

**Community Board No. 8**  
**Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation**  
**727 Classon Avenue**  
**Brooklyn, NY 11238**

**February 9, 2012**

**Members Present**

Kim Albert  
Akosua Albritton  
Glinda Andrews  
Desmond Atkins  
LeeAnn Banks  
Princess Benn-James  
Samantha Bernadine  
Julia Boyd  
Dr. Flize Bryan  
Helen Coley  
Renaye Cuyler  
James Ellis  
Diana Foster  
Fred Frazier  
Nizjoni Granville  
Curtis Harris  
Doris Heriveaux  
Xeexxema Jordan  
Shalawn Langhorne  
Priscilla Maddox  
Robert Matthews  
Kwasi Mensah  
Adelaide Miller  
Dr. Fred Monderson  
Atim Oton  
Mary Reed  
Marlene Saunders  
Patricia Scantlebury  
Meredith Staton  
Launa Thomas-Bullock  
Gregory Todd  
Ethel Tyus  
Yves Vilus  
Robert Witherwax  
Deborah Young  
Vilma Zuniga

**Members Absent**

Gail Branch-Muhammad  
Viola Bing  
Ede Fox  
Alton Pierce  
Angelina Pinto  
Robert Puca  
Cy Richardson  
Stacey Sheffey  
William Suggs  
Audrey Taitt-Hall  
Sharon Wedderburn

**Elected Officials Present**

Honorable Albert Vann, 36<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Honorable Walter Mosley, District Leader

**Elected Official's Representatives**

Renea Murphy, Councilmember Vann's Office  
Dynishal Gross, Councilmember Mealy's Office  
Charles Jackson, Congresswoman Clarke's Office

**Liaisons Present**

Christopher Hrones, NYC Dept of Transportation  
Ronda Messer, NYC Dept of Transportation  
Andria Philips-Merriman, Bklyn Nabe Impv. Assoc.

**CB Staff Present**

Michelle George, District Manager  
Julia Neale, Community Associate  
Valerie Hodges-Mitchell, Comm. Service Aide

Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

**CORRESPONDENCE** –Information pertinent to the District was distributed.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The minutes of the last meeting were adopted with any necessary corrections.

Ms. Langhorne asked for an official welcome from the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation.

**CENTER FOR NURSING AND REHABILITATION** – Mr. Randy Palmira

Mr. Palmira welcomed everyone to CNR and stated that it is always a pleasure to host the Community Board. He announced that CNR has been awarded the 2012 American Health Award. Officials from CNR Healthcare Network will go to Houston, TX to train other facilities in healthcare and management.

Mr. Palmira also announced that CNR now falls under the umbrella of CenterLight Health System rather than Beth Abraham Family of Health Services. All facilities under Beth Abraham have been united under one system. The name may have changed, but the quality of service has not. He asked Ms. Lorna McBarnette of CenterLight to introduce some of the new programs that CenterLight will offer.

Ms. McBarnette stated that one of the CenterLight main offices will be located at 205 Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn, NY. The organization focuses on healthcare and homecare. She announced the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is the largest and one of the oldest homecare programs in the nation. PACE hopes to capitalize on some of the changes within the Medicaid and Medicare systems to provide services for homebound people. PACE incorporates an inter-disciplinary care team that includes doctors, nurses, social workers, and physical therapists. CenterLight's PACE program offers medical care, home care, day care, rehabilitation, medical transportation, a drug benefit, and more. Its goal is to help patients who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare stay safely in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

Mr. Staton asked if homeowners could receive services without losing their homes. Ms. Barnette informed him that there are registered patients with properties that receive services without losing their homes. There are different ways that this can be accomplished.

Ms. Saadia Bennet, Director of Human Resources, stated that there are several positions available within the CenterLight network. To apply for any of the positions, visit their website at [www.centerlight.org](http://www.centerlight.org).

Ms. Langhorne thanked Mr. Palmira, Ms. McBarnette, and Ms. Bennet for their information and introduced the Dept. of Transportation.

## **CLASSON AVENUE TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY** – Mr. Chris Hrones & Ms. Rhonda Messer

Mr. Hrones and Ms. Messer presented a Power Point presentation on traffic calming changes to Classon Avenue between Washington Avenue and Flushing Avenue. The project spans 4 community Boards: 9, 8, 3, and 2. Mr. Hrones stated that Councilwoman Letitia James had asked what could be done about speeding on Classon Avenue. Additional requests came from the community for speed humps and additional signage. The result was a community based project with an expected implementation date of March/April 2012.

