

**Community Board 8
General Meeting and Public Hearing
Crown Heights Apartments
1055 St. John's Place
Brooklyn, NY 11213**

November 10, 2022

Members Present

Glinda Andrews
Princess Benn-James
Julia Boyd
Jacques Brunville
Robert Callahan
Nora Daniel
Dian Duke
Tamika Gibbs
Nizjoni Granville
Igenie Harris-Blenman
Colin Jakubczyk
Xeerxeema Jordan
Regina Kinsey
Frances Langley
Dr. Sarah Lazur
Kwasi Mensah
Mimi Mitchell
Fior Ortiz-Joyner
Dr. Cadesa Ramharrack
Pebbles Russell
Brian Saunders
Meredith Staton
Audrey Taitt-Hall
Nicole Tetreault
Mark Thurton
Gib Veconi
Irsa Weatherspoon
Sharon Wedderburn
Robert Witherwax
Deborah Young
Vilma Zuniga

Members Excused/Absent

Abasenia Asuquo
Desmond Atkins
Lisa Atkinson
Marva Brown-Henry
Andrea Ferris
Michael Francoeur
Fred Frazier
Drew Gabriel
Keiona Morse
Gail Muhammad
Yahya Raji
Celene Rosado
Adam Sachs
Zahra Thani
Ethel Tyus
Yves Vilus
Kimberly Watson

Elected Officials Present

Councilmember Chi Ossé, 36th Council District

Elected Officials Representatives

Leon Tulton, Councilwoman Darlene Mealy
Deanna Foote, Boro President Antonio Reynoso
Raul Rothblatt, Assemblyman Brian Cunningham
Karen Chambers, District Attorney Eric Gonzalez
Camille Barbin, NYS Senator Zellnor Myrie
Analesa Garcia, Councilmember Crystal Hudson

CB8 Staff Present

Michelle George, District Manager
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

The regular meeting of Community Board 8 was called to order at 6:18 PM by Ms. Irsa Weatherspoon, Chairperson. Ms. Weatherspoon welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting and introduced the Board officers and the District Manager on the dais.

Chairperson Weatherspoon invited the elected official's representatives to say a few words.

Mr. Raul Rothblatt, Director of Constituent Affairs for Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, announced that the office is open to the community for assistance with any problems and issues. Mr. Rothblatt stated that one of the Assemblymember's quests is making the connection between people's day to day issues and policy issues. The more data and feedback received by working with constituents, the easier it will be for the Assemblyman to understand policy changes that need his support.

Despite just being elected and as a junior member of the Assembly, Mr. Rothblatt announced that Assemblyman Cunningham has been selected as VP of the Black and Latino Caucus. This is a proud moment for the district. If you want to get in touch with the member or have him attend an upcoming event, some time within the next two months would be best as constituents can take advantage of the legislative hiatus. Additionally, the member's office aspires to be a community hub, if you want to use the space to host an event or meeting, you are invited to do so as they have hosted several meetings so far. There was recently a small business roundtable discussion that was very well attended leading to a great exchange of ideas. He admonished CB8 members as the Assemblyman recently held a transportation roundtable, but no members of CB8 were present. He stated that they would love to see input from CB8 in upcoming discussions, especially as there are several complaints coming into the office from CB8 residents regarding transportation issues.

Finally, Mr. Rothblatt announced that Assemblyman Cunningham's office is partnering with CB8 and Assemblywoman Joseph for their turkey drive.

Ms. Karen Chambers from Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez's office encouraged the community to contact her at 718-250-4877 with any issues or concerns. The DA's office is partnering with Restoration for a Homeowner's and Tenants Resource Fair on November 15th at the Skylight Gallery in Restoration Plaza. Additionally, DA Gonzalez is partnering with the NYPD and Options for hot Thanksgiving meals for everyone on November 24, 2022 from 11AM to 2 PM at Brownsville Collaborative Middle School located at 85 Watkins Street. 250 hot meals will be distributed.

Mr. Leon Tulton, Director of Constituent Services for Councilwoman Darlene Mealy, announced that the American Italian Cancer Foundation will be hosting a free mobile mammogram screenings on Friday, November 11, 2022 and Sunday, November 13, 2022. On the 11th, the mobile mammogram van will be in front of the office located at 400 Rockaway Avenue from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. On the 13th, the mobile mammogram van will be in front of the Brooklyn Public Library Grand Army Plaza branch at 10 Grand Army Plaza from 10 AM to 4:30 PM.

