

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
January 4, 2016
Middle School 158
46-35 Oceania Street
Bayside, NY 11361
Christine L. Haider - Chair
Susan Seinfeld – District Manager

Board Members Present: Sila Asa, Lana Bind, Susan Cerezo, Ocelia Claro, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Sonya Fierro-Gladwin, Jack Fried, Joan Garippa, Roy Giusetti, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, George Karahalis, Anthony Koutsouradis, Linda Lee, Robert Liatto, Janet McEneaney, George Mihaltses, Eileen Miller, Steven Newman, Allan Palzer, Christina Scherer, John Shehas, Jessica Sin, Joseph Sollano, Jyothi Sriram

Board Members Absent: Edith Basom, JoAnn Ferrari, Alim Gafar, Lawrence Gresser, Bernard Haber, Zion Halili, Melvyn Meer, Douglas Montgomery, Chris Petallides, Stephen Pivawer, Alex Yagudaev

CB11 Staff Present: Susan Seinfeld, District Manager, Christina Coutinho, Community Associate

111th Precinct Present: P.O. John Erdman, P.O. Luigi Galano

City Agencies Present: Scott Solomon, Dept. of City Planning

Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present: Ann Marie Boranian for Queens Borough President, Mike Yon for Council Member Paul Vallone, Devin Wellspeak for Congress Member Grace Meng, Casey Lajszky for Assembly Member David Weprin, Steven Behar for Council Member Barry Grodenchik, Nily Rozic, Assembly Member, Jason Anthos for Assembly Member Ed Braunstein.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chair, Christine Haider.

The Chair led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

P.O. Galano gave the monthly crime statistics for the 111th Precinct.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Robert Rappo spoke in regard to traffic control on 61 Avenue between Marathon Parkway and Douglaston Parkway. He stated that vehicles speed on 61 Avenue causing a dangerous condition for pedestrians walking to local schools and shopping centers. Mr. Rappo also mentioned that vehicles do not obey the “15 MPH” sign on 57 Avenue.

Mrs. Haider introduced Assembly Member Nily Rozic who stated that her first announcement regarding NYC Property Tax Hearing was dedicated to Henry Euler. She said that on January 22, 2016, the Assembly will hold a hearing at 250 Broadway to evaluate the City’s property tax system. Ms. Rozic said City taxpayers can attend the hearing or submit written testimony to help create a system that benefits our community. Ms. Rozic also announced that there will be a pop-up IDNYC site at the Bayside Library from January 11 to February 5. Interested applicants can make an appointment by calling her office.

PRESENTATIONS

FDNY Firefighters Bob Doyle and Don Barbour gave a presentation on the importance of smoke and carbon monoxide combination detectors. They handed out free detectors and demonstrated how to install them properly. Firefighter Doyle stated that battery-operated detectors are no longer being used. As of April 2014, all new and replacement smoke alarms in multiple dwellings and private homes must have a sealed 10-year battery that is non-removable. Firefighter Doyle also stressed the importance of having an escape plan in case of a fire.

Mrs. Seinfeld stated that she is working with Council Member Vallone and the FDNY on a fire alarm distribution public event.

Mrs. Haider announced that a representative from the NYPD Counter Terrorism Task Force Unit was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the Dec 7th meeting. The motion was seconded by Eileen Miller. The minutes were accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

Christine Haider made the following announcements:

Community Board Member applications are now being accepted by the Borough President. Renewal applications are due by January 22 and new applications are due by January 29.

The 111th Police Precinct Council meeting is tomorrow evening at 7:30 pm.

The Queens Borough Public Library will host an event to honor Andy Rothman in the early Spring, at the Bayside Library. Date to be announced.

The water main project which has been ongoing in Bayside Hills will start construction on Springfield Blvd. between Horace Harding Expressway and 56 Avenue.

The site of Burger King on Northern Blvd. and 223 Street has been sold for development. The plans are for a multi-story retail building with parking. This is not expected to occur until 2017.

Mrs. Haider thanked everyone who participated in a very successful Veterans' Holiday and Childrens' Toy Drive conducted by Assembly Member Ed Braunstein.

School District 26 has applications available to students for their annual scholarship program. There will be six awards granted with a value of up to \$1,000. each. Students must apply by February 20. Awards will be given at the annual dinner dance on March 31.

We have received variance applications for Staples, the former restaurant at 189-11 Northern Blvd. and the auto repair shop at 207-22 Northern Blvd. A committee meeting will be scheduled.

There will be a Little Neck Zoning Committee meeting on January 12 for an application to the BSA regarding a home on Cornell Lane.

Council Member Barry Grodenchik is holding a Participatory Budget meeting for his district. If anyone is interested in being a budget delegate, please contact his office to sign up.

Curbside Christmas tree recycling is occurring from today through Jan. 15. Cunningham Park will have tree chipping on January 9 and 10 between 10 am – 2 pm.

The Borough President's State of the Borough address will be held on January 21 at 10:00 am. Board members received their invite and Mrs. Haider encouraged everyone to attend.

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Henry Euler stated that the Borough President will be conducting a public hearing for 204-12 Northern Blvd. on Thursday, January 7. Mr. Euler said that a member from his civic will be attending the meeting because there has been no change since last month's meeting regarding cars parked illegally on the site. Mr. Euler said that at the February 1 meeting, a DEC representative will be presenting CB11 with a Tree City USA flag and a Tree City USA street sign.

Mary Donahue spoke in regard to six yellow taxi cabs parking in a residential driveway on 195 Street. Mrs. Donahue will call the CB office with correct address. Christina Scherer also spoke regarding this matter.

Mohan Jethwani questioned alterations being made to a gas station on 35 Avenue and Bell Blvd. He thinks that an amendment to the variance should have been brought before the Board. Mrs. Seinfeld stated that she has already made a complaint in regard to this site.

Anthony Koutsouradis stated that there will be a Styrofoam Recycling Event at York College on January 9.

Paul DiBenedetto stated that the Bayside Historical Society will be hosting their 15th Annual Art Show on January 10.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded by John Shehas. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.