

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

September 12, 2013

Members Present

Kim Albert
Akosua Albritton
Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Wayne Bailey
Princess Benn-James
Samantha Bernadine
Dr. Flize Bryan
Adam Bunkeddeko
Helen Coley
Phu Duong
James Ellis
Diana Foster
Fred Frazier
Nizjoni Granville
Curtis Harris
Xeexseema Jordan
Shalawn Langhorn
Tarves Lord
Priscilla Maddox
Robert Matthews
Kwasi Mensah
Adelaide Miller
Atim Oton
Alton Pierce
Robert Puca
Cy Richardson
Marlene Saunders
Patricia Scantlebury
Meredith Staton
Gregory Todd
Ethel Tyus
Sharon Wedderburn
Greg Yerman
Vilma Zuniga

Members Absent/Excused

LeeAnn Banks
Viola Bing
Julia Boyd
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Bay Brown
Renaye Cuyler
Dian Duke
Ede Fox
Dr. Fred Monderson
Mary Reed
Stacey Sheffey
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Yves Vilus
Robert Witherwax
Deborah Young

Elected Officials Present

Senator Montgomery, 25th Senatorial District

Elected Official's Representatives

Ineisha Williford, Councilwoman Mealy's Office
Jeffrey Denman, Assemblyman Mosley's Office
Dynishel Gross, Councilman Vann's Office
Jim Vogel, Senator Montgomery's Office

Liaisons Present

Eric Beaton, Dept. of Transportation
Ronda Messer, Dept. of Transportation
Hannah Holland, Borough President's Office

CB Staff Present

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Associate
Valerie Hodges-Mitchell, Community Service Aide

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The minutes of the last meeting were accepted with any necessary corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE – CB 8 newsletter and other information was distributed.

Ms. Granville called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new season.

Concern for Independent Living – Ms. Cynthia Solomon, Senior Program Director

Ms. Solomon welcomed the Board to Concern for Independent Living (CIL). She announced that CIL offers affordable and supportive housing for various populations including veterans. There is a new project in the works at 1552 Bergen Street, which, after renovations, will be a 92 unit apartment building with 32 one and two bedroom units, 55 studios for special needs, and 2 units for market rate.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Solomon and commended CIL for converting a dilapidated building into a wonderful addition to the community. She also stated that she looks forward to working with CIL on future projects. Ms. Granville then asked for an update on the Utica Avenue Avenue Bus Priority and Safety Study.

NYC DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Eric Beaton

Mr. Beaton announced that DOT attempts to find ways to improve services in NYC. For the Utica Avenue Bus Priority and Safety Study, DOT is looking to focus on the high volume areas of Utica Avenue from St. John's Place to Church Avenue. Emphasis will be applied to the key intersections of Church Avenue, Empire Blvd, and Eastern Parkway to improve safety for pedestrians, improve bus times, and maintain parking at curb for the commercial businesses in the area.

The B46 bus is the second busiest bus route in all of NYC. Unfortunately, it is a very slow bus, moving less than 7 miles per hour. Furthermore, there are severe safety concerns along the Utica Avenue corridor. There are many accidents and crashes and the aforementioned intersections of emphasis are high crash intersections. There is a large percentage of speeding on the corridor, and in the target areas, there have been 2 fatalities and 766 total crashes in the target area. There was a request by the merchant's associations to expand car parking availability where needed on Utica Avenue between Eastern Parkway and Carroll Street, which currently have bus lanes that eliminate parking. Also it was requested that DOT address risky driving practices such as speeding and illegal U-turns with more enforcement and better signal timing.

Mr. Beaton specified that St. John's Place to Carroll Street is a really narrow portion of Utica Avenue. There is currently a bus lane on Utica Avenue from Carroll to Eastern Parkway, and no parking is allowed during various times of the day. The south side bus lane is not serving the purpose it was intended. As such, the plan is to eliminate the bus lane from Eastern Parkway to Carroll Street, while adding a bus lane on Utica Avenue from St. John's Place to Eastern Parkway, without eliminating much parking because the blocks in question already have a "No

Standing” restriction on all but a few standard car spaces. The positive trade-off is that the removal of the bus lanes south of Eastern Parkway will add 19 additional parking spaces compared to a loss of 4 from the new lane.

