

**BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 6  
GENERAL BOARD MEETING  
JOHN JAY EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS  
237 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2013**

**ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:**

E. ANDERSON	R. BASHNER	P. BELLENBAUM
N. BERK-RAUCH	J. BERNARD	F. BROWN
E. CAUSIL-RODRIGUEZ	N. COX	E. FELDER
P. FLEMING	Y. GIRELA	D. GIULIANO
R. GRAHAM	V. HERAMIA	J. HEYER
G. KELLY	A. KRASNOW	D. KUMMER
R. LEVINE	S. LONIAL	R. LUFTGLASS
D. MAZZUCA	A. MCKNIGHT	T. MISKEL
C. PIGOTT	L. PINN	M. RACIOPPO
G. REILLY	R. RIGOLLI	M. RUIZ
M. SCOTT	M. SHAMES	E. SHIPLEY
M. SILVERMAN	B. SOLOTAIRE	L. SONES
E. SPICER	J. STRABONE	J. THOMPSON
S. TURET	D. WILLIAMS	

**EXCUSED:**

SR. R. CERVONE	M. KOLMAN	P. MINDLIN
D. SCOTTO		

**ABSENT:**

D. BRAVO	C. CALABRESE	H. HUGHES
H. LINK	G. O'CONNELL, JR.	

**GUESTS:**

L. JACOBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT MARKOWITZ' REPRESENTATIVE  
M. SARCI, COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN'S REPRESENTATIVE  
E. ERTINGER, COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE  
T. SGRIGNOLI, ASSEMBLY MEMBER BRENNAN'S REPRESENTATIVE  
T. SMITH, ASSEMBLY MEMBER MILLMAN'S REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. DANIEL SQUADRON, STATE SENATOR  
R. YOUNG, STATE SENATOR SQUADRON'S REPRESENTATIVE  
P. RHÉAUME, CONGRESS MEMBER CLARKE'S REPRESENTATIVE

Chairperson Daniel Kummer called the meeting to order at 6:47pm.

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❖❖❖ **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** ❖❖❖

Board Member Peter Fleming made a motion to accept the minutes of the October’s general meeting, seconded by Board Member Gary Reilly.

**VOTE: 30 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**  
**TIME: 6:48 P.M.**

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❖ **“CORE OF THE APPLE AWARD”** ❖

In recognition of their service to the various communities of the district, especially during Hurricane Sandy, Deputy Inspector Jeffrey Schiff, former Commanding Officer of the 76th Police Precinct and James Proscia, former District Superintendent of Sanitation BK6 garage were presented with the CB6 “Core of the Apple Award.” Salutary remarks were made by Chairperson Daniel Kummer. Both individuals accepted their awards graciously and thanked the community and the board for working with them over the years.

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**CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT.....DANIEL KUMMER**

Chairperson Daniel Kummer began his report by congratulating district resident Bill de Blasio on winning the race to become the 109th Mayor of the City of New York. We have high hopes for our former City Council Member and wish him well in this most challenging role. He also congratulated Manhattan Borough President now Comptroller-elect Scott Stringer, Council Member Letitia James now Public Advocate-elect, Senator Eric Adams now Brooklyn Borough President-elect, Council Members Lander and Levin on their respective reelections, and incoming Council Member Carlos Menchaca, now Council-elect, who will be taking over the reins in the 38th Council District covering Red Hook and Sunset Park.

Chairperson Kummer informed the Board that for the past few months he has been reporting on the various public meetings and other activities related to the New York Methodist Hospital’s proposed new, state-of-the-art facility, known as “the Center for Community Health.” After we received their BSA application last month the district office sent a link around to everyone encouraging all Board Members to begin reviewing the project documents. Hopefully by now everyone has at least glanced at the application. He encouraged everyone to attend our upcoming Public Hearing scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, November 21st in this very room. The hearing will be hosted by both our Landmarks/Land Use and our Transportation committees since we expect our Land Use committee to be formulating a motion in response to the BSA variance application, and our Transportation committee to at some future point weigh in on some of the ideas and suggestions for how best to handle any new streams of traffic induced by this project. At this time we are expecting to vote on a recommendation at our December general meeting. If all of our members take the time to familiarize themselves with the application documents and attend the upcoming Public Hearing, I am confident that our discussion next month will be a lot more fruitful.

Chairperson Kummer acknowledged our District Manager Craig Hammerman who has been invited up to Canada by the City of Toronto to present on the subject of Community Boards. Earlier this year Toronto City Councillor Paul Ainslie had a bill passed authorizing him to establish model Community Planning Boards in his Scarborough neighborhood of Toronto. The Councillor’s team met with District Manager Hammerman over the

summer to find out more about the Community Board model we use here in New York City and after returning to Toronto invited him up there so he could address a much wider audience of Canadian officials, planners, academicians and activists.