According to data collected between 2005 to 2009, the corridor is high accident prone with a number of injuries to pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicle occupants. There were on average, 71 injuries along the corridor each year in that span. This number is significantly higher in average than other corridors in the city.

The proposed design calls for:

- Reduction from 2 lanes to 1, with additional lane retained where volume and turning movements warrant
- Typical one lane configuration: one 11' travel lane with two wide (10'-13') parking lanes
- Typical two lane configuration: two 10' travel lanes with two 7' parking lanes
- Nearly all existing parking along corridor is retained; 11 spots removed between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street

There will also be a slight adjustment to signal timing so that there is slightly less green time at Dean and Pacific Streets to hold vehicles back and prevent a back up at Atlantic Avenue.

Ms. Oton stated that almost every major Avenue has been shrunk and all the traffic is heading back into residential areas. Residents complain about noise and traffic. A reduction in number of lanes of traffic produces traffic conditions across the community as drivers seek less crowded avenues to travel. Mr. Atkins concurred, stating that bottlenecks are developing across the city because of these traffic calming projects. They are increasing exhaust and asthma rates. He asked if anyone is monitoring particulate matter and exhaust. He was informed that DOT does look at volume and tries to accommodate traffic calming measures without increasing levels of particulate matter and exhaust in the air.

Ms. Lesold asked Mr. Hrones to remind everyone what the speed is in a school zone. He stated that the speed in designated school zones is 20 mph.

Mr. Harris asked if DOT considered re-timing the lights instead of reducing the number of lanes. He was informed that the traffic calming measures are a low-cost transportation investment. It is merely pavement markings.

Dr. Monderson asked what the data shows about the increase in vehicular traffic over the last 20 years. He was informed that the 20 year trends have not been investigated. The overall trend is to increase, however, but over the last 5 years, there has been a decrease in traffic volumes for numerous reasons.

After a few additional questions, Ms. George, District Manager, stated that the Board needed to take a position on the item. Mr. Witherwax made a motion that was seconded by Dr. Monderson to support the Classon Avenue Traffic Calming Project. It carried with a final tally of 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Ms. Langhorne thanked Mr. Hrones and Ms. Messer for the presentation and asked for a report from the following committees:

**AGING/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES** – Ms. Marlene Saunders, Chair; Dr. Flize Bryan, Vice Chair

The Aging/Health & Human Services Committee met on Monday, February 6, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation which is located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30pm. In addition to the Chair Marlene Saunders, present were: Julia Boyd, Dr. Flize Bryan, Renaye Cuyler, Kwasi Mensah, Adelaide Miller, Angelina Pinto, Jamilah Hoy-Rosas and Patricia Scanterbury.

Ms. Saunders greeted everyone and informed them that February is Heart Awareness Month. She gave a brief description of the Family Center Brooklyn Stay Well Enjoy Life (B-SWEL) before introducing Ms. Jamilah Hoy-Rosas and Ms. Cassandra Larant.

Ms. Larant, a Health Coach, stated that B-SWEL is a program that provides various activities and education. She indicated that she promotes healthy eating and being active to maintain healthy lifestyles especially for those who are diabetic or pre-diabetic. This program offer classes such as: Weight Loss Support Group, Cooking for Good Health, Diabetes Self Management, Health & Wellness, Walking Club, Nutrition Consultation, Health Coaching and Exercise Classes. All services are free to the community.

Ms. Larant explained the healthy plate method which consists of: a half plate of vegetables, a quarter of protein and a quarter of carbohydrates. There are a few steps to preventing Diabetes: move more, eat a healthy plate, take off some weight, set reasonable health goals for yourself, record your progress, get help and remain consistent.

Ms. Hoy-Rosas explained that anyone can get diabetes but most people who have a family history of diabetes are at a higher risk of getting diabetes. It is important to visit a medical practitioner and get your blood sugar levels checked on a regular basis. Those who do not have a medical provider are welcomed to visit the office at B-SWEL. A representative will assist with Community Health Care Network and take your blood sugar and blood pressure on the spot.

B-SWEL is located at 584 Nostrand Avenue (bet Atlantic & Herkimer) Brooklyn, NY 11216. For more information, call: 718-230-1379 Ext 214.

