

REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
AND  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 6, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, F. Dardani, D. Gilmartin, A. Antonino, J. Caruso, P. Granickas, B. Ramsundar, R. Teuschler, J. Ariola, P. Ellison, I. VanPutten, L. Walker, M. Finnerty, D. Mitchell, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Cosentino, R. Ferrara, E. Holland, M. Vecchio, P. Lynch, N. Santiago, A. Bellantoni, D. Quintana, L. Amorim, R. Hitlall, S. Pace, J. Calcagnile, M. Salim, R. Martinez, L. Gerardi, G. Duldulao

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

P. Baumann, N. Beneduce, I. Brasile, J. Cavanagh, I. Dimoh, H. Duarte, M. Faulisi, J. Fazio, A. Gellineau, L. Harricharran, H. Kamph, C. Malizia, D. Marinconz, S McCabe, J. Quijano, G. Russo, Joy Patron

COMMUNITY BOARD 10 STAFF PRESENT: K. Petersen, D.M.; M. Turso

OTHERS PRESENT: Hon. P. Goldfeder; L. Savinkin, Rep., Hon. H. Jeffries; P. McCabe, Rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; M. Duvall, Rep. Hon. J. Sanders; N. Jones, Rep., Hon. Michelle Titus; A. Katz, Rep., Hon. P. Goldfeder; H. Singh-Toor, Rep. Hon. D. Weprin; A. Brown, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; D. Brown, QBPO; T. Smith, QDCP; V. Lannon, NYSDEC; S. Zahn, NYSDEC; Patrick Jenkins, Resorts World Casino

The Chairperson began the meeting at 7:45 P.M. and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairperson advised that there was presently just the necessary quorum and asked that no Board member leave the meeting, if possible, as a quorum would be necessary at this evening's meeting.

Chairperson Braton opened the Informational Public Hearing for the evening; Ms. Venetia Lannon, Region 2 Regional Director and Mr. Steve Zahn, Natural Resources Supervisor of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation gave a presentation regarding the Spring Creek Hazard Mitigation Project, a \$40 million plus, natural infrastructure project announced by the Governor in November 2013 aimed to strengthen the resiliency of Howard Beach against storm surges and sea level rise. The project involves 150 areas on the west side of Howard Beach. The goal of the project is to reduce future disaster damages and implement cost-effective mitigation measures. The Chairperson advised that this was the first of many presentations that will come on this issue.

Ms. Lannon began the presentation. She stated that NYSDEC is very excited about the project. She advised that FEMA granted the State an award, which they call the Spring Creek Project with \$3 million for design and upon approval of the design there will be \$47 million toward resiliency efforts.

(M. Salim arrived at 7:55 pm)

She continued explaining the scope of the project and then introduced Mr. Steve Zahn, who spoke about the NYS DEC mitigation plan, explaining that the project intends to provide storm protection by creating higher inland contours, limit entry of water and waves, based on the target elevation on the new flood maps. It would also create wetland storage capacity. The mitigation plan also would convert historic fill areas to valuable ecological communities, restore 150 plus acres of habitat, replace invasive plants with native species, create dunes, maritime

forest, low and high marsh and tidal creeks. The plan would maintain and enhance public access to the park and significantly reduce risk of brush fires.

(R. Martinez arrived at 7:57 pm)

