

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
February 1, 2016
Middle School 158
46-35 Oceania Street
Bayside, NY 11361
Christine L. Haider - Chair
Susan Seinfeld – District Manager**

Board Members Present:

Asa, Sila	Fierro-Gladwin, Sonya	James, Laura	Montgomery, Douglas
Bind, Lana	Fried, Jack	Jethwani, Mohan	Palzer, Allan
Cerezo, Susan	Gafar, Alim	Karahalis, George	Scherer, Christina
Claro, Ocelia	Garippa, Joan	Koutsouradis, Anthony	Shehas, John
DiBenedetto, Paul	Giusetti, Roy	Lee, Linda	Sin, Jessica
Donahue, Mary	Gresser, Lawrence	Liatto, Linda	Sollano, Joseph
Euler, Henry	Haber, Bernard	McEaney, Janet	Sriram, Jyothi
Ferazzoli, Mario	Haider, Christine	Meer, Melvyn	Yagudaev, Alex
		Eileen Miller	

Board Members Absent:

Basom, Edith	Mihaltses, George	Petallides, Chris	
Halili, Zion	Newman, Steven	Pivawer, Stephen	

CB11 Staff Present:

Susan Seinfeld, District Manager	Christina Coutinho, Community Associate
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111th Precinct Present:

P.O. John Erdman	
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City Agencies Present:

Scott Solomon, Dept. of City Planning	
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Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present:

Casey Lajszky	Representing Assembly Member David Weprin
Devin Wellspeak	Representing Congress Member Grace Meng
Mike Yon	Representing Council Member Paul Vallone
Anne Marie Boranian	Representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
Seth Urbinder	Representing Assembly Member Ed Braunstein
Erin Rogers	Representing Assembly Member Nily Rozic

The meeting was called to order at 7:26 pm by Chair, Christine Haider.

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

P.O. Erdman gave the monthly crime statistics for the 111th Precinct. A question and answer period followed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Christopher Greiner representing a not-for-profit organization Greater Ridgewood Youth Council Afterschool Program, spoke in regard to several different services offered for students. Additional information can be obtained at www.greaterridgewoodyouthcouncil.org.

Bill Perry, a resident of Little Neck and a 10-year member of the Little Neck/Douglaston Lion's Club, asked for the Board's support regarding a request for a left-turn traffic signal at Marathon Parkway and Horace Harding Expressway Service Road, eastbound. He stated that the request has been assigned case number DOT-285328-87F8. Mrs. Haider stated that a letter has been forwarded to DOT regarding this request.

Mandingo Tshaka spoke in regard to commercial businesses encroaching on the residential properties along Northern Blvd. from the Clearview Expressway to Bell Boulevard.

PRESENTATIONS

Gwendolyn Litvak, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office of Sustainability, gave a presentation regarding the OneNYC. The plans focus on the pressing issues of growth, sustainability, resiliency and equity for building a stronger City.

Thomas Panzone, representing NYSDEC, awarded CB11 with a Tree City USA flag and Tree City USA street sign. Due to his efforts with helping CB11 achieve this award, Henry Euler was asked to assist Mr. Panzone with presenting the flag. Mrs. Haider thanked Mr. Euler for all his hard work.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the Jan. 4th meeting. The motion was seconded by John Shehas. The minutes were accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

Christine Haider made the following announcements:

The three public hearings scheduled for tonight were canceled by the applicant. Hearings have been postponed until the March meeting.

Construction has started at the former Keil Bros. property for a new school. Senator Avella issued a Press Release.

On January 20th, Susan Seinfeld and Mrs. Haider had a conference call with Eric Palatnick, who is representing British Petroleum Products. A memo has been distributed to Board members. The BSA hearing on this case will be held on February 9th at 10:00 am at 22 Reade Street, Manhattan.

Council Member Paul Vallone has introduced legislation with the support of the Dept. of Finance to implement a two-step process for homeowners and associations to record old and new restrictive covenants in the database.

Council Member Ritchie Torres introduced legislation co-sponsored with Jimmy Van Bramer and Ben Kallos, to require the City to publish demographic information about board members and their attendance records.

JoAnn Ferrari has resigned from the Board due to family obligations. She plans to re-apply when able.

Zion Halili has fractured his hip, Mrs. Haider wished him well while recuperating.

Mrs. Haider stated that Jessica Sin's mother passed away.