Any person 40 and older can schedule an appointment so long as they are not pregnant and do not have breast implants. Insurance is not required for the medical service and all co-pays and deductibles will be waived. Call with a friend and schedule your mammogram.

Ms. Camille Barbin from Senator Zellnor Myrie's office introduced herself as the new liaison. She announced the Crown Heights Harvest Fest on November 19, 2022, where the Senator will be distributing turkeys and hot meals.

Ms. Analesa Garcia from Councilmember Crystal Hudson's office announced that the Councilmember has housing help available in the office every Wednesday. Ms. Garcia also

announced that Councilmember Hudson is pursuing the Atlantic Avenue Rezoning, and details will be produced in the future.

Ms. Deanna Foote, Director of Constituent Services with Boro President Antonio Reynoso, announced that BP Reynoso held an Adopt-A-Pet event in October, supported Atlantic Antic Street Festival, participated in the Brooklyn Book Festival, and celebrated the heritage of several groups. BP Reynoso has penned several op-ed pieces, one of which was on climate change and another on the Environmental Bond Act that would transition to electric school buses. He distributed 500 “Born to Brooklyn Baby Boxes.” Every Wednesday from 9AM to 2PM, there are open office hours to meet with officials at Boro Hall and receive assistance in several areas.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the elected official representatives for their updates and information, and invited Councilmember Chi Ossé to say a few words.

Councilmember Chi Ossé – 36th Council District

Councilman Osse thanked Chairperson Weatherspoon for the opportunity to address the Board and provide a few updates on the work he is doing as representative of Council District 36, representing the neighborhoods of North Crown Heights and Bed Stuy.

He announced that every Tuesday in his office, a housing specialist is present to assist constituents with housing issues of varying types, including affordable housing and how to apply for housing lotteries. Additionally, every other Thursday, the next two being November 17th and December 1st, there is a legal attorney in office for assistance on several issues. While walk-ins are welcome, there is a long line, so it is advisable to call and make an appointment if you want to speak to the specialist and attorney. On the opposite Thursdays, there is a Immigration attorney available in the office as well. For the attorney to work on your immigration case, you will need to call and schedule an appointment.

On Thanksgiving morning at 9 AM, there will be a Turkey Trot in the 36th council district. If you would like to participate, please sign up with staffer Arlene Gillin. Every Wednesday from 11 AM to 1 PM or whenever food runs out, is the Wellness Wednesday food distribution. Councilmember Osse announced that he provides salmon in the food distribution for anyone seeking a meat option. There will also be a turkey giveaway on Tuesday, November 22nd, and other options like chicken or cornish hens will be available as well.

Participatory Budgeting has kicked off! He, along with several other councilmembers citywide are each allocating a million dollars for programs and services in the community. Councilmember Ossé stated that for the 36th, he is particularly interested in applications with requests geared toward stopping gun violence, and priority will be given to such things as new lighting projects, investing in community gardens, youth programming, etc., as these things go a long way in curbing violence. We do not need more police to achieve this as many people know that the safest communities are those communities that are invested in.

The Councilmember announced that he is partnering with Friends of Brower Park for a Toy Drive and Food Distribution event at the Annual Tree Lighting event on December 7th from 3 to 7 PM. Discussing policy, Councilmember Ossé announced that a couple weeks ago, he and the other members of the Council “Rat Pack” passed a Rat Action Plan that will hopefully make a dent in reducing the rat population in the city. He acknowledged that the rats will not go away until the city adopts a full containerization trash collection module.

Finally, the Councilmember announced that a dog run in Brower Park has been on the mind of the community for quite some time. As such, on December 3rd at Noon in the Commons Theater at the Brooklyn Children's Museum, there will be a community discussion about cost, feasibility, etc.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Councilmember Ossé for the detailed update. She then opened the floor for public comments.

Ms. Deborah Young of the Crown Heights North Association announced that on Wednesday, November 16th, there will be a turkey drive and food distribution from 10 AM to Noon at Crown Heights Apartments located at 1055 St. John's Place. Call 718-467-8800, ext 10 to register for the food distribution. Volunteers are needed to help distribute the goods. The next CHNA meeting will be held on December 21st at 6:45 PM, also at Crown Heights Apartments.

