# Community Board 8 Weeksville Heritage Center 158 Buffalo Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11213

# February 13, 2020

# **Members Present**

Glinda Andrews Desmond Atkins Wayne Bailey

Princess Benn-James

Julia Boyd

Gail Branch-Muhammad

Nora Daniel Dian Duke James Ellis Andrea Ferris Fred Frazier Drew Gabriel Tamika Gibbs Nizjoni Granville Marva Henry Xeerxeema Jordan

Regina Kinsey Sarah Lazur

Kwasi Mensah Katharine Perko

Robert Puca Yahya Raji

Adam Sachs Brian Saunders Meredith Staton Audrey Taitt-Hall

Mark Thurton

Greg Todd Ethel Tyus Yves Vilus

Sharon Wedderburn Robert Witherwax Deborah Young Vilma Zuniga

# Members Absent/Excused

Helen Coley
Hanjy Charles
Phu Duong
Eunice Ko
Elaine Mahoney
Robert Matthews
Sheryl Vassell
Gib Veconi
Irsa Weatherspoon

# **Elected Officials Present**

Assemblywoman Diana Richardson, 43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District Senator Zellnor Myre, 20<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

# **Elected Official Representatives**

Karen Chambers, District Attorney Eric Gonzalez Godfre Bayalama, Senator Zellnor Myrie Khalid Jemmot, Assemblywoman Diana Richardson Kim Robinson, Councilwoman Alika Ampry-Samuel Jamal Pollard, Borough President Eric Adams Arna Lipkind, Majority Leader Cumbo Venus Galarza, NYC Comptroller Jibreel Jalloh, NYC Public Advocate Maceo Karriem, Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright

Gabriel Torres, Assemblyman Walter Mosley

# CB8 Staff

Michelle George, District Manager

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 7:15 by Ms. Ethel Tyus, Chairperson. She welcomed everyone to the February general meeting and asked Mr. Bailey, Sergeant At Arms to announce a few housekeeping rules. He asked everyone to please put their cell phones on vibrate, to take

private conversations in the hall. He reminded everyone that members of the press may be present. Lastly, he asked everyone to address the Chair when speaking.

<u>ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES</u> – The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as written on motion by Mr. Atkins and second by Dr. Lazur.

<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u> – CB 8 newsletter and other information was distributed. Also, Chairperson Tyus announced that the Dept. of City Planning is moving forward with approving the Grand Pacific Re-zoning proposal, and the Community Benefits Agreement that the owner agreed to, would be added to the final City Council determination. Ms. Tyus invited Senator Zellnor Myrie to say a few words.

### SENATOR ZELLNOR MYRIE, 20TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

Senator Myrie announced that he is pleased to be back in Brooklyn, having just arrived from Albany. He stated that he and a number of other Senators were at Weeksville just the other week with students, touring the facility so students could learn of their history.

Senator Myrie also announced that representatives are in the middle of the budget season. New York State has a budget close to \$190 billion annually. Both houses, the Senate and the Assembly, must come to an agreement with the governor's office on how to spend that money. The budget is a "value document" that must be passed by April 1st. For the last decade, the legislature has been talking about reducing gun violence in Brooklyn, but had not gotten the requisite investment to properly reduce it. However, in the last session budget, representatives were able to secure \$200,000 for Central Brooklyn alone specifically to battle gun violence. Central Brooklyn is a cluster site for many morbidities in the state. Fortunately, for the first time, the governor has invested in SUNY Downstate Hospital to have a program for mothers and infant children.

The most important thing for the community to do over the next three months is to focus on the census. The most undercounted county in the nation is Kings County. We must be laser focused on the census that begins on March 12, 2020 to ensure that the community gets what it needs and deserves. In order for that to happen, all residents must be counted.

Finally, Senator Myrie announced that the last day to register to vote to be able to vote in the upcoming primary elections is February 14th. This is a massive change from years past, when the cut off used to be in October of the previous year.

