

**Community Board No. 8
Brooklyn Children's Museum
145 Brooklyn Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11213**

October 14, 2010

Members Present

Kim Albert
Akosua Albritton
Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Viola Bing
Julia Boyd
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Renaye Cuyler
Diana Foster
Ede Fox
Fred Frazier
Nizjoni Granville
Princess Benn-James
Xeerxeema Jordan
Shalawn Langhorne
Marie Louis
Priscilla Maddox
Robert Matthews
Kwasi Mensah
Adelaide Miller
Clarine Miller
Dr. Fred Monderson
Atim Oton
Angelina Pinto
Mary Reed
Marlene Saunders
William Suggs
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Gregory Todd
Ethel Tyus
Yves Vilus
Sharon Wedderburn
Vilma Zuniga

Elected Official's Present

Councilman Albert Vann, 36th District
Councilwoman Letitia James, 35th District
Walter Mosley, District Leader, 57th District

Members Excused

Dr. Flize Bryan
Helen Coley
Alton Pierce
Patricia Scantlebury
Meredith Staton
Launa Thomas-Bullock
Robert Witherwax

Members Absent

Dr. Adele Allen
Dawn Brown
Teri Coaxum
Jesse Hamilton
Jamell Henderson
Doris Heriveaux
Shirley Lee
Hasoni Pratts
Robert Puca

Elected Official's Representatives

Dottie Lebron, Councilman Vann
Maurice Roberts, Senator Adams
Lee Church, Assemblyman Jeffries
Samuel Light, Assemblyman Camara
Renea Murphy, Councilman Vann

Liaisons Present

Sam Pierre, Mayor's Office
Captain Myrie, 77th Precinct-Executive Officer
P.O. Salters, 77th Precinct-Comm. Affairs
Ann Marie Adamson, Borough Pres. Office
Sanmati Niak, Dept. of City Planning
Jen Posner, Dept. of City Planning

CB Staff Present

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Associate

Ms. Granville called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. In addition to pointing out the public thank you in the newsletter, she again thanked everyone for the support received following the death of her husband. It was very helpful having such a strong body to lean on during a trying time in her life.

She asked for an update from Concern for Independent Living.

CONCERN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING—Mr. Ralph Fasano, Executive Director

Mr. Fasano thanked the Board for the opportunity to update members and residents on the building at Rochester Avenue between Prospect Place and St. Marks Avenue. He reminded everyone that the building had become derelict and an eyesore after St. Mary's Hospital shut down a number of years ago. Presently, construction and renovations on the building are going according to schedule and everything is on target. He also stated that it is his firm belief that the \$12 million renovation project will be an asset to the community. He then introduced the architect for the project, Ms. Idan Catal, and asked her to provide specifics for the construction plan.

Ms. Catal informed the Board that the \$12 million construction project included an almost gut renovation while still maintaining and preserving much of the aesthetics of the pre-war architecture. The middle interior of the building, unfortunately, had to be demolished since it was in such poor condition. The new entrance of the building will be on Rochester Avenue at the main gate rather than St. Marks Avenue. There are new windows and floors, entirely new plumbing and electricity, and new air conditioning units throughout.

The basement level will contain the dining room for residents and will also be made available for community events. The first floor will be management and common spaces, and the upper floors will house the residential units.

When completed, the building will be a green building. There are solar panels on the roof, and there will also be a roof terrace. The parking lot has permeable paving. There will be extensive landscaping with a small courtyard for residents and a community garden for the entire community to share. Presently there is no certificate of occupancy, but Concern for Independent Living is hoping to obtain a temporary certificate of occupancy which will allow them to open in the first quarter of 2011.

Mr. Fasano announced that anyone that would like to be on the community planting garden's board should contact Concern for Independent Living. In addition, notices have been submitted for numerous positions within the facility. These positions are open to all qualified residents from Community District 8, and there is a preference to hire from within the community. There will also be a community advisory committee for community involvement with the facility. The main goal for the building was to have something that the community would be proud to have as a neighbor and in the community.

Ms. Andrea Harnett-Robinson, liaison for Concern for Independent Living stated that she is proud to have the opportunity to place a planting garden in the community. She stated that she worked with Gregg Todd, a Community Board member, and Wayne Bailey, an active community resident, for ideas for the garden. Ms. Tyus asked if the garden would be a registered non-profit and if it would be available for fundraising events. She was informed that it would be.

