

**Community Board No. 8
Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation
727 Classon Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238**

February 10, 2011

Members Present

Kim Albert
Akosua Albritton
Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Princess Benn-James
Viola Bing
Julia Boyd
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Dr. Flize Bryan
Helen Coley
Renaye Cuyler
Diana Foster
Ede Fox
Fred Frazier
Nizjoni Granville
Doris Heriveaux
Xeexema Jordan
Shalawn Langhorne
Marie Louis
Priscilla Maddox
Robert Matthews
Kwasi Mensah
Adelaide Miller
Dr. Fred Monderson
Alton Pierce
Angelina Pinto
Marlene Saunders
Patricia Scantlebury
Meredith Staton
William Suggs
Gregory Todd
Ethel Tyus
Yves Vilus
Sharon Wedderburn
Robert Witherwax
Wilma Zuniga

CB Staff Present

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Associate

Members Excused

Clarine Miller
Atim Oton
Robert Puca
Launa Thomas-Bullock

Members Absent

Dr. Adele Allen
Teri Coaxum
Jamell Henderson
Mary Reed
Audrey Taitt-Hall

Elected Official's Representatives

Samuel Light, Assemblyman Camara's Office
Carl Luciano, Councilmember Mealy's Office
Alfred Chiodo, Councilmember James's Office
Ron Thomas, Congresswoman Clark's Office
Lee Church, Assemblyman Jeffries's Office
Renea Murphy, Councilman Vann's Office
Dottie Lebron, Councilman Vann's Office

Liaisons Present

Ronda Messer, NYC Dept. of Transportation
Ann Marie Adamson, Brooklyn BP Office
Det. Martin Brown, NYPD Comm. Affairs

Elected Official's Present

Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, 57th Assembly Dist.
Honorable Albert Vann, 36th Council District
Honorable Ola Alabi, 57th District Leader
Honorable Shirley Patterson, 43rd District Leader
Honorable Jesse Hamilton, 43rd District Leader

Ms. Granville called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Acceptance of Minutes – The minutes of the last Community Board 8 general meeting were unanimously accepted with any necessary corrections.

Correspondence – CB 8 newsletter and other material were distributed for use.

Ms. Granville asked Mr. Palmira from the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation to provide a welcome.

Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation – Mr. Randy Palmira, Administrator

Mr. Palmira welcomed everyone to CNR and stated that it has always been the center's pleasure to host the Community Board. He cited a few of the center's accomplishments in the last quarter, including being illustrated in a public magazine on health care. He introduced Ms. Burger, the Vice President of Adult Day Health Care and asked her to provide a brief synopsis of services offered by the Center.

Ms. Burger announced that CNR tries to keep its clients in the community. All of the services needed, even those by patients with chronic illness, can be received by patients at the Center. Many are allowed to stay at home and receive the care they need while remaining independent because of the continuum of services provided. Pamphlets were distributed detailing the services provided.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Burger and Mr. Palmira and asked for a brief report from Ms. Adamson from Borough President Marty Markowitz's office.

Borough President's Office – Ms. Ann Marie Adamson

Ms. Adamson announced that the Borough President's office is in the process of appointing new members and reappointing current members to the Board. Current members should have received their reappointment applications in the mail and if not, should contact her immediately. As for those interested in becoming members, it is critical that applicants have a vested interest in the community and want to help better the conditions of the area. Committed individuals are needed as it is a requirement to attend monthly general and committee meetings. For more information, visit the Borough President's website at www.brooklyn-usa.org.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Adamson for her report and asked for an update on two reconstruction projects within the District from the Dept. of Design and Construction.

Dept. of Design and Construction – Ms. Maria Centeno, Office of Community Outreach and Communication

Ms. Centeno introduced Project No. HWKC1019, an \$18 million reconstruction project for Eastern Parkway from Washington Avenue to Grand Army Plaza. Work to be performed during the project include roadway reconstruction, distribution of water mains, catch basins, curbs, sidewalks, pedestrian walkways and bike lanes, street lighting and tree planting. In essence the objective is to make this particular stretch of Eastern Parkway resemble the eastern portion of the

parkway. Working hours are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. DDC has planned this construction to occur in stages to minimize disruption and inconvenience to residents, pedestrians, and drivers. Some restrictions will be necessary to complete the work.

