

**Community Board 8
Brooklyn Children's Museum
145 Brooklyn Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216**

October 10, 2019

Members Present

Glinda Andrews
Desmond Atkins
Wayne Bailey
Princess Benn-James
Julia Boyd
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Hanjy Charles
Nora Daniel
James Ellis
Fred Frazier
Drew Gabriel
Nizjoni Granville
Marva Henry
Xeerxeema Jordan
Regina Kinsey
Sarah Lazur
Elaine Mahoney
Kwasi Mensah
Dr. Katharine Perko
Yahya Raji
Adam Sachs
Brian Saunders
Meredith Staton
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Mark Thurton
Greg Todd
Ethel Tyus
Gib Veconi
Irsa Weatherspoon
Sharon Wedderburn
Robert Witherwax
Deborah Young
Vilma Zuniga

Members Absent/Excused

Helen Coley
Dian Duke
Phu Duong
Andrea Ferris
Tamika Gibbs
Eunice Ko
Lisa Lashley
Robert Matthews
Robert Puca
Sheryl Vassell
Yves Vilus

Elected Officials Present

Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright, 56th AD
District Leader Olanike Alabi, 57th AD

Elected Officials Representatives

Shana Melius, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Orliwke Rees, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke
Eddie Amador, Councilman Robert Cornegy
Maceo Karriemm, Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright
Godfre Bayalama, Senator Zellnor Myrie
Kim Robinson, Councilwoman Alicka Ampry-Samuel
J. Pollard, Borough President Eric Adams
Keith Daly, Assemblyman Walter Mosley
Stefani Zinerman, Senator Velmanette Montgomery

CB8 Staff

Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

The regular meeting of CB 8 was called to order at 7:05 PM by Ms. Tyus, Chair. Ms. Tyus asked Mr. Wayne Bailey, Sergeant at Arms, to go over basic housekeeping rules and then asked for an official welcome from the Brooklyn Children's Museum.

Brooklyn Children’s Museum – Ms. Margaret Walton, Director of Government and Community Relations

Ms. Margaret Walton welcomed the Board to the Brooklyn Children’s Museum, stating that is an honor to host the Board each year. There are a number of activities and events scheduled at BCM in the coming weeks and months and those interested are encouraged to visit the website at www.brooklynkids.org. The museum will be open on Indigenous Peoples Day, aka Columbus Day, on October 14th. It is a great time for parents to bring their children and explore.

Additionally, Museum invites all to their annual Community Appreciation Reception on Thursday, October 24, 2019 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue (corner of St. Mark’s Avenue), Brooklyn. Kosher and non-kosher food will be served. To RSVP, email Ms. Walton at mwalton@brooklynkids.org.

Ms. Tyus thanked Ms. Walton for hosting the Board and asked for roll call.

Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes of the September meeting were accepted after the following corrections were made:

- Add header for Land Use Committee and MCROWN resolution
- Remove Kwasi Mensah from Seniors’ Committee attendance
- Clarify exchange between Ms. Gibbs and Mr. Ellis on SLAC item related to Izzy’s Fried Chicken
- Improve wording of explanation for de facto denials pertaining to liquor license renewals

Correspondence – CB 8 newsletter and other information was distributed.

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

Land Use – Ms. Ethel Tyus, Chairperson

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at the Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. Present were: Princess Benn-James, Nora Daniel, Phu Duong, Fred Frazier, Xerxeema Jordan, Sarah Lazur, Dr. Katharine Perko, Robert Puca, Adam Sachs, Meredith Staton, Ethel Tyus, Irsa Weatherspoon, Sharon Wedderburn, Deborah Young, Muhammod Ahmad, Eladia Causil-Rodriguez, Carter Clarke, Charles Court, Daphne Eviator, Louis Galdieri, Ben Grinblatt, Patti Hagan, Dan Jacobson, Jonathan Latimer, Alex Meshechok, Kalues Mikelsteins, Caroline Schweyer, Amit Sharma, Mary Shuford, and Amy Sumner. The committee discussed the following applications:

1. Application to LPC to Add Roof Deck and Stair Bulkhead to 130 Underhill Avenue in the Prospect Heights Historic District (PHHD)

