May 8, 2014

**Members Present**

Kim Albert  
Akosua Albritton  
Desmond Atkins  
Wayne Bailey  
LeeAnn Banks  
Princess Benn-James  
Gail Branch-Muhammad  
Adem Bunkeddeko  
Helen Coley  
Dian Duke  
James Ellis  
Diana Foster  
Ede Fox  
Curtsi Harris  
Xeerxema Jordan  
Shalawn Langhorne  
Tarves lord  
Robert Matthews  
Kwasi Mensah  
Adelaide Miller  
Dr. Fred Monderson  
Atim Oton  
Alton Pierce  
Robert Puca  
Mary Reed  
Meredith Staton  
Audrey Taitt-Hall  
Greg Todd  
Ethel Tyus  
Yves Vilus  
Sharon Wedderburn  
Robert Witherwax  
Greg Yerman  
Deborah Young  
Vilma Zuniga

**Members Absent/Excused**

Glinda Andrews  
Samantha Bernardine  
Julia Boyd  
Dr. Flize Bryan  
Phu Duong  
Fred Frazier  
Nizjoni Granville  
Priscilla Maddox  
Stacey Sheffey  
Patricia Scantlebury

**Elected Officials**

Senator Velmanette Montgomery

**Elected Official Representatives**

Jim Vogel, Senator Montgomery  
Charles Jackson, Congresswoman Clarke  
Dynishal Gross, Councilman Cornegy  
Nora Daniel, Councilwoman Mealy  
Karen Crawford, KCDA’s Office  
Drew Gabriel, Councilwoman Cumbo  
Kicy Motley, Mayor’s Office  
Vincent Haynes, Assemblyman Camara

**CB 8 Staff**

Julia Neale

In the absence of the Chair, Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, 1st Vice Chair, conducted the meeting. She called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM, and asked everyone to please
keep Michelle George, District Manager in prayer after the loss of her brother. She congratulated Calvary on 25 years in the community, stating that Rev. Henry has always been supportive of Community Board 8. Ms. Langhorne then asked for a welcome address from Calvary Community Church.

**Calvary Community Church** – Ms. Delores Hill

On behalf of Pastor Henry, Ms. Hill welcomed everyone to Calvary Community Church. She stated that the park on the facility is seeking adult supervisors to assist parents with supervising their children in the park. She asked those interested in volunteering to speak to her. Mr. Leroy Reid stated that he was endorsed by Ms. George to supervise the park, and made a plea for an opportunity to help keep the park open for the children in the community, especially those that reside in the St. John’s Family Shelter.

Ms. Langhorne thanked Ms. Hill for the warm welcome and encouraged people to volunteer to keep the park open.

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

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

**Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence** – Ms. Kirsten Defur

Ms. Defur stated that safety is an important message for the Domestic Violence (DV) unit which has been in existence for 12 years. One of the unit’s major initiatives is the family justice centers, which are one stop shops for victims of DV with all the services they will need to escape their situation and reach safety in one location. There is a family justice center in each Borough, with the Brooklyn office co-located within the KCDA’s office located at 350 Jay Street.

The unit is currently hosting a Healthy Relationship Training Academy to instruct teens on healthy relationships. The training academy uses a peer education model with other teens conducting workshops to better reach the audience. An online request form to participate in the training academy is on the city’s website at [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov).

The Fatality Review Committee is a committee of city agencies that looks at DV homicides to see what the city can do to prevent these types of homicides. The committee also does outreach, as Commissioner Pierre-Louis is very committed to making sure everyone knows about the services available to assist people—both males and females—that are in harmful and dangerous situations. Ms. Defur reminded everyone that DV is not just physical violence; it comes in many forms: physical, emotional, and sexual. There are signs that can help you identify whether a friend or relative is a victim, and intervention becomes key.