Please take note of the following:

- * Street Access Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times
- * Vehicular access may need to be temporarily restricted, generally during work hours.
- * Signs will be posted informing residents of necessary street closures and/or limited access.
- * Parking may be temporarily restricted where necessary to allow construction to proceed. Signs will be posted indicating the temporary restrictions.
- * Driveway access may be temporarily restricted in order to perform certain work.
- * Some bus stops and/or bus routes may be moved or changed during the course of this construction. Signs and directions will be posted showing the new stops and/or routes.

Prior notification of the above restrictions from the project staff will be issued well in advance so that preparations for alternatives can be made. Individuals with special needs who may be uniquely impacted by this project should contact the project's Resident Engineer, Community/Business Liaison, or Engineer-In-Charge as soon as possible, to make them aware of your situation. DDC will work with you to attempt to minimize the inconvenience as much as possible. The Community Liaison for this project is Mr. Scott Payne, and he can be reached at 347-457-5362 or via email at easternparkwayccl@gmail.com. Use the project number when calling for easier access to project details. The district site office is located at 250 Flatbush Avenue.

Responding to a slew of resident concerns, Ms. Centeno assured those present that the project was necessary to make this area of Eastern Parkway safer for all users. Community impacts will be minimized. There are holiday embargos in place to further minimize the impact on the community from November thru January and for Labor Day. Also, rodent measures will be enacted to limit the influx of rodents in residences along Eastern Parkway and the surrounding side streets.

Prior to sidewalk installation, the NYC Department of Transportation will inspect every sidewalk. If a violation exists, a sidewalk violation notice will be issued to the owner. Included with this violation notice will be a Preliminary Inspection Report (PIR) indicating the square footage the owner will be assessed for. The sidewalk will be installed in no less than 45 days. During this 45-day period, the owner may request a re-inspection by DOT that may result in a revised PIR. When the sidewalk is installed DDC will notify the NYC Department of Finance to assess the owner for the work completed in accordance with the final PIR. For more details, please contact our Community Construction Liaison or visit the NYC DOT website at www.nyc.gov/dot.

Under the terms of the contract, the Contractor is responsible for the repair of any proven property damage and restoration of the construction area, including sidewalks and curbs, to at least the condition that existed prior to the start of construction. As a protection for the City of New York and the property owners along the route of the construction, preconstruction pictures are taken. The contract requires the Contractor to maintain property damage and liability

insurance coverage until the completion of all work. You are advised to inform the Contractor and the Resident Engineer in the first instance of any property damage you may have, and if the Contractor fails to respond within 10 days, you should inform the DDC Borough Director in writing. If you believe the city is responsible, or if you wish to file a claim with the city, you must do so within 90 days of the occurrence with the New York City Comptroller's Office. For information please contact the Construction Community Liaison or Resident Engineer.

During the course of this project, you may experience water service disruptions. Water may be discolored by sediment that has built up in the older pipes, including the service connection to the internal pipes in your own building. Even if no construction is performed in front of your building the process of shutting down the old pipes can result in discoloration. If this occurs, run **ONLY COLD WATER** until it appears clear. If it is necessary to turn off your water service, you will receive written notice informing you by the afternoon of the day before the service interruption. DDC suggests that you store drinking water to have available in your home or business for the period that water service is suspended. Water service is always restored at the end of the workday. Be sure to turn off any open valves or faucets to prevent flooding when water service is restored.

Dr. Monderson stated that this project is 15-20 years late in occurring and asked if any enhancements would be done to the other portion of Eastern Parkway so that it doesn't look archaic compared to the area being reconstructed presently. He was informed that no such enhancements are planned at this time.

A resident asked whether or not the new bike lane would interfere with the service road. He was informed that the bike lane would be in the middle of the parkway on the median, which would be a total of 30 feet wide. The new median would mirror the median on the eastern portion of the district, where the bike lane and walk way is a shared space.

Ms. Wedderburn asked if subway station access would be interrupted and was informed that an MTA inspector will always be on site. The station entrance will remain open at all times. Ms. Maddox asked if water testing would be completed to assure quality water to the residents in the area. She was informed that testing would be done, but it is highly recommended that residents let their taps run for a little while until the water becomes clear.

The start date for the project will be early March and should be completed by fall of 2012. Tests and soil sampling will begin shortly.

