

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

June 10, 2010

Members Present

Kim Albert
Akosua Albritton
Dr. Adele Allen
Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Edo Banach
Viola Bing
Julia Boyd
Dr. Flize Bryan
Teri Coaxum
Renaye Cuyler
Diana Foster
Ede Fox
Fred Frazier
Nizjoni Granville
Doris Heriveaux
Princess Benn James
Shalawn Langhorne
Shirley Lee
Marie Louis
Priscilla Maddox
Robert Matthews
Adelaide Miller
Dr. Fred Monderson
Atim Oton
Mary Reed
Marlene Saunders
Patricia Scantlebury
Meredith Staton
William Suggs
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Launa Thomas-Bullock
Yves Vilus
Sharon Wedderburn
Robert Witherwax
Vilma Zuniga

Members Excused

Helen Coley
Xeexxeema Jordan
Clarine Miller
Gregory Todd

Members Absent

Gail Branch-Muhammad
Dawn Brown
Jesse E. Hamilton
Jamell Henderson
Kwasi Mensah
Alton Pierce
Angelina Pinto
Hasoni Pratts
Robert Puca
Ethel Tyus

Elected Official's Reps.

Sarana Derameaux, Assemblyman Camara
Alfred A. Chiodo, Councilwoman James
Anna Lipkind, Councilwoman Mealy
Ron Thomas, Councilwoman Clark

Elected Officials Present

Senator Velmanette Montgomery
Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries

CB Staff Present

Michelle George
Valerie Hodges-Mitchell

Liaisons Present

Captain Capocci, 77th Precinct
Officer Pierre-Louis, 77th Precinct

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 7:30 PM by Nizjoni Granville, Chair.

Acceptance of Minutes – The minutes of the last Community Board meeting were accepted as written.

Correspondence – CB 8 newsletter and other material were distributed.

Ms. Granville welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting of Community Board 8. She invited Ms. Jackie Kennedy-Saddler from The Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation (CNR) to say a few words.

Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation – Ms. Jackie Kennedy-Saddler, Corporate Director of Community and Government Affairs

Ms. Kennedy-Saddler welcomed everyone to the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation and thanked the board for allowing her an opportunity to share information regarding the amputee services. She stated that she brought along Ms. Janet Persaud, Director of Rehabilitation Services.

Ms. Persaud stated that the CNR family is continuously analyzing ways to better service the community. They recently analyzed the population in terms of health care and discovered that Brooklyn has the highest prevalence of amputations within the five boroughs. This large amount is due in part to diabetes.

To better serve amputee patients, this program utilizes state of the art equipment and an amputee support group that was established in April 2010. The amputee support group works with cardiac, stroke and orthopedic patients. This program includes: virtual rehab (patients receive physical and occupational therapy by participating in video games that simulate activities such as race-car driving, drum tapping, or bursting balloons). So far this program has been very successful. For more information about this program, please call her at 718-636-1000.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Kennedy-Saddler and Ms. Persaud for the information. She introduced the new Commanding Officer of the 77th Precinct, Captain Elvio Capocci.

77th Precinct- Captain Elvio Capocci, Commanding Officer

Captain Capocci stated that he has been the commanding officer for about one month. He has been making his rounds and meeting with the residents of the district. He gave a brief history on about his career with the NYPD. He stated that he will be working closely with the community because they are the eyes and ears of the neighborhood. Together they can make the 77th Precinct a safer place. After a brief question and answer period. He stated that he will be available to the community if there are any questions, concerns or complaints, please call the Community Affairs office at 718-735-0634.

Ms. Granville thanked Captain Capocci and welcomed the following new members to the Board **Dr. Adele Allen, Desmond Atkins, Dawn A. Brown, Jamell Henderson, Alton Pierce and Angelina Pinto.**

Ms. Granville asked Ms. Pam Green, Executive Director of Weeksville Heritage Center to give an update on the construction project.

Weeksville Heritage Center – Pam Green, Executive Director

Ms. Green stated that the construction of the new building is underway and scheduled for completion in June 2011. In October 2009 Weeksville broke ground for their new 19,000 square foot Education and Cultural Arts Building. With this new building comes an unprecedented opportunity for expanded research, education and programming. The new building will ensure Weeksville Heritage Center's place as one of the most important African American cultural institutions locally and globally.

