

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11 REGULAR  
MEETING

DATE: September 12, 2011

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	Present	Incha Kim	Present
Daniel Berrios	Present	Robert Liatto	Present
Lana Bind	Present	Susan Macinick	Present
Robert Caloras	Absent	Janet McEneaney	Present
Susan Cerezo	Present	Thomas Meara	Present
Ocelia Claro	Present	Melvyn Meer	Absent
Paul DiBenedetto	Present	Eileen Miller	Present
Edward Doster	Present	David Millet	Absent
Henry Euler	Present	Steven Newman	Present
Mario Ferazzoli	Absent	Dennis Novick	Present
JoAnn Ferrari	Present	Allan Palzer	Present
Sonya Fierro-Gladwin	Absent	Chris Petallides	Present
Lee Fiorino	Absent	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	Alex Yagudaev	Present

ALSO PRESENT:

Susan Seinfeld	District Manager, Community Board 11
Christina Coutinho	Community Assistant, Community Board 11
Mark Scott	Representing Queens Borough President Helen Marshall
Capt. Ronald Leyson	111 <sup>th</sup> Precinct, Commanding Officer
P.O. William Conway	111 <sup>th</sup> Precinct, Community Affairs
Xavier San Miguel	Representing Senator Tony Avella
John Mulvey	Representing Councilmember Dan Halloran
Gary Yeung	Representing Councilmember Mark Weprin
Meagan Chen	Representing Assemblymember Ed Braunstein
Greg Sullivan	Executive Director, Bayside BID

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

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND PRESENTATION**

Christina Choi representing the Smoke-Free Coalition stated that tobacco ads are targeting youths by advertising in convenience stores that are in a close proximity to schools. She asked the community for their support to stop merchants from advertising tobacco sales in areas where youths frequent.

Melvin Marden has been a resident of Leith Road for over 45 years. He stated that Leith Road was converted to a one-way and is requesting it to be restored back to a two-way. He said that several of the residents were not aware of the change until the signs were in place. He presented a petition with signatures in favor of restoring Leith Road to a two-way.

Judith Marden has been a resident of Leith Road for over 59 years and is requesting that Leith Road be restored to a two-way street. She stated that motorists will use Annadale Lane to access Little Neck Parkway.

Silvia Siegel is a resident of Morenci Lane and is requesting that Leith Road be converted back to a two-way street.

Susan Erlich is a resident of Leith Road who stated that Leith Road should be a two-way street because the alternate routes to Little Neck Parkway are narrower streets.

Louisa Dellavecchia has been a resident of Leith Road for 6 years. She stated that vehicles speed on Leith Road to Little Neck Parkway. Mrs. Dellavecchia is requesting that Leith Road remain a one-way.

Mr. Iannece stated that the request to change a street to a one-way starts with the community, not the community board.

Tim Vance, VP of the Weeks Woodland Civic Association stated that St. Mary's Hospital for Children is changing their entrance apron making a three-way intersection, a four-way intersection in a residential area. Mr. Vance is requesting that a meeting take place with the Transportation Committee and the Department of Transportation.

Michael Feiner, President of the Bayside Hills Civic Association, asked for support from the community and media at the BSA Hearing on September 13, 2011 for BSA 6-11 BZ, 50-20 216 Street.

Mr. Iannece introduced Captain Leyson who gave the current crime statistics for CB11. He stated that if you see something suspicious regarding terrorism you should call 1-866-Safe-NYS or 911. Captain Leyson said that the stealing of electronic gadgets (youth-on-youth crime) is still problematic. He showed a sketch of a young male who is stealing cell phones around schools and parks. Captain Leyson advised not to talk or text on your cell while walking in the street. He also said that if someone on the street was to ask for the time, don't pull out your cell phone, it could be a ploy to snatch your phone.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Jerry Iannece asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Minutes were accepted as written.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Jerry Iannece made the following announcements and follow-ups:

Congratulations to Frank Skala for the arrival of his new granddaughter.

Congratulations to Susan Macinick for being the Star of the Week in the Queens Courier. Ms. Macinick is a Board Member and Team Leader for CERT. Mr. Iannece thanked her for all her efforts.

All community board members have to act respectfully towards each other at board meetings and committee meetings or action will be taken.

