Community Board No. 8
Concern for Independent Living
151 Rochester Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11213

September 10, 2015

Members Present

Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Wayne Bailey
Princess Benn-James
Julia Boyd
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Adem Bunkedeko
Helen Coley
Michael Cox
Phu Duong
James Ellis
Diana Foster
Fred Frazier
Nizjoni Granville
Liz Grefrath
Xeerxeema Jordan
Shalawn Langhorne
Tarves Lord
Robert Matthews
Kwasi Mensah
Adelaide Miller
Atim Oton
Robert Puca
Yahay O. Raji
Opel Richards
Adam Sachs
Patricia Scantlebury
Stacey Sheffey
Meredith Staton
Ethel Tyus
Sheryl Vassell
Gib Veconi
Yves Vilus
Irsa Weatherspoon
Sharon Wedderburn
Robert Witherwax
Deborah Young
Vilma Zuniga

Members Absent/Excused

Kim Albert
LeeAnn Banks
Curtis Harris
Philip Hawkins
Dr. Fred Monderson
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Gregory Todd
Greg Yerman

Elected Officials Present

Senator Jesse Hamilton
Assemblywoman Latrice Walker
Assemblywoman Diana Richardson

Elected Official Representatives

Elisa Helligar, Senator Hamilton’s Office
Suzette Davis, Councilman Cornegy’s Office
Charles Jackson, Congresswoman Clarkes Office
Drew Gabriel, Councilwoman Cumbo’s Office
Arna Lipkind, Councilwoman Mealy’s Office
Stefani Zinerman, Councilman Cornegy’s Office
Kathleen Daniel, Borough President Adams

CB 8 Staff

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Associate
Melanie Grant, Community Assistant
The regular meeting of Community Board No. 8 was called to order by Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson, at 7:00 p.m. She asked for an official welcome from Concern for Independent Living.

**Concern for Independent Living** – Ms. Leonie Wright, Program Supervisor

Ms. Wright welcomed everyone to Concern. She stated that Concern provides low income and supportive housing in Brooklyn, Long Island, and will soon bring these services to the Bronx. She stated that Concern is accepting contacts for outreach when the housing units at the building under construction at 1522 Bergen Street become available in late spring 2016. It is a Level 2 housing facility with 65 units of supportive housing in a mixed use residential building.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Wright for the information. She opened the floor to elected officials and their representatives.

**Mr. Drew Gabriel** from Councilwoman Cumbo’s office stated that the Councilwoman’s office has entered into a partnership with Community Board 8 (CB8) and the Crown Heights Jewish Community Council to sign up individuals for SCRIE every last Wednesday of the month beginning in October at the CB 8 office from 10 AM to 2 PM. He also announced that this is the first year that the Councilwoman and other councilmembers will engage in participatory budgeting. He distributed flyers with the dates and locations for the hearings and stated that CB 8 also included the dates in the monthly newsletter. He explained that participatory budgeting is a way to collect ideas to see what residents want in the neighborhood and what is needed in the community.

**Ms. Arna Lipkind** from Councilwoman Mealy’s office stated that the Councilwoman is looking forward to a productive year and extended condolences to the families of the victims of the violence that occurred Labor Day weekend. She stated that she attended an emergency meeting with Borough President Adams to discuss ways of evaluating the parade and gather suggestions on how to make it work without the violence and without scaling back the Jouvert celebrations.

Ms. Lipkind announced that a number of people are having issues with street trees and other forestry issues. She stated that in her experience, she finds it very difficult to work with forestry. As such, she recommended that all homeowners get the DEP insurance policy, which will protect against damaged pipes because of street trees.

The next advisory board meeting will be held Saturday, September 12, 2015 at 10 AM. Representatives from the Board of Elections and tenants associations will present. The Councilwoman’s district office is located at 1757 Union Street and is open from 10 AM – 6 PM Monday thru Thursday, and Saturday from 9 AM – 5 PM.

