

**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 6
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
PROSPECT PARK RESIDENCE
1 PROSPECT PARK PLACE**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

E. ANDERSON	R. BASHNER	P. BELLENBAUM
N. BERK-RAUCH	J. BERNARD	D. BRAVO
F. BROWN	C. CALABRESE	E. CAUSIL-RODRIGUEZ
SR. R. CERVONE	N. COX	E. FELDER
P. FLEMING	Y. GIRELA	R. GRAHAM
V. HERAMIA	J. HEYER	H. HUGHES
G. KELLY	M. KOLMAN	A. KRASNOW
D. KUMMER	R. LEVINE	H. LINK
S. LONIAL	R. LUFTGLASS	D. MAZZUCA
T. MISKEL	G. O'CONNELL, JR.	C. PIGOTT
L. PINN	M. RACIOPPO	G. REILLY
R. RIGOLLI	M. RUIZ	M. SCOTT
D. SCOTTO	M. SHAMES	E. SHIPLEY
M. SILVERMAN	B. SOLOTAIRE	L. SONES
E. SPICER	J. STRABONE	J. THOMPSON
S. TURET	D. WILLIAMS	

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

D. GIULIANO	A. MCKNIGHT	P. MINDLIN
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GUESTS:

L. JACOBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT MARKOWITZ' REPRESENTATIVE
HON. BRAD LANDER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
C. ZINNEL, COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE
T. SGRIGNOLI, ASSEMBLY MEMBER BRENNAN'S REPRESENTATIVE
HON. FÉLIX ORTIZ, ASSEMBLY MEMBER
T. SMITH, ASSEMBLY MEMBER MILLMAN'S REPRESENTATIVES
HON. VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY, STATE SENATOR
O. JONAS, STATE SENATOR MONTGOMERY'S REPRESENTATIVE
J. HAMILTON, STATE SENATOR ADAMS' REPRESENTATIVE
Z. OTT, STATE SENATOR SQUADRON'S REPRESENTATIVE

Complete list of meeting attendees on file at District Office.

1st Vice-Chairperson Thomas Miskel called the meeting to order at 6:56pm and began by requesting a moment of silence for all those who lost their lives in and because of 9/11.

❖❖❖ **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** ❖❖❖

Board Member Rick Luftglass made a motion to accept the minutes of the July's general meeting, seconded by Board Member Lou Sones.

VOTE: 37 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
TIME: 6:58 P.M.

1st Vice-Chairperson Miskel recognized elected officials and their representatives

State Assembly Member Félix Ortiz began by informing the Board that New York State Commissioner of Education Dr. John B. King, Jr. today visited P.S. 15 and P.S. 27 in the Red Hook section of our district. He is very interested in developing a platform to address low scoring schools and hopes the NYS/NYC DOE will support and become partners with him in this endeavor. His office is still working diligently with FEMA to help the victims of Hurricane Sandy receive much needed recovery funds. He ended by advising the board that the American Red Cross Greater New York Region 25 young people to become a Red Cross partner group that will assist the Red Cross with key response functions such as feeding and bulk supply distribution in the event of a large disaster.

Catherine Zinnel, representing Council Member Brad Lander, reported that the New York City Council voted to override Mayor Michael Bloomberg's vetoes of two bills aimed at reining in the New York City Police Department's controversial use of Stop, Question and Frisk. The council passed the Community Safety Act which would institute broader and more stringer regulations against bias-based profiling and installs an inspector general with sweeping oversight of the NYPD. Councilmember Lander has introduced a bill that would dramatically reduce plastic bag use. The legislation would require retail and grocery stores to charge at least 10 cents for plastic and paper bags, to ensure an overall reduction in total bags used, regardless of type. The Councilman has also introduced a bill that would require DOT, in consultation with the MTA and the public, to create a citywide master plan for developing Bus Rapid Transit. The bill, if enacted, would require the agency to submit a plan to the City Council, borough presidents, and community boards within two years. At a minimum, the plan must:

- Identify areas of the city in need of better access to transit
- Designate "priority corridors" within and between boroughs that can have BRT within 10 years
- Identify strategies for connecting BRT to existing and planned transit services, including ferries
- Estimate capital and operating costs for each BRT route

The Councilman was arrested this past summer for blocking traffic in a protest against the closure of LICH. Although the hospital remains open the fight continues. She ended by mentioning that the Councilman was happy to finally see the traffic improvements go in on Hicks Street, 4th Avenue and over the Gowanus canal.

