

**Community Board 8  
General Meeting and Public Hearing  
New Life Tabernacle  
1476 Bedford Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11238**

**January 12, 2023**

**Members Present**

Glinda Andrews  
Lisa Atkinson  
Princess Benn-James  
Jacques Brunville  
Robert Callahan  
Nora Daniel  
Michael Francoeur  
Drew Gabriel  
Nizjoni Granville  
Colin Jakubczyk  
Xeerxeema Jordan  
Frances Langley  
Dr. Sarah Lazur  
Kwasi Mensah  
Mimi Mitchell  
Dr. Cadesa Ramharrack  
Yahya Raji  
Brian Saunders  
Nicole Tetreault  
Mark Thurton  
Kimberly Watson  
Irsa Weatherspoon  
Sharon Wedderburn  
Robert Witherwax

**CB8 Staff Present**

Michelle George, District Manager  
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

**Liaisons Present**

Chief Timothy Gimpel, FDNY  
Det. Ruben Marte, 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
PO. Khalida Wallen, 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct

**Members Excused/Absent**

Abasenia Asuquo  
Desmond Atkins  
Julia Boyd  
Marva Brown-Henry  
Andrea Ferris  
Dian Duke  
Fred Frazier  
Tamika Gibbs  
Igenie Harris-Blenman  
Regina Kinsey  
Keiona Morse  
Gail Muhammad  
Fior Ortiz-Joyner  
Celene Rosado  
Meredith Staton  
Audrey Taitt-Hall  
Zahra Thani  
Ethel Tyus  
Gib Veconi  
Yves Vilus  
Deborah Young  
Vilma Zuniga

**Elected Officials Present**

Senator Jabari Brisport 25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

**Elected Officials Representatives**

Leon Tulton, Councilwoman Darlene Mealy, 41<sup>st</sup> Dist.  
Deanna Foote, Boro President Antonio Reynoso  
David Pechefsky, Assemblyman Robert Carroll 44<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Karen Chambers, District Attorney Eric Gonzalez  
Arlean Gillin, Councilman Chi Osse, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Ana Garcia, Councilwoman Crystal Hudson, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Janay Pierre, Councilwoman Crystal Hudson, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Deme Brown, Councilwoman Crystal Hudson, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Camille Barbin, Senator Zellnor Myrie, 20<sup>th</sup> Dist.

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 6:25 PM by Chairperson Weatherspoon, who welcomed everyone to the first CB8 meeting of 2023. She thanked all that came out despite the evening conflicting with the Inauguration of Assemblymember Brian Cunningham. She invited Bishop Figueroa, Senior Pastor of New Life Tabernacle, to say a few words.

**Bishop Figueroa** welcomed the Board to New Life Tabernacle and stated that it is an honor to host the Board. Bishop Figueroa stated that many wonderful things have been done that transformed the community, and thanked all for their tireless efforts to keep stakeholders apprised of all the changes. He stated that he has been a pastor for 40 years, but turned the church over to his son and daughter last year after sickness. He noted that they are doing a terrific job, and also noted that the church is available to the community as the collaboration between church and community benefits us all.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Bishop Figueroa for his greeting and opened the floor for updates from elected officials and their representatives.

**Ms. Camille Barbin** from Senator Zellnor Myrie's office informed the community that new district lines are in effect, and that Senator Myrie's district has been made more cohesive, and covers pretty much the entirety of Crown Heights now. The Senator will hold his State of the District on February 26, 2023 at a location and time to be determined. It will be an opportunity for the community to hear updates on the district and new legislation being proposed by the Senator and his colleagues. Senator Myrie serves as the Chairperson of the Election Committee, and is working on several additional election reform measures and bills. Ms. Barbin announced that the Senator is still reviewing information for the controversial nomination of Judge Hector LaSalle to NYS Chief Judge. She stated that Senator Myrie understands community opposition to Judge LaSalle's conservative stance on several issues in the past, but he would prefer to weigh all facts and details before casting his vote. Finally, if you need assistance with any issues, please call the office at 718- 643-6140.

**Ms. Arlean Gillin** from Councilmember Chi Ossé's office announced that for the winter and the remainder of cold weather season, Wellness Wednesday's food distribution has moved indoors to 1368 Fulton Street on the first floor. The Councilmember's office still hosts lawyers in the office on a regular basis, including an Immigration attorney once a month. The office tries to ensure that constituents have access to much needed legal service. If you need legal assistance, call the office at 718-919-0740 to schedule an appointment.

