Community Board No. 8  
CNR-Center Light Health Care Center  
727 Classon Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11238  

April 10, 2014

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<th><strong>Members Present</strong></th>
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<td>Kim Albert</td>
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<td>Akosua Albritton</td>
<td>Gail Branch-Muhammad</td>
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<td>Glinda Andrews</td>
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<td>Helen Cole</td>
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**Elected Officials**

Shirley Patterson, District Leader

**Elected Official Reps**

Karen Crawford, KCDA’s Office  
Stefan Ringel, BP Adams  
Drew Gabriel, Councilwoman Cumbo  
Dynishal Gross, Councilman Cornegy  
Janee Markovicz, Assembly. Robinson  
Jim Vogel, Senator Montgomery  
Vincent Haynes, Assembly. Camara  
Nora Daniel, Councilwoman Mealy  
Charles Jackson, Congresswoman Clarke  
Denise Peterson, KCDA’s Office  
Jesse Hamilton, 20th Senatorial District

**CB8 Staff**

Michelle George  
Julia Neale
The general meeting of Community Board No. 8 was called to order at 7:10 PM by Ms. Granville, Chair. She asked for a welcome address from Mr. Igor Kripovsky.

**CNR-Center Light Health Care Center** – Mr. Igor Kripovsky, Executive Director

Mr. Kripovsky introduced himself as the new Executive Director for CNR and stated that Randy Palmira had been promoted within the organization. He stated that he is pleased that CNR has been a staple in the community and with the community’s support, the organization can expand. CNR is a 320 bed service facility with long and short term services that will soon offer outpatient services. He announced the April 29th Educational forum on planning and paying for long term care at the center and encouraged everyone to make an effort to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Kripovsky for opening CNR to the community and offered the assistance of the Board in their many fruitful endeavors.

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

**Correspondence** – CB8 newsletter and other information was distributed.

**Neighborhood Housing Services of Bed-Stuy** – Mr. Gerard Miller

Mr. Miller stated that NHS of Bed Stuy is a member of NHS of New York City with 6 offices throughout the city. NHS specializes in homeownership education and counseling, home maintenance training and loans, and everything that has to do with buying, maintaining, and owning a home.

Many people in central Brooklyn are a victim of foreclosure for a variety of reasons. At NHS, HUD certified counselors are available for consultations. On the 3rd Thursday of every month at their offices at 1012 Gates Avenue, the organization hosts a free intake session at 10 AM, where counselors will review your foreclosure case and help you learn how to proceed. There will also be an intake session on May 7th from 6:30-8:30 PM with the last appointment at 7:45 PM to make sure everyone gets seen.

NHS of Bed-Stuy offers a home maintenance training program, where participants learn everything they need to know to do repairs and upgrades to their property. The program allows you to pay for materials and save on the labor by doing the work yourself. If you choose to hire a contractor, after going through the program, you will be able to understand the scope of work and negotiate a good deal.

There are first time homebuyers seminars that teach about debt to income ratio, good mortgage terms, and the like. Mr. Miller enumerated the four terms of a mortgage—PITY: principal, interest, taxes, and years. Understanding the four terms of a mortgage will help you better understand if homeownership is the right thing for you right now. Too often people don’t take the interest and taxes and cost of living into consideration and think their mortgage will be the same as their rent when in reality, there are other costs involved that are not accounted for. Mr.
Miller distributed brochures listing various programs for down payment assistance and documenting tax benefits for first time home buyers. There are also financial literacy workshops offered and a free 5-week money managing course.

For more information call (718) 919-2100.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Miller for the information and asked Mr. Ringel if he had anything to share.

