

**Community Board 8  
Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph  
856 Pacific Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11238**

**November 14, 2024**

**Members Present**

Akua Aidoo  
Sharon Alexis-Pierre  
Peter Anekwe  
Princess Benn-James  
Gail Branch-Muhammad  
Robert Callahan  
Edward Delman  
Dian Duke  
Ammar Elahi  
Benny Faygen  
Tamika Gibbs  
Nizjoni Granville  
Mohammad Hassan  
Jamell Henderson  
Malik Jabati  
Tafari John-King  
Frances Langley  
Robert Lapointe  
Dr. Sarah Lazur  
Lisa Maldonado  
William Meehan  
Mimi Mitchell  
Courtney Morgan  
Fior Ortiz-Joyner  
Taraya Pettway  
Robert Puca  
Yahya Raji  
Dr. Cadesa Ramharrack  
Conor Ross  
Ezra Roth  
Brian Saunders  
Robin Smith  
Katie Taylor  
Gib Veconi  
Kimberly Watson  
Sharon Wedderburn  
Robert Witherwax  
Deborah Young

**Members Absent/Excused**

David Mantell  
Kwasi Mensah  
Anika Roach  
Meredith Staton  
Dana Thompson  
Mark Thurton  
Esmond Turnbull  
Briana Uwa  
Irsa Weatherspoon

**Elected Officials Present**

Jabari Brisport, Senator for the 25<sup>th</sup> District  
Stefani Zinerman, Assemblymember for the 56<sup>th</sup> District

**Elected Official Representatives**

Soumya Khulekar, Office of Senator Brisport  
Samuel Meeks, Office of Assemblywoman Pharah Soufrant-  
Forrest  
Ethan Nash, Office of Brooklyn Borough President  
Adrienne Williams, Office of Assemblywoman Latrice  
Walker  
Tamisha Thompson, Office of Councilmember Darlene  
Mealy  
Krista Reilly, Office of Senator Zellnor Myrie

**CB8 Staff Present**

Michelle George, District Manager  
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Gail Muhammad welcomed the community board members and the public, calling the meeting to order at 6:39 PM.

## Featured Speakers

Ms. Muhammad first called Deborah Kirschner, Vice President for Public Relations for the Prospect Park Alliance (PPA), to give remarks about the structure and purpose of the Alliance. Founded in the mid 1980s when the park was in a severe state of decline, the partnership has grown considerably. Presently, there is an agreement between the city and PPA for the many care responsibilities for Prospect Park. The city's Parks Department takes care of maintenance and refuse collection. As an example, Ms. Kirschner spoke about the launch of Renew Prospect Park, a philanthropic partnership with Ace New York to give employment to the formerly homeless. The Alliance also takes care of many infrastructure repairs from drainage, pathways and other critical needs.

Typically, the PPA lobbies elected officials for capital, and the City engages the Alliance to do design work. As many residents know, Grand Army Plaza was awarded \$9 million for restoration (landscaped berms, the plaza and Daley Fountain, as well as a restoration of the arch, which has been under construction for 18 months.)

The Alliance is also far along in renovating the Vail, which has been an intensive community process. The Park is landmarked, so in most instances, renovations must restore park regions to their original design. However, the Vail has been changed so considerably that it was deemed a "blank slate." While currently very forested, community members providing feedback wanted spaces for intergenerational play and quiet reflection. The plan includes creating a pollinator garden, natural play area, picnic lawn, a pavilion with restrooms, and a children's pool. The project is currently in procurement, with a schedule to break ground in Summer 2025 and reopen in 2026. There will be a restoration of the Ocean Avenue entrance as well as a Monument to Shirley Chisolm at the Parkside Avenue entrance.

Turning to Public Programming: the Lefferts Historic House & the Carousel was closed for renovation, receiving funding to start work to refocus on telling the story of slavery. The Alliance did original research to find stories of 25 African slaves who lived in Lefferts House, the results of which are on display at the museum. Also, the community is encouraged to look out for a Lenape cultural fair in December thanks to a new partnership with the tribe. Finally, the Artist in Residence Adama Delphine Fawundu displayed work in the Park beginning this year.