The next Aging/Health Committee meeting will be held, Monday, March 5, 2012, at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at 6:30 PM. All are encouraged to attend.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** – Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Chair; Ms. Atim Oton, Vice Chair

The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation (CNR) located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30pm. In addition to the Chair Priscilla Maddox, present were: Gail Branch-Muhammad, Iris Chan, Emileo Christopher, Max C., Renaye Cuyler, Phu Duong, James Ellis, Fred Frazier, Lanaya Irvin, David Johnson, Kempton Mooney, Atim Oton, Robert Puca, Rebecca Ramirez, Delissa Reynolds, Roy Schneider, Gib Veconi, and Deborah Young

Ms. Oton stated that the Economic Committee did not have any action items this month but the committee is in the process of surveying the businesses along the commercial strips in the District.

The Economic Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 and again on March 6, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation. All are invited to attend.

**EDUCATION** – Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Chairperson; Kwasi Mensah, Vice Chair

The Education Committee met on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7:00pm but had no action items.

Mr. Mensah stated that he attended a public hearing at Brooklyn Technical High School on School closings in the city. It is very important that parents attend these hearings to let the Mayor know that closing schools is not the answer to a failing educational system.

The next Education Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 and again on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue.

**ENVIRONMENT/SANITATION** – Ms. Ede Fox, Chair; Ms. Helen Coley, Vice Chair

The Environment/Sanitation committee met Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7:00pm but had no action items. In addition to the Chair Ede Fox, present were: Audrey Andrews and Helen Coley.

Ms. Coley stated that Mr. Greg Todd will be making a presentation about bike carting at the next Environment/Sanitation Committee. She asked Mr. Todd to briefly explain bike carting.

Mr. Todd stated that bike carting will involve picking up the organic wastes from restaurants, coffee bars, and juice bars in our neighborhoods with bike carts and converting these materials to compost. Bike carting will create living wage jobs for under-employed youth in our communities, decrease the truck traffic on our congested streets and provide much needed compost for community gardeners, landscapers and other interested in growing plants without

chemical fertilizers. Bike carting is now being done in Philadelphia and Northhampton Mass, among other cities.

To learn more about bike carting, come to the next Environment/Sanitation Committee meeting on February 21, 2012 at 6:30 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue.

**FIRE/SAFETY** – Mr. Robert Witherwax, Chairperson

The Fire/Safety Committee did not meet on Wednesday, February 8, 2012.

Mr. Witherwax encouraged everyone to attend the Fire/Safety Committee meetings.

The next Fire/Safety committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 6:30pm at the Center for Nursing and rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue at 6:30PM.

**HOUSING/ULURP** – Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson; Ethel Tyus, Vice Chair

The Housing/ULURP Committee met Thursday, February 2, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30pm. Present were: Akosua Albritton, Desmond Atkins, Lee Ann Banks, Princess Benn-James, James Ellis, Michael Ferguson, Diana Foster, Adam Nadel, Rand Rosenbaum, Stacey Sheffey, Greg Todd, Ethel Tyus, Gib Veconi, Yves Vilus, Sharon Wedderburn and Vilma Zuniga.

The Committee discussed 218-220 (aka 214-218) Prospect Place. Architect Rand Rosenbaum made a presentation describing the outdoor planters and garbage bin enclosures as well as replacement light fixtures, all of which had been placed without prior notice to Landmarks Preservation Commission. Mr. Rosenbaum provided photos of the bins and the light fixture, and described how the bins and enclosures were constructed so as not to be attached to the building. Mr. Rosenbaum received a letter of support from the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC), as well as six other letters of support from neighbors and building residents.

PHNDC representative Gib Veconi moved that the committee support issuance of either a retroactive Certificate of No Effect or Permit for Minor Work, as appropriate. The committee voted nine in favor with one abstention to recommend that LPC approve the work. Ms. Tyus made a motion that the Board support the Committee's recommendation, the motion was seconded by Mr. Witherwax. The final vote was: 34 in favor, 0 opposed with 0 abstentions.

Mr. Michael Ferguson, Downstate Director of the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal provided an update on the Low Income Housing Credit Program (LIHC), a Federal housing program mainly administered by the State. Mr. Ferguson indicated that: for developers approaching the committee, the developer's size and track record should be thoroughly reviewed; for acquisitions, LIHC will provide a maximum of \$20,000/unit with a project cap of

\$1.4 million (depending on the size of the units); NYS offers \$41 million in tax credits over a 10 year period; investors are generally willing to pay 97¢/\$1 tax credit; there is usually a 15-year regulatory period, then the investors are out; and that there can be a shorter regulatory period with negative arbitrage.