They plan to have hard hat tours and invite the community to the site to witness the construction first hand. As soon as the schedule is set up she will notify Community Board.

Ms. Green stated that Weeksville will be open for tours of the Museum Tuesdays through Fridays at 1pm, 2pm and 3pm. Tours are still free to those residents of the 11233 and 11213 zip codes.

The Weeksville Farmers Market begins on June 19th and continues every Saturday through October 30th. Market hours have been extended this year to 9am - 4pm.

Weeksville will also be hosting a Garden Party with music, food and film festival every Saturday in July.

On August 7, 2010 Weeksville will be celebrating their 29th annual Family Day Festival from 12pm - 5pm Free! An outdoor celebration with vaudeville inspired steam punk styled art and activities for families. There will be appearances by homegrown kid rock bands, open air art workshops, face painting, horseback rides with The Black Cowboys Federation, a steam punk photo booth and MORE!

For more information on tours and events please see their website - www.weeksvillesociety.org or call 718-756-5250.

Mr. Staton asked if there will be space available for community use. Ms. Green replied yes there will be space available for the Community Board as well as other community groups.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Green for the information and Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, 1st Vice Chair to read a resolution that Councilwoman James requested Community Board 8 adopt. The resolution urges the Mayor to restore the cuts to essential services and social programs and it identifies how critically important these services are to all New Yorkers. Ms. Granville made a motion to the full board to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a vote of 31 in favor, 1 abstention and none against.

She then asked for the following committee reports:

Aging/Health – Marlene Saunders, Chair

The Aging/Health Committee met on Monday, June 7, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Saunders stated that the Aging/Health Committee did not have any action items this month however, she advised men to get tested for testicular cancer. Testicular cancer occurs in the testicles (testes), which are located inside the scrotum, a loose bag of skin underneath the penis. The testicles produce male sex hormones and sperm for reproduction.

Compared with other types of cancer, testicular cancer is rare. But testicular cancer is the most common cancer in American males between the ages of 15 and 34.

Testicular cancer is highly treatable, even when cancer has spread beyond the testicle. Depending on the type and stage of testicular cancer, you may receive one of several treatments, or a combination. Regular testicular self-examinations can help identify growths early, when the chance for successful treatment of testicular cancer is highest.

The Committee heard a presentation from Mr. Ely Fontanez, Senior Director for Outpatient Services at Phoenix House. He stated that recently they were awarded a grant from Oasis to initiate a Recovery Center in Central Brooklyn. He explained that a Recovery Center is NOT a treatment center or another program for chemical dependency. It is a place where people that are already in recovery and their families can go to access recovery oriented services. It will be a place where members of the community looking for intervention services go to access resources. Currently, they have a center in the Bronx and it has become an invaluable resource for the community. Further, he stated that he believes this center will be a great help for the Central Brooklyn community and create a stabilizing presence for members of the community already in recovery.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Fontanez for the information and asked if they had a location in Central Brooklyn for their program. Mr. Fontanez stated that they are in the process of securing a site. He stated that he is visiting all the community boards in central Brooklyn to let them know that these services will be available.

Economic Development – Priscilla Maddox, Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue at 6:30 p.m. The committee discussed the following renewal applications.

1. BP Gas Station aka RYM Stations Bedford Inc., 1525 Bedford Avenue (Eastern Parkway)
2. Zaytoons (formerly known as Puebla Cocina Mexicana), 594 Vanderbilt Avenue (Bergen/St. Marks)
3. Kacee's Place, 259 Troy Avenue (Lincoln/St. John's Pl)
4. Soda Bar, 629 Vanderbilt Avenue corner St. Marks Avenue

The committee voted 7 in favor none against and no abstentions. The committee hopes the full board will do the same. Please note that the 1st item was tabled. The full board voted 29 in favor, 2 abstentions and 1 against.

Ms. Maddox also reported that the Economic Development committee is looking to develop a sub-committee that will focus on jobs and training programs. More information will be given at a later date.

Education – Sharon Wedderburn, Chair

Ms. Wedderburn announced that the next meeting of the Education Committee will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

With summer approaching she reminded parents to remember to nurture their child's skills over the summer. Studies have shown that children who continue reading during the summer raise their academic skills, test scores, grades once they return to school in the fall. Summer enrichment also helps build self-confidence and student motivation. She advised parents to take advantage of the Brooklyn Public Library and the programs offered at the Brooklyn Children's Museum.