**Mr. Charles Jackson** from Congresswoman Clarke’s office announced that the President has issued an executive order that states that any company going into business with the Federal government has to offer all employees a minimum of $15/hour. He also stated the Congresswoman has decided to vote in favor of the Iran Nuclear Deal, believing it to be the best deal available. A lot of people misunderstand the nuances of the deal and what it means. If you have any questions or constituent issues, call him at 718-287-1142, ext 287.

Ms. Dorothy Bembry-Guet asked where the Congresswoman stands on Syrian immigrants coming to the US. Mr. Jackson replied that it is Congresswoman Clark’s general belief that immigration has to be reformed. Her stance is that every country needs to step up and accept some people. The burden cannot be thoroughly on the United States. The European Union has agreed to accept 120k people. The burden cannot be solely on the United States.
Ms. Elisa Heligar from Senator Hamilton’s office announced that the Senator is hosting a prayer vigil this evening in response to the violence during Labor Day weekend. She also mentioned that the Senator will be bringing health and fitness classes to a park near you. The first installment will be yoga in the park for seniors. Please call the office at 718-284-4700 for more information.

Ms. Stefani Zinerman from Councilman Cornegy’s office welcomed everyone to the 2015-2016 meeting season. She announced that the Councilman will have 3 participatory budget sessions and instructed everyone to see the CB 8 newsletter for dates and locations. The Councilman is offering emergency preparedness training on September 30, 2015 for seniors so they know what to do in case of emergency. Ms. Zinerman introduced Ms. Suzette Davis, who will serve as the new liaison for CB 8. For additional information, please call 718-919-0740.

Ms. Granville thanked the elected official representatives for the announcements and asked for roll call.

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

**Acceptance of Minutes** – A motion to accept the minutes of the June meeting was made by Ms. Tyus, seconded by Mr. Staton and carried unanimously by the membership

Ms. Granville welcomed Councilman Cornegy to the meeting and asked him to swear in the newly elected officers and newly appointed Community Board members.

**Councilman Robert Cornegy**

Councilman Cornegy stated this act of community service is one of the greatest act of selfless service imaginable. He stated that he had the honor of serving on CB 3 and gets great pleasure in doing the swearing in of members. You must love where you live and want to serve the community to be a community board member, and you should be applauded for volunteering your time.

Ms. Granville thanked Councilman Cornegy for his services and asked for a brief presentation on solar panels from Solar One.

**Solar One: “Here Comes Solar”** – Mr. Chris Neidl, Director

Mr. Neidl, Director of the Here Comes Solar, a nonprofit group, stated that Here Comes Solar is a directive to assist homeowners with installing solar panels on their roofs to help with electricity costs. The goal is to try to get a group of people together to get discounts from installers. Here Comes Solar’s role is to connect people with solar installers and assess the home to see if solar is a good opportunity. The organization works in a number of communities with flat roofs which are really good candidates for solar. There is a group of 9 individuals in Crown Heights that selected a solar installer just in the last few weeks and were able to get a substantial discount on installation. If you are interested in signing up, you can sign up with the same installer and get the same discount that the 9 homeowners received. Crown Heights and Prospect Heights have enormous solar potential that should be taken advantage of. For more information, call 646-576-5673.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Neidl for the information and asked for an update on the B46 Select Bus Service.

**Dept. of Transportation** – Mr. Kyle Gephardt and Leroy Branch

Mr. Branch introduced himself as the new liaison from DOT covering CB 8. He stated that he worked for Community Board 6 for 15 years as Assistant District Manager and understands how community boards
function and the issues that affect the community as a whole. If anyone has DOT issues, please inform the District office and they will pass the information to him.

He introduced Mr. Gephardt for the B46 SBS presentation.

Mr. Gephardt stated SBS is NYC’s brand of bus rapid transit to provide improved bus service that offers faster and more frequent service. They have seen improvements by 15-20% on SBS routes so far. SBS has been able to make the streets safer by seeing a reduction in crashes. DOT has been thinking of doing SBS along the B46 route since 2009. The agency did an assessment and outreach and found that the busiest bus route in Brooklyn, the B46, also happens to be one of the slowest routes. 61% of people that live within a ¼ mile of the bus route are transit dependent. Utica Avenue is an important vision zero corridor. Many pedestrians have been killed along the route and 57 were injured.