Ms. Caroline Schweyer, R.A. of Gormanschweyer Architects, LLP, presented an application to add a roof deck and stair bulkhead to 130 Underhill Avenue (B/L: 1159/49) between Prospect Place and Park Place in the PHHD. The project also includes the removal of one skylight. The bulkhead will be set back 24’ from the front cornice. It will be 4’ wide by 14’ long and 8’ high. The applicant has

had a public hearing at LPC on visibility. Ms. Schweyer indicated that the bulkhead would not be visible from Underhill Avenue but there would be some visibility on Prospect Place. Ms. Mary Shuford, of Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC), asked the applicant to paint the sides of the bulkhead grey instead of white, and that the metal railing be painted black. Ms. Schweyer agreed with these recommendations and indicated that a hearing before LPC is scheduled for October 29, 2019.

On motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to support the application with seven (7) in favor and one abstention. It hopes the full board will support the Committee's recommendation.

Ms. Tyus clarified that the committee did not have a quorum for this item and as such, there is no official recommendation. Mr. Veconi made a motion to support the application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lazur and carried with a final vote of 29 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention.

2. Application to LPC to Extend Paved Patio in Rear Yard of 218 Park Pl. (PHHD)

Ben Grinblatt, R.A., of S3 Architecture and a property owner, Alex Meshechok presented plans to correct the water drainage problems occurring at the rear of the property at 218 Park Pl. (B/L: 1164/38) between Carlton Avenue and Vanderbilt Avenue adding more terraced and paved area to the rear yard. The application is designed to mitigate cellar flooding of the instant and adjacent property during heavy rains. Mr. Duong queried whether the applicant was seeking retroactive approval from LPC, which is true. Mr. Duong also pointed out that the problem could have been easily solved by adding more drains. Ms. Shuford of PHNDC had no objections to the plan. A subsequent review of Dep't of Buildings (DOB) data shows that the building has a certificate of occupancy for 10 apartments; that a condo conversion application has been filed; and there are open violations for construction work without permits. Photographs provided show extensive use of pavers, which does not appear to be an environmentally sound solution to a drainage problem. In response to a query by Ms. Benn-James on extending the patio, the owner indicated that the patio extension added retaining walls. The owner of the adjacent building 216 Park Pl., GanganDeep Singh sent a letter to CB 8 dated 9/18/19 indicating that the "small pushback of the patio with its independent drain (which increases the rear yard's drainage run-off capture capacity by 50%) has mitigated the flooding issue... for our cellar." Mr. Meshechok indicated that his LPC hearing is scheduled for October 29, 2019.

On motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to support the application with seven (7) in favor and three (3) abstentions. We hope the full board will support the Committee's recommendation.

Mr. Veconi made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lazur and carried with a final vote of 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention.

3. Application to LPC to for Full Height Horizontal Extension to 93 St Marks Ave (PHHD)

Amit Sharma of Leverich Design Studio presented the owner's plan for a 4-story, full width rear extension at 93 St. Mark's Ave (B/L: 1143/82) between Carlton Ave and Atlantic Ave. The plan includes three (3) floors plus a basement with an elevator and a bulkhead, in addition to a complete

interior renovation. The building is currently an SRO and the plan is to convert it to a two-family. The façade would stay the same.

The neighbors attended the meeting en masse, and neighbor Louis Galdieri complained his light will be blocked and his home cast in shadow; and that the plan is out of context with the character of the Historic District because there are no other similar extensions. Further, Mr. Galdieri complained that the owner is a ‘bad neighbor’ because no timely notice was received; the notice received has a faked timestamp; and over the eight to nine years that the current owner has possessed the property, the owner has permitted broken sidewalks and construction debris to plague the neighbors. Owner Mohammed Ahmed was present for the discussion. Neighbor Causil-Rodriguez (91 St. Marks) complained that the owner was not a good neighbor; that a broken pipe had flooded her basement; that the applicant lives in Indiana and did not offer to compensate her for the damage to her property; and that he does not pay his workers therefore, the work is not completed. Neighbor Eviator (95 St. Marks) complained that her basement has been flooded several times; and that the property has been vacant for eight to nine years. Neighbor Latimer (87 St. Marks) of the North Prospect Heights Association complained that the plan will change the character of the neighborhood and set a precedent for further out of character changes; and that he never received notice from the applicant. Neighbor Hagan (117 St. Marks) complained that the project site has deteriorated over the years with broken windows and the ground-floor filled with construction debris. Mary Shuford of PHNDC indicated that the project is ‘singular’ because there are two, possibly three other extensions in the whole of the interior of block 1143.

