sullivan     Mitsi Germain
Delores Roberts     Rohan Nanta
Emily Goldman       Steve Jordan
Larry Jayson        Valerie Nero-Reid
Chris James         Alan Gerber
Victoria Lawrence   Charles Hickman
Michael Lawrence    Jason Atkins
Doug James          William Boone
Celeste Farmer      A. Nappi
Raul Nedd           Maurice Good
Andrew Babe