Chairperson Kummer also acknowledged City Council Member Brad Lander who recently kicked off a conversation about traffic in the area around New York Methodist Hospital. The Council Member assembled a representative group of community residents, neighborhood groups, elected officials, agency representatives including both DOT and NYPD, and hospital representatives including their traffic consultant. I'd like to thank our Transportation Co-Chair Tom Miskel, along with our District Manager and Board Member Bob Levine, all of whom also happen to be nearby residents, for attending their first meeting.

Chairperson Kummer ended his report by announcing that this year the Brooklyn CB6 holiday party is going to be from 6-9pm on Tuesday, December 17th at The Red Rose Restaurant, 315 Smith Street in Carroll Gardens. He thanked Board Members Rick Luftglass, Glenn Kelly and James Bernard for immediately stepping up to help with the necessary fundraising that will enable us to maintain our staff and level of resources at our district office. There's still plenty of voluntary assistance needed. The district office is still looking for people to help gather raffle prizes, make phone calls, and solicit donations. If you've got some time to spare please call Special Projects Director Sarah Phillips at the district office and let her know when and how you can help.

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

District Manager Craig Hammerman began his report by informing the board that the Columbia Street Task Force recently met in our continuing quest to use some interim open space along Columbia Street as a plaza/park passive recreation area. DEP and DOT are extremely committed to this concept. We are still trying to negotiate the placement of the fence with the contractor and DDC. The agencies assured us that it is just a matter of time and we are hoping that by next spring the community will be able to enjoy some new open space on Columbia Street between Kane and Degraw Streets.

District Manager Hammerman advised the board that the Carroll Gardens Association recently conducted a visioning session for the Columbia Street Waterfront area. They will be presenting their findings at our Economic/Waterfront/Community Development/Housing Committee on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to attend the meeting.

District Manager Hammerman reported to the board of two unsafe buildings in our district, namely, one at 266 Flatbush Avenue and the other at 464 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Department of Buildings has ordered the respective owners to remedy the situation by making the building safe.

District Manager Hammerman advised the board that the Department of Transportation has determined that a speed hump on Hoyt Street between Union and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets is warranted at this time and has been approved.

District Manager Hammerman ended his report by stating that all the district office staff will be taking an annual leave day for the day after Thanksgiving.

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**Chairperson Kummer recognized elected officials representatives**

Tamar Smith, representing Assembly Member Joan Millman, reported that the Assemblywoman testified in favor of the expansion of the Park Slope Historic District at a Landmarks Preservation Commission's hearing on October 29<sup>th</sup>. The LPC will now move forward with drafting a designation report and the necessary

communication with homeowners to verify an exterior description of their homes. It is expected that LPC will vote to designate the extension in 2014. The Assemblywoman also went to a City Contract hearing to submit Testimony on the proposed men’s homeless shelter at 165 West 9th Street for 170 adult men. The city Department of Buildings found several issues with zoning, building codes and multiple dwellings law in a May 2013 audit, but later dismissed all but one of the violations. Because of these and other concerns the Assemblywoman along with State Senator Velmanette Montgomery and Councilman Brad Lander, have filed a Freedom of Information Law request for the documents related to the audit. She ended by stating that her office will be giving out turkeys donated from Fairway to the community three days before Thanksgiving.

Emma Ertinger, representing Council Member Brad Lander, reported that the Councilman would like to thank everyone who participated in the series of Neighborhood Assemblies to kick off the third year of Participatory Budgeting. The Councilman also supported the Park Slope Historic District expansion and was very pleased with the City Council positive vote to move forward with the changes. The Councilman, who supports the expansion of New York Methodist Hospital in Park Slope, has convened a traffic task force to look at the traffic-related impacts on the community in regards to the expansion. The task force includes representatives from DOT and NYPD, as well as CB6, Park Slope Neighbors and the Park Slope Civic Council and hospital representatives.

Lauren Jacobson, representing Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz invited all the members to a Brooklyn Alzheimer’s Conference on November 14<sup>th</sup> hosted by the Borough President.

Laurie Wheelock, representing Assembly Member James Brennan, stated that the Assemblyman has introduced the transit lockbox bill, which would help safeguard dedicated transportation funds by requiring the state to disclose the impact of transit raids. The Assembly is waiting for Governor Cuomo to sign the bill following unanimous Senate and Assembly votes earlier this year.

Metin Sarci, representing Council Member Stephen Levin, introduced the new liaison from the councilman’s office, Matt Ojala. He also stated that the Councilman introduced a resolution calling for a temporary halt to the establishment of all new charter schools citing financial concerns.

