

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 2, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amorim, Antonino, Ariola, Bellantoni, Beneduce, Braton, Calcagnile, Caruso, Cavanagh, Ciulla-Frisone, Dardani, Fazio, Finnerty, Gerardi, Gilmartin, Granickas, Hitlall, Kamph, Lynch, Malizia, Martinez, Pace, Quijano, Quintana, Salim, Singh, VanPutten, Vecchio

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ali, Baumann, Cosentino, Dimoh, Duldulao, Ellison, Ferrara, Gellineau, Holland, Mitchell, Patron, Ramsundar, Russo, Santiago, Walker

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. R. Wills; Hon. E. Ulrich; Dep. Commissioner N. Garcia, Qns. DOT; L. Savinkin, Rep., Hon. H. Jeffries; L. Fogal, Rep., Hon. M. Miller; N. Jones, Rep., Hon. M. Titus; E. Svartzman, Rep. Hon. P. Goldfeder; A. Brown, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; L. Patterson, Rep. Hon. R. Wills; J. Rose, Rep., Hon. R. Wills; J. Field, NYSDEC; D. Taft, NPS; D. Brown, QBPO; M. Herlitz, N. Klingel, B. Pillar, QDCP; D.I. J. Schiff, C.O., 106 Pct.; P.O. B. Reddick, 106 Pct., C. Chin, QDOT; L. Baron, USACE; S. Austrie, Resorts World

Chairperson Braton began the meeting at 7:45 P.M. and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The chairperson commented that as it was the April meeting, the appointment process for new and reappointed members had been completed. She stated that the Board had one new member and introduced Mr. Dip. N. Sookram Singh and welcomed him to the Board. She then announced the Board members who were reappointed to the Board by the Borough President, Melinda Katz. For the record, the reappointed members are: Angela Antoninio, Joann Ariola, Pamela Baumann, Anthony Bellantoni, Betty Braton, John Calcagnile, Rosemary Ciulla-Frisone, Phyllis Ellison, Margaret Finnerty, Anthony Gellineau, Donna Gilmartin, Elaine Holland, Carmela Malizia, Ruben Martinez, Sal Pace, Bhola Ramsundar, George Russo, Mohammad Salim, and Isabel Van Putten. The remaining Board members will be up for reappointment next year. She thanked the Board for making the extra effort on a day of religious significance to some, to insure that there was a quorum at this meeting as there was an item on the agenda from City Planning that would require a vote.

The Chairperson then explained that the evening's first Public Hearing was a carryover from last month when the meeting had to be cancelled due to the inclement weather. She then opened the Public Hearing, the Fiscal Year 2016 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 regarding the Fiscal Year 2016 Preliminary Capital and Expense Budget.

Chairperson Braton then commenced with the Informational Public Hearing for the evening, Ms. Joanna Field of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation who gave a brief update on the Spring Creek (South) Storm Protection Project. Ms. Field introduced those who joined her for this presentation, Mr. Dave Taft, of the National Parks Service (NPS) and Ms. Lisa Baron of the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). During a PowerPoint Presentation, Ms. Field she gave a brief summary as a reminder of what the project entailed and where the Spring