Mr. Gib Veconi from the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council, announced that PHNDC will be holding a Tenants Rights Forum on November 14, 2022 at Grand Army Plaza Library from 6:30 -8 PM. There will be panelists from the Legal Aid Society and other organizations to discuss information on how to fight back against landlord abuse and illegal rent increases.

As part of the street improvements that PHNDC is working on, they implemented a public plaza on the underutilized block of Underhill Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street. The organization is looking forward to new open space for everyone to use.

Additionally, the NYC Dept. of Transportation announced capital project funding for streetscape enhancements. They will engage the community on the plans at future meetings. One of the first streetscape enhancements will be for Grand Army Plaza to make the area safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Ms. Mimi Mitchell announced that the SOS Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in person now that Covid is over on Friday, November 18th from 6 PM to 8 PM at 1208 St. John's place. In December, they will do their annual toy giveaway, and they are currently collecting toys. New and unused toys can be dropped off to Legal Hand located at 250 Kingston Avenue from 10 AM to 6 PM.

Ms. Nizjoni Granville announced that Ozzie Fletcher was a US Veteran that lived in our community and recently transitioned a few weeks shy of his 101st birthday. It took 77 years for the U.S. Military to award him with the Purple Heart he had earned in 1944, on D-Day in France. She announced that Ozzie had been one of 2,000 Black soldiers who had seen action on D-Day who had been deliberately overlooked or denied awards because of racism in a segregated U.S. military and the prevailing racial inequities of the time. After he returned from Europe, he married and had five children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. He should be remembered as a high-school teacher, a police sergeant, and a community relations specialist in the Office of the Brooklyn District Attorney. He was also a co-founder of the Guardians Association, a New York organization for Black law enforcement officials. She stated that she was impressed that he did not become bitter and angry at his experience with the military and the aftermath, and instead lived a productive life. He should be looked at as an example and true hero.

She gave his funeral arrangements as follows: Thursday, November 17, 2022 at St. Phillips Church , 334 MacDonough Street, Brooklyn, NY. The viewing will be from 9-11AM, and the

service is at 11:00 AM. The interment: Maple Grove Cemetery, and the repast: 244 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, NY.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked everyone for their announcements and invited Ms. Renee McClure from National Grid to provide an update on the agency's transition to clean energy.

National Grid – Ms. Renee McClure, Director, NYC Community and Customer Management

Ms. McClure announced that the clean energy transition that is underway. The pressing question is: *How do we ensure the clean energy transition is equitable across all communities?* National Grid (NG) is working with utilities to ensure that no community is left behind. Currently, 92% of heating is done by fossil fuel, and the movement from reliance on fossil fuels to sustainable energy will take all of us working together.

New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act is among the most ambitious climate laws in the world, and requires reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 and by 85% by 2050. It dictates only what must be achieved, not how to achieve it. As such, there are several different programs and strategies the community can participate in.

What is NG doing as an organization and service provider to make this happen? NG's focus is moving away from natural gas to an emphasis on electrification, increasing efficiency, and renewable energy sources. She announced that it would not be possible to do full electrification, but the agency can give customers a choice and also sustainability. They will offer things like renewable natural gas (RNG), support hydrogen projects, geothermal projects, looking at updating federal appliance standards, complimentary enhancements and energy efficiency of certain things in an effort to create a hybrid pathway that is more affordable and more equitable.

Supportive federal and state policies to stimulate investment in RNG and sustainable practices is key to making the goal of 85% reduction of fossil fuel necessary. Luckily, the 85% reduction means that the existing skilled workforce currently employed by NG can remain and be trained in RNG.

NG's "path to zero" rests on four pillars: energy efficiency in buildings; 100% fossil-free gas network; hybrid electric-gas heating systems; and targeted electrification and networked geothermal. The four-pronged approach creates lower costs for customers, ensures that no group or location is left behind, leverages existing infrastructure, and is more resilient and reliable.

Responding to questions about RNGs, Ms. McClure stated that renewable natural gases include waste-derived fuels like biodiesel, drop-in replacements that are chemically indistinguishable from geologic natural gas, capturing methane from organic waste (food waste, agriculture or forestry waste, wastewater sludge, and garbage). Methane is 80 times more potent and harmful as a greenhouse gas than is carbon dioxide, and methane is a byproduct of rotting food waste and animal excrement. When captured, it can be a potent and highly serviceable renewable energy source. Clean hydrogen is another element that can be harnessed as hydrogen combustion produces no direct greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Mensah asked what the source of the hydrogen is to create clean hydrogen and was told that she would have get back to him.