Mr. Ellis stated that there seems to be a number of unanswered questions regarding the plastic bag ban that goes into effect on March 1st. He stated that businesses are confused as to whom is exempt and asked Senator Myrie to have the State provide guidance. Senator Myrie stated that he would look into it.

Ms. Tyus thanked Senator Myrie for the information and asked Assemblywoman Diana Richardson if she had anything to share.

#### ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIANA RICHARDSON, 43RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Assemblywoman Richardson stated that she cannot underscore enough the importance of the census. Unfortunately, the money the state has set aside for census education has not yet been distributed in the community, especially the communities that need the money most. As such, she called on all community organizations and concerned residents to apply pressure on the governor to get the funding rolling in the community.

Assemblywoman Richardson announced that she is very pleased with this legislative session as she was able to get her 11th piece of legislation passed in New York. This most recent one addresses the maternal mortality rate in Central Brooklyn, by ensuring that first time mothers have access to the additional information on what to look for after they give birth in an effort to curb unnecessary deaths. She provided alarming statistics on maternal mortality rates for black women versus other ethnicities.

Finally, the Assemblywoman stated that her office is a judgment free zone with staff willing to provide assistance with a host of issues. She stated that if you are going through any "dis-ease" or unrest, any problems with rent, abuse, sexual harassment, etc., in your life, please reach out to her office at 718-771-3105.

Ms. Tyus thanked the Assemblywoman for the information and invited the guest speaker, Assistant District Attorney Kelli Muse, to say a few words on Hate Crimes.

# <u>KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE/HATE CRIMES BUREAU</u> – Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Kelli Muse

ADA Kelli Muse, Chief of Hate Crimes Bureau: in December 2018, due to uptick in rise in hate crimes, DA Gonzalez decided to create a standalone bureau, the only type in New York, dedicated to prosecuting hate crimes. In the latter part of 2019, there was a spike in hate crimes, but they are declining and plateauing.

What is a hate crime? ADA Muse explained that crime exists all the time. There are several that can be charged as a hate crime. Assault, robbery, murder, criminal mischief, etc., all based on police investigation. It is important for everyone to explain what happened to determine that it is a hate crime. As such, the DA's office works closely with NYPD Hate Crimes task force. NYPD hate crimes requires a duty captain to be on scene. If NYPD determines the possibility of a hate crime, the DA's office is notified immediately and greater assistance can be given. Hate crimes are not just crimes against individuals, but also the community. It can take some time to charge someone with a hate crime. Crimes must have bias and motivation to charge someone with a hate crime. Must be able to prove that the criminal activity was motivated by bias. Gave example of two scenarios with the same words to determine whether it is a hate crime.

Determine whether a hate crime, hate speech (allowed by the constitution), or simply name-calling. If two people that have known each other for years and have a disagreement, will likely not be charged as a hate crime because there is no bias. Usually, toward the end of the year, there is a spike in potential hate crimes, so look at history, tattoos and their meaning, and other variables.

Ms. Tyus asked for a report from the following committees:

#### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee made a recommendation to give authority to the District Manager, Michelle George, to oversee all personnel matters in the District office. Historically, the District Manager has always had this authority, but recent changes to the Office of Management and Budget policies have referred to the city charter, which is silent and instructs community boards to refers to their by-laws. As CB 8's By-laws are silent and refers to the City Charter (circular), it is essential that the DM be empowered exclusively to address staff and personnel matters until such time as the CB 8 by-laws are amended to specify the role and powers of the DM in addition to any other changes that need to be made to the by-laws.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Witherwax and passed with a final tally of 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

# **Economic Development** – Mr. James Ellis, Chair; Mr. Brian Saunders, Vice Chair

Mr. Ellis announced that he is working with Brian Saunders to enhance the business to business and the community side of things in the committee. Funds are available at the state level and a few thousand dollars have been received. He stated that he looks forward to progress on economic development issues and opportunities in the district.