Dr. Monderson asked how the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence chooses outreach locations. He was informed that locations are sometimes based on the number of incidences within a certain radius. Some neighborhoods are targeted if there are a lot of incidences clustered in one location. Also, if there is a homicide, the unit might go out to that neighborhood to see if there are other victims too fearful to come forward.
Leroy Reid asked if there are any laws or potential for a new law to stiffen penalties for DV perpetrators. He was informed that it is still under consideration and there are lobbying efforts toward politicians in Albany to strengthen current domestic violence laws.

Ms. Langhorne thanked Ms. Defur for the information and asked Mr. Mensah to provide information on the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

**Community Emergency Response Team** – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Mr. Mark Thurton, and Ms. Betty Davis

Mr. Mensah announced that he and his two fellow presenters are members of CERT, or the Community Emergency Response Team, which is a group of individuals in the community that fall under the guidance of the NYC Office of Emergency Management and FEMA. He talked about the importance of emergency preparedness, referencing Superstorm Sandy, stating that too many people were not prepared for the aftermath of the storm. The time to prepare for storms is not when they are forecast, but prior to, because just like with Sandy and Irene before it, the storms themselves were not as bad as forecast, but rather, the aftermath of the storms and the damage created, led to many of the difficulties faced.

One of the most important things to have prepared is what is commonly called a “Go Bag.” A Go Bag is precisely what it sounds like: a packed bag with necessary essentials that you can grab and leave within a matter of minutes. The bag can be pre-packed and left in an easily accessible place, but he urged everyone to check the expiration dates of materials in the bag periodically and not to entirely forget about it. Things that should be in a Go Bag are essentials such as medications if you take any; a change of clothes; supplies/food to last at least 3 days; a first aid kit; flashlight and spare batteries; hand crank radio and cell phone charger; rubbing alcohol or other hygienic solution such as hand sanitizer; and maybe a little cash at the bare minimum. He and Mr. Thurton stated that the bag should have a few survival tools. For instance, a Swiss army knife, multi-purpose tool with a sharp, but mini-knife attachment, a screwdriver, or maybe a small hatchet. You want your bag to contain survival supplies, but manageable to carry if the need arises. As far as food is concerned, he urged people to focus on lightweight food that does not require cooking, like protein bars and meal replacement bars. Water alone will be heavy, but when you start adding canned food, it can become cumbersome. A standard sized backpack or gym bag is sufficient in size.

In addition to what Mr. Mensah said about a Go Bag, Mr. Thurton stated that another way to be prepared is to have a set meeting location for you and your family to meet in the event of an emergency. Sometimes, people do not have a meeting location and put themselves in harms way trying to find loved ones. Every family should have 2 locations: one near the home where the family can meet, and a second outside the community. There is also a need for communication and a method of communication. One of the main forms of communication is establishing a contact out of state. As an example, he reminded everyone of the dramatic increase in local calls after 9/11. Because of the increase, local calls were not going through, but those directed to numbers outside of the tri state area were. An out of state contact is needed to avoid tying up phone lines, because it is not only cell service affected; it is also emergency response services affected. He reminded everyone that text messaging is a useful service that could and should be employed in the case of an emergency instead of trying to call because it does not clog the telecommunications network. In addition to safe meeting spaces and communication methods,
you’ll also need transportation. He reminded everyone of the aftermath of Sandy, where public transportation was not operable. He urged carpooling and even using a bicycle if you need to. If you have a vehicle, make sure it is always fully gassed in case you need to get out of the city in a hurry or in case there is a gas shortage.

Ms. Davis reminded everyone that sometimes we have emergencies that are not storms or hurricanes, but rather emergencies where you have to stay at home all the time. While in the home, you should have at least 1 gallon of water per person per day, and even more for sanitary purposes. You will need to have an adequate amount of canned food, enough for everyone. Batteries are essential as are spare glasses, hearing aids, medication, etc.—anything you need on a daily basis. If your loved ones have special care and considerations, it should be available immediately in case of a need for first responders. If you are stranded at home with a pet, make sure you have stress relievers for them. If you have to leave the home, try to consider what to do with your pet and keeping it safe, and bring all essentials to care for your pet. Sanitation is also very important. Toilet paper, hand sanitizer, stress relievers in the forms of toys, books, games, etc. for the family. Put important documents in a waterproof bag. Additional clothing and blankets should also be stored in water tight bags.