On the Health & Wellness front: the Park hosted three pilots: Open Air Connections with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the DOE summer meal truck, which served 15,000 meals this year, and NY Presbyterian's mobile medical unit in Grand Army Plaza, which focuses on sexual health (HIV, hepatitis C) every Thursday.

Ms. Muhammad opened the floor for a brief question and answer with Ms. Kirschner.

Lisa Maldonado asked about the berm restoration - Plaza Street West was completed, but East has not been done, wanting clarity on the plan. Ms. Kirschner replies that unfortunately, funding has run out. The West was funded by State of Good Repair funds and was a result of a discussion between the Parks Department and the community; the West was concluded to be in worst repair. The Alliance has an ongoing commitment to continue using SOGR funds in the area. Meanwhile, the Dept. of Transportation is doing a study to redesign traffic around Grand Army, which will be another opportunity to restore the plaza.

Another community member has a question on drainage – asking if the 3<sup>rd</sup> street playground will be included? Ms. Kirschner replies that Prospect Park's drainage system is 150 years old and often ill suited for the changing landscape. However, drainage for the playground will be part of this project, addressing a natural puddle that complicates that location.

Next, a community member asks how much of the park was burned in the recent wildfire. Ultimately, two acres of woodlands were affected. The brush was not cleared in this area because the Park spans 350 acres of woodlands, with only 8 gardeners at hand. The Alliance is in the middle of a campaign to increase their endowment and operating budget. The direct answer is that gardeners didn't work in the 2 acres that burned, and were working in other locations. For the time being, that area has not been slated for renovation. In that spirit, volunteers are always welcome, and potential longer term volunteers are able to get in touch with the Alliance to coordinate.

Ms. Muhammad concluded the Q&A and called Marissa Yanni, community liaison for DSNY to address the meeting with regards to new containerization rules.

Ms. Yanni reminds the public that 1 to 9 residential unit buildings must containerize all trash by November 12<sup>th</sup>. Enforcement begins in January. Don't need to buy the DSNY bin until June 2026 at either the 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor or Home Depot. Don't need to buy a Metal Glass Plastic or Paper bins. Only need to containerize Compost and waste. Yard waste is mandatory. Food scraps will be enforced in Spring. Can use a clear plastic or paper bags.

Dr. Lazur states that in a building she works to organize, the super is not bringing the bins back in even though they must be brought back in the next day. She asks if buildings can be ticketed for leaving the bins out. Ms. Yanni responds that yes, DSNY can give tickets for

failure to return bins. Dr. Lazur gives context that this is an 80 unit building with a trash problem, which has resulted in the building being taken over by rats. She wants to know what kind of container will be required for large buildings, and when they will be required. The date for large buildings is Spring 2025. For buildings with over 30 units, they will require a bin in the street.

In order to take advantage of the time of Ms. Kirschner, Ms. Muhammad called for the Public Hearing on committee action items.

## **Public Hearing**

### **Parks, Youth & Education Committee (PYE)** – Kimberly Watson, Chair

*The Parks, Youth & Education committee met on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. The committee reviewed and voted on the proposal for renovations to the Third Street Playground in Prospect Park near Prospect Park West.*

*The committee voted unanimously to support the proposal of the Third Street Playground based on the following conditions:*

- *The CB 8 PYE committee would like to know what concerns about the proposal were identified by CB 6.*
- *If we cannot access CB 6 for input, we would like to have access to the public review surveys.*
- *The proposal has requests of things drafted 5 years ago. Since these playground improvements take place within a 30 year span, it is important to know how satisfied with these designs the surveyed community is, based on the public review surveys or CB 6 input.*
- *The proposal clarifies ADA accessibility for persons with disabilities.*
- *The proposal includes an installation of astro turf or synthetic grass. There are concerns about the level of toxicity with synthetic grass, especially on a playground. We are asking for clarity on how toxicity levels of materials used will be assessed for.*

*The committee hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.*

Ms. Kirschner supplied more detail about the plans for the renovation - synthetic materials will be used for a mound that has climbing nets, creating a very tactile play space. The Alliance will use a non-toxic material, and are currently looking for a material that will not pose dangers in collaboration with manufacturers. In order to create ADA accessible spaces, both the younger and older children play areas will include transfer stations. The funding for this project first came in July 2023, and in Fall of last year the Alliance conducted community outreach, including multiple tabling sessions at the playground and an open Zoom call. The design work commenced at the conclusion of the public outreach, and now the project is moving through the public review process.