Mr. Zahn stated that there would be some issues. Re-contouring the grade within the site will involve that over 750,000 cubic yards of material will be excavated across the site to create the higher inland contours. Many more cubic yards of fill will need to be brought in as well to create the cover for planting. He stated that this would create a consistent level of flood protection provided by the site from the Belt Parkway south along the county border and then east at the southern end to Cross Bay Boulevard. He mentioned other benefits to this project such as improving public access to and through the park. Presently, there are some trails, however, their plan will incorporate public access that will be more universal so that more people can get to the site and enjoy the area. He stated that other partners sharing in this project, such as the DOT, which is looking to put bike paths in that region to connect the bike path that runs along the Belt Parkway without interrupting street traffic. He stated that the result would be a greener area that will not burn as easily, will be a haven for a larger degree of wildlife and additional benefits of flood protection. The goal of the project is to reduce future disaster damages and implement cost-effective mitigation measures. He stated that up to 75% of cost would be funded by federal funds. At least 25% would come from local funding. As was indicated, FEMA has approved the engineering and design work to move forward. Phase I is now beginning. It is funded for \$3.3 million to do the engineering design and permit work. The federal share of that is \$2.5 million. The complete design work is due to FEMA by August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. If approved, Phase II will then proceed. An 18-month build schedule is anticipated. The total cost for construction is \$50.8 million, with the federal share being \$38 million. Mr. Zahn stated that NYSDEC is at the meeting tonight to make the community aware of this project, advise of more meetings that will be held so that the community's input can be engaged, and make sure that the project is designed in a way that minimizes the impact to the community's quality of life. There will be movement of materials that will involve trucks in and out of the community. It is understood that the quality of life must be considered. They will work with governmental and non-governmental partners to make this project the best that they can. Whether it is for the flood protection aspect, the ecosystem aspect or public access aspects, they want to work with their partners to determine the needs in Howard Beach and take advantage of funding when it becomes available. The Chairperson asked if there was anyone in the public who wished to speak. One meeting attendee asked if NYSDEC had any examples of the work that they are doing in other areas that were affected by hurricanes in the past, i.e. Louisiana. What can they do to protect the Howard Beach area from future storms?

(L. Gerardi arrived at 8:05 pm)

Mr. Zahn stated that the idea of resculpting the landscape to provide flood protection has been around for decades. Whether it is done simply by building levees, or the way this project is being done; more of a landscape green solution. There are examples of that throughout the country. The Chairperson asked if there were any other questions from the public. There were none. The Chairperson closed the public portion of the meeting. She then opened the floor to the Board members for any questions. A member expressed his concern with this project, stating that during Hurricane Sandy, the new side of Howard Beach, where this project is intended for was not inundated throughout their wetlands with storm surge. He expressed his view that the water came up through the old side of Howard Beach with surges from Shell Bank Basin and Hawtree Creek Basin and crossed over Cross Bay Boulevard into the new side of Howard Beach. In his view, this, along with the backup in the sewer line that occurred and the loss of power, caused the major impact to that part of the Howard Beach community. He commented that while he appreciates this study and what the governor is doing with this funding, that wetlands area, as it currently exists absorbed much of the storm. He would like to see this project spread out into the old side of Howard Beach where Shell Bank Basin brings the water all the way up into his community along with Hawtree Creek. He also expressed concerns with quality of life issues with regard to trucking materials into and out of the area. He mentioned that there was some talk of bringing materials in by barges. Mr. Zahn replied that the Board Chairperson and local elected officials had already expressed to him the request to have material barged wherever possible. The member continued on expressing his opinions. He stated that as far as the community having input in this plan, he sensed that the project would be moving quickly and if the community is going to have public access to this future green area that will impact 165th Avenue and the immediate area. Parking, as an example, will become a problem, along with other quality of life matters. He felt this new green area with bike paths; beachfront, etc would impact the new side of Howard Beach. He wants to see how this will impact that area. He stated that he is not against the project; however he also would like to see a study expanded into where the real problem is with the storms. Another member had numerous questions about an area outside the boundaries of this project. The Chairperson informed the member that a different project is proposed for the area the member was commenting about and advised she would speak of it later in the meeting.

