

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, A. Gellineau, A. Antonino, J. Patron, F. Dardani, D. Gilmartin, J. Caruso, A. Bellantoni, H. Kamph, J. Ariola, R. Ciulla-Frisone, P. Ellison, L. Walker, R. Hitlall, J. Quijano, I. VanPutten, P. Lynch, N. Santiago, B. Ramsundar, L. Amorim, D. Quintana, J. Cavanagh, D. Mitchell, A. Cosentino, J. Calcagnile, S. Pace, M. Ali, M. Salim, E. Holland, G. Duldulao

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

J. Fazio, R. Ferrara, M. Finnerty, L. Gerardi, P. Granickas, C. Malizia, R. Martinez, S. McCabe, G. Russo, M. Vecchio, I. Brasile, I. Dimoh, N. Beneduce, P. Baumann

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Hon. S. Stringer; Hon. P. Goldfeder; P. Osina, Rep., Hon. S. Stringer; J. Hilliard, Rep., Hon. S. Stringer; C. Moore, Rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; H. Horsham, Rep., Hon. J. Sanders; L. Fogal, Rep., Hon. M. Miller; N. Jones, Rep., Hon. M. Titus; H. Singh-Toor, Rep., Hon. D. Weprin, E. Svartzman, Rep., Hon. P. Goldfeder; A. Brown, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; J. Rose, Rep., Hon. R. Wills; D. Brown, QBPO; D.I. J. Schiff, C.O. 106 Pct.; Det. K. Zorn, 106 Pct., H. Naveed, IDNYC; R. Gippetti, DOT; M. Griffith, DOT; B. Iciano, DSNY; 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.

The Chairperson introduced the Informational Public Hearing speaker for the evening, Bruno Iciano from the NYC Department of Sanitation who spoke about the Electronic Waste Ban that went into effect on January 1, 2015 making it illegal to discard E-electronics in the trash or at the curb. Mr. Iciano advised that people may donate television sets and get vouchers to claim on their income tax. Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Good Will, etc. will take donations. If not donated, E-electronics must be taken to Staples, Best Buy or Radio Shack. E-electronics include televisions, computers, computer monitors, laptops, small servers, printers/scanners, tablets/e-readers, MP3 players, VCR/DVR/DVD players, fax machines, video game consoles, cable/satellite boxes, mice and keyboards. As a Board Member pointed out, however, Staples will not take televisions. Mr. Iciano advised that if a building has more than 5 families, the building may enroll to have an electronics bin provided, free of charge. Electronic items may be placed in that bin and it will be collected once a week. All cell phone companies will take phones. He advised that cell phone companies refurbish cell phones and donate them to domestic violence victims. He encouraged all to call 311 for information and complaints they may have. Mr. Iciano provided flyers and printed information. He stated that he would be available for any other questions at the end of the meeting. A Board member had concerns with regard to seniors and the disabled who may not be able to travel to dispose of or donate E-electronics. He advised that any senior citizen or disabled person who wants to dispose of an electronic appliance should contact NYC Serve, which has volunteers that can help.

(E. Holland arrived at 7:50 pm)

The Chairperson then introduced the Guest Speaker for the evening, Mr. Michael Griffith, representative from the NYC Department of Transportation who spoke about their Area Wide Intermodal Transportation Analysis. The

study goal is to improve traffic circulation and safety for all street users. The Chairperson advised that a meeting was held on this on January 28th, but due to the weather only 3 people attended. Therefore, the Board offered DOT the opportunity to do a public presentation tonight. Mr. Griffith gave a PowerPoint presentation, which provided information on the study area and community districts involved, which included portions of Community Board 9 and 10 in Queens and Community Board 5 in Brooklyn.

(M. Salim arrived at 8:00 pm)

The presentation explained the goal of the study, the objectives, major regional facilities, other studies within study area, project organizations and methodology, subjects of analysis, demographics, zoning and land use, traffic data collection and analysis, data collection locations, crashes and safety analysis, parking analysis, public transit and future endeavors.