From Carroll Street to Church Avenue, the street gets much wider south of Carroll Street. DOT is seeking to install an “offset” bus lane to reduce speeding, maximize parking, and benefit bus service. This offset bus lane will reduce the street to one driving lane from the two that are there currently. There is a potential for left turn bans at key locations along the corridor. These bans will reduce congestion and conflicts between thru traffic and turning vehicles, most specifically at Church Avenue, Lenox Road, East New York Avenue, and Eastern Parkway. A separate left turn bay will be added at all other blocks where left turns are still allowed.

Another part of the plan will be to optimize traffic signal priority. Smart traffic lights will be installed. Smart traffic lights are lights that can identify when a bus is coming to prevent the bus from getting caught at red lights before the bus stop, thus eliminating double wait times for some buses and increasing the speed of the buses along the route. Furthermore, all the lights will be coordinated and the signal cycle increased from 60 seconds to between 90 and 120 depending on location.

DOT did an extensive traffic analysis during different times of the day. With the proposed changes, traffic along Utica Avenue should flow much better. The project benefits include improved bus service over its busiest section, keep traffic moving well, decrease accidents, and increase parking options. If accepted, DOT is looking to schedule implementation of the bus and safety plan either this fall or next spring depending on feedback from the three community boards affected.

Mr. Atkins pointed out that the District 8 portion of the plan is very small, but the area is very critical. He stated that a large, 12-story apartment building and 5 story commercial building is being constructed at the corner of Lincoln Place and Utica Avenue, which is a very narrow intersection. He also stated that it is imperative that drivers be allowed to make a left turn onto East New York Avenue. Mr. Beaton stated that Ms. George mentioned the construction project at numerous stakeholders meetings. This information was taken into consideration and this site will be monitored and evaluated once the project is complete.

Mr. Thurton asked if DOT considered adding left turn signals rather than eliminating left turns at the key intersections. Mr. Beaton stated that not many left turns are going to be eliminated, and as such, there are definitely not enough left turns to warrant a turning light to delay forward moving traffic.

Mr. Duong asked if the plan is implemented, would DOT install signs alerting the community of the traffic changes. He was informed that whenever DOT implements a new driving restriction, they install a sign with a yellow placard beneath it stating that the restriction is new.

Mr. Harris asked if the community was surveyed in terms of what they wanted and what they needed as part of the safety plan. He was informed that DOT met with the District Managers and Transportation Chairs of Community Boards 8, 9, and 17, Councilwoman Mealy’s advisory

group, and the Utica Avenue Merchants Association. Meetings were held with a number of community stakeholders but not individual constituents on a large scale.

Additional concerns were raised about the lack of a limited B46 bus stop at the connection between the B15 and B65 between Bergen and Dean Streets. Mr. Beaton stated that DOT does not handle bus issues, but he would relay the concern to MTA-NYC Transit for evaluation.

Ms. Granville informed members that the board could vote to support the concept itself and send a letter documenting the concerns. Senator Montgomery suggested that the board delay voting on the project until the issues that were raised are addressed. Ms. Oton stated that a delay in the vote could be counter-intuitive because essentially we are asking DOT to solve the MTA's issues.

The Board Chair decided to table the item until the October general meeting and stated that DOT would be re-invited to re-present the plan with answers to the Board's most pressing concerns. She thanked him for his report and asked Senator Montgomery for an update from the 25th Senatorial District.

SENATOR VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY

Senator Montgomery announced two events that she is co-sponsoring with some of her legislative colleagues. The first event is the Affordable Care Act (aka "Obamacare") Forum on October 2, 2013 from 6-8:30 at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church located at 85 S. Oxford Street. The forum is designed to be an information session on what the changes to the healthcare system mean for you and your family.

On October 8, 2013, there will be a Joint Legislative Forum on School Governance Reform. The bill seeks to restore a democratic system of checks and balances by changing the composition of the Board of Education, ending mayoral control of the school system, and giving parents greater involvement in education policy and decision making. She stated that she and her co-sponsors are hoping to engage in dialogue with parents and the community before the bill is renewed. The forum will be held from 6-8:30 PM at St. Francis College, Founders Hall (1st Floor), located at 180 Remsen Street Downtown Brooklyn.

For more information or to RSVP for either event, contact the Senator's office at 718-643-6140.