Another member commented that she understands the rationale behind building up a seawall to keep the water out; however, she stated that when you build up to keep the water out, the water goes around the structure. She would like to see a study based on how to control the water. Mr. Zahn advised that a study has not yet been conducted on this. They have not yet gotten into that level of engineering and detail. This is a very preliminary stage. Discussion ensued. Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder was acknowledged and invited to speak. He stated that he has had many opportunities to speak with Venetia Lannon and Steve Zahn on various projects and he wanted to commend them for the work they do and for being aggressive in their outreach and interaction with the community. He thanked them for all of their help. A member commented on her concern about the impact that the project would have on the residents while the work is being done and reiterated concerns expressed by an earlier set of comments by another member. Who would police the area once it is open to the public? She said that presently people are using the property illegally and asked who would make sure what would be allowed in the park. She asked if activities such as barbequeing and picnicking activities would be allowed or if will it be similar to the preserve in Broad Channel, where it would be a "walk-through". Ms. Lannon stated that that is what they are envisioning. It is, and will remain Park Service land. Issues of maintenance have been brought to their attention early as part of a perennial problem. They are envisioning a nature walk not a place where people can hang out and have BBQ's. The question of truck routes and barges was once again brought up. Discussions will continue with the Board as the project moves along. It is important that lines of communication are open between residents, the community board, the civics and elected officials. Another member commented on the subject of water that would go around the seawalls. He stated that the Sandy storm surge was 12 to 15 feet above normal. Nothing would stop it in his view. Ms. Lannon stated that the goal was not to stop it, but to slow it down. Discussion ensued. Another member stated that he realized the project is in the preliminary stages however, he wondered if there was access to what NYC DEP has done, due to the situation at the Pennsylvania Avenue site where they removed invasives, planted native plants and where plant selection was not favorable. Will that be part of the review with DEP records for similar sites? Mr. Zahn said there would be. They work closely with DEP on their restoration projects and they learn from the projects as they go. They will learn which plants make sense and those that don't. A member commented that he would like to see a track record. If they put in soft greens and dunes that are 10 feet high, is that going to stop wave action that they have experienced with Sandy, with 6 -12 foot surge? He wants to see examples. He was told that they would get case studies of other areas. Mr. Zahn stated that they would be using the new flood maps to help set the level of protection that they provide. When they are finished, the area will meet those standards to provide relief for the community. The Chairperson asked if there were any other questions. The Chairperson then thanked Ms. Lannon and Mr. Zahn for the presentation and stated some general concerns of the Board such as what complimentary projects is DEC considering for our old side, Hamilton Beach and Lindenwood flooded areas and that the Board would like to know what NYSDEC thinks of the study that was conducted at the city's behest by the Nature Conservancy as Alternative 4 proposed in it would probably have some real support within this community. Ms. Lannon stated that this project is just a small part of the solution. Discussion ensued.

The Chairperson invited Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder to speak again. He stated that NYSDEC was doing a great job and he wanted to be at this meeting to also show his support. He commented on how agencies are going to be held accountable for the damage from Sandy. A lack of communication because of the power lines that were down made the situation that much harder. There is a tremendous need for accountability from the private industry as well. He advised that letters were sent out from his office to all the major cell phone carriers asking to insure that they are building back but more importantly to come out into the community to let the residents know what they are doing. Out of five letters that were sent, Verizon and AT&T have responded and have offered to come out to the community to talk about the money that they have invested into the towers and infrastructure and to let everyone know what their contingency plans are for the future.

The Chairperson proceeded with the Regular Order of Business.

She asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January, 2014 minutes. There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Chairperson reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of January 2014, which included:

- Acknowledgement from the family of Robert Ruffin thanking the Board for their kind expression of sympathy.

- Notice that the Queens Country Traffic Safety Board will be meeting Wednesday, February 12 in the Borough President's conference room.
- Annual letter to the community from the Board with regard to block parties has been prepared. There are no significant changes to the rules that were set in the past. The notice was sent to all previous applicants.
- Notice from DOT Project Manager for the Jamaica Bay Greenway of a meeting to be held at the Ryan Center at Floyd Bennett Field on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am.
- Contact from the New York City Department of Parks regarding a project they are interested in advancing. DPR asked for a letter of support for a project that they are submitting to the Department of the Interior for a grant that was needed by 1/31/14. The Chairperson advised that this project for which a grant is being requested relates to storm resiliency in Lindenwood, which a member had brought up earlier. The Chairperson advised that due to the time frame a letter was provided, but only after DPR came to the Board office to provide some information on the project. The Chairperson advised it is similar in context to what NYSDEC is proposing south of the parkway but the area is nowhere near as large so it is smaller in scope. She explained that if DPR were successful in getting the grant they would come before the Board to provide further detail.
- Notice from the city's Department of Parks that is contained in the Board folders regarding various Sandy reconstruction jobs that are available.
- Copy of the New York State Department of Environmental Protection Notice of Complete Application on the SPDES System (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) The fact sheet is available to anyone interested.
- Notice contained in the Board folders from the Queens Borough President with regard to the Public Hearing on the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2015 Preliminary Expense and Capital budget on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. To register, go to [www.queensbp.org](http://www.queensbp.org) and follow the steps.
- Letter from the Borough President indicating that she is looking forward to working with the Boards.
- Notice from the City of New York on the Comment Period for the Community Development Block Grant Amendment.
- Notice that BSA has scheduled a Public Hearing on LA Fitness that will be held on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, Spector Hall, 22 Reade Street. Also received is the LA Fitness response to the concerns that were raised by BSA.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer reported expenditures for the month of January 2014.