Creek South Mitigation Grant Program Project will be. Images of the damage that Hurricane Sandy caused in the community were shown and comments were made as to what a future storm like that could do to our communities. She stated that this project was given a great deal of thought and attention to planning with respect to what can be done to prevent damages from future storms. Over the past two and a half years, research was done to include damage from rain, heat, and fire and with all attention given to planning a design. There was a consensus in the Jamaica Bay area that what would be required was a combination of hard, or engineered infrastructure measures, and soft, or nature based features of green infrastructure measures. She stated that what they were proposing was a protective component of that approach. She explained the FEMA grant, that was provided for this project, which is a 75/25 percent split, meaning that the federal government is willing to fund up to 75% of the costs if the local sponsor (NYS) will fund the other 25%. It is a reimbursable grant, where the state funds the project and then applies at various milestones for reimbursement from FEMA. Guidelines must be adhered to. FEMA's guidelines are very strict on what the reimbursable expenses are. DEC will work within those guidelines. Ms. Field then turned the presentation over to Mr. Dave Taft of the NPS who explained, via PowerPoint graphics the location of the project. He stated that it is about 250 acres located on the north shore of Jamaica Bay, bounded on the west side by Spring Creek, which is one of the few feeder creeks to Jamaica Bay on the south. He continued to explain graphics with regard to Gateway National Recreation area, etc. He commented on the need for coastal storm protection and sustainability and resiliency. Ms. Field then spoke about coastal storm protection by using natural based features to improve sustainability and resiliency to the area. She stated that the project is divided into two phases; Phase I will be engineering and design and Phase II will be construction. Phase I will cost \$3.3 million and Phase II will cost \$65.8 million. Presently, they are in Phase I. All documents are now signed and now they can move forward. The presentation was turned over to Ms. Lisa Baron of USACE. She spoke about what can be expected over the next year as the project moves forward. They are about to enter into the design phase and will be visiting the site this summer to determine what the site will ultimately look like. They will be collecting data to determine what the baseline conditions are to determine the best plan for the site. They will be conducting wetlands, vegetation and biological surveys. She spoke about the previous USACE Restoration Conceptual Design and the concept designs evaluation with regard to coastal storm modeling and cost estimates and NEPA compliance. She spoke about community involvement through information sessions and potential outreach portals such as blogs, their website, twitter and the press. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the public. One attendee asked if there would be local hiring for the project. He was told that it would depend on FEMA requirements. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the Board members. A member asked if there was a list at this point of any consultants that were interested in designing and engineering the project. He was told that there were. She stated that there are consultants on call that are qualified to do this type of work, including Princeton Hydro, Parsons Brinkerhoff, and HDR, along with others to form a team that will work together. The member asked for a time frame, as, he stated, the designs tend to move along very quickly and then the community is asked for input when they are already 30 to 50 percent into the design. He commented that the community would like to be involved early on as this is a major project for this area. He commented that it is a strictly residential area from 83rd Street to Cross Bay Blvd. The area residents want to be actively involved in that process. The Chairperson also stated that the community board would also be available for any help they might need. The Board has information on many past projects that could be helpful. A member asked if there could be some early design brainstorming events. He commented that there are two schools in the Howard Beach community where these sessions could be held. Many people from the area, if held, would get involved as far as suggestions involving the design of this project. There are certain directions that the community does not want to see this project go into. One of the more important issues is public access. He felt that discussion needs to be held with regard to that design aspect. Discussion ensued. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Field and her team for the presentation.

The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of City Council Member Ruben Wills and invited him to speak. The Councilman wished everyone a Happy Easter. He thanked the Board for all the work that they do. He thanked the Board Chairperson and District Manager for the work that they have been doing with regard to the planned secure facility issue. He stated that ACS is planning this secure facility on a residential block. He commented that the City has felt the full weight of this Board and all of the Civics working in conjunction with each other. The Councilman stated that there recently was a meeting with Borough President Melinda Katz, wherein Councilman Will's staff attended, along with the community board and community representatives. He stated that the ACS Commissioner at that meeting misrepresented many issues regarding the facility. He acknowledged the other elected officials that are also working with him on this issue. He emphasized that only by the work of the entire district can the quality of life that this community enjoys remain. He thanked Deputy Inspector Schiff for the work that he has done and everyone

who has come together in a positive way to help the community. The Councilman requested that his representative, Mr. Rose, be allowed some time to speak more fully regarding the current status of the effort regarding the facility.