Key components of SBS include off bus fare collection and dedicated bus lanes where needed. The installation of SBS along Utica Avenue was done in phases. The first phase was St. John’s Place to Church Avenue: adding bus lanes, left turn bays, turn restrictions, adding truck loading zones, updating curb regulations. The same will be done from Church to Fillmore Avenues by the end of the month. One key problem remains Utica Avenue at Atlantic Avenue. There are very long queues approaching Atlantic Avenue because there is not a lot of green time at the intersection—at least traveling on Utica Avenue. It takes 3-4 minutes to go 3 blocks during the peak of rush hour, which slows down the trip for about 6-7 thousand riders each day. A lot of it has to do with fact that there is only one travel lane.

DOT is proposing to add a dedicated bus lane northbound during peak hours of 7 AM to 7 PM on Utica between Bergen Street and Atlantic Avenue. The dedicated bus lane would help regular traffic flow better as well by creating more space for cars to travel. There is low vehicle parking between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street (about 35% capacity). The other two blocks are 85% and 71% capacity respectively. The capacity is mostly vehicles staying for long periods of time on the two southern blocks because of the low rate of commercial businesses.

Mr. Witherwax asked if there was an estimate of the number of parking spots to be removed. He was informed that about 10 spaces for each block will be removed between 7 AM and 7 PM. Mr. Witherwax also asked about the buses having transit signal priority and was informed that DOT implemented it about a week ago.

Mr. Staton and Mr. Atkins both inquired about adding an SBS stop at Bergen Street for riders of the B15 and B65 to transfer to the B46. Rob Thompson from NYC Transit Bus Planning stated that the site is currently a local stop on the route even though there is a limited bus. The B15 and B65 at the intersection do not have a high enough transfer rate to warrant an SBS bus stop at that location.

Ms. Scantlebury stated that the B44 runs on a 3 to 1 ratio of express to local buses, and asked if it would change with the B46. Ms. Wedderburn asked that, given the concerns raised, in looking at the time series studies, what is the reference point for the study. Both Ms. Scantlebury and Ms. Wedderburn were informed that the schedules department studies what the ridership is on a particular line. If fewer people are riding the local, they put out fewer local buses. If more people are riding the limited, they will put out more limited buses. The frequency of each type of service will be kept the same because everything is based on ridership.

Ms. Maria Fuller asked if the bus driver has the ability to change their sign from local to express to bypass local stops if the driver is behind schedule. She was informed that the driver has the ability to change his bus’ status, but only at the instruction of dispatcher. It is not something that happens very frequently, but it could happen.
Mr. Atkins stated that DOT noted that there is not much curbside parking between 7 am and 7 pm, but he asked what would happen if there is an expansion in commercial business along the 3 block route. Also, he stated that with the precinct’s location, there are not a lot of parking so the spaces are at a premium. DOT stated they will revisit the proposal if the conditions change.

Mr. Witherwax stated that it is the Board’s desire to know that SBS is flexible enough to make changes as needed based on ridership and other intangibles.

As this was an item that was being presented by the Transportation Committee as an action item, Mr. Witherwax made a motion to support the removal of car parking from 7 AM to 7 PM on the 3 blocks of Bergen Street to Atlantic Avenue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Puca and carried with a final tally of 33 in favor, 1 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

Ms. Granville thanked the Dept. of Transportation and NYC Transit for the information and asked for a report from the following committees:

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

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. In addition to the Chair, Ms. Oton, present were Diana Foster, Adam Sachs, Lee Ann Banks, Barbara Campbell, and Zulika Bumpus.

Ms. Oton announced that the Economic Development Committee is working on a slew of projects this year. The committee will be working on an economic forum focused on manufacturing. It is looking at trying to attract a variety of businesses to the District. There is a project focused on residents starting their own businesses. A lot of businesses are looking for cheaper options because of rising rents and a lot of businesses that were established here are leaving. Also, the committee will be sponsoring a “Buy Local” campaign this holiday season.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places). All are invited to attend.

