

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
JUNE 5, 2014**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, D. Quintana, A. Antonino, C. Malizia, I. Brasile, F. Dardani, J. Caruso, J. Fazio, P. Baumann, R. Ciulla-Frisone, N. Beneduce, A. Cosentino, M. Vecchio, D. Gilmartin, M. Finnerty, J. Patron, J. Quijano, B. Ramsundar, J. Ariola, P. Granickas, R. Teuschler, H. Kamph, L. Amorim, D. Mitchell, P. Ellison, L. Walker, I. VanPutten, R. Hitlall, J. Calcagnile, S. Pace, M. Salim, L. Gerardi, I. Dimoh, G. Duldulao

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Ali, A. Bellantoni, J. Cavanagh, R. Ferrara, A. Gellineau, E. Holland, P. Lynch, R. Martinez, S. McCabe, G. Russo, N. Santiago

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

OTHERS PRESENT: L. Savinkin, Rep., Hon. H. Jeffries; P. McCabe, Rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; D. Renz, Rep., Hon. M. Miller; H. Singh-Toor, Rep., Hon. D. Weprin; N. Jones, Rep., Hon. M. Titus; J. Greenfield., Rep. Hon. P. Goldfeder; A. Brown, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; J. Rose, Rep., Hon. R. Wills; D. Brown, QBPO; T. Smith & M. Herlitz, QDCP; A. Silvestri & E. Beaton, DOT; D. Machtel, OEM; D.I. J. Schiff, C.O. 106 Pct.; Capt. J. Ganley, X.O. 106 Pct.; Det. K. Zorn, 106 Pct.; A. Woodall, NYPD School Safety; Investigator Woods, CCRB; S. Austrie, Resorts World

The Chairperson began the meeting at 7:45 P.M. and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. She asked that all remain standing for a moment of silence noting the passing of board member Labachan Harricharran and in honor of the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day invasions.

The Chairperson opened the evening's public hearing to the Department of Transportation for an update on the Woodhaven Boulevard/Cross Bay Boulevard Select Bus Service and introduced Mr. Al Silvestri and Mr. Eric Beaton. Mr. Beaton gave the PowerPoint Presentation. He began by explaining what DOT plans to do on Woodhaven Boulevard with regard to their corridor study and introduced the long term planning process of the Select Bus Service at that corridor. He referred to the PowerPoint diagrams.

(L. Gerardi arrived at 7:50 pm)

He stated that the corridor study revealed Woodhaven Boulevard as being one of the most dangerous in the city for both pedestrians and drivers with high rates of crashes. He also noted that congestion and bottlenecks is a problem as well as pedestrian crossing, particularly where Woodhaven Boulevard, Rockaway Boulevard and Liberty Avenue come together.

(L. Walker arrived at 7:55 pm)

(S. Pace arrived at 7:55 pm)

(I. Dimoh arrived at 7:55 pm)

He continued to explain DOT's plans and stated one of the features that will come out of this corridor study would be the Select Bus Service, a curb-side bus only lane. Select Bus Service is a joint program between the MTA and the NYC DOT aimed to bring a higher quality of service to streets. It has been done on 7 corridors around the city, so far with good results, meaning that the bus gets about 20% faster, saving people time each day. He stated that ridership responds to that with more people taking the bus instead of other means of transportation. He noted there

was 95% satisfaction in a ridership survey. The bus routes DOT is looking at are the Q52 and Q53 that run from the Rockaways to Woodside. Mr. Beaton stated that as the plans progress, the community board would be made aware. Mr. Beaton stated that concerns will be addressed and businesses will be evaluated. He spoke about the various types of outreach efforts, especially their workshops where issues are discussed with the public who attend to help ascertain the local information that is needed to design a project that works for that particular community. The Chairperson asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. There were none. She closed the public portion of the meeting and opened the floor to the Board. She asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Board members expressed their major concerns with the creation of Select Bus Service curbside lanes on Cross Bay Boulevard because of the many small businesses that are located there. A member commented that these businesses rely on this parking for their customers. Mr. Beaton stated that the bus-only lanes northbound would be in effect during morning rush hours only, before many of these businesses are open. Discussion ensued. Concern was expressed about traffic synchronization as there are many traffic problems because of the traffic lights. Many more concerns were expressed with regard to the Select Bus Service. The question of light rail transit to the Rockaways was mentioned and the efficiency that it would create for travel into Manhattan was noted. Chairperson Braton thanked Mr. Beaton for his presentation.
(M. Salim arrived at 8:10 pm)