(G. Duldulao arrived at 8:05 pm)

He advised that the timeframe should be about 12-15 months. Mr. Griffith stressed the importance of community input and urged all to let DOT know their concerns. There will be extensive data collection from the traffic point of view and community input. He provided the Board with copies of the PowerPoint Presentation. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. A member commented on the size of the project stating that most of it takes place in Brooklyn. The member commented that CB 10 went through a major rezoning and many of the east /west corridors were zoned with R-6B with a commercial overlay. There will be much development in that area in the future and the member asked if the boundary line could be enlarged to include the upzoned areas. He also stated that if that couldn't be done in this study, possibly it could be done in the next study. The Chairperson commented that in terms of the Queens side where Loring Avenue becomes 149th Avenue, it doesn't make sense why the Conduit is not the southern boundary at that point. Discussion ensued. Mr. Griffith stated that to do a study of this type, DOT couldn't do an entire area at one time. They have to look at it in sections. NYMTAC is providing the funding for this study. This cost of the project is of major concern. This is the first phase. Mr. Griffith stated that DOT would be back to the Board with more information as the study proceeds. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Griffith and Mr. Gippetto for their information.

The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of Assembly Member Philip Goldfeder and invited him to speak. The Assemblyman commented on E-cycling and how ways must be found to make it easy for seniors and the disabled. He agreed that it is a good law, but adjustments must be made. Assembly Member Goldfeder also spoke about the Department of Finance programs that have been created to help people understand their tax bills. There are two events scheduled in Queens where people can come out and have someone explain their tax bill to them, however, both are in Jamaica. The Assemblyman feels that these events should be more accessible to people who live in Rockaway, Ozone Park, Howard Beach, etc. He is working to make that happen.

At this point in the meeting, the Chairperson acknowledged NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer who had just arrived and invited him to speak. Comptroller Stringer spoke about his office making sure that the budget is whole, working with the rating agencies, marketing bonds to the city, which pays for our schools and also working with City Hall which is Charter mandated. The Charter also says that he is the Auditor in Chief, whereby having to take on City Hall on behalf of the community. He spoke about Claim Stat online for use by the community with claims against the city. He stated that he finds it amazing that the Community Boards' budgets have not been increased in 19 years. The budget needs to be increased. He thanked everyone for his or her time.

The Chairperson also acknowledged the presence of Mr. Hayden Horsham, representing State Senator James Sanders. Mr. Horsham stated that his office is available to anyone with issues they would like to discuss. The chairperson also acknowledged Ms. Arlene Brown, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich, Mr. Carl Moore, representing State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Ms. Linda Fogal, representing Assembly Member Mike Miller, Mr. Jahai Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills, Mr. Richard Gippetto and Mr. Michael Griffith of the Department of Transportation, Mr. Jason Hillard and Mr. Pesach Osina, representing NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, Mr. Eugene Svartzman, representing Assembly Member Philip Goldfeder, Mr. Norman Jones, representing Assembly Member Michele Titus, Mr. Harpreet Singh Toor, representing Assembly Member David Weprin, Deputy Inspector Jeffrey Schiff and Detective Kenneth Zorn of the 106th Precinct, Sasha Austria, representing Resorts World Casino and Hina Naveed of the mayor's office representing IDNYC.

The Chairperson invited Deputy Inspector Schiff to speak. The Deputy Inspector advised that the community was holding its own with regard to crime, however grand larceny is up. There have been many instances where rims and tires have been stolen from cars throughout the precinct. He asked that if anyone witnesses someone near cars and

trying doors, etc. to please notify the precinct. DI Schiff indicated this activity is prevalent during the hours of 11:30 pm to 4 am. and that it may be a team or an individual. He also mentioned the recent shootings that have occurred in the precinct. He stated that last year there were 4 for the entire year, as opposed to 10 in the previous year. This year, there have been 3 shootings within the first three months of this year. There have been 2 arrests; however, they are still looking for another. He reported that these shootings are not random.

The Chairperson thanked DI Schiff then proceeded with the Regular Order of Business.

She asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January, 2015 minutes. There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Chairperson reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of January 2015, which included:

- Draft of the presentation from DOT on the Area Wide Intermodal Transportation Analysis.
- Notice from the OMB with regard to future work that will be done at Engine 331, Ladder 173 and the NYPD Harbor Adam, repairs after Sandy to the docks and firehouse.
- Correspondence on the 500-ft. rule hearing with the State Liquor Authority for a premise at 130-11 Liberty Avenue, that is requesting a catering liquor license.
- NYC Service has a volunteer program for snow removal.
- Notice in folders on Council Member Ruben Will's sponsored coat drive.
- Notice on the A train service. Service has been restored at 104th Street Station and the 88th Street Station. Work will now begin on Rockaway Boulevard.
- For all Board Members who have received a packet of information on the City's plans to change cell phones over to hot spots, there is a list. Contact the office with any concerns.
- Notice from the Department of Public Service regarding a Public Hearing on Reforming the Energy the Vision Proceeding.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer read the report of expenditures for the month of January 2015.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Brown reported that the Borough President's annual Queens Borough Board Preliminary Public Hearing would be held on February 23 at 10:30 am in the Borough President's Conference Room. Those who want to give testimony may register at www.Queensbp.org or email testimony to Budget@queensbp.org. He also commented that anyone interested in getting information on cultural events, news or other events may get that information at www.Queensbp.org. If there are any issues anyone would like to discuss with him, Mr. Brown may be contacted at 718-286-2853 or by email at dbrown@queensbp.org. Mr. Brown also stated that the Borough President is committed to veterans' services. Borough Hall has been open to veterans as never before and he advised of various meetings that are held in that respect.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – The Chairperson advised that she had received an email from Melissa Herlitz of City Planning stating that it was meeting with other agencies with regard to the Department of City Planning Resilient Neighborhood Study. They hoped to schedule the next community advisory committee meeting for the Resilient Neighborhood study sometime in the first week of March. That meeting will focus on infrastructure and capital planning in the study area.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The District Manager reported the Board office was notified by MTA that the final phase of 104th Street and 88th Street A line station renewals have been completed. As of February 2nd, the Manhattan-bound platforms at 104th Street and 88th Street stations are now open. Starting February 6th, the Queens-

bound platform at the Rockaway Boulevard station will be closed for at least 14 weeks. During this time, Queens-bound A service will skip the Rockaway Boulevard station. Service notices will be posted in all stations along the Liberty Avenue line prior to the commencement of the work and announcements will be made on trains. Customers may log on to www.mta.info and click on planned service changes for the most up to date information. The office was also advised that on February 5th and 6th, 2015 from 9 am to 3 pm, 120th Street between 109th Avenue and 111th Avenue will be closed to vehicular traffic due to a crane operation at 109-05 120th Street. This closing has been approved by the NYC Department of Transportation. Also, due to the storm last Monday, February 9th, 2015, the Department of Homeless Services had to postpone its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) Count. They have rescheduled their HOPE Count for Monday, February 9th, 2015 and are looking for volunteers to participate in this citywide effort to survey the number of individuals living on city streets, parks and in public spaces throughout New York City. Volunteers assist from approximately 10:30 pm to 4 am. To register to volunteer, please visit <https://a071hope.nyc.gov/HOPE/welcome.aspx>. The District Manager also advised that the MTA Metrocard Mobile will be in front of the Foch Post Office at 126-15 Foch Boulevard on Tuesday, February 24th from 1 to 3 pm.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson reported the 311 complaints for the month and commented that with regard to monies that came to the City from Sandy, we are starting to see some of the projects moving forward. Many streets in the area will be resurfaced as the warmer weather approaches, which will be funded by FEMA. As more details are received, we will advise. Another project in the works is that at the last Borough Board meeting there was a presentation from the Port Authority in regard to the Cross Harbor Freight Truck Program where there is a Tier 1 Draft Environmental Statement underway. It will be moving on to a Tier 2 study at some point. This is not something that directly impacts Community Board 10; however there will be indirect impacts from whatever alternative will eventually be chosen in regard to this program. There will be regional effects on Queens and Brooklyn. There was a hearing scheduled at Borough Hall that had to be postponed due to weather conditions. The hearing is rescheduled and information will be given as it is provided. The Chairperson referred to information in the Board folders, specifically the IRS Scam. She stated that this scam is active in our community. She stated that the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study has been released by the Army Corps of Engineers. Their final report came out on January 28th. Anyone interested in reading the report can go online to www.nad.usace.army.mil/compstudy. The Chairperson stated that the report is quite extensive and detailed. She also announced the Community Board members' orientation and training this year is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 14th and the tentative date for the Swearing In Ceremony is June 8th. The Chairperson Braton read the comments that were made by the Borough President with regard to Community Boards in her State of the Borough speech. She asked Mr. Dan Brown to convey the Board's thanks and appreciation to the Borough President for acknowledging the work that the Boards do. Chairperson Braton read the statements that were made by the Borough President at the State of the Borough address on January 22nd.