Owner Ahmed complained that it took two years to get the SRO tenants out. The neighbors created obstacles and harassed the workers by filing 31 complaints. R.A. Amit indicated that LPC advised him a two-story addition could be approved. Ms. Shuford indicated that PHNDC could support an application for a two-story addition. Mr. Puca cautioned attendees that CB recommendations are advisory and that they should plan to make a strong showing at the LCP hearing.

On motion made and seconded, the Committee voted 11 in favor to withhold support because of the adverse impacts the project will have on the Historic District and the lack of notice by the applicant to the community. It hopes the full board will support the Committee’s recommendation.

Louis Ghaldieri stated that he is very concerned about the proposal’s girth and stated he appreciates the committee withholding support for the project that is completely out of character for the block. Additionally, Mr. Ghaldieri stated that he believes the owner committee fraud in their application to LPC as evidenced by the fraud he believes they committee in forging a time stamp on a photo of posted notification for neighbors, which was not posted.

Eladia Causil-Rodriguez, a next door neighbor, informed the Board that the owner of 93 St. Marks is a terrible neighbor that caused damage to her property complete with flooding, and made no repairs. The extension will block light and air, and includes building an elevator that requires excavation, which itself can cause extensive damage.

Daphne Eviator, another next door neighbor, clarified the issue of fraud because it is very concerning, especially with the posted notices with the “faked” time stamp that provides historicity on the fraud claims.

After additional discussion from neighbors about the unseemly nature of the project's bulk as well as the unneighborly actions of the property owner, Mr. Saunders made a motion to support the committee's recommendation to withhold support for the application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lazur and carried unanimously with 33 members present.

The next meeting of the Land Use Committee will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 6:30 PM at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)

The SLAC Committee met on Monday, October 7, 2019 at IMPACCT Brooklyn located at 1000 Dean Street. Present were: Gail Branch Muhammad, Janet Collins, Dian Duke, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Oliver Hardt, Robert Puca, Brian Saunders, Mark Thurton, Gib Veconi, Irsa Weatherspoon, Robert Witherwax, and Deborah Young. The Committee discussed the following applications:

1. Renewals:

- **Barboncino**, 781 Franklin Avenue – Full (recorded music, patio/deck, sidewalk café, jazz trio weekly) Currently rear yard service suspended due to fire code, but actions are underway to remedy; additionally, proprietor seeking to open for lunch
Establishment type: Restaurant
- **Zaytoons**, 594 Vanderbilt Avenue – Wine/Beer/Cider (recorded music, garden/grounds)
Establishment type: Restaurant
- **Meme's Diner**, 657 Washington Avenue – Full (recorded music, no outdoor space)
Establishment type: Restaurant

The committee voted 11 in favor to support the aforementioned renewal applications and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Weatherspoon and carried with a final vote of 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

2. Denial of support for renewal application

New Heights, 137 Schenectady Avenue – Full (recorded music, no outdoor space)
Establishment type Restaurant

When a renewal applicant has neither submitted paperwork nor appeared in person before the committee, the committee may vote not to support the renewal for those reasons. The committee voted unanimously with 12 members present to de facto deny support for the renewal application for New Heights based on this explanation. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tyus and carried with a final vote of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

3. Method of Operation Change (MOO)
Olmsted, 659-661 Vanderbilt Avenue – Full
Establishment type: Restaurant

Requested alterations:

- Extra hour of rear yard service daily (11 PM S-R, 12AM FS)
- Indoor and outdoor service start times (11 AM M-F, 10 AM SS)
- Petition and letters of support provided
- Some community members expressed concern about noise and late hours
- Amp sound to be turned off at 9, as is currently the case.

The committee voted 11 in favor with 1 abstention to support the MOO change for Olmsted with the hope that the full Board support its recommendation.

A resident asked if any tenants complained about noise from the establishment. Mr. Ellis stated that there was one attendee that raised concerns around noise and late hours.

Ms. Weatherspoon made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Branch-Muhammad and carried with a final vote of 27 in favor, 2 opposed, with 4 abstentions.