Ms. Albert asked how many units would be in the building and was informed that there will be 65 studio apartments. She also asked if the garden board/committee and the advisory board were one and the same. She was informed that there will be two separate committees.

Princess James decried the discussion of only the community garden in the midst of so much construction on the building. She raised concerns of the type of individuals that would be housed in the facility and the fact that there will not be, in her opinion, sufficient supportive staff on hand. She was informed that the facility is not a hospital program. There is no need to have people certified in crisis management on hand 24-hours a day. The individuals that will be housed are individuals capable of living independently. They are aware of consequences and have an idea of personal responsibility.

Furthermore, Mr. Fasano stated that Concern for Independent Living is trying to investigate the current owners of the abandoned half-built 3-family houses on St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place between Rochester and Buffalo Avenues. The buildings are an eyesore and in derelict condition. The organization would like to clean them up and make them beneficial to the community in some way, shape, or form.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Fasano and the rest of the presenters from Concern for Independent Living, and acknowledged Captain Leighton Myrie, Executive Officer of the 77th Precinct.

77TH PRECINCT—Captain Leighton Myrie, Executive Officer

Captain Myrie announced that there is a new Community Affairs officer, PO Tania Salters, who is replacing Det. McLean. PO Salters stated that she is a 13-year veteran of the force with 9 years experience in the school unit and 4-years experience on patrol. She has good camaraderie with PO Pierre-Louis, so the Community Affairs (CA) unit will continue to run smoothly.

Any concerns and issues brought to the attention of Community Affairs will be conveyed to the captains and commanding officer. It is their ultimate decision what gets done. Community Affairs is always reachable; her cell number is 646-373-7183, and PO Pierre-Louis' cell phone number is 646-246-8245.

Ms. Granville thanked Captain Myrie and PO Salters and asked for an update on the ULURP (Uniform Land Use Review Process) from the Dept. of City Planning.

NYC DEPT. OF CITY PLANNING—Ms. Sanmati Naik

Ms. Naik announced that Community Boards typically go to DCP with concerns and issues for specific locations, and this information is subsequently taken to the department chair. DCP tries to balance between land use principles and community concerns/needs. However, not every concern and request can be met.

There are many things considered when DCP reviews an application. An important part of the review process is maps and proposed impacts on infrastructure, air quality, noise, and other mitigatable and unmitigatable effects when examining ULURP applications. To better explain the process, Ms. Naik dispensed a ULURP Timeline sheet with each of the steps and its position on the timeline.

Ms. Tyus mentioned the zoning study completed by the private planner hired by the Board that was rejected by DCP. She asked what the Board could do to have contextual zoning applied to the District to protect it from predatory housing developers. She was informed that the area presented by the urban planner hired by the Board was too large for DCP to review. Ms. Granville also stated that DCP is currently not looking at landmarked areas, and that we also need to make sure that all resident groups agree to the zoning changes.

Mr. Todd asked what the appropriate size area is to present to DCP for review. Ms. Posner of DCP stated that the department is looking to have the Board identify the most pressing land use issues and also what it is trying to accomplish with the study. We should start with an area that does not have contextual zoning. The study itself is a significant undertaking of resources and time. The area should be small enough that DCP could complete. An example is the unlandmarked portion of Prospect Heights.

Ms. Oton asked if we could phase in contextual zoning and was informed that phasing in would be the ideal scenario for DCP. The idea will be taken back to the borough commissioner for review. Ms. Granville reminded the Board that phasing in and piecemeal was the same means by which landmarking took place. It would behoove us to seriously consider small pieces first, with emphasis on problem areas.

Carolyn Sanders-James asked DCP to explain what the different zones mean since the community needs to be fully versed in the different zones and their rules. DCP officials presented a map with the zoning codes for the district and explained that each zone meant different restrictions on height, parking codes, businesses, and the like. It is for this reason that we must carefully identify the needs of the community before suggesting a particular zone.

Delissa Reynolds asked how contextual zoning would affect small businesses in residential areas. She was informed that contextual zoning has not been proposed yet, but DCP will make proposals that will be compatible with all the needs of the block.

