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

June 13, 2019

Members Absent/Excused

Sasha Ahuja **Glinda Andrews** Wayne Bailev **Princess Benn-James** Julia Bovd Dian Duke James Ellis Fred Frazier Drew Gabriel Tamika Gibbs Nizjoni Granville Xeermeema Jordan **Regina Kinsey** Sarah Lazur Kwasi Mensah Dr. Katharine Perko Robert Puca Yahya Raji Meredith Staton Mark Thurton Ethel Tyus Sheryl Vassell Gib Veconi Sharon Wedderburn Deborah Young

CB8 Staff

Michelle George, District Manager Julia Neale, Community Coordinator **Desmond Atkins** Gail Branch-Muhammad Hanjy Charles Helen Coley Nora Daniel Phu Duong Andrea Ferris Lisa Lashley **Robert Matthews** Adam Sachs **Brian Saunders** Audrey Taitt-Hall **Yves Vilus** Irsa Weatherspoon **Robert Witherwax** Vilma Zuniga

Elected Officials

Olanike Alabi, 57th Assembly District Leader

Elected Officials Representatives

Kathleen Daniel, Boro President Eric Adams' Office Kim Robinson, Councilwoman Ampry-Samuel, 41st CD Anita Taylor, Congresswoman Clarke, 9th Cong. Dist. Maceo Karriem, Assemblywoman Wright, 56th AD Shakti Robbins, Senator Montgomery, 25th SD Arna Lipkind, Majority Leader Cumbo, 35th CD Godfrey Bayalama, Senator Zellnor Myrie, 20th SD

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 7:20 PM by Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair. She announced that this would be her last meeting presiding over the meeting as Chairperson and that the next meeting in September would be chaired by newly elected Chairperson, Ms. Ethel Tyus. She thanked everyone for supporting her as Chair, and encouraged those present to urge their neighbors to participate as well, and also to apply for membership. She asked Mr. Bailey to discuss basic housekeeping rules and then asked Mr. Rob Fields to say a few words on behalf of Weeksville Heritage Center.

Members Present

Weeksville Heritage Center – Mr. Rob Fields, Executive Director

Mr. Fields welcomed the Board and residents to the facility and thanked everyone for their support over the last few weeks as Weeksville participated in a crowdfunding campaign to raise operational funds. Donations were received from over 4100 people representing 7 countries. He stated that Weeksville has gone through several challenges over the last few months and that he and other staff are excited by the outpouring of community support. However, despite receiving the necessary funds to remain open for the next six months, the question is, "What happens now?" He stated that the Center has started looking at strategic planning for what will happen with Weeksville, and will come back to the community with what will be new and what will be different as far as programming. It was a collective effort to save the Center, which has been around for over 50 years as an institution and dates back in the community to the 1860s. It was the much broader community that came forward to save the center, and for that, he thanked everyone who contributed.

Also, Mr. Fields announced that Weeksville Heritage Center and NYC Commission on Human Rights are pleased to present "Juneteenth Community Festival" on Tuesday, June 18th from 6 PM to 9 PM at Weeksville Heritage Center located at 158 Buffalo Avenue, Brooklyn. Although slavery had been abolished since January 1, 1863 the enslaved in Galveston, Texas only came to learn of their emancipation on June 19th 1865, known commonly today as "Juneteenth." The objective of this event is to celebrate, honor, and serve New York City's African-American communities while remembering liberation, abolition, reparation, restoration, and decolonization in its various forms. To request an assistive listening device, interpretation, or another accommodation, please email Juan C. Figueroa at jcfigueroa@cchr.nyc.gov. RSVP at http://bit.ly/JuneteenthFest19.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Fields for the update, and also extended gratitude to the community for showing their support for the institution that serves to preserve an important piece of black history. She then asked for roll call.

<u>Acceptance of Minutes</u> – One correction was requested for the minutes. Ms. Tyus made a motion to accept the May minutes with the necessary correction. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wedderburn and carried unanimously.