Ms. McClure stated that everyone will be impacted by the CLCPA just as everyone is impacted by the results of climate change. The question is how are we going to be impacted and what are we going to do to minimize the deleterious impact.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked Ms. McClure for the informative presentation and asked for a motion to accept the September and October minutes.

Acceptance of Minutes -- Dr. Lazur made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Staton and approved unanimously.

Chairperson Weatherspoon then opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Public Hearing and Committee Reports

Land Use

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, November 3, 2022 via Webex. In addition to the Chair, Sharon Wedderburn, present were: Albert Appleton, Pierre Albert, Andrew Wright, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Xeerxeema Jordan, Deborah Young, Desmond Atkins, Edward Delman, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Carter Clarke, Gib Veconi, Jack Robinson, Nicole Laemmler, Jacques Brunvil, Kaja Kuehl, Jennifer Jordan, Kevin Williams, Mimi Mitchell, Kim Robinson, Michael Francoeur, Mary Shufford, Princess James, Nadine Oelsner, Nizjoni Granville, Nora Daniel, Karen Gray, Nzinga Jordan, Oli Trofi, Oliver S, Peter Krashes, Richard Lobel, Robert Callahan, Stephen Conte, Mark Thurton, William Oelsner, William Rhem and 4 callers.

The committee considered the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for 538 Carlton Avenue in the Prospect Heights Historic District. Mr. Stephen Conte, an architect, appeared on behalf of the owner to increase the number of residential units from three to four. There will be no additional massing to the building. New building elements include a bulkhead (sloped to minimize visibility) going to the roof that includes stairs for safety and light purposes, and a window update at ground level to match the windows at the upper level to bring more light to the ground level. At LPC staff level, on the rear façade the applicant added an additional entrance, a railing at the existing roof terrace to provide fall protection as none presently exists. Additionally, the client will paint and repair the historic fence, clean up the brick molding, paint the stoop and paint the cornice.

Representatives from the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC) queried about the color of the fencing at the ground level, and Mr. Conte indicated that he will consult with LPC for guidance on the color. PHNDC representatives also noted that the bulkhead and fencing are more visible facing north on Carlton Avenue (beyond Dean Street).

Mr. Conte indicated that the applicant would be willing to paint the fence on the roof to blend in with the limestone-colored bulkhead. There was discussion as to whether the inclusion of a new bulkhead and a railing requirement was triggered by the inclusion of a roof deck. There was also concern as to whether or not the fence at the roof deck would be visible from a thoroughfare. The applicant has offered to pull the railing closer to the interior of the roof allowing for FDNY roof access.

On motion made and seconded, the committee voted unanimously with 20 in favor to withhold support for the application pending a modification of the roof railing be receded from the parapet so that it would not be visible from a public thoroughfare. The applicant's representative

indicated that they would be able to make the modification requested and have a new mockup ready in time for review at the general meeting of the community board.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked if there were any questions or comments from the community.

Ms. Wedderburn asked Ms. Shuford from the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC) if the modifications were acceptable. Ms. Shuford stated that the fence on the roof has indeed been moved back on the Dean Street side. The fence itself is no longer visible from Dean Street, but is still visible from Carlton Avenue to the south. The bulkhead is still quite visible from the street as well. It does appear that the fence will be painted lighter.

Ms. Ortiz-Joyner asked if she and PHNDC were satisfied with the changes. She stated that they are not satisfied, but acknowledged that the applicant did indeed make modifications, even if they were not enough.

Mr. Veconi made a motion that the Board support the committee's initial recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs and carried with a final tally of 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC)

The SLAC Committee met on Monday, November 7, 2022 via Webex. In addition to the Chair, Irsa Weatherspoon, present were Vice Chair Robert Witherwax, Dian Duke, Mimi Mitchell, Brian Saunders, Celene Rosado, Chris Williams, Heru Daniel, Deborah Young, Ethel Tyus, James Ellis, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Frances Langley, Gib Veconi, Tamika Gibbs, Peter Tullouch, James Realty, Xeerxeema Jordan, Gail Muhammad, Oliver Hardt, Sherese Parris, Pebbles Russell, Mary Gibbs, Roger Myers, Sharon Wedderburn, Omar Hardy, Mark Thurton and 1 caller.

