

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11
GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

September 13, 2016

Middle School 158

46-35 Oceania Street

Bayside, NY 11361

Christine L. Haider - Chair

Susan Seinfeld – District Manager

Board Members Present:

Asa, Sila	Basom, Edith	Cerezo, Susan	Cheung, Irene
DiBenedetto, Paul	Donahue, Mary	Euler, Henry	Ferazzoli, Mario
Fierro-Gladwin, Sonya	Gafar, Alim	Galatan, Albert	Garippa, Joan
Giusetti, Roy	Haber, Bernard	James, Laura	Jethwani, Mohan
Jin, Stanley	Lee, Linda	Liatto, Robert	McEneaney, Janet
Miller, Eileen	Montgomery, Douglas	Newman, Steven	Palzer, Allan
Pivawer, Stephen	Scherer, Christina	Shehas, John	Sollano, Joseph
Sriram, Jyothi			

Board Members Absent:

Bind, Lana	Claro, Ocelia	Fried, Jack	Gresser, Lawrence
Haider, Christine	Halili, Zion	Karahalis, George	Koutsouradis, Anthony
Mihaltses, George	Petallides, Chris	Sin, Jessica	Yagudaev, Alex

CB 11 Staff:

Susan Seinfeld, District Manager	Christina Coutinho, Community Associate
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City Agencies Present:

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

Steve Dionision	Representing Assembly Member David Weprin
Timothy Hopper	Representing Congress Member Grace Meng
Elaine Fan	Representing NYC Comptroller’s Scott Stringer
Anne Marie Boranian	Representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
David Noh	Representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik
Seth Urbinder	Representing Assembly Member Ed Braunstein
Mike Yon	Representing Council Member Paul Vallone
Jack Wessells	Representing Senator Tony Avella
Jeong Ah Choi	Representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz

The meeting was called to order at 7:41pm by 1st Vice Chair, Laura James on behalf of Christine Haider who could not attend tonight’s meeting.

Ms. James led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Barry Grodenchik thanked Board members for their dedication to the community. He also thanked Mike Feiner, President Bayside Hills Civic Association, for conducting a successful 9/11 Memorial. The Council Member discussed the negative impact to the residents of Bayside Hills due to a prolonged water main project. He stated that this morning, he attended a “Welcome Home” celebration for the USA Olympians one of whom was a Gold Medalist who had attended Benjamin Cardozo High School. Finally discussed, was the need for services among people who suffer from mental illnesses.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Noh, representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik, discussed the Participatory Budgeting process.

Steven Miller, Quality Health Care, discussed a program that allows a person on Medicaid to hire someone they know to be their home health care attendant.

Joby Jacobs, Daniel Stein, John Kelly, Joanie Emerson and Victor Dadras all spoke regarding traffic safety on Northern Blvd. They each discussed how there should be a connection from the south side of Northern Blvd. to the entrance of the Joe Michaels Mile and a path from Douglaston to the Joe Michaels Mile. They asked the CB for support in forwarding their requests to the Parks Dept. and the Dept. of Transportation. Susan Seinfeld said the office is aware of the problem and that the Dept. of Transportation has been studying this issue.

PRESENTATIONS

Claire Wiseman, representing the Conflicts of Interest Board, gave a presentation regarding Chapter 68 of the NYC Charter as it pertains to Community Board members. Board members are encouraged to review the COIB website for any concerns or questions regarding their position as a Board member.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the June 6th meeting with an addition from Susan Cerezo. The motion was seconded by John Shehas. The minutes were accepted with the addition.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. James read the following announcements on behalf of Christine Haider:

Congratulations were given to the 111th Precinct for a successful National Night Out on August 2nd.

The Electronic Waste Recycling Event at St. Anastasia's has been changed to October 8th from 10am – 4pm.

Each Board member has received a Capital and Expense Priorities request form. Each request is reviewed by the committee and discussed at a committee meeting in October. A full Board vote will take place at the November meeting. Residents are also encouraged to complete the form and return to the CB office.

Curbside composting will start December 5, 2016 in CB11. Residents will receive two special composting cans in November.