Additionally, the Councilmember, along with Veterans Action Group Buffalo Soldiers of America and Congressional House Speaker Hakeem Jeffries, are presenting a free townhall with local IRS representatives to provide the community with information and resources needed to navigate tax season and beyond. The townhall will be held on Monday, January 23, 2023 from 6-8 PM at Boys and Girls High School located at 1700 Fulton Street. For more information or to register for the event, call 1-888-983-8228.

**Mr. David Pechefsky**, Legislative Director with Assemblyman Robert Carroll of the 44th Assembly District, announced to the Board that Assemblyman Carrol is a new representative for the district due to redistricting. The Assemblyman's District covers half of Prospect Heights, covering the area west of Classon Avenue with a carve out around Grand Army Plaza. The area between Underhill and Flatbush Avenues north of St. John's Place is part of Jo Anne Simon's Assembly District, bringing the number of Assemblymembers covering CB8 up to six. He stated that he and the office are looking forward to working with the Board and learning about the District's issues. Mr. Pechefsky stated that one of Assemblyman Carroll's top priorities is education, ensuring that all students receive adequate services

in terms of their education. He works tirelessly to improve the lives of all New Yorkers, especially in the areas of literacy, special education, voting rights, and public transportation options. Mr. Pechefsky distributed newsletters and informed everyone that the district office is located in Park Slope and the telephone number is 718-788-7221.

**Ms. Ana Garcia**, Director of Constituent Services with Councilmember Hudson's office, announced a few upcoming events hosted by Councilmember Hudson. Every Wednesday, a housing specialist is in the office from 12:30 to 5:30 working with constituents on all of their housing concerns. Every Thursday from 2:30 to 5:30 PM is a free advice legal attorney. Starting this Tuesday, and moving forward every second Tuesday of the month, they will partner with the Brooklyn Public Library for constituent services.

The Atlantic Avenue Mixed Use Plan (AAMUP) is in the planning process for an inclusive, mixed-use stretch of Atlantic Avenue and neighboring blocks in Prospect Heights, Crown Heights and Bedford-Stuyvesant. The plan would support new housing with affordable units, new space for jobs and services, safer, more pedestrian-friendly streets and investments in neighborhood improvements. The first public workshop for the Atlantic Avenue Mixed Use Plan (AAMUP) will take place on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 from 6PM to 8PM. This plan is intended to incorporate the M-CROWN rezoning proposal. The meeting will take place via Zoom, and community members may register at <https://bit.ly/AAMUP-jan-kickoff>. More information is available at <https://www.nyc.gov/AtlanticAvenue>.

Ms. Garcia announced several other upcoming events as well, and asked constituents to call the office at 718-260-9191 for more information.

**Ms. Deanna Foote** from Borough President Antonio Reynoso's office, announced that the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President is undertaking a comprehensive planning effort for the borough focused on improving public health outcomes for Brooklynites. She stated that planning issues do not occur in isolation, and entrenched problems cannot be solved on a site-by-site basis. Issues like rising housing costs, basement flooding in homes, and overcrowded schools are cyclical, deeply intertwined, and do not recognize political boundaries. Comprehensive planning allows officials to take a sober look at local challenges, understand the scope of their impact, and develop holistic, responsive approaches to meet those challenges. It also helps to address three big challenges within planning, which are: 1. Identifying, forecasting, and preparing for the greatest challenges each community faces and is expected to encounter; 2. Being proactive as opposed to reactive to them; and 3. Allowing communities to advocate for one another as opposed to competing for limited resources.

Additionally, the BP's State of the Borough Address was earlier in the week, and anyone that was unable to attend or watch live, can watch the replay on the Borough President's YouTube Channel. Ms. Foote also announced several upcoming MLK day events as published in the Board's newsletter, and reminded everyone that new member applications and renewal applications are to be submitted by February 14, 2023 to be considered for membership and reappointment. Please visit the BP's website at [www.brooklyn-usa.org](http://www.brooklyn-usa.org) for more information.

**Ms. Karen Chambers** from the Kings County District Attorneys office brought greetings to the Board from DA Gonzalez, and informed the community that they could contact her at 718-250-4877 if they have any issues.