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

The Environment/Sanitation Committee met on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at the District 8 office. In addition to the Chair, present were Greg-Todd, Julia Boyd, and Desmond Atkins. The committee discussed Dept. of Sanitation brooms not using water when cleaning the streets, not coming through the block at the proper time to clean the streets during ASP regulations and other Sanitation concerns.

The next meeting of the Environment/Sanitation Committee will Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 6 PM at the Community Board 8 District office location at 1291 St. Marks Avenue (between Rochester and Buffalo Avenues). All are invited to attend.

**Health/Human Services** – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair

The Health and Human Services Committee will meet on Monday, September 21, 2015 followed by their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 5, 2015. Both meetings will be held at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.
The Housing Committee met on Thursday, August 6, 2015 and again on Thursday, September 3, 2015 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. Present at the August meeting was Desmond Atkins, Wayne Bailey, Fred Frazier, Nizjoni Granville, Curtis Harris, Xeerxeema Jordan, Robert Puca, Mary Reed, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Chris Carrano, Star Davis, Mary Dierickx, Joseph Lipari, and Will Martin. Present at the September meeting were Wayne Bailey, Lee Ann Banks, Diana Foster, Fred Frazier, Nizjoni Granville, Curtis Harris, Robert Puca, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Yves Vilus, Irsa Weatherspoon, Sharon Wedderburn, Zulika Bumpus, Richard Goodstein, and Amber Mazor.

At the two meetings, the committee discussed the following LPC applications:

1. **Application to LPC for Certificate of Appropriateness: New Building at 906 Prospect Place – Crown Heights North Historic District Phase II**

Ms. Dierickx, Historic Preservation Consultant and Chris Carrano, R.A. of ADG Architecture & Design P.C. presented the owner’s plan for constructing a five-story, 20-unit apartment building on the site, currently used as a parking lot with a ‘no-style’ abandoned two-story garage in poor condition at the rear. The project includes 15 two-bedroom units and five one-bedroom units. Even though pressed repeatedly by Committee members, the presenters were unable or unwilling to provide information on rental rates as the owner, Jeffrey Gershon, Managing Member of 906 Prospect Partners, LLC was not present.

Ms. Dierickx indicated that in response to reservations delineated in a letter sent to her by the Crown Heights North Association (CHNA), the elevator bulkhead had been reduced from 25’ to 15’ but will still be visible from Kingston Ave. and Park Pl. She provided multiple copies of the updated plans at the meeting. There will also be two stair bulkheads and an HVAC bulkhead on the roof. The building will have painted aluminum double-hung windows, a cast stone façade and brick sides. The design includes a garage entrance in the front, and parking spaces for 10 cars and 10 bicycles in the rear. CHNA also asked in its August 3rd letter to the Consultant that: the fifth floor be set back so as not to be visible from the street; that the railings for the fifth floor and roof not be reflective glass; and that the building be flush with its neighbors.

Photos of eight other apartment buildings within a block or two of the project were presented to show a measure of appropriateness as compared with existing architectural styles. Community members complained that the design had no character and was simply a box. Construction is estimated to take between 1.5 and 2 years. The LPC hearing for this project is scheduled for 9/22/15. A motion to support the application was made by Robert Puca and seconded by Desmond Atkins. The Committee voted three in favor, with five against and one abstention not to support the project.

As a point of clarity, Mr. Veconi stated that the committee’s recommendation was to not support the project and the motion failed. Mr. Witherwax made a motion to amend committee’s report to state that “the committee is denying support for the project.” The motion to deny the project was made by Mr. Witherwax and seconded by Mr. Staton. The motion carried with a final tally of 35 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention. Please note that an official correction to the Housing Committee minutes was made to reflect the amendment to the committee’s report.