<u>Correspondence</u> – CB8 newsletter and other important information was distributed.

Mayor's Office of the Census – Mr. Dan Burton

Mr. Dan Burton from the NYC Mayor's Office of the Census, stated that the census is less than a year away and will be conducted in April 2020. The census is very important because it determines the number of congressional seats for each state, the amount of federal funding to each state for schools, hospitals, transportation updates, Medicaid and Medicare, and numerous federal allocations. In the past, there have been many issues in NYC with people filling out the form, and as such, Mayor DeBlasio has put together a program to look for community organizations that people trust in their neighborhoods, and providing them the tools and necessities to train the community on how to properly complete the form, and also **why you should complete the form.** The concern is that if residents do not complete the form, they are not counted and are deemed "invisible." Mr. Burton urged everyone to please talk to their neighbors about the Census and start raising awareness.

Ms. Granville thanked Mr. Burton for the information and asked Ms. Worrell from Census 2020 to also say a few words on the census.

Census 2020 – Ms. Shelley Worrell

Ms. Worrell stated that as we get closer to the actual census count, more organization will be using the census brand, so it is imperative to distinguish between the federal Census 2020, which is the actual federally sponsored agency to handle the census, and local branches that are all working toward ensuring that communities are counted. She stated that the most important things to note about the census are legislative seats, and stated that due to the undercount in the last two censuses, New York lost two seats. The census, very specifically, is about the allocation of \$675 billion federal dollars. Unfortunately, the most undercounted populations are children and minorities.

This year will be the first online census. Residents will be mailed a code to complete a form online. There will still be phone and mail in options for those that have limitations on technology. Ms. Worrell asked the Board to be willing to allow her to return at a later date as we get closer to the census to not only work with the community on spreading the word, but also working with the community to ensure that people understand specifically what they would be losing out on if they do not complete the form. Also, she asked to partner with CB8 for a myriad of needs much like the CB partnered in 2010.

Ms. Granville thanked Ms. Worrell for the information and stated that the Board would be willing to invite her back later in the year when most of the outstanding questions have been answered (namely, the citizenship question). She then welcomed the new Community Board members: Ms. Sarah Lazur, Ms. Regina Kinsey, Ms. Nora Daniel, and Ms. Hanjy Charles. She asked each new member to please share the section of the district in which they live and their community background.

Ms. Regina Kinsey stated that she lives in the Crown Heights section of the district and that she has been a community advocate for many years. She added that she is glad to be an official member of the board.

Ms. Sarah Lazur stated that she is excited to be a member of CB8 and that she came to know the board through the Crown Heights Tenants Union while working on issues related to tenants. She added that she is very excited about the rent laws package that was passed though the state legislature and signed by Governor Cuomo, adding that she lived in western Crown Heights.

Ms. Granville again welcomed both women and asked for a report from the following committees:

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

The EST Committee met on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center but did not have a report. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Executive Committee

Ms. Wedderburn read the action item brought forth by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of Community Board 8 brings forth a resolution to stand with the other 58 Community Boards for a Community Board Budget Increase. Community Board's budgets have not seen an increase in nearly 10 years, and the Board's operate on miniscule budgets that often do not allow them to function as required by the City Charter. FY 2019 saw a one-time infusion of \$42,500 from the City Council that most Boards used for much needed technological and infrastructural upgrades in their offices. However, the paucity of funds remains.

It is the goal of the Executive Committee, should the Board adopt a resolution, to join with the other 58 Community Boards city-wide to lobby for a baseline yearly budget of at least \$300,000 starting in FY2020.

Ms. Ahuja asked if this is a request to the mayor, and was informed that it is, and that all 59 community boards are going to submit resolutions similar to ours so that it could be a collective effort. Ms. Mahoney asked for clarity on whether the request is to bring the total annual budget to 300k, or if it an increase of 300k. She was informed that it is an increase to 300k as the current budget is much less.