# Education and Youth - Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chair; Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Vice Chair

Ms. Wedderburn announced that the first annual spelling bee for grades 2 thru 5 in exclusively public schools in District 8 is currently being planned. Youth and Education is currently collaborating with public safety to address the many instances where the students are "sheltered in place" during lockdowns. Unfortunately, too many young children do not see any issues with shelter in place despite parents' worry and fears for their children. Shelter in place is an especially difficult time for parents who panic when they get notification that their kids are sheltered in place and cannot access the schools to get to their children during a lock down because the schools have no access.

Ms. Wedderburn also announced that the Board of Regents will create a Blue Ribbon Commission to review the State's high school graduation measures and reaffirm what it means to obtain a diploma in New York State. The Board of Regents and State Education Department are holding regional meetings to help inform the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission, and the meetings will be held on Wednesday, February 26th from 5:30-8:30 Pm at Fort Hamilton high School, 8301 Shore Road; February 27th from 9 AM to Noon at Brooklyn College Student Center, 2705 Campus Road; and Thursday February 27th from 5:30-8:30 PM at Boys and Girls HS located at 1700 Fulton Street. To participate or for more information, visit www.nysed.gov/grad-measures.

# **Environment, Sanitation, and Transportation (EST)** – Mr. Robert Witherwax, Chair; Ms. Irsa Weatherspoon, Vice Chair

Mr. Witherwax announced that starting March 1, 2020 New York State's Plastic Bag Ban will go into effect. Single use plastic carryout bags are banned, with limited exceptions in NYS. Paper Bag Fee in New York City: businesses will begin collecting a five-cent fee on paper carryout bags. Community Board 8 has obtained free reusable bags from the Department of Sanitation that will be distributed at the end of the meeting while supplies last. Ms. George stated that additional bags will be given out at the District Office starting next week.

The EST committee will not meet for the month of March. The next meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in April.

# <u>Health and Human Services</u> – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair

Mr. Mensah announced that the next Health and Human Services Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) located at 465 Sterling Place. Mr. Mensah announced that the 4th Annual Black Health Matters Summit will be held on March 14th at Riverside Church, 91 Clearmont Street in Harlem. There is a plethora of information regarding health issues amongst the black community.

### **Housing** – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

Ms. Granville announced that the Housing Committee met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Albany Community Center located at 164 Troy Avenue. The committee continues planning their workshop on tenants rights tentatively scheduled for April 25th. They want to cover the changes in rent laws so people know what their rights of. The event is scheduled for Noon to 5 PM. The next Housing meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 6:30 PM at Albany Community Center located at 164 Troy Avenue, corner of Prospect Place.

## <u>Land Use</u> – Ms. Ethel Tyus, Chairperson

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at the Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. Present were: Princess Benn-James, Nora Daniel, Fred Frazier, Xeerzeema Jordan, Sarah Lazur, Katharine Perko, Adam Sachs, Meredith Staton, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, Irsa Weatherspoon, Sharon Wedderburn, Deborah Young, Dan Lawler, Kaitlin Lau, Ned Rothenberg, Darrin Krumpus, Valerie Nero-Reid, Gabriel Lefferts. The committee had the following action items:

#### LPC application for 5 Hampton Place (Crown Heights North Historic District)

Registered Architect Darrin Krumpus presented plans to restore the front parlor window to its original configuration and to modify the rear window openings, which are partially visible from Park Place. For the front window modification, the existing aluminum frame will be replaced with black-painted wood, and historically contextual details will be restored. The transom however, will be made of clear, rather than stained, glass, as the original stained glass transom was removed some time ago. In the rear of the building, the applicant plans to punch out the masonry between 2 rear windows on the ground and parlor floors, so that the enlarged space can be converted into a picture window and adjacent door. Additionally, a third window on the parlor floor will be lengthened and converted into a door for access to an existing terrace. This project does not yet have a scheduled LPC hearing.

