



# COMMUNITY BOARD 11

*Serving Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston,  
Hollis Hills, Little Neck & Oakland Gardens*

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*Jerry Iannece  
Chair*

*Susan Seinfeld  
District Manager*

## MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11 REGULAR MEETING

DATE: September 7, 2010 PLACE: M. S. 158  
46-35 OCEANIA STREET  
BAYSIDE, NY 11361

### ATTENDANCE:

Jerry Iannece, Chair	Present	Gordon Keit	Present
Edith Basom	Present	Eileen Kenny	Absent
Steven Behar	Absent	Incha Kim	Present
Daniel Berrios	Absent	Franklyn Lloyd	Absent
Lana Bind	Absent	Susan Macinick	Absent
Edward Braunstein	Absent	Janet McEneaney	Absent
Rose Bruno	Absent	Thomas Meara	Absent
Robert Caloras	Absent	Melvyn Meer	Present
James Colasante	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
Lee Fiorino	Absent	Stephen Pivawer	Present
Jack Fried	Present	Andrew Rothman	Present
Joan Garippa	Present	Christina Scherer	Present
Roy Giusetti	Present	Gary Sekdorian	Absent
Bernard Haber	Absent	Frank Skala	Present
Christine Haider	Absent	Mamie Smith	Present
Zion Halili	Present	Joseph Sollano	Present
Laura James	Present	Robert Speranza	Present
Mohan Jethwani	Present	Kimon Thermos	Absent
George Karahalidis	Present	Stephen Tong	Absent
		Alex Yagudaev	Absent

### ALSO PRESENT:

Susan Seinfeld	District Manager, Community Board 11
Christina Coutinho	Community Board 11
John Mulvey	Representing Councilmember Dan Halloran, District 19
Mark Scott	Representing Queens Borough President Helen Marshall
Ali Najmi	Representing Councilmember Mark Weprin, District 23
P.O. Conway	111 <sup>th</sup> Precinct, Community Affairs
Captain Ron Leyson	111 <sup>th</sup> Precinct, Commanding Officer
Barry Grodenchik	Deputy Borough President

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Jerry Iannece, Chair.

Jerry Iannece introduced Christina Coutinho, Community Assistant for Community Board 11.

Jerry Iannece introduced Captain Leyson, Commanding Officer from the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Captain Leyson stated that crime is relatively low but Grand Larceny (property stolen with a value over \$1000.00 or credit cards) has increased 45% in 2010. Captain Leyson made some suggestions on how to prevent property crimes. He suggested shutting the house windows when not at home and removing all personal property from your vehicle when leaving it unattended or parked. Captain Leyson is working with his command to reduce crime.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1) Philip Kim, Administrator for Korean Presbyterian Church of Bayside, announced that the Church is having a Korean Festival on September 12<sup>th</sup> with free Korean food, live music and activities for the entire family.

2) Moses McKoy, resident of Bayside, addressed the topic regarding large trucks using the Clearview Expressway Service Road as a short cut to the Throgs Neck Bridge. Mr. McKoy also stated that automobiles use the Clearview Expressway Service Road as a raceway. Mr. McKoy mentioned that he made a request to the Department of Transportation for speed humps to be placed on the Clearview Expressway Service Road.

Captain Leyson, Commanding Officer of the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct, interjected, stating that he would speak to Mr. McKoy with regard to this matter.

3) William Morton, resident of Bayside, spoke on several issues, including the placement of cell towers on top of a structure located at 205-10 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, as well as the need for catch basin repair. Mr. Morton provided information, along with photos, to Susan Seinfeld, District Manager.

4) Mandingo Tshaka, resident of Bayside, spoke about adding Drug Free Zone signs around M.S. 158 further than 1000 feet from the school extending to the surrounding telephone poles, bus stop poles and playgrounds. Mr. Tshaka stated that he had previously requested that trees and weeds be removed at the pedestrian overpass at 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The removal of such would allow activity on overpass to be viewed and deter crime.

### **PRESENTATION**

Barry Grodenchik, Deputy Borough President, presented community service awards to Bernard Haber (45 years), Melvyn Meer (10 years), Zion Halili (10 years) and Jerry Iannece (15 years).

Mr. Grodenchik thanked the recipients of awards for their outstanding dedication to Community Board 11.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES & CORRESPONDENCE**

Frank Skala pointed out that the director of St. Mary's was referred to as "he". Jerry Iannece acknowledged that the director's name is Dr. Simpser.