4. New Application for **Atlantic Bar Group LLC**, 570 Vanderbilt Avenue – Full (DJ, recorded music, video/arcade games, security personnel, sidewalk café)
Establishment type: Restaurant

- d/b/a name is Mary's, in the space formerly occupied by The Vanderbilt
- 39 tables with, 78 seats, 1 bar with 25 seats indoors
- Seeking 11-4 AM daily
- Proprietor runs The Commissioner in CB6
- Applicant removed sidewalk café from application

The committee voted 11 in favor with 1 abstention to support the application with the stipulation that the space to close at 2 AM daily. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

A number of inquiries were made as to why the requested closing hours are 2 AM. Mr. Ellis stated that the initial request was to stay open until 4 AM, but because it is a 500-foot exception, the committee was able to negotiate down to 2 AM.

Ms. Taitt-Hall asked if the applicant would not seek a sidewalk café in the future. She was informed that the sidewalk café was removed from the application at this time, but moving forward, the applicant may apply for alteration and method of operations change (MOO). Ms. Taitt-Hall countered stating that the street is not wide enough for a sidewalk café due to the bus stop. Mr. Ellis stated that the application mimics everything that was already in place at the location when it operated as the Vanderbilt.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Weatherspoon and carried with a final tally of 27 in favor, 2 opposed, with 4 abstentions.

After the vote, Mr. Atkins stated that sidewalk space is a prime concern because of safety issues, and the applicants extending their business into the street is a safety issue. Ms. Ellis informed him and the community that the committee is not responsible for technical review of sidewalk applications and instead the Dept. of Consumer Affairs is responsible for technical review.

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

The EST Committee met on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at IMPACCT Brooklyn located at 1000 Dean Street. Present were: Desmond Atkins; Janet Collins; Holly Fuchs; Xeerxeema Jordan; Francis Langley; Katharine Perko; Celeste Stein; Mark Thurton; Irsa Weatherspoon; Robert Witherwax & Deborah Young.

The committee identified issues to be worked on for 2020 and the areas raised were rodent abatement, congestion along key corridors, clarity on e-bikes and sidewalk usage, speed bumps near schools, garbage pickup, and snow removal among others. Ms. Weatherspoon represented CB8 at a meeting held to discuss expansion of Utica and Nostrand Ave subway lines. Ms. Weatherspoon shared specific discussion regarding the #4 train expansion to Marine Park.

The next EST meeting will be held on October 22, 2019 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Health and Human Services – Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair

Mr. Mensah informed the Board that the Health Committee will meet on November 18th at 6:30 PM at BNIA located at 465 Sterling Place. The committee will discuss the Nurses Safe Staffing Resolution. All are invited to attend.

Seniors – Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

The Seniors Committee met on October 2, 2019 at David Chavis Apartments. Present were: Essie Spivey, Yvonne Bailey, Dennis Brown, Linda Ferrette, Mary Williams, Barbara Vicherie, Ari Moma, Crystal Rogers, Ivy Anderson, Vashti Bentinck, Annabelle Boyd, Norma Glover, Wallace Alexander, Leola Mills, Aldith Allen, Noah Potter, Zara Watkins, Nessa Thornill, Frances Langley, Gilbert Perryman, Rena Cox, Xeerxeema Jordan, Princess B. James, Sheryl Vassell, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Gail Branch- Muhammad, Regina Kinsey, Kwasi Mensah.

In commemoration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Ms. Muhammad encouraged everyone to follow up with mammogram testing, noting that early detection greatly improves survival rate. She reminded the seniors of Halloween and to think safety first. Ms. Muhammad also informed the group that NYS now has early voting and reminded all to flip the ballot, where the five referendums, also discussed, will be located.

The committee heard a presentation from Crystal Rogers, NYS Nurses Association, Community Organizer and Ari Moma, NYS Nurses Association, Nurse. The pair attended the meeting to discuss

and advocate for the NY City Councils Resolution 396, Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act. The NYS Nurses Association would like to increase the number of nurses to patient ratio. They outlined their proposal to city council and lead a lengthy and persuasive discussion. Ms. Rogers and Mr. Moma both noted that the goal is to achieve Safe Staffing for Quality Care. Mr. Moma explained in depth about the challenges nurses face daily and about their overwhelming workload.