Ms. Benn-James made a motion to support the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Vassell and carried with a final tally of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Health and Human Services - Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Chair

The Health Committee met on Monday, June 10, 2019 at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) located at 465 Sterling Place, Brooklyn. The committee recapped the successful second annual urban agricultural event which was held on May 18, 2019. The next meeting will be Monday, September 9, 2019 at 6:30 PM at BNIA. All are invited to attend.

Housing-Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Housing (Advocacy) Committee met on Wednesday, June 1, 2019 at Albany Community Center located at 164 Troy Avenue, Brooklyn. The committee worked on planning the upcoming the Housing Resource Fair in partnership with Councilwoman Alicka Ampry-Samuel, NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development, and Bridge Street Development Corp. The Resource Fair will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 from 6:30 PM to 8 PM at Concern Rochester located at 151 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn, and will address issues facing both property owners and tenants. More information can be found in the CB 8 newsletter.

The next meeting in tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Land Use – Ms. Ethel Tyus, Chair

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn. Present were: Sasha Ahuja, Princess Benn-James, Janet Collins, Phu Duong, Fred Frazier, Nizjoni Granville, Xerxeema Jordan, Peter Krashes, Sarah Lazur, Shari Norton, Robert Puca, Meredith Staton, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, Irsa Weatherspoon, Sharon Wedderburn, Deborah Young, Jimmy Bartzoiso, Claudette Brady, Kavli James, Nicole Laemmle, Gabriel Lefferts, Elon Levbounih, Jayla Meusa, Diana Mora, Carl Riddle, Jack Robinson, Jonah Rogoff, Ronen Shiponi.

Mr. Jonah Rogoff, City Planner for the NYC Dept. of City Planning and Gib Veconi of the Land Use Committee presented a brief update on the status of DCP's study regarding the MCROWN proposal. Mr. Rogoff indicated that DCP is reviewing both appropriate densities and examining one to two floors of non-residential uses with the intent of providing job-generating spaces; and Atlantic Avenue pedestrian and traffic improvements. He indicated that the decision to employ requirements as opposed to incentives remains an issue.

It was noted that: 1010 and 1050 Pacific Street have completed their ULURPs; 1010 Pacific Street jettisoned its plan for an arts center because its design plan was reduced to R7A from R7D; and that a typographical error was published on the zoning map for 1010 Pacific Street showing the designation as R7D, when it had been downsized and approved as R7A. Boro Director Von Engle has indicated by email that the error will be corrected so that the Dept. of Buildings has correct information on which to issue permits.

Mr. Staton had questions on prospective building heights and whether there will be private open public spaces. Mr. Krashes and Ms. Mora asked whether Big Box stores will be allowed, with Ms. Mora suggesting that developers not be allowed to build out spaces suitable only for large businesses. Mr. Riddle suggested that the film industry is a good candidate for making use requirements work. Mr. Duong indicated that: the economy is changing and that DCP cannot be sure what the demand will be; and that residents should be able to walk to work because available technology supports skilled and unskilled jobs.

DCP has asked to present its study findings to the Committee and the Board. While a vote was not taken, the general consensus was to have the presentation in September when more Board members were likely to be in attendance. The presentation viewed by the Steering Committee on 5/31/19 was received subsequently and is available on the Board's website. With an eye toward gathering information from the Board for desired public realm improvements for M-CROWN, DCP is going to make a presentation at the summer meeting of the Land Use Committee on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 6:30 PM at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center. All are invited to attend.

Parks – Ms. Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, June 4, 2019. The committee discussed the following:

The committee entertained a Request for Proposal (RFP) issued by the NYC Dept. of Education to provide Head Start/Early Head Start Services at 196 Albany Avenue, a currently vacant former daycare center. The space, which has a capacity to serve over 100 preschoolers, has been unoccupied for the past five years. As such, Creative Learning Academy is seeking to submit its proposal in response to the RFP, and has partnered with the The Block At Prospect Place Block Association to make this come to fruition. To make their application stronger, Creative Learning Academy is seeking a letter of support from the Board as part of their application package.