Tonice Sgrignoli, representing Assembly Member James Brennan, invited everyone to two fall programs hosted by Assemblyman Jim Brennan:

- GREEN-OVATION – a panel discussion on conservation and solar energy – October 22nd - 5:30-8:30 pm at Camp Friendship located at 339 8th street.
- TAKING NON-PROFITS TO A NEW LEVEL – a panel discussion focused on strategies to strengthen Community-based organizations, fund-raising capacity building, and compliance with state laws regulating charities- November 12th – 6:00-8:00 pm at Temple Beth Emeth located at 83 Marlborough Road.

Tamar Smith, representing Assembly Member Joan Millman, reported that the Assemblywoman also was arrested this summer protesting the possible closure of LICH. She thanked everyone for their support of the hospital and looks forward to some of the services in the hospital being restored. This past summer the Assemblywoman hosted her annual Senior Movie Day where she welcomed local senior citizens to a movie at the Cobble Hill Cinema. She also toured the libraries in her district and began discussions related to preventing the sale of them. A reminder that the Assemblywoman will be hosting FREE Flu Shots (ages 18+) at the district office (341 Smith Street, at Carroll Street) on Friday October 4th from 9:30am-2:30pm. Supplies are limited so you must call 718-246-4889 to make a reservation.

Zeeshan Ott, representing State Senator Daniel Squadron, stated that the Senator is in the process of completing the 2013-2014 Parent Resource Guide. It will be available in the next few weeks. The guide provides parents and educators with a comprehensive listing of educational and government resources, civic and community services, health care resources, cultural and recreational programs, and preschool, day care and summer camp programs.

Jessie Hamilton, representing State Senator Eric Adams stated that the Senator participated in a march through the streets of Brownsville stand up against violence after tragic shooting of 1-yr-old Antiq Hennis. The 200+ group called for an improved relationship between community and police to prevent crime before it happens, and ensure criminals are brought to justice.

Lauren Jacobson, representing Borough President Markowitz, invited everyone to the Borough President's annual Brooklyn Book Festival on September 22nd at Brooklyn Borough Hall. The festival is the largest free literary event in New York City, presenting an array of national and international literary stars and emerging authors.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT.....DANIEL KUMMER

Chairperson Daniel Kummer began his report by reporting to the Board that during this past committee appointment cycle he's made a couple of changes in leadership and we have recently welcomed 2 new members to our Executive Committee. First, the Chair announced that Board Member Ariel Krasnow has agreed to chair our Housing Committee, which has enabled its previous chair, Board Member Norman Cox, to move over to Co-Chair our Parks/Recreation/Cultural Affairs Committee with Co-Chair Glenn Kelly. Second, he also announced that Board Member Matt Silverman has agreed to chair our Public Safety Committee, and that Board Member Sayar Lonial will now Co-Chair our Transportation Committee along with Board Member Tom Miskel. The Chair also added, for the sake of our newest Board Members, that if anyone finds that their committee assignments for the 2013-2014 Session will be problematic in terms of being able to attend meetings, please bring that to the Chair's attention, the Committee Chair's attention, or our District Manager Craig Hammerman, as soon as possible. Please do not wait for this to become a problem for us to deal with.

Chairperson Kummer reminded Board Members that we track attendance at committee and general meetings very closely and that is a factor when making appointments to committees. It is up to each of our members to make sure our records are accurate. If you come in late to a meeting you must sign in to be counted. Our district office can only go by the signed attendance sheet when tracking attendance. And if you do forget to sign in, or were unable to sign into a meeting for some reason, please make sure to correct the record when the minutes are up for review and adoption.

Chairperson Kummer congratulated Assembly Member Jim Brennan in his absence who married Joan Bartolomeo, the Executive Director of the Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation on July 27th. Also to our Board Member Doug Giuliano, who was married this past Friday.

