



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

46-11 104th Street

Corona, New York

11368-2882

Telephone: 718-760-3141

Fax: 718-760-5971

e-mail: qn04@cb.nyc.gov

Melinda Katz
Borough President

Louis Walker
Chairperson

Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

June 9, 2015

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: VFW POST #150
51-11 108 STREET
CORONA, NY

I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. District Manager Christian Cassagnol took the roll call. A quorum was present.

IV. **Vote: Minutes May 12, 2015**

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **accept** the minutes.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Louis Walker reported last night at the Hall of Science a swearing-in ceremony was held for new and re-appointed Board Members. The following Board Members were honored:

Ten Year Service Awards:

Alirio Orduna
Edgar Moya
Patricia Terranova

Twenty-Five Year Service Awards

Lucy Schilero
Louis Walker

Thirty Year Service Award

Clara Salas

Forty-Five Year Service Award

Miriam Levenson

Continuing with the Chairperson's Report, Mr. Walker reported on the following Committee assignments:

Consumer Affairs

Erica Cruz, Chair
Lucy Cerezo-Scully
Winnie Oo
Damian Vargas

Environmental/Parks

Giancarlo Castano, Environmental Chair
Hector Hernandez
Ashley Reed
Patricia Terranova
Al Perna, Parks Chair
Debra Clayton
Sandra Munoz
Rosa Wong

Health

Sal Lombardo, Chair
Myrna Littlewort
Clara Salas
Peter Manganaro
Edgar Moya

Postal

Gigi Salvador, Chair
Marcella Testa
Lester Youngblood
Marialena Giampino

Public Safety

Lucy Schilero, Chair
Eduardo Medrano-Salas
Gurdip Singh Narula
Georgina Oliver
Alirio Orduna

Transportation

Joseph DiMartino, Chair
Priscilla Carrow
Ann Pfoser Darby
James Lisa

ULURP/Zoning

Alton Derrick Smith, Chair
Judith D'Andrea
Rovenia McGowan
A. Redd Sevilla
Minwen Yang

Youth

Pasang Tsering, Chair
Helen Landaverde
Cristian Romero
Patricia Martin

Chairperson Louis Walker stated notices will be mailed regarding Committee assignments.

Regarding the 111 Street Transportation Improvements, Chairperson Walker reported it is only an informational meeting. No vote will be taken tonight, In September, the Board will hold a Public Hearing followed by a vote. During the summer, other informational sessions may be held. Details will follow.

The Department Of City Planning's Zoning Text Amendment presentation on tonight's agenda is also informational. No vote will be taken. However when it is finalized, the Board will vote on it.

Regarding the 111 Street segment, Chairperson Walker informed the Board the presentation will be given in its entirety with no interruptions followed by one question per Board Member if you so choose to ask a question. No questions will be taken from the audience at this time since it is not a Public Hearing.

At this point, District Manager Christian Cassagnol reminded the Board Members after the conclusion of the meeting, the Board will convene into closed session.

Also, Chairperson Walker asked the Board Members to hand in their contact information to staff member Christina.

VI. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Michael Mallon, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, congratulated the new Committee Chairs and the Board for all the great work it does for the community. He read a statement from Council Member Dromm regarding the 111 Street proposal.

Dear CB 4 Members:

After years of advocating for safer travel conditions around Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is prioritizing the redesign of 111th Street in Corona. This comprehensive plan will create a welcoming environment for pedestrians, motorists and cyclists, making 111th Street a gateway into our

iconic Queens park. As your council representatives, invested residents and former elementary school educators, we could not be more supportive of DOT's plan.

The first set of improvements will include strategic crossings for pedestrians including more crosswalks safety islands and shorter crossing distances; more parking and clearly marked lanes for motorists; and a two-way bicycle path that connects Flushing Meadows-Corona Park to the existing network of bicycle lanes. These initial improvements will be followed by \$2.7 million "brick and mortar" renovation for which the City Council has already allocated funds. The DOT's plan will transform 111th Street from a barrier into the park to a gateway fit for all of us; and they are committed to completing the first phase of the project in record time—work would begin this summer and be complete before school starts.