The Chairperson, for the benefit those Board members who were not in attendance at last month's meeting, re-introduced Dan Brown, who is the Board's Queens Borough President's Office Liaison, replacing Jerry La Mura.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Brown advised that, in addition to his duties as liaison for the Borough President's Office, he is also the liaison for Veteran Affairs in Queens. He advised that the Borough President would have a meet-and-greet on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at Borough Hall. He stated that this event is an opportunity for the Borough President to meet with veterans and veterans' organizations and begin an open dialogue concerning veterans' issues and improving the quality of life for veterans throughout Queens. Flyers with RSVP information were provided. Also, he is the liaison for the Build It Back Program. He will be handling issues relating to this program. The Borough President has a meeting scheduled with Build it Back later this month as well as with FEMA to talk about reimbursements and the building process. The Borough President is also planning to have a Storm Relief Task Force. The first meeting will be held on February 25. This meeting will be just for elected officials. The Task Force will eventually include civic leaders, community boards and organizations that are

involved, like the Red Cross, etc., so that information can be disseminated to everyone. He also stated that the Borough President would be attending a future community board meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – Mr. Smith advised that the Ozone Park Rezoning was adopted on December 12, 2013. He advised that the 530 block area of Ozone Park, South Ozone, parts of Richmond Hill and Woodhaven now have a better protection on residential side streets and new development will be focused on major shopping streets. It was a very fast review process and thanked everyone for his or her support and help. He encouraged everyone to report any activity with regard to property owners paving over their front yards. He stated that this is not allowed under the zoning law and also bad for drainage. He asked if there were any land use related questions. A member commented that she was aware of information that the mayor was in favor of basement apartments and that they could renovate them so that they could be rented out. The Chairperson advised the member that the Mayor has not, as of yet, put forth any proposal to do so. In essence, the mayor was expressing his viewpoint and a policy change could be proposed at some time in the future. Discussion ensued as to the definitions under the Building Code of cellars and basements.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The D.M. reported that the Board office received notification that applications for Love Your Block grants are now available. Love Your Block is a special partnership between Citizens Committee for New York City and NYC Service that provides a unique opportunity for city residents to transform and beautify their neighborhoods. Love Your Block grantees will receive a grant of \$1,000, access to city services from the Department of Transportation, Parks and Recreation and Sanitation, and assistance with press for their neighborhood event. Love Your Block grants pay for materials for one-day neighborhood cleanup events during the spring or summer. For more information about these applications, call 212-822-9562 or e-mail [tbrohi@citizensnyc.org](mailto:tbrohi@citizensnyc.org). Applications are due February 20, 2014.

The chairperson acknowledged the presence of Ms. Pat McCabe, representing State Senator Joseph Addabbo. Ms. McCabe advised that the senator is sponsoring an Education Town Hall Meeting at P.S. 232 on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 pm to 9 pm to discuss with parents and teachers the current status of Common Core. She also stated that the senator would sponsor a meeting on Wednesday, February 19, from 7 pm to 9 pm for Superstorm Sandy victims. This is a Build It Back assistance session for Howard Beach. This meeting will be held at St. Helen's, Father Dooley Hall. Community updates from Build It Back personnel will be given and one-on-one sessions will be available to answer individual questions. She encouraged all affected to come. She also advised that on Saturday, March 29 at the senator's office in Howard Beach, there would be free prostate screenings available. The Chairperson also acknowledged the presence of Mr. Mike Duvall, representing State Senator James Sanders, Mr. Norman Jones, representing Assembly Member Michele Titus, Mr. Harpreet Singh Toor, representing Assembly Member David Weprin, Ms. Arlene Brown, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich. Ms. Brown advised that public meetings would be held in the Howard Beach area and in the Rockaways on property taxes with the Tax Commission and the Department of Finance. Meeting times and locations have not yet been determined. More information will be forthcoming. The Chairperson acknowledged Ms. Angelica Katz (who was in attendance earlier), representing Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder, Mr. Larry Savinkin, representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, who encouraged all to visit the Congressman's website for pertinent information. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Patrick Jenkins, representing Resorts World Casino New York and Deputy Inspector Jeffrey Schiff of the 106<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Deputy Inspector Schiff spoke about the 106 Precinct newsletter that will be available every one or two months. Email blasts were sent out recently regarding the amount of GLA's (Grand Theft Auto) that the community has had. There were 21 vs. 12 from the previous year. 20 out of the 21 GLA's happened north of the Belt Parkway and the one that happened south of the Belt Parkway was within one block of the South Conduit. Also, all of the steals are within one or two blocks of the major thoroughfares, i.e., Cross Bay Blvd, Lefferts Blvd., Rockaway Blvd., etc. An analysis also indicates that the 7 out of 21 thefts were a result of cars with keys left in the car and/or were left running (33%). Part of the 106 Precinct's outreach includes a new initiative called VAST (Victimization Awareness Through Specific Training). This was started in South Ozone Park where there are many car break-ins, burglaries and car thefts. They went door to door, giving information out regarding what crimes are prevalent and how to protect yourself from becoming a victim and also took email requests. Anyone interested in becoming part of the email blast should send an email with his or her name and information will be sent to you. He spoke about police presence in Howard Beach stating that there have been checkpoints on Cross Bay Boulevard, assistance from Youth Explorers and auxiliary personnel and increased patrols. Within the next couple of weeks there will be more patrols in new and old Howard Beach and they will also be provided with information (VAST). He advised that three car break-in perpetrators were caught and arrested in old Howard Beach.