Chairperson Kummer also congratulated our former Council Member and district resident Bill de Blasio on taking the lead in the Democratic Primary for Mayor, and to Joe Lhota, another Brooklynite, for winning his Republican Primary yesterday. While the Board of Elections determines whether or not there will be a run-off between Bill de Blasio and Bill Thompson for the Democratic line in the Mayoral race, it does seem certain that New York City is destined to have a Brooklynite as Mayor. He further congratulated Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer who is running for Comptroller, and Ken Thompson who is running for Kings County District Attorney on their respective Primary wins. On a more local level, he also congratulated Council Member Steve Levin for winning his Primary for the 33rd Council District, and Red Hook resident Carlos Menchaca for winning his Primary for the 38th Council District. Council Member Lander did not have a Primary challenger, nor did Senator Eric Adams who is running for Brooklyn Borough President. In other political news, it seems there will need to be a Run-off election between Senator Daniel Squadron and Council Member Letitia James who are competing for the Democratic line to run for Public Advocate. The Run-off election is scheduled to take place on October 1st.

Chairperson Kummer informed the Board that he is hopeful that Board Member Peter Fleming will continue to act as our Elections Committee Chair and that Board Members Bob Levine, Lou Sones and Elizabeth Shipley will continue to serve on that committee. To quickly re-cap, a letter from Elections Committee Chair Fleming will be going out to all Board Members outlining our elections process. You will have an opportunity to nominate someone in writing for any of our 5 officer's positions between now and our October general meeting. Elections Committee Chair Fleming will report in October whether there are any nominations. Then, at our November general meeting we'll take nominations from the floor and close our slate. If needed, there will be an election at our December general meeting. Our elected officer positions are for one-year terms beginning January 1st and officers can serve up to four consecutive one-year terms in the same position. None of our current officers are being term limited out so they – including the Chair – can all serve for another term.

Chairperson Kummer advised the Board about a large project that is coming before us. New York Methodist Hospital is planning to build a new, state-of-the-art facility on an assemblage of properties they own which front on 5th Street, 8th Avenue and 6th Street. In July we co-sponsored an Informational Meeting with the Park Slope Civic Council at which time the hospital was able to share their concepts with us and gather some early feedback from the community. The hospital will be returning to our Landmarks/Land Use Committee at their September 26th meeting to present us with the most current version of their project plans which will have incorporated community feedback. We are anticipating that they will be filing their Board of Standards and Appeals application shortly thereafter, so we are tentatively planning on our Public Hearing taking place at the October 24th committee meeting, with the board's recommendation to be voted on at our regular November meeting. This is a substantial project. None of the properties in question are located within the Park Slope Historic District, nor were they contextually rezoned when we went through that process with City Planning years ago. As a result, the hospital has a good degree of flexibility in terms of mass and design. If you are interested I would recommend that you attend our September 26th meeting to learn more about this and offer your feedback.

Chairperson Kummer ended his report by making an early appeal regarding our non-profit affiliate Friends of Brooklyn Community Board 6, Inc. We are looking to raise a substantial amount of money between now and the end of the year. To do that we would love to have volunteers who have experience in marketing and fundraising, or anyone who may have some time on their hands and may be able to just make a few phone calls on our behalf. Our newsletter would not have been possible without our Friends group. Our Gowanus BOA grant is a project of our Friends group. Through our Friends group we were able to provide fiscal conduit services for many local artists who would otherwise not have been able to showcase their talents, we enabled our Transit Police to have National Night Out celebrations in the Carroll Gardens community, and we even acted as a legal defense funding conduit for one of our local block associations. We have an impressive list of accomplishments that would not have been possible without a non-profit affiliate. We also have an ambitious program ahead of us which cannot be met without resources. And we have yet to tap into many of our district's

own resources. District Manager Hammerman and Director of Special Projects Sarah Phillips will be reaching out to all of you to follow-up.

Chairperson Kummer recognized additional elected officials and their representatives

State Senator Velmanette Montgomery invited everyone to the Affordable Care Act Forum: an Information Session on What Obamacare Means to You. The forum will take place on October 2nd at the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church. The Senator also informed the Board that on October 8th from 6:30pm - 8:30pm she will be co-sponsoring a Joint Legislative Forum on School Governance Reform. Responding to the public's call for greater transparency of the NYC public education system, she will hold a legislative forum to solicit comment on legislation that proposes sweeping school governance reform. She will be introducing a bill to restore a Democratic system of checks and balances by changing the composition of the Board of Education, ending mayoral control of the school system, and giving parents greater involvement in education policy creation and decision making. The forum will take place at St. Francis College, Founders Hall (15th Floor), 180 Remsen Street.