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

AGING/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – Ms. Marlene Saunders, Chair; Dr. Flize Bryan, Co-Chair

The Health/Human Services Committee did not meet in the month of September. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) in the Board Room. All are invited to attend.

CAREER BUILDING – Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Chair

Ms. Maddox announced that the Career Building Committee is an “off shoot” of the Economic Development Committee. One of its primary functions was to move ahead with Catalyst Network Foundation, which currently has 43 students in the program. Catalyst completed its second 8 week seminar course at LIU this summer with students from 5 schools. The goal is to get students to understand that they can go to college after high school regardless of their circumstances—financial or otherwise. In addition, Catalyst is trying to expand the thinking of parents beyond simply encouraging their children to finish high school.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 14, 2013 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) in the Board Room. All are invited to attend.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Ms. Atim Oton, Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at CNR. The committee continued the planning for its upcoming Economic Development forum in April 2014. Ms. Oton stated that parts of the community was developed through an influx of liquor selling establishments, but the current goal of the committee is to develop other non-liquor centered development that can continue to spur positive growth.

One of the foci of the forum is to examine rent and housing issues. As far as high rent is concerned, while it is a problem for housing, most people do not realize that it is just as much of a problem with commercial rentals across the community. For instance, 3 years ago, a commercial space on Franklin Avenue rented for \$1500; now it is between \$4,000 and \$12,000 per month. Additionally, as current leases expire, the Avenue will probably see more business turnover.

Ms. Oton stated that what many property owners forget is that you can build a community, but you will be unable to keep it if the rent is too high. Finally, she stressed the importance of community investment in commercial spaces, not from a rental standpoint, but rather from a patronage perspective. One of the goals of the forum will be to inform people of the benefits to shop in the community and patronizing local businesses in an effort to help build and maintain the community.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) in the Board Room. All are invited to attend.

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

Ms. Wedderburn announced that the next Education Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2013 at 7 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) in the Board Room. Additionally, there will be a special meeting on September 30, 2013 also at CNR to address the inundation of co-

located charter schools in public schools. She announced that the Dept. of Education violated state law to move up the co-location of a school initially planned for school year 2015-2016. The special meeting will address this and other grievances.

Mr. Mensah announced that the committee will change the meeting date moving ahead into the future. Responding to a question from the audience on how the Dept. of Education designates a school as underutilized, Mr. Mensah deferred to Samantha Bernardine, who stated that the DOE determines whether or not schools are adequately using their space and determines to put another school in or close it from outdated modes of assessment. Part of their criteria is using meeting spaces and storage closets and adding these spaces to the square footage of a building rather than just relying on classroom space. This makes it seem like a building is actually larger than it really is.

Both Mr. Mensah and Ms. Wedderburn encouraged people to attend the Education Committee meetings and the special meeting if they are concerned with education issues and the rise in charter and co-located schools.

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

The Housing/ULURP Committee met on Thursday, September 5, 2013 at Center Light Health Care Center (CNR) located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30pm. In addition to the Co-Chair, Ethel Tyus, present were: Akosua Albritton, S. Ali, Desmond Atkins, James Ellis, Diana Foster, Fred Frazier, Curtis Harris, Danae Oratowski, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Gib Veconi, and Anne Waldman.

The committee had no action items, but discussed what many members identified as some of the most pressing housing and land use issues affecting the district. The Committee agreed that these issues should be targeted for concerted action.

Some issues and concerns raised were:

- Lack of affordable housing and the need to redefine affordability for low to moderate income households in this district compared to the current HUD AMI which allows shelter costs to approach 50% of the average income of district residents, and also the need to make the affordable housing component of Inclusionary Zoning mandatory and onsite with the same entrances.
- Absence of tenant protection from inordinate rent increases in rent-regulated housing, illegal evictions, and associated tenant harassment
- Adequate infrastructure for further construction commencing shortly at Atlantic Yards site B2 and other pending upzoning
- Lack of community/public spaces/plazas (outdoor and indoor) with art and street furniture, conducive to intergenerational communications and spaces for residents to be outdoors while avoiding charges of loitering
- Lack of coordinated development plan for M1-1 zone bounded by Atlantic Ave, Franklin Ave, Dean St and Washington Ave
- Need for accessible energy conservation programs.

