

**Community Board 8
Weeksville Heritage Center
158 Buffalo Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238
June 11th, 2026**

Members Present

Akua Aidoo
Nie Alston
Peter Anekwe
Jason Barefoot
Princess Benn
Leonard Descartes
Dian Duke
Hardy Fischer
Tamika Gibbs
Nizjoni Granville
Mohammad Hassan
Jamell Henderson
Jennifer Jordan
David Kalinoski
Lisa Maldonado
William Meehan
Kwasi Mensah
Mimi Mitchell
Fior Ortiz-Joyner
Taraya Pettway
Robert Puca
Yahya Raji
Anika Roach
Conor Ross
Ezra Roth
Meredith Staton
Wendell Sweet
Katie Taylor
Mark Thurton
Briana Uwa
Cheryl Walcott
Irsa Weatherspoon
Sharon Wedderburn
Ferdinanda Williams-Nichols
Robert Witherwax

Members Absent/Excused

Sharon Alexis-Pierre
Isaac Andino
Gail Branch-Muhammad
Drew Gabriel
Tafari John-King
Frances Langley
Robert Lapointe
Dr. Sarah Lazur
Alexandr Maza
Brian Saunders
Robin Smith
Lesley Steele
Kimberly Watson
Regina Wilson
Deborah Young

Elected Officials Present

Councilmember Crystal Hudson

Elected Official Representatives

Krista Riley, Senator Zellnor Myrie
Janay Pierre, Councilmember Crystal Hudson
Tendai Watkins, Assemblymember Stefani Zinerman
Saira Amar, Assemblymember Phara Souffrant Forrest
Orlando Ross, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke

Agency Representatives

Andrew Hoyles, Dept. of Sanitation
Sandra Sneed, NYC Health and Hospitals
Dina Montes, NYC Health and Hospitals
Jason Hansman, NYC Health and Hospitals
Chris Reeley, NYC Health and Hospitals

CB8 Staff Present

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 6:13PM by Chairperson Irsa Weatherspoon. She asked Ms. Gibbs, Sergeant at Arms, to go over basic housekeeping rules, followed by Roll Call. She then invited Notify NYC to speak on Heat Preparedness.

Notify NYC – Heat Preparedness

NYC Emergency Management presented on Notify NYC and heat preparedness, with a focus on emergency response and public-health risks during extreme heat. The presenter noted that approximately 500 deaths per year in New York City are heat-related and encouraged residents to download the city app and sign up for alerts, including by texting 692-692. Residents were advised to watch for symptoms such as heavy sweating, muscle pains, spasms, and nausea. The presentation also covered practical safety steps, including applying for an air conditioner through the HEAP program by calling 311, blocking sunlight during hot days, avoiding stove use during extreme heat, drinking water, preparing for power outages, and keeping backup resources for medical devices.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the representative and invited Ms. Pena from the Central Brooklyn Literacy Academy to say a few words.

Central Brooklyn Literacy Academy

Naomi Pena, speaking on behalf of the Central Brooklyn Literacy Academy Collective, introduced the Central Brooklyn Literacy Academy as a school-support organization partnering with NYC Public Schools to design the first in-school program focused on supporting students with dyslexia and learning disabilities. She explained that the school will serve students in grades 2–8 who are behind in reading and writing, and said the organization will return later for a larger presentation. Ms. Pena noted that one operational focus will be managing school drop-off and asked that the organization be invited to future street fairs and community events. She explained that enrollment goes through MySchools and shared that she handles admissions for the school. The school is expected to have 18 students per class, with two classrooms per grade.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Ms. Pena for the important information and invited Councilmember Crystal Hudson to swear in the newly appointed and reappointed members.

Swearing in of New Community Board Members –

Council Member Crystal Hudson administered the swearing-in of new members.

Regarding D35 updates, the member announced that her office hosted an amazing Mother's Day event last month and was pleased to see many CB8 members present as participants or volunteers. She thanked members for supporting her events throughout the year. Father's Day is coming up next week and there will be an event planned to celebrate dads as well.

The City budget must be approved by June 30th. Unfortunately, the Council is still fighting for funding for many things known that New Yorkers need. She personally has been loudly fighting for Fair Fares expansion to allow more people to take public transportation for free or reduced costs. The city bins is a result of legislation she introduced and she is proud that CB8 is part of the pilot expansion. She gave an overview of the empire bins and the expansion process.