The committee discussed how best to engage the owners of the 182 vacant buildings and lots in CB 8/Crown Heights. (Building count is that reported by Picture the Homeless on 1/26/12.) Committee members agreed to “Adopt a Building” by reporting vacant buildings to the Board office and to Ethel Tyus and working with her to locate and contact the owners and arrange meetings at the Board office with those owners for the purpose of getting the buildings into the program, rehabilitated, and back online as habitable low income housing.

The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at CNR at 6:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

**Parks & Recreation** – Ms. Glinda Andrews; Chairperson, Kim Albert, Vice Chair

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at the St. John’s Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY at 6:00pm. In addition to the Chair Glinda Andrews, present were: Kim Albert, Desmond Atkins, Dorothy Bembry-Guet, Julia Boyd, Willard Hawkins, Thomas Montford and Greg Todd.

The Committee discussed the following Capital Projects:

**St John’s Recreation Center:** A Bid for the Plaza Project will be commenced early summer 2012 and will start in spring 2013. Construction on the Comfort Station will begin in late summer 2012.

**Lincoln Terrance Park:** NYC Parks & Recreation notified the Committee that Councilwoman Darlene Mealy allocated funding to renovate the tennis courts.

**Dean Street Playground:** The Capital Project for the playground plaza was voted on and approved by the full Board in January. This project is slated to be completed by Fall 2012.

**Friends of St John’s Recreation Center:** A Grant application for the beautification of the front of St. John’s Recreation Center has been submitted to Citizens Committee for NYC. The deadline for approval is April 2012.

The next Parks Committee meeting will be March 6, 2012 at 6:00pm at St. John’s Recreation Center, 1251 Prospect Place-1<sup>st</sup> Floor Library.

**POLICE** – Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, Chairperson

The Police Committee met on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at the 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7:00pm. In addition to the Chair Shalawn Langhorne, present were: Kim Albert, Wayne Bailey, Dorothy Bemby-Guet, Judith Campbell, Inspector Elvio Cappoci, Lorraine Clarke, Willard Hawkins, Charles Hickman, Xeerxeema Jordan, Officer Frank Lora, Shirley Mondesir, Captain Myrie and David Siegal.

The following updates were given by the 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct: Overall crime is down with the exception of robberies. Technology such as cell phones, laptops and Ipads are being snatched from people. A warning was made to become more vigilant and discreet with valuable items.

Last month the chair met with members of the Prospect Place Block Association to hear their community concerns, share updates of the community board and give community resource information. Ms. Langhorne gave feedback on the precinct house tour at the 77<sup>th</sup> precinct, hosted by the Brooklyn Clergy-NYPD Task Force.

The committee is working on a Take Back Our Community (TBOC) Meet & Greet that is scheduled for March 26, 2012 from 6:00-9:00 PM at Hope City Empowerment Center located at 650-656 Washington Avenue. Senator Adams has offered to sponsor the event.

Ms. Albert and Ms. Jordan will contact all the Block Associations to make sure the contact information is current and up to date. In addition, they will share detail information on the TBOC Plan Meet & Greet. Dave offered to have dessert and light sandwiches from his company donated to the event and will follow up with Mr. Harris on the music piece.

Ms. Langhorne gave an update on upcoming events and meetings within the community and for the committee. The Gun Buy Back: January 28, 2012 from 10:00AM-4:00 PM @ Bedford Central Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Dean Street and Nostrand Avenue. A meeting with the Brooklyn District Attorney has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY at 3:00 PM.

Due to the President's Day holiday on Monday, February 20, 2012, the Police/Public Safety Committee will meet Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 6:00pm at the 77<sup>th</sup> precinct.

**TRANSPORTATION** – Dr. Frederick Monderson, Chairperson

The Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, January, 24, 2012, at the Haitian American Day Care Center located at 1491 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7pm but had no action items.