As a result of the some of issues identified, the committee created an M1 sub-committee to formulate a ‘vision’ for development of the M1-1 zone. Once approved by the full board, the vision can then be shared with potential developers.

The next meeting of the Housing/ULURP Committee will be held on Thursday, October 3, 2013 at 6:30 PM at Center Light Health Care Center (CNR) located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are encouraged to attend.

PARKS – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair; Ms. Kim Albert, Co-Chair

Ms. Andrews announced that Friends of Brower Park will sponsor “It’s My Park Day” on Saturday, October 12, 2013. She gave an update on a few Parks Department projects taking place in the District and announced that construction on the comfort station at St. John’s Park will start Spring 2013, and the Lincoln Terrace Park tennis court reconstruction project is scheduled for completion in November.

Ms. Bernardine stated that Stroud Playground at PS 316 is outdated, extremely dangerous, failed a recent inspection, and is in dire need of reconstruction. Parents of children that utilize the playground began a petition, and are considering legal action due to the number of children getting injured while playing. She was informed that the renovation of the playground equipment at Stroud Playground has been a budget request for many years and that the District office is lobbying elected officials for funding to complete the project.

The next Parks Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at 6 PM at the St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues). All are invited to attend.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chair; Mr. Desmond Atkins, Co-Chair

Ms. Langhorne announced that the next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held on Monday, September 23, 2013 at 6 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue Avenue. The committee will alternate meeting locations between the 77th and 78th Precincts monthly. All are invited to attend.

SLA & SIDEWALK CAFÉ REVIEW – Alton Pierce, Chair; Mr. James Ellis, Co-Chair

The SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee met on Monday, July 8, 2013 and August 12, 2013 at Center Light Health Care Center (CNR) located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7:00pm. In addition to the Chair, Alton Pierce, present were Wayne Bailey, Cheryl Brown, James Ellis, Diana Foster, Danae Oratowski, Atim Oton, Robert Puca, Delissa Reynolds, Stacey Sheffey, Meredith Staton, Officer Moreau, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, and Greg Yerman.

The committee discussed the following liquor license applications:

1. The proprietors of Kelso Bistro and Restaurant located at 648 Franklin Avenue (between St. Marks Avenue and Bergen Street) made a presentation for their establishment that is seeking the following:
 - An upgraded license from the currently held beer/wine to a full liquor
 - Mother is transferring restaurant to daughter, who currently oversees day to day operations
 - Establishment has been in current location for 50 years, the last 8 of which has been under the current licensees and with a beer/wine license
 - Establishment seats 49 at 20 tables, with a maximum capacity of 74 persons and will operate from 11:30 AM to 11:30 PM Sunday thru Thursday and 11:30 AM to 2 AM Friday and Saturday. The 2 AM closure is a reduction from the originally sought 2:30 AM closing. The proprietor agreed to the conditions.
 - Applicants stated the upgrade to a full license is necessary to increase revenue to offset higher rent prices of the revitalized strip

There were no police objections to the application and the committee voted to support the full license pending verification that the establishment does not violate the State Liquor Authority's 200 foot rule that states an establishment cannot operate with a full license if it is within 200 feet of a school or house of worship. The establishment is 225 feet from the nearest church, thus making a full license possible (Mr. Wayne Bailey completed the measurements following the questions raised at the meeting).

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the Committee's recommendation that the SLA approve Kelso Bistro & Restaurant's upgrade from a Beer/Wine license to a full liquor license as well as a reduction in the hours of operation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Oton and carried with a vote of 30 in favor, 2 opposed, with 1 abstention.

2. The proprietors of Elberta located at 333 Flatbush Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) made a favorable presentation for their alteration application to obtain a full liquor license. The owners are seeking to expand their existing space at 335 Flatbush into the property next door for a venue that will entail the following:
 - A catering/party space with live performances
 - Maximum capacity of 75 persons and will remain separated from the existing space that currently has a maximum capacity of 64 persons. Current configurations anticipate 43 total seats in the new space
 - Hours of operations will cease at 2 AM Thursday thru Saturday, 9 PM on Sundays, and Midnight Tuesday and Wednesday. The space will be closed on Monday
 - Full soundproofing on the floors and ceiling