2. **Application to LPC for Certificate of Appropriateness: Rear –Yard Addition to 1205 Bergen St. – Crown Heights North Historic District Phase I**

Star Davis, owner, Engineer and Lighting Designer, and John Mitchell R.A., presented a plan to construct a rear yard addition to the property, which will be Davis’ primary residence. The building is a four-story Romanesque Revival rowhouse designed and built c. 1888 by Joseph C. Gateley.
The work proposed involves the removal of the entire width of the building’s rear façade including the half-lot width bathroom at the basement level and existing deck at the first floor level. The proposed addition was presented as ‘being no deeper than other existing rear yard additions on the block,’ and ‘being among the rear yard additions on almost every building.’ [A close examination of the building footprint map on page 9 of the materials provided by Ms. Davis does not support that assertion. Of the 37 buildings with rear additions, only seven have two stories. The 21 others are only one-story.]

The project will replace the existing 8’10” one-story half-width extension with a 10’4” two-story full-width extension with a new roof deck. The existing metal stair will be removed. The ground floor and first floor windows will be replaced with glass doors. The fourth floor double-hung replacement windows will use the existing window openings. The new addition will not be visible from the street. The proposed lot coverage will be 49% of a permitted 60%. The front stoop will be repaired. Construction is estimated to take six to eight months. Five neighbors notified (according to the presenters); only a representative for 1203 Bergen St. was present.

A motion to support the application was made by Robert Puca and seconded by Wayne Bailey. The Committee voted nine in favor, with none against and no abstentions to support the project and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

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

3. Revised Application to LPC for Certificate of Appropriateness: Building Renovation at 1375 Dean St. – Crown Heights North Historic District

Mr. Richard Goodstein, R.A. of nC2 Architecture presented revised plans for owner, Amber Mazor, to perform a full restoration of this wood-framed, transitional Greek Revival/Italianate-style building, the George B. and Susan Elkins House (c.1855-69), an individually designated landmark. As originally designed and presented to the Committee on Nov. 6, 2014, the project would: add a 3-story addition in the back that will be minimally visible from the street, fully restore the front facade including the balcony, door, and windows, perform intensive structural work to replace crumbling wood beams and joists; and would have converted the building to five condos with outdoor space (box glass cantilevered rear decks or a roof terrace) for each unit. At that time, the CHNA provided a letter withholding support and requesting further clarification of the drawings. Mr. Goodstein indicated that they have since worked closely with LPC to explore mutually acceptable approaches to this project; and provided the following summary of the changes.

- The proposed occupancy has been reduced to four units from five to avoid replacing the wood structural framing of the house with steel as was originally proposed. The new interior configuration divides the house into two adjacent double-duplexes (similar to two adjacent two-family brownstones). This division is not visible from the exterior.
- Zoning regulations require 8’ wide side yards for detached buildings. The existing side yards are 4’ on one side and 5’ on the other. In order to comply with DOB zoning objections with regard to the existing non-compliant side yards, two glass fully-enclosed side extensions are proposed to bridge the gap between the existing side walls and the neighbors' side walls. These extensions will contain mainly circulation space and are designed to be as transparent as possible such that the house still appears to be a detached building.
- The rear extension was changed from being almost the full width of the existing building to being narrower on the 1st and 2nd floors, letting more of the original building show, and the cellar level portion of the rear extension has been reconfigured to span the full width of the site.
• The front facade of the house will be restored to accurate historic condition. The side facades, where the glass extensions are proposed, will also be restored to historic conditions, except for some appropriate design changes necessitated by the revised layouts. From the street it will appear as though the original facade continues from the exterior to the interior space of the glass side extensions. Construction would start this fall and take about 1.5 years.

As revised, the project is scheduled for an LPC hearing on September 22, 2015. On a motion made and seconded, the committee voted 11 in favor of supporting this project with one abstention. The Committee hopes that the full Board will support its recommendation.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final tally of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

In other committee discussions, the committee entertained the following:

**Interviewing HPD regarding 421a Tax Abatement**

The Committee resolved that HPD will be invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss the process for vetting the 421-a tax abatement program applications and how the Community Board can use the process to ensure affordable housing and tenant protections are brought to the community. Questions to be asked of the HPD representative include:

- the list of CB 8 condo buildings and their individual owners who were recently cited by the NYS AG for applying, taking the credits, and then converting to market rate rentals instead of rent regulated units;
- whether DHCR will be asked to pursue owners who convert from condo to rental and the details of that pursuit; and
- how do the various regulatory agencies (HPD, DOF, NYS Dept. of Taxation, DHCR) coordinate the program.