Ms. Langhorne thanked all three CERT members and invited them to come to a future Public Safety meeting to give a more detailed presentation. She next asked Senator Montgomery to say a few words.

**Senator Velmanette Montgomery**

Senator Montgomery announced that her office is planning several meetings this month and is hoping for increased community participation. On May 22nd, she is hosting a session on the State budget. Additionally, Brooklyn Tech High School, school principals, and school executives are hosting a meeting to discuss their attempt to reach out to certain under-represented areas of the city to get children of color involved in outreach programs to increase the representation of youngsters of color in the city’s specialized high schools. The target audience is middle school students, helping them prepare for high school entry exams with services and programs they might otherwise not have. On May 29th, there will be a volunteer fair. For more information and for times and locations of any of these 3 events, contact her district office at 718-643-6140.

Also, the Senator announced that her office has a number of summer internships available and that the Brooklyn Navy Yard has paid internships for high school graduates and college students. Interns will have an opportunity to learn skills and get on the pathway of learning skills for gainful employment. To conclude her announcements, she thanked Community Board 8 for always assisting her office in dispensing information.

Ms. Langhorne thanked Senator Montgomery for her announcements and asked for a report from the following committees:

**Career Building** – Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Chair

The Career Building Committee did not meet for the month of April due to the illness of the Chair. Please check with the District office to see when the next meeting will be held.
**Economic Development** – Ms. Atim Oton, Chair

Ms. Oton thanked everyone that supported the Economic Forum that was held at 1000 Dean on April 24, 2014. She stated it was very well attended and very informative.

Regarding our district, Ms. Oton stated that we have $23 million in development in one building, buildings in the district worth $18 million, and brownstones worth $1-2 million. The jobs that are available at the most convenient locations are not the ones we are looking for, and as such, we need to look into ways of bringing high paying jobs into the district. We currently have an underused M1 district where most people seek to purchase to convert to luxury housing, which further creates distance between longtime residents and new entrants into the community and what is commonly called gentrification. Part of the challenge is that we do not have large spaces and have only a small M1 zone. The ideal small business cannot survive here because too many people do not shop in the community and support them. We as residents must make a commitment to reinvest in the community, which will then make it flourish and become more attractive to larger scale investors that could do something productive with the manufacturing space other than largely unaffordable luxury housing.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 instead of its regularly scheduled second Tuesday because of a conflict with the presenter’s schedule. The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are encouraged to attend.

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

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at CNR. Ms. Wedderburn announced that CB 8 is co-sponsoring a Universal Pre-K forum with Community School Districts 16 and 17 and a few other organizations on May 21, 2014 from 6-8 PM at Restoration Plaza located at 1368 Fulton Street. The District office has sent out notices along with other information and the newsletter.

In addition, Mr. Mensah stated that the committee is looking at the issue of acceptance to specialized high schools. The issues are not limited merely to the testing to get into them. He stated that minority communities, and underserved communities are simply and unfairly not being prepared as a whole for the challenges of a competitive world. The committee will discuss options to present to the Dept. of Education to institute a few changes to give more opportunities to minorities to have access to the benefits of a good education.

The next meeting of the Education Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR 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, April 15, 2014 at CNR but had no report. Ms. Fox asked people to come out and discuss some of the increasing sanitation issues in the community to see if we could come up with viable solutions. One such issue is the increased number of clothing bins popping up in the District. The problem with the bins is that Sanitation will tag it for removal and give 30 days to the company to remove it. Removal, unfortunately,
merely means moving it from the location it is currently in to another space, which can be just a few feet away. We will likely need stricter laws and codes to prevent their spread. Ms. Taitt-Hall suggested that if people stop donating to the boxes, they would become less attractive to the company installing them in our community.