A motion was made by Deborah Young and seconded by Gib Veconi to support the application as presented with the recommendation that the owner consider restoring stained glass window in the transom over the front parlor windows. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 13 in favor and 0 abstentions. The committee hopes the full Board will support its recommendation.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey. It was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final tally of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

# LPC application for 293 Park Place (Prospect Heights Historic District)

The committee also discussed the LPC application for 293 Park Place (Prospect Heights Historic District). Registered Architect Daniel Lawler presented plans to divide the single-family residence at this address into 1 basement apartment and 1 triplex apartment occupying the parlor and upper 2 bedroom floors. The proposed plan included replacing the rear shed-like extension with a single story insulated concrete block addition with a roof terrace at the parlor level. The new rear-yard extension would extend about 15 feet

from the house—which would match the length of the extension at neighboring 291 Park Place—and would have stone stairs extending 12 feet out from the terrace. The materials proposed for the terrace included dark, insulated block with black-painted steel windows and doors. This project has an LPC hearing scheduled for Tuesday, February 11.

A motion was made by Gib Veconi and seconded by Meredith Staton to support the plan as presented with the request that the applicant consider a black painted metal rail instead of a parapet wall on the proposed rear terrace and stair. Mr. Lawler and the building's owner, who was present, both agreed to consider the suggested revision to the plans. The motion passed unanimously, with 13 in favor and 0 abstentions. The committee hopes the full Board will support its recommendation.

In light of the applicant's LPC hearing date occurring before the next full board meeting, committee Chair Ethel Tyus noted that a letter detailing the committee's support for the plans would be submitted to LPC in advance of the hearing on February 11.

#### **M-CROWN Updates**

The final discussion item was for updates on the M-CROWN Neighborhood Rezoning project and related issues. Committee member Gib Veconi updated the committee on moving into the next portion of the M-CROWN rezoning process, which is a multiagency study. DCP asked the subcommittee to begin to convene stakeholder meetings in this part of Brooklyn and ask what sort of needs the community has that could be addressed in conjunction with/as a part of the rezoning. This means that while there is not an official timeline, DCP's actions suggest that an M-CROWN rezoning is not years in the distance, but rather months.

The subcommittee has already reached out to some of these groups in the interest of scheduling these meetings in the near future. The councilmembers have asked that CB8 educate surrounding neighbors on the project in order to ensure that all relevant participants are aware of and have the right information about the project and so that we can hear from as many people as possible regarding potential public realm improvements.

Mr. Veconi also updated the committee on the proposed rezoning associated with 979-985 Pacific Street. He reported that negotiations of the terms of the binding commitment to devote 25% of the building's ground floor commercial space to M-CROWN uses are fairly close to an agreement with the owner/developer, and their lawyer. Should this community benefits agreement be successful, it could become a model for future proposed rezonings within the district.

The next Land Use Committee meeting will be held on Thrusday, March 5, 2020 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

<u>SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)</u> – Mr. James Ellis, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Vice Chair

The SLAC committee met on Monday, February 3, 2020 at the Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. Present were: Wayne Bailey, Gail Branch-Muhammad, Janet Collins, Dian Duke, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Oliver Hardt, Roger Myers, Robert Puca, Brian Saunders, Meredith Staton, Mark Thurton, Gib Veconi, Irsa Weatherspoon, Robert Witherwax. The committee discussed the following applications:

#### Renewals

- Cas West Indian, 135 Kingston Avenue –Beer/wine/cider
- Branded Cattle Saloon, 603 Vanderbilt Avenue Full
- Citrico, 681 Washington Avenue Full

The committee voted to support all four renewal applications in hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation was made by Mr. Bailey. The motion was seconded by Mr. Witherwax and carried with a final tally of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Mr. Ellis congratulated Cas West Indian for over 30 years of operations on Kingston Avenue.

The committee voted to support the sidewalk café renewal application for Sweet Chick, 636 Carlton Avenue, 14 tables with 34 seats. It hopes that the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Gibbs asked if there were any issues with the operations of the sidewalk café. She was informed there were none. Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs and carried with a final tally of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention.