**Mr. Leon Tulton** from Councilwoman Mealy's office announced that there will be several upcoming events sponsored by the Councilwoman. Starting on February 9, 2023, free immigration services will be offered in the office from Noon to 4 PM by appointment only. Call her office 718-953-3097 to schedule an appointment. The services will be provided every first Thursday after the inaugural event on the 9th.

Mr. Tulton also announced that Councilwoman Mealy will resume her monthly Community Advisory Board (CAB) meetings at 1757 Union Street, second Floor, on Saturday, January 21, 2023 and will be held every 3rd Saturday moving forward. The CABs will meet from 11 AM to 12:30 PM, and this month's invited speaker is Ebony Jefferson. Every first and third Wednesday, is the free food and supplies pantry in front of the Councilwoman's office from 11 AM to 1 PM. Call her office for more information.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the elected official representatives for their information and invited Senator Jabari Brisport to say a few words.

### **Senator Jabari Brisport** –25th Senatorial District

Senator Brisport wished everyone a Happy New Year., and stated that it was an honor to be live and in person at a CB8 meeting. He announced that the 25th Senatorial District lost quite a bit of land mass in District 8 due to redistricting, and informed the Board that if you live west of Franklin Avenue, you are likely in a different senatorial district now.

Senator Brisport announced that is office is currently accepting applications for discretionary funds. If you know or work with a nonprofit organization that provides much needed services to the District, please complete an application for funding at [www.bit.ly/sd25funding](http://www.bit.ly/sd25funding).

Presently, there is a statewide campaign to tax the rich. Senator Brisport explained that New York State is number one amongst all states in the US in terms of economic inequality. Every year, state legislators have an opportunity to review the tax code in terms of funding the State's budget, and an opportunity to make the rich pay their fair share. If we were able to collect more in taxes from the wealthy rather than the flat tax we have statewide, we would be able to do a better job of reinvesting into the community for things we actually need like a viable public transportation network, universal healthcare, universal childcare, universal higher education, truly affordable housing, and several other things. To learn more, visit <https://taxtherichny.com/>.

Senator Brisport informed the Board that Governor Hochul has nominated Hector LaSalle for the top judge in the state, which is a very controversial nomination. In his history on the bench, Judge LaSalle has opposed reproductive rights, civil rights and racial, gender, and economic justice. So far, no fewer than 12 representatives have stated that they will not support Judge LaSalle's nomination, and have also started a website to obtain additional community support in opposing Judge LaSalle. If you want to add your voice to the petition to block the nomination, visit <https://thecourtnydeserves.com/>.

Dr. Lazur asked Senator Brisport if the Good Cause Eviction bill will get passed this year, and was informed that there are several electeds that are working to ensure it gets passed. A main goal of several officials will be to pass the Tenant Protection Bill and the Right to Counsel Bill.

Ms. Benn-James asked the Senator if there were any protections being written to help smaller landlords as all of the legislation is around protecting tenants. Senator Brisport informed her that they are

cognizant that not all landlords can be dumped into the same category, but the goal is to try to save tenants from becoming homeless. The bill exempts owner-occupied units of buildings fewer than 4 units, which should serve as the type of protections Ms. Benn-James is referencing.

Mr. Seymour asked the Senator to say a few words on the Air BnB Bill, and was informed that he did testify in support of a city bill that would require property owners that register with Air BnB to register with a city agency.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Senator Brisport for the updates and invited Battalion Chief Gimpel with the FDNY to say a few words.

**Battalion Chief Gimpel** informed that Board that a fatal fire occurred on Rochester Avenue on December 27, 2022. The location is a 3-story brownstone and the victim was on the second floor. There was one fatality as the individual was unable to vacate the building in time nor could be removed before she succumbed to smoke inhalation. The cause is still under investigation and it is not known at this time if there were working fire detectors in the home.

Mr. Thurton asked how the Board would be able to get updated information on the cause of the fire, and was informed that he should call 9 Metrotech at 718-999-2000 and follow the prompts to get to the Fire Marshall's office. Mr. Thurton also asked if the FDNY still gives away smoke detectors and batteries and was informed that the Department does still have a few giveaway sessions a year. The unit reminds people that smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years and batteries should be replaced every six months. The Education department goes out to visit sites and tell people how important smoke detectors and fire safety is.