The Chairperson then introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Mr. Dennis Machtel, representative from Ready New York at the Office of Emergency Management who gave an overview of how to prepare and respond to a coastal storm. Mr. Machtel provided flyers with information on instructions for safety and preparedness during hurricane season and encouraged all to know their evacuation sites and zones. He advised that hurricane season goes from June 1st through November 30th with the greatest potential for hurricanes in NYC occurring from August through October. People may visit www.NYC.gov/knowyourzone or call 311 for information on particular zones. He asked that everyone sign up for Notify NYC for continuous information and updates on emergencies and other city related events. He spoke about the importance of a go-bag containing all vital information, i.e. important documents, list of medications, etc., as well as basic living items such as water, clothing, etc.
(G. Duldulao arrived at 8:20 pm)

He stated that much information can be obtained from visiting the OEM website with regard to shelter sites, evacuation routes and information on special needs. He cautioned everyone not to drive during a hurricane that could carry winds of up to 74 miles an hour. He spoke about insurance coverage and mentioned that the FEMA flood maps are not the same as the OEM maps. He stated that the website www.region2coastal.com would give more information regarding FEMA flood maps. Chairperson Braton asked if there were any questions. Mr. Harpreet Singh Toor, representing Hon. David Weprin pointed out that 3 common languages for our community were not included on one of the OEM flyers. Discussion ensued. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Machtel for his presentation.

The Chairperson explained that the second guest speaker, Mr. John Cnapich, Director Paternity and Outreach Services for the Office of Child Support Enforcement, originally scheduled to speak at the meeting was unable to attend.

The Chairperson then acknowledged Deputy Inspector Jeffrey Schiff and invited him to speak. The Deputy Inspector gave an overall report on the crime stats for the most recent 28 day period and year to date percentages with regard to burglaries and grand larceny auto. He stated that more than half of the burglaries are being committed by youngsters and also advised that GLA was reduced by 50%. He introduced Captain John Ganley, who spoke about Vision Zero, indicating that there have been zero pedestrian fatalities for the year in the 106th Precinct. The Pct. has upped their Vision Zero enforcement. He reported there has been an increase in collisions as there is more travelling at this time of year. He stated that they would work with Highways to address this matter.

Chairperson Braton acknowledged the presence of Mr. Larry Savinkin, representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Ms. Pat McCabe, representing State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Mr. David Renz, representing Assemblyman Mike Miller, Mr. Jon Greenfield, representing Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder, Mr. Norman Jones, representing Assembly Member Michele Titus, Mr. Harpreet Singh Toor, representing Assemblyman David Weprin, Ms. Arlene Brown, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich and Mr. Jahai Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills. The Chairperson also acknowledged Investigator Woods of the Civilian Complaint Review Board and invited her to speak. She explained that the CCRB's function was to help the public when problems occur with the NYPD. She encouraged anyone who is having difficulty with the police to contact this NYC agency that is independent from the NYPD who looks into allegations of police misconduct, such as force, misuse of authority, discourtesy and offensive

language. The number to call is 1-800-341-CCRB (2272). She stated that their office is located at 100 Church Street, 10th floor, in New York City. The CCRB does outreach in schools and libraries and gives presentations. The Chairperson also acknowledged Detective Kenneth Zorn and P.O. Alfred Woodall of the NYC Police Department School Safety Unit. P.O. Woodall stated that with the cooperation of the 106 and 113 precinct school crime is down. Any issues with schools are usually during dismissal times. A member commented that he has seen youngsters texting as they cross the street. P.O. Woodall stated that they are holding assemblies and working with the school administrators to address the problem of distraction while walking.

The Chairperson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the May minutes. There were none.