Dan Wiley, representing Congress Member Nydia Velázquez, reported to the board that the Congresswoman has introduced two important bills:

- The "Waterfront of Tomorrow Act," which would take important steps to protect New York's coastal areas, while expanding economic opportunity and encouraging environmentally sustainable shipping. To better protect New York residences and businesses from future storms and floods, the bill would harness the power of the Army Corps of Engineers to develop a comprehensive strategy making coastal areas more resilient. The legislation also encourages the growth of green spaces like the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway and other coastal projects to make water-adjacent neighborhoods more livable. The bill also makes federal resources available to modernize ports and make them more environmentally sustainable.
- The Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Economic Development (SEED) Act, which would direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish and carry out a direct lending program for small business concerns, and for other purposes.

The Congresswoman hosted a forum on Housing recovery over the summer which was a follow-up on the FEMA flood meeting that took place in Red Hook. If you are interested in seeing the meeting on video please contact him ASAP. He ended by inviting everyone to Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Storm Preparedness workshop for businesses on September 17, 2013 at the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal. The workshop morning plenary agenda will feature:

- A Primer on How to Identify Your Flood Risks Using New FEMA Flood Information;
- Ways to Reduce Flood Impacts on Your Building, Equipment, and Contents Critical to Minimizing Storm Effects from a national flood engineering expert;
- The results of three Red Hook business case studies; focusing on recommendations to make their operations and buildings more resilient in the high-risk flood zone;
- The Basic "How To's" to develop your customized Business Storm Preparedness Plan;

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT.....CRAIG HAMMERMAN

District Manager Hammerman welcomed everyone back from the Summer and waived his report.

❖❖❖ COMMITTEE REPORTS ❖❖❖

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.....DANIEL KUMMER, CHAIR

The Chair asked District Manager Craig Hammerman to brief the Board on a situation that has developed regarding a possible community garden that HPD is considering at 503 President Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to request that HPD not act on the proposed garden at 503 President Street between Nevins Street and 3rd Avenue until the agency makes a presentation before our Parks Committee and the Board has a chance to review the proposal in a public forum.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 7:41 P.M.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION/PERMITS & LICENSES COMMITTEE

.....GARY REILLY, PERMITS & LICENSES CHAIR

.....MARK SHAMES, ENV. PROTECTION CHAIR

Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly reported that the committee reviewed a new on-premises liquor license application at 62 5th Avenue.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of BK-IX Restaurant & Bar, LLC at 62 5th Avenue (between Bergen Street/Saint Marks Avenue) in our district.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 7:43 P.M.

Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly also reported that the committee reviewed a new on-premises liquor license application at 213 Union Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of Lady Bird Brooklyn LLC at 213 Union Street (between Clinton Street/Henry Street) in our district with the following conditions:

- The establishment closes at 1 AM rather than 2 AM.
- Close the French Doors by 10 PM.

Board Member Judith Thompson asked why some Committee Members disapproved this motion. Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly stated that some members felt that we were too restrictive in limiting the hours.

Board Member Jeff Strabone asked if this would be a bar or a restaurant. Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly stated that this would be a vegan restaurant that sells alcohol.

Board Member Glenn Kelly spoke in favor of the motion stating that our conditions are not too restrictive.

VOTE: 45 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED

TIME: 7:49 P.M.

Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly further reported that the committee reviewed a new on-premises liquor license application at 254-258 5th Avenue.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of Young Fox Inc. dba Grand Central Oyster Bar and Restaurant at 254-258 5th Avenue (between Garfield Place/Carroll Street) in our district.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 7:51 P.M.

Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly additionally reported that the committee reviewed a new on-premises liquor license application at 283 Van Brunt Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of Kao Soy Inc. at 283 Van Brunt Street (between Pioneer Street & Visitation Place) in our district.

Board Member Gregory O’Connell Jr. asked if this establishment falls within 200 feet of the church that is around the corner. Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly stated no.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 7:54 P.M.