The committee supports the proposal and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation to send a letter of support for Creative Learning Academy to utilize the space at 196 Albany Avenue as a day care center to serve families in Community Board 8 and the surrounding areas.

Mr. Ellis asked why the Parks Committee was the advising committee on this project. He was informed that the daycare is attached to the property that is a former Lots for Tots playground, that would also be used by the daycare center should one take over the space.

Ms. Tyus asked whether or not the capacity of the day care would remain the same. She was informed that it would. Mr. Staton asked if the daycare would be government funded or private and was informed that the city issued a request for proposal (RFP), and that Creative Learning answered the RFP.

After a few more questions and answers, Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and carried with a final vote of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Additionally, at the May meeting, members of Imani Garden made a presentation regarding Imani Garden and requested the committee write a letter requesting a meeting with Borough President Eric Adams, the owner of 89 Schenectady Avenue, and Community Board 8 to discuss the acquisition of that parcel of land. In the past, Imani Garden consisted of 3 lots: 87, 89, and 91 Schenectady Avenue. The middle lot, 89 Schenectady, was sold to a private owner at auction during a lien sale by the city. It has been reported that the property owner is now three years delinquent on his property taxes, but he proposes to build a 7-unit apartment building on the property, which would permanently separate the two halves of Imani Garden.

The committee voted in favor of sending the letter and having the discussion, and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Tyus asked if the property is currently on the 60-day lien sale list. She was informed by Mr. Todd that it is, but that the information had not been verified as of the meeting. Mr. Ellis followed with a question of whom specifically would be acquiring the land. Mr. Todd informed him that there is a precedent for acquiring private lots for community garden use with a lot in southern Crown Heights on Maple Street. The City can acquire the land through the ULURP process and designate the land to the Parks Department for garden use.

Ms. Gibbs inquired as to whether the other two lots are owned by the Parks Department. She was informed that the two adjacent lots are owned by a community-based organization and are deeded only for use as a garden.

Ms. Tyus suggested to the committee that they first verify that the property is on the tax lien sale list and ask the councilmember to pull it off the list and move from there. Additionally, New York Restoration Project should be the target for the ownership.

Mr. Ellis made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tyus and carried with a final tally of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

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

The Public Safety Committee met on Monday, May 20, 2019 at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn. Present were: Mark Thurton, Xeerxeema Jordan, Regina Kinsey, Dorothy Bembry-Guet, Jessica James, Lorraine Clarke, Shirley Mondesir, Judith Campbell, Myrna Hodgson, Frank Hodgson, Donella Bracey, Sgt. Giddens, Lieutenant Tussie.

The committee discussed the spate of recent shootings and homicides in the district that create a glaring problem for the NYPD despite overall crime being down based on a decrease in non-violent crimes. Mr. Thurton noted that although an emergency community meeting was held and a press conference led by Councilmember Robert Conegy and Assemblywoman Diana Richardson in reference to the shootings, accountability is necessary. Mr. Thurton stressed the importance of the summer youth employment program and its significance in keeping teens off streets because they are working and being more productive. Additionally, questions were raised with regard to the NYPD's Neighborhood Coordinating Officer Program (NCO) and its impact on crime in the community. Specifically, it was asked whether data exists on the success or failure of the program so far.

The next meeting will be Monday, June 24, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the 77th Precinct located at 127 Utica Avenue. Anyone with concerns related to public safety issues should attend.

Seniors – Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

The Seniors Committee met on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn. Present were: Gail Branch- Muhammad, Essie Spivey, Frances Langley, Norma Glover, Leola Mills, Annabelle Boyd, Ivy Anderson, Vashti Bentinck, Mary Hodnett, Yvonne Bailey, Martin Wade, Linda Ferrette, Larry Andrews, Dennis Brown, Xeerxeema Jordan, Julia Boyd, Princess Benn-James, Sheryl Vassell, Kwasi Mensah, and Regina Kinsey.