The committee discussed the full liquor license application for Crown Hill Theater located at 746-750 Nostrand Avenue. Details of the application include:

- Progressive and creative approach to private events, serving as a live music venue that includes on-site educational facilities, co-working spaces, a technology incubator, and feature studios for digital music and video productions.
- Special events to include weddings, corporate functions, film shoots and screening, video shoots, and galas
- Proposed hours of operation: Sunday 11AM to 2AM, Monday thru Saturday 8 AM to 2AM
- Indoor service area to include 14 tables accommodating 56 seats with one service with 6 seats
- Maximum patron capacity 465, licensed security
- 40'x40' Outdoor service area of 1600 sqft, with a maximum patron capacity of 20 that will operate from 10AM to 10PM daily
- Indoor soundproofing and additional wall baffles and curtains to mitigate sound; ceiling layering for other sound proofing
- Minimum 10 employees with additional needed per size of events

The committee voted to support the application with two conditions:

1. Establishment to cease operations by midnight daily
2. No bottle service

It hopes the full board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked for questions and comments from the community.

Mr. Veconi asked the applicant if he was in agreement with the conditions on the application as laid out by the action item. Mr. Tulloch, the proprietor, took liberty to explain the venue and gave background on the division of spaces. He stated that the conditions as presented would greatly hamper him, but if he has no other choice to agree in order for the license to be issued, he would agree.

Several members of the community asked how the committee came to the conditions. Mr. Witherwax explained that the committee's discussion took into consideration the size, max capacity, and worst case scenario. He concluded by stating that committee members did not want to have another situation of the old Palace Hall in terms of negative community impact.

Mr. Omar Hardy made a statement about the property being a victim of deed theft, and that Mr. Tulloch, having worked for the Black Lady Theater as the site was formerly called, was aware of the situation. Mr. Hardy concluded by stating that if the license is issued, the Board would be working in collusion with the individuals that stole the property in the first place, and also that the entire situation is indicative of the sickness of deed theft.

Chairperson Weatherspoon informed Mr. Hardy that this accusation of deed theft are a court matter and that the community board's role and purview on this matter is to deal with the liquor license application and only the merits of the liquor license application before us. Mr. Tulloch's only issue with the Board is whether or not we support the application and recommendations for the issuance of the license, that Mr. Hardy's issue is not one that either the Board or even the State Liquor Authority can negotiate and legislate.

Additional comments ensued including several residents calling Mr. Hardy a fraud and stating that he does not own anything and never did. Ms. Christine McCloud, a staff member at Medgar Evers Preparatory High School stated that she is excited to get some students in the program and is hopeful it will be successful. She advocated for the Board to consider relaxing the conditions.

Another community member inquired about the outlying circumstances, qualifications sought, etc., that the Board seeks to recommend approval of the liquor license. Mr. Witherwax stated that the committee issues a checklist to each applicant. On the checklist is an opportunity to describe the model of the business, the space, configuration, hours of operation, how the business will incorporate into the community, etc.

In response to inquires on how members of the public can participate in the Board's decision making, Chairperson Weatherspoon stated that everyone has opportunity to participate in CB8 meetings. Please contact the district office to be added to the mailing list, visit the website for a calendar of upcoming meetings, and participate that way. Additionally, she informed everyone that the Board does not have the final authority to issue the license, and is strictly advisory. Due to the fact that the application triggers a 500-foot with the State Liquor Authority (SLA), the public has an opportunity to go the SLA hearing and advocate for the business. It will be at this hearing the final determination will be made.

After additional questions and answers, Mr. Veconi made a motion that given that the applicant supports the two conditions, he recommends support of the committee's motion to support the

application with the two conditions. Mr. Staton seconded the motion and it carried with a final tally of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 5 abstentions.