She also stated that one of the 1st things the committee plans to do is invite the Parent Coordinators and PTA presidents to the Education Committee meetings. It is the hope of the committee that forging a relationship with the coordinators and presidents will create real change for the children of school districts 13, 16 and 17. She wished everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Fire/Safety – Douglas Williams, Chair

Mr. Williams announced that this will be his last meeting as a member of Community Board 8. Although he has business in Community Board 8, he lives in Community Board 3 on the border near CB8. He was appointed to CB8 by Councilwoman Darlene Mealy. As of this board session, June 2010, he is being reassigned to Community Board 3. By mutual understanding of CB3 and CB8, Doug Williams will continue as Chair of Community Board 8 Fire Committee until a new chair is appointed.

The committee discussed the upcoming FDNY BUDGET CUTS. Fire Commissioner Salvatore Cassano told the City Council on Friday June 4th that the FDNY may be forced to close 20 fire companies by September to save \$37 million. Each department is being required to provide spending cuts to the Mayor to close budget gaps caused by the economic downturn and reduction of tax income.

They also discussed the following FDNY announcements:

- a. The FDNY is scheduled to unveil a \$27 million fireboat this month. It is reported as the ‘world’s most technically advanced fireboat,’ and it will be used for port fires and to fight counterterrorism at the ports.
- b. At the Wednesday June 2nd FDNY Medal Day ceremonies, FDNY Lt. Gregory Prial was honored for saving the life of a nurse, trapped in her apartment on 108th Street before dawn on March 3rd, 2009. The 29year FDNY veteran had previously been honored at the 2006 Medal Day ceremonies for saving two children from a burning apartment.
- c. The City Council’s Fire Committee, Elizabeth Crowley Chair, introduced a local law forcing the FDNY to measure response times not from the arrival of the first official car, but from the arrival of the ladders and engines only, or the first ambulance unit. This is a big improvement over past practice. The law is to take effect 90 days after enactment. There is as yet no final action, to our knowledge.
- d. A FDNY hearing on closing down the street based fire alarm boxes (red lights on the light pole above signal the position of a street based fire alarm box) was scheduled for Tuesday June 1, 10am, City Council Chambers. Public testimony is scheduled for June 4 and June 11. Discussion: The network of alarm boxes is sophisticated and well maintained; apparently it worked even when the City suffered blackouts (and landline phones went dead and cells gradually lost their charge). Those who give testimony can report it at the next meeting.
- e. The street firebox network devices have an independent electrical supply that is tied to firehouse alarms, and the devices have led wiring. To remove them would be, we understand, a HAZMAT abatement cost. These devices can talk to the citizens during an emergency, with some kind of a loud speaker ability we believe. Josefina Sanfeliu recommended we invite Dispatchers Assn President David Rosenweig to one of our meetings.

Ms. Granville stated that she was sad to learn of the Borough President’s decision to remove Mr. Williams. From the day he was appointed to CB8 he was willing to work hard and offer his services where ever needed. She and Ms. Fuchs felt that he was a perfect fit for the Fire/Safety Committee because he brought along a wealth of knowledge regarding fire safety. She wished Mr. Williams success in his future endeavors and stated that Community Boards need more people like Mr. Williams who are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty.

She then gave the report for the Housing Committee.

Housing/ULURP – Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Housing/ULURP Committee met on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at 6:30 p.m. The committee discussed the following items:

Car Sharing Zoning Text Amendment

At the request of the District Manager Michelle George two representatives from City Planning, Winston Von Engle and Sanmati Naik attended the meeting to answer questions regarding the Car Share Text Amendment (the Department's proposal for a Citywide Zoning Text Amendment to establish clear rules to allow car sharing vehicles to park in public and accessory parking facilities within appropriate limitations based on use and zoning district).

City Planning supports car sharing as studies indicate that the practice leads people to own fewer cars. In addition to the distribution of a two-page handout that their Department had prepared, Mr. Von Engle gave us some historical perspective when he explained that car sharing has become popular during the last decade and that it was unheard-of when our city zoning was established in 1961. (New York City is the largest car sharing market in the country.) Zipcar facilities already exist in Prospect Heights.

Two members of the committee currently belong to car sharing organizations. Several members of the committee expressed concern that car sharing might actually increase the amount of traffic in an area along with the total number of car trips. Ms. Naik and Mr. Von Engle did not agree but could not cite any actual research that has been done in that regard.