Mr. Callahan asked if FDNY recharges fire extinguishers, and was informed that the department does not, nor do they make referrals for companies that will either. However, recharging extinguishers is a very important and vital safety component, and those that own them should check their indicators to know when and how often they should be recharged. The sign of a properly charged extinguisher is the needle centered in the green.

Ms. Benn-James asked if the department recommends hard wired smoke alarms in residential units over battery operated and was informed that hard wired smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are great as they usually have a battery backup in case of a power outage. Additionally, there are added bonuses like unified alarm monitoring, meaning that if an alarm goes off in another room, it will "speak" to the others in the home and go off as well.

Dr. Lazur stated that new detectors have no way of changing the battery, and asked how consumers will know when to change the system. Chief Gimpel informed her that the manufacturer should have an expiration date on the back and there should be an indicator of beeps that tell you what they mean and if the unit needs changing.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Chief Gimpel for the information and invited 77th Precinct Community Affairs to say a few words.

**77th Precinct Community Affairs** – Det. Ruben Marte and PO Khalida Wallen

Det. Marte and PO Wallen wished everyone happy new year, and asked the community to contact them at 718-735-0634 with any complaints and issues for assistance.

A community resident that wished to remain anonymous stated that when the community calls the precincts general number at 718-735-0611, no one answers. She was informed that the number is to the switchboard operator, who is someone in the precinct that “wears many hats.” And can miss a call or two. She continued that even when you call the different departments, there is no answer, and it seems like the precinct does not respect the community. Both Det. Marte and PO Wallen stated that Community Affairs will answer the phone if they are in the office.

Mr. Seymour gave the officers a complaint of derelict vehicles and asked what the NYPD is doing about illegally parked vehicles that take up valuable street parking spaces. He was informed that since the pandemic and because of it, a lot of people purchased cars. Now many of them have gotten to the point that they can no longer afford the car so they leave it where they can. The tow pounds are packed as are mechanic shops. However, there is a list of locations the 77th is seeking to remove an excess number of derelict vehicles, and as soon as room is created in the NYPD tow lots, they will work with Sanitation to remove the vehicles.

In response to several other questions, Det. Marte and PO Wallen stated that the tricky part is that some of the cars can't be ticketed. The ones that can have been and will be ticketed, but there is the question of who is paying for the tickets? Some of the shops are selling the cars for scrap, some are using them for parts, some are sold at auction. For a vehicle to be sold at the NYPD car auction, it must meet criteria of all four corners having no dents, all four tires intact, all four windows must be operable. Sadly, tickets cannot be written solely based on vin number, which only reaches the last registered owner. If the owner sells but the new one does not register the vehicle, why is the selling owner now still responsible when their registration has been transferred or terminated?

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Det. Marte and PO Wallen for the information and opened the floor for public comments.

### **Public comments**

Mr. Mensah stated that he mentioned the 50th Reunion for IS320 at last month's meeting, and wanted to provide more information. 50 years ago, IS320 was renamed to the Jackie Robinson school, so it took on historic memory as the first school to be named for the iconic sports star that broke barriers. That is what makes this reunion so important.

Mr. Callahan announced that Imani Community Garden partners with Repair the World every year for an MLK Weekend of service. For a complete list of volunteer projects or to sign up to volunteer, visit [Werepair.org](http://Werepair.org).

Ms. Benn-James informed the Board that she has been having an issue with mail delivery, and has received mail with postmarks from over 2 years ago. Some of the mail received is from the 11213 post office despite her living in the 11216 zip code. She stated she has received mail from Flatbush Avenue, Buffalo Avenue, and St. John's Place addresses despite not living on either of the streets. She questioned where her mail could possibly be going if she is getting random pieces of mail as well. Ms. George stated that the District Office would try to get a speaker from the US Post office to come to a future meeting.

Ms. Nadine Davis stated that she lives in the community and has an issue with some of the restaurants, especially along Franklin Avenue. Many are not cleaning their street seats and are breeding rodents.

She asked the Board to advocate for consistent cleaning and if not, then removal of the structure by the city. We must do more to control the rat problem.

Ms. Weatherspoon thanked everyone for their reports and opened the public hearing on committee actions items.