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

- Letter from DOT with a list of approved city bench sites in Community Board 10. The locations are 103-34 Lefferts Boulevard, between Liberty Avenue and 103rd Avenue; 92-24 Rockaway Boulevard, between 92nd and 93rd Streets; 128-16 Rockaway Boulevard.
- Notice from the Port Authority regarding the next joint meeting of the LaGuardia Airport and JFK Airport community round tables which will be at 6 pm on June 18th at Vaughn College.
- Notice indicating that the Queens Hospital Center is having their annual meeting on Thursday, June 19 from 12 pm to 3 pm. The meeting will take place at the hospital's main building.
- Sidewalk Café Notice for Twist it, Top it Frozen Yogurt. The Board approved the sidewalk café request last year.
- Notice from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development in regard to the Final Notice and Public Explanation of Proposed Activity in the Hundred Year Flood Plain. None of the locations listed are in the Community Board 10 area.
- Notice from the United States Department of the Interior advising that the Final Gateway Plan and Environmental Impact Statements has been released and is available.
- A FOIL request was received and replied to.
- Notice from the Department of Homeless Services with regard to their Open Ended Request for Proposals for shelter development.
- Notice from the Department of Transportation on the Area-Wide Intermodal Transportation Analysis Study, which involves areas in both Brooklyn and Queens.
- Letter from Jennifer Lee, a resident of Brooklyn regarding a request someone has made to utilize a portion of city owned property in the community.
- Notice from County Clerk Audrey Pheffer regarding jury questionnaires.
- Notice advising that there will be a Public Hearing on a Contract Award on Thursday, June 12th at 10 am for the HW411B Project.
- Notice from the Mayor's Office of Contract Services that there is a Public Hearing scheduled on the Agency Annual Concession Plan for FY 2015, which will be held on June 15.
- Email from Melva Miller at Borough Hall in regard to the FY 2015 Discretionary Funding Applications for the Borough President's Discretionary Expense Funding that is available on the Borough President's website, for organizations interested in applying.

- OEM was in touch last night and today via email in regard to their emergency preparedness for the Lindenwood area. There were no significant problems that took place with the heavy rains that occurred. DEP has been clearing catch basins since the April 30th rainfall. Any issues should be reported to 311.
- Notice indicating that the Borough President will be holding an Aviation Community Job Fair on Friday, June 6th from 10 am to 3 pm at Queens Borough Hall.
- Notice indicating a Veterans Opportunity Fair hosted by the Borough President on June 24th from 3 pm to 7 pm at Queens Borough Hall.

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

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Brown reported that the Borough President's Office had received several requests from local civics and the community board regarding the need for left turn lights at the intersection of Rockaway Boulevard and Lefferts Boulevard. He is aware that the DOT had studied this and responded indicating turning lights were not warranted. They weren't willing to reopen this study unless they received a request from the Borough President. A letter was secured from the Borough President and was sent to Commissioner Dalila Hall. This is now being restudied. He also mentioned the Veterans Opportunity Fair that will be held on June 24th from 3 to 7 pm, hosted by Borough President Melinda Katz. This will deal with all situations and challenges that veterans are facing. He reported that on July 20th the Queens Borough President's Health Fair Series starts in Howard Beach. The first fair will be held at St. Helen's Church at 83-09 157th Avenue. They will conduct screenings, making it informational as well as creating a carnival atmosphere with face painting, food, activities for seniors and many other activities. The fair will run from 9 am to 4 pm. He advised that he brought additional senior citizens resource guides, which were well received when he had previously provided the Board with copies. On June 11, they will be meeting with DEP to speak about the flooding issues in Lindenwood and in Howard Beach. On June 9th, 10 am there will be a Hurricane Relief Task Force meeting. He suggested anyone wanting to be part of his email blast get in touch with him. If there were any other issues to please let him know.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – Mr. Smith advised that the Department of City Planning has received funding to conduct neighborhood resiliency studies. There will be 10 throughout the city, two are in Queens and one involves areas within Community Board 10. The study covers portions of Hamilton Beach and Old Howard Beach, including Broad Channel. These areas were chosen because of the heavy damage they experienced during Sandy, their low-lying nature and narrow, undeveloped lots. He advised that there are several goals. The first goal is to address zoning issues for residential properties with regard to what they could do through zoning that will aid these properties and be able to make their homes more resilient. Secondly, City Planning will be looking at commercial areas. They will be examining Cross Bay Boulevard and Coleman Square to look at what can be done with commercial zoning to help with resiliency in those areas. Thirdly, they will be looking at the infrastructure in New Howard, Old Howard and Hamilton Beach and will be inventorying all of the work that has been done by all of the various State, City and Federal agencies to look to see where their programs intersect, what has been left out and generally have a good assessment of what has been achieved to date. On a short term basis with regard to infrastructure, City Planning will ultimately be looking at what they can do to harden the shoreline to reduce flooding that comes from normal storms, especially in Hamilton Beach, i.e. bulk heads, catch basins and street ends. This will be done over the next two years. There will be a similar advisory committee set up for this project as was set up with the Ozone Park Rezoning Project facilitated by Councilman Ulrich and Board leadership. Within the next two weeks, City Planning will be setting up meetings with Community Boards 10 and 14. They will be organizing the necessary committees that will be meeting throughout the summer, and updates will be brought back to the Board in the fall. Assisting in this project will be City Planner Melissa Herlitz. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. Discussion ensued.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The DM reported that the Board office was notified that on Tuesday, June 10th, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Transit District #23 will be having a "Meet the Police" day at the Howard Beach train station. They will have Community Affairs, NYPD Recruitment Division, Crime Prevention, Explorers and Auxiliary recruitment. The 106th Precinct will be joining them and they will be doing etching of all electronic devices and offering a sign up for emails and security surveys. Officer McGruff will be there as well to distribute