The fire houses that were slated to close in the beginning of the summer are thankfully staying open.

There was a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the completion of the Alley Pond Project. The final design of the boardwalk design around Oakland Lake which has been graciously funded by Borough President, Helen Marshall, still has to be completed.

Mr. Iannece thanked Jack Fried and the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council for all their efforts for a very successful and well attended National Night Out.

The LIRR submitted plans to the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to cleanup soil contaminated by mercury at the Bayside substation at 216 Street. CB11 sent a letter to the residents with a copy of the Fact Sheet.

APEC is holding National Estuaries Day on September 24, 2011.

The St. Mary's Hospital for Children is offering free flu vaccines on Thursday, October 20, 2011 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Saturday, October 22, 2011 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Appointments should be made prior, by calling the CB11 office.

The Bayside Hills Civic Association conducted a very well-attended 9/11 Memorial Ceremony. Mr. Iannece stated that two artifacts were unveiled from the World Trade Center and congratulated Bayside Hills Civic Association for all their efforts. Mr. Iannece thanked Keil Bros. for their help with maintaining the grounds around the memorial site.

Mr. Iannece thanked the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs for inviting him to their annual festival. He stated that it was a wonderful festival with great food and family activities.

Tomorrow is primary day and also a special election for Congressional District #9. Mr. Iannece suggested that everybody exercise their right to vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Laura James stated that at Northern Blvd and 247 Street there is a problem with traffic. She said that 247 Street is a one-way northbound and vehicles use 247 Street as a southbound short cut to Northern Blvd. Ms. James is requesting signs to be installed directing traffic northbound. Mr. Iannece advised that CB11 will forward request to the appropriate agency.

Gordon Keit asked if it was legal for vehicles to be stored on the old Leviton property and why is there drilling on the grounds of the property? Susan Seinfeld stated that she and the Borough President's office have reached out to the new owners and they have not returned any calls. She said that the property is a M1-1 zoning, therefore, cars are allowed to be parked on the property and the drilling is for the cleanup of old heating wells.

Susan Macinick thanked Michael Feiner for conducting a wonderful 9/11 Memorial Ceremony. She stated that any civic or community organization that would be interested in a presentation or anyone who is interested in joining CERT should contact her.

Frank Skala asked what was going to be replacing the soil that has been removed at the Bayside substation. He stated that the area is very dangerous. Mr. Iannece said the soil will be tested and once the area is tested free of mercury, it will be replaced with new soil. Mr. Skala suggested a fence be installed in the meantime.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chris Petallides reviewed the Transportation Committee Report for the August 22, 2011 meeting. Mr. Petallides stated that two years ago, the committee reviewed the request for a one-way conversion for Leith Road. A majority of the homeowners signed a petition in favor of the change. After the change was made, CB11 received several requests to have the one-way converted back to a two-way operation. A motion was made to approve the conversion to change Leith Road back to a two-way street. Motion was seconded by Joan Garippa. A vote by show of hands was unanimously in favor. Mr. Petallides continued with the review of the Transportation Committee Report stating that a speed hump was requested on 255 Street between 58 Avenue and 60 Avenue. He stated that the Livery Street Hail legislation that is waiting to be signed by Gov. Cuomo will be brought before a full board next month. Mr. Petallides discussed Mel Meer's request for bike lanes. A discussion ensued that the request for additional bike lanes was a request to fill the gaps of the existing bike lanes. The question was raised if DOT had a specific reason as to why gaps were not filled. A motion was made to fill in the gaps at the present bike lanes that exist, unless specified by DOT. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 44 in favor and 3 opposed. (In favor – Basom, Behar, Berrios, Bind, Cerezo, Claro, DiBenedetto, Doster, Euler, Ferrari, Fried, Garippa, Giusetti, Haber, Haider, Halili, Iannece, James, Jethwani, Karahalidis, Keit, Kim Liatto, Macinick, Meara, Miller, Newman, Novick, Petallides, Pivawer, Rothman, Scherer, Sekdorian, Smith, Sollano, Yagudaev – opposed – McEneaney, Skala, Teng) The motion carried. Mr. Petallides asked Mr. Iannece to speak on the topic of the realignment of the entrance at St. Mary's. Mr. Iannece stated that at a current meeting he attended with Tim Vance he was informed that the community was not in favor of the realignment. Mr. Iannece said that he had Susan Seinfeld review the file and this request goes back to 1995 which, at that time, the community was in favor. He stated CB11 has no involvement with the issuing of the permit to change the entrance. This is something internal between St. Mary's and DOT. Mr. Iannece stated that CB11 can forward inquires and oppositions to the appropriate authorities. Mr. Vance stated that the length of the curb cut looks to be longer than allowed and asked for a meeting with the Transportation Committee, Board Members and DOT to discuss this issue and how the community is against the change of the entrance. He said that there is no public record showing community support for change.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**BSA Cal. No. 252-71BZ – 190-18 Northern Boulevard.** An application to the Board of Standard and Appeals to renew the variance for a commercial use in an R3-2 residential district. The applicant's representative Alfonso Duarte stated that the applicant is requesting to extend the current variance for