The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of Council Member Eric Ulrich and invited him to speak. The Council Member wished everyone a blessed Passover and Happy Easter. He congratulated the new and reappointed members of the community board for the work that they do. He commented that he put out a press release a few weeks ago regarding the community rating survey. He explained that FEMA has a program called a Community Rating Survey (CRS), which allows the city to count many of the projects and the outreach that has been done with regard to flood mitigation. This information then helps people offset their flood insurance premiums. Presently, New York City is not enrolled in this program. It is a FEMA program that other coastal areas are involved in. There are many great projects being done regarding resiliency not only in the Rockaways, but also in Howard Beach and Hamilton Beach in particular. We want that money and programs that the City is currently spending on resources to count towards people's flood insurance in order to reduce their premiums by 5%. In the next 3 to 5 years, people's homes that have not been elevated a certain level above the base flood elevation will see tremendous spikes in their insurance; 18% a year with surcharges. This is a serious issue. The Borough President has done a great job in reaching out to the community boards. City Planning has been engaged as well. As far as the administration is concerned, there has been no movement towards this program. The Councilman also stated that April has been declared Autism Awareness Month in the City of New York. He praised Pamela and Andrew Baumann for the work they have done with their program, NYFAC in Howard Beach, serving families who have children who have special needs. NYC is home to hundreds of thousands of families with children with special needs and awareness needs to be raised about programs and services that are available to them, not only those that are available locally, but the ones that the City supports in other parts of the five boroughs. Councilman Ulrich continued, advising that with the assistance of Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder, a military medal was given to a veteran from South Ozone Park who had been waiting 47 years. Sgt. John D. Chichester was honored with the Bronze Star with "V" Device Medal. The councilman told a story of Sgt. Chichester's acts of heroism during the war and stated that anyone who served in the military can receive a medal, even those deceased veteran's families can obtain a medal for their loved ones, at no cost to them. Contact the councilman's office if anyone is interested. The Councilman asked if there were any questions. Getting back to the insurance issue, a member stated that he wondered if the City could do anything to help those most in need because at this point insurance companies will not insure anyone within a mile of the water. Council Member Ulrich advised that Council has no jurisdiction over this issue, as it is a State matter. He said speaking with State Senator Joe Addabbo and Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder is very important. Discussion ensued. The Councilman also stated that the new maps have not gone into effect yet. They are advisory maps that are used to issue building permits. They are not finalized. However, he stressed that when those maps are finalized, your flood insurance premiums will increase by 18% every year for 5 years. The Chairperson thanked the Councilman for his comments.

The Chairperson then introduced the Guest Speaker for the evening, Ms. Nicole Garcia, Queens Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Transportation and Mr. Craig Chin, Borough Planner, who gave a brief update on a maintenance project with regard to the repainting of the Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge that commenced on April 1st. Mr. Chin explained that in their ongoing effort to rehabilitate and maintain their bridge infrastructure they have scheduled abrasive blasting and protective coating operations for the bridge located at Cross Bay Boulevard over the Belt Parkway. He explained that when steel is exposed to the elements, the protective coating on the bridge wears away and needs to be replaced. Every 15-17 years, the protective coating must be replaced. Lead paint had been used for over 100 years. In the 1980's, they began removing all lead based paint. He continued, advising that the first stage of work will consist of paint removal by abrasive blasting. He explained how the procedure is now done. Since the existing paint is expected to contain lead, the work will be performed within an entirely sealed Class 1A containment unit. All operations will be performed under the guidelines set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. In addition, all safety requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the New York State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection will be strictly adhered to. All of the contaminated materials from the paint will be removed and shipped out of state for recycling. Most of the blasting will be done during the overnight hours. Mr. Chin stated that one lane on Cross Bay Boulevard will be closed from 10 am to 3 pm and a single and double lane will be closed from 11 pm to 6 am. A community liaison has been appointed for this job to help with any questions or concerns; his name is Hugh Smith. His telephone number is 917-434-1385 or you can send emails at queensbridgepainting@gmail.com. The job should be completed in August of 2015. There will be no lane closures until early May on the Conduit. A member asked if there was any other work that will be

done besides the abrasive blasting and repainting. Mr. Chin explained the procedure. Before the painting, the steel is evaluated for any structural inconsistencies. If there are, they are repaired and then the painting is done. The member asked who the contractor would be in the event that structural repairs were needed. Mr. Chin said that he did not have that information with him. A member asked about airborne problems with regard to the blasting. Mr. Chin stated that all work would be done in containment units. A member asked when the last time the bridge was painted. Mr. Chin did not have that information. The Chairperson stated that several years ago there was some structural damage that needed repair and some painting was done then. In view of the fact that they stopped using lead based paint in the 1980's, the member commented that there may not be a need to conduct an abrasive blasting process when that paint most likely may not contain lead. A member stated that the bridge was tested for lead paint and lead was present. Discussion ensued. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Chin and Ms. Garcia for their presentation.

The Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Jahai Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills and invited him to speak with regard to the planned juvenile facility. He communicated the events that took place at a meeting held at the Borough President's office on Monday, March 30th, 2015. He stated that at that meeting, the ACS Commissioner was questioned about a number of issues related to the facility, specifically, why the community was not notified that this location was being considered for that facility. He stated that there weren't many answers to the various questions asked other than the fact that ACS was not required to notify the community of their plans. He stated that the tone of ACS was arrogant when advising that they didn't necessarily need to advise the community because they are not bound to do so by the legislation that was passed under the Close to Home Program. During the meeting, the Borough President asked if the location was a jail. The ACS Commissioner stated that it was. In trying to get more details regarding the zoning of the property, she admitted that it was not a jail, but a prison as it is post adjudication. He stated that the ACS Commissioner then went on to say that since it was for children it is a facility. Mr. Rose stated that there were many inconsistencies regarding the paperwork and the occupancy use of the property that was brought up at the meeting. The Department of Buildings is willing to open up an investigation as far as that is concerned based on the way they are classifying other facilities that are being built which are actually an I-3 zoning which would be considered prison, detention center, group home, etc. This facility in question is zoned as an I-1, which is actually a social rehabilitation facility. This zoning is completely different, however still being provided the same services. The Buildings Department will determine if the juvenile facility is classified correctly. In the event it is classified incorrectly, the I-3 can in no way be placed in a residential community. He stated that this might be the determining factor in the facility moving forward at another location. In addition, the property is not ADA compliant and under the Close to Home program, the facility must be ADA compliant. Federal legislation indicates that they must also be ADA compliant if there are more than 15 persons in that facility. He stated that at this point ACS has not taken into consideration the fact that they will have to employ people that either have mobility issues where there should be an elevator or other accommodations for persons in wheelchairs. The ADA waiver is also being challenged because if that facility is going to be located there, they will have to make sure that they do it to the letter of the law. All building and zoning regulations as well as ADA compliance must be met for that location before that facility can be opened at that location. Mr. Rose stated that the Borough President's office is fully invested in ensuring that the Department of Buildings moves forward and that ACS is compliant with Buildings regulations. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from any Board members. There were none. The chairperson thanked Mr. Rose for his update and the work that he is doing.

Chairperson Braton introduced Ms. Melissa Herlitz, Brendon Pillar and Nilus Klingel who spoke about a new text amendment to help those affected by Sandy. They stated that the Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the Department of City Planning are proposing a zoning text amendment to accelerate post-Hurricane Sandy recovery and enable flood-resilient residential construction in certain waterfront neighborhoods throughout the flood zone in areas of the City, including Staten Island, Queens and Brooklyn, that have experienced a high concentration of damage and where thousands of properties are expected to be elevated or rebuilt to comply with flood-resistant construction standards and to protect property owners against high flood insurance premiums. While extensive zoning changes were adopted in 2013 as part of the Citywide Flood Resilience text amendment to facilitate flood-resistant reconstruction, this proposal is needed in order to remove underlying zoning provisions that have slowed the recovery process in these neighborhoods. While this is a citywide text amendment, Ms. Herlitz stated that City Planning decided to take a closer, more neighborhood scale look at issues being faced in Howard Beach, Hamilton Beach and Broad Channel. She stated that they are moving forward with recommendations on that issue. They met with their city advisory committee in March and are moving to wrap things up by the summer and make their recommendations as early as next year. During this time, they had learned from community members and the Borough President's Hurricane

Task Force that some people are having a lot of difficulty in obtaining permits to rebuild their homes. As a result of community members providing input to the Mayor's Office, to the local elected officials offices, to the Department of Buildings, have come together to come up with a solution, this proposed text amendment, that will provide homeowners quick relief and get them back into their homes faster. Many homeowners within the NYC Build It Back Program have been hindered during the process of rebuilding and elevating their homes, due to a lengthy and burdensome documentation process, which determines whether their residence is non-conforming or non-complying. The proposed text amendment would provide zoning relief to facilitate the elevation of existing homes and replacement of substantially damaged homes with more resilient ones by simplifying the process for documenting non-compliances, removing disincentives for property owners to make resilient investments and establishing a new zoning envelope on current narrow and shallow lots, where homes are to be reconstructed that more accurately reflect the existing neighborhood character. The text amendment will be time-limited with the primary goal of accelerating recovery in Sandy-impacted neighborhoods. These proposed zoning changes will speed up the process for owners of Sandy damaged buildings to obtain building permits for elevation and reconstruction and will reduce their vulnerability to future flood events as well as protect property owners against higher flood insurance premiums.