There were no police objections to the space. Mr. Puca asked what type of live performances would be held and was informed that there would be jazz performances. He then followed up by asking if any letters of support were received from the upstairs neighbors and was informed that the neighbors were notified. Mr. Ellis clarified that the committee did not ask for support, but rather notification letters. In addition, Mr. Ellis stated that the proprietors provided a letter from the Dept. of Buildings stating that the space fits the configurations for

live music. Furthermore, the venue has always had live music in the location. Responding to a question concerning whether or not a new license is needed versus an alteration, Mr. Ellis stated that the proprietor does not have to seek the new license and can use an alteration to extend to the space if they are going to be connected yet still divided.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the Committee's recommendation that the SLA approve Elberta's upgrade from a Beer/Wine license to a full liquor license, their request for an expansion in the existing space and the reduction of hours of operation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Frazier and carried with a vote of 29 in favor, 1 opposed, with 3 abstentions.

3. The committee entertained the following renewal applications:

--The Vanderbilt, 570 Vanderbilt Avenue (corner of Bergen Street)—Full
--95 South, 788 Franklin Avenue (St. John's and Lincoln Places)—Full

There were no police objections to either application. The police acknowledged that there was a recent shooting in the vicinity of 95 South, but the incident did not stem from the establishment. Community complaints pertaining to the establishment causing crime on the strip have been unfounded. Officers from the 77th Precinct stated that the establishment is well operated and has no documented history of incidents as many may believe. Mr. Pierce made a motion to support the Committee's recommendation that the SLA approve the above renewal applications. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried with a vote of 27 in favor, 3 opposed, with 3 abstentions.

4. Finally, at the July 8, 2013 meeting, in response to the State Liquor Authority's decision to renew a number of licenses in opposition to the Board's decisions, thereby issuing nuisance establishment a new license to continue operating without regard for the community, and also to combat unscrupulous proprietors from seeking to obtain a liquor license without first appearing before the Community Board, the following resolution was adopted to send to the SLA:

Whereas, the New York State Liquor Authority requires applicants to notify Community Boards 30 days in advance of applying to the SLA for a license to consume alcoholic beverages on-premises, and

Whereas, Community Boards can only request a 30-day extension of comment time for an application, and

Whereas, Community Boards are often disregarded in the application process by applicants/proprietors who attempt to circumvent the communities' review either by notifying the Community Boards of their applications during the months of July and August when Community Boards are not in session, or by ignoring notices to appear before the requisite committee to make a formal presentation on the plans for their establishments, and

Whereas, Brooklyn Community Board 8 (BkCB 8) has seen a dramatic increase in the number of liquor license applications reviewed each month as well as the number of applications that require a 500-foot Rule Hearing, and

Whereas, it is BkCB 8's Charter-mandated duty to protect the quality of life for its residents while striking a balance and accord with economic development in the Community District, and

Whereas, there are a number of establishments (whose licenses are up for renewal each year) with a history of inconsiderate operational practices that substantially reduce the quality of life for their residential neighbors as shown by the numerous complaints from the community,

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that Brooklyn Community Board 8 requests the following:

1. In the event that the NYSLA has not received a written recommendation from Brooklyn Community Board 8 ("BkCB 8"), stating BkCB 8's preferred disposition of any new or renewal on-premises liquor license application, by that application's hearing date, the NYSLA will:
 - a. **presume that the application has not been reviewed by BkCB 8,**
 - b. **refer that application to BkCB 8 for review, and**
 - c. **withhold any determination concerning the disposition of that application** unless and until the NYSLA has received said recommendation; and
2. When an applicant applies to the NYSLA for **a temporary liquor license** for a forthcoming event, to ensure proper and timely notification, the applicant should be required to notify the local police precinct at least one week in advance of the event; and
3. An increase of the comment period from 30 days to 90 days for applications submitted in June and to 60 days for applications submitted in other months to ensure that all applications can be evaluated; and
4. In the event that the NYSLA makes a determination as to the disposition of a particular application **which is different from that recommended by BkCB 8**, whether in the normal course of business, a special SLA hearing, or an Executive Session the NYSLA should notify BkCB 8 in writing of the reasons for that determination, and
5. That the SLA limit the use of Executive Sessions under Public Officers Law Article 7 (Open Meetings Law) so that affected Community Boards are notified of any SLA hearing regarding a new or existing liquor license or enforcement issues in order for affected community members to attend and testify, and not be restricted to attending hearings on 500-foot Rule exceptions, and that such notice include a complete agenda with the applicants' Business Name, the DBA or Operating Name, and the Street Address.