**Borough President Eric Adams’ Office** – Mr. Stephen Ringel, Liaison and Communication’s Director

Mr. Ringel thanked Ms. Granville and Ms. George for their assistance in helping him acclimate to his new position as Director of Communication and Liaison at Borough Hall during the transition period. He advised the Board of the following community alerts: starting the week of March 16th, DOT implemented camera service on Select Bus Service (SBS) on Nostrand and Rogers Avenues. Camera service affects passenger vehicles riding in the bus lanes from 7 AM to 7 PM, ticketing offenders that do not use the lane solely for right turns during those hours. Also, the Borough President has proclaimed April to be financial literacy month. April 29th is literacy empowerment day, and there will be an event at Borough Hall. Additionally, BP Adams has released some of his initial ULURP initiatives that would provide greater community facilities. For more information on any of the programs offered, the ULUPR initiatives, or the literacy empowerment day, call 718-802-3777. Finally, tomorrow, April 11th at 6 PM, there will be a Garifuna Heritage Event at Boro Hall. Email specialevents@brooklynbp.nyc.gov for information on events sponsored by BP Adams.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Ringel for his announcements and asked Mr. Witherwax to read the official response from CB 8 regarding the CB2 resolution to alter the boundaries of CBs 2, 6, and 8.

**Response to CB2 Resolution on Community Board Boundaries** – Mr. Robert Witherwax, 2nd Vice Chair

Mr. Witherwax read the following statement:

1. CB8 rejects CB2’s attempt to assume the entirety of the Atlantic Yards footprint without consultation with the other involved boards, and

2. CB8 rejects any realignment of district boundaries that splits Prospect Heights in half, such as what would occur if these boundaries were redrawn to be coterminous with the 78th Precinct, and

3. CB8 is willing to meet with CB2 and CB6 to develop a mutually acceptable plan to redraw district boundaries around Atlantic Yards footprint in a way that protects the surrounding communities, enhances the effective delivery of services to the footprint, and takes into consideration the footprint as it now exists and as it may one day be built.
Dr. Monderson stated that it is imperative that the Board move to assert strongly the first 2 points. We must make it known that we will not idly sit by and allow CB8 to be divided in this way, and that we are not going to allow any entity to seize our land.

Mr. Witherwax responded by stating that the Mayor has the power to change community district boundary lines every 10 years. Communities are supposed to reflect the geographic boundaries of its communities. Mayor de Blasio is supposed to bring a map to the city council with new district lines by May. CB 8 came to learn about this last summer when CB 2 approached us to come to a plan that is mutually agreeable for all 3 boards. No movement was made by CB 2, 6, or 8 until last week when CB2’s executive committee passed a resolution, which was ratified by the full board at their meeting last night, to take the entirety of the project including the Newswalk block, which is not in the footprint of the project.

He further announced that the Executive Committee of CB 8 will meet next week with a few other principals to discuss the matter before making a formal presentation to the full Board at the May meeting. In the meantime, we will send a letter to our elected officials vehemently stating our opposition to CB2’s plan. Anyone not a member of the Executive Committee or unable to attend the meeting is encouraged to send their comments to the District office in writing.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Witherwax for reading CB8’s response. She then asked for a report from the following committees:

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

The Executive Committee met on Thursday, March 13, 2014 to discuss the removal of two community members for a lapse in duties according to our By-Laws. The discussions first began in October 2013. In addition, according to the New York City Charter 2800(b):

"An appointed member may be removed from a Community Board for cause, which shall include substantial non-attendance at board or committee meetings over a period of six months, by the borough president or by a majority vote of the community board. Also, according to our By-Laws, “the appointed member shall have the right to respond to the charges and specifications, the right to counsel and the right to produce witnesses or evidence on his or behalf.”

**Item 1:** The committee presents before the Board the removal of Mr. Phu Duong, based on the charges of missing 8 of 10 general meetings for calendar year 2013. The Executive Committee recommends the removal of Mr. Duong for his dereliction of duty based on the charge and hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

As per the bylaws, Mr. Duong was given the opportunity to respond to the charges. He admitted that he had no valid reason for missing the general meetings and not reaching out to the full Board. He stated that he moved into the district as a recently married man and just had a child. As an architect, urban designer, and professor, he plans cities and does urban design, thus being able to bring many different perspectives to the Board based on his interests and academic
achievements. He reiterated that he had a change in life and had other commitments, but that he is trying to manage his time and be more committed to the Board. He vowed to re-commit himself to the full duties of his membership.

