

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, F. Dardani, D. Gilmartin, E. Holland, A. Antonino, N. Beneduce, J. Patron, I. VanPutten, D. Mitchell, J. Ariola, D. Marinconz, R. Ferrara, A. Bellantoni, H. Kamph, C. Malizia, R. Martinez, J. Quijano, S. Pace, J. Calcagnile, D. Quintana, R. Teuschler, L. Amorim, N. Santiago, M. Vecchio, P. Granickas, M. Finnerty, B. Ramsundar, R. Hitlall, M. Salim, A. Cosentino, P. Lynch, I. Dimoh, L. Gerardi, G. Russo

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

P. Baumann, I. Brasile, J. Caruso, G. Duldulao, H. Duarte, P. Ellison, M. Faulisi, J. Fazio, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Gellineau, L. Harricharran, S. McCabe, L. Walker

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Hon. P. Goldfeder; L. Savinkin, Rep., Hon. H. Jeffries; J. Hilliard, Rep., Hon. S. Stringer; P. McCabe, Rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; M. Duvalle, Rep., Hon. J. Sanders; D. Renz, Rep., Hon. M. Miller; N. Jones, Rep., Hon. M. Titus; H. Singh-Toor, Rep., Hon. D. Weprin; J. Greenfield & E. Svartzman, Reps., Hon. P. Goldfeder; J. Rose, Rep. Hon. R. Wills; R. Giuliani, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; D. Brown, QBPO; A. Silvestri, DOT; A. Friedman, DOT Jamaica Bay Greenway Project Mgr.; Capt. J. Ganley, X.O. 106 Pct., P.O. B. Reddick, 106 Pct.; S. Austrie, Resorts World Casino

The Chairperson began the meeting at 7:45 P.M. and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. She opened the Public Hearing for the evening regarding the Fiscal Year 2015 Preliminary Capital and Expense Budgets. She asked if there were any comments from the public. There were no speakers. The chairperson closed the Public Hearing.

As the guest speakers for the evening had not yet arrived, the Chairperson proceeded with the Regular Order of Business.

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

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

- Announcement of Jamaica Bay Greenway Project Community Workshops. Dates and locations announced.
- Email notice from DOT regarding the ongoing work that is taking place on the westbound Shore Parkway by the bridge under 130th Street. That will be continuing the rest of the month during nighttime hours.
- Letter from New York City Transit informing that Bus Time is coming to Brooklyn and Queens beginning on March 9th.

(I. Dimoh arrived at 7:50 pm)

- Notice from the Department of City Planning announcing the 15-day Public Comment Period, which begins on March 12th in regard to the Proposed 2013 Consolidated Plan Annual Performance Report. The report is available online. Hard copies are available at the Queens Office of City Planning located at Borough Hall.
- CDBG-DR Notice of Proposed Action Plan Amendment.
- Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity on the 100-Year Flood Plain.
- Copy of letter sent by Assembly Member Goldfeder to the National Parks Service in regard to fencing.
- Notice from NYRA regarding capital improvements that are being done at Aqueduct.
- Email from Dan Brown in regard to Foreclosure Prevention Service Providers covering Queens. A list of services was provided for those facing foreclosure.

(L. Gerardi arrived at 7:55 pm)

(J. Cavanagh arrived at 7:5)

- Email from FEMA in regard to the Disaster Grant Resources Guide, which has been updated.
- Rockaway VIP Service, Inc. car service at 122-21 Rockaway Blvd., South Ozone Park renewal for For-Hire Base Station requesting a letter of “no objection”.
- Information on grant opportunities contained in the Board folders.
- Notice that the DEP has announced a number of new efficient payment options for customers. That information is available on DEP’s website.
- Notice from Gerard Caliendo, representing an applicant on a Board of Standards and Appeals application. The location is 106-02 Sutter Avenue. Applicant is filing under Section 72-21 of the Zoning Resolution to permit the vertical enlargement of an existing one family dwelling and conversion from one dwelling unit to two dwelling units which does not comply with some sections of the Zoning Resolutions on an existing narrow lot located in an R4 zoning district. Land Use Committee will review and matter will be scheduled for Public Hearing in April.
- Copy of the Woodhaven/Cross Bay Blvd. Community Advisory Committee Select Bus Service Kick Off Meeting Presentation.
- Notice from the Department of Design and Construction regarding the installation of water mains. This was sent out to the civics involved in the areas where the work is taking place.
- Notice in email received yesterday regarding the press release sent out by Congressman Hakeem Jeffries and also the press release from Congressman Meeks in regard to the vote that took place on Tuesday in Congress on the Flood Insurance Bill. The Chairperson introduced Larry Savinkin, who represents Congressman Jeffries who spoke about the Bill. He provided information on the history of the Bill.