Ms. Granville stated that she was recently informed that it is better to make significant zoning changes when the economy is in a downturn. But before such decisions are made, community input is needed. It is difficult for 50 people to decide the fate of a community with over 100,000 residents. She urged community residents to try to attend the housing committee meetings so that they can participate in the process.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Naik and Ms. Posner for their information and asked Councilman Vann if he had anything to share.

36TH COUNCIL DISTRICT—Councilman Albert Vann

Councilman Vann introduced the new representatives from his office. Ms. Dottie LeBron is serving as the new Legislative Director for the City Hall office. She can be reached at 212-788-7354. She informed the Board that the Councilman is putting together a monthly newsletter with updates on the goings on within the 36th Council district and also to keep residents abreast of legislative matters.

There are a host of bills related to water efficiency and usage as a number of residents, primarily the elderly, are facing high water bills. Councilman Vann and Ms. LeBron pointed out that unpaid water bills can lead one's house to be nominated in lien sales and potentially put up for auction if the lien is purchased. The legislation that allows this to happen has to be reauthorized at the end of this year, and the Councilman has introduced legislation to protect vulnerable homeowners from having liens sold on their homes and being subject to the fees and interest rates that drive total dues out of reach.

Ms. Granville thanked Councilman Vann and Ms. LeBron for their information and asked for roll call.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously accepted with the corrections to a few typographical errors.

CORRESPONDENCE – CB 8 newsletter and other information was distributed.

Ms. Granville 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, October 4, 2010 at 5:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. Ms. Saunders announced that this month is Breast Cancer Awareness month. She reminded women over 40 and those with a family history of breast cancer to have to annual mammogram. Mammograms should be scheduled around your birthday so that you do not forget. Ms. Saunders and Ms. Granville urged those present to participate in the Breast Cancer walk either by walking or by making a donation.

October is also COPD—Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease—awareness month. More and more people are being diagnosed with COPD and asthmatics and smokers are at greater risk for contracting the disease. She urged everyone to take better care of their health and take it seriously.

The next meeting of the Aging/Health & Human Services Committee will be held jointly with the Housing/ULURP Committee on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 and again on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 to discuss the following:

A. New liquor license applications:

1. Mr. John Longo is seeking a full liquor license for his bar/restaurant called “Dean Street” located at 755 Dean Street (corner of Underhill Avenue) that will have total capacity of 88 people with 55 seats at tables and at the bar. Dean Street will employ 10 locally hired employees, including 3 security personnel and operate Monday and Tuesday from 4 PM to 2 AM, Wednesday thru Friday from 4 PM to 4 AM, Saturday from 11 AM to 4 AM, and Sunday from 11 AM to 2 AM. Light background music will play for patrons’ pleasure.

Ms. Albritton asked if the location was the same as Tavern On Dean and was informed that it is. A community resident asked why the bar was going to stay open so late on Sunday and was informed by Mr. Longo is that the desire is to close at 2 AM every day but will stay open as business entails. If, on Sundays, there is no business past midnight, the bar will close early. Ms. Oton informed the Board that NY State Liquor Authority stipulations maintain that a bar can remain open until 4 AM on Sundays.

There were no police objections to the location, the full Board voted in support of the application with a final tally of twenty-six in favor, three opposed, with one abstention.

2. Mr. Ronald Brown is seeking a full liquor license for his bar/restaurant called Barboncino located at 781 Franklin Avenue (between Lincoln and St. John’s Places) that will have a maximum capacity of 74 seats. Barboncino will employ 25 individuals hired locally and will operate Sunday and Monday from 10 AM to midnight, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 AM to 1 AM, Thursday

from 10 AM to 2 AM, and Friday and Saturday from 10 AM to 3 AM. If the need arises, Barboncino will stay open as late as 4 AM. Light background music will play in the background except for rare instances when special live events will call for a DJ. At this time, no security measures are planned for the establishment, but will be provided if proven necessary.

Mr. Brown informed the Board that he will be very sensitive to the surrounding neighbors and the establishment will stay open if it is busy. Dr. Monderson expressed concern over the fact that the establishment will not have hired security. He was informed that it is a restaurant, not a bar, so security aside from video cameras is not necessary.

There were no police objections to the establishment and the full Board voted to support the application with a final tally of twenty-five in favor, two opposed, with two abstentions.