The plan estimates that the project will take approximately one year each for design, procurement and construction. On that schedule, the project will break ground in Fall of 2025 Fall and reopen in Fall 2026.

Mr. Witherwax made a motion to support the committee's recommendation, seconded by Ms. Gibbs. The motion passed with 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

The Parks, Youth & Education Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month, next on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Brower Park Library, 155 Brooklyn Avenue at 6:00 PM.

Ms. Muhammad thanked Ms. Kirschner for her expertise and resumed the prior Q&A session with DSNY's Ms. Yanni.

A community member asked if residents will be required to continue bagging recycled material once a recycling bin is purchased. Ms. Yanni responds that DSNY prefers all metal, glass and plastic items to be bagged. Paper & boxes can still be flattened and twined together.

Mr. Anekwe registers a complaint that trash pickup frequently takes 24-36 hours. After clarifying that Mr. Anekwe is referring to Saturday collection, Ms. Yanni replies that often these collections are slowed by city holidays, but that she asks for patience as many of the sanitation workers presently are from a new class.

Another community member complains that cars without plates do not receive tickets for alternate side parking, and that a nearby NYCHA development is responsible for a great deal of garbage poorly stacked.

Mr. Witherwax asks if the curbside orange compost bins will continue to be supported. Ms. Yanni says that she hasn't been told that they're going to be removed. Mr. Witherwax seconds Mr. Anekwe that trash pickup can be very slow even not around holidays.

At the conclusion of Q&A, Ms. Muhammad returned to the action items of the evening, next calling for the committee report of the SLA Committee.

## Public Hearing Continues

### **SLA & Sidewalk Café Committee** – Robert Witherwax, Vice Chair

*The SLAC Committee met on Monday, November 4, 2024. In the absence of the Chair, present were: Akua Aidoo, Peter Anekwe, Dian Duke, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Mimi Mitchell, Roger Myers, Fior Ortiz Joyner, Robert Puca, Robin Smith, Mark Thurton, Cheryl Walcott, and Robert Witherwax. The committee discussed the following applications:*

1. *Dining Out Applications*

**A. *Leland Eating and Drinking House, 755 Dean Steet (corner of Underhill) – seeking sidewalk café***

*The committee voted 11 in favor with 1 abstention to support the application as presented and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.*

Mr. Callahan asks for more information because this is a new type of application without much detail. Mr. Witherwax says that the role of the Community Board is limited; the restaurant provides a schematic to the Department of Transportation and the Department staff make sure that the area is clear. Then the community board gets the information after to advise as “eyes on the street.”

Additionally, unlike liquor licenses, the applicant does not have to show up at the committee meeting or full board meeting.

Mr. Puca made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation, seconded by Mr. Ross. The motion passed with 32 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

**B. *King Tai, 1095 Bergen Street (off Nostrand Avenue) – seeking sidewalk café (previously held sidewalk café permit prior to the Covid-19 pandemic)***

*Committee members noted that the Applicant’s current sidewalk seating area has been observed to encroach on the pedestrian right of way, and the Committee encourages the Applicant to be more mindful.*

*The committee voted 13 in favor to support the application with modified hours of closing at 10PM Sunday thru Thursday and 11PM Friday and Saturday. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.*

Ms. Muhammad asks for clarity: what does “encourages applicant to be mindful” mean? She feels that the statement has little in the way of teeth. Mr. Witherwax says the intent is to encourage, given the limited scope of authority of the board.

Ms. Ortiz-Joyner asked if the board can be more forceful in their statement. Mr. Witherwax requests that the board members consider this to be a first notice, proof that the board has contacted the business and admonished them in the event that problems proliferate.