### **Public Hearing Items:**

#### **Land Use** – Sharon Wedderburn, Chair

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, January 5, 2023 virtually via Webex at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Chair, Sharon Wedderburn, present were: Albert Appleton, Pierre Albert, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Ben Bischoff, Mimi Mitchell, Traci N., Cathy Iseline, Deborah Young, Elaine Weinstein, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Frances Langley, Gib Veconi, Hannah Baydoun, Jacques Brunvil, Xeerxeema Jordan, Juan Tejedor, Lisa Atkinson, Lea Giddins, Kim Robinson, Michael Francoeur Mary Shufford and 2 callers.

The committee discussed the following Landmarks Preservation Commission application for 137 St. Marks Avenue located in the Prospect Heights Historic District. The application includes the following:

- Window replacement
- Rear yard renovation in which existing garage is proposed to be demolished, with addition of pergola in the rear
- Covered deck with stairs on rear façade, which will require modifications to the windows on the first floor and basement
- 3-family home being downgraded to a single-family
- Addition of large skylight on roof
- Addition of customary mechanicals on roof that will not be visible

The application was presented on behalf of the owner by Mr. Juan Tejedor an architect from MADE. Ms. Mary Shuford spoke on behalf of the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council that overall supports the project as presented with the modifications following their meeting with the owner's representative. She noted that the compromise of black fixtures instead of the brass fixtures as initially proposed would be highly desirable because it would be less visible on the rear façade.

Ms. Cathy Iselin questioned the applicant's proposed use of wood fencing given the increased fence expanse that follows the demolition of the existing garage structure. She additionally queried whether the client had considered an iron fence for privacy. Mr. Krashes stated that the fencing referenced the requirements for Newswalk fencing, and expressed that the street side experience is more transparent. Mr. Veconi noted that wooden fencing does exist within the historic district.

There were other comments by committee members regarding the reduction of units from three to one, and also the fact that the applicant is not seeking to add solar panels to the property. The two issues were identified as not germane to the application due to the fact that they are outside of the purview of what the Board could legally mandate for an LPC application.

Ms. Tyus made a motion to support the application as presented. Mr. Veconi added an amendment to require that the sconces in the rear be black. Ms. Tyus accepted the amendment. The amendment was

seconded by Mr. Veconi. The motion passed with 21 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The committee hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions or comments from the community, hearing none, Mr. Gabriel made a motion to accept the committee's recommendations as presented. Mr. Witherwax seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously with 24 in favor.

The next meeting of the Land Use Committee will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

Mr. Callahan stated that he appreciated the detailed committee report.

**SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)** – Irsa Weatherspoon, Chair

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked Vice Chair Robert Witherwax to give the following report. Mr. Witherwax reported that the SLAC Committee met on Monday, January 9, 2023 via Webex Virtual Meeting platform. In addition to the Chair, Irsa Weatherspoon, present were Vice Chair Robert Witherwax, Dian Duke, Mimi Mitchell, Jesus Sanchez, Deborah Young, Ethel Tyus, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Frances Langley, Tamika Gibbs, Xeerxeema Jordan, Gail Muhammad, Roger Myers, Karen Gray, Jinene Murrell, Sharon Wedderburn, and 1 caller.

The committee discussed the following new liquor license applications:

- 1. Oistins Bar and Grill LLC**, 700 Nostrand Avenue (between St. Marks/Prospect)– Beer/Wine/Cider (patio/deck, recorded music)

Details of the application are as follows:

- Hours of operation: 8 AM to 1 AM daily, with intended service hours of 8 AM to midnight daily
- 12 tables with 48 seats; 1 service bar with 5 seats. Maximum patron capacity is 74
- 25'x25' outdoor space with a square footage of 625
- 4 tables with 16 seats in the outdoor space, that also has a maximum patron capacity of 16, which will operate from 8 AM to 10 PM daily.
- 6 service employees

On motion made and seconded, the committee voted 10 in favor with 2 opposed to support the application as presented. The SLAC committee hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Weatherspoon asked if there were any comments or questions from the community. Mr. Callahan asked what were the objections from the neighbors. He was informed that the neighbors were disturbed by the work and one complained that they were not notified of the build out work.

Ms. Mitchell made a motion to accept the committee's recommendations as presented. Dr. Lazar seconded the motion and the vote carried with 23 in favor and 1 abstention.