Patrick Rhéaume, representing Congress Member Yvette Clarke, stated that the Congresswoman opposes H.R. 3102, the Nutrition Reform and Work Opportunity Act of 2013, which will remove \$40 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in the next decade.

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**❖❖❖ COMMITTEE REPORTS ❖❖❖**

**YOUTH/HUMAN SERVICES/EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

- .....**JAMES BERNARD, YOUTH SERVICES CO-CHAIR**
- .....**BENJAMIN SOLOTAIRE, HUMAN SERVICES CO-CHAIR**
- .....**PAIGE BELLENBAUM, HUMAN SERVICES CO-CHAIR**
- .....**MARK KOLMAN, EDUCATION CO-CHAIR**
- .....**SUZANNE TURET, EDUCATION CO-CHAIR**

Human Services Co-Chairperson Benjamin Solotaire reported to the Board that the committee is working on ways to connect local schools in District 13 and 15 with tech organizations who would provide computer coding and computer literacy training for students. They hope to bring all parties together in the coming months.

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**ELECTION COMMITTEE.....PETER FLEMING, CHAIR**

Election Committee Chair Peter Fleming announced to the Board that since all officer positions were uncontested, there would be no need for an election and effective January 1, 2014, the Board officers would continue to be filled as follows:

- Chairperson - Daniel M. Kummer
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson - Thomas L. Miskel
- 2<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson - Lou Sones
- Treasurer - Gary Reilly
- Secretary - Elizabeth Shipley

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**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 at 138 5th Avenue.

**Motion:** by Committee;  
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of Wepa la Arepa LLC at 138 5th Avenue (between St. Johns Place/Sterling Place).

Board Member Mark Shames thanked the district office for redoing the questionnaire form and creating a prepared stipulation form that makes the committee’s job a lot easier.

**VOTE: 40 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANISMOSLY**  
**TIME: 7:29 P.M.**

Permits & Licenses Committee Chair Gary Reilly also reported that the committee reviewed a new on-premises liquor license application at 193 Smith Street.

**Motion:** by Committee;  
Recommendation to approve a new on-premises liquor license application submitted to the State Liquor Authority on behalf of Spice at Smith Inc. at 193 Smith Street (between Baltic/Warren Streets).

**VOTE: 40 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANISMOSLY**  
**TIME: 7:30 P.M.**

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

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine reported that the committee reviewed a revised Certificate of Appropriateness application 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.

**Motion:** by Committee;  
Recommendation to approve a proposal by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission to extend the Park Slope Historic District to include all of the following properties: 81-133 6th Avenue, 82-116 6th Avenue, 194-204 6th Avenue, 201-207 6th Avenue, 12-70 Berkeley Place, 269-279 Berkeley Place, 278-284 Berkeley Place, 266 Lincoln Place, 34-80 Park Place, 71-85 Park Place, 1-3 Plaza Street West, 21-61 Plaza Street West, 9-69 Prospect Place, 10-92 Prospect Place, 254-266 St. John's Place, 7-59 St. Mark's Avenue, 10-76 St. Mark's Avenue, 25-109 Sterling Place, 12-64 Sterling Place, 80-96 Sterling Place, 147-151 Sterling Place, 148-184 Sterling Place, 787-797 Union Street, 941-957 Union Street with the following conditions:

- That the north side of Park Place from Sixth Ave to the building on Fifth Avenue, but not including the Fifth Avenue facing buildings be included in the proposal expansion;
- The inclusion of the remaining buildings on the south side of Park Place from Sixth Ave to the building on Fifth Avenue, but not including the Fifth Avenue facing buildings;
- The inclusion of the remaining buildings on the north side of Sterling Place from Sixth Ave to the building on Fifth Avenue, but not including the Fifth Avenue facing buildings or the large apartment building on the corner of Sterling and Fifth Avenue; and
- We also ask that LPC proceed expeditiously with the final approval of the proposed extension to the Park Slope Historic District with these additions.
- To ask LPC to continue to work expeditiously with Park Slope Civic Council to look for other areas in Park Slope to receive the historic designation.

Board Member Richard Bashner asked why LPC excluded some of the blocks and/or buildings we wanted in. Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine stated that LPC felt the properties were not in good enough shape. The committee felt they were fine.

Board Member Sayar Lonial urged the board to hold the buildings that come before us in this new historic district accountable and up to the aesthetics of the district. Property owners need to be held accountable if they live in a historic district to keep up the look of the buildings and not say that it is a burden on them so they can get a variance to change it.

**VOTE: 37 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION**

**MOTION PASSED**

**TIME: 7:38 P.M.**

Landmarks Committee Chair Robert Levine also reported that the committee reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for new front entranceway door at 591 3rd Street.

**Motion:** by Committee;  
Recommendation to disapprove a Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for new front entranceway door at 591 3rd Street (between 8th Ave/PPW), Park Slope Historic District.