3. The proprietor of Bianchi BK LLC, D/B/A Chavella's made a favorable presentation for his establishment to be located at 736 Franklin Avenue (corner of Sterling Place). Presently, Chavella's is located on Classon Avenue near Park Place; the establishment will move to 736 Franklin and the new hours of operation will be from 11 AM to midnight Sunday thru Thursday, and 11 AM to 2 AM Friday and Saturday and will seat 40 patrons.

Some members of the committee expressed concern over the fact that two storefront churches are in the immediate vicinity of the establishment. However, because the two churches are not housed in buildings used exclusively as a house of worship, the NYS Liquor Authority does not mandate that they be included in the 200 foot rule designation.

There were no police objections to the application and the full Board voted to support the application with a final tally of twenty-two in favor, four opposed, with four abstentions.

B. The committee also considered the following renewal applications:

1. Kai Studio, 1011 Dean Street (Classon/Franklin)
2. Cheryl's, 236 Underhill Avenue (Lincoln/St. John's)
3. Winners Delight, 171 Utica Avenue (Prospect/Park)
4. Essence Lounge, 1662-1664 Atlantic Avenue (corner of Troy)
5. Anthony's Corner, 1421 St. John's Place (corner of Utica)
6. Maroc Sip & Chat, 741 Park Place (Rogers/Bedford)
7. Abigail's Café, 807 Classon Avenue (corner St. John's)

There were no police objections to either of the renewals and the committee voted to support all 7, in hopes that the full Board will support its recommendation.

- C. The committee also heard a presentation from the proprietors of Cheryl's located at 236 Underhill Avenue (between Lincoln and St. John's Places) who is seeking an Alteration Application. Cheryl's is seeking to add a garden seating which will be used minimally. As the establishment has been in the community for a number of years without incident, the full Board voted with a final

tally of twenty-eight in favor, one opposed, with one abstention to support the Alteration Application.

- D. The committee heard a presentation from Ms. Delissa Reynolds, proprietor of Bar Sepia located at 234 Underhill Avenue (between Lincoln and St. John's Places), who is seeking a cabaret license for her establishment. Ms. Reynolds is seeking a cabaret license so that a DJ can provide music. Presently, foam insulation provides sound proofing measures for the bar/lounge that can seat 30 people.

There were no police objections to the cabaret application and the committee voted to support the application and the full Board voted to support the cabaret license application with a final tally of twenty-eight in favor, one opposed, with one abstention.

Ms. Maddox also announced that there will be a meeting with officials of the state liquor authority on Tuesday, October 19th from 11 AM to 12:30PM at Borough Hall. The meeting is so that residents can express their concerns and also have certain misconceptions clarified. To RSVP, call 212-681-4569.

The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

EDUCATION—Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chair

The Education Committee met on Thursday, September 18, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Kwasi Mensah, Xeerxeema Jordan, Alex Alper and Arvin Temkar. Mr. Mensah announced that parents have to be more proactive their children's education. The blame cannot be placed squarely on teachers' shoulders as education is an extension of the home. There is no excuse today not to gain knowledge and take advantage of the educational opportunities given to them.

Ms. Wedderburn announced that Chancellor Klein is in the midst of reviewing and revising Regulation A-190, which is the doctrine on how schools are selected for closure. She stated that schools with active PTAs rarely close because they are very vocal about their needs and desires. Parents in our community need to follow this course to protect their children and educational assets.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7 PM. All are invited to attend.

ENVIRONMENT/SANITATION—Ms. Ede Fox, Chair

The Environment/Sanitation Committee met on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7 PM. The committee is in the process of planning their annual spring forum. If you would like to participate, please attend the committee meetings to assist with planning.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

FIRE/SAFETY—Mr. Robert Witherwax, Chair

The Fire/Safety Committee met on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. 6:00 p.m. Present were: Robert Witherwax and Douglas Williams. The committee did not have a report. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

HOUSING/ULURP—Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Housing/ULURP Committee met Thursday, October 7, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Ethel Tyus, Wayne Bailey, Angelina Pinto, Desmond Atkins, Fred Frazier, Consuela Lawless, Andrea Hornett-Robinson, Akosua Albritton, Princess Benn-James, Gib Veconi, Emily Nonko, Charles Hickmon, Yves Vilus and Greg Todd.