Ms. Branch-Muhammad discussed with the committee the benefits of exercise and Tai Chi in relation to maintaining good health, and Sifu Larry Andrews, a Tai Chi instructor, assisted committee members with warm

up and demonstrated more Tai Chi and exercise techniques. He asked that the committee practice and incorporate the methods into their daily routine. Additionally, Ms. Princess Benn-James demonstrated some jewelry making techniques to the committee and illustrated beading, stringing and quick techniques to transform one of kind creations into interchangeable pieces.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 4, 2019.

SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee - Mr. James Ellis, Chair; Mr. Robert Witherwax, Vice Chair

The SLAC Committee met on Monday, June 3, 2019 at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn. Present were: Gail Branch-Muhammad, Dian Duke, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Lisa Lashley, Atim Oton, Robert Puca, Meredith Staton, Mark Thurton, Gib Veconi, Irsa Weatherspoon, Robert Witherwax, and Deborah Young. The committee discussed the following applications:

Renewal for **Burrito Bar**, 307 Flatbush Avenue (corner of Prospect Pl) – Full License (sidewalk café, recorded music); Establishment type: Bar/tavern.

The committee voted 9 in favor with 1 recusal to support the renewal application and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Mr. Puca, serving as representative for the applicant, excused himself from the vote. Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final vote of 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, with 1 recusal.

Corporate Change for **Washington Commons**, 434 Park Place (corner of Washington Ave) — Changing Licensee name from Washington Tavern LLC to Washington Commons One LLC.

The committee voted 10 in favor with 2 abstentions to support the corporate change application with the stipulation that the backyard capacity, a long-time issue in the community, be reduced to 60 patrons. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and carried with a final vote of 23 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention.

New Application for **Good Life**, 706 Washington Avenue (corner of St. Marks Avenue) – Full License (patio/deck, DJ, recorded music, karaoke, small scale patron dancing, security personnel) Establishment type: Bar/tavern

- i. DJ, Recorded music, dancing no live music
- ii. 4 tables with 8 seats, 1 bar with 16 seats, max capacity under 75
- iii. Proposed Hours of Operation: 12 PM-4 AM Saturday and Sunday, 2 PM-4 AM Monday through Friday
- iv. Rear yard with dimensions of 12x17 feet, with a maximum capacity of 25.

The committee voted to support the application with the following conditions and stipulations:

- No smoking in rear yard
- Back door and front windows close at 10 PM Sunday through Thursday and 11 PM Friday and Saturday

- No DJ after 12 AM Sunday through Thursday and 2 AM Friday and Saturday
- Hours reduced to 2 AM closing Sunday through Thursday and 3 AM Friday and Saturday.

The committee hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Ms. Gibbs asked why the committee deviated from what she thought was a standard time for a 2 AM closing time given to new applicants in 500-foot exceptions. She was informed that there is no set standard, but that usually 2 AM is the recommendation. In this case, the applicant had engaged in dialogue with the neighbors and the committee believed that 3 AM was fair.

Ms. Tyus asked for clarification on the maximum rear yard capacity and whether 25 max persons was inclusive of sitting and standing room. She was informed that it was.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Duke and carried with a final tally of 24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

The next SLAC meeting will be held on Monday, July 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM at Downtown Brooklyn Rehabilitation Center. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Granville thanked the committees for their reports and opened the floor for Members' Acknowledgements.

Member Acknowledgements

Ms. Granville thanked the Community Board members, especially the Committee Chairs and the Executive Committee, for their hard work over the last 10 years that she has been Chairperson. She and Ms. George, District Manager, distributed plaques to the Executive Committee and Committee chairpersons. They also presented certificates of appreciation to all Board members for their hard work and dedication to CB8.

Additionally, surprising both, Ms. Granville was honored for her 10 years as Chairperson of Community Board 8, and Ms. George was honored for her 30th Anniversary at Community Board 8. Both were honored by multiple elected officials with Proclamations and Citations, and even a Legislative Resolution by Senator Montgomery for their service. Julia Neale, Community Coordinator, presented both Ms. George and Ms. Granville personally crafted cards on behalf of the members and signed by the broader community at the meeting.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for supporting her through her 10 years as Chair, and Ms. George thanked everyone for the outpouring of support, stating that she is thrilled to be celebrating 30 years, a feat not often accomplished by many, and she looks forward to continuing to serve as District Manager.