Henry Euler stated that comment of "97% of the people surveyed in the Auburndale area want the R2A" was an error and should read 92%.

Motion was made to accept minutes with corrections. 30 in favor, 1 opposed, minutes accepted with corrections.

Jerry Iannece made the following announcements:

The application for rezoning of Auburndale/Hollis Hills/Oakland Gardens is going before the City Planning Commission for vote on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Indications are that the Oakland Gardens portion will be changing to R3X. After the City Planning Commission vote, the City Council will have a Public Hearing and the community will still have an opportunity to request the R2A or R3X zone.

The Office of the Borough President is requesting a representative from Community Board 11 for the Solid Waste Management Advisory Board. Victor Mimoni volunteered.

The Office of the Borough President has allocated \$1.6 million for the final stage of the Oakland Ravine Project, which is the reconfiguration of the pathway around the lake. Jerry Iannece said he would arrange a meeting with Janice Melnick, Department of Parks and Recreations, to discuss the design and reconstruction of the pathway. Victor Mimoni, stated that Friends of Oakland Lake Ravine have plans for the design of pathway and suggested that such plans be reviewed by the Department of Parks and Recreations.

Quiet Zone for the Little Neck LIRR should be completed in October 2010 with the installation of 4 Quadrant Gates.

The Department of Transportation has completed their Traffic Safety Survey for pedestrian interval timing signal and left turning bays for Springfield Boulevard and Union Turnpike.

Application for rezoning of Bell Boulevard at Lucille Roberts will go before the Board in October.

Community Board 11 is waiting for St. Mary's Hospital to set up a date for the Flu Vaccine Clinic.

Raccoons have become a serious problem in the area. Elizabeth Crowley, Council Member, introduced raccoon legislation.

Van service will be introduced starting September 20, 2010 to replace the Q79 on Little Neck Parkway. Further information can be obtained at the Community Board 11 office.

On Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> a memorial service will be held for Joe Hellmann at the Zion Church at 10:00am.

Bayside Hills Civic Association will hold their annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony at 7:00pm at Bell Boulevard and Horace Harding Expressway.

The 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council will be meeting on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

APEC Estuary Day is Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Douglaston Village Fair is being held on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Armenian Festival at Oceania and Horace Harding Expressway is being held on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Korean Festival at 45-62 211<sup>th</sup> Street is being held on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Lewandowski, Department of Parks and Recreation, will be speaking at the next board meeting in reference to forestry issues.

The resurfacing of Northern Boulevard from Bell Boulevard to Douglaston Parkway will start in the of Spring 2011.

Board of Standards and Appeals voted in favor for the continuation of construction on 223 Street/Mia Drive. Although the Board of Standards and Appeals has given the right to continue construction at the location, the property still has to be inspected to obtain Certificates of Occupancy, at which time, all issues relating to the structure will have to be addressed in order to pass inspection.

In the next coming months, Jerry Iannece said he will organize a meeting with the Zoning Chairs in reference to the R2A Zoning Text which should be changed. If Zoning Text is fine tuned it may allow for more flexibility in the design of new construction and add character to the design.

September 14<sup>th</sup> is Primary Day Jerry Iannece encouraged people to exercise their right to vote.

The application for an outside café for Di Maria's Pizza has been approved by Department of Consumer Affairs. Jerry Iannece stated that the approval came against the Community Board's wishes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jerry Iannece announced that the expansion of St. Mary's Hospital for Children is being done as-of-right. The plan is for a new structure behind the existing structure, along with the reconfiguration of the pathway and an increase of parking on the hospital premises. The original structure will remain and be used for recreation and administrator services. St. Mary's reached out to Community Board 11 to set up a Community Advisory Committee. Dennis Novick and Andy Rothman were selected to be on the committee. Jerry Iannece continued to explain that the second meeting with the Community Advisory Committee was canceled due to a new civic association called Weeks Woodland Civic Association filing a lawsuit against St. Mary's Hospital for Children. At this time, St. Mary's has ceased all meetings of the Community Advisory Committee. There has been no information pertaining to the lawsuit given to Community Board 11. At 28<sup>th</sup> Road, a dead end street, St. Mary's rolled back a fence to allow trailers to enter on hospital property. The fence was opened and closed the same day. No notice was given to residents or the Community Board.