Ms. Andrea Hornett-Robinson made her quarterly presentation on the progress of the Concern for Independent Living project on St. Marks Avenue at Rochester Avenue and indicated that she would also present the information at the full board meeting. She clarified that the Advisory Committee would only address use of open space surrounding the facility, not project services. Attendees had many questions regarding the job openings she announced, especially regarding the qualifications and pay ranges. She indicated that the additional information will be on the project web site for hiring over the next three months <http://www.concernhousing.org/employment.shtml>

Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council representatives Wayne Bailey and Gib Veconi gave updates on the progress or lack thereof at the Atlantic Yards. Veconi noted that Ratner admitted at a press conference that his organization always thought the project would take much longer than the 10 years presented to ESDC.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

PARKS AND RECREATION—Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the St. John's Recreation Center. Ms. Andrews announced that the Parks Committee's next meeting will be November 9, 2010 rather than November 2 because of Election Day. The meeting will be held at 6 PM at the St. John's Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place. All are invited to attend.

POLICE—Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chair

The Police Committee met on Monday, September 20, 2010 at the 77th Precinct. In addition to the chair, Shalawn Langhorne, present were: Willard Hawkins, Dorothy Bemby-Guet, Shirley Fraser, Myrtle Ceasar, Mary Machen, Xeerxeema Jordan, Kay Dunham, Sheila Davis, Patricia Mitchell, A. Latham, C. Thompson, Charles Hickman, Captain Cappoci and PO Pierre-Louis.

Ms. Langhorne thanked everyone that participated in the prayer vigil last month that was coordinated with the Precinct Council and Precinct Clergy Council. Ms. Langhorne announced that the Police committee will meet at 7:30 PM on Monday, October 18, 2010 at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue.

Mr. Mensah asked if she knew of a hard law concerning motorists' obligations to bikers in response to the biker that was killed when a motorist opened his car door. She stated that she doesn't know a specific law, but that the committee is planning a public safety forum on bike laws, awareness, and safety. She also informed him that an arrest has been made in the case because the person left the scene.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE—Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair

The Transportation Committees of Community Board 6 and 8 held a joint meeting on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7:00 PM. Present were: Dr. Frederick Monderson, Holly Fuchs-Ferguson, Douglas Williams, Michelle George, Jacqueline Wells, Chris Hrones from DOT, Ronda Messer from DOT, Lori Oladipo from DOT, Luke DePalmer from Borough President's office and Thomas Miskel, Chair, Stephen Burzio, Co-Chair, CB6 Transportation Committee as well as several community residents from community board 6.

The Committees heard a presentation from the Department of Transportation regarding the North Flatbush BID Area Streetscape Improvements Capital Project.

The North Flatbush Avenue Capital Project is a public space and pedestrian safety initiative on the commercial stretch of Flatbush Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Grand Army Plaza. Working with the North Flatbush Business Improvement District and a host of community stakeholders, the Department has secured \$2.75 million in capital funds to improve the look and feel of the corridor by expanding and reconfiguring the plaza-like "triangles" that are formed where Flatbush Avenue, the numbered avenues, and residential side streets come together.

The project will also include curb extensions at side street intersections to decrease crossing distances and improve pedestrian safety.

The Transportation Committee of Community Boards 8 voted to support DOT's proposal only if they use the revised plan for the 8th Avenue Triangle. The original plan proposed to close St. John's Place between Flatbush Ave and 8th Avenue and eliminate this problematic intersection. The revised proposal will improve this problematic intersection while keeping the street open to cars and pedestrians.

The full Board voted to support the project with a final tally of twenty-eight in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

In addition, the committee also voted on the following base license renewals:

- a. International Car Service, Inc., located at 623 Washington Avenue (between Dean/Bergen Streets)
- b. Rescue Car Service, located at 264 Troy Avenue (between St. John's and Lincoln Places)

There were no objections to either of the base license renewals and the full Board voted to support the renewals with a final tally of twenty-eight members in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES—Ms. Akosua Albritton, Chair

The Youth and Family Services Committee met on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue. Present were: Akousa Albritton, Audrey Taitt-Hall Angeli Rasbury from Brooklyn Public Library, Genel Williams, Community Counseling and Mediation.

