



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
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Public Safety Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Community Board Office Conference Room – 1741 Colden Ave.

Minutes

Present: Martin Morris: Chair; Matt Raso: Co-Chair; Veronica Castro, Joseph Thompson, Dominick Schiano, Veronica Castro, Yahay Obeid, Keith Ramsey: Members

Guests: Gene DeFrancis, Brandon Ellis, D’Andre Brown, Sal Conforto

1. Old Business
 - a. Committee discusses continued effort to work with other committees re: common goals.
2. New Business
 - a. Committee discussed FDNY’s EMS Flycar Program. The Committee would like more information on program
 - b. Gene DeFrancis came to speak about public safety issues on Allerton Avenue:
 1. *Thank you for your attention this week to our concerns in Allerton regarding our residents safety and the safety of our local businesses.*
 2. >
 3. *> As noted in our meeting these issues are not new and we have addressed them several times to the proper channels. The start to 2017 was not a very good one in Allerton and we feel could have been deterred if the solutions we suggested had been implemented.*
 4. *> In 2017 already we have two fatal car accidents on Boston Road within the first week of the New Year. We are determined to prevent a third fatality and we want to work closely with our Community Board to do what we can.*

5. > *It is in the minutes of a General Community Board meeting in the presence of all of our elected officials that we requested a LEFT TURN ONLY LIGHT at the intersection of Boston Road and Allerton Avenue.*
6. > *This intersection is a launching pad for speeding. When cars gets jammed at this intersection waiting for oncoming traffic as the cars in front wait to make a left turn it is not uncommon for cars to speed out of the jam to "make up for lost time". This is a common bad driving practice witnessed at this intersection. Add the element of alcohol or another factor that inhibits drivers and it is a recipe for disaster.*
7. > *Add the fact that half of the turns are blind left turns where vision is obstructed for drivers to see pedestrians if they are rushing to make a left turn before oncoming traffic prohibits them.*
8. > *It is dangerous and it a known hazard to everyone who lives here. We could also speculate that many homeowners on the east side of Boston Road are intimidated by this crosswalk preventing some (especially many elderly or disabled homeowners) from shopping at our local businesses.*
9. > *Also several months ago we also brought up the need for cameras in our shopping district. We were proactive and received a quote from a reliable, trustworthy and LOCAL security company well known in our community. NyTek has given us a very generous price to install two storefront cameras at 40 different stores for \$40,000.*
10. > *We know that there are grants available to help small businesses add such features as well as grants to help beautify the facade of such businesses (which does effect safety and perception of safety in our community). We want to work with our Community Board to fund these projects through Small Business Services and other pro small business organizations.*
11. > *Again as predicted by our organization we saw the need for such cameras. This month in this early new year at least 3 of our stores have been broken into each one lacking security cameras.*
12. > *We also want to revisit the need for proper lighting and cameras in our two Alleyways (between Wallace/Holland and Holland/Cruger)*

13. > *and raise funds to repave and gate this private property because it is a need for the entire community.*
 14. > *To conclude we would also like to work together to acquire more lighting for the entire Allerton corridor. Angie's Salon, especially during the winter months when the sun goes down earlier, has a deep concern for their female clients and staff closing at night. Not too long ago our street light that lit up this block was replaced with a transformer. Understanding that both a light and a transformer cannot co exist, we still require a solution to add lighting to this and other blocks along Allerton. NYPD experts have also requested that we turn our lighting system to LED lighting.*
 15. > *So we would like to formally request we work together to find funding to add LED DECORATIVE LIGHT POLES that come from the ground on this and several other blocks where lighting is critical for the success of small businesses and the safety of our residents and visitors.*
 16. > *I look forward to finally coming to a solution on these very important issues and thank you sincerely for your time and service to this community.*
- c. Keith Ramsey brought up JR NBA Community Basket Ball Tournament and asked if there could be police in the area for when the young people go to the subway afterwards so they can get home safe from the event.
3. Adjournment at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Martin Morris.