**Resolution Not to Support 421a Applications that do not include Commitment for Affordable Housing within the District**

Using 670 Pacific St as an example, Wayne Bailey provided a sample letter of complaint that the developer received the 421a tax abatement but did not provide any affordable housing. Mr. Bailey suggested that the Committee require all 421a applications to include a written commitment to build the affordable housing in the District, and to provide post-construction verification.

Finally, the committee discussed an action plan and mission and goals for the coming year. For the upcoming term, it will be looking at 421a tax abatement, and making sure SCRIE is appropriately utilized within the community, and that tenants know their rights.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

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

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place. Present were: Phil Hawkins, Dorothy Bremby Guet, Kim Albert, Vilma, Zuniga, Thomas Montford, Robyn Berland, Cleaton Ray, Sandra Coello, Kwasi Mensah, Emily Sherrod, and Glinda Andrews.
The committee discussed the upcoming Health Fair sponsored by the joint committees (Health, Parks & Seniors). The Health Fair is scheduled for October 24, 2014 and will be held at St. Johns Recreation Center from 10:30 am – 4:00 pm. The Parks Department provided an update on St. John’s Recreation Center, Brower Park, Parks Department projects, and the re-seeding efforts for Brower Park.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 6 PM at St. John’s Recreation Center, which is located at 1251 Prospect Place (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues). All are invited to attend.

Public Safety – Ms. Shalawn Langhome, Chair; Mr. Desmond Atkins, Vice Chair

The Public Safety Committee will meet on Monday, September 21, 2015 at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue (corner of Bergen Street), at 6 PM. All are invited to attend.

Seniors – Ms. Kim Albert Chair

The Seniors Committee met on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue. The committee discussed several seniors’ concerns. One in particular was seniors not getting their proper change back when grocery shopping and ways to address this matter. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 6 PM at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue (corner of Sterling Place). All are invited to attend.

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

The SLAC Committee met on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. Present were Wayne Bailey, Gail Branch Muhammad, Barbara Campbell, James Ellis, Frank Esquillin, Fred Frazier, Danae Oratowski, Robert Puca, Delissa Reynolds, Stacy Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Sheryl Vassell, Irsa Weatherspoon, and Deborah Young.

The committee discussed the following liquor license applications:

New Applications:

**Meat, 115 Kingston Ave, Full License**

- Proprietor has experience owning and operating an establishment
- Hours proposed Sun-Thurs 8am-12mid Fri 8am-2 hours before Shabbat Sat 1½ hours after Shabbat to 2am
- 89 seats at 19 tables, 9 seats at 1 bar, total capacity 98
- Public Assembly Permit in Process
- 40 Staff members
- Sidewalk cafe space proposed w/16 seats, but no plans submitted
- Working with Landmarks to be compliant on exterior

The committee had the following concerns:

- window operation & noise level
- Landmarks approval for space, but proprietor promised to provide the appropriate documents regarding the windows
- Questions about the sidewalk until official plans and diagrams submitted
The committee unanimously supported the application with the stipulation that the sidewalk café be removed from the license and suggested the proprietor return for an alteration application. Other conditions included additional letters of support, if the windows are operational then they should close at 10 PM, and contact with the Crown Heights North Association. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

As a point of clarity, Mr. Ellis noted that the windows will not be operational. The proprietor stated he will hire locally.

Ms. Lord made a motion to accept the committee’s recommendation. It was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final vote of 26 in favor, 1 opposed, with 7 abstentions.