The committee continued previous discussions on Mayor Bloomberg's decision to consolidate the NYC Dept. of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and NYC Administration for Children's Services (ACS) into one unit effective January 20, 2010. The consolidation's rationale is to "target increased public safety and improve outcomes for young people who have been in the juvenile justice system." DJJ is responsible for the direct supervision of three secure detention facilities for juvenile delinquents and juvenile offenders age between 10 and 15 yrs and two nonsecure detention facilities and monitors a larger number of nonsecure detention group homes operated by nonprofits, located in four of the 5 boroughs, for minors age between 7 and 16 yrs. ACS is responsible for publicly-funded home or center-based childcare programs/Headstart, child support enforcement, foster care, adoption, preventive services and protective services. The Dept of Youth and Community Development was left out of the consolidation, though it is responsible for family support, runaway and homeless children, jobs and internships for youth, family literacy, and after-school programs.

The committee discussed this issue a number of times in committee before presenting a request to the full Board to draft a letter of inquiry/outrage for submission to the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development Dennis Walcott, and the three City Council members that represent Community District 8. This letter would seek to understand the process of consolidation, determine when community boards were advised, determine when public hearings were done, and gain understanding why the consolidation wasn't between ACS and DYCD instead. Prior to this consolidation ACS, DYCD, and DJJ collaborated and communicated through an interagency coordination structure. The concern of the committee is that merging ACS with DJJ suggests a prison pipeline starting from pre-school.

Ms. Wedderburn asked if it was a requirement by law that community boards be notified of agency consolidation. Ms. Granville responded by stating that the action item implied that there was no public hearing to discuss the matter and that the community boards were not notified of the changes at all.

The full Board voted to submit a letter expressing concern over the merger with twenty-eight members in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Ms. Albritton also announced that the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Parent and Community Outreach Committee is hosting a Brooklyn Families and Educators Conference on Sunday November 14, 2010 at UFT Headquarters located at 52 Broadway, New York, NY. The purpose of the conference is to strengthen each other and create positive partnerships. Registration for the event must be completed by October 31, 2010 from 8 AM to 3 PM. Topics include healthy family living; how to pay for college; parent leadership; conflict resolution 101; what colleges look for; and literacy is a family affair among many others. She provided registration forms to interested parties.

The next Youth & Family Services Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2010 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 committee chairs for their reports and took a moment to reintroduce the Board to Friends of Community Board No. 8, stating that **Friends of Brooklyn Community Board 8, Inc.** was established in 2007 to support the work of Brooklyn Community Board 8 and improve the quality of life in the district. It is our hope that Friends will provide planning, advocacy, research and administrative resources to supplement the limited capacities and budget of the Community Board, thus enabling the Board to properly carry out its Charter mandated responsibilities of evaluating the needs of and advocating on behalf of its communities. Through the contributions of public and private resources, Friends of Brooklyn Community Board 8, Inc. aims to drive the balanced growth of all the communities it serves. Friends of Brooklyn Community Board 8, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

In addition, Ms. Granville also clarified a mistake that was made at the September 2010 Community Board meeting. She stated that while there is nothing in the By-Laws of Community Board 8 relating to Co-Chairs, a few years ago we adopted a policy of not allowing new members to immediately assume chairmanships or co-chairmanships. At last month's meeting one of our Chairs over spoke and announced that a new member would be assisting as co-chair. This is not the case. We are delighted that our new members are eager to jump in and assist the committees; however, we must adhere to our policy.

Ms. Granville acknowledged the elected officials and their representatives present and asked Councilwoman James if she had anything to share with the Board.

35TH COUNCIL DISTRICT—Councilwoman Letitia James

Councilwoman James issued heartfelt condolences to Ms. Granville and her family and also for Reverend Jerry West, who recently lost his mother. She announced that on October 26, 2010 at 11:30 AM at the Landmarks Preservation Commission located at 1 Center Street, 9th Floor, there will be a landmark designation meeting for 13 houses on Park Place in Crow Hill. It is another momentous occasion for the board as CB 8 seeks to improve itself by preserving its historical structures.

In addition, Bishop Figueroa of New Life Tabernacle located at 1476 Bedford Avenue has petitioned her office for assistance in having the B49 bus stop relocated from in front of the church to across the street to the SW corner of Sterling Place. Any concerns regarding the bus stop relocation should be directed to her office as she has agreed to contact the Dept. of Transportation on his behalf to have the stop moved.