He also stated that working in conjunction with the 102 Precinct, there would be a seminar on domestic violence on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfield Pavilion at 131-10 101 Avenue between 7 pm and 9 pm. Deputy Chief Kathleen O'Reilly, Commanding Officer of the Domestic Violence Unit at One Police Plaza will be in attendance along with the Domestic Violence Sergeants and representatives from the Queens D.A.'s Office talking about what domestic violence is and what the officers are responsible for. Resources for potential victims will be provided. He asked if there were any questions. A member asked what the precinct email is. [106precinct@nypd.org](mailto:106precinct@nypd.org). Anyone interested can become part of the email blast.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson reported on the 311 complaints for the month of January. The Chairperson advised the members that last month was Jerry La Mura's last meeting with the Board as our representative. A certificate was prepared and given to him.

The Chairperson spoke about the Nature Conservancy Report which is a report it compiled on behalf of the city in regard to some of the recommendations that were made in the SIRR report (Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency) that came out late last year. The study deals specifically with Howard Beach; makes some proposals. Alternative 4 would be one that local people who have read the report feel the community would be very interested in seeing move forward. The Chairperson advised that it is a study, not a project at this point. The Chairperson advised that with regard to the project that DEC presented on earlier this evening, Ms. Lannon and Mr. Zahn had met jointly with the Chairperson, Senator Addabbo, a representative from Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder's office, and a representative from Council Member Eric Ulrich's office, at the CB 10 office prior to tonight's meeting. Many of the comments made by Board members had been discussed with them at that meeting. The Chairperson advised that she has a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation that was provided at that meeting. If they don't provide us with the PowerPoint presentation in a timely manner that they were supposed to have this evening, she would provide the Board with the one that is in our possession from the prior meeting. The Chairperson commented that there was a report that was recently put out by the Tri-State Transportation Campaign regarding the most dangerous roads for walking. There were 115 pedestrians that were killed on Queens roads in the 3 years from 2010 to 2012. Of that 115, 8 of the fatalities were in Community Board 10. The Chairperson advised that there were some comments regarding airports in the Governor's State of the State address that relates to information that is contained in the Board folders from the Transportation Committee meeting. The Chairperson advised that the Chair of the JFK Committee had been provided with a full copy of the Air Cargo Study. Part of that study was the topic of the recent Transportation Committee meeting.

Committee reports were given as follows:

AIR POLLUTION – No report.  
P. Granickas left meeting to fulfill work obligation.

TRANSPORTATION – Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the Board folders.

PARKS – The Committee Chairperson poke about the situation that existed at the Cedar Lane Stables and the temporary closing of the horse stables due to horse fatalities. He reported that they were given a 6 month extension period to make a full boarding stable and that there will be care for the horses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Owners of the horses are to be responsible for their care. He stated that because some of the horses were elderly, they didn't feel that the personnel at Cedar Lane Stables had any responsibility for the death of those horses. There are going before a full board. The extension period runs to March 26<sup>th</sup> to get everything in order. There were 45-50 stables. Most were destroyed as they were beyond repair. They are renovating 29 stables. The Parks legal department will determine who will be responsible for the maintenance of the horses.