DDC is also working on another project in the district that will occur roughly simultaneously with the Eastern Parkway reconstruction. This project, Atlantic Avenue Infrastructure Reconstruction from Classon Avenue to Carlton Avenue, will entail water main replacement. Again, the majority of the work will be done in the evening hours to minimize the community impact. There will, however, be work done on the side streets during the day. During this time, left turns will be restricted. An NYPD traffic agent will be on hand to conduct traffic flow.

Ms. Kamala Questo is the Community Construction Liaison for the project and can be reached at 718-789-1464 or via email at atlanticavenuccl@gmail.com. The local office is located at 936 Fulton Street. Refer to project ID number BED778 when contacting the community construction liaison's office.

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- Parking may be temporarily restricted where necessary to allow construction to proceed.
Signs will be posted indicating the temporary restrictions.
- Driveway access may be temporarily restricted in order to perform certain work.
- Public Transportation - Some bus stops and/or bus routes may be moved or changed during the course of this construction. Signs and directions will be posted showing the new stops and/or routes.

Advance notification of the above restrictions from the project staff will be given. Individuals with special needs who may be uniquely impacted by this project should contact the project's Resident Engineer, Community/Business Liaison, or Engineer-In-Charge as soon as possible, to make them aware of your situation. DDC will work with you to attempt to minimize the inconvenience as much as possible.

Mr. Atkins noted that the two projects, the Eastern Parkway renovations and Atlantic Avenue infrastructure, will occur simultaneously. He also stated that there are already traffic back-ups on Atlantic Avenue due to the Atlantic Yards development project. The conditions will be worse now that the other major east-west roadway will be shut down for a few blocks at key intersections. He asked why the projects would be occurring simultaneously and was informed that since most of the work to be completed would be completed at night, the impact on traffic should be minimized. The projects were coordinated with the Dept. of Transportation who takes all the different variables into consideration. These variables are the reason for the work hours restrictions. Traffic regulations will also be monitored to make sure they work and if not, will be restructured.

Mr. Suggs asked if DDC is being proactive in reaching out to the people who are dependent on water service to ensure that they are minimally affected. He was informed that DDC does an advance survey to find the best time for water shut-offs. He also asked if DDC is planning with other utility companies to move their resources. He was informed that alignment meetings were held with utility companies prior to the project. The ideal situation is to have utility companies relocate their things before work begins to eliminate interference.

Mr. Veconi asked if there was a relationship between this project and the Atlantic Avenue development project. He was informed that there is no relationship between the two projects as this project is 15-20 years in the making. Furthermore, this project provides ample opportunity for utility companies to upgrade their equipment.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Centeno for her information and asked for a report from SUNY Downstate.

SUNY Downstate Medical Center – Ms. Sandra McDonald

Ms. McDonald announced that SUNY Downstate offers free cancer screening services. The program is funded by NYS Dept. of Health and offers cancer screenings for uninsured adults. Women ages 40 and above with no health insurance will receive free clinical breast examinations and mammograms as well as a pap smear and pelvic exam. Women and men ages 50 and above

with no health insurance will receive a take-home colon cancer test. Diagnostic tests are performed if the screenings come back abnormal. These services are offered regardless of immigration status.

Dr. Bryan asked if prostate cancer screenings are offered. She was informed that they are not, but referrals are offered.

To schedule your free exam, or to obtain more information, contact the Central Brooklyn Cancer Services Program at 718-780-1948.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. McDonald for her information and asked for a report from the following committees:

Aging/Health & Human Services – Ms. Marlene Saunders, Chair

The Aging/Health & Human Services committee met on Monday, February 7, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. In absence of the Chair, Dr. Flize Bryan, Co-Chair, chaired the meeting. In addition to Dr. Bryan, other members present were Robert Puca, Adelaide Miller, Julia Boyd, Patricia Scantlebury, Serena Mulhern, Jackie Kennedy, and Naomi Beigg.