**Tin Kettle, 611 Vanderbilt, Full License**

- Hours of Operation  11am-2am Su-Thurs 11am-4am Fri-Sat
- 16 seats at 5 tables with 8 seats at 1 bar for a total of 24 seats
- 18 seats outdoors in rear patio.
- 8 Staff members
- Committees received letters of concern from neighbors
- Landmark storefront, Owner is willing to bring to code if required
- French doors-Owners are willing to mitigate any issues & manage sidewalk/smoking
- Letters of support presented in petition form
- Does not trigger 200 foot rule. Closest church is 212 feet
- Will trigger SLA 500ft hearing
- Community Benefit includes-Owner is long-time CB8 resident and has been active in community in various capacities over the years, agreed to bring facade in compliance with Landmarks if required, offer public option for late casual dining, local hiring, street facing security cameras, better neighbor than previous tenant

The committee voted 12 in favor with 2 abstentions to support the application with the following conditions and stipulations and hopes the full Board support its recommendation:

- Front windows to close at 10pm
- Rear yard amended to 24 seats, to close at 10pm Sun-Thurs, 11pm Fri, Sat
- No amplified sound in rear yard
- Provide CB8 & neighbors with direct line of communication in case of any problems
- Hours of interior operation daily to 2am only
- No smoking in rear yard

Mr. Staton made a motion to accept the committee’s recommendation. It was seconded by Ms. Sheffey and carried with a final vote of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

**Renewals**

- Morgans, 267 Flatbush Avenue, Full License
- The Vanderbilt, 570 Vanderbilt Avenue, Full License
- Bombay Masala, 678 Franklin Avenue, Beer & Wine License

The committee voted to support all three applications as presented and hopes that the full Board support its recommendation.
Mr. Veconi made a motion to accept the committee’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final tally of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

The next SLAC meeting will be held on Monday, October 5, 2015 at 6 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, Vice Chair

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. Present were: Fred Monderson, Meredith Staton, Greg Todd, Jackie Wells, Robert Witherwax, Elizabeth Haines, Chris McNally, Jesse Hendrich, Amanda Pogany, and Kyle Gebhart.

The committee discussed items to go in the Statement of Community District Needs (Needs Statement) and potential budget requests for submission in the FY 2016 budget. An update was given on MV Para Transit on Dean Street and the ongoing complaints about the operations of the establishment. Additionally, the committee heard a presentation by Mr. Gephardt of DOT on removing the parking lane northbound on Utica Avenue between Bergen Street and Atlantic Avenue to create a designated bus lane for B46 SBS. The committee asked Mr. Gephardt to make a formal presentation before the full Board in September.

The next Transportation meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

**Youth & Education** – Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chair; Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Vice-Chair

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. In addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair, present were Alli Lesovoy, Jon Cohen, Danielle Horn, Azriel Cocchini-Bech, Xeerxeema Jordan, Prince Tzarer, Shannon Ferguson, Elie Bilmes, Nathaniel Styer, Desmond Atkins, Clint Carlisle, Laurel Dagrosa, Constance Lesold, Ada Terry, Dr. Zorina Frederick, and Zulika Bumpus. The committee did not have any action items, but discussed the upcoming joint Education forum with CB 9.

The next meeting of the Youth and Education Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) at 7 PM.

Ms. Granville thanked the committee chairs for their reports and asked for an update from Assemblywoman Diana Richardson.

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

Assemblywoman Richardson thanked everyone for their support during the election, having taken over the position from Karim Camara, who went to work for Gov. Cuomo. She stated that she is maintaining his district office located at 1216 Union Street and telephone number. She issued contact cards to the community and stated that since housing is such a crisis in the community, she mailed to everyone in the 43rd District a document for housing assistance. She also distributed copies to the audience. She stated that things are changing around us very rapidly. She advised people to not wait until the last minute if you need help. If you need help, call her district office at 718-771-3105. If it is something that cannot be handled internally, her office will find an organization that can help you. A community is a partnership where the residents and electeds work together. We will work together to bring positive change and growth.
Ms. Granville thanked Assemblywoman Richardson for the information and asked for an update from Assemblywoman Latrice Walker.