The next meeting of the Environment/Sanitation Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are encouraged to attend.

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

Mr. Mensah announced that Ms. Granville asked him to be the new chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee and that he accepted the position. He stated that he will do his best to generate the necessary interest in a committee that has been neglected for too long. He will work closely with the District office to get speakers and presenters on a consistent basis.

He announced that there is training available in blood pressure monitoring offered by the Dept. of Health. For more information or to participate, call Crystal at DOH at 347.396.4673. He stated that the committee recently sent a letter to Governor Cuomo regarding the integral need for Interfaith Hospital to remain open and fully operable. Black people as a whole are facing a health crisis. 70% or more of black women are obese according to a recent study. Ms. Albritton asked if he and the committee would look into and discuss the situation with social security at an upcoming meeting. He stated that he would research the issue to become better versed on it.

The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be held on Monday, June 2, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. At the meeting, he stated he will discuss his vision for the committee and seek input from anyone with a vested interest. All are invited to attend.

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

The Housing/ULURP Committee met on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at CNR. Present were Akosua Albritton, Desmond Atkins, Wayne Bailey, Lee Ann Banks, Princess Benn-James, Phu Duong, James Ellis, Frank Equilin, Diana Foster, Fred Frazier, Nizjoni Granville, Curtis Harris, Adelaide Miller, Danae Oratowski, Robert Puca, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, Yves Vilus, Sharon Wedderburn, Catherine Amendala, Emily Baron, Sarah Bartholomew, D. Campbell, Paul Carson, Keith Cayenne, Amir Cohen, Limur Cohen, Shelly Cohen, Ron Eng, Mat Lee, David Lipkin, Jacinda Motton, Sal Pardo, Gaither Pratt, Nate Priputen, Knud Rosenkrantz, Jeremy Shannon, Barbara Swartz, and Jorg Thone.

The committee discussed the following:

1. **Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) Application for Certificate of Appropriateness - 209 Prospect Place—Prospect Heights Historic District**

   R.A. Ron Eng of Formactiv Architecture presented the project consisting of a 300 sf rooftop addition, a two-story 20’ long rear addition (basement and parlor) with a 14’ deck that projects into the yard; and replacement windows for the front and rear façades. The building’s four units will be converted and reduced to two. Built c. 1885 by Architects
Eastman & Daus and Builders Kelly & Schepper, it is one of four Neo-Grec-style row houses constructed for William C. Vosburgh, a manufacturer of gas fixtures. The stair from the deck would extend deep into the yard, leaving 18’ to the end of the lot.

The owner/residents of 205, 207, 211 and 215 Prospect Pl. attended the meeting and voiced their concerns that the depth and breadth of the proposed extension will diminish their light and air in the ‘doughnut hole’ represented by the block’s combined backyards – the greenspace. The materials presented and the residents both indicated that approximately 20% of the 99 buildings on the block have already have two-story rear additions. The committee discussed LPC’s intent to preserve greenspace in historic districts. The applicant had received the results of DOB’s project review two days before but neglected to provide that information to the committee. The owner was present and was encouraged to work with LPC to ensure approval.

The committee voted unanimously (19 in favor with no abstentions) to withhold its support of this application, and hopes the full Board will do the same.

Mr. Puca asked what the results of DOB’s project review were. He was informed that the Board was not provided with it. Is the applicant’s responsibility to provide it, not the Board’s responsibility to find it. Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation to withhold support. The motion was supported by Dr. Monderson and carried with a tally of 35 in favor of denial, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

2. **LPC Application for Certificate of Appropriateness, 214A St. Marks Avenue—Prospect Heights Historic District**

R.A Gaither Pratt presented the project which consists of renovations to two floors (garden and parlor) and a two-story, 17’x16’ brick rear-addition. The existing building is a three-story row house built c. 1873, with a brick-façade and Italianate detailing. Only window replacement is proposed for the front façade. Mr. Pratt indicated the rear addition will be the sixth rear addition on the block, and will not be used as a deck.