When questioned by numerous members about his committee attendance, it was revealed that Mr. Duong sits on both the Housing and Transportation Committees and that his attendance is impeccable, missing only one meeting for each committee in the calendar year. Mr. Puca mentioned that committee attendance is just as important as general meeting attendance if not more important since that is where decisions are made. In addition, Mr. Puca acknowledged that he was removed from the Board for missing general meetings despite having impeccable committee attendance, and stated that members need to take into account not only his lack of general meeting attendance, but the fact that he was diligent in his committee duties.

Dr. Monderson, Chair of the Transportation Committee stated that he stands in full support of retaining Mr. Duong as he is as active member of the committee and has valuable input. Ms. Banks questioned why Mr. Duong failed to notify the Board of his inability to attend general meetings and why he did not respond to the numerous warning letters sent to him. Mr. Duong simply stated that there was no motive for him not to notify the District office and that he simply did not. Ms. Tyus, Co-Chair of the Housing Committee, also spoke on behalf of Mr. Duong stated that most of the Board’s major business is done in committee. It is imperative that members understand the dynamics of membership, stating that it requires more focus on each person to work on each committee, and that Mr. Duong maintained his focus on the Housing and Transportation Committees. In response to Ms. Tyus, Mr. Bailey and Ms. Oton shared sentiments that there have been other members that have been removed from the Board via vote and that just because you are not a voting member during general meetings, you can still participate in committee and be redeemed. Mr. Bailey took it a step further and referenced Mr. Puca, who earned his way back onto the Board after a year’s absence. Ms. Oton countered by stating that while Mr. Duong’s contribution has always been excellent on the committee level, there is still an issue with the fact that the full Board must vote on the committees’ recommendations and missed meetings equals missed efforts to participate and vote on things that go into the official record.

Mr. Witherwax made a motion to reject the committee’s recommendation of removing Mr. Duong from the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Monderson and carried with a tally of 22 in favor of retaining Mr. Duong, 8 opposed, with 4 abstentions.

**Item 2:** The committee presents before the Board the removal of Ms. Marlene Saunders, based on the following charges:

- Substantial missed roll call votes
- Substantial history of non-attendance at general meetings
- Substantial non-participation on two (2) standing committees
- Sporadic attendance at the Aging/Health and Human Services Committee despite being the Chairperson of the committee
- Substantial non-attendance at Executive Committee meetings
Based on the evidence presented, the Executive Committee recommends the removal of Ms. Saunders as a member based on her dereliction of duties and hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Banks asked how long Ms. Saunders has been a member of CB 8 and Ms. Saunders stated that she was appointed to the Board 22 years ago. After later checking with the Borough President’s office, it was revealed that Ms. Saunders has been a member for 16 years. Ms. Banks also asked Ms. Saunders directly why she was unable to reach out to the Board and inform the District office of missed absences and why she failed to respond to any of the warning letters. Ms. Saunders stated that she could only respond correctly by stating that she is registered nurse and finishes work at 7 PM. While she is supposed to finish at 8, she does what she can to finish early to get to meetings as fast as she can. On Mondays when her committee meets, she stated that she tries to get to it, but there are times when circumstances make it so that she gets there a few minutes late. In response to the accusations that she has missed her own meetings, she did acknowledge that there was one meeting that Ms. Granville attended and no one was there because both she and her co-chair, Dr. Bryan, were running late. It is a very rare occurrence and that the word substantial is suspect and that there seems to be something a little off and odd with the numbers and it makes her think differently about the way she is being treated after so many years on the board. She made an impassioned speech for compassion for someone with 20 years of service.

Ms. Tyus clarified that substantial was defined by the full Board at 2 special meetings held over the summer as 5. When asked for clarity on how the District office came to its conclusion that Ms. Saunders missed a substantial number of her own committee meetings, it was reported that committee members informed the Board that they went to the meeting and waited for usually half an hour or more, and no one came.