Mr. Brendan Pillar further explained the text amendment. He thanked all that took part in this resiliency effort. This text amendment will help speed up the process for people who have been encumbered by administrative rules in their effort to elevate their buildings and reconstruct their buildings that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. This is a joint effort by City Planning as well as the Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery and HPD, administrators of the Build it Back Program, which is a HUD program to rebuild residential buildings after Hurricane Sandy. Currently, if you lack that documentation, it is very difficult to move forward to the next step. During a PowerPoint Presentation, he showed graphics and explained an actual Build it Back case study. This study showed a building that existed in 1931 however the current survey shows that a portion of the building was not there in 1931. Because that portion of the building does not have sufficient documentation, it would not be able to be elevated with the rest of the building which is in the Build it Back pipeline to be elevated. This puts the homeowner in a position to either elevate the home without that rear part of the building, losing a large part of living space or keep the current building at the current elevation at its current size, and ultimately incur an increase in insurance premiums. He stated that part of the issue is that these neighborhoods are very unique, in some cases established on lots that weren't reflected by the zoning maps put into place in 1961. That made a lot of those buildings and the lots they're on non-compliant. Another issue is that because the buildings are so old, it's hard to document what was there prior to 1961, when they were built. Few homes have certificates of occupancy, etc. It becomes a real challenge for homeowners to move forward in the rebuilding process. City Planning's proposal is to simplify the process for documenting these existing conditions to Sandy damaged homes including any alterations that may have been made before Sandy. They want to remove the disincentives for property owners so that they can make resilience investments in their buildings. He also advised of discussions regarding a new zoning envelope, the air space that a building can fit into on a given lot that more closely reflects the neighborhood character in these beachfront communities and the narrow lots that these buildings are on. Mr. Pillar advised that you don't have to be in the Build it Back Program to take advantage of these new rules, however you do need a residence that existed on or before Sandy so this would not apply to lots that have been historically vacant. He explained what the target areas were. There is a timeline for which the homeowner can take advantage of these new rules. A homeowner would have up to five years to obtain plan approval from the Department of Buildings and then after that if construction hadn't been completed by then, there would be an additional two years. The timeframe would be up to seven years to obtain permits and move forward with construction under these new rules. He pointed to the PowerPoint graphics of the areas with Sandy damage and continued to explain the process that is required to obtain permits, zoning changes and building elevations. Build it Back anticipates that there are 4,500 buildings in its pipeline that will be in this elevation program. He stated that currently, non-compliant buildings are not able to elevate. The homeowner, who has a portion of the building that is non-compliant, would have to decide to either elevate a portion of the building, losing that space or remain as is and face higher insurance premiums. The text amendment would allow them to elevate that sub-grade space as long as the resulting building isn't more than two stories or 25 feet above the flood elevation. That's that point above grade that is established by the insurance maps. He also commented on buildings that are over water. The current regulations for federal funding and rebuilding properties would not allow you to rebuild over water. These new rules would allow some flexibility for relocating the portion of that building on solid ground (water's edge) but not over water, allowing them to use the funding available for elevations. He went on to explain regulations for narrow lots and shallow yards and special regulations for non-conforming uses. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. A member asked if rather than raise his home, if he could build it up under the

provisions of this text amendment. Mr. Pillar stated that this was just for those homes that needed to be elevated. This is for those who need to elevate but do not have the documentation to do so. Discussion ensued. A member asked if this applied to new buildings being built on an empty 20 ft. lot. Mr. Pillar said this did not; it was for existing buildings. Mr. John Calcagnile stated that if there was a building on that 20 ft. lot previously that was destroyed and torn down and it became a vacant 20 x 100 ft lot as a result, then the rules would apply and the owner could still build a structure. Discussion ensued. A member who is an architect stated that in all his time in practice, he's never seen City Planning respond in such a positive fashion. This is a direct result of Borough President Katz and her Hurricane Sandy Task Force, which he, along with the Chairperson and District Manager sit on where issues like those, which this text amendment will solve were brought up and discussed. He stated, in his professional opinion, it's a very good thing that will help a lot of people. The Chairperson stated that one of the things that came up at the Hurricane Task Force is that the faster this amendment gets through, the faster people will be able to get the necessary approvals and permits and funding to do the work. The Chairperson explained that this is a Text Amendment. The Board has a right to conduct a Public Hearing on it, but we also are able to waive a public hearing on a text amendment. The Land Use Committee Chairman, J. Calcagnile put forth a motion to waive the Public Hearing and the Board's review period. J. Fazio seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor with 0 abstaining, 0 opposing. Motion Carried. Mr. J. Calcagnile then put forth a motion that the Board recommend support for the parameters of the Text Amendment and recommend its adoption. P. Granickas seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor with 0 abstaining, 0 opposing. Motion Carried. The Chairperson stated that it was her intention to vote yes on this proposed text amendment when this issue comes before the Borough Board.