An LPC hearing is scheduled for 6/3. The committee voted 12 in favor, 3 against, and 4 abstentions to support of this application, and hopes the full Board will do the same.

As a point of clarity, Ms. Tyus informed the Board that after the Housing meeting, LPC returned her telephone call and explained that LPC has a 3 prong rule for rear additions. 1. If there are more than 50% of the buildings with rear additions, it simply requires a staff review. 2. If there are less than 50%, a hearing with LPC will be required. 3. If there are no rear additions present, the applicant will go for a hearing and likely be denied by LPC. The committee did not have this information at the time it voted to support.

Ms. Oton asked if there were 50% or more of rear additions, and was informed that the property owners indicated that about 20% of the properties had rear additions. Mr. Witherwax stated that what is being discussed is not a question of denial but rather a question of whether or not we support approval of the rear extension since the applicant can still legally build upward instead of outward. Mr. Puca explained that he is concerned about the doughnut hole created between blocks. The doughnut hole is the green space that exists between abutting backyards. If more
than 50% of the properties have extensions, LPC does not consider it enough green space to protect, which is why it is reviewed at staff level. For this particular application, however, there seems to be a lot of green space that needs protecting, and the green space is an integral part of the historic district that needs protecting.

With a few people misunderstanding the difference between the two applications and the committee’s vote to deny the first but to support the second, Mr. Witherwax made the distinction between the 2 applications, stating that the 1st application had a rooftop addition with a deck and the current one being discussed was merely an extension.

Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation to support the application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wedderburn and carried with a tally of 15 in favor, 14 opposed, and 6 abstentions. As the number of opposition votes and abstentions exceeded the number of supporting votes, the item failed to carry. Ms. Tyus suggested to the applicant that they work with LPC to get project in compliance.

3. LPC Application for Certificate of Appropriateness, 369 Park Place—Prospect Heights Historic District

Architects Jeremy Shannon and Nate Priputen of Build with Prospect presented the project which consists of replacing three windows on the side elevation, creating a new opening in the rear façade for two French doors, adding an 8’ rear deck, and relocating an existing fire escape.

A LPC hearing is scheduled for 6/3. The committee voted 12 in favor, 3 against, and 4 abstentions to support of this application, and hopes the full Board will do the same.

Mr. Puca pointed out that this is an already existing rear extension near the parking lot of a school. It is not affecting greenspace or air, but actually opening up the area and is an enhancement to the rear façade. Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lord and carried with a tally of 30 in favor, 2 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

4. M1-1 Zone Proposal

a. The M1-1 Zone Subcommittee met 4/28/14 and voted unanimously to recommend that the full Board establish an interim policy to address requests for zoning variances by supporting only those requests for parcels abutting existing R-zoned parcels and by requiring the owner to include a restrictive covenant in the deed as a written commitment to include affordable housing in the project. 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).

Ms. Oton asked Ms. Tyus to define what the M1-1 committee expects to do with the restricted covenant. She was informed that the restrictive covenant would require the owner to offer 20% of units at an affordable rate, which is outlined as part of the information sheet attached to the action item. Ms. Oton stated that the district is divided between income ends. At the eastern end, the lower income stands and on the
western end, the higher does. It becomes a question of language and legal issues. Ms. Tyus countered by stating that the owner must accept the property is in the entirety of District 8, not just Prospect Heights, Historic North Crown Heights, etc.

A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Staton. It carried with a final tally of 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

b. The Subcommittee also voted to request an expansion of its charter to include the exploration of establishing a Special Zoning District for the area at issue to address the unique needs of CB 8. This exploration would include meeting with elected officials and concerned agencies, especially Dept. of City Planning. The Subcommittee would conduct this further exploration over the next service year and end June 2015. It hopes the full Board supports its quest for exploration of establishing a Special Zoning District.

Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a tally of 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Lastly, Ms. Tyus announced that the Crown Heights North Historic District is now listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, a distinction that makes those properties eligible for State and Federal Preservation Tax Credits.