Giving Ms. Saunders the benefit of the doubt, Mr. Puca asked if there is any way that the Board’s records are incorrect as it pertains to Executive Committee meetings, her own committee, and roll call. Ms. Tyus stated that she is a member of the Executive Committee and pays attention during roll calls. She stated that she arrives to Exec meetings consistently and in many years does not recall seeing Ms. Saunders in attendance for many years. This sentiment was echoed by many other members of the Executive committee as well. She also stated that the District office keeps, and has always kept, great records relating to attendance and that for many years, a blind eye was turned toward the egregious dereliction of duty. Since the Board began using the computer for roll call and votes, it is difficult to denounce any of the accusations as untrue. On a more personal note, Ms. Tyus also stated that many years ago, she resigned her membership on the Board because she was limited in her availability for service; she re-joined the Board when she got the time in her schedule to devote to service. She stressed the importance of the Board needing people that are present and active. She stated that the difference between Ms. Saunders and Mr. Duong is that Mr. Duong, while not attending general meetings, at least participated at the committee level.

After a brief back and forth with Ms. Saunders accusing Ms. Tyus, members of the Executive committee, and the Board of mixing up committee and general meetings and her attendance records, it was clearly stated again what the charges against Ms. Saunders were and how they
were different. Ms. Albert and Mr. Pierce both asked why she failed to reach out to the Board when she received her warning letter pertaining to her attendance, with Mr. Pierce stating that when he received a warning letter regarding his attendance, he had responded immediately, deciding to re-commit himself to his responsibilities as a Board member. He demanded to know what type of conversation was held in response to the many letters sent. Ms. George informed him and the Board that Ms. Saunders never reached out to the District office in any way. Responding to Mr. Yerman’s question as to whether or not Ms. Saunders attended one of the two mandatory meetings in summer of 2013, he was informed that she did not. She stated that she was out of the country for the first meeting and that the second started too early for her to attend.

Ms. Banks also recognized that Ms. Saunders’ conditions have not changed and that she still will not be able to make meetings on time. Ms. Albritton made a motion to accept the committee’s recommendation to remove Ms. Saunders from the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Monderson and stalled with a tie vote 16 in favor of removal, 7 opposed, with 9 abstentions. After the tie vote was announced, Ms. Oton mentioned that Ms. Saunders was not even present for her removal vote, which could have been the deciding vote for her to remain on the Board.

Mr. Harris asked if is it possible to modify the time her committee meets to accommodate her schedule. He was informed that she had changed the time from 5:30 to 6:30.

Because of the tie vote, the motion to remove Ms. Saunders based on the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Albritton. The vote carried with a final tally of 17 in favor of removal, 8 opposed, with 8 abstentions.

**Aging/Health and Human Services** – Dr. Flize Bryan, Co-Chair

The Aging/Health and Human Services Committee met on Monday, April 7, 2014. Present were Marlene Saunders, Dr. Flize Bryan, Kwasi Mensah, Nizjoni Granville, and Eliza Carboni of the Committee to Save Interfaith Hospital / Section Director, New York State Nurses Association.

Ms. Carboni discussed with the committee efforts presently being undertaken by Brooklyn Community Board 9, requesting that Governor Cuomo impose a moratorium on the possible closure of Interfaith Medical Center due to bankruptcy action. In addition to the letter that CB 9 has agreed to send, the committee agreed to write its own version of the draft letter submitted by CB9, which will be sent to the governor upon approval by the Board Chair and District office.

The letter would highlight the concern many in the community have of the impact that another hospital closing will have on the quality and quantity of its healthcare. In the event of a reprieve by Governor Cuomo, the supporters would like various options to be considered, including the formation of “mergers” between facilities / hospitals which are approaching the same status as Interfaith.

The next meeting of the Aging/Health and Human Services Committee will be held on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.
**Career Building** – Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Chair

The Career Building committee did not meet in the month of April due to the Chair being hospitalized. Please contact the District office at 718-467-5574 to see if next month’s meeting will be held.