LANDMARKS/LAND USE COMMITTEE.....ROBERT LEVINE, LANDMARKS CHAIR
.....PETER FLEMING, LAND USE CHAIR

Land Use Committee Chair Peter Fleming reported that the committee reviewed an application requesting a Special Permit to permit the legalization of an enlargement of a two-family residence at 227 Clinton Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve an application (BSA Calendar No. 169-13-BZ) submitted to the Board of Standards and Appeals on behalf of Joseph Schottland requesting a Special Permit to permit the legalization of an enlargement of a two-family residence in an R6 zoning district, which would allow the floor area on the property to exceed the floor area permitted under the district regulations by no more than 10%, at 227 Clinton Street (Block 297, Lot 5), between Amity and Congress Streets.

Board Member Mark Shames stated that the thing he found most objectionable was that the determination was made by DOB after the work was done rather than at the beginning of the process.

Board Member Norman Cox asked why this application was a special permit and not a variance. Land Use Committee Chair Peter Fleming stated that he did not know.

Board Member Judith Thompson asked if there was a provision in the zoning resolution that states that in a R6 zoning that attic space is not included in the FAR. Board Member Elizabeth Shipley stated yes.

Board Member Jeff Strabone asked if this property is in a landmarks district why this didn't go before LPC. Land Use Committee Chair Peter Fleming stated that this is only interior work and it's a legalization of work already done.

VOTE: 46 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 8:03 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine reported that the committee reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for a rooftop addition, modification to existing rear yard addition, and excavation in rear yard at 288 Carroll Street.

Motion: by Committee;

Recommendation to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a rooftop addition, modification to existing rear yard addition, and excavation in rear yard at 288 Carroll Street (between Smith/Hoyt Streets), Carroll Gardens Historic District with the following conditions:

- Change color of roof addition to something darker.
- Alter fenestration on rear extension to something more historic.
- Change rear extension railing to black vertical railing.

Board Member Jeff Strabone asked if there were any neighbors at the meeting. Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine stated no.

Board Member Jeff Strabone spoke out against this motion stating that when he was on the Board in the past it was his habit to resist this backyard "arms race" of massive additions. To go from a 10 foot rear yard addition to 17 feet particularly in the Carroll Gardens Historic District seems like too much to ask for. When people buy homes in a historic district they understand that they are doing so with unusual regulations and that is part of the reason why their homes are so valuable and attractive. If we are now going to build second homes in the yards and take away from the enjoyment of other people rear yards who then would want to catch up and build their massive rear yard additions then we are not going to have beautiful neighborhoods like Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill anymore.

Board Member Glenn Kelly stated that this building is on his block but does not affect him directly. However, he will defer to John Hathaway a resident who lives next to this project and the unanimous decision of the committee.

Board Member Hildegaard Link asked which roof the committee wanted to be darker. Shouldn't we be asking for green roofs? Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine stated that we are not talking about the flat top of the roof where most green roofs are, but the sloping front portion.

Board Member Judith Thompson asked how far into the donut does the addition extend to. Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine stated 17 feet, 5 more feet than before.

VOTE: 41 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 3 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED

TIME: 8:14 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine also reported that the committee reviewed a revised Certificate of Appropriateness application for alterations to the storefront and building facade at 288 Court Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a revised Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for alterations to the storefront, including new entrance, reconfiguration of storefront fenestration and alteration to building facade at 288 Court Street (between Kane/Degraw Streets), Cobble Hill Historic District with the following conditions:

- Mullions to be a dark color.
- Future lighting to be extended gooseneck style.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOSLY
TIME: 8:16 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine further reported that the committee reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for the addition of a two-story rear yard addition with balcony at 408 Henry Street.

Motion: by Committee;
Recommendation to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the addition of a two-story rear yard addition with balcony at 408 Henry Street (between Baltic/Kane Streets), Cobble Hill Historic District.

Board Member Jeff Strabone spoke out against this motion stating that rear yard additions will never stop and urged all of the Board Members to oppose.

Board Member Hildegaard Link stated that she agrees with Board Member Jeff Strabone statements regarding rear yard additions but we as a Board must find another approach to prevent them not penalize individual home owners.

VOTE: 43 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTIONS
MOTION PASSED
TIME: 8:23 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine additionally reported that the committee reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for the replacement and reduction of an existing rear yard extension at 848 Carroll Street.