The committee discussed changes in healthcare and the benefit of the new health plans. In addition, Ms. Jackie Kennedy and Naomi Beigg of CNR spoke regarding their adult day care centers.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 7, 2011 at 5:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Economic Development – Ms. Priscilla Maddox and Ms. Atim Oton, Co-Chairs

The Economic Development committee met on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. In addition to the Chair Priscilla Maddox, present were Renaye Cuyler, Diana Foster, Fred Frazier, Atim Oton, Alton Pierce, Desmond Atkins, Ethel Tyus, Elaine Mahoney, Laurel Djoukeng, Al Taylor, Rebecca Ramirez, Melina Bernardine and Michelle George. The committee discussed the following new liquor license applications:

1. The proprietor for Nam & Sun Organic Corp., d/b/a Pine Tree, located at 744 Franklin Avenue (Sterling/St. John's Places) made a favorable presentation for his restaurant/grocery store that is seeking a beer and wine license. Pine Tree can seat ten patrons and will operate Sunday thru Thursday from 7 AM to Midnight and Friday and Saturday from 7 AM to 2 AM, serving Korean cuisine. There will be 10 surveillance cameras throughout the store that will employ 10—2 full time employees with 8 part timers. There were no police objections to the site and the full Board voted to support the application with 28 members in favor, 1 opposed, with 3 abstentions.
2. The proprietor of Cass West Indian & American Restaurant located at 135 Kingston Avenue (Bergen/St. Marks) made a favorable presentation for his restaurant that has been in operation for over 10 years. The restaurant previously held a beer license that had lapsed in 2007. Mr. Castle, owner of the restaurant, is currently seeking a liquor license

for his establishment that can seat 30 patrons and will operate from 7 AM to 11 PM Monday thru Saturday and will be closed Sunday. Mr. Castle presented the committee with a petition and five letters of support for his establishment. There were no police reports of incidents occurring within the restaurant and the full Board voted to support the application with a final tally of 28 in favor, 3 opposed, with 1 abstention.

The committee also heard a presentation on the following renewal applications:

1. Basil LLC, 268 Kingston Avenue (Lincoln/Eastern Parkway)
2. Amorina Cucina Rustica, 624 Vanderbilt Avenue (Park/Prospect)
3. Aliseo Cucina Picena, 665 Vanderbilt Avenue (Park/Prospect)
4. Imperial Biker M/C Club, 652 Franklin Avenue (corner St. Marks)
5. Chavella's, 732 Classon Avenue (corner Park)
6. Crown Heights Supper Club, 1082 St. John's Place (Brooklyn/Kingston)
7. Latino Sports Club Inc., 665 Franklin Avenue (St. Marks/Prospect)
8. Secrets, 724 Nostrand Avenue (Park/Prospect Place)

There were no police objections to either of the renewal applications and the full Board voted to support each one with a final tally of 26 in favor, 2 opposed, with 1 abstention.

Finally, the committee discussed "The Palace Hall" located at 713 Nostrand Avenue (Park/Sterling Places), who is seeking an updated letter from the Board to approve their liquor license request. The proprietors of Palace Hall first met before the committee in November of 2009 and was approved. Mr. Al Taylor, owner and proprietor, and his son, Mr. Quincy Taylor, have both been active in the community as both men are now members of the Economic Development Committee and attend committee and Community Board meetings regularly.

The 77th Precinct did not issue a negative report against the establishment but still remains hesitant to support the application based on the sheer size of the venue, which, when at full capacity, can hold 680 patrons between its two floors. However, Mr. Taylor has retained the services of 25 licensed NYS security officers to provide extended security for the site when operating at full capacity. A resident asked if parking is available for patrons and was informed by Mr. Taylor that there is a parking facility on Sterling Place and Nostrand Avenue and that the Palace Hall could possibly work with them for patron parking. Another resident expressed concern over the capacity and was informed that the odds of the establishment ever reaching full capacity is extremely slim. Ms. Cuyler, in response to other queries regarding time of operation and type of events, reiterated that the Palace Hall is a catering hall, not a club, so many of the concerns are invalid. The full Board voted to support sending an updated letter with 27 members in favor, 1 opposed, with 4 abstentions.

The next meeting of the Economic Development committee will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

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

The Education Committee met on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. In addition to the chair Sharon Wedderburn, present were Kwasi Mensah, Princess Benn-James, Melina Bernardine, Kate Cushing, and Audrey Taitt-Hall. The issue of the

highly publicized and contentious phase-out plan for M.S. 571 was at the centerpiece of this meeting. What was set to befall M.S. 571, seems to be part of a pattern of what the committee would term as planned obsolescence, where schools in the black community, given relatively short notice, are penalized for low test performance, thus justifying their elimination and replacement by charter schools. Paul Robeson High School was also on the “hit list”. At the time of our meeting, the Department of Education was scheduled to vote on the phasing out.