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

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at CNR. The committee finalized plans for its first Economic Development Forum to be held on Thursday, April 24, 2014 from Noon to 6 PM at 1000 Dean Street. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Education** – Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chair; Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Co-Chair

The Education committee met on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at CNR. Present were Sharon Wedderburn, Kwasi Mensah, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Xeerxeema Jordan, Charlene, Meghan McGivney, and Vicki Zubovic. Ms. Wedderburn announced that there is a very active Friends of Brower Park Library group, which is instrumental in assisting the Brooklyn Public Library in organizing the May 17th Bike the Branches tour. In addition, she stated that the committee has been successful in convening Community Board Education Committee chairs and the Community District Councils in an effort to work on a unified agenda for achievement of education for our children in central Brooklyn. Finally, she stated that future committee meetings will focus on the controversy over the elite public schools in New York city and the entrance exam to get into these schools.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Environment/Sanitation** – Ms. Ede Fox, Chair; Ms. Helen Coley, Co-Chair

The Environment/Sanitation Committee met on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at CNR. Ms. Fox questioned the validity of alternate side parking and street cleaning numbers, stating that the meeting was well attended with people seeking to reduce the number of days for alternate side parking and also that desire to see an increase in the number of corner litter baskets. She stated that some of those present expressed concern that there are not enough people to monitor trash and empty litter baskets when they are full, and also that residents are using litter baskets for their household garbage.

Mr. Atkins stated that the scorecard rating in our district appears accurate as he witnesses many of his neighbors’ negligence in sweeping in front of their properties and 18 inches into the gutter as required. This negligence increases the amount of trash on the street and reduces our rating. Ms. George clarified that two different ratings are given each month: one for sidewalks and one for streets. Ratings are done by an independent company and rate certain blocks throughout the district. There is no way to lie about the numbers and also, since our scorecard rating has dipped
below 90% multiple months in the last two years, we are currently not eligible for a reduction in ASP days. To be considered for a reduction, a District needs 2 years worth of consecutive scorecard ratings above 90%. Immediately after we began our quest to reduce the number of ASP days in District 8, the scorecard dropped. Ms. Fox stated that she believes it dropped because of a Sanitation conspiracy to keep the number of days intact to obtain more funds for the city through the issuance of parking tickets for those that violate ASP regulations.

The next meeting of the Environment/Sanitation Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Housing/ULURP** – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair; Ms. Ethel Tyus, Co-Chair

The Housing/ULURP Committee met on Thursday, April 3, 2014 at CNR. Present were Wayne Bailey, Nizjoni Granville, Adelaide Miller, Danae Oratowski, Robert Puca, Meredith Staton, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, Yves Vilus, Sharon Wedderburn, Vilma Zuniga, James Schelkle, Darren Jett, Dan Marks, and Monique Verret-Ogiste. The committee discussed the following Landmarks application:


James Schelkle, R.A. of Studio JS2 Architect presented a proposal to add a deck over a reconstruction of an existing one-story rear extension located at the basement level of 270 New York Avenue. The building is a circa 1899 brick Dutch Renaissance Revival row house with three-stories and a basement designed by Frederick L. Hine. The center window of the rear bay will be converted to a door that will align on the top margin with the windows on either side. The new door will provide access to the proposed rear deck over the rebuilt full-width extension which will have a flat roof. The deck will have safety railing of aviation cable and black steel. The walls of the extension will be rebuilt with recycled bricks and will maintain the same footprint. The fenestration on the ground floor will be more modern than the existing replacement windows but will retain the basic double-hung style and alignment.

The Crown Heights North Association provided a letter of support based on the proposed rebuilt extension appearing not to be any larger than the existing structure. The resident owner of 268 New York Ave, who indicated that she is an engineer, expressed a firmly held concern that the project is enlarging the rear extension by at least two-feet based on her observation of the size of the trench for support of the retaining wall. The additional length of the wall will reduce the light and air available to the abutting buildings. 272 New York Ave is reportedly unoccupied at this time. The applicant was asked to provide proof of notice to 272 New York Ave.