Presently, 111th Street is a priority in our community with a high demand for parking; numerous intersections without proper signage; and an average of 4.9 pedestrians killed or seriously injured per mile. In addition, 884 cyclists traverse 111th Street on any given weekday, the majority of them children entering the park. The facts are undeniable; 111th Street is in need of an immediate change.

Stand with your elected representatives in the City Council, and ask Community Board 4 to approve the plan to redesign 111th Street at its next meeting on Tuesday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Post 150, 51-11 108 Street, Corona, NY. Today, we have the opportunity to transform 111th Street, to redesign this crucial thruway so that it is welcoming and safe for everyone.

In Service,

*Council Member Julissa Ferreras
Chair, Finance Committee*

*Council Member Daniel Dromm
Chair, Education Committee*

SCRIE and DRIE rates have been increasing, which locks rents in for seniors and people with disabilities. Those 62 years of age and older are eligible for SCRIE. One pitfall is for those that pay preferential rent. Preferential rent is when your landlord charges you less than what the legal requirement is. Details followed.

Next, Elyse Nagiel, representing Assembly Member Francisco Moya's Office, reported the Assembly Member is in Albany and regrets he could not attend tonight's Board meeting. Instead, the Assembly Member sent a video message, which will be presented tonight.

While the video presentation was being set up, Ms. Nagiel spoke about unemployment benefits which are, in certain cases, greater than going back to work part time. It is a problem because under the current guidelines it discourages people from taking on part-time work. An unemployed person can end up earning more than a part-time worker. Assembly Member Moya introduced legislation that would change the guidelines so that New York's part-time workers can cope while seeking full-time work.

Next, she spoke about disability benefits for Police and Firefighters. Assembly Member Moya believes officers and firefighters are our first responders and deserve better pensions and benefits.

Lastly, she spoke about the 111 Street Transportation Improvements proposal. The Assembly Member wants to be sure the community is included in the process.

At this point, Assembly Member Moya addressed the Board via video message. Assembly Member Moya was in Albany fighting for key issues for all New Yorkers such as rent regulations affecting millions of New Yorkers. He also spoke about his signature piece of legislation which targets unscrupulous unemployment agencies, that takes advantage of job seekers.

In essence, Assembly Member Moya addressed DOT's proposed plan to change the traffic patterns on 111 Street. He is a lifelong resident who lives only two blocks away from 111 Street. At this point, there were some technical difficulties with the video message. Until the difficulties were resolved, Chairperson Walker called on D. I. Christopher Manson to present his report.

D. I. Manson reported crime continues to drop and is down 5% for the year, but continues to be up in two areas: GLA's (stolen cars)—up by six stolen cars for the year; a 20% increase. Recently stolen are motorcycles. In fact, two were stolen out of the same garage. Many motorcycles are stolen by the perps. by placing them on a flatbed or a van.

D. I. Manson encouraged people to use a quality chain through the frame, not through one tire chained to a pole. An increase has also been seen in felony assaults driven primarily by domestic violence, usually by husbands and wives. One of the reasons for the increase is due to the efforts by the Police Dept. encouraging people to report the crime. No one should be a silent victim; typically female, at home, abused and beaten. Either victims do not know to report the crime or are afraid. For whatever reason victims should report the abuse, even though we're up in domestic assaults, it's not a bad thing, which can be attributed to outreach. More people are reporting it said D. I. Manson.

Next, he spoke about the problems with Flushing Meadows -Corona Park. Since he has taken over the Precinct two months ago, there have been numerous complaints on the Park, typically after dark on Saturday and Sunday nights. Police operations have been in the Park the last couple of weekends. In the past two weeks, probably 100 summonses have been issued including arrests.

Working with the Parks Dept., Parks said after July 1 gates would be installed to close off some of the parking lots where on some nights hundreds of people show up to party. Also, speed bumps were requested and are in process.

Next, he spoke about commercial parking in residential areas. Heavy tow trucks were brought in to our neighborhoods and five tractor trailers were towed out of residential areas and twenty cars were summonsed. Those cars would have also been towed, but the tractor trailers were the first priority.