Ms. Granville opened the floor for elected officials reports and public comments.

Ms. Karen Chambers from the Kings County District Attorney's office announced that there are numerous services in the office to assist the community with their issues. The main service, the Action Center, can be reached at 718-250-2340.

Ms. Anita Taylor from Congresswoman Clarke's office congratulated Ms. Granville and Ms. George for their dedication and commitment. She also announced that Congresswoman Clarke co-led the DREAM and Promise Act, the legislation for which passed on June 4, 2019. The DREAM and Promise Act offer a pathway to citizenship to those that have been in the USA illegally for decades. Finally, the dedication ceremony honoring Major Owens

Post Office (formerly the St. John's Post Office) will be held on Friday, June 28th at 10 AM. For more information or to RSVP for the re-naming event, call 718- 287-1142.

Ms. Arna Lipkind from Majority Leader Cumbo's office, called Community Board 8 unusual because despite the intricate issues in the District, the level of leadership at the highest positions has not wavered, and the Board has been able to successfully navigate between the evolving needs of the community and interact with municipal agencies. She stated that both Ms. George and Ms. Granville bring a positive energy to the Board that is very much needed at this time, and thanked both for their service.

She announced Majority Leader Cumbo's Rain Barrel Giveaway on Saturday, June 22, 2019 from 10 AM to Noon at PS 9 located at 80 Underhill Avenue, Brooklyn. The 60-gallon rain barrels install and connect directly to a property owner's downspout to capture and store the storm water that falls on the rooftop. Water collected in the rain barrel can be used to water lawns, gardens, or for other outdoor chores. For more information, please contact the Majority Leader's office at 718-260-9191.

District Leader Olanike Alabi stated that she wanted to contribute to the recognition and admiration for outgoing chair, Nizjoni Granville, stating that the sacrifice of personal time says a lot about a person's character. Ms. Granville has sacrificed extensive time in service to the Board. District Leader Alabi congratulated incoming Chair, Ethel Tyus, stating that she looks forward to working with her.

District Leader Alabi also stated that she has a lot of respect and admiration for Ms. George, especially hearing that she is celebrating 30 years at a time when not many people stay very long in a government position. Ms. George is admired and respected by many, and she exudes leadership, which allows her to be successful when it comes to dealing with changing environments.

Finally, District Leader Alabi reminded everyone that the primary election will be held on Tuesday, June 25th, and depending on where you live in Brooklyn, there will be a number of seats you will have to vote for. All Brooklyn residents will be voting for at least two seats while some will be voting for three or four. The primary seats on the ballots will be judges. Early voting sites will be determined by Community Board districts. More information will be given at a later date regarding locations.

Ms. Kathleen Daniel from Borough President Eric Adams office stated that the rent regulation package is great news for the City and especially central Brooklyn residents. Ms. Daniel distributed the Boro President's most current newsletter and also announced that BP Adams has created a task force the 2020 Census and is inviting anyone involved with a community-based organization, faith-based group, civic organization, or any group with ties to the community, to please participate as the census equals money for the community. For more information, call the Boro President's office at 718-802-3700.

Mr. Godfrey Bayalama from Senator Zellnor Myrie's office stated that the Senator worked tirelessly on the rent reforms recently passed with some of his colleagues in office. All that we need now to move forward is for Governor Cuomo to sign the package into law. The reforms will be permanent unlike other reform packages in the past. There is no sunset date on this package, which has been dubbed the most sweeping rent reform package since World War II.