- 2. Cielito Lindo Bistro Corp.**, 665 Nostrand Avenue – Wine/beer/cider (no MOO's listed)  
This is an existing restaurant adding beer and wine license

Details of the application are as follows:

- Existing restaurant adding beer and wine service
- Hours of operation: 8 AM to 10 PM Saturday and Sunday; 10 AM to 10 PM Monday through Friday
- 5 tables with 2 seats each for a total of 10 seats. There is no bar counter. Max patron capacity if 50
- No outdoor space

On motion made and seconded, the committee voted unanimously with 13 in favor to support the application as presented. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Weatherspoon asked if there were any comments or questions from the community, hearing none, Mr. Gabriel made a motion to accept the committee's recommendations as presented. Ms. Daniel seconded the motion and the vote carried with 22 in favor and 2 abstentions.

The next meeting of the SLAC Committee will be held on Monday, February 6, 2023 via WebEx. All are welcomed to attend.

Chairperson Weatherspoon closed the public hearing and asked for the following committee reports:

**Economic Development** – Brian Saunders, Chair

Mr. Saunders reported that the Economic Development Committee met virtually on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 via WebEx at 6:15 p.m. Present were: Drew Gabriel, Vice Chair, Frances Langley, Mark Thurton, Kim Robinson, Erika White and 1 caller .

No committee report was submitted, however, Mr. Saunders wished everyone a happy new year and introduced the members of the committee and invited all new business owner to join the Economic Development Committee.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 via WebEx at 6:15 p.m. All are welcomed to attend.

**Environment, Sanitation and Transportation** – Robert Witherwax, Chair

Mr. Witherwax reported that the Environment, Sanitation and Transportation Committee did not meet during the month of December, however, the two sub committees will continue to meet. They are doing great work. They will give an update at the next committee meeting on January 24, 2023. The MTA will be having their town hall on their proposed Brooklyn Bus Redesign plan. The meeting will be held on February 2, 2023 and be specific to the bus lines that run through Community Board 8.

The next meeting of the Environment, Sanitation and Transportation Committee meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday instead of the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday which will be February 21, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

Mr. Callahan requested that the Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign Town Hall be added to the website calendar. Ms. George stated that she will add it to the calendar when she returns to the office. Ms. Gillan stated that Councilmember Ossé is concerned about the Brooklyn bus changes. He will be meeting with the MTA next week to discuss. She also asked that we send all bus concerns to the office. Ms. Atkinson has reviewed the bus routes on the website and is concerned about the plans for the B65 bus. She believes that this line is a senior bus and any changes will greatly affect the seniors.

### **Health and Human Services** – Tamika Gibbs, Chair

The Health and Human Services Committee did not meet during the month of December, however, Ms. Atkinson, Vice Chair mentioned that the committee heard a presentation from Brooklyn Cares Addiction program. The committee is requesting that they be invited to a full board meeting to make a presentation regarding their proposed detox in patient program that will be located at 1480 Prospect Place. Ms. George stated that she would contact them to schedule a future presentation.

The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be held on January 19, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

### **Housing (Advocacy)** – Nizjoni Granville, Chair

Ms. Granville reported that the Housing Advocacy Committee met virtually on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 via Webex at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Chair, Nizjoni Granville, present were: Mimi Mitchell, Traci N., Frances Langley, Jennifer Jordan, Kim Robinson, Xeerxeema Jordan, Lisa Atkinson, Princess James, Robert Callahan and Dr. Sarah Lazar.

The committee did not submit a report, however, Ms. Granville mentioned that the committee discussed Governor Hochul's new housing plan and also a replacement for the old 421A tax exemption.

Ms. Atkinson stated her frustration with Housing Connect and asked if HPD and HUD can be invited to a future meeting to discuss the housing lotteries and how they work. Ms. George stated that she would invited them to a future meeting.

Ms. Mitchell announced the Atlantic Avenue Mixed Used Plan Community Kick-Off meeting will be held on January 17, 2023 from 6-8pm via Zoom.