The committee had a surprise guest, Kate Cushing of Brooklyn East Collegiate, ironically, the charter school that would inhabit the premises now occupied by M.S. 571. The committee learned from Ms. Cushing, is that the school, located on 1485 Pacific Street, had applied for residency in school District 23, but a lawsuit prevented this. With that denial, they petitioned placement in District 17. Ms. Cushing gave each attendee a copy of their *Middle School Application for the 2011-2012 School Year*, which lists all six of the Uncommon Schools, including *Brooklyn East*.

After Miss Cushing left, the committee reviewed the remaining meetings, rallies and last-minute efforts to save the schools slated for elimination. Disappointment that no one from M.S. 571 was present was expressed, even though a public invitation was extended at a meeting just the previous week, at the school. The principal had notified the committee, that due to a previous commitment, she wouldn’t be able to attend.

Ms. Wedderburn stated that the Dept. of Education creates conditions where schools are allowed to fail, and we, the community, must not stand for it. What is being overlooked is that the schools are failing for some reason and we need to address falling standards.

Ms. Bernardine asked what the committee has done or is doing to help young people and parents in the community. She stated that it might be prudent to invite the superintendents to make a presentation before the Board regarding his/her plans to address failing schools in their respective school Districts. Ms. Tyus also stated that we need to ensure that every child has his/her school books when school begins, not weeks and months later. This simple action may help a lot of students.

Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries stated that in addition to attending the Education Committee, maybe the Community Board and elected officials should put together a town hall meeting about what actions the community needs to take to prevent school closures in the District. Mayoral control is out of control and not working. He stated that he introduced a bill to put a moratorium in place to prevent school closures for at least one year from the date of the bill’s enactment as there is no evidence that closures have the desired impact.

He called upon the community to join him in a “citizens arrest” of the new school’s chancellor on the steps of the Tweed Building in lower Manhattan. For more information, call his office at 718-596-0100.

The next meeting of the Education Committee will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Environment/Sanitation – Ms. Ede Fox and Ms. Helen Coley, Co-Chairs

The Environment/Sanitation Committee met on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. Ms. Fox thanked everyone that submitted testimony for the blizzard hearing and hoped that the testimony provided would have the desired impact. There is still a lot of garbage around the community from the two snowstorms. She advised everyone to call in locations that where the garbage has not been collected to the Community Board office.

The next meeting of the Environment/Sanitation committee will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Fire/Safety – Mr. Robert Witherwax, Chair

The Fire/Safety Committee did not meet in the month of January. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Housing/ULURP Committee – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Housing/ULURP Committee met on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. In the absence of the Chair, Ms. Ethel Tyus, Co-Chair, chaired the meeting. Present were Sabrina Godfrey, Jane Kim, Alexander Hall, Robert King, Veronica Gallardo, Frampton Tolbert, Andrea Hornett-Robinson, Sheyla Bonnet, Desmond Atkins, and Fred Frazier.

The committee heard a presentation from architect Jane Kim on behalf of Milk Bar located at 620 Vanderbilt Avenue, who is seeking a letter of no objection from the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Ms. Kim presented a proposal that seeks to replace the two-panel fixed windows with four-panel sliding windows; and replace the fixed awning with a retractable awning which will not have signage.

The owners explained that the cosmetic work they are planning does not require Department of Buildings approval because a certificate of no effect on protected architectural features (CNE) is issued when the proposed work requires a Buildings Department permit but does not affect the significant, protected architectural features of a designated building. For example, the LPC staff may issue a CNE for projects requiring alterations to an undesignated interior or to non-significant features of a rear wall.

The architect was asked to provide the Community Board office with a digital copy of the complete application including the letters of support from neighboring property owners. The Housing Committee concluded that the work will not affect the significant, protected architectural features of this designated building. The full Board voted to support the Landmarks Preservation Commission issuing a Letter of No Objection with a final tally of 32 members in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

The next meeting of the Housing/ULURP Committee will be Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Parks Committee – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at the St. John's Recreation Center. The committee discussed their upcoming Community Awareness Day in June. More community organizations are needed, so if anyone knows of an organization, please give them the contact information. Registration forms are available at the Community Board office.