Board Member Judith Thompson stated that she like the proposed wooden door but she really like the original iron one that they previously wanted. It makes us wonder if we should support something that looks good and would go with the aesthetics of the neighborhood or preserve what was there originally.

Board member Lou Sones spoke in favor of the motion.

**VOTE: 38 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTIONS**  
**MOTION PASSED**  
**TIME: 7:46 P.M.**

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**TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.....THOMAS L. MISKEL, CO-CHAIR**  
**.....SAYAR LONIAL, CO-CHAIR**

Transportation/Public Safety Chair Thomas Miskel reported to the Board that the committee reviewed a proposal to co-name Luquer Street between Clinton Street and Hamilton Avenue as "Lydia Buffington Way."

**Motion:** by Committee;  
Recommendation to approve a proposal to co-name Luquer Street between Clinton Street and Hamilton Avenue as "Lydia Buffington Way."

**VOTE: 38 YEAS, 1 NAY, 1 ABSTENTION**  
**MOTION PASSED**  
**TIME: 7:48 P.M.**

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**❖❖❖ COMMUNITY SESSION ❖❖❖**

No one registered

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**❖❖❖ NEW/OTHER BUSINESS ❖❖❖**

Board Member Glenn Kelly informed the board that Smith Street Stage will be presenting "A Christmas Carol – A Radio Play in the Robert Acito Park House in Carroll Park. The dates and times are as follows:

- December 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th, at 8pm;
- December 7th & 14th, at 5pm & 8pm
- December 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm

To purchase tickets go to [http://smithstreetstage.org/Smith\\_Street\\_Stage/Welcome.html](http://smithstreetstage.org/Smith_Street_Stage/Welcome.html).

Chairperson Daniel Kummer informed the board that Saturday, November 30th is Small Business Saturday which is a nationwide campaign to spur business for small merchants. American Express is launching a national advertising campaign and social media campaigns through Facebook and Twitter where consumers and business owners can participate. They are as follows:

- The first 10,000 business owners who sign up will receive \$100 of free Facebook advertising to help build online buzz and drive customers to shop at their businesses on Small Business Saturday.
- The first 100,000 American Express card members who register their Cards and use them to shop on Small Business Saturday at any locally-owned, independent small businesses that accept American Express will receive a \$25 statement credit.

- Small business owners will be able to download online promotional materials and use a number of social media tools to promote their businesses on the inaugural Small Business Saturday.

For more information got to <https://www.americanexpress.com/us/small-business/Shop-Small/>.

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### **Chairperson Kummer recognized State Senator Daniel Squadron**

Senator Squadron stated that men and women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan should be getting a 15 percent break on their property taxes, but many aren't because New York City's Department of Finance website doesn't include Iraq and Afghanistan on its list of conflicts. The roster, though, does mention the "Mexican Border Period" in 1917, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the "Persian Gulf conflict." Iraq and Afghanistan vets are eligible for the tax relief, but that the wars are considered part of the "Persian Gulf Conflict," which began in 1990 and continues today. The Attorney General has rectified this problem administratively. He also will be hosting his annual town hall meetings to bring together constituents from around the district for an evening of participatory governing. The town halls serve as a follow up to Squadron's annual Community Convention, providing constituents with a transparent and direct way of engaging, shaping, and holding accountable their local government. This past spring, hundreds of community members attended Squadron's Community Convention and provided input on issues from education and open space, to housing and transit. At the town halls, Senator Squadron will provide updates on the issues raised at the Convention and give constituents the opportunity to shape next steps in Albany and in the community. For more information go to <http://www.nysenate.gov/press-release/squadron-hosts-town-hall-meetings-bringing-together-constituents-participatory-governi>.

Board Member Jeff Strabone informed that board that on November 18<sup>th</sup> the entire board of trustees from the State University of New York (SUNY) and administrators from SUNY Downstate and the state Department of Health has been ordered to appear in court to answer for their actions regarding Long Island College Hospital (LICH). They will have to explain to a judge why they have allegedly ignored seven court orders prohibiting them from reducing the level of medical services provided at LICH. If found guilty of the charges, the defendants face "a fine or imprisonment, or both."

Board Member Gary Reilly advised the board that Alfred Chiodo, a top aide to Councilwoman Letitia James, was found dead in his apartment. He worked with the Councilwoman for more than eight years and was her urban-affairs director. Our condolences goes out to his family.

**Motion:** by Board Member Roger Rigolli, seconded by Board Member Lou Sones;  
To adjourn the meeting.

**VOTE: 40 YEAS, 0 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**TIME: 8:03 P.M.**

Minutes submitted into the District Office by Assistant District Manager Leroy Branch on November 27, 2013.