

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
March 3, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, R. Martinez, I. Dimoh, G. Duldulao, F. Dardani, A. Gellineau, J. Caruso, A. Antonino, M. Vecchio, M. Finnerty, C. Malizia, A. Bellantoni, D. Mitchell, E. Holland, B. Ramsundar, P. Ellison, L. Walker, I. VanPutten, L. Amorim, J. Quijano, N. Santiago, J. Fazio, J. Cavanagh, J. Ariola, P. Baumann, P. Lynch, P. Granickas, R. Hitlall, A. Cosentino, G. Russo, S. Pace, J. Calcagnile

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

N. Beneduce, R. Ciulla-Frisone, L. Gerardi, H. Kamph, J. Patron, D. Quintana, D. Sookram-Singh, M. Salim, R. Ferrara, M. Ali

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Hon. P. Goldfeder; P. McCabe, Rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; M. Rahman, Rep., Hon. D. Weprin; B. Pori, Rep., Hon. P. Goldfeder; A. Brown, Rep., Hon. E. Ulrich; J. Rose, Rep., Hon. R. Wills; A.C. D. Barrere, NYPD, C.O. PBQS; D.I. J. Schiff, C.O. NYPD 105 Pct.; Capt. James Fey, C.O. NYPD 106 Pct.; Det. B. Reddick, 106 Pct.; S. Austria, Resorts World; L. Ellis, Qns. Botanical Garden; C. Dowling, Friends of Rockaway

The Chairperson began the meeting at 7:45 P.M. and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. She then introduced Assistant Chief Barrere, the Commanding Officer of Patrol Borough Queens South who announced that the 106 Precinct now has a new Commanding Officer, Capt. James Fey. The Chief introduced C.O. Fey. Capt. Fey expressed that he was happy to be serving the 106 Precinct and provided some background information regarding his career in the NYPD. He thanked Chief Barrere for the opportunity to serve in the 106 Pct. Chairperson Braton thanked C.O. Fey for his comments, welcomed him to the community, and stated that if there was anything the community board could do to assist him to please let the Board know.

The Chairperson then acknowledged the presence of Assembly Member Philip Goldfeder and invited him to speak. The Assemblyman commented that an endorsement from Chief Barrere is as high an endorsement as one can get and he congratulated Commanding Officer, Capt. Fey on his appointment. He stated that Deputy Inspector Schiff did a tremendous job during his time at the precinct. He spoke about how the Assembly is working on legislation that he hopes will pass soon that involves protection for volunteer fire departments. The Assemblyman commented that his priority is transportation as the State moves through the budget process. He expressed that without the right transportation the borough cannot grow and succeed. He again commented on the rail line and hoped to get funding to do a study. He thanked everyone for his or her continued partnership.
(I. Dimoh arrived at 7:58 pm)

The Chairperson then opened the public hearing in regard to speed bumps that were requested. She explained the procedures the Board follows when requests are received from the Department of Transportation to review speed hump requests. Those procedures include outreach by the community board to those who live on the blocks where speed humps are requested to ascertain whether or not most of the block was in agreement with installation. The Board reviewed the request for speed bumps on 84th Street, between 157th and 158th Avenues, 85th Street, between 157th and 158th Avenues, 92nd Street, between 156th and 157th Avenues, 96th Street, between 157th and 159th Avenues, 96th Street, between Rockaway Blvd. and 134th Avenue, 98th Street, between 157th and 158th Avenues and 130th Street, between 107th Avenue and the bend. The Chairperson explained that responses to the Board's outreach

to residents on each block were evaluated based on 3 criteria in order to get a sense of the opinions on each block. The 3 criteria for evaluation are: (1) that the responses to the notices mailed to each home on the block requesting feedback represented views from at least 40% of the homes on the block; (2) that more than 50% of the feedback received from the block favored installation; and (3) that the number of responses in favor from a block represented at least a third of the homes on the block.

The Chairperson presented to the Board information as to how each block responded and asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in regard to each.

84 St. between 157-158 Ave. - approved - met all 3 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve made by R. Hitlall, seconded by P. Granickas; all in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

85 St. between 157-158 Ave. – not approved - met 1 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve with recommendation to not approve made by T. Cosentino, seconded by J. Cavanagh; 0 in favor, all opposed, 0 abstaining

92 St. between 156-157 Ave. – approved -met all 3 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve made by J. Caruso, seconded by J. Fazio; all in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

96 St. between 157-159 Ave. – not approved - met 1 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve with recommendation to not approve made by T. Cosentino, seconded by J. Cavanagh; 0 in favor, all opposed, 0 abstaining

96 St. between Rockaway Blvd.-134 Ave. – not approved - met 1 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve with recommendation to not approve made by T. Cosentino, seconded by J. Cavanagh; 0 in favor, all opposed, 0 abstaining