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

CB11 has information for those who have been affected by Storm Sandy and still have not applied for relief.

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Laura James stated that she and Sila Asa attended the Community District Education Council 26 meeting on January 28th. Ms. James said that there were two main topics discussed: a District 26 Traffic Survey Update and a presentation from the Principal of P.S. 46Q. The Principal explained a new safety initiative "Project Lifesaver". This program closes the street for approximately an hour in the morning and in the afternoon. Traffic cones are put in place, making a lane for drop off and pick up, school staff helps assist students out of the cars. This helps with the safety of the students and controls traffic flow. Also discussed were school data reports which replaced school progress reports. Ms. James stated that the DOE will have to rezone the elementary schools in the area due to new school being built at the former Keil Bros. site. A question and answer period followed.

Janet McEaney gave an update on the different issues regarding the fight against airplane noise and the establishment of an Aviation Roundtable.

Paul DiBenedetto stated that The Bayside Historical Society is having a Valentine's Day Brunch. He introduced Chad Spencer, President of the North West Bayside Civic Association, who was instrumental, along with the majority of CB11 Board, regarding the withdrawal of the SCA's proposal for a high school at the former Bayside Jewish Center. Mr. DiBenedetto spoke regarding CB11's request for a high school in the district on its Capital and Expense Budget Priorities list and that, in the future, the Board should be more clear in expressing the needs of the district.

Henry Euler spoke in regard to the public hearings scheduled for Feb. 9th and 10th for Zoning for the Quality and Affordability Text Amendment and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Text Amendment. Mr. Euler also said that he received his annual tax assessment statement and finds it very confusing. He asked if a representative from the DOF could attend CB11's next public meeting. Lastly, Mr. Euler commented on Mr. Tshaka's statements regarding the proliferation of auto body shops along Northern Blvd. between 45 Road from the Clearview Expressway to Oceania Street and that there are now six auto-related businesses and another case will be heard next month.

Douglas Montgomery stated that there will be another electronic waste recycling event on May 14th. Mr. Montgomery announced the honorees for the Little Neck/Douglaston Memorial Day Parade.

Janet McEaney stated that the North West Bayside Civic Association meeting will be on Feb. 11th.

Mel Meer spoke in regard to Mr. Tshaka's statements regarding auto body shops along Northern Blvd. He said that commercial businesses abutting the residential streets of Northern Blvd. have been an issue for many years. He said that the Board has tried to stop the use but to no avail. Mr. Meer also spoke in regard to recreational tourist commercial helicopters that are now crowding the skies and disturbing the community.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BSA Cal. No. 235-15 A – 8 Cornell Lane. An application filed with the Board of Standards and Appeals to legalize the enlargement of a single-family home which requires a waiver of General City Law 36 because the home is not on a mapped street. A representative from Shelon Lobel, P.C., Jordan Most, representing the applicant explained how a 698' as-of-right enlargement to the home was permitted by the DOB in 2005. The plans were self-certified and when audited for the C of O inspection, it was found that the owner should have obtained the GCL 36 waiver. The owner and architect were not aware that the wavier was required on an enlargement. Mr. Most stated that the BSA approval depends on approval from the FNDY to issue the waiver. It was stated that there are nine houses on the block and three homes have obtained the BSA waiver. Little Neck Zoning Committee Co-Chair Joan Garippa reviewed the committee report of Jan. 4th. Mrs. Garippa stated that the committee members unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application. There were no registered speakers. A question and answer period followed. A motion was made to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Joe Sollano. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 33 in favor (Asa, Bind, Cerezo, Claro, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fierro-Gladwin, Fried, Gafar, Garippa, Giusetti, Gresser, Haber, Haider, James, Jethwani, Karahalıs, Koutsouradis, Lee, Liatto, McEneaney, Meer, Miller, Montgomery, Palzer, Scherer, Shehas, Sin, Sollano, Sriram, Yagudaev) The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Transportation – Co-Chair Bernard Haber reviewed the committee report of January 22th. Mr. Haber stated that 16 speed bump requests were discussed at the meeting, 13 were tabled for additional information, two were disapproved, and one was withdrawn.

Aviation – Chair Joan Garippa reviewed the committee report of January 12th and stated that committee members reviewed a draft version of the NY Community Aviation Roundtable By-Laws.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded by Joan Garippa. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.