More babies and children have been lost in Brooklyn as a result of parental and partner abuse. She announced that she is embarking on a campaign to spread the word of being careful of who you have watching over and caring for your children. In addition, to help raise funds for non-profit organizations that have lost funding from budget cuts, she is dancing for charity at the Marriott on December 16, 2010. Her dance partner will be Reverend Al Sharpton. Tickets are \$50 for the event. She urged those that are financially capable should attend the event and support a great cause.

Ms. Granville thanked Councilwoman James for her report and asked District Leader Mosley if he had anything to share.

57TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT LEADER—Mr. Walter Mosley

District Leader Walter Mosley announced that based on the number of complaints received following the primary elections, there will be a voter training session on Friday, October 22, 2010 from 10 AM to Noon at St. Gabriel's located at 441 Hawthorne Street. The training session is specifically for seniors, but anyone can participate and learn how to properly use the new voting method.

There is a ballot initiative education forum this Sunday at PS 9 located at 80 Underhill Avenue at 4 PM to train voters on the ballot initiatives that they will be voting on at the general election. Common Cause, the Citizens Union, and the Campaign Finance Board will be on hand to inform voters of exactly what they are voting on, what it means, and how it will work depending on the way they vote.

Ms. Granville thanked District Leader Mosley for his information and asked Sam Pierre if he had anything to share.

MAYOR'S OFFICE/C.A.U.—Mr. Sam Pierre

Mr. Pierre announced that President Obama has signed disaster relief damage legislation for areas in Brooklyn and Queens that were hardest hit by the wind gusts and tornadoes that affected the city a number of weeks ago. Up to 90% of the cost of repair for damages caused by the storm can be reimbursed. For more information or to apply for reimbursement, call his office at 212-788-7446.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Pierre for his good news and addressed the following old business:

In response to complaints concerning the BP Gas station/Car wash complaint, she informed the Board that we have been notified by the 77th Precinct that routine site checks are in effect. Officers periodically visit the site during the overnight shift to monitor the noise.

In response to queries concerning employment at the Achievement First HS, she stated that the Board asked Achievement First how many community residents are employed at the new Charter High School. They responded by saying “While the high school is new to its community, it is not a new school altogether. As a result, it was not necessary to do a full round of hiring this fall and the majority of the staff transferred over from the school’s original Crown Heights location (Furthermore, many school-based non-teaching positions are contracted through the Department of Education. Interested applicants can contact the DOE directly). As new jobs become available, we look forward to reaching out to you and your community as we search for the talent to fill them. I hope that helps to answer your question but please let me know if there are any additional insights I can provide.”

Mr. Arif Ullah from the Citizens Committee for NYC announced the *Love Your Block Grant Award*. Grants are being awarded to volunteer-led neighborhood groups dedicated to improving block quality. One of the most important features of the Love Your Block Grant award is that much-needed city services are provided directly to groups to carry out their block beautification projects. The grant application deadline is November 15, 2010.

Mr. Ullah also announced that the Citizens Committee is also accepting applications for the *New Yorkers for Better Neighborhoods Grant*. Grants ranging from \$500 to \$3,000 are being offered to volunteer led groups to work on community achievement projects. The deadline is January 31, 2011. For more information on either grant, call 212-822-9580 or email Mr. Ullah at aullah@citizensnyc.org.

Ms. Carolyn Sanders-James thanked everyone that participated in the Crown Heights North Association’s House Tour. If you have yet to visit, please do so during one of the upcoming tours to get a feel for the great historic architecture in the district.

Ms. Akosua Albritton discussed the age requirements for community board membership. The City Charter is silent on the issue. Unless the individual community board has it mentioned in the bylaws, a

person can be any age and serve on the board. We need to get more young people involved and this could be one potential way of accomplishing that objective.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 2010 because the second Thursday of the month is Veteran's Day. The meeting will be held at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue at 7 PM. All are invited to attend.

Guests

Karin Lashley
Chanta Harely
Willard Harwin
Dorothy Bembry-Guet
Ralph Fasano
Edel Cordova
Cheryl Smith
Ron Brown
Arif Ullah
Yasmeen Hadan
Elyse Johnson
Richard Miller
Graydon Gordian
Audrea Jones
Desiree Detoy
Evonne Peebles
Wendi Royster
C. Allen
Gwen Sumter
Marie Celestin
Andrew Badze
Lise Jones
James Caldwell
Audrey Andrews
Valerie Nero
Paul Blanchette
Roberto Celestin
Delissa Reynolds
Kay Dunham