**Assemblywoman Latrice Walker, 55th Assembly District**

Assemblywoman Walker congratulated new community board members on their appointments. She stated that community board membership is the one job that you continue to do and love to do in spite of the negative comments received from some members of the community. She also welcomed back all returning members.

She announced that her district office has finally opened at 400 Rockaway Avenue, 2nd Floor (off of Pitkin Avenue). She and her staff will continue building and working together to make community stronger. The district office telephone number is 718-342-1257. Please call if you have any questions or issues and need assistance.

Ms. Granville thanked Assemblywoman Walker for the information and asked for an update from Senator Jesse Hamilton.

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

Senator Hamilton stated that it is good to be back in the city. He distributed copies of his monthly newsletter that covers 5 districts/community boards, stating that there is a newsletter for each board. In each newsletter, he recognizes a constituent and small business owner of the month. The first person in CB 8 to be constituent of the month is Ms. Vilma Zuniga. She was honored because she is always working hard for the residents of the 20th Senatorial District.

Senator Hamilton stated that his office is working closely with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to ensure that minority and women owned businesses get contracts. If you are a minority or woman and own a business, make sure you get registered so you can apply and get opportunities, especially in the trades. To help spur registration and generate a better understanding of the minority and women owned enterprises, his office is sponsoring mobile vans to give information to the community.

He also stated that he held a prayer vigil earlier this evening for the young man shot in the head during the Jouvert celebrations. He believes that it is a small percentage of people causing the problems during the parade and Jouvert, but it is these individuals that cause a higher amount of scrutiny to be placed on the community. He also mentioned the shootings that took place during the 4th of July and other holidays and compared those shootings and the lack of attention given to them to the attention given to the shootings held during the parade and Jouvert. Save Our Streets (SOS) has been very busy all summer visiting shooting locations. The community does not have programs for the youth to keep them out of trouble, but the state has programs after they get in trouble. That needs to change.

Also, we are at a transition point in many areas, including affordable housing. State and city owned land should be used for affordable housing for the people that live here, not the new people coming into a community. Gentrification is not a color or race issue; instead, it is an economic issue. It’s a sentiment of a tale of two cities, the haves and have nots. The question is how to maintain what we have and protect it.

Ms. Granville thanked Senator Hamilton for the information and opened the floor for public comments.

**Ms. Kathleen Daniel** from Borough President Adams’ office thanked Ms. Langhorne and Ms. George for coming to today’s emergency meeting regarding violence during Jouvert. The Boro President is calling for a
task force to be formed to combat violence. The task force will include stakeholders, party promoters, and community board members as well as the police.

In addition, the Boro President announced his capital budget awards. $8.8 million has been allocated, with $3.3 million specifically allocated to affordable housing. She briefly listed all of the allocations and distributed the BP’s newsletter. She also announced that on September 17, 2015, there will be a job fair for anyone looking for seasonal work during the holidays in retail jobs at Kings Plaza Shopping Mall. There will be people available to help job seekers get prepared as well as help with resume writing.

Mr. Michael Cox stated that he noticed during Jouvert clusters of police officers that were inattentive to certain groups. He stated that we cannot have police officers that are inattentive when they are within the vicinity where there is the potential for violence and crime. The police are needed to be more than just reactionary when something occurs; they need to be proactive in their policing.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue (corner of St. Marks Avenue) at 7 PM. All are invited to attend.

**GUESTS**

Albert Appleton  
L. Grand  
Leroy Reid  
Dorothy Bembry-Guet  
Ira Xavier-Andrews  
Mark Reid  
Brian Saunders  
Phina Tserar  
Stella Louise Riley  
Ellen Chen  
Dian Duke  
Chris Neil  
Sudesh Munaree  
Takako Keno  
Mike Fagan  

Sheila Davis  
Maurice Anthony  
Shirley Mondesir  
Cory Parente  
Agate Parente  
Mark Thurton  
Fidella Ighuch  
Leroy Branch  
Drew K. Gabriel  
Akedah Fulcher  
Edu Hermelyn  
Maurice Lee  
Tremaine Wright  
Rachel Smith  
Henry Butler