The next SLAC meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

#### **Parks** – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

Ms. Andrews announced that the Parks Committee met on February 4th at St. John's Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place. In honor of Black History Month, the center will show the movie Black Panther on February 28th. In honor of Women's History Month, the center will feature Hidden Figures on March 27th. Finally, the center's senior games start the first week in May.

#### Public Safety – Mr. Mark Thurton, Chair; Mr. Desmond Atkins, Vice Chair

The public Safety Committee met on Monday, January 27, 2020 at the 77th Precinct. The committee is still working on getting funding for cameras in the 77th precinct to combat crime. Mr. Thurton distributed the NCO sector meeting schedule.

#### **Seniors** – Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

Ms. Muhammad recognized the work that her committee' Vice Chair, Ms. Regina Kinsey, does for the committee. She stated that Ms. Kinsey is integral in connecting the seniors to local food panties and food distribution centers. The February Senior's meeting was held on February 5, 2020 at David Chavis, where participants played black history bingo and had an enjoyable time. The next meeting will be held on March 4th at 6 PM at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue. The committee provides recreational, cultural, and education activities for seniors. Ms. Muhammad stated that they would like to rename the committee to MSIA, or Make Seniors Important Again.

#### **Public Comments**

Mr. Chris and Geoffrey Owens sons of the late Congressman Major Owens stated that in the near future they will be seeking support from Community Board 8 to rename Eastern Parkway in their father's honor.

The Congressman viewed Eastern Parkway as Brooklyn's cultural artery with Central Brooklyn as the heart of the borough. From Grand Army Plaza, where he served as the Assistant Director of the Brooklyn Public Library to Bushwick Avenue, where the outer boundaries of his old State Senate District. Congressman Owens spread his message of educational empowerment, economic justice and peace between people for more than half a century. Therefore, they will be asking CB8 to join them in creating the "Major Owens Parkway' to commemorate the work performed by their father for Brooklyn and to celebrate his love for Central Brooklyn.

**Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad** of the Crown Heights North Association (CHNA) announced that their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at St. Gregory's RC Church located on the corner of St. John's Place and Brooklyn Avenue at 6:45 p.m. All are invited to attend.

**Mr. James Ellis**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair of CB8 reminded all members who are up for renewal that their applications are due at Borough Hall tomorrow.

Ms. Arna Lipkind from Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo's office stated that their office will be holding a Count Me In! Census Family Day at the Brooklyn Children's Museum on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 2-5pm free of charge. All are welcomed to attend. For more information, contact <a href="Ldorvil@council.nyc.gov">Ldorvil@council.nyc.gov</a>. They also offer free housing services every Thursday at their district office located at 55 Hanson Place, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor. To schedule an appointment, call Jon Goss 347-578-1548 or email <a href="jgoss@brooklynhousing.org">jgoss@brooklynhousing.org</a>. FY2021 NYC Council Discretionary funding applications are available online until Tuesday, February 18, 2020. The application can be found at <a href="http://bit.ly/2TaRXDO">http://bit.ly/2TaRXDO</a>. For more information, contact the district office 718-260-9191.

**Ms. Kim Robinson** from Councilwoman Alika Ampry-Samuel's office announced that Tax prep is being offered at their district office located at 400 Rockaway Avenue. Please call to schedule an appointment 718-953-3097.

**Mr. Godre Bayalama** from Senator Zellnor Myrie's office announced their First Annual State of the district address on Sunday, February 23, 2020 at Grand Army Plaza Library. The State of the District Address is an excellent opportunity to learn about the progress they have made so far and their agenda for the work ahead. There will be food, performances, an opportunity to take a picture with the Senator, and more! Doors open at 1:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you there. For more information and to RSVP, please call the district office at 718-284-4700.

**Mr. Jibreel Jalloh**, NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams announced that their office will be hosting a series of Bail Reform information sessions. The next one will be held on February 18, 2020 at Touro College in Manhattan. Brooklyn's sessions will be held on March 18, 2020. For more information, please call 646-952-1500.