Mr. Witherwax stated that the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC) presented details regarding their Slow Zone application. This concept is similar but different from Traffic Calming. Instead of a single Avenue, the Slow Zone consists of an entire residential neighborhood. The targeted area is from Eastern Parkway to Atlantic Avenue from Washington to Flatbush and Vanderbilt. The purpose of the Slow Zone is to lower neighborhood speed limits

from 30 MPH to 20 MPH. Other safety measures that will be implemented are: higher and visible signage, Painting on the streets, signs that indicates “Slow Zone”, striped lanes and possibly more speed humps.

The Prospect Heights neighborhood is one of many applicants who put in a request to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for Slow Zones. It will be determined by April whether or not Prospect Heights has been selected. If they are selected, the Community Board will work with DOT, PHNDC, the Police Department, Fire Department, merchants and other organizations to implement the slow zone. Members of the Transportation Committee supported PHNDC’s application.

The Transportation Committee will not meet in February. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at 7:00PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue.

### **YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES** – Ms. Akosua Albritton, Chairperson

The Youth & Family Services committee met Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30pm. In addition to the Chair Akosua Albritton, present were: Princess Benn-James, Barry Cooper, Marlon Peterson, Angeli Rasbury and Nicole Raymond.

Mr. Marlon Peterson is part of the Youth Organizing to Save Our Streets (YOSOS or SOS), a Crown Heights Mediation Center (CHMC) project. He informed the Committee that CHMC will have their Second Annual Art to End Violence art competition from May 21 -25, 2012 for those 19 years of age and under (flyers were distributed to committee members). Young people are encouraged to submit video, T-shirt design, music and two-dimensional art. Winners of the festival will be announced at the Cease the Fire Increase the Peace Week, June 3 – 10, 2012. Mr. Peterson explained that he would present before the general board at the March Community Board 8 meeting.

The Committee discussed details for their upcoming event. Ms. Nicole Raymond read her draft survey, “2012 Community Health Survey Questionnaire. The thirteen questions were decidedly demographic and health in nature. Angeli Rasbury stated that a survey is needed to reveal topics and activities that would appeal to people and influence them to attend the committee’s event.

The following are event aspects agreed by the body:

- 1) The event is for a general audience where there are activities to interest youth and adults; men and women.
- 2) There are interactive booths where exhibitors engage attendees as well as a panel and information tables. Exhibitors include Story Corps and YOSOS
- 3) Subjects include Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM); jobs; child support; & domestic violence.
- 4) The location sought is St. Joseph’s RC Church located on Pacific Street between Vanderbilt and Underhill Aves.

5) The tentative date is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in June 2012.

6) The working title is *Let's Get It Together, Family Interacts and Connects*.

More information will be given at a later date.

Ms. Albritton mentioned that January 30, 2012 was Youth Lobby Day. There were Fifty-Two youth participants of different ethnicities including: African American, Latino and others in attendance.

She also stated that Child Support Enforcement has an affordable program for the non-custodial parent. This program will deduct Child Support according to their income. More information is available at the District Office.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at 6:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

Ms. Langhorne thanked the committee chairs for their reports and acknowledged Councilman Albert Vann from the 36<sup>th</sup> Council District. She asked for a report from the following elected official representatives:

**57<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT LEADER** – Mr. Walter Mosely

District leader Mosely stated that there are three primary elections in NYS this year: the Presidential primary on April 24<sup>th</sup>, US Senate/Congressional primary on June 26<sup>th</sup>, and NYS Senate and Assembly on September 11<sup>th</sup>. There are voter registration drives ongoing to get people to vote locally where they live.

**SENATOR ERIC ADAMS' OFFICE** – Mr. Jesse Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton announced that Senator Adams' office has moved to 1669 Bedford Avenue (corner of Montgomery). He also announced that the Senate lines have been redrawn and that the Senator's home was drawn one block out of his district. Also, with the proposed redrawn lines, more than half of District 8 would be taken away from Senator Adams and given to Senator Velmanette Montgomery. Those behind the line proposals are trying to dilute the voting power of people in Crown Heights. It is a "toxic cocktail of forcing two progressive Senators to have to run against each other." Luckily, Gov. Cuomo has stated that he would veto the redrawn lines.

The Black/Hispanic Caucus is next week. The Senator is sponsoring buses to Albany. For more information on the buses, contact the Senator's office at 718-284-4700. Every State office will be open. It will be a great, fun filled day.

Ms. Langhorne asked what is going on with the proposal to ban churches using New York City public schools as their place of worship. Mr. Hamilton responded by stating that churches can use the schools so long as they are not operating during school hours.