The next Housing/ULURP Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 5, 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, May 6, 2014 at St. John’s Recreation Center. Present were Dorothy Bembry-Guet, Glinda Andrews, Jeff Cooper, Desmond Atkins, Phil Hawkins, Mary Aikens Reed, and Kim Albert.

Ms. Albert announced the upcoming Community Awareness Day on Saturday, June 7, 2014 from 11 AM to 3 PM in front of the St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place. She urged everyone to come out and support the committee while learning about services available in the community. Also, if you are part of an organization that provides services, please complete a registration form and submit it to the District office no later than Friday, June 6th by 3 PM.

Also, on Memorial Day, which is Monday, May 26th, the recreation center will be open from 8-5 and the activities will run on a Saturday schedule. Finally, she announced “It’s My Park Day” at Brower Park on Saturday, May 31, 2014. Fliers were distributed and people are encouraged to attend. A butterfly garden will be created and volunteers are needed to help clean-up the area for planting, which will take place on Sunday, June 1st.

The next Parks Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 6 PM at the St. John’s 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, April 21, 2014 at the 78th Precinct. Ms. Langhorne announced that Police Commissioner Bratton is looking at restructuring and reevaluating the department. The committee is looking to get input from the community on some of the issues they see and what they can do to restructure the NYPD to prevent these issues from arising. Input on programs, personnel, training, etc. is needed. Please come out to the meeting and share your ideas; if you are unable to come, please email your comments to the District office.

The next Public Safety committee meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 6 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC) – Messrs. James Ellis and Alton Pierce, Co-Chairs

The SLAC committee met on Monday, May 5, 2014 at CNR. Present were Wayne Bailey, Cheryl Brown, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Danae Oratowski, Atim Oton, Delissa Reynolds, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Stanton, Tarves Lord, and Julia Neale. The committee discussed the following applications:

1. Full Liquor License Application for Bar Bertrand LLC located at 1095 Bergen Street (between Nostrand and New York Avenues)
   a. Proprietors taking over dilapidated shack on Bergen Street to convert to a neighborhood commodity in the form of bar/cafe
   b. 13 seats at a separate bar with 31 seats at tables and booths for a total of 44 interior seats
   c. Hours of operation 11 AM to 2 AM Sunday, 2 PM to 2 AM Monday thru Thursday, and 2 PM to 4 AM Friday and Saturday (compromise to 2 AM closing on Thursday from 4 AM with the provision that they can ask for an extension in the hours in the future)
   d. Trained security guard at the door on weekend until closing
   e. Insulated ceiling
   f. Remove sidewalk café from liquor license application

   There were no police objections to the application. The committee voted 10 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions to support the full license application for Bar Bertrand and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

   Mr. Mensah asked why the space would require a trained security guard and Mr. Ellis informed him that it is standard protocol to ask about security. Also, security at the door would keep things from getting out of control and also eliminate under-aged partyers from gaining entrance. Mr. Bailey made a motion Bailey to support the committee’s recommendation. It was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a tally of 24 in favor, 3 opposed, with 6 abstentions.

2. Beer/Wine License for Citrico, 681 Washington Avenue (between St. Marks and Prospect Place)
   a. Southern Mexican restaurant featuring traditional Mexican fares with minor twists, currently in operation
b. Space flanked by other one-story commercial structures

c. Hours of operation 11 AM to 9 PM Sunday, 11 AM to 11 PM Monday thru Thursday, 11 AM to midnight Friday and Saturday

d. 24 total seats inside of space

There were no police objections to the application. The committee voted 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 opposed to support the beer/wine application and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation. A motion to support the committee’ recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Monderson. It carried with a tally of 29 in favor, 2 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

3. Sidewalk Café Renewal Application for Gueros, 605 Prospect Place (near Franklin Avenue). No changes to initial application that called for 14 chairs at 8 tables, and the hours will remain the same with the café closing time of 10 PM.