Those operations will continue and the Precinct is very well aware of the quality of life issues in the neighborhoods and they will continue to be addressed.

Next, he noted year to date accidents were up 3%. One of the reasons for the increase was that last year there was a dramatic decrease comparing the numbers to peaks and valleys. Down 3% last year, not giving back gains made last year. Even in Injuries for the year—were 284 injuries total. Of those injuries, the Pedestrian Struck category was included, which resulted in serious injury and death. (Down 10%) and will continue enforcement. For the Motorcycles category, NYPD is ramping up on motorcycles this year because of the incident on the Westside Highway a few years ago with the motorcycle gangs. A high percentage of motorcycle riders do not have licenses, and bikes are not registered or insured. In the last month, 300 summonses were issued to motorcycle riders, and probably 30 motorcycles taken into the Precinct. Those operations will continue to ensure public safety.

At this point, Board Member Alirio Orduna inquired what is the 110 Precinct doing about loud music noises.

D. I. Manson replied always a problem, which spikes in the summer. He spoke about the 311 order. 311 calls are answered like a second tier. 911 calls are priority, which are potential violence; then 311 calls. D.I. Manson explained the procedure involving 311 calls at the Precinct.

Next, Board Member Judy D'Andrea inquired about the entrances/exits, especially behind the Hall of Science, at Flushing Meadows- Corona Park are closed to the driver. She mentioned an event this past weekend. No one was notified of the closure and also noted she was stuck in the Park. Workers were belligerent about letting her get through.

D. I. Manson responded Police were not notified either. There should be a better way for the Parks Dept. to notify the community of events in the Park, perhaps via electronic message boards. A meeting is scheduled in two weeks with the Parks Dept. and he will mention this issue.

Next, Board Member Damian Vargas spoke about his experience with a 311 call. Regarding a noise complaint he reported online, within 45 minutes he received an e-mail police responded and the condition was not observed. Board Member Vargas stated the condition was very obvious and could not be missed. So, he reported the condition again and received the same response—someone went by and did not observe the condition. He started the report at 3:00 a.m., again at 4:30 a.m., and finally at 6:00 a.m. someone came by and at 6:30 a.m. the music was closed.

D. I. Manson asked for the address of the property and said he would look into it, and commented the problem should have been corrected the first time.

Board Member Vargas was concerned not so much with the loud music but with the statement someone went out there and did not observe the problem. The complaint was documented by videos, photos, and timestamping.

At this point, Assembly Member Moya's video message was re-played. He continued he is a big supporter of bike lanes as well as Vision Zero. The reality is that the proposal being presented by DOT is about process. This is a process that was made without the direct communication with the people of this community. The local residents of 111 Street were not consulted on this proposal. This becomes an issue. Consultations must be held with the local community before a big decision is made that will have an effect on the local community.

Assembly Member Moya reviewed DOT's proposal and offered two different opportunities about making some changes where the bike lanes would be which would not create traffic congestion on 111 Street by converting the roadway to one lane.

The first proposal was to connect the bike lanes from 108 Street going through the Park from the entranceway of the Hall of Science and come out onto Van Doren Street. This proposal was rejected.

An alternative proposal was to create the bike lanes going through the medians on 111 Street without creating the one lane traffic patterns through 111 Street. This proposal was rejected as well.

Every time Assembly Member Moya gave a counter-proposal, it was rejected. This is about a process and we need to have inclusion. Members of the Community Board are the eyes and ears of the community and have the opportunity to look at the plan and study it before it gets forced down the throats of the community. This is the opportunity for Board Members to take a look at what the plan does and make a conscious decision on whether or not it is good for our community.

Assembly Member Moya is not opposed to bike lanes but opposed to the process, It is about inclusion in our community and it is about making sure that the people most affected by this that their voices are taken seriously. It is about a process that includes all of us. All Board Members were thanked for their volunteerism and service to the community.