LAND USE – The Committee Chairperson had no report on any new items. He commented that BSA approved the transient hotel. Mr. Calcagnile asked if the Board was aware if BSA had considered of any of our recommendations or restrictions.

SUB-COMM. JFK (P.A.) – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the Board folders. She also mentioned that tomorrow (February 7<sup>th</sup>) will mark 50 years that the Beatles landed at JFK Airport. The Port Authority will have a tribute at 11:30 am at the TWA Flight Center. There will be a historical marker placed where

the Beatles held their press conference that day. There will be a tribute band from Liverpool that will be playing their songs. The mayor of Liverpool will also be in attendance. She encouraged those who could, to attend.

AQUEDUCT – The Committee Chairperson advised that Resorts World is presently working on plans for reuse of the buffet area space. A buffet is available on the NYRA side. The presence of Patrick Jenkins was acknowledged and he was asked if he had anything further to report. He did not. He asked if there were any questions. A member asked about the possibility of the casino purchasing the naming rights to the Aqueduct train station to be re-named Resorts World. Mr. Jenkins stated that this was still under discussion. The MTA has to agree to this type of change.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chairperson advised the Crime Stat Report in the Board folders.

SUMMER YOUTH & OTHER EMPLOYMENT – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in Board folders.

HIGHWAYS, ROADS AND TRAFFIC – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the Board folders.

SANITATION – The Committee Chairperson advised that he was satisfied with the efforts of the Sanitation Department with regard to snow removal and trash pick-up. Margaret Finnerty stated that she was not satisfied with the operation in South Ozone Park.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – Report contained in Board folders.

BUDGET – The Budget report, read by the Board Chairperson due to the Committee Chairperson’s absence due to work obligation, advised that according to the City Charter, the Mayor is supposed to release the Preliminary Budget for the upcoming fiscal year and submit it to the City Council no later than January 16<sup>th</sup> however the City Council has approved an extension of the release of the budget to February 12<sup>th</sup>. That moves the other steps relating to the Preliminary Budget as well. The Board usually holds the public hearing at the February meeting. That public hearing will be held at the March Board meeting.

EDUCATION – The Committee Chairperson advised of information that he has on the new pre-k program and indicated he would email the information to the Board members.

OLD BUSINESS – The Chairperson Braton advised that according to the Board’s By-Laws, the seat that the late Robert Ruffin held, as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson must be filled at this Board meeting. The Chairperson opened the floor to nominations. Mr. Dardani nominated Ms. Gilmartin, seconded by Mr. Cosentino. The Chairperson asked if there were any further nominations. Mr. Cosentino then nominated Mr. Calcagnile, seconded by Ms. Ariola. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

FOR DONNA GILMARTIN

LUIS AMORIM  
ANTHONY BELLANTONI  
BETTY BRATON  
ROSEMARY CIULLA-FRISONE  
FRANK DARDANI  
PHYLLIS ELLISON  
DONNA GILMARTIN  
ROMEO HITLALL  
RUBEN MARTINEZ  
MARILYN VECCHIO  
LINDA WALKER

FOR JOHN CALCAGNILE

ANGELA ANTONINO  
JOANN ARIOLA  
JOHN CALCAGNILE  
ANTHONY COSENTINO  
JAMES CARUSO  
GEOFFREY DULDULAO  
ROSEMARIE FERRARA  
MARGARET FINNERTY  
LEONORA GERARDI  
ELAINE HOLLAND  
PHILIP LYNCH  
DOROTHY MITCHELL  
SILVESTRO PACE  
DAVID QUINTANA  
BHOLA RAMSUNDAR  
MOHAMMAD SALIM

NELLIE SANTIAGO  
RENATE TEUSCHLER  
ISABEL VANPUTTEN  
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Mr. Calcagnile was elected.

NEW BUSINESS –None

PUBLIC FORUM – Mr. Philip McManus of the Queens Public Transit Committee spoke about his interest in restoring the Long Island Railroad Rockaway Beach line. Flyers on this subject were left at the meeting.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso  
Draft, subject to approval