Concern was also expressed about the developer's discretion with regard to how the 1700-space lot in Atlantic Yards footprint (Block 1129) will be used. The committee voted 13 in favor with 9 abstentions to support the Zoning Text Amendment and hopes the full board will do the same. The full board voted 29 in favor, no abstentions and none against.

635 Bergen St/570 Vanderbilt Ave (The Vanderbilt Restaurant) – Removable Handicapped Ramp

Owner Julio Raveno appeared regarding support for Landmark Preservation Commission's approval of a removable handicapped ramp at his restaurant. Photos provided showed a ramp that was appropriate in style and color to the architectural style of the historic district. The committee voted 12 in favor with 10 abstentions to support the ramp installation and hopes the full board will do the same. The full board voted 30 in favor, 1 abstention and none against.

17 Eastern Parkway – Eastern Athletic Club Extension of Special Permit to Operate a Physical Culture Establishment: BSA application 914-86-BZ.

Eastern Athletic Club (EAC) owners: Mark Scarazza and his brother, the Club manager, and the Club's attorney Stuart Klein appeared to clarify the circumstances surrounding EAC's request. Mr. Klein indicated: that under the rules of the Board of Standards and Appeal (BSA), a lessee in control of the premises is permitted to represent the property owner before the BSA; that the building has a permanent certificate of occupancy issued in 1998; and that the EAC's plans for addressing the existing violations are still pending submission to BSA.

The committee was told about the plan to add a new entrance to the EAC which will be on Eastern Parkway, through the Meier building, about 65 feet from the corner. The construction of this new entrance will make it possible for the EAC to operate with longer hours. There are also plans to add two (2) new elevators which will be paid for by the developer of the adjacent Meier building. The addition of

the new elevator should make it easier for health club members to access EAC's facilities on floors 7 through 11. The committee voted 8 in favor with 1 abstention to provide a letter of support for the extension of the special permit and hopes the full board does the same. The full board voted 30 in favor, 1 abstention and none against.

162 St. Marks Ave – renovations done prior to historic district designation

Owner Peter Shubert appeared to request support for a Certificate of Appropriateness for retroactive approval of sidewalk and façade renovations done without Landmarks Preservation Commission's approval. The Committee voted 13 in favor of not providing a letter of support. The committee is to request a written statement from LPC on the nature and consequences of the three violations at issue as these violations are not described in any detail on the Department of Buildings website. The committee hopes the full board will do the same. The item was tabled.

Parks – Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, June 1, 2010 at St. John's Recreation Center, 1251 Prospect Place at 6:30 p.m.

The committee discussed their upcoming Community Awareness Day which will be co sponsored by Friends of St. John's Recreation Center and NYC Parks Department. The event will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2010 from 11-4pm. If your agency is interested in setting up a table, please contact St. John's Recreation at 718-771-2787 for more information.

Ms. Connie Lesold, a community resident reported that the Parks Department is spraying Eastern Parkway and Mount Prospect Park with unnecessary herbicides and feels that the Parks and Environmental Committees needs to do something about this.

Ms. Granville stated that the Board will contact the Parks Department for further information.

Police – Shalawn Langhorne, Chair

The Police/Public Safety Committee met on Monday, May 17, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue at 7:30 PM

This meeting was more of a community forum with the community/block association presidents and tenant association presidents and residents. The purpose of this forum was to introduce the community to the new commanding officer of the 77th Precinct, Captain Elvio Capocci.

People had an opportunity to ask questions and address any community or public safety concerns. Over 46 people attended this meeting. Representatives attended from Senator Adams, Council Member James, and Brooklyn District Attorney Hynes' offices were in attendance.

In addition, community residents had an opportunity to make suggestions on how the community can work together with the 77th precinct to help make our community safer and better.

Transportation – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at 7:00 p.m.

The Department of Transportation made a presentation regarding DOT's plans to design a bicycle facility including traffic calming treatments for Vanderbilt Avenue between Dean Street and Flushing Avenue. As a component of the Mayor's PlaNYC, DOT has concluded an unprecedented three year plan to expand New York City's on-street bicycle network by 200 miles and improve safety for cyclists on New York City streets.