Ms. Nagiel summed up Assembly Member Moya wants to ensure that the community's voices are heard in this process. He is not opposed to bike lanes and had proposed other plans that would incorporate bike lanes into the community and he wants to make sure that the people who will be impacted most are heard in the process.

Next, Alexander Bennett, representing Congresswoman Grace Meng's office, reported on the following Federal updates:

Congresswoman Meng introduced the Anti-Spoofing Act of 2015 with Reps. Joe Barton (R-TX and Leonard Lance (R-NJ) to combat a widespread telephone scam that has targeted and defrauded millions of Americans—including seniors, veterans, and immigrants—passed the House of Representatives. The measure now goes to the Senate.

Visit Congresswoman Meng's website for more information on this legislation.

Secondly, Congresswoman Meng met with New York State Assemblyman Ron Kim and business leaders from across New York City to launch the *Healthy Nail Salon Network* after recent reports by the *New York Times* on the poor working conditions at nail salons. The immediate fixes and long-term solutions from this network come from many private meetings led by community based groups. Visit Congresswoman Meng's website for more information.

Subsequently, he announced the Social Security Office in Rego Park had re-opened. It was closed in December 2014 for renovations.

Lastly, Mr. Bennett explained spoofing is a widespread scam in which bogus names and phone numbers are displayed on a recipient's caller ID to trick them into answering the phone or replying to text messages. Con artists and unscrupulous telemarketers use this technology to disguise their numbers and identities to make their calls appear legitimate and use it to obtain personal or financial information by misrepresenting themselves, as a government agency, hospital, credit card company, or a bank.

Next, Jorge Fanjul, representing Council Member Julissa Ferreras' office, submitted her remarks on the redesign of 111 Street.

Dear Members of Community Board 4:

Flushing Meadows-Corona Park and the street that lines it belongs to us all--residents, visitors, children, seniors, immigrants everyone. As the person you elected as your Council Member, I am committed to the safety of all of us. Nevertheless during my meeting last week with the Transportation Committee, one member alleged that I am not familiar with the Corona Heights neighborhood and, therefore, not in a position to improve 111 Street. That statement is absolutely incorrect and, frankly, offensive.

Flushing Meadows-Corona Park has been my backyard for my entire life. I also enter the Park through 111 Street during festivals and special events. I have family and friends who live on 111 Street. I know and have seen first-hand the dangers on 111 Street. When I was 12 years old, my aunt had her leg broken in three places by a passing car there. In addition, I have had residents come to the office with pleas to fix 111 Street for nearly a decade. This is why I fully support the plan DOT will present today because it will improve safety for everyone—pedestrians, drivers, and the 800+ cyclists that use 111 Street on a daily basis.

The DOT has diligently studied conditions on that road, have heard our concerns, and assessed our needs, and I trust their expert recommendations. Together with Council Member Daniel Dromm, the Queens Museum, Make the Road NY, Make Queens Safer, Transportation Alternatives, Immigrant International and everyone here, I want streets that are safe and beautiful for all of Corona's residents and all of Queens residents who use Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

So, it is my hope that we can move forward with the plan that is good for all of us.

*In Service,
Council Member Julissa Ferreras*

Before concluding, Mr. Fanjul announced Council Member Ferreras will hold a Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, June 30, at the New York Hall of Science from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. All were invited to attend and voice your opinion. Flyers were on the back table.

VII. PRESENTATIONS - Items under Presentations may be taken out of order

A. NYCDOT

--111th Street Safety Improvements

In response to requests from Council Member Ferreras, DOT is proposing safety and mobility enhancements to 111th Street in the vicinity of Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. The improvements include new pedestrian crossings, expanded pedestrian crossings, expanded pedestrian space, additional vehicular parking spaces, a 2-way parking protected bicycle path and bicycle connections to the 34th Avenue bicycle lanes and to the pedestrian bridge at Corona Avenue and Horace Harding Expwy.

B. Dept. of City Planning

--Zoning Text Amendments

The first presentation on the agenda to be heard was the Dept. of City Planning—Zoning Text Amendments

The Board was provided with a fact sheet entitled “*Housing New York: Zoning for Quality and Affordability*” describing the plan.