The committee’s support is contingent upon the restaurant maintaining proper operating practices. It was noted that in the future, the committee would not support the application if the proprietors continue to operate illegally, for instance, selling drinks to go or putting an enclosure around their sidewalk café. It should be noted, however, that they are working with the committee to curtail these illegal operation. The committee voted 10 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions to support the renewal application and hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

A few community and board members were concerned with some of the illegal activities undertaken by the restaurant. Specifically, Ms. Foster was concerned with who would be monitoring the activities at the location. She, along with everyone else that raised concerns, was informed that the committee oversees the location, which is why they are now in compliance. When we received the complaints of selling liquor to go, it was reported to the 77th Precinct and SLA immediately, and fines were imposed. Likewise, when we received the complaint about the enclosure around the sidewalk café, it was reported to Consumer Affairs immediately and a fine imposed. The proprietor explained that the enclosure was the result of erroneous information received from the contractor hired to installed it; DCA does allow some enclosures, but the one they had erected did not meet the standard and criteria. As far as drinks to go, the restaurant has now started using reusable plastic cups to prevent people from taking the previously biodegradable cups out of the establishment.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation to support the sidewalk café renewal application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mensah and carried with a vote of 20 in favor, 8 opposed, with 5 abstentions.

4. Renewal Licenses:
   a. Kombit, 279 Flatbush Avenue (St. Marks/Prospect)—Full
   b. B-Hive Lounge, 990 Atlantic Avenue(Grand/Classon)—Full

The 77th Precinct reported a few incidents in the vicinity of B-Hive Lounge, primarily a number of car break-ins around the area, but not necessarily tied to the establishment. However, the committee was satisfied with the response that the proprietor gave in relation to the accusations.
The committee voted to support the two licenses 10 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation. A motion to support the committee’s recommendation was made by Dr. Monderson and seconded by Ms. Wedderburn. It carried with a final tally of 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

Lastly, Mr. Ellis announced that the committee also exhaustively discussed an application for a full license for Global Square located at 893/897 Dean Street. However, due to lingering questions for the extremely large space, the item has been tabled for further review. In the interim, a letter will be submitted to the SLA asking the agency to postpone issuing the liquor license until we have complete clarity and satisfactory answers for all of our questions.

The next meeting of the SLAC committee will be held on Monday, June 2, 2013 at 6 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

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

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at CNR. Present were Xeerxeema Jordan, Meredith Staton, Holly Fuchs, Frank Esquilin, Dr. Frederick Monderson, Constance Nugent-Miller, Greg Todd, Chris McNally, Jacqueline Welles, Alan Gerber.

The committee discussed applying pressure to NYC Transit/MTA to speed up the process of making the Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum 2/3 train station handicapped accessible. The station is part of the MTA’s 20 year plan and the request was made for ADA accessibility at the station in 2004. The committee discussed the possibility of getting ADA accessibility at the express 2/3/4/5 Franklin Avenue station as well.

The committee also discussed Mayor deBlasio’s “Vision Zero” plan, which requires us all to be more pro-active in terms of roadway safety. The results of the initial Vision Zero town hall meetings to try and eliminate traffic fatalities, were the suggestion of the following strategies: (1) enforcement, (2) street design, (3) use of technology), (4) rider and pedestrian education, (5) working with Albany to enable local (Brooklyn) reduced speed on streets and arterials, (6) elimination of cell phones and hand-held devices while riding, (7) controlling or eliminating double parking, (8) crossing at designated places, (9) better coordination of lights, (10) the need for count-down pedestrian signals.

The next Transportation committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 7 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

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

The Youth/Family Services committee met on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at CNR. The committee continued its discussion on K2. There will be a representative from Phoenix House and the Dept. of Health at an upcoming meeting to discuss strategies for curtailing the sales of the item and the epidemic. Also, the committee discussed the fact that people of color are not reflected as main characters in children’s books. Finally, at the next meeting, the committee will review and discuss the items to be submitted for the needs statement and possible budget requests.
The next meeting of the Youth and Family Services committee will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 6:30 PM at CNR located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Langhorne thanked the committee chairs for their reports and announced that Ms. Granville has appointed a By-Laws committee to review, update, and revise the Board’s By-Laws. Members appointed to the committee are Princess Benn-James, Ethel Tyus, Robert Witherwax, Sharon Wedderburn, LeeAnn Banks, and Adem Bunkeddeko. She then opened the floor to elected officials representatives and public comments.