The proposed bike routes will contain northbound and southbound bike facilities totaling approximately 2.5 new lane miles along Vanderbilt Avenue. The bicycle facilities would be located in each direction on Vanderbilt Avenue and extend the existing bicycle lanes on Vanderbilt Avenue between Dean Street and Grand Army Plaza through the mostly residential neighborhoods of Prospect Heights, Fort Greene and Clinton Hill connecting to Flushing Avenue.

An August 2007 bicycle traffic count showed 558 weekday riders and 872 weekend riders along Vanderbilt Avenue between Bergen Street and St. Marks Avenue in a 12 hour period (7am-7pm). These 12 hour volumes increased to 1,004 weekday riders and 1,792 weekend riders in May 2009 at the same location.

The committee supported the bicycle lanes and traffic calming improvements and hopes the full board does the same. The full board voted 24 in favor, 3 against with 5 abstentions.

Youth & Family Services - Akosua Albritton, Chair

The Youth and Family Services committee met on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at 6:30 p.m. to finalize the Men's Conference: ***Tools and Resources Men Need for 2010 and Beyond***. This year, Berean Missionary Baptist Church hosts the conference and Interfaith Medical Center, Downstate Medical Center and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office are co-sponsors.

The event is slated for Saturday, June 12, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM. Lyricist/poet Abu Muhammad and storyteller/pantomime Sista Zaraya will offer poems about manhood. Downstate's Teens Helping Each Other will perform an educational drama. The panel discussion, *What I Wish My Father Told Me* is designed to be interactive. Panelists Mark Winston Griffith, Mark Pollard, Esq., Louis Reyes Rivera and Jitu Weusi will limit themselves to ten minutes each to allow ample time for audience reaction.

Breakout session topics are *Work and Business in the Green Economy*; *Men's Health including Doctorphobia*; and *Men's Relationships with Women and Children*. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committees for their reports and asked Senator Velmanette Montgomery to give a report on the Parent's Bill.

18th Senatorial District – Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Senator Montgomery stated that she is the Chair of the Social Services, Children and Families Committee in the senate. She along with Assemblymember Jeffrion Aubry, Chair of the Committee on Correction co-sponsored the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) Expanded Discretion Bill (A.5462-A/S.2233-A). This Bill has passed in the Senate and the Assembly already and is awaiting the Governor to sign.

This Bill aims to enhance permanency for children in foster care by granting foster care agencies the discretion to delay, if necessary, filing papers to terminate parental rights when a parent is incarcerated or when the parent's past incarceration is a significant factor in why the child remains in foster care.

To use discretion under this Bill, agencies must document evidence that the parent plays a meaningful role in the child's life and that maintaining the parent-child relationship is in the child's best interest.

By amending New York's child welfare laws to reflect the special circumstances of criminal justice involved families, A.5462/S.2233-A gives incarcerated parents and their children a more fair opportunity to work toward reunification and safe permanency options that do not involve severing family bonds forever.

Lastly, for 11 years, New York has experienced ASFA's unintended and devastating impact on children in foster care and their parents in prison. Senator Montgomery feels that passing this Bill will be a critical step toward restoring more fairness to New York's child welfare laws and promoting positive outcomes for children in foster care with incarcerated parents.

Senator Montgomery gave a brief update on the budget process that should have been finalized in April. Since the budget hasn't been passed the Governor is preparing for a government shutdown. The shutdown would mean all business with the State will be temporarily shut down. This includes social security and unemployment benefits. So far the senate has voted for about 40% of the budget and they are still working thru the other 60%. She is hopeful that a state budget will get passed very soon.

After a brief question and answer period Ms. Granville thanked Senator Montgomery for the information and asked Assemblyman Jeffries to say a few words.

57th Assembly District – Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries

Assemblyman Jeffries thanked Ms. Granville for allowing him an opportunity to say a few words. He wanted to follow-up on the questions that were asked to the senator. Once this budget is passed we can all expect to see some mergers and consolidations of government agencies to create more efficient service delivery as well as to save the tax payer funds. The governor, the senate, and the assembly had different approaches but they expect to see mergers and consolidation at the end of the day. They are also aware that there are public authorities in the state, some of which are very important: the MTA, the School Construction Authority, etc. are examples of authorities that are important though ones that can be run in a more efficient way. These mergers will be effective because currently no one in government can tell you how many public authorities there are in the state of New York. Therefore, Senator Richard Brodsky along with Senator Montgomery, Assembly Jeffries and others as co-sponsors have introduced a bill that will close more than 100 public authorities and corporations that exist in the state of New York and save the tax payers money.