Concluding her updates, Councilmember Hudson wished everyone a Happy Pride, Happy Juneteenth, Caribbean American Heritage month, American Indian month, and any other celebratory mentions.

Mr. Staton asked what happened to one percent funding for parks and was informed that it is not likely to happen this year.

Both Ms. Gibbs and Ms. Benn inquired about what seems like a war on cars and the removal of parking spaces for rented/rentable shared things like CitiBike and ride shares, and others. With empire bins coming to a curbside near you they asked, where are people supposed to park their vehicles? This is an aging community and some are reliant on their vehicles and it seems there is a movement to crowd vehicle owners and no one is paying attention to the crowding on the streets. Councilmember Hudson countered, stating that she does not agree that no one is paying attention to it, and instead are trying to ensure that all needs for the street are met.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Councilmember Hudson for the updates and acknowledging that she is paying attention to the needs of the community. She then invited the Dept. of Sanitation to speak a bit more on containerized collection and empire bins.

Dept. of Sanitation

Andrew Hoyles from **the Department of Sanitation** presented on containerization, emphasizing that the program is intended to improve sidewalk quality and reduce trash stored in public space. He stated that 70% of the city is in compliance with containerization rules and that there will be a warning period through September 2026 for required roll bins where applicable. Schools and businesses are already required to containerize trash, and large residential buildings are the next focus.

Hoyles explained that buildings with 10–30 units may opt into Empire Bins or use the standard bins, while buildings with 31 or more units will be required to use Empire Bins, which are stationed in the curb lane of the street. Property managers will be asked to complete forms, and installed bins will use key cards or an app to ensure access for authorized building personnel and Sanitation. He said Empire Bins are expected to come to CB8 in 2027, with installation and outreach beginning in the spring and summer because winter installation is not feasible. He also noted that Sanitation will use side-loading trucks and estimated that about 4% of parking spaces in the district will be affected.

The Q&A covered practical concerns about access, enforcement, maintenance, and neighborhood impacts.

- Meredith Staton asked how residents should handle lack of access to individual bins, and Hoyles referenced vendor supply issues and availability through Home Depot and delivery apps.
- Cheryl Walcott raised concerns about street sweepers kicking up dust and asked why they do not use water; Hoyles said he would look into it.
- Fior Ortiz-Joyner asked when trucks would be retrofitted for individual bins; Hoyles said containerization began in November 2024, not all trucks will be ready immediately, but Sanitation will be able to service containerized trash. Ortiz-Joyner also asked how many

Empire Bins would be provided when multiple large buildings are present, and Hoyles said each building with more than 31 units will have at least one Empire Bin.

- Mark Thurton asked who places garbage into the bins, and the response was that building supers or trash managers, along with Sanitation, will have access.
- Kwasi Mensah raised concerns about the loss of parking spaces, and Hoyles responded that the assumption is residents will prefer trash off the street and the resultant reduction in rodent populations, even if parking is affected.
- Tamika Gibbs asked what happens if bins develop holes, whether rat-repellent supply shortages will be addressed, and how the City will gather feedback on street installations; Hoyles said NYC bins have a 10-year warranty, damaged bins can be reported and replaced, and older bins can be repurposed for compost or recycling.
- Sharon Wedderburn raised concerns about installation on streets with many buildings, bike lanes, and competing uses; Hoyles said Sanitation is analyzing data and taking feedback.
- Robert Witherwax asked about cases where trash is stored in the back but collected at the front, and the response was that the agency is starting from collection location and will handle issues case by case.
- William Meehan asked whether multiple 10–30 unit buildings could share bins, and Hoyles said Sanitation tested that model in Manhattan CB9 but it did not work well, so the agency is moving forward with an individual-building approach.

Additional questions focused on tenant access and rat conditions. A resident worried that if tenants cannot access bins, trash may collect inside buildings and worsen rat issues; Hoyles stated that interior building conditions are handled by HPD and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and residents should report rat issues through 311. He noted that when the City piloted free/open access to bins, dumping became a major issue because people used bins for inappropriate trash. Jamell Henderson said Sanitation did not seem to fully appreciate the neighborhood's needs and asked for more frequent collection; Hoyles said he could not commit the agency to more pickups but would report the concern back.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Mr. Hoyle for the information and invited elected officials representatives to say a few words.