98 St. between 157-158 Ave. – approved - met all 3 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve made by R. Hitlall, seconded by P. Granickas; all in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

130 St. between 107 Ave.-bend – approved -met all 3 criteria; no speakers; motion to approve made by R. Hitlall, seconded by J. Caruso; all in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

(G. Duldulao arrived at 8:07 pm)

The Chairperson proceeded with the Regular Order of Business and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 2016 minutes. There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Chairperson reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of February 2016, which included:

- Letter sent to the Department of Sanitation expressing the Board’s thoughts on the quality of the snow removal. We received a letter from Commissioner Garcia thanking us for our letter. A similar letter was sent to Commissioner Esposito of OEM thanking him for his response to our community’s needs, particularly in Hamilton Beach. We did receive a response from Commissioner Esposito as well.
- Copy of communication from Council Member Ruben Wills in regard to the ACS Close to Home Contract.
- Notice from Gateway announcing Public Availability of Finding of No Significant Impact for Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge West Pond Trail Breach Repair.
- Notice from DOT that the NYC Street Design Manual has been updated.
- Request for Letter of No Objection from Blue Lane Car Service.
- Notice of Public Hearing from Franchise Concession Review Committee.
- Copy of letter received from the Hamilton Beach Civic to City Planning expressing the Civic’s views on a DCP presentation to civic regarding the resilient neighborhood study.
- Copy of letter sent by an individual to DPR Commissioner in regard to the Black Cowboys Facility.
- Copy of letter from the Borough President to DOT Commissioner Garcia in regard to a request for a “Welcome to Jamaica Bay” sign on the Addabbo Bridge.

- Notice received from Eric Palatnik, P.C. regarding BSA Calendar No. #201-97-BZ, 119-02 Rockaway Blvd.
- Notices in regard to the final Environmental Impact Statement on the Zoning Affordability Text Amendment, the Technical Memorandum on the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Text Amendment, and the Technical Memorandum Zoning for Quality and Affordability Text Amendment.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer read the report of expenditures for the month of February 2016.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – On behalf of the Borough President, Mr. Brown welcomed the new Commanding Officer, James Fey. He referred to the request for the sign on the Addabbo Bridge that Dan Hendick made. He stated that the Jamaica Bay Eco-Watchers and the civic association in Broad Channel also made that request. He stated that the thought process behind the request, which the Borough President supports, is that the Eco-System is being rejuvenated with ongoing projects in and around Jamaica Bay. Such a sign would let people know when they are crossing the bridge and that they are entering a historic place. The Borough President is in agreement with a “Welcome to Jamaica Bay” sign and thus sent the letter to DOT Commissioner Nicole Garcia. He reminded members that applications for reappointment must be submitted ASAP as they are now late. If there are those who have applied to become new members of the community board, they are going through the applications at this time; setting up interviews and Borough President is meeting with council members to make their selections. New appointments will be told some time during this month. He advised that the Borough President's Newsletter is available on the table. Mr. Brown announced that the Queens County St. Patrick's Day Parade takes place on Saturday, March 7th in Rockaway. The Borough President will be marching in that parade. Many will be marching, along with civics, etc. They will be meeting on 129th Street and Newport Avenue. If you need any further information, you can call Mr. Brown at 718-286-2853.

The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of Deputy Inspector Jeffrey Schiff, formerly with the 106th Precinct and again invited A.C. Barrere to speak. Chief Barrere spoke about the Deputy Inspector and his dedication to the 106th Precinct. He thanked the D.I. for his fine work. Deputy Inspector Schiff thanked the Chief for his words. He said he was sad to leave the 106 Precinct to assume command of the 105 Pct. He gave his farewell to the Board and all those in attendance, stating that it is a bittersweet moment and he thanked everyone for supporting him. Chief Barrere once again thanked D.I. Schiff for his service and wished him well in his new assignment. Chairperson Braton, on behalf of the Board, extended best wishes and thanks to D.I. Schiff for the excellent job he's done during his time in command of the 106 Pct.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – No report.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The District Manager reported that Con Edison is warning customers to beware of imposters claiming to be from the company and seeking to enter a home or business. Con Edison employees carry identification cards with their photo, name and the company's name and logo. If you see identification and still have doubts about the person's legitimacy, call 1-800-75CONED (1-800-752-6633 before letting the person in your home or business. Anyone who suspects a person is falsely claiming to be a Con Edison employee should call the local police department. Also, she reported that the office was informed that the MTA Metrocard Mobile will be in front of the Foch Post Office at 126-15 Foch Blvd. on Tuesday, March 29th from 1 to 3 pm.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson reported the DOF 90 Day Potential Lien Sale List is out. Just over 525 properties located in Community Board 10 are on the list. A little over half of them owe water debt only. The rest are tax debt or other charges that are owed. The last day for owners to pay their debt or to enter into a payment agreement with the city is May 11th. When property owner doesn't pay property taxes or water bills, etc., the unpaid charges become tax liens and may be sold by the City. This year, the Tax Lien Sale will take place on May 12th.