The next Seniors Committee meeting will be held on November 6th at 6 PM at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Parks – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

Ms. Andrews informed the Board that the Parks Committee will meet on November 12th, the week after its regularly scheduled meeting due to Election Day. The meeting will be held at the St. John's Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place. All are invited to attend.

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

Mr. Thurton informed the Board that the Public Safety Committee will meet on October 28th at 6:30 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Housing – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

Ms. Granville informed the Board that the Housing Committee will meet on November 13th at Albany Community Center located at 164 Troy Avenue. The committee will work on the survey for distribution to NYCHA residents to gauge interest in construction trades. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Tyus thanked the committee chairs for the brief announcements and reminded all that for any committee to make a full report at the full Board meeting, they must submit their minutes of the monthly meeting prior to the general community board meeting. She then asked Ms. Wharton to say a few words about Ranked Choice Voting.

Rank the Vote – Ms. Karen Wharton, Director of Community Outreach

Ms. Wharton provided information on ballot initiative #1 on this November's election. Specifically, the initiative proposes ranked voting (think: NBA MVP voting) where you choose first choice, second, third, etc., up to five candidates in order of preference. According to Rank the Vote, ranking candidates in such a manner would require all candidates to perform more outreach work rather than rely on their base. Ranked choice voting (RCV) is an expansion of what we currently have. Currently, when we vote for city officials, we choose one candidate only; with RCV, we can continue to choose either one candidate, or two, or three, or up to five in primaries and special elections. When you do this, you get additional voting power should your first choice not win since the additional rankings are reallocated until one candidate receives 51% of the vote or more.

Questions and answers were not allowed. Ms. Tyus asked for a report from Mr. Ethan Lustwig of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden – Mr. Ethan Lustwig

Mr. Lustwig presented to the Board information on the garden's fight for sunlight against a development project proposed for 960 Franklin Avenue in the confines of Community Board 9, where the BBG is physically located. Mr. Lustwig announced that a review is underway for a zoning application will change the zoning of the block of 960 Franklin Avenue to a higher density. The project as proposed allows for the construction of two tower buildings of about 39 stories less than 100 feet from the BBG.

The area where the development project is proposed is home to the nurseries, conservatories and greenhouses and would cast close to 4 hours of shadows on the garden, thus putting the plant life in these spaces in danger, especially the nursery, which is used for propagation of all of the garden's flowers and plant life. Mr. Lustwig stated that the impact would be devastating and would consequently render these facilities useless.

After an extensive question, answer, and comment period, Mr. Lustwig petitioned CB 8 to write a resolution on behalf of the Board to protect the garden from the development project. A motion was not made in accordance with the request, but Chairperson Tyus stated the issue would be discussed at the November Land Use Committee meeting.

Ms. Tyus thanked Mr. Lustwig for the information and opened the public hearing to prioritize budget requests at 8:20 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING
Capital and Expense Budget Requests for FY 2021
Brooklyn Children's Museum
145 Brooklyn Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216

October 10, 2019

Ms. Tyus called the Public Hearing on the prioritization of the Capital and Expense Budget for FY 2021 to order at 8:20PM. She reminded everyone that the items were submitted to them in advance and the District office had asked that each person submit their top five Capital and top five Expense priorities to the Board. The purpose of the public hearing is to help formulate the priorities for up to 40 capital and 25 expense budget requests. The Expense Budget funds current city government services, including the salaries of government employees, pensions, debt service, and routine operating expenses. Expense items are ongoing, reusable items that are needed for daily maintenance of services. The Capital Budget is a separate budget covering one fiscal year, funding physical infrastructure used either in support of government operations (such as government offices, schools, and fire stations) or for general public use (such as roads, bridges, libraries, and parks). To be included in the Capital Budget, individual projects must have a value of at least \$35,000 and a period of probable usefulness of at least five years.

When no priorities were given and the public hearing about to be closed, Ms. Neale, Community Coordinator, made a statement to the community petitioning for feedback to eliminate community dissatisfaction when the time to vote on the agency responses to the priorities arises. Ms. Neale provided numerous examples and asked members and residents to please review the document distributed with current requests so that top issues can be highlighted and any issues those present believe should be added, could be mentioned for adding.