Elected Official Representatives

Saira Amar, communications manager for Assembly Member **Phara Souffrant-Forrest**, reported that the legislative session is complete and that three bills passed and are awaiting the Governor's signature. The bills would require hospitals providing perinatal care to conduct implicit-bias training, require insurers to address pharmaceutical costs when a generic drug is in shortage, and increase knowledge around using hormone replacement therapy for treating menopause and perimenopause. She also stated the office is waiting for finalization of the state budget. She promoted a monthly clinic for housing and landlord issues, announced an e-waste event on **July 18**, and referenced a webinar on ICE in partnership with immigration experts. Ms. Amar also announced a monthly housing clinic held on the third Wednesday of each month, a Medgar Evers College webinar on deed theft, an information session on taxes at Clinton Hill Library, and a Brooklyn Roots event in September for residents to learn more about government.

Orlando Ross from Congresswoman **Yvette Clarke's** office announced an online session on student loans scheduled for Monday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m., including discussion of how federal legislation is affecting student loans. He also said Congresswoman Clarke is reintroducing the

Affordable and AMI Act, which would direct HUD to use a more local alternative calculation for AMI, provide recommendations for reforming the use of AI, and allocate money toward housing issues. He encouraged attendees to follow the Congresswoman on social media.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked all for their updates and announcements and invited NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation to make a presentation.

NYC Health and Hospitals/Woodhull

Sandra Sneed, CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull, and Eva Sanders, Associate Executive Director of Behavioral Health, presented with central office executives on the Bridge to Home program. NYC Health and Hospitals is the Nation's largest safety net healthcare system with 11 acute hospitals, 30+ ambulatory centers, 45k staff, providing long term care, home care, correctional health services, serving greater than one million New Yorkers annually. Because HHC facilities must treat patients regardless of ability to pay, they have a diverse, higher need patient population with built in embedded legal services, Community Health Workers, benefits navigation, WIC and SNAP enrollment, social referrals. HHC hospitals deliver 60% of all behavioral health services in the city.

Nearly 50% of behavioral health patients at NYC H+H are experiencing homelessness and the expansion of Bridge to Home will help address the needs of this population. In 2025, 78,000 H+H patients experienced homelessness and more than 60% of these H+H patients were also DHS clients. On average, patients experiencing homelessness visited the ED 3x more often than non homeless patients. Patients experiencing homelessness were more likely to have an inpatient visit and stayed 4x longer than non homeless patients. Over 20% of NYC H+H patients experiencing homelessness are at a high risk for developing new, serious health conditions.

In order to reduce the chronic cycling from hospitalization to street homelessness, and ensure patients can stay on track for permanent housing, NYC H+H created Bridge to Home. Bridge to Home eliminates barriers between NYC H+H behavioral health patients and placement in supportive housing. It accomplishes this by:

- Ensuring that patients can complete the supportive housing process after hospitalization is a major challenge for BH providers; the disruption often leads patients to cycle between ED, shelters, the street, and the criminal justice system.
- Bridge to Home offers a new discharge option to NYC H+H providers treating patients with serious mental illness (SMI) who have successfully completed inpatient stabilization and need additional support as they transition to permanent housing.
- Bridge to Home guests are offered a home like environment, including private rooms, meals, wraparound treatment services, and 24/7 on site staff, until they can be connected to permanent housing (up to 12 months).
- By offering patients on site treatment and comprehensive support, the program keeps patients on a path toward sustained stabilization, reducing unnecessary emergency room visits, placement in supportive housing, and decreasing street homelessness.
- The final stop in the Bridge to Home program is discharge into permanent housing.

Bridge to Home includes a multidisciplinary team to support patients' transition from hospital to permanent housing including psychiatric provider, social workers, nurses, occupational therapist, psychiatric technicians and security, operations managers. The contingency of care is designed to ensure that all patient needs are met while maintaining an orderly home feel.

To be eligible, patient meet all of the following criteria:

- Single adult, 18 years old and over
- Completed in patient stabilization at NYC H+H and referred by NYC H+H behavioral health clinician
- Diagnosed with a severe mental illness (SMI) and is likely to experience homelessness/housing instability at discharge
- Be able to perform basic Activities of Daily Living or ADLs (bathing, continence/toileting, dressing, eating, transferring/mobility)
- Has agreed to participate in Bridge to Home. Guests are required to sign a good neighbor policy before entering the program. The policy sets expectations on not loitering outside, being respectful of people on the block, etc.