Next, Kathi Ko, representing the Dept. of City Planning—Queens Office, presented a slide presentation on the draft zoning text proposal. The following points were addressed:

- Housing New York:
- Zoning for Quality and Affordability

- Housing New York: A Five-Borough Ten Year Plan
- In May 2014, Mayor De Blasio released “Housing New York” a five-borough, ten-year plan to preserve or create 200,000 units of affordable housing. The proposed changes would modernize the Zoning Resolution to better promote housing affordability and higher-quality buildings.

- Ongoing Housing New York Initiatives NYC Department of City Planning
- Neighborhood Planning Studies
- Mandatory Inclusionary Housing
- Zoning for Quality & Affordability

- Key Goals
- Remove barriers
- Encourage better quality buildings

- Promote affordable senior housing

- Reduce unnecessary parking requirements for affordable housing

- Part 1: Promote Senior Housing

- Issue: New York City’s population is rapidly aging, and the need for affordable senior housing far exceeds the supply
- Issue: By modernizing categories and allowing for mixed configurations, zoning can enable the City to better address the diverse needs of seniors
- Proposal: Promote affordable senior housing and care facilities
- Part 2: Modernize rules that shape buildings
- Issue: “contextual” building envelope controls make new housing difficult and expensive to build
- Issue: Obsolete 1987 controls increase costs and often lead to poor housing design
- Goal: Accommodate improved exterior and interior building design
- Goal: New Construction Methods
- Proposal: Modify Building Envelope
- Proposal: Additional Flexibility and Senior and Inclusionary Housing
- Proposal: Encourage variety and better design
- Proposal: Flexibility for constrained lots
- Part 3: Reduce unnecessary parking requirements for affordable housing
- Issue: Unnecessary parking requirements hamper the production of affordable housing
- Proposal: In Transit Zone:
 - Eliminate parking requirements for affordable housing near transit
- Proposal: Outside Transit Zone
 - Simply or reduce parking requirements in other areas
- What is the process?
- How can I get more information?

For more information, log on to the NYC Department of City Planning Website:
 Online: www.nyc.gov/DCP/AHOUSING

Or contact DCP at
 Email: AHOUSING@planning.nyc.gov

Board Member Lucy Schilero brought up the issue of parking. The biggest complaint in the Board area is to find parking. More thought should be given to the parking component.

Ms. Ko responded according to the analysis that was done and census data compiled, low income households have low rates of car ownership.

Subsequently, Chairperson Louis Walker pointed out the problem with the reduced parking requirement is that all of the cars on the street are not registered in the State of New York.

Next, NYCDOT presented the 111th Street Safety Improvements

With the aid of a slide presentation, Mr. Nick Carey, Project Manager for the NYC Department of Transportation, Division of Planning & Management, presented the proposal.

Mr. Carey explained from DOT's perspective it is a Vision Zero priority corridor. Between 2009-2013, there were six traffic related serious injuries per mile on 111 Street, ranking it in the worst third of all the corridors in Queens. During that time period there were 17 pedestrian crashes, 22 bicycle crashes, and 93 motor vehicle crashes. Data was being collected in 2013 to see how safety and mobility on 111 Street could be improved. Meanwhile, Council Member Ferreras was working with several advocates and hosting neighborhood workshops for Jackson Heights and Corona on various transportation issues. One prominent issue was the interest in redesigning 111 Street to better accommodate people walking or bicycling. In September 2014, DOT received a formal letter from Council Member Ferreras requesting improvements in her district, specifically, to include re-designing 111 Street with ways to improve it.

As a result, 111 Street adjacent to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park was looked at.