Finally, after an extended stay at Assembly colleague Diana Richardson's office, Senator Myrie's office will open on Monday at 1077 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn. For more information, contact the Senator's office at 718-284-4700. **Ms. Kim Robinson** from Councilwoman Ampry-Samuel's office thanked Ms. Granville and Ms. George for their service with the Board. She announced that on June 4th, the Councilwoman had a lien sale outreach event, because there are over 800 properties in the 41st Council District on the lien sale list this year. Homeowners need to be aware of what being on the lien sale list means for them, and be cognizant of the steps they can and should take to avoid losing their homes. A mass mailing was completed and HPD did robo calls to ensure that as many people as possible knew about the outreach event and participated to clear away taxes, water and sewer bills, and other debts or at least work to get on a payment plan to avoid the sale.

Finally, Ms. Robinson announced the upcoming Housing Resource fair on June 19, 2019 from 6:30-8 PM at Concern Rochester located at 151 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn. The fair is being organized with the CB8 Housing Committee. She urged everyone to attend if they have housing concerns. For more information, contact the Councilwoman's office at 718-953-3097.

Mr. Maceo Karriem from Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright's office announced that on June 26th, the NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs will be in the Assemblywoman's office to work with any consumer that has a fraud related issue or complaint. Consumer fraud is rising in the city, and DCA's goal is to help people recognize the signs of fraud and know their rights. He cited an anecdote of receipts with tips calculated at a much higher rate than they are supposed to be, and stated that that is a sign of fraud. Also, he announced that the Assemblywoman recently had a foreclosure prevention program to assist residents with foreclosure related issues. For more information, contact the Assemblywoman's office at 718-399-7630.

Mr. Duane Frankson from Berean Missionary Baptist Church announced the church's upcoming Father's Day event in celebration of fathers. He acknowledged that Father's Day does not get the same recognition as Mother's Day, but also stated that there are many men out there attempting to be good fathers, and those men need to be celebrated. For more information, contact Berean at 718-774-0466.

An unnamed resident announced an upcoming event, Black Veg Fest on August 11th at Weeksville Heritage Center. The event is designed to assist people of color in embracing veganism, healthy eating, and environmentalism. For more information, visit <u>www.Blackvegfest.org</u>.

Mr. James Ellis from the North Flatbush Avenue BID announced the annual Make Music Festival, celebrating the "Hot Sounds of Summer," a music filled block party on Friday, June 21, 2019 from 4-8 PM at the 6th Avenue/Flatbush Avenue Triangle. Enjoy live music and entertainment. For more information, email <u>info@northflatbushbid.nyc</u>. He announced that fellow CB8 member, Gib Veconi, will be one of the music acts in front of stores along the avenue.

Mr. Gib Veconi stated that the recognitions for Ms. Granville and Ms. George are very much deserved. He also announced that on June 22nd, the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC) will host the first ever Prospect Heights Together Day at PS9 playground located on St. Marks Avenue near Underhill Avenue. While the event name has Prospect Heights in it, it is for the community at large. There will be community activists talking about housing and tenants rights, streetscapes, historic development, transportation alternatives, emergency preparedness, and much more. The event is open to everyone.

Ms. Ethel Tyus of the Crown Heights North Association announced that CNHA will be having their general membership meeting on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 6:45 PM at St. Gregory's RC Church located at 991 St. John's Place, corner of Brooklyn Avenue. The Annual Walking Tour: Exploring Crown Heights North, a guided walking tour of the historic districts will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 11 AM and will begin at St. Gregory the Great RC Church located at the corner of St. John's Place and Brooklyn Avenue. Join Tour Leader and Architectural Historian Suzanne Spellen for a look at the eastern side of Crown Heights North, which includes

the oldest standing home in the area, city planning strategies from the 1890s and 1960s, Doctor's Row, stunning houses of worship and blocks of Brooklyn's finest residential architecture. Tickets can be purchased online at <u>www.crownheightsnorth.org/join-us</u> or contact <u>info@crownheightsnorth.org</u>. All proceeds from the tour will be donated to the Weeksville Heritage Center.

Ms. Granville thanked everyone for the acknowledgments and recognition and for the support over the last 10 years. She thanked everyone for attending, wished everyone a safe and enjoyable summer, and adjourned the meeting at 9 PM.