(G. Russo arrived at 8:00 pm)

The guest speakers for the evening arrived and the Chairperson opened the floor to Ms. Alice Friedman, DOT Project Manager for the Jamaica Bay Greenway and Albert Silvestri from the DOT Queens Borough Commissioner’s Office who gave a presentation with regard to the upcoming planning process for the Jamaica Bay Greenway Project which is a proposed 28 mile waterfront path for active recreation and transportation serving communities surrounding Jamaica Bay. The DOT is in the process of launching a two-year, community-based planning process to develop an Implementation Plan to complete and enhance the Greenway. Mr. Al Silvestri introduced himself as the Borough Planner for the Queens Borough Commissioner’s office covering Boards 10 and 14. He has, this evening joined those with the Jamaica Bay Greenway Project to lend information. He introduced

Ms. Friedman, who explained that the Jamaica Bay Greenway is a path that goes partly around Jamaica Bay with most of it an off-street separated path along the Belt Parkway with part of it in Broad Channel. She gave some background on the project. This project hopes to connect all of the city and federal parks by these paths, bringing in tens of thousands of people a year into these parks. She explained that they would conduct outreach meetings, which will include workshops in Brooklyn and Queens for communities around the Bay. She stated that the first meeting would be held in Howard Beach/Ozone Park on Thursday, March 20th at 6:30 pm at P.S. 232, 153-23 83rd Street in Howard Beach. These workshops will give residents the opportunity to express concerns and other issues regarding this project. Alternatives will be discussed and they will come back in the fall with another presentation, taking into account all that has been retained from these workshops. In the spring, they will present a draft plan. (M. Salim arrived at 8:05 pm)

Ms. Friedman explained the two parts of the implementation plan, with the second part being longer-term projects. She asked if there were any questions. Questions regarding funding and concern with maintenance of the paths and parks were expressed. Discussed ensued. Ms. Friedman stated that this is one of several community board meetings that Jamaica Bay Gateway will attend as the project moves along. The Chairperson asked if there were any other questions. There were none. She thanked Ms. Friedman and Mr. Silvestri for their information.

The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Jason Hilliard, representing NYC Comptroller, Scott Stringer. He stated that the comptroller's office is looking forward to working with Community Board 10 and everyone throughout the community to make sure that tax dollars are utilized in the proper way. He stated that after several audits are conducted, the Comptroller's office would be coming out to give the results of those audits. The Chairperson acknowledged Ms. Pat McCabe, representing Senator Joseph Addabbo who advised that the Senator would be sponsoring a Town Hall meeting on the Common Core Standards, at P.S. 232 on Thursday, March 13th at 7pm. This meeting had been cancelled previously due to a snowstorm. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. David Renz, representing Assembly Member Mike Miller. He announced that there would be a CUNY school fair on Saturday, March 8th at Atlas Park in Glendale. On May 3rd in Forest Park at the band shell there will be a mammogram van offering free mammograms. On April 6th, the recycling event will be held in the parking lot of the band shell from 10 am to 2 pm. Lastly, he reported that there is a bill that has been introduced to the Assembly that deals with out-of-state license plates where these vehicles would be ticketed between the hours of 2 am and 5 am. There will be exemptions to this bill, i.e. if you have an out of state plate because you have a home out of state. If passed the DMV will provide stickers indicating it and also the DMV will give temporary stickers to out-of-state visitors. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Jonathan Greenfield of Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder's office. He announced a petition that is being sponsored by the Assemblyman regarding noise at JFK. You may sign the petition by going to www.stopjfknoise.com. The Assemblyman has started up a Small Business of the Month Award. Nominations and recommendations in the community for this award are needed. You may send your nominations to the Assemblyman. Mr. Eugene Svartzman of Assemblyman Goldfeder's office was also acknowledged. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Harpreet Singh Toor, representing Assembly Member David Weprin, who spoke about a piece of legislation regarding doctor care. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Norman Jones, representing Assembly Member Michele Titus and Mr. Jahi Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills. Mr. Rose announced that the Councilman would be providing free tax preparation services. A flyer was available giving the locations for this service. He also stated that with the severe weather there are many potholes and advised that there was flyer available giving information on what a pothole is and how to report it for repair to DOT. The councilman also is offering free legal assistance, sponsored by the New York City Council and the Community Legal Resource Network. This is available at his District Office at 95-26 Sutphin Boulevard every Monday from 10 am to 6 pm, by appointment. He spoke about co-locations regarding schools. As a result, Council Member Ruben Wills has put in a lawsuit against the Department of Education regarding the co-locations.