The street is 94' wide and there are two northbound lanes and three southbound lanes, which is an unusual street alignment, especially north of 46th Avenue the roadway narrows to one lane. The street has a center median, and parking on both sides. DOT decided to look at how the street functions from the perspective of each mode: how does it work for motorists, for pedestrians and for cyclists. The following slides were explained:

- Existing Conditions, 111 Street, 46 Avenue to Corona Avenue
- Existing Conditions, 111 Street Driving Environment
- Existing Conditions, 111 Street Pedestrian Environment
- Existing Conditions, 111 Street Bicycling Environment
- Park is a major destination
- High bicycle volume:
- --884 cyclists, 84% riding on the sidewalk
- No bicycle route facilities

- 111 Street, 46 Avenue to Corona Avenue summary
- Roadway design is dangerously inconsistent with land use
- Street acts as a barrier to the park rather than a gateway
- Project Goals:
- Improve safety for all roadway users
- Improve access to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park

- Rapid Response Toolkit
- Future Capital Improvements
- 111 Street Proposed Enhancement: Improved Lane Configuration
- 111 Street Proposed Enhancement: Improved Lane Configuration
- Example of Parking-Protected 2-way Bicycle Path
- 111 Street Proposed Enhancement: New Pedestrian Crossings
- 111 Street Proposed Enhancement: Expanded Pedestrian Space
- Rendering of Proposed Conditions on 111 Street
- Existing Conditions: 111 Street,, 46 Avenue to Corona Avenue
- Proposed Conditions: 111 Street, 46 Avenue to Corona Avenue
- Community Concerns About Traffic Congestions
- Data Collection Locations
- Non-Game Day Midweek Vehicle Volume
- Game Day Vehicle Volume
- Queens Night Market
- Results of Traffic Monitoring
- Proposed Bicycle Network Connections
- Existing Conditions: Corona Avenue, 111 Street to LIE Service Road
- Proposed Conditions: Corona Avenue, 111 Street to LIE Service Road
- Example of Protected 2-way Bicycle Path
- Existing Conditions: 111 Street/Corona Avenue/Sautell Avenue
- Proposed Conditions: 111 Street/Corona Avenue/Sautell Avenue
- Existing Conditions: 111 Street/46 Avenue to 44 Avenue
- Proposed Conditions: 111 Street, 46 Avenue to 44 Avenue

- Proposed Bicycle Network Conditions: 111 Street, 43 Avenue
- Example of Shared Lanes
- Existing Conditions: 108 Street, 43 Avenue to Roosevelt Avenue
- Existing Conditions: 108 Street, 43 Avenue to Roosevelt Avenue
- Summary of Proposed Enhancements
 1. One travel lane in each direction
 2. A two-way parking protected bicycle path along the Park
 3. Four new un-signalized pedestrian crossings
 4. An extended pedestrian space in the form of islands, medians, and extensions
 5. New parking lane along the median on the southbound side of the street
 6. Other traffic improvements to help the street function better during special events
- Outreach Meetings
- Community Board Meetings

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker asked how much parking in total is gained.

The net gain is ten spaces responded Mr. Carey.

Chairperson Walker continued there is a nursing home (Rego Park Health Care) on 111 Street that will lose parking in front of its facility to create a bicycle lane.

Broadly speaking, Mr. Carey said DOT does not like to create bicycle routes existing to nowhere—they should connect to the bicycle network to be interconnected to get around. The way DOT wants to connect to the south is to wrap around the Park on Corona Avenue for the one block between 111 Street and Horace Harding Expressway to connect to the pedestrian bridge, which goes across the Long Island Expressway. Reviewing the slides, additional detailed information was provided.

Next, Chairperson Louis Walker announced at this point Board Members would have an opportunity to ask questions. In alphabetical order, he/she has the option to ask a question or not. One question was allotted to each Board Member.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol called out each Board Member's name. Some Board members did ask questions; others did not.

At the conclusion of the question and answer session, Chairperson Walker inquired (slide #14) what happens when you have one lane and a vehicle is disabled and I am behind it. How will I get around the disabled vehicle? Do I go over the median? Where will I go?

Mr. Carey responded assuming your vehicle is not especially wide; you may be able to go around it. What is proposed is an 11' travel lane and a 3' buffer next to it. The 3' buffer is needed so that FDNY and trucks could make the turn out. Since most cars are 6' to 7' in width if you push them to the side, you may be able to get around it.

More discussion ensued.