Mr. Hamilton issued a complaint regarding the conditions at the St. John's Recreation Center, citing no heat in the pool area and other issues, including staffing levels. He stated that these conditions are not present at other centers. Ms. Andrews informed him that the issues were brought to the Director's attention for immediate action.

The next meeting of the Parks Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 6 PM at the St. John's Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Police Committee – Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chair

The Police Committee met on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at the 77th Precinct. The committee met with District Attorney Hynes and the 77th Precinct. Ms. Langhorne admonished those present to report crimes because if it is not reported, it did not happen.

She announced the Family Fun Night presented by Taylor-Made Productions, Inc., Ralph Lincoln Service Center, Inc. NYPD Youth Service Section, 77th Precinct, Community Board 8, Brooklyn Clergy-NYPD Task Force and 77th Precinct Community Council on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at MS 394. Family and Fun Night is for students in grades 5-8 and their families. The theme is "Overcome your Obstacles." Both parents and participants will learn how to overcome the obstacles in your life that may be holding your back. Family Fun Night will be held at MS 394 located at 188 Rochester Ave from 5:30 PM-8:30 PM. For more information contact 718-604-1358 or email at ralphlincolnservice@gmail.com.

Ms. Langhorne also announced the upcoming Economic Empowerment Forum on Thursday, March 17, 2011 presented by Optimum Capital Management, LLC and Ralph Lincoln Service Center, Inc. This forum is to educate people of all income levels about fiscal responsibility and to raise funds to support community programs that will provide services and create employment opportunities for community residents.

This Economic Empowerment Forum includes Keynote Speaker Ryan Mack, Author of "Living in the Village." In addition, the panelists include Andrew Morrison, Jullien Gordon, Manyell Akinfe and Darnell Canada. Ralph Lincoln Service Center, Inc. is co-sponsoring this event to raise funds to support community and youth programs. Your contributions to help support these programs are greatly appreciated. The event is free and open to the public and will be held at Calvary Community Church, located at 1575 St. John's Place (corner of Buffalo Ave) from 6:00 p.m.-9:00p.m. For more information call 718-604-1358 or email ralphlincolnservice@gmail.com.

The next meeting of the Police Committee will be held on Monday, February 21, 2011 at 7 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Transportation Committee – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at the Haitian American Day Care Center located at 1491 Bedford Avenue. In addition to the Chair Dr. Fred Monderson, present were Xeerxeema Jordan, Meredith Staton, Larry Dorsey, Diana Foster, Jeff Sherman, Zachary Kussin, Noel Reerder, Carmen Monderson, Jacqueline Wells, Angie Chait-Haby, Daniel Garwood, Sean Quinn, Randy Wade, Alfred Chiodo, Malika Simmons, Angela Moses, Joshua Benson, Ronda Messer, Holly Fuchs, Greg Todd and Michelle George. The committee discussed the following items:

1. The committee heard a presentation from Mr. Jeff Sherman speaking on behalf of the P-Street Block Association (Pacific Street Block Assn), who raised safety concerns regarding the unsafe conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Atlantic Avenue. He presented a petition of over 300 signatures regarding the P-Street Block Associations suggestions for DOT to consider improving the safety at Atlantic Avenue. Representatives from the Dept. of Transportation considered the suggestions and presented a proposal for the intersection that includes the following safety plans: 1) expanding Lowry Triangle Park and Greenstreets Island; 2) add neckdowns where feasible (Neckdowns are horizontal speed control measures used at intersections. They are Curb extensions at intersections that reduce the roadway width and tighten the curb radii at the corner. This provides a shorter distance for pedestrians to cross and reduces the speed of turning vehicles. Neckdowns are usually constructed as an extension of the curb, sidewalk, and planting strip.); 3) restrict eastbound left turns from Atlantic Avenue to Washington Avenue and replace the turn bay with Treed Median; 4) extend the Median in the East crosswalk and 5) installing bollards at the ends of the medians, to protect pedestrians caught mid-avenue.

DOT is also seeking to improve the safety of pedestrians at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Park Place (where the 77th precinct Annex building currently stands) by 1) adding a crosswalk refuge (presently, there is no place for pedestrians to either stand or cross safely); and 2) constructing an island in the south crosswalk.

Additional changes to Washington Avenue between Atlantic and Eastern Parkway have been proposed by DOT; however, the item was tabled pending further community notification and approval.