Environment, Sanitation and Transportation – Robert Witherwax, Chair

The Environment, Sanitation and Transportation Committee met virtually on October 25, 2022 via WebEx. In addition to the Chair, Robert Witherwax, present were: Mark Thurton, Vice Chair, Angelica James, Cyn D, Colin Jakubczyk, Councilman Chi Osse, Desmond Atkins, Ethel Tyus, Ilene Fernandez, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Frances Langley, Igenie Harris-Blenman, Xeerxeema Jordan, Jennifer Jordan, Priscilla Fernandez, P. James, Jessica Williams, Michael Francoeur, Karen Gray, Phoebe Montas, Peter Krashes, Dani Spence, Travis Grant, Alexander Creem, Arlyce Vann, Deborah Young, Frederic Levrat, Glenda George, Jamel Lawton, Janski, Jesse Melendez, Jivan Soverall, KCD, May Vutrapongvatana, Nakiya Allen, Nicole Favard, Robert Turner, Roger Myers, Samantha Benn, Shakeena Smith, William Meehan and ten callers.

The committee voted to support the street co-name request for the corner of New York Avenue at Prospect Place in honor of Mr. Kevin D. Alves. Councilmember Chi Osse was present at the meeting and stated that he is in support of the co-naming request in honor of Mr. Alves. The committee hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.

Chairperson Weatherspoon asked for questions and comments from the community.

A resident inquired into the when Mr. Alves transitioned and how, whether he died of natural causes or some other fashion. Mr. Witherwax stated that he was an innocent victim of gun violence in April 2022, happening to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Mr. Veconi made a motion to support the committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs and carried with a final tally of 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. Witherwax stated that EST will meet next on November 22nd, but instead of it being a full large committee meeting, it will be broken up into segments for the four subcommittees to work on their specific issues.

Chairperson Weatherspoon then closed the Public Hearing and asked for a report from the following committees:

Economic Development – Brian Saunders, Chair

Mr. Saunders reported that the Economic Development Committee met virtually on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 via WebEx at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Chair, Brian Saunders, present were: Drew Gabriel, Celene Rosado, Frances Langley, Princess James, Mark Thurton, Kim Robinson, Yahya Raji and Conor Hassett.

No committee report was submitted, however, Mr. Saunders stated that they had a great meeting despite it not being well attended. He urged everyone to support the committee as it is trying to do great things in terms of revitalization and investment in the community. We need additional participation to make this happen, however.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 via WebEx at 6:15 p.m. All are welcomed to attend.

Health and Human Services – Tamika Gibbs, Chair

The Health and Human Services Committee met virtually on Thursday, October 20, 2022 via Webex. In addition to the Chair Tamika Gibbs, present were: Kim Watson, Vice Chair, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Dr. Cadesa Ramharrack, Carlos Tejada, Diana Romero, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Kwasi Mensah, Noah Potter and 1 caller.

The committee did not submit a report, however, Ms. Gibbs stated that the SUNY School of Public Health did a presentation on an upcoming survey on health equity. The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be held on November 17, 2022. All are welcomed to attend.

Housing (Advocacy) – Nizjoni Granville, Acting Chair

Ms. Granville reported that the Housing Advocacy Committee met virtually on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 via Webex at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Acting Chair, Nizjoni Granville, present were: Mimi Mitchell, Frances Langley, Jack Robinson, Nicole Laemmle, Kim Robinson, Xeerxeema Jordan, Lisa Atkinson, Mike Shaheen, Princess James, Robert Callahan and Dr. Sarah Lazar.

The committee did not submit a report. The next meeting of the Housing Committee will be held on December 14, 2022. All are welcomed to attend.

Parks – Glinda Andrews, Chair

The Parks Committee met virtually on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Chair, present were: Frances Langley, Ian, Julia Boyd, Andrea Ferris, Sandra Coello and Sharon Wedderburn.

The committee did not submit a report, however, Ms. Andrews updated the community on several upcoming events including leaf crunches at Lincoln Terrace and Brower Parks.

The next meeting of the Parks Committee will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022. All are welcomed to attend.

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

The Public Safety Committee met virtually on Tuesday, October 24, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. In addition to the Chair Mark Thurton, present were: Desmond Atkins, Vice Chair, Xeerxeema Jordan, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Frances Langley, Igenie Harris-Blenmen, Jennifer Jordan, Kim Robinson, Lisa Atkinson, Dorothy Bemby-Guet, Tamika Gibbs, Janet Collins, Marva Brown-Henry, Princess James, Lt. Polanco, and Roger Myers.

Mr. Thurton announced the push for increased foot patrol was finally successful and that the 77th would have additional foot patrol during the coming months. Mr. Thurton also announced that there will be a presentation at the November Public Safety committee meeting on the legalization of cannabis and what it means for the community as the first on-premises sales licenses are being issued in the city.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2022. All are welcomed to attend.

