

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11 REGULAR MEETING

DATE: April 4, 2011

PLACE: M. S. 158
46-35 OCEANIA STREET
BAYSIDE, NY 11361

ATTENDANCE:

Jerry Iannece, Chair	Present	Eileen Kenny	Absent
Edith Basom	Present	Incha Kim	Present
Steven Behar	Present	Robert Liatto	Present
Daniel Berrios	Absent	Susan Macinick	Present
Lana Bind	Present	Janet McEneaney	Present
Robert Caloras	Present	Thomas Meara	Present
Susan Cerezo	Present	Melvyn Meer	Present
Ocelia Claro	Present	Eileen Miller	Present
Paul DiBenedetto	Present	David Millet	Present
Edward Doster	Present	Victor Mimoni	Present
Henry Euler	Present	Steven Newman	Present
Mario Ferazzoli	Present	Dennis Novick	Present
JoAnn Ferrari	Present	Allan Palzer	Present
Sonya Fierro-Gladwin	Present	Chris Petallides	Present
Lee Fiorino	Present	Stephen Pivawer	Present
Jack Fried	Present	Andrew Rothman	Present
Joan Garippa	Present	Christina Scherer	Present
Roy Giusetti	Present	Gary Sekdorian	Present
Bernard Haber	Present	Frank Skala	Present
Christine Haider	Present	Mamie Smith	Present
Zion Halili	Present	Joseph Sollano	Present
Laura James	Present	Robert Speranza	Absent
Mohan Jethwani	Present	Teddy Teng	Present
George Karahalidis	Present	Kimon Thermos	Present
Gordon Keit	Present	Alex Yagudaev	Absent

ALSO PRESENT:

Susan Seinfeld	District Manager, Community Board 11
Christina Coutinho	Community Assistant, Community Board 11
Mark Scott	Representing Queens Borough President Helen Marshall
Claudia Filomena	Representing the Office of the Mayor
P.O. William Conway	111 th Precinct, Community Affairs
Xavier San Miguel	Representing Senator Tony Avella
Janice Melnick	Department of Parks and Recreation
Alen R. Beerman	Representing Councilmember Mark Weprin
David Fischer	Representing Assemblymember Ed Braunstein
Anthony Lemma	Representing Assemblymember David Weprin
John Mulvey	Representing Councilmember Dan Halloran
Doug McPherson	Representing Congressman Anthony Weiner
Jordan Goldes	Representing Congressman Gary Ackerman

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by Jerry Iannece, Chair.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Janice Melnick, North East Queens Park Administrator, stated that legislation was passed that prohibits smoking within New York City’s parks, beaches and pedestrian plazas. Smoking will be allowed on

the sidewalks outside a park, including a sidewalk that forms the perimeter of a park. Ms. Melnick asked the community to help with the Anti Litter Campaign. She stated that with cut-backs, it is going to be difficult to keep the parks and trails clear of litter. Ms. Melnick stated that the Department of Parks is looking for volunteers.

Christina Choi, Korean Community Services Public Health, stated that they are working with Queens Smoke Free Partnership. Ms. Choi spoke about the Smoke Free Outdoors Bill that was recently passed, secondhand smoke and point of sale for cigarettes.

Patrick Lyons, member of the Weeks Woodland Homeowners Association, has written letters and asked the community to also contact Governor Cuomo in regard to reviewing the St. Mary's project in light of the Medicaid recalibration the Governor announced in his Budget Address of Feb. 1, 2011.

Jerry Iannece introduced District Attorney Richard Brown and suspended Public Participation.

District Attorney Brown stated 20 years ago, he became the Queens DA and a lot has changed over the years. DA Brown said that years ago there were no Blackberrys, hotlines and there was no training for the ADA's. Now, there is 24-hour access to the Queens District Attorney's office, a 24-hour hotline for the community and ADA's have up-to-date legal education training. DA Brown stated that there were approximately 78,000 arrest cases for 2010. He is aware that auto crime is a problem in CB11 but there has been a decrease in numbers over the past 10 years. In 1991, there were approximately 52,000 auto crimes and in 2010 there were approximately 3,000. He said that he is very proud of the partnership that the prosecutors have with the NYPD.