Subsequently, District Manager Cassagnol said this is an on-going study and in order to present a study of this magnitude, it should be a year round study and when all numbers are compiled, it should be brought back to the Board. Many of the numbers have not been substantiated because it has not happened yet.

VIII. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on the following liquor license applications:

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES

JUNE 2015

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Moonlight Dinner Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer No show. No paperwork submitted.	111-12 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
Bob's Beer Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer Representative contacted the office to say they were not ready to proceed at this time	111-06 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied.
Ru Yi Broadway Wine & Beer Only	83-34 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Approved

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

El Dorado Café Corp. Wine and Beer Only No show. No paperwork submitted.	102-02 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
Betty's Catering Liquor, Wine and Beer	94-33 Corona Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved

ALTERATION

96-01 Corona Avenue Rest. Corp. Wine & Beer Only The establishment is not ready to proceed.	96-01 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------

At this point, Board Member Sandra Munoz made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **approve** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

IX. REPORT AND VOTE -- CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Since the Consumer Affairs Committee Chair was not in attendance, District Manager Christian Cassagnol presented the application for Sabor Latino I. Corp., 95-35 40th Road, Elmhurst, NY. (Unenclosed Sidewalk Café (Renewal) and also gave details. A representative from the establishment was in attendance.

Subsequently, Chairperson Louis Walker called for discussion. Board Member Lucy Schilero said inside the establishment there are a row of seats more like stadium seating. Why is it set up that way?

Sabor Latino's representative replied they are benches for people walking by.

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero asked if those benches would be removed. Sabor Latino's representative replied no.

More discussion ensued.

Since there were no other questions, Board Member Eduardo Medrano-Salas made a motion, seconded by Board Member Edgar Moya, to **approve** the unenclosed sidewalk café application for Sabor Latino I. Corp.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

X. REPORT AND VOTE -- TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Committee Member James Lisa reported on behalf of the Committee. He attended CB 4's Transportation Committee meeting when the 111 Street re-design was presented. The reason why the Transportation Committee voted no was because there were too many unanswered questions, too many safety issues, and too many problems communicating with the community. Specifically, no one knew about this proposal that takes parking away from areas that cannot afford to lose it. He questioned why not put the bike lanes through the Park going from one end to the other. The overpasses were built for bikes to be put into the Park. You can go through the Park, over the bridge in front of the tennis stadium, to Roosevelt Avenue to 114 Street without a problem.

111 Street is the safety valve for 108 Street. When traffic is overpowering on 108 Street, everyone uses 111 Street to exit the community. Natural boundaries are the Long Island Expressway, Grand Central Parkway, and the Long Island Railroad. He pointed out there is only one way in and one way out of Corona Heights—108 Street. He noted Roosevelt Avenue has its own issues. The Transportation Committee felt this proposal was not conducive to the quality of life in the community nor was it beneficial to the residents of the block (potential traffic congestion examples were cited). Therefore, the Committee voted no on the proposal and is awaiting further communication on concerns the Committee had raised.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol explained the following three street activity permits on the agenda:

Street Activity Permits for Review

June 2015 Block Party

Single Block Festival/Block Party

(Est. 1000 people)

June 20th 2:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

(55th Avenue between Madison Street and 85th Street)

District Manager Cassagnol said this event was done the same time last year at the same location. The only difference is the time had changed. The NYPD had already approved the street closure and there were no issues with this event. The applicant had provided the Board with several signatures of residents on the block that there was no objection to the event.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Judy D'Andrea, to **approve** the application.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Evangelism Day

Religious Ceremony

*On this day, we give out tracts, food, books and preach the gospel. Also
During this time, there will be live music, face painting, and prayer station.*

(Est. 300 people)

June 20

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

(48th Avenue between Corona Avenue and 90th Street)

A representative for the applicant was in attendance ready to provide information on the event. District Manager Cassagnol reported this is an event similar to last year's. No issues were reported. The location is 48th Avenue between Corona Avenue and 90th Street near Newtown High School. Signatures were provided to the Board from residents living on the block approving the event.