The Chairperson continued with the regular order of business.

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

The Chairperson Braton opened the floor to Board Officers' nominations for the year 2015-2016. F. Dardani nominated Betty Braton for the position of Chairperson, John Calcagnile for the position of 1st Vice Chairperson, Isabel Van Putten to the position of 2nd Vice Chairperson, Rosemary Ciulla-Frisone for the position of Executive Secretary and Nellie Santiago for the position of Treasurer. The Chairperson asked if there were any other nominations. There were none. The Chairperson then closed the floor to nominations and noted that compliance with the Open Meetings Law requires a public vote and that the vote of each member must be recorded. The vote began. For the Office of Chairperson, Betty Braton; there were no "no" votes, no abstentions. For the Office of 1st Vice Chairperson, John Calcagnile; there were no "no" votes, no abstentions. For the Office of 2nd Vice Chairperson, Isabelle Van Putten; there were no "no" votes, no abstentions. For the Office of Executive Secretary, Rosemary Ciulla-Frisone; there were no "no" votes, no abstentions. For the Office of Treasurer, Nellie Santiago; there were no "no" votes, no abstentions. The Executive Board was elected unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Chairperson Braton reviewed incoming correspondence for the months of February and March 2015, which included:

- Notice received regarding a new BSA application for a physical culture establishment (PCE) located at 102-16 Liberty Avenue.
- Notice from DOT of the Jamaica Bay Greenway Workshop to be held in Howard Beach/ on May 13th, 2015 at the Old Mill Yacht Club.
- Action in regard to a liquor license application for Royal Empress Hall, catering facility, located at 122-01 Rockaway Boulevard. A meeting was held with the applicant and stipulation was proposed that no liquor is to be sold or consumed after 1 a.m. The stipulation was agreed to and signed by the applicant. SLA was notified. This stipulation will become part of the license, if the license is granted.
- Notice received from the Department of City Planning regarding the 2015 Proposed Consolidated Plan.
- Notice from the Office of Management and Budget regarding Community Development Block Grant Program

- Memo received advising of work being done on the Ozone Park/Lefferts Boulevard train station.
- Anonymous letter in relationship to the juvenile justice facility
- Notice that the Zoning for Quality and Affordability Text Amendment is out for scoping
- Memo informing that with the release of the Mayor's Preliminary Budget on February 9th, the Community Board's Personal Service and OTPS Budgets will now be \$216,895 for FY 2015 and \$229,895 for FY 2016. These new budgets incorporate the managerial personnel orders and previously approved DC37 Contract increases.
- Communication from Morgan Jones, who previously worked with Build it Back and is now working with PlaNYc contacted the Community Board and asked if he could meet with civic leaders to go over some ideas and things that the community would like to see incorporated into PlaNYc. The Chairperson thanked the civic leaders that did attend the meeting.
- Notification from DOT regarding Rules Change for 53 ft Trucks. EDC indicates that DOT advised that this would take place on March 3rd. Cameras have been installed.
- The Mayor has released a report on climate projections. It's a very detailed report. Anyone interested can contact the chairperson.
- Notice that the group that is the agency which is involved in the juvenile justice facility previously known as Episcopal Social Services has now changed its name to Sheltering Arms.
- Copy of letter received from the Borough President that was sent to the Commissioner of ACS in regard to that facility as well as a number of letters from Councilman Wills with regard to the juvenile facility.
- Notice of the Airports Roundtable meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer read the report of expenditures for the months of February and March 2015.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – The Board wished Mr. Brown a happy birthday. On behalf of the Borough President's Office, Mr. Brown congratulated the new board member as well as all those who were reappointed. Letters have gone out officially. He spoke about information that will be given on the upcoming board member training session and installation. He commented on the Veteran's events stating that the Memorial Day Observance Ceremony will be on May 21st at 11 am. Invitations will be sent out. It will be held in the Veteran's Garden, which is in front of Borough Hall. He spoke about the Hurricane Task Force and he stated that the first big challenge with Build it Back was getting through the application process. The second hurdle was working with the other relevant agencies trying to get permits, etc. in order to get moving forward with the actual project. He commented that at times it was quite frustrating; however the agency that he stated stepped up was City Planning. He stated that he is happy to see the Text Amendment and that it has opened the door for many who are in need of this help. With regard to ACS, he commented on the juvenile facility meeting that was held at Borough Hall. With regard to the facility, both the operator and owner of the facility are supposed to be non-profit. He stated that the Borough President is not pleased with someone trying to back-door their way into bringing a jail into a residential neighborhood. She as well as the Councilman and Assemblywoman and Senator, will fight this. He wished everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