The Chairperson advised that the office had been notified that the long awaited HWQ411B project work will begin on March 14th.

The Chairperson reviewed some of what was considered at the last Borough Board meeting when it considered the preliminary budget and the borough's response to the preliminary budget presented by the Mayor. The entire budget

response is available. She asked Mr. Dan Brown to thank the Borough President for the work her staff put into preparing this document.

The Chairperson commented that the snow-storm had prevented work from starting as scheduled at the Spring Creek South project, however the work is now underway and advised that there is information in the Board folders. The recent update for February 20, 2016 is that the soiling sample began on February 1st and is scheduled to continue for 5 to 6 weeks until mid-March. The samples will be collected and categorized for physical properties of the soil and DEC will be back to the Board in April with an update. She spoke about some vandalism that occurred at the site. The Chairperson also reported on 311 complaints made during February and also about a NYCEM training program for Board Chairs that she attended.

The meeting continued with Committee Reports:

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

TRANSPORTATION – The Board Chairperson indicated the Committee Chairperson was absent due to illness and advised that the Transportation Committee and the Highways, Roads and Traffic Committee report is in the folders. She informed members the committees had met regarding an item DOT is seeking the Board's comment on. Back in 2014 there was a presentation to the Board regarding the Area- Wide Intermodal Transportation Study, most of which is in Brooklyn. However, it does involve a small section of CB10 near the Brooklyn border. The work is on-going on for that study. While the study work is being done, DOT had asked that the study group consider one of our very problematic locations that is just outside the project boundary. She advised members that graphics of the location and DOT's recommendation for it were in their folders. Discussion ensued in which the Board concurred that DOT's recommendation to alleviate an existing dangerous condition would be beneficial. The president of the Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic also concurred that DOT's proposal was acceptable. Based on the discussion the Board will communicate our comments to DOT.

EDUCATION – The Committee Chairperson advised Pre-K applications are due by May 9th. People may apply on-line, over the phone or in person.

LIBRARIES – The Committee Chairperson reported that work is being done on the Ozone Park Library. The library closed on February 22nd for major renovations. She encouraged all to visit other libraries.

GATEWAY – The Committee Chairperson spoke about a meeting that will be held at Floyd Bennett Field on March 8th from 6 pm to 8 pm at which there will be discussion regarding what will be done with the waterfront at Ft. Tilden located in CB14. He also commented on the communication mentioned earlier regarding West Pond.

At this point, the Chairperson acknowledged the presence of Ms. Pat McCabe, representing State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Jr., Ms. Bella Pori, representing Assembly Member Philip Goldfeder, Mr. Muhammad Rahman, representing Assembly Member David Weprin, Ms. Arlene Brown, representing Council Member Eric Ulrich, Mr. Jahai Rose, representing Council Member Ruben Wills and Ms. Sasha Austrie representing Resorts World Casino.

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

SEWERS – The Committee Chairperson commented on the recent tidal flooding issues in Hamilton Beach.

The Chairperson acknowledged Councilman Wills' representative, who had asked to speak. Mr. Rose spoke about the snowstorm that occurred this past winter and the efforts the Councilman's office made to help those in need to clear their sidewalks. He stated that those with absolutely no resources could reach out, in advance, to his office for help. They can contact him at 718-206-2068. He also advised of the cooking classes for fathers that they are holding at August Martin H.S. He also advised of free tax preparation help that will be held on Saturday. You can call his office with any questions.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chairperson advised the report was contained in the board folders and then asked about a radio frequency change that had been reported in the news. Captain Fey explained that transit officers

cannot hear each other very well on their radios when they are underground in the subway system. Now, there is the technology for the transit officers to better communicate with each other.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – A member commented regarding the recent discussion at the City Council concerning School Safety Agents at other than public schools.

PUBLIC FORUM –

LaShaun Ellis with the Queens Botanical Gardens in conjunction with the NYC Sanitation Department spoke about the organic composting program.

An area resident commented on the poor condition that her neighborhood was left in after the Phagwah Parade last year that she said resulted in some residents receiving Sanitation summons. As the parade is planned for this year, she has asked that the area be cleaned up and consideration given to those who live along the route to Smokey Oval.

Arlene Brown from Councilman Ulrich's office announced the St. Patrick's Day parade that is being held in Rockaway on Saturday. She also advised of the Queens Symphony Orchestra that will be performing on Thursday, March 10th at St. Helen's. It is a Frank Sinatra type concert, which is free to the public.

Carole Dowling of the Friends of Rockaway spoke about the services they provide to those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

MaryAnn Turso
Draft, subject to approval