The committee believes that the adoption of the above resolution would greatly assist the Board in evaluating applications, convincing proprietors to change negative business practices, and also

empower both the local precinct and the Community Board in terms of license revocation procedures. The resolution was adopted specifically to address renewed licenses for Washington Commons and Hawker Bar (formerly Calf BK), who both had extensive histories in the community.

Ms. Oton made a motion to support the committee's resolution. It was seconded by Ms. Tyus and carried with a final tally of 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention.

Finally, Mr. Ellis informed the Board of the work that the committee completed over the summer and the resolutions of applications. The following letters were submitted to the State Liquor Authority:

- A letter to deny the full license application for Hawker Bar (formerly Calf BK) at 611 Vanderbilt Avenue. The committee was not satisfied with the presentation given at the SLAC meeting, nor with a seemingly underhanded approach that the new proprietors were undertaking in attempting to transfer the license from the former owner to themselves. NYS does not allow license transfers and Hawker Bar changed its name without contacting the SLA, and despite the corporate changes and the former owner admitting to reporters that he was no longer the owner of the space, the new owners were and still are using the license of Calf BK under the original owner's name while their application is pending.
- A letter asking that the SLA postpone issuing a renewal license for Calf BK since there is a history of problems at the establishment and an attempt to transfer the license from the current proprietor to two long time employees. The SLA issued the license against the Board's request and prior to the proprietors meeting before the committee.
- A letter denying support for the beer/wine application for Cool Pony located at 733 Franklin Avenue. The proprietors began the space as a vintage clothing store and in May began illegally selling alcohol while hosting live performances in the backyard. Numerous letters of complaint were submitted to the District office in opposition of the application.
- A letter of support for the full license application made by Bar Chuko located at 565 Vanderbilt Avenue. The committee stipulated that the applicant should open at Noon on weekdays to provide another lunch option on the strip that is predominately night heavy.
- A letter of support for the Alteration Application made by Ideya Brooklyn located at 636 Carlton Avenue to have the full liquor license extend to the Sidewalk Café. The committee stipulated that the café should close promptly at 10 PM Sunday thru Wednesday and 11 PM Thursday thru Saturday. Also, the number of seats at the café should not exceed 24.
- A letter of support for Kami Asian (formerly Haru Sushi N Thai) located at 385 Flatbush Avenue for a beer and wine license. The establishment will operate as Haru did, but needed a new license because of changes in the corporate structure.
- A letter to support the full license application for Friends and Lovers located at 641 Franklin Avenue. Friends will operate primarily as a live music venue with a small outdoor space and will operate Monday through Wednesday from 4 PM to 2 AM, Thursday and Friday from 4

PM to 4 AM, Saturdays from 10 AM to 4 AM, and Sunday from 10 AM to 2 AM. The establishment will also provide affordable music lessons for youth on weekends.

■ A letter supporting the following renewal licenses:

1. Five Star Indian Corp., 678 Franklin Avenue – Beer/Wine
2. Skazzy, 689 Washington Avenue – Beer/Wine
3. Chavela's, 736 Franklin Avenue – Full
4. Pequena, 601 Vanderbilt Avenue – Full
5. Janelle's, 671 Washington Avenue – Full

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 6:30 PM at Center Light Health Care Center (CNR) located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places). All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committee members for the work they did over the summer. If the committee did not meet, the Community Board would have had no voice in the process and would not have been able to vet applications and ask the SLA to put stipulations on the licenses of certain businesses.

TRANSPORTATION – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Co-Chair

The Transportation Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at 7 PM at CNR Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places). The committee will hear an update on the North Flatbush Avenue Capital Project. All are invited to attend.

YOUTH/FAMILY SERVICES – Ms. Akosua Albritton, Chair

Ms. Albritton announced that the Youth and Family Services Committee met on Wednesday, September 4, 2013. The committee heard a presentation from Natasha Ezequiel, member of Food Allies, a volunteer food justice group. Ms. Ezequiel notified the committee that Food Allies was sponsoring their 2nd Annual Prospect Heights/Crown Heights Health & Harvest Fair on Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 12 noon to 4 PM on Underhill Avenue between St. John's and Sterling Places.