Mr. Puca made a motion to support the committee’s recommendation, seconded by Mr. Meehan. The motion passed with 32 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

**C. Chavela's, 736 Franklin Avenue (corner of Sterling Place) – seeking sidewalk café (previously held sidewalk café permit prior to the Covid-19 pandemic)**

*Yet again, committee members noted that the schematic shows the tree pit on the Sterling Place side in an inaccurate location, missing dimensions, and not to scale. It is actually sited directly south of the easternmost two tables, and not diagonally toward the intersection, as the schematic shows. The Committee is concerned that the proper 8 foot clearance between the tree pit and the tables does not exist. This same concern was raised when the restaurant initially came before the Board for their sidewalk café in 2011 and was verified by the licensing agency (DCWP, formerly DCA) as legal and legitimate.*

*The committee voted 13 in favor to support the application with modified hours of closing at 10PM Sunday thru Thursday and 11PM Friday and Saturday. It hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.*

Mr. Delman wants final say from the board office if there is enough clearance. Ms. George says that staff have confirmed this. There are 8 feet of clearance even though the tree pit is not in the right place on the schematic.

Mr. Puca made a motion to support the committee's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Delman. The motion passed with 31 in favor, 2 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

**D. Lincoln Station, 409 Lincoln Place (off Washington Avenue) – seeking both roadway café and sidewalk café**

*The committee voted 13 in favor to support the application as presented and hopes the full Board supports its recommendation.*

Mr. Delman made a motion to support the committee's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Meehan. The motion passed with 32 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

The SLA Committee meets on the First Monday of the month, next on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Crown Heights Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 810 St. Marks Avenue.

**Housing & Land Use Committee – Sharon Wedderburn, Chair**

*The Housing and Land Use met on Thursday, November 7, 2024. In addition to the Chair, Sharon Wedderburn, present were: Pierre Albert, Peter Anekwe, Barbara Cofield, Edward Delman, Karen Gray, Jamell Henderson, Cathy Iselin, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Nicole Laemmle, Frances Langley, Bobby Lapointe, William Meehan, Tracy Nottingham, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Anika Roach, Conor Ross, Jack Robinson, Dana Thompson, Mark Thurton,*

*Briana Uwa, Gib Veconi, Cheryl Walcott, Sharon Wedderburn, Elaine Weinstein, Jonah Rogoff, Alex Sommur, Bianca Bryant, Mary Shuford, Toka Beech, Marta R., Anna K., Betsy Macleon, Eric Miles, Jeff Lamaki, Mark Beurak, Robin Greenwald, Hal Drellich, Ryan Christman, Kim Robinson, Aboubacar Okeke-Diagne, Jesse Hirakawa, Tim Anderson, Paula Diaz Torres, and Jordan Fraade. The committee discussed the following applications:*

### **1. 286 Sterling Place**

*The applicant is seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The building is located in the Prospect Heights Historical district. While the front of the building is located on Sterling Place, its rear yard's frontage is on nearby Butler Place. The applicant seeks to make the following modifications:*

- *Proposed changes include:*
- *Rear picture window*
- *Rear deck modification*
- *Rear chimney removal*
- *New rear kitchen windows*
- *Non-visible interior renovations*

*The building owners seek to modify an older modification. Their chief goal is to better marry the existing rear addition to the house and provide a larger door for egress. With this alteration the owner will keep and reinstall existing stained glass windows above the new windows to be installed in keeping with original character. Such changes will not affect nearby neighbors.*

*The committee voted unanimously to support the project with 24 Yays. We ask that the full board does the same.*

There was no discussion on this item.

Mr. Meehan made a motion to support the committee's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Raji. The motion passed with 32 in favor, 2 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

### **2. 956 Park Place**

*The building is located in Crown Heights North historic district. The applicant has proposed the following modifications:*

- *Removal of two-story bay window from existing extension*
- *New rear extension 6 foot in depth on the first floor*
- *New extension on the second floor 3 feet in depth with 3 ½ feet balcony*
- *New extension to match height of existing extension and width*
- *Steel window and door openings and vertical wood cladding*



- *Cladding is to be stained vertical 6 inch wood plank siding*
- *Balcony railings are to be painted steel*

*The committee reviewed the application. Fior Ortiz as a representative from Crown Heights North Association (CHNA) noted that there was no objection to the proposed project but queried if the homeowner would consider brick cladding rather than the proposed wood cladding. The homeowners and the architect agreed to consider a brick cladding.*

*The committee voted to support the project. 16 Yays, 2 Nays and 6 Abstentions. We ask that the full board will do the same.*

Ms. Ortiz-Joyner asked the applicant to clarify if they would consider using brick, and the applicant's representative confirmed that the project will use brick.