The meeting continued with Committee reports:

AQUEDUCT – The Committee Chairperson reported that at the recent Resorts World meeting, the issue of snow removal was addressed. Resorts World is responsible for snow removal on the Conduit and 114th Street, outside the gate. Some equipment was broken, and there were some issues that will be rectified. She advised that the Daily News reported that New York State had a 2% drop in gambling sales from lottery ticket sales and racetrack casinos, however Resorts World did not drop and continues to be the most successful racino with \$8.8 million in revenue in 2014, indicating 2.9% above 2013 revenue figures. The Board Chairperson asked if Sasha Austrie, representing Resorts World cared to comment. Ms. Austrie advised of upcoming events that will be held at Resorts World, including a celebration of the Chinese New Year, on February 22nd they will be holding a Marvin Gaye tribute, and on February 14th, they will have a Championship Title Boxing event.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the Board folders

SUMMER YOUTH & OTHER EMPLOYMENT – The Committee Chairperson announced that DCAS has exams open for filing. She provided the Board with a tentative annual examination schedule through June 30, 2015. She also included exam tips before filing for the exam, before the exam, the day of the exam and during the exam. The Board folders contained her usual list of various employment opportunities.

LIBRARIES – In the Committee Chairperson’s absence, the Board Chairperson advised that the District Manager had attended the ribbon cutting at the Lefferts Boulevard Library. She thanked Council Members Wills and Ulrich for providing considerable funding for the work.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – Members were advised the report was contained in Board folders.

BUDGET – In the Committee Chairperson’s absence, the Board Chairperson advised that the Mayor’s Preliminary Executive Budget deadline had been extended. Our public hearing regarding the Preliminary Budget will be held in March.

EDUCATION – The Committee Chairperson reported on the new streamlined pre-K enrollment process wherein Chancellor Carmen Farina announced a new unified (single) application process for families enrolling their child in free, full-day high-quality pre-K. The process is being rolled out this March to families with children who will enter pre-K for the 2015-2016 school year, have time to consider all of their options. Parents can apply online at www.nyc.gov/prek, over the phone by calling 311 or in person at one of the DOE’s 12 family welcome centers.

OLD BUSINESS – The Chairperson spoke about the ACS secure facility planned for 127th Street and advised that SOPCAW held two meeting that were well attended. Efforts are being made by the civic assn. to get a restraining order. There are issues that are under review at the DOB according to Councilman Wills. The community is hoping there will be some progress. Those interested in further information on the community meetings should touch basis with Anthony Gellineau, President of the South Ozone Park Civic Association West.

NEW BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC FORUM – Ms. Hina Naveed, community associate responsible for outreach on the IDNYC program for the mayor’s office spoke about the new, free identification card for all NYC residents and the benefits of having the card. She provided brochures with all pertinent information.

Ms. Eileen Miller spoke about smoke-free housing in buildings of 4 or more apartments and a resolution she hopes to have supported. Mr. Phil Konigsberg also spoke in support of the smoke-free housing issue.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso
Draft, subject to approval