The applicant indicted that a hearing is scheduled for 4/29/2014 at LPC. The committee conditioned its motion to support on the rebuilt extension not exceeding the footprint of the existing extension, and voted eight in favor with none against and two abstentions to support the application; and hopes that the full Board will do the same.
Mr. Atkins asked whether or not the neighbor’s observations about the length of the extension had been correct. Ms. Tyus stated that the committee’s support is conditional based on the fact that the project does not increase by 2 feet. The letter submitted to LPC would suggest and recommend a complete review of the plans to ensure that 2 feet will be added the extension.

Mr. Puca made a motion to support committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried with a tally of 26 in favor, 1 opposed, with 3 abstentions.

In addition, the committee was given an update on the M1-1 subcommittee. The M1-1 Zone Subcommittee met March 24, 2014 and continued exploratory discussions with area stakeholders and knowledgeable advisors on the best approach to formulate consistent and viable position for responding to requests for zoning variances to encourage any residential development occurring there to include affordable housing to a substantial degree. The target area is the six block area bounded by Grand Ave., Atlantic Ave., Franklin Avenue, and Bergen St. (blocks 1125, 1126, 1133, 1134, 1141, and 1142). As Secretary to the Subcommittee, Gib Veconi presented a status report to the Housing Committee on 4/3/14 including examples of CB 8 average median income interplays with existing programs funding affordable housing.

Finally, Ms. Tyus announced that the next Crown Heights North Association meeting will be Wed 4/16, 6:45 p at St Gregory’s Church, St Johns Place at Brooklyn Avenue. SHPO will provide detailed information on the current eligibility for State Preservation Tax Credits and the pending eligibility for National Register tax credits.

The next meeting of the Housing/ULURP Committee will be on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue in the Atrium. All are invited to attend.

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

The Parks committee met on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at St. John’s Recreation Center but had no report. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 6 PM at the recreation center located at 1251 Prospect Place. All are invited to attend.

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

The Public Safety committee met on Monday, March 17, 2014 at the 77th Precinct but had no report. The next meeting will be Monday, April 28, 2014 at 6 PM at the 78th Precinct located at 65 6th Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**SLA and Sidewalk Café Review (SLAC)** – Mr. Alton Pierce, Chair; Mr. James Ellis, Co-Chair

The SLAC committee met on Monday, April 7, 2014 at CNR. Present were Wayne Bailey, Gail Branch Muhammad, Cheryl Brown, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Tarvers Lord, Danae Oratowski, Atim Oton, Robert Puca, Delissa Reynolds, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Robert Witherwax, and Greg Yerman. The committee discussed the following liquor license applications:
1. New License for BK Rogers 99 Corp (99 Rogers Ave, corner of Prospect), FULL Details:
   - 56 seats with no outdoor seating
   - Hours of operation are 5 PM to Midnight Sun-Thu, 2 AM Fri –Sat (stipulated)
   - Affordable American cuisine
   - Applicant has establishment in Bklyn CB 2 (Brooklyn Stoops), and has operated without incident as documented by the Community Board and precinct.

The committee voted 13 in favor with 1 abstention to support the full license application for BK Rogers 99. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Staton. It carried with a vote of 29 in favor, 2 opposed, with 1 abstention.

2. New license for Spirited (638 Bergen St, corner of Vanderbilt) FULL Details:
   - Occupying the space formerly operating as “Beast”
   - 57 seats indoors with a few seats outdoors in the front of the property as of right. No Sidewalk Café permit is needed because the front space is part of the building’s property line.
   - Hours of operation 2 PM Tue-Fri, 11 AM Sat & Sun; Close 12 AM Sun, Tue, Wed, 2 AM Thu, Fri, Sat
   - 500 foot exception required, and the community benefit is that the type of establishment, an “adult dessert shop,” featuring an array of baked goods, all of which incorporate alcohol, is unique not only to District 8, but to Brooklyn as a whole.
   - Point of clarity: This establishment does not violate the 200 foot rule and is greater than 300 feet from the nearest church based upon a measurement by committee members.