Andy Rothman expressed how St. Mary's, for 15 years, assured him that they would not use 28<sup>th</sup> Road as an entrance. When the fence was rolled back at 28<sup>th</sup> Road, Mr. Rothman felt that a long term

promise had been broken. There was no notice and trailers started lining up at 12:00am to enter in the morning. Mr. Rothman expressed how he just wants St. Mary's and Turner Construction to have respect and consideration for residents. Mr. Rothman stated that Turner Construction said that if they wanted to work on the weekends, they would.

Dennis Novick stated, that in his opinion, St. Mary's was trying very hard to be accommodating in listening to the issues that were being presented at that first meeting. One issue raised is where the main entrance road would be built, as there was some concern that it was at the most southern border of the property, which is very close to several houses. St. Mary's felt they could probably relocate the road closer to the middle section of the property. With the issue of rolling back the fence at 28<sup>th</sup> Road, Mr. Novick, wanted to point out that at the meeting there was no uniform agreement as to the downside of rolling back the fence at that location, at this meeting. In reference to Turner Construction, Mr. Novick, explained that what he interpreted was that Turner Construction and St. Mary's did not want to work on the weekends but have a schedule of completion to adhere to. If they had to work on the weekends to meet scheduled deadlines, they would have to apply for a Weekend Work Permit. The hours that Turner Construction is permitted to work are Monday thru Friday from 7:00am to 6:00pm. Mr. Novick commended the Turner Construction Manager and St. Mary's, stating that up until the lawsuit was filed, they were doing their best to hear the concerns of the community.

Andy Rothman requested status on the reopening of the Auburndale Library.

Victor Mimoni requested that the dead trees, planted by the Million Tree Program, be replaced.

George Karahalidis said that the weeds on the outside grounds of the Douglaston Golf Course needed to be removed. He was advised by Jerry Iannece to give the specific locations of weeds to the Community Board office.

Frank Skala said that cell towers were being erected on the rooftop of Constantine's Deli and questioned how this could be done in a residential zone. Jerry Iannece asked the Community Board office to view zoning rights.

Mamie Smith wanted to know how Plum Restaurant can have an outside café without approval. Jerry Iannece said that Community Board 11 has been dealing with this issue for several months. Plum Restaurant has received numerous fines and they still continue to operate the outside café.

Paul DiBenedetto announced that the Bayside Historical Society is having a fund raiser on September 25, 2010 at 7:00pm. The gala will present Dancing with the Stars, featuring Senator Padavan, Department of Parks, Janice Melnick and the Principal of P.S. 130.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Jerry Iannece announced that the Public Hearing for 58-06 Springfield Blvd., the Korean Central Presbyterian Church has been postponed by the applicant.

Jerry Iannece announced that the Public Hearing for the Street Renaming of 196 Place between 45 Drive and 45 Road was postponed.

Steve Newman said that the Community Board 11 Capital and Expense Budget Committee, is having a meeting in October and the proposal would be presented at the November board meeting. Mr. Newman advised that there are blank Budget Requests forms for people to fill out with their suggestions.

Jerry Iannece announced that Bernard Haber was not able to attend the meeting tonight but the Transportation Committee report was distributed. A Transportation Committee Meeting was held over the summer, to discuss increasing meters from 1 to 2 hours on Bell Blvd between Northern Blvd and 38 Avenue. The vote was in favor but the Committee asked that there be a full board vote.

Jerry wanted to express that the Bayside Village BID articulated that extending the meter limits would bring more patrons to frequent the restaurants and shops on Bell Blvd. The BID said that patrons stay away from Bell Blvd to avoid getting a ticket. Jerry Iannece stated that some community and committee members articulated that 1 hour is a sufficient amount of time to shop on Bell Blvd and that extending the meters would only allow merchants to feed the meters and that less parking would occur.

A motion was made to increase meters from 1 to 2 hours. Zion Halili seconded the motion. Discussion on the motion followed. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 24 favor, 6 opposed. The motion carried. (In favor – Basom, DiBenedetto, Doster, Euler, Ferazzoli, Garippa, Halili, Iannece, James, Karahalis, Keit, Kim, Miller, Millet, Mimoni, Newman, Novick, Palzer, Pivawer, Rothman, Scherer, Smith, Sollano, Speranza. Opposed – Colasante, Ferrari, Fried, Giusetti, Jethwani, Meer.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.