Veterans – Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The Veteran's Committee met on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 virtually via WebEx. Ms. Granville reported that the Veteran's Committee joined Community Board's 3 and 16 for their annual Veterans Appreciation Parade, which took place on Saturday, November 5th at 12pm beginning at Park Place and Ralph Avenue down to Fulton Street. The Parade ended with a resource fair at Boys and Girls High School from 1-4pm, where a lot of good and useful information was distributed.

The next meeting of the Veterans Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:15 PM via Webex. Please check the CB8 website calendar for details.

Youth and Education – Ms. Nora Daniel, Chair; Ms. Marva Brown-Henry, Vice-Chair

Ms. Brown-Henry, Vice Chair reported that the Youth and Education Committee met virtually on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 via WebEx. In addition to the chair, Nora Daniel, present were: Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Lisa Atkinson, Mark Thurton, Danecya, Dan Waters, Madison Garrett, Michelle Mathison, Andrea Ferris, Monet Smith, Samiah McWilliams, Sharon Wedderburn and Laurel Dagrosa.

The committee did not submit a report, however, Ms. Daniel mentioned that the committee was fortunate enough to have youth from the Sesame Flyers attend the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:15 PM via Webex. All are invited to attend.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked the committee chairs for their reports and asked for any additional comments from the community.

Ms. Deb Young, 2nd Vice Chair, stated that for us to come out as a community only when something is wrong, is the wrong time to do so. To be invested in your community, you need to come out at all times, participate, create the change by being part of the voice of change. Young people are encouraged to participate, to attend meetings, to let us know what their needs are, and what they seek in the community.

Ms. Arna Lipkind from IDDC Connect announced that the organization is finishing up their financial literacy series, with the final chapter on credit next week. She distributed flyers and QR codes for additional information.

Ms. Princess Benn-James thanked Ms. Granville for her work with the CB8 Veterans Committee as the proud mother of two veterans.

Mr. Hal Drellich, a resident of Park Place between Brooklyn and New York Avenues, informed the Board that a tenant located at 972 Park Place is being brutally harassed by the building's owner. The tenant, Mr. Roberts, is a rent-controlled elderly individual that has lived in the first floor unit for over 40 years. The building has changed hands and the owner has moved in drug dealers and addicts. Additionally, there presently are several unmaintained portable toilets in front of the property, and a lot of illegal activity including fires that have been set in the hallway, removal of doors and locks, and several illegal entrances into the individual's apartment.

Dr. Lazur stated that the block association has been working with the Crown Heights Tenants Union and other organizations on the ongoing issues. She stated that sadly, oftentimes, the harassment that occurs via the property owner is just within limits to not be considered illegal. However, the other issues with the tenants are an ethical issue since they were moved in by the landlord directly and the landlord knows exactly what is happening but turns a blind eye. As such, on Sunday, November 20, 2022, a rally to stand up for Mr. Roberts will be held in front of the house. There is currently a trial date in landlord-tenant court scheduled to start on December 10, 2022 at 141 Livingston Street. Email crownheightstenantsunion@gmail.com for additional information and to support.

Mr. Timothy Davis with the Brooklyn Public Library Eastern Parkway Branch, announced several upcoming programs at the Eastern Parkway Branch. He stated that libraries are for much more than borrowing books and even doing research. They are places where you can receive certifications, take free classes, have meetings, and so much more.

Chairperson Weatherspoon thanked everyone for their announcements. She wished everyone a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving holiday, and adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:15 PM, at a location to be determined.

Guests Present

Lula Staton
Mildred Smith
Althea Joseph
Peter Tulloch
Annabelle Boyd
Yvonne Bailey
Jennifer Jordan
Juanita Ramos
Essie Spivey
Willa Robinson
Hal Drellich
Mary Shuford
Manoushka Jeanty
Ida Golson
Omar Hardy
Daphne Douge
Arna Lipkind
Karen Gray
Roger Myers
Tiara McLoughlin
Shirley Mondesir
Ann Stanislaus
Ryan Tucker
Phyllis Grannum
Delores Hutchinson
Arna Lipkind
Evone Pabb
Omar Hardy
Alicia Pritchard
Timothy D

Chris Prime
Mary Gibbs
Sean McLoughlin