coloring books and crayons for children. The Metro Van will be at the Post Office on Foch Boulevard, Tuesday, June 24th, 2014 from 1pm to 3 pm.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson spoke briefly about the Area-Wide Intermodal Transportation Analysis Study, stating that this will be one issue that the Community Board will be involved in within the next few months. Its goal is to improve traffic circulation and safety for all street users. There are three community boards involved, Brooklyn CB 5, and CB 9 and CB 10 in Queens. The boundaries are Fulton Street to the North, Loring Avenue to the South. On the Queens side Loring Avenue is 149th Avenue in Lindenwood; Cleveland Street to the West and 80th Street to the East. Atlantic Avenue, North Conduit, South Conduit and Linden Blvd. are major traffic areas that are being studied. DOT will be taking into consideration the studies such as the Ozone Park Rezoning, the Highland Park Traffic Study, and Sustainable Communities in East New York. They will be collecting demographic data. Basically, the study's purpose is to evaluate existing and future traffic conditions to facilitate some new patterns.

In regard to the Lindenwood flooding issue, the Chairperson reported that an Administrative Declaration of a Disaster for the State of New York was issued 5/28/14. This Administrative Declaration triggers the availability of SBA loans. A factsheet was received in regard to the SBA Disaster Loans, specifically for the events that occurred on April 29th and 30th, 2014, the application-filing deadline for physical damage is July 28th. The economic injury filing deadline is March the 2nd. It is still not clear on how the SBA will be conducting the outreach, but for anyone in that area who is concerned, a copy of the factsheet is available. The Chairperson noted the Borough President would host a meeting next week with DEP Cmsr. Lloyd regarding the Lindenwood flooding and indicated she would attend it.

The Chairperson advised that Governor Cuomo signed legislation proposed in regard to property tax relief. She commented on the criteria that need to be met in order to qualify for this tax relief. She reported that the NY Rising Committee, co-chaired by John Calcagnile and Frances Scarantino, had submitted its plan to the State. The State is working to identify some recipients of the projects with the hopes of advancing those that require minimal environmental review and the State does not anticipate will face major regulatory hurdles. The State is working to identify multiple projects in each of the communities and there should be an update of their progress shortly.

She reported on the 311 complaints for the month of May; sewers were first, followed by residential noise and parking issues. For the Fiscal Year, which ends at the end of June, blocked driveways will probably be number one; with residential noise second, followed by pot holes.

BUDGET – In the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson advised that the Budget Committee had met regarding the FY2015 Internal Budget. She advised the Internal Budget proposed was in the members' folders. She stated that the committee had approved a recommendation to the Board that it approve the FY 2015 Internal Budget as presented. The committee will review in December or January to see if the budget at that point could accommodate additional increases to the staff. This is the first year that the board has included increases to staff salaries since 2005. She asked the Board if there was any discussion. There was none. All were in favor with 0 opposing, 0 abstaining. Motion carried.

AQUEDUCT – The Committee Chairperson reported that the fence on the NYRA side of Aqueduct would be repaired next week. She commented on the Red Cross trucks that are being parked in the parking lot of the casino. They are there to insure supplies are immediately available when necessary. Ms. Sasha Austrie from Resorts World advised that on June 14th, Chubby Checker would be performing at the casino. On June 23 there will be a Red Cross Blood Drive from noon to 5 pm. On June 28th, they will be presenting Disco Inferno. She advised that the covered walkway was almost completed and should be ready by mid-summer. She wished everyone a good summer. The Board Chairperson commented that the state gaming officials reported that total lottery sales and winnings from the racetrack and casino gaming facilities State-wide reached \$9.23 Billion during the 2013-2014 State Fiscal Year which ended March 31st. Aqueduct's Resorts World Casino continued to be the State's biggest moneymaker, generating a net win of \$793 million up from \$696.6 million the year before. The five boroughs of New York City received last year \$1,048,350,000 of the \$9.23 billion last State FY.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chairperson reported on the Vision Zero workshop that he attended last week along with the Board Chairperson and other Board members. He stated that DOT took the comments that were made