The first iteration of Bridge to Home was created in 2025 at 442 W36th Street in Manhattan, serving up to 46 guests. It was stressed that this program is not operated by NYC Dept. of Homeless Services and is not a shelter. Instead, it is a pilot program designed to acutely care for patients with mental illness to stabilize them, treat them, and eliminate their homeless and unhoused status. It is operated by Health and Hospitals Corporation, which is why the contingency of care is so great.

Within six months, early data and patterns revealed positive progress including strengthened connections to care; 87% of guests attend on site clinical visits at least once per week; increased participation in treatment; early data shows 65% of guests have received a long-lasting injectable; compared to 59% across H+H clinics; positive community integration; so far no complaints about guests in the community inbox. Presently, guests can expect expedited housing placement, as Bridge to Home guests are outpacing average supportive housing application process time. Within these six months, 81% of guests have started the housing process; 1 guest has successfully been placed in supportive housing; and 6 guests have completed the application.

Bridge to Home is expanding to CB8 at the Hotel Mirage at 1464 Atlantic Avenue. The max capacity will be between 45 and 50 guests, with the same contingency of care workers present at the Manhattan site. The site will be licensed as a satellite clinic of H+H/Woodhull, and will feature individual rooms/bathrooms for guests, common areas for socializing, space for therapeutic activities. The site is expected to accept its first few guests either late summer or early fall 2026.

During Q&A, Michelle George asked what outreach had been done to homeowners and schools on the block; the presenters responded that outreach still needs to happen, but they are invested in completing all necessary outreach and will work with the Board, electeds, and anyone else can be recommended.

Fior Ortiz-Joyner asked whether the program is essentially a shelter under another name and raised concerns about community safety related to program participants. The presenters said sex offenders are excluded from the site and referenced a Community Advisory Board, noting they had received past feedback that collaboration went well and that they hoped to maintain that energy.

Several others inquired about Fair Share Laws and were taken aback when the presenters stated they were unfamiliar with the Laws because they are hospital based services and not Dept. of Homeless Services. Again, they stressed that this is not a shelter and instead should be viewed as

a new type of transitional supportive housing, operated by an actual healthcare provider rather than a non-profit that has to outsource medical services as the services are built into the model and provided by Health and Hospitals Corp.

Unfortunately, those present were not in agreement and concluded that the facility is a new type of homeless shelter and expressed doubt and worry over the facility.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the presenters for the presentation, statistics, and information.

Acceptance of Minutes

The Board accepted the minutes on a motion by Robert Witherwax and a second by Meredith Staton. The minutes passed by voice vote with unanimous support.

Committee Updates

Environment, Sanitation, and Transportation — Robert Witherwax, Chair

Robert Witherwax reported that EST coordinated a session with DOT about the Grand Army Plaza redesign, though CB8 had issues accessing the link originally shared by DOT. The next EST meeting is scheduled for June 23.

Health and Human Services — Tamika Gibbs, Chair

Tamika Gibbs reported that HHS met on **Thursday, May 28**, for its final meeting of the year. The committee heard a presentation from **New York-Presbyterian Hospital** on capacity building and funding opportunities for community-based organizations to fill community needs. Gibbs said the Board is waiting for results from its own application and emphasized the importance of placing more community board members on advisory boards for hospital programs.

Housing and Land Use — Sharon Wedderburn, Chair.

Sharon Wedderburn reported that HLU will not meet during the summer, though there is typically an August placeholder meeting in case an application comes up. She noted that the committee's role may change based on what is handled at the staff level under last year's ballot initiatives, but emphasized the importance of still convening as a committee. Wedderburn thanked Brianna Uwa and Bobby LaPointe for their support across the committee's work.

Parks, Youth, and Education — Akua Aidoo, Vice Chair.

Akua Aidoo reported that Parks, Youth & Education meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the Brooklyn Children's Museum and that the next meeting will be held in the fall.

Public Safety — Mark Thurton, Chair.

Mark Thurton reported that Public Safety did not meet the prior month because of the holiday weekend. The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, and it will be the last meeting before the summer. The meeting will include Narcan training and discussion with local police. Thurton noted that new members had attended committee meetings and encouraged broader participation.