**COUNCILWOMAN DARLENE MEALY'S OFFICE** – Ms. Dynishal Gross

Ms. Gross announced that the Councilwoman now chairs the Contracts Committee. There is a new bill available that will identify contractors with contracts with the city.

The tax lien sale list will be published soon. The Councilwoman is helping people get off the lien list with no down payment and up to 10 year payment plans. An event will be held to help residents.

On March 14, 2012, there will be a Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic for community based organizations to help them learn the technical requirements for applying for city funding. The clinic will take place from 6-8 PM at the Councilwoman's office located at 1757 Union Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. There will also be an immigration clinic soon. She advised those interested in participating in the programs mentioned to call the office at 718-953-3097 for further information.

### **CONGRESSWOMAN YVETTE CLARKE'S OFFICE** – Mr. Charles Jackson

Mr. Jackson brought everyone's attention to the scholarship announcement in the newsletter regarding the New York Urban League. He also announced that central Brooklyn elected officials met 2 weeks ago to discuss hospital closures. It is up to the community to also voice their concern by writing the governor and letting him know that hospital closures need to stop.

It is also up to the community to voice opinion regarding redistricting. The census data states that Congresswoman Clarke's district lost 80k people, but if you register people to vote and they vote, the numbers will reflect the difference and this difference will have to be acknowledged. There is a website to view the proposed lines and get a list of public hearings. The website address is [www.latfor.state.ny.us](http://www.latfor.state.ny.us).

A new summer program beginning next year to attract under-represented minorities to public health professions is being hosted. As part of a cooperative agreement granted by the Centers for Disease Control to the University of Michigan, as well as Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, and Morehouse College; up to 200 students total per year will be recruited to introduce them to public health on the respective campuses.

Visit: <http://sitemaker.umich.edu/um-fphlp> to download the program application.

Ms. Langhorne thanked the elected official representatives and opened the floor for public comments.

A representative from NYPIRG stated that the organization is working toward a smoke free city and toward reducing smoking by youth. The goal is to reduce advertisements around schools.

**Ms. Connie Lesold** stated that CB 8 should look into a book fair to bring in writers from all over the community.

**Ms. Samantha Bernardine** announced that there is a public hearing at Brooklyn Technical HS regarding school closures. Paul Robeson was voted to be closed. The community needs to be

more involved with schools and what is going on in them. Also, visit [www.bqliahec.org](http://www.bqliahec.org) for information on the 2012 health internship for high school juniors and seniors and college freshmen and sophomores.

**Ms. Andrea Phillips-Merriman** from Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) continues to work on preventing foreclosures. Call 718-773-4116 if you know of someone having difficulty paying their mortgages so that BNIA can help.

A representative from Crown Heights Mediation Center announced the Arts to End Violence event for professional and emerging artists. The community-wide art project invites artists to submit their work to be displayed throughout the Crown Heights neighborhood. Save Our Streets (SOS) Crown Heights will work closely with local artists and institutions to use art to spread the message of nonviolence at various venues throughout the Crown Heights community during the week of May 21<sup>st</sup> thru 25<sup>th</sup>. The final deadline for submissions is April 5, 2012. For more information, contact the Crown Heights Mediation Center at 718-773-6886.

Ms. Langhorne thanked everyone for their comments and asked Ms. Granville, Chairperson, if she wanted to add anything.

Ms. Granville stated that she was happy that everyone came out and that she was pleased that Ms. Langhorne did so well chairing the meeting. She adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

The next meeting of Community Board 8 will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 7 PM at the Haitian American Day Care Center located at 1491 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All are invited to attend.

### Guests

Anthony Mohen  
Sylvia Bell  
Cassandra Ramharrack  
Angela A  
Anthony Taylor  
Craig Walker  
Phu Duong  
Shawn Roberts  
John Volando  
Yuri Castano  
Leslie Cuprill  
Shirley Mondesir

Elana Bulman  
Jacqueline Europe  
Portia Norwood  
Saadia Bennett  
Ben Rottman  
Lorna McBanett  
Lula Staton  
Rand Rosenbaum  
Adam Nadel  
Kesha Harmon  
Jamillah R  
Cassandra Laurent

Aaron R  
Maxx Colson  
Megan Ahearn  
Jun Jenson  
Nada O'Neal  
Constance Lesold  
Paula Pinnock  
A Andrews  
M Raccak  
S Berman  
Earline Mensal