DA Brown swore in the members of the CB11 Executive Committee.

Public Participation continued.

Joan Jaworski stated that there are seven ambulettes that park on 42 Avenue and Francis Lewis Blvd. Ms. Jaworski asked why a business could be allowed to use residential streets to park their vehicles.

John Krall stated that he is working on opening the Gloria D'Amico Hospital where the closed Parkway Hospital is located. He said that because of the issues with the prior owners of Parkway Hospital, it is very hard to get the endorsements of elected officials. Mr. Krall stated that this will be a community-based hospital and will have no affiliation with Parkway Hospital. He asked for the community to contact elected officials to help support this cause.

Mike Feiner, President of the Bayside Hills Civic Association, thanked CB11, elected officials and Borough President Helen Marshall for their support against the variance for 50-20 216 Street. Secondly, Mr. Feiner stated that Bayside Hills Civic Association is hosting their annual Spring Festival on Saturday, April 9, at 1:00 pm, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Jerry Iannece asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 7th meeting. Andy Rothman said that Mohan Jethwani and Janet McEaney were marked *absent* and should be marked present. Frank Skala said that the statement *Steve Newman stated that project #1, this is funded* should be clarified to read *Steve Newman stated that project #1 is a funded project*. The minutes were accepted with these corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jerry Iannece wished everyone a Happy and Healthy Passover and a Happy Easter.

Jerry Iannece announced that four new Board Members, Susan Cerezo, Sonya Fierro-Gladwin, Robert Liatto and Teddy Teng have been appointed to CB11.

Jerry Iannece welcomed back Board Members, Chris Petallides and Ocelia Claro.

New Board Members Susan Cerezo, Sonya Fierro-Gladwin, Robert Liatto and Teddy Teng introduced themselves. Chris Petallides and Ocelia Claro stated that they were glad to be back as Board Members. All were welcomed by our Board.

Jerry Iannece made the following announcements:

New Zoning Handbooks are being distributed tonight to Board Members.

Jerry Iannece thanked Claudia Filomena and the Mayor for inviting him and several other people to breakfast at Gracie Mansion. Mr. Iannece stated that it was a very intimate gathering. Mr. Iannece said that he did get the opportunity to speak to Mayor Bloomberg about how Northeast Queens is in need of funds.

The official Swearing In Ceremony at the Hall of Science for new and renewal appointees has been changed to June 14th.

Claudia Filomena stated that orientation for new Community Board Members is being held on May 12th at Borough Hall.

The DEP is giving away free rain barrels on April 30th at Cunningham Park from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The DEC announced a new program for electronic waste recycling. Manufacturers are offering consumers an opportunity to return old equipment for recycling.

DEP announced that they are seeking interest from companies to provide water service line protection to residential properties in NYC. The plan would be a basic insurance policy to cover repair of water service lines. Additional information can be obtained at www.nyc.gov/dep.

The Bayside Anglers Group has scheduled Shoreline Cleanup Day for April 10th at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed to clean up the shoreline. For information on sign up locations you can contact CB11.

The Walk-4-APEC fundraiser is scheduled for May 1st at 10:00 am. The walk starts at the Joe Michael's Mile and ends at the Bayside Marina.

The Center for Women of New York is hosting their annual luncheon on Saturday, April 30th at the Douglaston Manor. Mr. Iannece will be the recipient of the GOOD GUY Award.

A volunteer is needed for the CB11 Historian position and a Chair for the Legal/Government Affairs Committee. Several Board Members suggested Paul DiBenedetto for the CB11 Historian.

Bayside Hills Civic Association is having their Spring Festival on Saturday, April 9th at St. Robert Bellarmine Church at 1:00 pm.

Bayside Little League is having their annual Opening Day Parade on Saturday, April 9th at 11:00 am at Bell Blvd and 42nd Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Skala volunteered himself as the CB11 Historian. Mr. Skala stated he was informed that the Transportation Committee voted via email to support, or not to support, a proposal for the installation of speed cameras along major streets. He stated that this was done without a meeting being held for discussion.

Paul DiBenedetto stated that Con Ed is replacing shut off gas valves and lines from the street to house for free.