More significantly, on the issue of passing of the state budget. They are constitutionally obligated to pass a budget on April 1st. since they could not come to an agreement on April 1st for the last 12 weeks or so, the governor has been setting up what they call extender bills every week to keep the government functioning for the following week. The Governor recently started to include in those extender bills, aspects of his budget that the assembly and the senate have not necessarily agreed upon. He did the agreement with health care but in a way that it was a three way agreement between the senate, the assembly and the government.

There are two or three areas where that may occur with the most significant one being education. The governor said he wants to cut education by 1.4 billion dollars. Everyone believes that those actions are completely unacceptable. We understand that there is a serious fiscal situation that we confront on a daily basis; however, children did not create this financial mess and the state should not balance the budget on their backs. For decades, they've been depriving the inner city of the education that is deserved.

There is a law that says our children are supposed to get hundreds of millions of dollars more in which they can't fund that's CFP because of the fiscal crisis. This 1.4 billion dollar cut is unacceptable and it may force a show down where some people are going to have to decide to draw a line in the sand and risk the shut down because the issue of educating children is so important or do they go along with the government's cuts. That is some of the contexts that may happen in the next week or so but they are hopeful that they will come to an agreement.

Lastly, the criminal justice agenda that assemblyman Jefferies is trying to advance in building upon some of the many wonderful things that Senator Montgomery has done in the area of Juvenile Justice in recognition of the prison industrial complex. He mentioned a few weeks ago that he introduced legislation to change the way in which incarcerated individuals are counted in the state of New York. In 49 states the only exception is Maryland. There are approximately 2.5 million people in prison in the United States of America which is higher than every other democracy in the world. Incarcerated individuals are counted as residents of the counties where they are incarcerated instead of their home communities. As everyone knows, most prisons in New York State are located in rural areas and as a result, the political power of certain communities is artificially being increased at the expense of urban communities such as Crown Heights, Bedford Stuyvesant, Harlem and South East Queens. This is a great injustice for many reasons: these counties do not bare any expense for these correctional facilities. The states pay for these facilities, incarcerated individuals can't vote, incarcerated individuals do not participate in the civic life of those upstate communities, incarcerated individuals don't use the schools, the hospitals, the roads, the fire house, the police precincts, and in fact come home after a short period of time.

The average prison sentence is less than four years and when the overwhelming majority of incarcerated individuals come back home, it falls on our communities to provide them with the education, the health care, the employment and the housing services to successfully incorporate them into society. That is why it is an injustice. The way in which they are currently counted and many people have compared it to what was found in the constitution with the 3/5 compromise where 60 % of African Americans/ slaves, could not participate in civic life were counted to inflate the political power of southern rural communities who then went to congress to maintain the institutional slavery. The reason why bills such as Senator Montgomery's are being blocked is because there is an upstate rural person who is saying that they are going to sustain the same prison industrial complex. They are using bodies which are being used to inflate their political power and they are going to do everything possible to change it and to change the deception.

After a brief question and answer period, Ms. Granville thanked Assemblyman Jefferies for the information and asked for public comments.

Shirley Fraser, a resident on Eastern Parkway corner of Bedford Avenue lives adjacent to the BP gas station/car wash circulated a petition from neighborhood residents identifying a number of complaints relating to BP. The residents would like the Community Board to intervene on their behalf to help get the hours of BP cut, obtain no horn honking, no radio playing signs. Ms. Langhorne stated that she would speak to Ms. Fraser after the meeting to further discuss this matter.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for attending and wished those present a healthy and enjoyable summer. He adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Guests

Theresa Anderson
Ely Fontaner
Shirley Fraser
Myrtle George
Dolores Mitchell
Carol Rose
Laura P. James
Dory Kornfeld
Willard Hawkins
Dorothy Bambray
Frampton Talbert
Ahmed S.
Phil Hawkins
Velma Armstrong
Gregory Smiley
Y. Solomon
Frank Braxville
Kay Dunham
Cinda Farmer

Erik Monderson
A. Andrews
Carolyn Thompson
Charles Hickmon
Stuart Klein
Marc Sforazz
Lula Staton
Lorraine Staton
Pamela Green
Veronica Galbardo
Carlos Zambran
Anthony Taylor
James W.
Elsie Richardson
Nicholas Kelly
D. Young
James Caldwell
Veronica Russell