Economic Development — Lisa Maldonado, Vice Chair.

Lisa Maldonado reported that the committee meets on the second Tuesday at Brower Park Library. The committee reflected on the past year's activities and began planning for the coming

year, including work to build out hybrid meetings. The committee also considered a request from PHNDC for a letter of support related to Lowery Triangle.

Public Hearing Action Items and Votes

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, to discuss a bill that is scheduled to come before the City Council on June 22, 2026. The bill's sponsor is Councilmember Nantasha Williams of Queens.

The legislation, Intro 501, is a local law that would amend the New York City Charter regarding the terms of employment for Community Board District Managers. Specifically, the bill would limit District Managers to four-year terms, with the possibility of reappointment, and would grant Borough Presidents the authority to remove District Managers at will.

After extensive discussion, the Executive Committee unanimously voted to oppose Intro 501 for several reasons.

Under the New York City Charter, District Managers are city employees who are hired by and serve at the pleasure of their respective Community Boards—not the City Council or the Borough Presidents. Imposing term limits on District Managers undermines the authority and judgment of Community Board members and diminishes the important role boards play in selecting and overseeing their District Managers.

Furthermore, our Board's By-Laws already provide clear procedures for addressing performance concerns and, when necessary, removing a District Manager for cause. These established protocols ensure accountability while preserving the Board's authority over its own personnel decisions.

The proposal to grant Borough Presidents the unilateral power to remove District Managers is particularly troubling. Allowing an elected official to dismiss an employee whom they neither hired nor supervise is inconsistent with the structure and independence of Community Boards and disregards the considerable time, effort, and deliberation that boards invest in recruiting and hiring qualified District Managers.

At a time when Community Board members themselves are subject to term limits, the value of experienced District Managers has become even more apparent. Long-serving District Managers provide institutional knowledge, continuity, and established relationships with city agencies, elected officials, community-based organizations, houses of worship, local businesses, and residents. These relationships are essential to the effective functioning of Community Boards and to the communities they serve.

The Executive Committee believes that Intro 501 appears to treat District Managers in a manner more akin to elected officials who stand for re-election every four years, rather than professional administrators whose performance should be evaluated by the Community Boards that employ them.

For these reasons, the Executive Committee unanimously voted to oppose Intro 501 and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Leonard Descartes asked why a particular bill had come up in the first place. He was informed that the Councilmember behind the bill had an issue with a specific district manager, which prompted the proposal.

A motion to support the recommendation as made by Tamika Gibbs, seconded by Meredith Staton

The motion was approved unanimously via voice vote.

SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)

SLAC met Monday, June 1, 2026 to discuss the following applications:

A. New Liquor License Applications

- 1. Equal Parts Hospitality LLC, d/b/a The Corner Store, 753 Nostrand Avenue – Full license (no backyard space, live music (acoustic), recorded music)**

Details of the application include:

- i. Coffee transitioning to bar close 12 AM
- ii. 12 Tables / 26 Seats with an additional bar with 14 Seats
- iii. No amplified sound
- iv. They have a temporary license issued by the SLA.

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the application as presented in hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, a motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Fior Ortiz-Joyner, seconded by Leonard Descartes

30 Y, 0 N, 1A, the motion passes.

- 2. Khodruay Inc., 565 Vanderbilt Avenue – Full license (no outdoor space, recorded music)**

Details of the application include:

- i. Old Chuko space – continuing ramen service
- ii. Hours of operation 11am - 10pm daily
- iii. 13 Table with 38 Seats and an additional bar with 11 seats

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the application as presented in hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Meredith Staton asked how close the location is to the next bar. The response was that the application is exempt from the rule because it is not within the 500-foot rule.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Conor Ross, seconded by Meredith Staton

31 Y, 0 N, 2 1, the motion passes.

3. 688 Franklin Avenue LLC, 688 Franklin Avenue – Full license (rear yard, recorded music)

- i. Taking over Mayfield (No name as yet) and will serve American cuisine
- ii. 9 Tables with 18 Seats and an additional bar with 13 seats