The next meeting of the Housing Committee will be held on February 8, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

### **Parks** – Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee did not meet during the month of January. However, Ms. Andrews stated that Lincoln Terrace Park Tennis Association is accepting applications for junior and adult summer lessons. The summer sessions run from May 13-August 26<sup>th</sup>. Applications are available at [www.LincolnTerraceTennis.com/#!Forms/C2510](http://www.LincolnTerraceTennis.com/#!Forms/C2510). For additional information, Charles at 917-379-0094 or Joan at 347-825-7501 or visit [www.LincolnTerraceTennis.com](http://www.LincolnTerraceTennis.com). Also, if you want to play tennis in Lincoln Terrace you must apply for a permit.

Construction on the comfort station will start in March and is expected to be completed in September 2024 and will cost \$6 million dollars funded by the Borough President and Councilmember.

Ms. Andrews also invited the community to join the NYC Department of Transportation and members of the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council to celebrate the completion of the Underhill Plaza, located on Underhill Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street. The event will take place on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 12:00noon on the plaza. In addition to news about Open Streets in Prospect Heights, attendees will also be treated to some great music by the Stoop Kidz Brass Band, and delicious refreshments from local businesses Little Miss Muffin and Nurish.

The Underhill Plaza is the first permanent street change resulting from Prospect Heights' Open Streets program. It connects neighborhood needs of safer streets and more public space with planning vision from the City and community advocacy by PHNDC. It is expected to be the beginning of a transformation of our streets, and there is much to look forward to regarding future opportunities to work with DOT and local elected officials to improve traffic safety, increase public space, and promote a more sustainable neighborhood.

The next meeting of the Parks Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

#### **Public Safety** – Mark Thurton, Chair

The next Public Safety Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 23, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. The committee will hear from Police Service Area #2 which covers all New York City Housing Authority properties within CB8. All are welcomed to attend.

Ms. Andrews mentioned that Lincoln Terrace Tennis courts need NYPD cameras. Mr. Thurton stated that he has done a walkthrough with Mr. Charles and stated that he has made the precinct aware of the issues around the tennis court.

#### **Seniors-** Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

In the absence of Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Jennifer Jordan, committee member read the following report. The Seniors Committee met on Wednesday, January 7, 2023 at 6:00 pm. at Crown Heights Apartments located at 1055 St. John's Place. In addition to the Chair, present were: Andrea Ferris, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema, Jordan, Gloria Freeman, Estelle Rogers, Willa Robinson, Mildred Smith, Mary E. Williams, Frances Langley, Yvonne Bailey, Annabelle Boyd, Essie Spivey, Helen Selby, Patricia Washington, Gilbert Perlman, Iva Webster, Jacqueline Love and Heather Crutch.

Ms. Crutch, Herbalist/Health Coach/Counselor gave a presentation and provided samples of herbs and teas. Information on how herbs/spices and essential oils can help minor health issues. Grandma Hands handed out gift packages.

The 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Affairs officers attended the meeting and reminded the seniors of the importance of being alert and safe when crossing the street and being outside after dark. The auxiliary police placed reflective tape on the seniors walkers and canes. The plan is to provide the same service to other senior centers within CB8. We are planning to partner with the Housing Police to provide the same service to the seniors at the Hugh Gilroy Senior Center in Kingsborough Housing.

The next meeting of the Seniors Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. All are welcomed to attend

**Veterans** – Nizjoni Granville, Acting Chair

The Veteran’s Committee did not meet for the month of January, however, Ms. Granville mentioned that Community Boards 3, 8 and 16 have been discussing expanding their annual Veterans Appreciation Parade throughout Brooklyn and have the involvement of each community board. Congresswoman Clarke has been invited to the next meeting of the Veterans Committee which will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. All are welcomed to attend.

**Youth and Education** – Nora Daniel, Chair

Ms. Daniel reported that the Youth and Education Committee did not meet for the month of January, however, she mentioned that the committee is planning their Black History month Art Contest and they are asking the community to volunteer as judges. If you are interested, please let the district office know.

The next meeting of the Youth and Education Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 via WebEx. All are welcomed to attend.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the committee’s for their reports and thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

**Guests Present**

Jennifer Jordan  
Charles Cush  
Juan Tejedor  
Hannah Myer Baydenn  
Ben Bischoff  
Edward Delman  
Rodney Seymour  
Ingrid Saraguard  
Jinene Murell  
Nathan Turner  
C. McFadden  
Allison Ward  
Phyllis Grannum  
Tiara McLoughlin  
Roger Myers  
Jonathan Allen  
Karen Gray  
Roger Myers  
Tiara McLoughlin