Ms. Ortiz Joyner made a motion to support the committee's recommendation with the understanding that the applicant has made the recommended modifications, seconded by Ms. Young.

Mr. Delman asks if the recorded vote as printed in the action items is accurate, as he remembers a different total. Ms. Wedderburn later acknowledges that the vote totals were copied from a later vote mistakenly.

The motion passed with 35 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

### *3. 344 Park Place*

*The owners of 344 Park Place seek a Certificate of Appropriateness for its building located in the Prospect Heights Historic District. The building located at the corner of Park Place and Underhill Avenue is unique to the district. Located at the corner of Park Place and Underhill Avenue, the building has a facade which faces Underhill Avenue. The proposal is two-fold. First, the applicant seeks to add windows on the first and second floor. Second the applicant would like to add a rear yard deck from the first floor down to the rear yard with portions visible above the fence.*

*The committee questions to the owner's architect centered around the style and placement of the windows. The two proposed windows would match the existing window on the ground floor. The addition of the windows would bring light into the first and second floors of the building.*

*Queries about the deck centered around the deck visibility from Underhill Avenue. Currently there is a wooden stockade fence and fence that would obscure most of the new staircase and provide privacy for the yard itself, a concern noted by members.*

*Mary Shuford, on behalf of Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC) stated that there was no objection to the proposed project.*

*The committee voted 16 Yays, 2 Nays and 6 Abstentions. As such the committee asks that the full board support its proposal.*

Mr. Delman gives context that the project documents refer to an area as a deck or a gathering place. Having reviewed the reality, the proposed space is more a platform than a deck, 3 feet at its widest, which could at best be used for a temporary passage rather than a gathering space.

Mr. Witherwax asks if the additional windows are along Underhill and is told that they are.

Ms. Maldonado asks for further clarification of where the windows are placed and is given a satisfactory reply.

Mr. Meehan made a motion to support the committee's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Callahan. The motion passed with 33 in favor, 1 opposed and 2 abstentions.

Having concluded the committee's action items, Ms. Wedderburn notes that the Atlantic Avenue Mixed Use Plan (AAMUP) is going through the ULURP process. The Department of City Planning will bring a number of agencies to 77 New York Avenue at 6:30PM for a deep dive next Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Housing & Land Use Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month, next on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 810 St. Marks Avenue at 6:30 PM.

## Committee Reports

### **Economic Development Committee** – Brian Saunders, Chair

The committee met last Tuesday, and is conducting merchant outreach to create a directory. Additionally, Chase Bank doing a business owner mixer on Utica Avenue on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Economic Development Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month, next on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 155 Brooklyn Avenue at 6:00 PM.

### **Environment, Sanitation & Transportation Committee** – Robert Witherwax, Chair

The committee last met on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. In addition to the Chair, Robert Witherwax, present were: Peter Anekwe, Alan Gerber, Phyllis Grannum, Karen Gray, Delores Hutchinson, Malik Jabati, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Bobbie Lapointe, William Meehan, Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Anika Roach, Ezra Ross, Celeste Stern, Audrey Tait-Hall, Mark Thurton, Briana Uwa, Cheryl Walcott, Deborah Young, and Sarah Lazur. The Committee is

very likely to have a meeting in November because of AAMUP, and because the December meeting falls right before Christmas. In order to get maximum context for a complex subject, Mr. Witherwax Encouraged all members of EST to attend the upcoming Land Use meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

The EST Committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, next on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 810 St. Marks Ave at 6:30 PM.

**Health & Human Services** - Kimberly Watson, Committee Member

The committee will not meet this month to make room for Land Use Committee's special meeting. Mammogram buses are available still next Tuesday from 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM on 417 New York Avenue. Importantly, Ms. Watson reminds the public that with the holidays approaching so does Seasonal Depression. This is an important time to check on neighbors.