Mr. Atkins stated that he would like to prioritize an increased number of detectives in the 77th and 78th Precincts as there are a number of cold cases and unsolved crimes. He also prioritized increased police resources including but not limited to ARGUS cameras. Additional priorities are rodent abatement, enforcement of trash can policies for mixed use buildings in commercial zones.

Mr. Witherwax stated that his number one priority is rodent abatement.

Ms. Lazur prioritized housing needs and programming, stating that new rent laws have restricted landlords' ability to de-regulate apartments, and there is greater fear now that landlords will stop maintaining their properties. There is greater need for more code enforcement as there is a relationship between not making repairs and having code violations and driving out tenants. She stated that preferential rents can now only be exercised by getting rid of preferential tenants, and as such, tenants need to be educated on their rights and landlords need to be held accountable.

Ms. Mondesir prioritized the need for lights in Brower Park as the lack of lights increases crime.

Mr. Ron Wilson stated that policing is a major concern, especially as shootings and murders in the district are up dramatically. There is an urgent need for community policing to help maintain the safety of the neighborhood. Residents need to get more involved in community policing.

Ms. Benn-James stated that homelessness and mental illness issues are high priorities that need to be addressed as the two are usually interrelated.

Mr. Staton prioritized the need for additional ARGUS cameras and incentives/tax reductions for property owners that install cameras on personal property.

An unnamed resident prioritized youth crime prevention programs to help avoid kids going into the system. Additionally, they prioritized litter basket collection/litter baskets, composting district wide with curbside pickup, parks cleanliness, maintenance of street trees, enlargement of and beautification of street tree beds.

Ms. Mahoney asked the Board to remove energy efficiency from NYCHA requests as the City Council has required that under the Green New Deal for all NYCHA properties. She did, however, suggest that the Board prioritize school upgrade projects, affordable housing, primarily ELLA housing, rodent abatement, rental assistance programs, and access for skills/trades training.

Mr. Todd prioritized pedestrian and cyclist safety, especially with the recent increase in fatalities. Additionally, the City should prioritize urban farming to address climate change by providing training in farming services and providing incentives for property owners to create green roof top gardens.

A community resident prioritized affordable housing, primarily low-income, education for tenants dealing with landlord harassment of long-time residents, increased code enforcement, and increased rodent abatement.

A community resident prioritized more teaching services and programs, more afterschool programs, and enrichment programs.

Another community resident also prioritized youth services and cop watches.

Noah Potter stated with the increase in crimes of opportunity, especially as they relate to package theft, there needs to be greater prioritization of policing issues. Additionally, of high priority should be an increase in composting programs and legal services to address landlord harassment.

Ms. Kinsey prioritized services for children and child welfare, and encouraged the Board to include in the document a request for grief counseling, suicide prevention, and education on bullying.

Mr. Mensah prioritized skills and trades training, the acquisition of land for CB 8 offices/meeting space/reappropriation of use of a city-owned building for CB 8 use. He also held in high priority additional policing and additional waste baskets.

Ms. Muhammad prioritized resources for seniors, especially as they relate to technology.

A show of hands vote was taken to authorize CB 8 staff to prioritize budget requests based on the information obtained during the hearing and via email. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Tyus thanked everyone for participating in the public hearing and for giving many well-thought responses. She acknowledged Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright and asked her to say a few words.

56th Assembly District – Honorable Tremaine Wright

Assemblywoman Wright announced that her office is currently conducting a survey related to cease and desist for unsolicited requests to sell your property. She informed the Board that the Secretary of State has recently changed the parameters around whether or not a cease and desist order can be issued in a particular area. As such, the survey distributed asks questions to help elucidate the ways and places in which property owners are receiving unsolicited requests to sell. She and Senator Kevin Parker are working on a bill to issue the cease and desist, but in order to do that, they first need to be able to create a section in a community with cohesive groupings to illustrate the need. She implored everyone to distribute the survey to their neighbors, all homeowners on the block, and all tenants in rental units on the block as well. The goal is to obtain a cease and desist for all of Brooklyn rather than certain pockets.

Ms. Tyus informed the Assemblywoman that the District office would mail the survey to the mailing list and would also email the survey to the listserve. She thanked the Assemblywoman and opened the floor for elected official representatives and public comments.