The committee voted 12 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention to support the full license application for Spirited. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Witherwax and seconded by Ms. Tyus. It carried with a final tally of 26 in favor, 3 opposed, with 1 abstention.

3. New license for Regine d/b/a Boteco (798 Franklin Ave, corner of Eastern Pkwy) FULL Details:
   - Replacing Fez
   - 40 seats in the interior with outdoor seating
   - Hours of Op: 11 AM to 11 PM Mon – Thu, 11 AM to 12 AM Fri, 10 AM to 12 AM Sat, 10 AM to 11 PM Sun with soft background music
   - Requires a 500 foot exception, and the community benefit is that it is a Brazilian restaurant with a market driven/locally sourced menu

The committee voted 14 in favor to support the full license application for Boteco. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Monderson. It carried with a final tally of 27 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention.

4. Alteration application for Marco’s (295 Flatbush, btw St. Marks and Prospect), Rear Yard Space
- Applicant is seeking to extend the license to include existing backyard space
- Suitable sound-dampening materials are used for the space which will accommodate 22 patrons
- Yard hours match the indoor: 11 PM Mon-Thu, 11:30 Fri – Sat, 10 Sun
- Proof of neighbor notification submitted

The committee voted 13 in favor with 1 recusal to support the alteration application. A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Atkins. It carried with a vote of 22 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention.

5. Alteration application for the Saint Catherine (660 Washington, corner of Bergen), Rear Yard Space
- Applicant is seeking to extend the license to include existing backyard space
- Suitable sound-dampening materials will be used for the space with a capacity of 12 patrons
- Yard hours 2 PM – 10 PM Mon – Thu, 2 PM – 11 PM F, 12 PM – 11 PM Sat, 12 PM – 10 PM Sun with no smoking or music permitted in yard
- Proof of neighbor notification submitted, with one neighbor in total opposition on grounds of noise that might be generated

The committee voted 14 in favor to support the alteration application. Mr. Ainsley Stuart, a neighbor directly abutting the backyard space on Bergen Street, stated that he shares a common backyard with the space. The problem is that their backyard is surrounded by property walls. As such, he believes he has valid fears of vermin and noise. Mr. Ellis reminded him that he lives in a city with large quantities of both vermin and noise and that the backyard of the St. Catherine is only 150 sqft. In addition, it is not a new license; an alteration is simply a measure used by the holder of a liquor license to extend their existing license to an outdoor area. Additionally, he pointed out to Mr. Stuart that he admitted to the committee at the meeting that he no longer resides at the property and in the community.

Dr. Monderson asked how the proprietors addressed his concerns. He was informed that the owners circulated a petition to the residents that would be affected by the backyard, have agreed to replace a chain link fence with a wooden fence, will install foam to prevent sound echoing, and other noise abatement measures. Furthermore, the new tenants of Mr. Stuart’s property gave letters of recommendation for the use of the backyard space despite Mr. Stuart’s concerns. After additional back and forth between Mr. Stuart and Mr. Ellis about noise and studies conducted by the EPA, Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the alteration application for the St. Catherine. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pierce and carried with a final vote of 20 in favor, 2 opposed, with 5 abstentions.

6. Achelos Corp, d/b/a 706 Bar (706 Washington btw Prospect and St. Marks), Rear Yard Space
- Applicant is seeking to extend the license to include existing backyard space
- Suitable sound-dampening materials will be used for the space with a capacity of 12 patrons
The committee voted 12 in favor of supporting the alteration application. Mary McCauley, a resident of Prospect Place, stated that she had a concern about the backyard of the space and her backyard since the two yards are sandwiched together. She stated that after a sit-down with the proprietor, he addressed her concerns and if he adheres to what he indicated during their discussion, there will be no problems with the operation of his backyard space and her enjoyment of her backyard. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Monderson. It carried with a final vote of 25 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention.