The committee voted 13 in favor with 1 abstention to support the application with the modification that the outdoor space close at 10PM Sunday thru Thursday and 11PM Friday and Saturday. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Meredith Staton again asked how close the location is to the next bar, and the response was that the applicant is exempt from the 500-foot rule. Peter Anekwe asked whether the applicant was fine with the exception, and the response was that there were no issues with it.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Tamika Gibbs, seconded by Cheryl Walcott

30 Y, 0 N, 1 A, the motion passes.

4. Koto Sushi, 263 Flatbush Avenue – Beer/wine/cider license (no listed MOOs)

Details of the application include:

- i. Hours of operation Sunday from 12pm-10pm, Monday thru Friday 11:30am - 10:30pm, closed Saturday
- ii. 13 Tables with 30 seats, no separate bar

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the application with an amendment to "more accurately reflect residences and status of adjacent properties." It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Hearing non, a motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by William Meehan, seconded by Dian Duke

30 Y, 0 N, 1 A, the motion passes.

B. Method of Operations (MOO) Application for Maya Taqueria, 637 Vanderbilt Avenue – Full license

The applicant is seeking an extension of hours from midnight to 2pm Friday and Saturday (hours will remain midnight Sunday thru Thursday). All other operations will remain the same, including outdoor service that operations from 11AM to midnight daily.

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the MOO and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Mimi Mitchell noted that a neighbor had come forward with concerns about the restaurant and said she wanted to make sure the Board discussed quality-of-life impacts.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, a motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Mimi Mitchell, seconded by Jennifer Jordan

30 Y, 0 N, 1 A, the motion passes.

C. **Dining Out** Applications

1. **Cordelia, 942 Bergen Street – Sidewalk Café**

- i. Will operate standard coded hours of Monday thru Friday 8am-11 pm and Saturday and Sunday 8am-12am
- ii. Bergen Street side has 8 Tables with 16 seats; Franklin Avenue side has 10 Tables with 20 seats

The committee voted 11 in favor, 1 opposed, with 3 abstentions to support the application as presented in hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Peter Anekwe asked whether the vote was only for outdoor service and not alcohol service; the response confirmed that the vote was for outdoor service. Akua Aidoo asked whether this was the same application as last month, and the response was yes.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by William Meehan, seconded by Meredith Staton

22 Y, 4 N, 5 A, the motion passes.

2. **Farm.One, 625 Bergen Street – Sidewalk Café**

- i. 4 x 66 feet on Bergen Street with 9 tables inclusive of 3 picnic tables and 6 foldable 2-tops
- ii. Hours of operation on Sunday from Noon to 8PM, Tuesday 4PM-10PM, Thursday from 4PM, Friday from 3PM to midnight, and Saturday from Noon to midnight

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the application as presented, but encouraged the proprietor to ensure they adhere to Dining Out rules of removing all street furnishings when not in use. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Mark Thurton asked whether the applicant had addressed the table issue, and the response was that the tables are now being moved inside.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Cheryl Walcott, seconded by Jennifer Jordan

29 Y, 1 N, 2 A, the motion passes.

3. Tin Angel d/b/a Zig Zag Oyster, 406 Prospect Place – Sidewalk Café

- i. Hours of operation daily until 10PM with starting hours of 5PM Monday thru Friday and 4PM Saturday and Sunday thru Thursday
- ii. Sidewalk café has 28 seats
- iii. Opposition by Vincent Rosales, 404 Prospect Place, Prospect Heights Church of Christ

The committee voted 12 in favor with 3 abstentions to support the application as presented.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. There were several questions as to whether or not the applicant should even have a full liquor license and also if the church is an obstacle against a dining out application.

Members clarified that the building has never been designated as a church, which means that the existence of church activity does not automatically prevent a license. Lisa Maldonado asked whether the committee had previously tried to limit the operation to beer and wine and confirmed that this was the same location as before. Meredith Staton asked about the church's hours. William Meehan clarified that the liquor license rule does not apply because there are residential units in the building. Wendell Sweet asked how close the bar is to the church, and the response was that it is next door. Mimi Mitchell noted that the church had not sought to change its status since the last discussion and that the proprietor had offered to open later on Sundays to avoid church crowds; she emphasized that the current application does not change that issue because it is only for the sidewalk café. Leonard Descartes asked how the applicant had communicated with the church. The response was that the SLA Committee asks applicants to post notice and the applicant did so last year. The church spoke with the Board, and the members told the church to speak with the board office, the SLA, and the applicant directly. The notes state that the church had not taken those steps since the prior year's application.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Mimi Mitchell, seconded by William Meehan