Ms. Shana Melius from Congresswoman Clarke's announced that the Congresswoman recently submitted a letter to NYCHA regarding numerous areas of concern that were highlighted in a recent housing report. Additionally, the Congresswoman is proposing legislation related to facial recognition as some landlords are trying to incorporate facial recognition on front doors for safety reasons. On October 17th, the Congresswoman will be hosting an impeachment tele-townhall. On November 1st the Congresswoman will participate in the Pardon My Vote panel discussion regarding pardoning convicted felons to allow them to re-gain their voting privileges. On November 9th, there will be a children's walk in homage of the children detained at the border. Finally, Ms. Melius stated that with Census 2020 fast approaching, we need to encourage participation as in 2010, Kings County was the most undercounted county in the nation. There are too many things at stake for that to happen again. For more information on any of these events, contact the Congresswoman's office at 718- 287-1142.

Ms. Stefani Zinerman from Senator Montgomery's office announced the issuance of a web card for early voting, whose sites are finally printed now. She distributed a brochure that contained additional information about the new NYS voting process. Finally, Ms. Zinerman announced that the MTA is decreasing services on some buses, and it is imperative that the community speak up and out in opposition to bus service reductions as many of the most vulnerable rely on public transportation. For more information, contact the Senator's office at (718) 643-6140.

Mr. Keith Daily from Assemblyman Mosley's office announced the upcoming Walk With Walter event. Additionally, the Assemblyman is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Rent Regulation and Decriminalization on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 from 6-8 PM at Medgar Evers College, Edison O. Jackson Auditorium located at 1639 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn. For additional information or if you have any questions, please contact Assemblyman Mosley's office at 718-569-0100.

Mr. Godfrey Bayalama from Senator Myrie's office announced that there will be a Clergy Breakfast open to all faith leaders on October 17th. Join Senator Zellnor Myrie, transportation experts, and members of the community to learn about the state of cycling in Central Brooklyn and how to fight to make biking safe and accessible to everyone in our community. The Bike Equity

Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 from 6-8 PM at Brightpoint Health located at 803 Sterling Place, Brooklyn. RSVP at www.bit.ly/zellnor-bike-equity. For more information, call 718-284-4700.

District Leader Olanike Alibi, 57th AD, announced that early voting will start in a few weeks for the first time in New York. However, she cautioned everyone that their early voting site might not be your normal poll site and is only at the site that the Board of Elections sends you in the mail. Join Public Advocate Jumaane Williams for a Town Hall she is hosting featuring Census 2020 and the NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes on Monday, October 21, 2019 at 6 PM at Brown Memorial Baptist Church located at 484 Washington Avenue (enter on Gates Avenue), Brooklyn. For more information, call 718-638-6121. District Leader Alabi announced that there is a newly created office in the Mayor's Office, the NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes. The unit was created to address the increase in hate crimes in New York City in the last few years. Finally, District Leader Alabi reminded everyone of the five ballot initiatives on this year's ballot. She urged everyone to read the information inserted in the newsletter with a description of each ballot proposal so they could make an informed vote.

Ms. Kim Robinson from Councilwoman Ampry-Samuel's office announced that many of the Councilwoman's programs and services can be found in the CB 8 newsletter. She encouraged residents to utilize the services. Also, the Councilwoman is participating in participatory budgeting again this year and needs ideas. CB 8 is encouraged to be more active in the participatory budgeting process.

Mr. Eddie Amadour from Councilman Cornegy's office also announced participatory budgeting and encouraged residents to visit www.pbnyc.gov for idea submissions. The deadline for the 36th Council District is the 11th of October. In response to the increase in deed thefts in the 36th CD, Councilman Cornegy now has a person in the office to assist with third party transfer and deed theft. Legal assistance is also available in the office. Call 718.919.0742 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Mr. Maceo Karriem from Assemblywoman Wright's office announced that the Assemblywoman offers free legal service in the office. Call 718-399-7630 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Mr. Jerome Micheaux of Little Brothers for the Elderly announced the publication of the most recent Seniors Resource Guide. The guide is published twice a year and updated as necessary.

Ms. Irsa Weatherspoon announced that the next Crown Heights North Association's general membership meeting would be held on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:45 PM at St. Gregory's RC Church located at the corner of St. John's Place and Brooklyn Avenue.

Ms. Tyus thanked everyone for the announcements and information and adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 7 PM at Calvary Community Church located at 1575 St. John's Place. All are invited to attend.