The Chairperson acknowledged Captain John Ganley, Executive Officer of the 106th Precinct. Captain Ganley advised that crime is down overall, week-to-date, year-to-date and 28 days; however there has been an increase in grand larceny auto. He spoke about the "Spot it to Secure it" program wherein police witnessing valuables left in cars will photograph the items and contact the owner to make them aware of the dangers of this type of practice. He spoke of the VAST initiative, i.e. keeping people safe in the home through domestic violence seminars in a partnership with Safe Horizons which is a multi-agency approach to educating people; safety outside with regard to Vision Zero. He stated that education would be encouraged through tracking pedestrian accidents and injuries. There will be an increase in enforcement and crime prevention activities. The Chairperson acknowledged P.O. Brenda Reddick of the 106th Precinct Community Affairs Office.

Chairperson Braton acknowledged Assembly Member Phillip Goldfeder and invited him to speak. The Assemblyman spoke about his Stop JFK Noise petition and his concerns regarding NYRA. Discussion ensued. The Chairperson acknowledged Sasha Austrie, representing Resorts World Casino. The Chairperson commented that \$100,000 was given to City Harvest by Resorts World Casino as a result of an event that was held there last week. Ms. Austrie advised of changes with regard to the casino restaurants. RW Prime will now be open 7 days a week for dinner and Genting Palace will be open Wednesday to Sunday, all day. Events that are coming up are a Wrestling Match on Saturday, March 29th and in April; there will be a magic show. The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Mike Duvalle, representing State Senator James Sanders and Mr. Rudy Giuliani, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich.

The Chairperson continued with the regular order of business.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer read the report of expenditures for the month of February 2014.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Brown reported that on Thursday, March 27th, the Borough President would have a Veterans Brunch at 11:00 am at Queens Borough Hall, room 200. 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. Space is limited so please RSVP at 718-286-2853 or email at dbrown@queensbp.org. He advised that on May 22nd, the Borough President would be holding the Annual Memorial Ceremony for veterans who have passed on. This will be held in front of Borough Hall. Mr. Brown advised that the Borough President along with the elected officials in the Sandy affected areas launched the Hurricane Relief Task Force wherein elected officials sat down to lay out a vision for the task force going forward to help constituents with Sandy related issues. That task force will be extended, starting April 4th. The next meeting will include the community board chairs and district managers as well residents in each of the communities affected by the storm. Agency people will be brought in to address the various issues. He gave his phone number, 718-286-2853 and encouraged all to call him on any issues of concern. He sends out email blasts and anyone interested should see him after the meeting.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The District Manager reported that the Board office was notified by DDC that construction work will commence for the installation of water mains at the following locations:

129th Street from 103rd Avenue to 109th Avenue
Hawtree Creek Road from 127th Street to 109th Avenue
Liberty Avenue from 128th Street to 130th Street
128th Street from 109th Avenue to Hawtree Creek Road
109th Avenue from 127th Street to Hawtree Creek Road
107th Avenue from 129th Street to 131st Street

The work was scheduled to start on or about February 24, 2014 and will last for about six months.

The District Manager advised that notification was also received from DDC that work will commence for the Safe Routes to Schools as of March 17, 2014 and is to be completed by June 14, 2015. Time Warner Cable will be upgrading the cable system on Rockaway Blvd. at the Van Wyck Expressway overpass. Excavation was scheduled to begin on or about February 26th and should be completed on or about April 8th 2014. The District Manager also advised that the Metro Van will be in front of the Post Office at 126-15 Foch Blvd. South Ozone Park on March 25th and March 30th from 1 to 3 pm.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson reported on the 311 complaints for the month and spoke of the mayor's Preliminary Budget in terms of the unmet needs for Sandy recovery and about the Mayor's Vision Zero Plan. Captain Ganley gave further information on Vision Zero. Further information on Vision Zero is available on the DOT website.

The meeting continued with Committee Reports.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – The Committee Chairperson advised that the report was contained in Board folders.

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

EDUCATION – There was no Committee report. The Board Chairperson commented on the new school site and advised there has been more discussion with SCA and it is moving forward. SCA will probably be ready to come before the Board to present in May or June or possibly into September. The site is in the Centreville area.

SUMMER YOUTH & OTHER EMPLOYMENT – In the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson advised that the report was contained in Board folders.

HOMELAND SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE– In the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson advised that the report was contained in Board folders.

LAND USE – The Committee Chairperson advised that a new BSA application, BSA Cal. No. 24-14-BZ, 106-02 Sutter Avenue has been received. He advised a committee meeting will be held on March 25th and the application will come before the Board for public hearing at the Board’s April meeting. He also spoke about the upcoming meeting with regard to New York Rising that will be held on Monday, March 10th from 3 pm to 9 pm, at Russo’s on the Bay, 162-45 Cross Bay Boulevard. He encouraged all to attend this open house. This will be the third of the 4 mandated public meetings. Chairperson Braton encouraged the Board members to attend as some of the proposed projects, as they move through the process, might come before the full Board.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –None

PUBLIC FORUM – There were no speakers.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso
Draft, subject to approval