**Ms. Nora Daniel** from Councilwoman Mealy’s office stated that the councilwoman is the Co-chair of the women’s caucus. The caucus is hosting a voters registration drive Monday, May 12, 2014 from 2-4 PM at Medgar Evers College. As usual, the monthly advisory board is held the first Saturday of the month, and the next one will be held on June 7th at the Councilwoman’s District office located at 1757 Union Street, 2nd floor.

**Ms. Dynishal Gross** from Councilman Cornegy’s office stated that the Councilman recently held a lien sale outreach event in advance of the sale on May 16th. There is still as short amount of time left to get your property off the lien sale list. She urged everyone to check to see if their neighbors are on the list to help them get the assistance to avoid the sale.

Also, as seen on the news, Councilman Cornegy has installed a public lactation center in the district office, which is the first in Brooklyn. On May 20th there will be a breastfeeding forum to learn rules and laws about public breastfeeding. Call the district office for additional information at 718-919-0740.

**Mr. Charles Jackson** from Congresswoman Clarke’s office announced that Section 8 and HPD are moving forward with a process known as downsizing. This basically states that living rooms can be used as living spaces and bedrooms. A two person household will be moved from a 2 bedroom apartment to a one bedroom, an individual moved from a one bedroom to a studio, etc. The issue affects about 40% of the seniors that are Section 8 recipients. There are a few ways to protect yourself from being downsized, one of which is a valid doctor’s note detailing any medical issues. You cannot lose your benefits if you have a condition. Other people are urged to contact the Congresswoman’s office for assistance if they are in danger of being downsized at 718-287-1142. HPD is claiming that the need for downsizing is based on an $18 million budget deficit. The new policy is located on HPD’s website.

Mr. Jackson also announced that it is primary season. Just as people are diligent in the November elections, primaries are just as important because they determine who gets on the ballot for the November election. He asked everyone to remind their friends and families to vote.

**Jarranda Whitfield** from the St. John’s Family Center, announced that there are 5 open slots in the day care center. Parents of children in the day care must be enrolled in school to have access to the free benefits.

**Sharon Daughtry** of the Neighborhood Alliance stated that her organization gives out a lot of complimentary tickets to games at Barclays. She announced that they have slots for 10 events for organizations to enter a raffle drawing to hold an event at Barclays at minimal cost (the cost of labor).
Samantha Bernardine announced that Community District Council 17 is having its first annual college and resource conference at MS61, which is the school across from the 71st precinct on Empire Blvd and New York Avenue. The purpose of the fair is to target Pre K to high school to get parents thinking about prepping their kids for college.

Ms. Langhorne thanked everyone for attending and participating. She wished everyone a happy Mother’s Day and adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 7 PM at Concern for Independent Living located at 151 Rochester Avenue (between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place). All are invited to attend.

Guests

Gaither Pratt
Rohon Williams
Michael Cox
Maurice Good
Celia Fantauzzi
Jacqueline Europe
Palmer Thompson Moss
Isabel Herbold
Belinda Alvarado
Clandia Dymond
Denice Muckle
Jacqueline Welch
Charles Hickman
Ade Oluwo
Mark Thurton
Basilia Jimenez
Leroy Reid
Delus Hill
Maryse Felix
Neil Hurlock
Carlene Campbell
Sheryl Vassell
Dorothy Bembry-Guet
Lauren Keating
Yasmine Kamel
Rodney ocean
Betty Davis
Halbert Hollingsworth
Shirley Mondesir
Mike Fagan
Rachel Smith
Malcolm McDaniel