Steve Behar stated that the Dept. of Parks has increased the cost of tennis courts permits.

Henry Euler stated that auto dealerships and auto related businesses such as Star Nissan, R & S Strauss, Dodge Jeep and Chrysler are parking cars on the sidewalks. Mr. Euler said that this is a danger for pedestrians that have to walk out onto the street because cars are parked on the sidewalks. He said that the Auburndale Improvement Association has written letters to elected officials and to the police precinct asking for support on this matter. P.O. Conway with the 111th Precinct stated that if the vehicle doesn't have plates, a summons can't be issued. Christine Haider asked if a ticket can be written to the dealership.

Christine Haider told P.O. Conway that teachers from P.S. 177 are blocking driveways with their vehicles. Residents have to go into the school to make a complaint. P.O. Conway said that the complainant has to call with the vehicle plate number.

Andy Rothman stated that 39 Avenue to 42 Avenue, on Bell Blvd., needs to be repaired. He asked if CB11 can make a request for repaving.

P.O. Conway stated that if anyone has a police issue, they should to see him at the beginning of a Board the meeting.

Jerry Iannece stated that last month was Rose Bruno's last meeting, but this month, she has started a new term as a community involved person. He welcomed her back.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BSA Cal. No. 982-83 BZ, 191-20 Northern Blvd. - Special Order Calendar application to extend the term of a variance and modify plans for retail space. Professional Engineer, H. Irving Sigman, representing the applicant, Barone Properties, Inc. stated that a Special Order Calendar application has been filed to extend the term of the variance and extend the time to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy which expired on May 6, 2006. Mr. Sigman said that if the application is granted, a First Med and a Pain Management Office will be occupying the vacant retail space. Mr. Sigman stated that Pier One, Gothic

Cabinets and Verizon will remain open. There was one registered public speaker who stated that the original application had conditions in the resolution that were never fulfilled. The speaker stated that the current parking area can't accommodate parking for First Med and a Pain Management Office. Christine Haider, Chair of the North Bayside/East Flushing Zoning Committee read the Committee Report of the March 16th meeting. Mrs. Haider stated at the Committee meeting a motion was made by Henry Euler to accept the application with the original 17 conditions and two additional conditions. The two additional conditions are as follows: the 10-year term variance be reduced to a 5-year term and 19 feet of concrete on the corner of 192 Street and Northern Blvd. be removed and add trees, shrubs, plants and a 4 ft fence be added. Andy Rothman seconded the motion. A vote was taken resulting in 3 in favor (Haider, Rothman, Meara) and two abstentions (Euler, Scherer). A question and answer period followed. Mr. Sigman presented a sketch for a side garden at the corner of 192 Street and Northern Blvd. that will be included with the application. Mr. Sigman stated that there are two pending violations. The first violation is for illegally parked cars and trucks. Mr. Sigman said that the vehicles have been removed and Mr. Barone has been advised to hire a tow company for the removal of illegally parked vehicles. The second violation is from the Department of Buildings. Mr. Sigman stated that Pier One Imports Corporate Office submitted plans for alterations. Mr. Sigman stated that the architect has been contacted and is trying to clear the issue with the Department of Buildings. A motion was made to approve the application with 17 original conditions, plus the two additional conditions of a 5- year term and side garden at 192 Street and Northern Blvd. The motion was seconded by Mario Ferazzoli. Discussion ensued as to how the applicant never followed the conditions in the original application. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 30 in favor, 13 opposed and 1 abstention. (In favor – Basom, Bind, Caloras, Doster, Ferazzoli, Fierro-Gladwin, Fiorino, Fried, Garippa, Haber, Haider, Halili, Iannece, James, Jethwani, Keit, Kim, Liatto, Meara, Miller, Millet, Mimoni, Newman, Novick, Palzer, Pivawer, Rothman, Sekdorian, Smith, Teng - Opposed – Behar, Cerezo, Claro, DiBenedetto, Euler, Ferrari, Giusetti, Karahalis, Macinick, McEneaney, Meer, Scherer, Sollano - Abstain – Petallides) The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Laura James, Chair, Education Committee, read the committee report of the meeting on March 24.

The meeting was adjourned by Jerry Iannece at 9:26 pm.