The Chairperson acknowledged Deputy Inspector Schiff and invited him to speak. D.I. Schiff advised that this year the Precinct is down 2% in crime and 5% for the month. He stated that the bigger issue in the precinct is identity theft. So far YTD, from January 1st to this past Sunday, identify theft is up 71%. The fact that crime is still down is because of the men and women of the force who are fighting the crimes that can be fought in such an effective way. However, 71% in identity theft is an alarming rate. He stated the only thing that can be done regarding that crime at

this point is education and awareness. Those are the only measures the precinct can take; that is all the street cops can do. This is a large issue encompassing multiple jurisdictions; city, state, federal and international. At a local level, education is the key. He stated that the Community Council Meeting is being held next Wednesday, 8 pm at the 106th Precinct. He will be happy to speak to anyone about these issues. He asked if there were any questions. There were none. The Chairperson thanked D.I. Schiff for his information.

The chairperson acknowledged the presence of Arlene Brown, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich, Linda Fogal, representing Assembly Member Mike Miller, Eugene Svartsman, representing Assembly Member Phil Goldfeder, Leslie Patterson and Jahai Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills, P.O. Brenda Reddick of the 106th Precinct Community Affairs Unit, who accompanied Deputy Inspector Schiff, Sasha Austrie, representing Resorts World Casino, Norman Jones, representing Assembly Member Michele Titus and Larry Savinkin, representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. Mr. Savinkin asked to make an announcement. He advised that he had two flyers, one dealing with the House passing a bill to help people donating to families of slain NYPD officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos and the other flyer dealing with a Town Hall Meeting on Flood Insurance and Sandy Recovery sponsored by Congressman Jeffries, which will be held at Our Lady of Grace Parish School Auditorium at 158-20 101st Street on April 9th at 7 p.m. He wished everyone a good holiday. The Chairperson also acknowledged Ester Lewis from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs. Ms. Lewis, on behalf of Commissioner Julie Menin, thanked the Board for allowing her to speak this evening. She spoke briefly about the Consumer Guideline for licensed contractors. She also commented about paid sick leave and provided flyers.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – Ms. Melissa Herlitz and Mr. Brandon Pillar spoke about the new text amendment earlier in the evening.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The DM reported that the MTA notified the Board office of upcoming work at the Ozone Park/Lefferts Boulevard "A" train subway station. Starting March 31st, 2015 the north side stairway on Liberty Avenue will be closed for approximately four months. During this time, MTA workers will be performing renewal work to improve the station, including preliminary work to install elevators at the station. Subway riders will need to cross the street to use the south side stairway. Part of the mezzanine will also be closed, but riders will still be able to access the fare machines, station booth and trains on both platforms. After this work has been completed, the south side of the stairway will be closed. When that time comes we will be notified. Also, the MTA Metrocard Mobile will be in front of the Foch Post Office at 126-15 Foch Blvd. on Tuesday, April 28th from 1 to 3 pm. The District Manager wished everyone a happy holiday.

The Chairperson Braton acknowledged Eugene Svartsman, representing Assembly Member Philip Goldfeder who requested to speak. He gave a brief update and advised of a new office that is located on Cross Bay Boulevard, across from Russo's on the Bay.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson stated that back a few months ago the Nature Conservancy had released a report on some of the climate issues and other issues that everyone has been dealing with, with regard to Sandy that specifically included a section on Howard Beach. Recently there was an article in Crain's indicating that before the start of the hurricane season the Nature Conservancy will be releasing another report, which should give information on some of the future resiliency work. The Chairperson advised that the City's Lien Sale list is out. People in arrears have until May 14th to enter into a payment agreement with the city in regard to outstanding taxes or water bills. If anyone needs assistance, Council Member Wills is having an event on April 8th at 5 pm to 7 pm at 144-06 94th Avenue. The Chairperson mentioned the workshop for the Woodhaven/Cross Bay Corridor SBS proposal. Notifications have been sent out. There are a number of things that have been proposed that have created concerns for many of the residents in the area. She urged everyone to try to attend this meeting. She referred to the Board folders and information regarding the number one quality of life issue in our community board over the course of the last 10 fiscal years; the issue of residential noise. The Queens Borough Board voted at its last meeting with regard to its Capital and Expense Budget Priorities. She was pleased to announce that the Borough President did incorporate one of the Board's ongoing requests, which was additional police for the 106th Precinct. She asked Dan Brown, on behalf of the Board, to thank the Borough President for incorporating this request into the Budget recommendations. If there are any questions regarding anything that was in the Board folders for the month of March, please email her your questions.