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Narula, to **approve** the application.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Eid Ul Futur

Religious Ceremony

After one month of Ramadan, Muslims gather and pray together

(est. 400 people)

July 16, 17, or 18

5:a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(73 Street between Roosevelt and 41 Avenue)

A representative was in attendance ready to provide information on the event.

District Manager Cassagnol gave details of the event. This is not the first time this has happened along these streets. In previous years, there was another group hosting the event. However, this year this group submitted their application before the other group. Standard procedure was followed and signatures of people residing on the block approving the event were submitted to the Board office.

Board Member Lucy Schilero questioned the very early (5:00 a.m.) starting time for those three days.

It was explained the early time was for one of the three days.

At this point, the event's representative explained the schedule of Ramadan and the celebration afterward. He also explained the early starting time and reiterated it is one of the three days.

Next, Board Member Edgar Moya made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **approve** the application.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Subsequently, Board Member Judy D'Andrea brought up a big parade was held last Saturday on 48th and 49th Avenues. Streets were closed and there was no parking. She asked why the community wasn't notified. This happens every year.

District Manager Cassagnol explained each Board Member received two event lists. He only found out about Saturday's event after the fact. Those lists were the only ones we had. As the Board office receives the events, the Board Members are also notified.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea said the organizer of this event needs to know there is a procedure in place. The street cannot be closed and have a parade for a couple of hours, especially when there are on-going events at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

Discussion ensued.

XI. REPORT AND VOTE – ULURP COMMITTEE

--Zoning Text Amendments

No vote was required. Dept. of City Planning's presentation was for informational purposes only.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental /Parks

Environmental Committee Chair Giancarlo Castano reported on June 20 a cleanup event is scheduled for O'Connor's Tail Park. Flyers were distributed on the event. Also, the Committee will meet on a different date. Announcement on new date will follow.

Parks Committee Chair Al Perna stated no report.

Postal

Committee Chair Gigi Salvador stated no report.

Health

Committee Chair Sal Lombardo stated no report.

Youth

Committee Chair Pasang Tsering stated no report.

XIII. PUBLIC FORUM

Board Member Pasang Tsering reported in April 2015 the Nepal earthquake killed more than 9,000 people and destroyed thousands of properties. Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless with entire villages flattened. Mr. Tsering was contacted by a school friend residing in India asking for help to rebuild their home. If anyone would like to donate to this cause, see Pasang after the meeting.

Next, Mr. Stephen Grayson, Account Manager, New York Blood Center, informed the Board St. Leo's Church is having a blood drive July 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Help is needed. One out of three people will need a blood transfusion in their lifetime. It is a very critical time at the New York Blood Center. Flyers were distributed. 25% of the blood collected at the New York Blood Center comes from education—high schools, colleges. Since they are on vacation during the summer, blood drives are non-existent so dependence is on the church and the community. Only two percent of New Yorkers donate blood. One donation can save up to three lives. Details were given on the requirements to donate blood.

Next, Board Member Gurdip Narula requested a moment of silence for the Nepal earthquake victims.

At this point, Board Member Alirio Orduna reported \$152.00 was collected for the family of the earthquake.

Next, a member from the audience spoke about the 111 Street re-design proposal. She was informed by Assembly Member Moya the community had requested safer pedestrian crossings and repair of the medians. It had nothing to do with bike lanes. Throughout the city this same street redesign had been implemented. As an example, she cited Broadway in Queens where the roadway was narrowed from Northern Blvd. upwards, including in front of Elmhurst Hospital, which is a major trauma center. If it could be done there, it should be done here she stated.

She also spoke about the number of injuries and the issue of one lane, adding this is about safety and street redesign.

Next, Elyse Nagiel, representing Assembly Member Moya's office, stated Assembly Moya's problem is with the process not with safety or installing bike lanes etc. He is one of the biggest proponents encouraging street safety.

More discussion ensued about the community workshops that were held.

At this point, Chairperson Walker announced the Board would convene into Closed Session. All audience members were asked to leave. The Board convened into Closed Session at 10:20 p.m.

The Board came out of session at 10:35 p.m.

With no objection, Chairperson Louis Walker adjourned the meeting at 10:35 p.m.