The Health & Human Services Committee meets on the third Thursday of the month, next on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 77 New York Avenue at 6:30 PM.

**Seniors Committee** – Gail Branch-Muhammad, Chair

The Seniors Committee did not meet for the month of November. The committee will meet on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Muhammad is looking for recommendations for Arts & Crafts events.

The Seniors Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month, next on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Crown Heights Apartments, 1055 St. Johns Place in the Activity Room at 6:00 PM.

**Veterans Committee** – Nizjoni Granville, Chair

The long anticipated Veterans Appreciation event took place last week on November 13<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the Chair, Nizjoni Granville, present were: Princess Benn James, Jennifer Jordan, Xeerxeema Jordan, Audrey Taitt-Hall, Robin Smith, Frances Langley, Nathan Turner, Traci Nottingham, Rosemary Palms, Jennifer Rice, Sasha Ashton, and Ellen Greeley the Assistant Commissioner for Policy and Strategic Partnerships at the NYC Department of Veterans' Services. The committee honored 8 veterans with citations from assembled elected officials, and the honorees included many family members of current and past board members.

The Veterans Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month, next on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 77 New York Avenue at 6:30 PM.

At the conclusion of Committee Reports, Ms. Muhammad asked for any elected officials or their representatives to address the board.

## Elected Officials

Ms. Muhammad first welcomed State Senator Jabari Brisport.

*Jabari Brisport, Senator for the 25<sup>th</sup> District:* The Senator distributed literature on the \$240 billion state budget and discretionary funding available for CBOs; interested organizations can apply through the Senator's website.

Constituents should also check the website for information on an upcoming panel on combatting fascism.

The senator also distributed literature on harm reduction and free doses of Narcan.

A community member asks about funding for parks. Senator Brisport responds that there is some amount of funding from the state, but mostly for state parks.

Dr. Lazur wants to know if Community Based Organizations have to be headquartered in the district to receive funding. Senator Brisport says that as long as the group serves the district's residents it is eligible to apply.

Mr. Anekwe wants to know if the state engages the public before proposing the budget? The Senator details the 3 month process, which starts with the Governor's budget, then community engagement sessions, which legislators use to inform their One House Budgets before the final budget is passed in Spring.

*Stefani Zinerman, Assemblywoman for the 56<sup>th</sup> District:* Heating season has begun. The threshold for qualifying for heat assistance has been raised to \$76,600 annually. Rep. Zinerman encourages any person not aware of the STAR program, economic relief programs for Seniors and other tax incentives to visit NY.gov for more information.

She reminds everyone that Small Business Saturday is November 30<sup>th</sup> this year. Also, the Neighborhood Lighting Program has commenced, with chances to win \$500, \$250 or \$150 for a block association that has the best lights.

Unfortunately, the Assemblywoman has no new info about new laws taking effect, because the state takes a hiatus due to the elections. Her office's next newsletter will have info on many new laws taking effect. She thanks everyone that voted for Proposition 1, and encourages anyone who is still concerned to come and speak with her. The member is disappointed that Proposition 6 failed.

Lastly, District Needs Assessments are important documents and the members pay considerable attention to them. The DNA is essential to informing the budget priorities, so all civically engaged people should participate in their preparation.

Dian Duke asks will there be a Christmas pop up at Restoration Plaza this year. Assm. Zinerman says that there will be at least a Christmas party if not another pop-up.

*Ms. Meeks, Office of Assemblywoman Pharah Soufrant-Forrest:* Ms. Meeks introduces herself as the member's new representative. The Governor is restarting congestion pricing at \$9 in early January. On the Budget side: Treatment Not Jails is a signature issue for the office, which will make mental health court available to more people in the criminal legal system.

On November 18<sup>th</sup> the member will host a Community Envisioning Meeting about the future of 1024 Fulton Street, which has been abandoned for 40 years. The member wants to build a 100% affordable housing building. The meeting will take place that evening at PS 56.