The Ahles House in Bayside became officially Landmarked by the City Council.

Today is the first day of Eid al-Adha.

October 3rd is the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Therefore, the October meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5th.

Sen. Avella has announced that the Dept. of State is conducting more Cease and Desist Public Hearings.

The School Chancellor is visiting the District for a public meeting on Sept. 27th at M.S. 74. (correction - stated 24th at meeting)

There has been an offer to the Parks Dept. of a donation of land in Udall's Cove. The CB has been following up with the Parks Dept.

Susan met with DEP at Assembly Member Braunstein's office to discuss green garden infrastructure planned for our community. We hope to schedule a presentation by DEP at our November meeting.

There is no parking at the Little Neck LIRR Station this weekend due to the removal of the pedestrian overpass.

Anne Marie Boranian, on behalf of the Queens Borough President, presented two service awards for those who did not make the June meeting. Roy Giusetti for 10 years and Allan Palzer for 45 years.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Henry Euler attended Public Hearings over the summer at the Board of Standards and Appeals. He gave updates regarding Star Toyota, the former Sala Restaurant, Helms auto dealership on 207 Street, Staples and an application for a medical building on 45 Avenue and Francis Lewis Blvd. All cases were continued to a later date. Ms. James thanked Mr. Euler for attending the meetings and reporting back to Board.

Janet McEneaney said that the LIRR Port Washington line is very overcrowded. During baseball season and the US Open, it is even worse. She also stated that during the US Open, airplane traffic is limited over the stadium. Finally, she and her neighbors were not pleased that 16-years old were allowed to vote in Participatory Budgeting. The students only vote for high school projects.

Paul DiBenedetto stated that the 15th Annual Totten Trot 5K Foot Race will take place on October 30th. For additional information, go to their website, www.baysidehistorical.org.

Douglas Montgomery stated that the Electronic Waste Event will be on October 8th and he will pick up electronics for seniors and homebound residents.

Steven Newman stated that during the summer, a memo was sent to Committee chairs requesting suggestions for the Long Range Planning Committee. He did not receive any suggestions but said that speakers made suggestions worthy of review.

Steven Newman and Albert Galatan discussed their positive experience with traveling to the US Open and Citi Field on the LIRR.

Susan Cerezo gave an update on a meeting she attended with the Flushing Hospital Community Advisory Board. She also stated that on October 16th, the Making Strides for Breast Cancer Cure Walk event will be held in Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BSA Cal. No. 144-03 BZ – 188-16 Northern Blvd. An application filed with the Board of Standards and Appeals to extend and amend the term of the variance for permitted Use Group 6 retail services in an R3-2 & R3X zoning district. A representative from Akerman LLP, Jacqueline Calcagno, representing the applicant explained that currently, the properties Use Group is restricted to a retail bank only. They are seeking to extend the term and permit Use Group 6 retail services which would allow for uses other than a bank. Henry Euler read the Committee report of September 9th on behalf of Ocelia Claro.

Mr. Euler stated that because of the limitation of space, there will be two businesses and residential space on the 2nd floor. There are no complaints regarding this site on record with the CB and local civic. At the committee meeting, a motion was made to approve the application with two conditions: (1) that no rental be given to a 24-hour business and (2) that all businesses close by 11pm. The committee members voted unanimously in favor of the application. A question and answer period followed. A motion was made to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Douglas Montgomery. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 29 in favor and 0 in opposition (In-favor – Asa, Basom, Cerezo, Cheung, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fierro-Gladwin, Gafar, Galatan, Garippa, Giusetti, Haber, James, Jethwani, Jin, Lee, Liatto, McEneaney, Miller, Montgomery, Newman, Palzer, Pivawer, Scherer, Shehas, Sollano, Sriram) The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education – Laura James, Chair, and Alim Gafar, Co-Chair, reviewed the committee report of July 11th. Justin Chew, committee member and faculty member at Benjamin Cardozo High School, discussed the goals of Fair Student Funding Guide 2013. The statistics presented showed that Cardozo, Bayside, Francis Lewis and Forest Hills High Schools received Fair Student Funding Percentages that were at lower levels than other NYC schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.