The next meeting will be held on October 2, 2013 at 6:30 PM at CNR-Center Light Health Care Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. The committee will discuss the significant presence of men and women that have aged out of ACS foster care system and now living in shelters that do not receive adequate guidance in their youth. All are invited to attend and participate in the discussion.

Ms. Granville thanked the committee chairs for their reports and opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Peter Krashes, President of Dean Street Block Association, announced some of the issues the community faced with the staging of the MTV Music Awards. He stated that it is imperative to relay the experience that residents had inside the frozen zone where the red carpet took place. There were huge impacts on residents in footprint including 5 days of after-hours construction work, live concerts, and bussed in people to serve as extras. All of this was done with little engagement or community input. It appears that no code of conduct exists or that it is not adhered to for red carpet events. For regular special events, one key piece of the code of conduct is to let each neighbor know how they would be impacted, but in this instance, no such information was given. Four blocks of the staging area were frozen zones where residents had to pass through check points just to get access to their homes. Security was a major concern in the frozen zone. He provided an anecdote of an elderly person that was unable to get food and a make-shift brigade that was formed to pass the food from her grandson on Flatbush Avenue to her home. In the event that the MTV Music Awards uses Barclays again, the impacts will probably be more significant. As such, it is imperative that meetings be held and community input be allowed.

Ms. Tyus thanked Mr. Krashes for bringing the matter to the attention of the Board, and assured him that the District office would work closely with city agencies and elected officials to improve the communication for future events.

Ms. Ineisha Williford from Councilwoman Mealy's office welcomed everyone to what will hopefully be a new and productive meeting year. She encouraged everyone with relevant and helpful information to share it with the Councilwoman's office for constituents.

Ms. Sharon Wedderburn announced that Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) Brower Park Branch created a friends of the library group, which will have an ice cream social from 2-4 PM at the library in the backyard on Saturday, September 14, 2013. There will be face painting activities, a child friendly atmosphere, a great opportunity to meet neighbors, and an opportunity to tell library officials what is needed at the branch and across BPL.

Ms. Alice Long, the Block Association president for Lincoln Place between Utica Avenue and Rochester Avenues stated that she had a delightful experience working with the District office and the 77th Precinct after an unfortunate shooting that cancelled their scheduled block party. She stated that there is much work that the block association can do along with other blocks to improve the community, and as such, she will be working closely with the Community Board this year and attending meetings regularly.

Ms. Dynishal Gross from Councilman Vann's office stated that as an outgoing councilmember, Councilman Vann has a great career in public service coming to an end after 32 years. To celebrate, the office will recognize him on November 16, 2013 at Concord Baptist Church during a community sanctioned event. A scholarship and grant fund was established in his honor to commemorate the work he has done during his illustrious career.

Ms. Hannah Holland from the Borough President's office introduced herself as the new Liaison at the BP's office. There are many festivals and heritage celebrations upcoming including the

Book Festival, Italian Heritage, Jewish Heritage—all of which are being celebrated in October. For more information on any of the festivals or heritage celebrations, call 718-802-3848.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for their announcements and comments and adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM. The next meeting of Community Board No. 8 will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2013 at 7 PM at the Brooklyn Children's Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue (corner of St. Marks Avenues). All are invited to attend.

GUEST LIST

Sonya Sharp
Ellen Pakk
Lindsay Christ
Sarah Mortimer
Leroy Reid
Alice Long
Aimee Hutchinson
Kaitlyn Somers
Seth York
Josh Ellis
Veronica Parker
Lukesha Landers
Jack Danziger
Gretchen Anderson
Erin Fortin
Jeff Swobody
Tom Boast
Peter Krashes
Matt Wells
Kati Nicholson
Jonathan Stan
G. Sullivan

Shirely Mondesir
Dr. Gloria Gasper
Wayne Wilson
Andrea Phillips-Merriman
Gloria Crawford
Celeste Farmer
Beverly Sherwood
Richard Jefferson
Sharon Freedman
Jaqueline Europe
Cathleen Caron
T. Richman
Cynthia Racklin
Erwin Caesar
James Walker
Charles Donovan
Roy Simmonds
Lee Leviter
Dorothy Bembry-Guet
Malcolm McDaniels
Walton Wilson