**Ms. Venus Galarza-Mullins** from the NYC Comptroller's office stated that she is the new Brooklyn Borough Director. She invited everyone to attend the Comptroller's Women's History event on March 12, 2020 at the American Museum of Natural History from 6-8pm. If further information is needed, please call her at 212-669-7415 or email her at vgalarz@comptroller.nyc.gov.

**Mr. Maceo Karriem**, from Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright's office offered greetings from the Assembly member and stated that if there are any concerns, please call the district office at 718-399-7630.

With no additional information to be discussed, Ms. Tyus adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at St. Teresa's R.C. Church, 563 Sterling Place, Brooklyn. All are invited to attend.

# PUBLIC HEARING ON CITY AGENCY RESPONSES TO COMMUNITY BOARD 8'S PRELIMINARY CAPITAL AND EXPENSE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:40 p.m., by Ms. Tyus. She reminded everyone that tonight's public hearing is not the place to add new items/requests and is solely and opportunity to comment on the agency responses to the requests submitted by the Board. She asked Mr. Ellis, Mr. Witherwax, Ms. Granville, Ms. Wedderburn, to read the requests and the agency responses, urging those with concerns about the response to read the request's description. Based on the responses received from the community, the Board will send a comment letter to Mayor de Blasio with our concerns over the responses. She asked all speakers that comment to indicate whether they are commenting on a capital or expense item and to give the request number when they make their statement.

The following items were highlighted by community members with a brief description of why they disagreed with the agency response:

Mr. Witherwax thanked Dr. Perko, a member of the EST Committee, for highlighting the 8 EST items in the budget document. He stated that he would comment on three of them for their "ridiculousness." C10: backwards. Already have reserved spots in AYP at 535 Carlton Avenue. E1: the four-legged interlopers: there is no higher priority for the EST committee and the agency response is not sufficient. E16: there is some validity to the response, and the board should work with legislators to change the standards and regulations around illegal dumping. Look forward to working with the committee to suggest ways to work with sanitation to bring forth these changes.

Atkins: E16: there is a site in the community that is a major dumping location, but can only cite them once a month, which is a major fault in the law. E10: this is a multi-department issue. Too many other agencies are underfunded also, which leads to greater disparity. So many issues impact youth and one of the reasons they act out is because they are angry and there are no resources available to them. Young people need a chance to vent physically to develop their minds. Called out the lawsuit on educational equity—the money that still has not been received downstate.

Tyus: E1: strongly recommend that DOB and DOH revise the laws to require rodent control plans for other DoB permits in addition to total demolitions. Currently DOB rules only require rodent control plans for full demolitions. Need to send complaint letters to the agencies that provided non-sensical responses.

Ellis: there may be things to add to the requests because in September, CB 8 will be submitting a new document and will need additional items. Start considering.

Gibbs: C11: parks to transit?

Curtis Harris: what follow-up occurs after the letter is sent? Ms. George stated that after the letter is sent, we reach out to our elected officials and express the importance of funding and supporting our budget requests.

Ms. Branch-Muhammad made a motion that the District office craft a comment letter with the specific issues detailed to the Mayor and the elected officials. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wedderburn and carried with a final tally of 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Ms. Tyus thanked everyone for their comments and stated that our budget requests and Statement of District Needs will only be as strong as the requests and explanations given to the District office by the community. She encouraged everyone to participate in committees to help them prepare their items and needs. The public hearing was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

### **Guests Present**

Lula Staton Linda Ferrett Justin Lawless Shirley Mondesir Lynn Cave Stephanie Grandier John Dewand Jeanefer Jean Sam Clarke France Langley **Denise Francis** Latoya Fisher Kevin Farley Stephanie Hendricks H. Benjamin K. Taylor-Davidson **Curtis Harris** Wayne Davidson **Peggy Grimes** Valerie Nero-Reid Matthew Baer Phyllis Grannum

**Nadine Davis**