The office's regular Housing lawyer will be present next on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. On December 12<sup>th</sup>, the office is cosponsoring a town hall with Just Fix & Mobilization for Justice on Good Cause Eviction. The town hall is taking place on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM at Major Owens Community Center at 1561 Bedford Avenue.

Ms. Muhammad echoes that sexual abuse during incarceration is a major concern and emphasizes that the state needs to take stronger action.

*Adrienne Williams, Office of Assemblywoman Latrice Walker:* Assemblywoman Walker is co-sponsoring a bill pertaining to sexual assault in prisons. The office's next Advisory Board will take place on Saturday at Doral Health & Wellness on Pitkin Avenue. Any questions can be directed to [AdrienneWilliams101@gmail.com](mailto:AdrienneWilliams101@gmail.com)

With all elected officials having concluded their remarks, Ms. Muhammad commenced public comment.

### **Public Comments**

Alicia Prichard, Branch Manager from Brower Park Library announces the Teen Takeover Branch Council for teens to host programming starting at 6:00 PM happening across the city; Brower Park's program will likely start in December. The branch has many other important programs like Books by mail and Brainy Babies on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM.

Luna Rodriguez, Case Manager for Adult Learning at the Eastern Parkway Library introduces herself and talks about classes for adult learners with low literacy and those looking to get a GED diploma. The branch also hosts regular career fair; she has flyers

available for anyone who is interested, and states that non-profits can always partner with the library to connect people to jobs and services.

Kimberly Watson inquired about a new family shelter coming to the district. Ms. George stated that the new family shelter will be located at 1634 Dean Street, it will house families with children and will be operated by Highland Park Community Development Corporation and is scheduled to open in December.

A member of the public asks how to apply to the community board and was informed that appointments are handled by the Borough President's office. Applications can be found on the Brooklyn Borough President's website at [www.brooklynbp.nyc.gov](http://www.brooklynbp.nyc.gov).

Residents of the Atlantic-Pacific Yards, who report that the property is owned by Pacific Park Conservancy, are concerned about the dog run in the complex. While the dog run finally opened with gravel, then superior astroturf, the conservancy gave notice that the park would be closed at 6:00 PM, which is far earlier than many working professionals can take advantage of. They are trying to set up a meeting with the representatives of the Conservancy and request assistance from the Board staff. Ms. George stated that she would try to facilitate a meeting with the owners.

Ms. Gibbs announces that Councilmember Crystal Hudson is conducting a Turkey Giveaway on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the St. Francis School of the Deaf. Additionally, on December 8<sup>th</sup> Imperial Bikers will have a children's Christmas party and feed the hungry on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Tamisha Thompson of Darlene Mealy's Office tells constituents that the office is located at 400 Rockaway Avenue, open Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The office hosts Housing assistance on Tuesdays. The member will conduct a turkey giveaway as well in advance of Thanksgiving. The next meeting of the member's Community Advisory Board will take place on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Having concluded the business of the board, Ms. Muhammad called for a motion to adjourn at 8:54 PM.

### **Guest Present**

Xeerxeema Jordan  
Jennifer Jordan  
Margaret Moise  
Bryanna Fabre

Eric Miles  
Mary Beech  
Phyllis Grannum  
Nadine Davis  
Maria Shawn Rambeng  
Anna K.  
Robin Greenwich  
Audrey Tait-Hall  
Michelle N.  
Denise Delonker  
Dale Soberanis  
Nelly Heredia  
Nathan Turner  
Katherine Musgrave  
Jonathan Gibbs  
Luna Rodriguez  
Stephanie Zimmer  
Carolyn Johnson  
Arna Lipkind  
Bill Solomon  
Traci Nottingham  
Tracy Wax  
Natasha Mathur  
Jang Thomas  
Cheryl Walcott  
Ryan Christman  
Jen Gory  
Ian White  
Michael Bonanto  
Carter Easler  
John D.  
Liam Hunt  
Alicia Pritchard  
Fatima Osmond  
Rodney Seymour  
Coco Marcino  
Aboubacar Okeke-Diagne  
Valerie Nerp-Reid  
Erica Atkins  
Ken Marable  
Mark Leary  
Kim Marales  
Afif Uhon