Jennifer Convertible another 10 years. Christine Haider, Committee Chair, read the Committee Report of August 11, 2011. A committee vote had been taken resulting unanimously in favor of the application. A question and answer period followed with concerns that the prior conditions on the previous Resolution will remain and the additional five conditions will be added. A motion was made to approve the application with conditions. Motion was seconded by Bernard Haber. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 39 in favor. (In favor –Basom, Behar, Berrios, Bind, Cerezo, Claro, DiBenedetto, Doster, Euler, Ferrari, Fried, Garippa, Giusetti, Haber, Haider, Halili, Iannece, James, Jethwani, Karahalis, Keit, Kim, Liatto, Macinick, McEneaney, Meara, Miller, Newman, Novick, Palzer, Petallides, Pivawer, Rothman, Scherer, Sekdorian, Skala, Smith, Sollano, Teng) The motion carried.

**BSA Cal. No. 624-68BZ – 188-07/15 Northern Boulevard.** An application to the Board of Standard and Appeals to renew the variance for North Shore Plumbing operating in an R3-2 residential district. No representative appeared for the hearing. Christine Haider, Committee Chair, read the Committee Report of August 11, 2011. A committee vote had been taken resulting in disapproval of the application. A new motion was made to approve the application with the 10 conditions which were suggested at the committee meeting. A committee vote had been taken resulting in four in favor (Haider, Rothman, James, Claro), one opposed (Skala) with one abstention (Euler). Discussion ensued as to trucks parking illegally and that the signage for the florist on Utopia Parkway must be scaled back. Susan Seinfeld stated that this application is being heard at the Board of Standard and Appeals tomorrow. Andy Rothman asked if the applicant gave a verbal or written agreement to add the additional conditions to the resolution. Mrs. Haider stated it was a verbal agreement made at the committee meeting. A motion was made to approve the application with conditions. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 18 in favor, 20 opposed and 1 abstention. (In favor –Basom, Behar, Bind, Doster, Ferrari, Fried, Garippa, Haber, Haider, Halili, James, Karahalis, Keit, Macinick, Newman, Palzer, Pivawer, Sekdorian – Opposed – Berrios, Claro, DiBenedetto, Euler, Giusetti, Iannece, Jethwani, Kim, Liatto, McEneaney, Meara, Miller, Novick, Petallides, Rothman, Scherer, Skala, Smith, Sollano, Teng – Abstain – Cerezo) The motion was denied. Mr. Iannece stated that a letter with conditions to BSA will include that the applicant did not attend at the Community Board Public Hearing.

### **CB11 Capital and Expense**

Joan Garippa, Committee Co-Chair, announced that on Wednesday, September 21 the Capital and Expense Committee will be conducting a meeting for Budget Priorities. She advised that all requests should be handed into CB11.

Walter Mugdan, President of Udalls Cove Preservation Committee, asked for support from the community for the City to acquire the remaining lots in the Udalls Cove Ravine. Mr. Mugdan stated that privately they have maintained the up keep of Udalls Cove.

Mary Donahue, President of the 46 Avenue Beautification Committee stated the repair for curbs at the malls on 46 Avenue between 192 Street and 195 Street is listed as priority Item 2 on the CB11 Capital Budget Priority list and is asking for the City to fund the project.

The meeting was adjourned by Jerry Iannece at 9:17 pm.