7. Sidewalk Café Permit for Pequena’s (601 Vanderbilt, corner of Bergen)
   - Applying for effective renewal of lapsed sidewalk permit, using fewer seats/less space, combining 28 seats at 6 tables

The committee voted 9 in favor with 2 abstentions to support the sidewalk café permit. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Staton. It carried with a final vote of 22 in favor, 1 opposed, with 3 abstentions.

8. Renewals:
   a. Achelos Corp, d/b/a 706 Bar (706 Washington, btw Prospect and St. Marks) FULL
   b. Elberta’s (335 Flatbush Ave, btw Park and Prospect) FULL
   c. Plan B (626 Vanderbilt, btw Park and Prospect) FULL

The committee voted to support all 3 renewal applications. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Tyus. It carried with a final tally of 23 in favor, 1 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

The next meeting of the SLAC committee will be held on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue in the Atrium. All are invited to attend.

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

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at CNR. The committee discussed the proposed bike corral for Ideya Brooklyn located at 636 Carlton Avenue (intersection of Park and Flatbush). An extensive petitioning process was conducted over the span of two months to ensure that the corral was desired by the community. The committee voted 6 in favor, 1 opposed to place the bike corral in front of Ideya Brooklyn and hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

To provide clarity on the placement of the corral, Dr. Monderson stated that the corral would be placed on Park Place, where there is only one parking space that obstructs vision. Ms. Fishman
stated that there are a few concerns of cars possibly hitting the bikes. She was informed that the fear is actually not warranted because eliminating the parking space and placing the corral there affords a view of pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Witherwax. It carried with a final tally of 29 in favor, 2 opposed, with 1 abstention.

The next Transportation committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center 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 Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at CNR. Present were Angeli Rasbury, Robert Matthews, Audrey Tait-Hall, and Akosua Albritton.

The Chair reported that the information on K-2 and other legal substances being used as drugs by youth but marketed under incense or other harmless items has spurred action in the community, with Leroy Reid of the Crown Heights Labor Movement seeking ways to get assistance in having the sale of K-2 banned in stores. The Chair reminded the audience of the battle an older woman had waged to stop the use of MSG in Chinese cooking. This is an example of another legal battle where usage was greatly reduced due to citizen action. A campaign against K-2 could also be waged.

Ms. Rasbury said that she will continue her efforts of trying to get information from Kings County Hospital regarding their experiences with dealing with the K-2 epidemic. Ms. Taitt-Hall described her time with a young man who was intoxicated by K-2. It was relayed that the man seemed to be in his 20s or 30s, with his eyes tearing and a wet substance around his mouth. He was about to roll another K-2 cigarette when she engaged in conversation and asked him to stop the behavior. The Committee Chair shared that Ms. Langhorne of the Public Safety Committee has reached out in an effort to conduct a joint event between the two committees, looking at the K-2 and bath salts issue among other issues.

Ms. Rasbury discussed a NY Times op-ed written by Walter Dean Myers and Christopher Myers studying the lack of diversity in young children’s literature. Most books do not include characters of color. The problem is that within decades, the US population will be 50% nonwhite. This lack of diversity is evidenced in New York City’s public school libraries and public libraries. Though books with minority characters are being written, they are not getting marketed and distributed. Ms. Rasbury also indicated that the books targeted at young African-American readers tend to deal with slavery or civil rights.

The next meeting of the Youth and Family Services Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committee chairs for their reports and opened the floor for public comments.
Mr. Mike Fagan announced that every year, the Municipal Art Society of New York gives a walking tour. He announced that he will be leading the tour for western Crown Heights on Sunday, May 4th. If you would like to be one of the stops, please contact him via email at whynot31@yahoo.com. The theme of this year’s walk is “Where change is happening,” with participants walking between Crown Street to Pacific Street, from Nostrand Avenue to Washington Avenue. He labeled it a “gentrification walk” to the ire of many members of the Board who state that gentrification implies that the neighborhood was a slum, and it was not. He urged members to check the Brooklynian website for further information on the walk that will begin at Noon at the Franklin Avenue 2/3/4/5 train station.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 10 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 7 PM at Calvary Community Church located at 1575 St. John’s Place (corner of Buffalo Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**GUESTS**

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