very seriously. He feels that Vision Zero is going to make the police department a bit thinner. He spoke about the City Council wanting to hire 1,000 additional police. He agreed with that, stating that there are 90 commands throughout the city and that would certainly help. He suggested sending a letter. Chairperson Braton advised that a letter was already sent to DOT from the Board stating that they Board was in support of Vision Zero. As far as additional police officers, she stated that this is very clearly indicated in the community board Statement of Needs and in our discussions with NYPD officials, especially at budget consultations. The Board Chairperson commented that every year the Board sends its Statement of Community Board Needs as required to the administration indicating our view regarding the needs of the community board area. This Statement of Needs will be substantially revised this year as there is a new administration. She asked that all committee chairs provide feedback as to what they feel needs to be included relating to their committees. This feedback will be needed by the 15th of July to be incorporated into the full Statement. A member asked about Night Out Against Crime. The Committee Chairperson stated that it would be held on Tuesday, August 5th at P.O. Byrne Park at 6:30 pm and will continue for about 3 hours. The Committee Chairperson advised the crime stat report was contained in the board folders.

SUMMER YOUTH & OTHER EMPLOYMENT – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the board folders. She noted that the deadline for the application for Summer Youth Employment was April 25th. The program will begin on July 7th and continue until August 16th. She also had information on Reaching for the Stars, which has an executive assistant position available. She had information on the position and stated that anyone interested could send an email at ReachFOS@aol.com She wished everyone an enjoyable and safe summer.

GOOD & WELFARE – The Committee Chairperson reported on cards sent.

PARKS – The Committee Chairperson reported that Mr. Mark Edwards has replaced Mr. Roy Tellison as the Board's new Parks liaison. He gave an update on the Cedar Lane Stables, indicating that their permit was reinstated as of May 1st. They will be using the old building temporarily until a new one can be constructed. They were given permission to use their old office building as long as the public is not using it. New stables are made of wood construction that allow ventilation, with water pipes running across them that allow horses to drink whenever needed. They are still in discussion with Gallop NYC but there is no agreement yet for this organization to be part of the premises. Gallop NYC deals with disabilities for children and adults, teaching them to ride, etc. All events to be held must go through the Parks Permit Office and they would immediately notify the community board and the 106th Precinct. The Board has requested, in writing, what the terms of the reinstatement are.

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

SEWERS – The Committee Chairperson commented on the problems with sewers in Lindenwood, indicating that it was the fault of the City when DEP's system failed, causing damage. The City's Comptroller's Office was represented at the Howard Beach-Lindenwood Civic meeting, wherein questions were asked with regard to the cost factor and those attending were informed that there is a strict 90 days to file claims for damages with the Comptroller's Office. The Board Chairperson stated that this information regarding Comptroller claims had been disseminated throughout Lindenwood from day one, even before the City acknowledged fault. She stated that everyone should be aware of this ability to claim damage. A claim should be filed with the Comptroller's Office for any damage. That office will then make a determination. The necessary forms are available at the board office and at the offices of all the elected officials. The Comptroller's Office will be reviewing them and they will be settling the claims. The Committee Chairperson also commented that the City plans to pump from old wells. This is being done because they are preparing to repair the aqueducts that lead to the city. The water may taste differently from what it is now when that is done.

EDUCATION – The Committee Chairperson reported that now that school will be closing for the summer, all are asked to be more cautious when driving, especially at night. He wished everyone a safe summer.

GATEWAY – The Committee Chairperson reported that he met the new Superintendent of the park at last month's CAC meeting, and feels that she is understanding of the community and there is good communication.

PERSONNEL – The Committee Chairperson commented on the well-deserved staff salary increases. He wished everyone a healthy and safe summer.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC FORUM

Assembly Member Goldfeder’s representative spoke regarding matters the Assemblyman was attending to.

Assembly Member Miller’s advised of two events that were upcoming.

Senator Addabbo’s representative advised of the upcoming job fair sponsored by the Senator.

There were no other speakers.

The Chairperson wished everyone a safe and happy summer and then adjourned the meeting at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso
Draft, subject to approval