The full Board voted to approve the changes to the intersections of Atlantic Avenue at Washington Avenue and Park Place at Grand Avenue with a final tally of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

2. At the October Transportation Meeting, the committee heard a presentation from Reverend Figueroa from New Life Tabernacle Church to move the B49 bus stop from the NW corner of Bedford Av to the SW corner of Bedford and Sterling Place. Rev. Figueroa stated that the bus stop in its current location causes discord between church members, food pantry recipients, and bus stop riders. The committee approved the move based on the contingency that Reverend Figueroa provides a petition condoning the move by community residents. Councilwoman Letitia James supports the move.

The petition was received at the January 2011 Transportation committee meeting and the full Board voted to support relocation of the B49 bus stop from its current location on the NW corner of Bedford Avenue at Sterling Place to the SW corner of Bedford Avenue at Sterling Place with a final tally of 34 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

3. Evelyn Car Service, located at 587 Vanderbilt Avenue (between Dean and Bergen Streets) has applied for a base license renewal. The full Board voted to support the application with a final tally of 34 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Youth/Family Services – Ms. Akosua Albritton, Chair

The Youth Committee did not meet in the month of February due to the inclement weather. However, the chair announced that there was a press conference earlier in the day at Alonzo Daughtry #3 Day Care Center regarding 9 day care center closings throughout the borough. She also announced that Senator Velmanette Montgomery will be holding a press conference regarding juvenile justice reform as \$237 thousand per bed is spent annually on juvenile detainment compared to just \$39 thousand annually for education at Columbia University. The press conference will address this glaring issue.

The next meeting of the Youth/Family Services Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the Committees for their reports and opened the floor for Public Comments.

Mr. Eric Stern, a senior at Princeton University stated that he is doing his thesis on land use applications. He asked those present to complete a brief paper survey on Community Boards.

Mr. Kwasi Mensah announced that National Action Network is honoring scholars on February 12th at 4 PM. It is a method of acknowledging the hard work of students rather than focusing the attention on failing students.

Mr. Christopher Robinson of Robinson-Rose announced that free financial workshops are available for community organizations. Call 212-249-3715 or visit robinsonrose.com for more information or to schedule a workshop.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 10:15 PM. The next meeting of Community Board No. 8 will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Hebron 7th Day Adventist Church located at 1256 Dean Street, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

Guests

Jane Kim
Alan Mass
Jeff Sherman
A. Meyer
Gene Broadus
Greg Skorongwu
Eunkyun Sun
Laura Jaffe
Kristine Brown
Schavez
Ann Palomino
James F.
Sandra M.
Lydia Freeman
K. Harmon
Colin Simmons
V. James
Kevin Hamilton
Paul Blanchett
Sharon P.
Yvonne Ward
Nicholas Francis
M. Edwards
Rebecca Ramirez
Richard Miller
Jonathan Molofsky
Edison Stewart
Naomi Safron-Hon
Lucy Kohlen
A. Andrews
Willard Hawkins
Le Ann Banks

Eric Stern
Dawnette Vacianne
H. Castle
Anna Bengel
Joshua Green
Elaine M.
J. Wod
Marie Quick
Sabrina Gofrey
Malika Simmons
Caroline Nagy
S. Jones
Sheree R.
Courtney T.
Cordell Tutein
Cary Coulthurst
Denise Lipscomb
Christopher Robinson
N. Stephens
Quincy Taylor
Al Taylor
P. Pinnock
Y. Ross
Vanessa Babb
Gail Smith
Madeline Holmes
Deborah Young
Sheila Collins
Donna Louis
Elder D. White

Asantaa Hayslett
Thomas Campbell
Gwen Sumpter
Meeka B.
Barbara B.
Geraldine M.
R. Praddy
Veronica Praddy
Veronica Ramsay
Cecile Lindsay
Sakeena Abolarin
Jennifer Martin
Shirley Mondesir
Wilma Ferebee
J. Luis
K. Bayers
Irene B.
Denise Sklar
Cindy Modak
Letesha Palmer-Bansie
Curtis Harris
Vanessa Kelly-Brandy
Camille Guerly
Wedson Jn Francis
Laura Welder
David Watts
Corrine Bethune
Victoria Sottlie
Joseph Conca
Dorothy Bembry-Guet