Motion: by Board Member Hildegaard Link, seconded by Board Member Peter Fleming;
Recommendation to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the replacement and reduction of an existing rear yard extension to a two-story extension with a terrace at 848 Carroll Street (between 8th Avenue/PPW), Park Slope Historic District.

Board Member Christina Calabrese asked if there would be any excavation work done. Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine stated no.

VOTE: 45 YEAS, 1 NAY, 1 ABSTENTION
MOTION PASSED

TIME: 8:28 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine moreover reported that the committee reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for the rooftop addition and the replacement of an existing rear yard extension at 115 Lincoln Place.

Motion: by Board Member Peter Fleming, seconded by Board Member Glenn Kelly;
Recommendation to disapprove a Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for the rooftop addition of a partial story and the replacement of an existing rear yard extension with a two-story extension with deck at 115 Lincoln Place (between 6th/7th Avenues), Park Slope Historic District.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOSLY

TIME: 8:31 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine similarly reported that the committee reviewed an application requesting an extension of term of the Special Permit to continue to allow the operation of a physical culture establishment at 453 5th Avenue.

Motion: by Board Member Peter Fleming, seconded by Board Member Lou Sones;
Recommendation to approve an application (BSA Calendar No. 17-02-BZ) submitted to the Board of Standards and Appeals on behalf of Abrams Holding LLC requesting an extension of term of the Special Permit to continue to allow the operation of a physical culture establishment (health club) at the subject premises in a C4-3A (R6A) zoning district at 445-455 5th Avenue aka 453 5th Avenue (Block 1011, Lots 5 and 8), between 9th and 10th Streets.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOSLY

TIME: 8:34 P.M.

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine likewise reported that the committee reviewed a request to legalize the construction of a sidewalk enclosure at 493 5th Avenue.

Motion: by Board Member Glenn Kelly, seconded by Board Member Roger Rigolli;
Recommendation to approve a request on behalf of 493 5th Avenue Food Corp dba Key food Supermarkets to legalize the construction of a sidewalk enclosure at 493 5th Avenue (northeast corner 12th Street/5th Avenue).

Board Member Mark Shames stated that no one came from the community to complain.

VOTE: 46 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION

MOTION PASSED

TIME: 8:37 P.M.

Chairperson Kummer recognized Council Member Brad Lander

Councilman Lander began by asking everyone to remember the first responders and anyone who lost their lives and their families in 9/11. He also stated that he looks forward to working within his new district lines next year which will now include North Slope and the Gowanus. He has proposed some reforms to our campaign finance laws:

- Close the “LLC loophole” (which allows corporations to exceed corporate limits)
- Require the disclosure of top donors on communications
- Require stronger language on IE communications

He is also working on a bill to scrap the city’s runoff elections in favor of instant runoff voting. The new automatic system could avoid the trouble that’s been sparked by the difficulty of holding a primary and runoff two weeks apart with electronic voting machines and save \$20 million every election cycle the city spends on runoffs. It would be more democratic because turnout is typically tiny for runoff elections, much smaller than for primaries. Under the instant system, voters rank the candidates on the ballot in order of preference. If no one gets a majority, the candidate with the least votes is eliminated and their votes parceled out to the voter’s second choice - a process that continues until one candidate has a majority.

❖❖❖ COMMUNITY SESSION ❖❖❖

Barbara Quadrello, representing the residents on President Street between Nevins Street and 3rd Avenue thanked the Board for supporting the residents position to have a public meeting regarding changing the vacant lot at 503 President Street into a garden run by an outside group.

❖❖❖ NEW/OTHER BUSINESS ❖❖❖

Board Member Vilma Heramia invited everyone to the 5th annual Columbia Waterfront Fall Festival on September 14th.

Board Member Lou Sones invited everyone to the Atlantic Antic on September 30th.

Public Safety Chair Matthew Silverman stated that his meetings are open to everyone and encourages all to attend. Also, if there is any public safety concerns in the district please let him know so the committee could address them in their meeting.

Motion: by Board Member Roger Rigolli, seconded by Board Member Peter Fleming;
To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 47 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 9:05 P.M.

Minutes submitted into the District Office by Assistant District Manager Leroy Branch on September 30, 2013.