24 Y, 2 N, 5 A, the motion passes.

4. Bong, 724 Sterling Place –Sidewalk Café

- i. Hours of operation from 5:30PM to 11:30PM daily with the exception of Monday (business is closed on Mondays)
- ii. 12 seats at 3 tables

The committee voted unanimously with 16 in favor to support the application as presented and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Sharon Wedderburn asked for the cross streets, and the response was that the location is between Bedford and Franklin, closer to Bedford Avenue.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Conor Ross, seconded by Mimi Mitchell

29 Y, 2 N, 0 A, the motion passes.

D. Special World Cup Application

The World Cup One-Day Permit allows event organizers to host off-site activations, such as fan festivals, events with multiple vendors and large viewing events, throughout the duration of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

Bars and restaurants can also apply for the World Cup One-Day Permit to extend service into contiguous unlicensed outdoor areas for World Cup events. Businesses, organizations or individuals can apply for this permit to host a World Cup watch party. Event organizers and licensees may use the State Liquor Authority's existing One-Day Alcohol Event Permit process to apply for the World Cup One-Day Permit.

To streamline the process, applicants may request up to 12 one-day permits within a single application. Organizers hosting more than 12 events may submit multiple applications, each including up to 12 one-day permit requests.

An application has been received for 704 Washington Avenue for the following eight (8) dates:

6/13, 6/16, 6/22, 6/25, 6/27, 6/30, 7/5 & 7/19 from 8AM to 1AM each date. The space accommodates 20 tables for 40 seats and an additional bar with 5 seats. There is no outdoor space. Recorded music will be in the background with several large screen televisions.

The committee voted unanimously with 13 in favor to support the special event application for this site and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions. Lisa Maldonado asked what is currently at the location and how the bar would function. The response was that the space is a former restaurant that has been empty for some time and that the applicant hopes to workshop what a restaurant or space usage could become, with an emphasis on international connection and bringing people in. Leonard Descartes asked whether the application is indoors only, and the response was yes.

A motion to support the committee's recommendation as made by Robert Puca, seconded by Kwasi Mensah

27 Y, 1 N, 3 A, the motion passes.

Public Comments and Updates

David Kupferberg from **Passengers United** introduced the organization as a nonpartisan transportation advocacy group focused on the **Brooklyn Bus Redesign**. He said Brooklyn CB9 had adopted principles at its meeting and asked CB8 to do the same, with priorities including bus speeds and making bus-stop experiences more pleasant. **Weatherspoon** directed him to the EST Committee.

Michelle George announced a celebration of **Meredith Staton**, noting that Staton has been a community board member since the Board's inception.

Galen Berry introduced **Sycamore**, a new community center at **79 Dean Street** in eastern Crown Heights. He said materials were shared about the center and that it is hosting approximately **three to four events per week**.

Dierdre Leavey, a kindergarten teacher, spoke about the need to change the culture around buses and driving. She said that when neighborhood changes are made, the focus should remain on keeping people safe.

Katie Taylor referenced a new bike-path plan, with the hope that there is more discussion on it at future meetings.

With no additional business to be conducted, Chairperson Weatherspoon wished everyone a blessed, healthy, and safe summer recess and adjourned the meeting.

Guests Present

Norman Oder
Steven Remeau
Adrianna Golovatti
Jacob Wasserman
Dedra McGill
Kai Michelle Coleman
Daphne Salley
Valerea Washington
Daniel Naser
Nadine Davis
Roger Myers
Betty Davis
John Dewind
Crystal Cooper
Adrienne Grande
Traci Nottingham
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Naomi P.
Derek Pitts
Alicia Pritchard
David Kupferberg
Rev. Monica Sinclair
Zhen Li
Omar Modesto

Jason Hur
Nialls Fallon
David Mckellar
Lula Staton
B. Green
Rodney Seymour
Pat Constantine
Gwendolyn Chisholm
Michael N.
Alison Joseph
Valerie Nero-Reid
Angelica Radacinston
Ashley Mangra
Stacey Jordan
Melina Bernadine
Xeexema Jordan
Gib Veconi
Cidy Myles
Lauren Balone
Galen Barry
Linda Ferrette
Conetta Charles
Nathan Turner