SUMMER YOUTH & OTHER EMPLOYMENT – The Committee Chairperson reported that the Summer Youth Applications are available and open for filing. It is a 6-week program from July to August for persons 14 through 24 years of age. April 10th is the deadline to file. You can visit the www.nyc.gov/dycd website for more information. Internship job programs are also available. She advised that there are many jobs available with the Parks Department. More information can be obtained by visiting www.nyc.gov/Parks. Also, she advised that there were positions open in the Court System in Brooklyn and Queens. Information is available on the table. She commented that information on the tentative annual exam schedule with DCAS through June 30, 2015 and exam tips was also available. She stated that her report was contained in the Board folders. The Board Chairperson congratulated the Committee Chairperson on her retirement from DOT and stated that she would now become the Chairperson for the Transportation committee. She thanked the Chairperson of the Highways and Roads Committee for his temporary service as Chair of the Transportation Committee.

GOOD & WELFARE – No Report. The Board Chairperson informed members that the Committee Chair had resigned from the Board due to illness. The Chairperson explained the function of the Good & Welfare Committee and asked anyone interested in chairing the committee to please contact her.

GATEWAY – The Committee Chairperson explained that he attended the Jamaica Bay Task Force meeting where there was a discussion on the West Pond and what is being done there. There was a presentation on the property. He commented that it will be a nice place to see the view of the Bay. He also commented on nitrates that continue to seep into the bay.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chairperson commented on some public safety concerns related to the winter's weather conditions and reported the crime numbers report was in the folders.

AQUEDUCT – The Committee Chairperson reported that the Wood Memorial is being held on Saturday, April 4th and therefore residents should expect there to be extra traffic. There will also be a Parachute Jump to kick off festivities. Resorts World had their Employee Recognition Day, which she attended. The honoree was the security guard who located a child left alone in a vehicle in the parking lot on one of the very frigid days, which could have resulted in a tragic death. The Board Chairperson asked if Sasha Austrie, representing Resorts World would like to speak. Ms. Austrie advised that Resorts World is partnering with the Queens Botanical Garden and there will be an Art Exhibit.

LAND USE – The Committee Chairperson advised that there is a new BSA case, a Physical Cultural Establishment (PCE) that is going to be located in a new building currently under construction at 102-16 Liberty Avenue. He believes this BSA is not actually new but replacing the BSA for the PCE that was originally requested for 100-02 Rockaway Blvd. He is waiting for the application to contact him to set up a committee meeting. He wished everyone a happy Easter and Passover holiday.

PARKS – The Committee Chairperson thanked the Borough President for the round table discussion with Mitchell Silver, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation. It was very informative. He has heard from their office already to discuss various issues.

SANITATION – The Committee Chairperson reminded everyone that if any electronic equipment is put outside the house for collection after April 1st, people might receive a \$100 fine. These items must be brought to venues such as Best Buy and Staples. (Staples will not take TV's) Call 311 for other locations. A member asked if this applies to commercial properties as well. The Committee Chairperson stated that this is the rule for all properties. However, if private carter dumpsters are used, it is the responsibility of the carter to remove those materials. He wished everyone a happy holiday and congratulated the Board on their appointments and reappointments.

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

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC FORUM – Patrick Khan spoke about the juvenile facility planned for 127th Street with regard to ownership of the building and recent events that have transpired.

Danielle, representing Knowledge is Key spoke about scholarships for college students and resources for help with resumes, financial management, etc. through their educational organization.

Jahai Rose of Council Member Wills' office addressed the statements Patrick Khan had made regarding the ownership of the property. The Board Chairperson, in response to Mr. Khan's comments, stated that no one from the Board had informed anyone about his ownership or non-ownership of the property. Ms. Bibi Ali commented on statements that she said Mr. Mike Duvalle made. The Chairperson stated that Mr. Duvalle is not a member of the Board and had made no statements at the Board on this matter.

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

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso
Draft, subject to approval