



## COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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**Helen Marshall**  
Borough President

**Louis Walker**  
Chairperson

**Barry Grodenchik**  
Deputy Borough President  
Director of Community Boards

**Christian Cassagnol**  
District Manager

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### COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: ELMHURST HOSPITAL  
79-01 BROADWAY-AUDITORIUM A1-22  
ELMHURST, NY

I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. First Vice Chair Patricia Terranova took the roll call. A quorum was present.

#### IV. **VOTE: MINUTES OCTOBER 8, 2013**

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to **approve** the minutes of the October 8 meeting.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 29 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

#### V. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

In lieu of the Chairperson's report, the floor was turned over to Deputy Chief Jeffrey Madrey who asked for the Board's support for a street co-naming in honor of Police Officer Robert Ehmer who died in 2010. Deputy Chief Madrey explained he is currently in charge of all housing developments in Brooklyn from Coney Island to Greenpoint. He spoke about knowing P. O. Robert Ehmer since 1991 while working within various units in the 110 Precinct.

Police Officer Ehmer was a colleague who worked in the 110 Police Precinct for almost twenty years and died tragically at a young age due to complications from September 11. He was 47 years old when he died of cancer caused by his service at the World Trade Center for four months following the attacks.

Police Officer Ehmer was both a very humble and a very professional individual who taught Deputy Chief Madrey, then a young officer at the 110 Precinct the boundaries of the Precinct. At that time, the Precinct's

boundaries were very confusing since there were many roads and highways within the Precinct, while remembering how P. O. Ehmer taught him to be a better and more professional police officer.

P. O. Ehmer's whole life was about service. Not only did he work at the Police Department as a law enforcement official protecting the community, but also served the community working at St. John's Hospital in the Security Unit, eventually becoming an EMT at St. John's Hospital.

He was a great man, great police officer, great friend not only to Deputy Chief Madrey, but also to his colleagues at the 110 Precinct as well as to the many people in the community.

Deputy Chief Madrey asked for the Board's support to co-name a street outside the 110 Precinct, which would serve as a fitting tribute to P. O. Ehmer. The sign requested is to be placed at the corner of 95<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue—300 feet east of the 110<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

The vote was taken later on during the meeting.

## **VI. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER**

District Manager Cassagnol mentioned the FY 2015 Capital and Expense priorities. All Board members had received copies of the budget priorities, which will be voted on tonight.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol said flyers were distributed by Community Affairs P. O. Janine Rivera if you would like to know more about NYPD 110 Community Affairs Crime Prevention, Police Athletic League, or Safety tips etc. check the box and return it to P. O. Rivera.

Next, RCN Telecom Services will be working on 41 Avenue between 78<sup>th</sup> and 79 Streets. Expect cable interruptions.

## **VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Since Treasurer Joseph DiMartino was not present, Chairperson Louis Walker gave the report. The Sunshine Fund has enough money to hold the Board's Annual Holiday Party. Similarly, the internal operating budget for the Board office has not sustained any budget cuts. As a result, the Board's financial affairs are in good order at this time.

Since the Transportation Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino was not in attendance, there was an item on the Committee's report which needed to be addressed. District Manager Cassagnol presented the report at this time. In front of the VFW Post #150 located on 108 Street, the veterans are seeking a designated parking spot to be used as a drop off by family, friends and Access A Ride. Currently, the veterans must walk quite a distance to the entrance.

District Manager Cassagnol had contacted the Department of Transportation which needs a letter of support advocating making one parking space a No Parking Anytime zone.

At this point, Executive Secretary Clara Salas reminded all to speak loudly so that the Board recording is clear.

Board Member Lucy Schilero asked about the stand of the merchants on losing a parking spot. District Manager Cassagnol explained DOT will conduct a traffic study only after a letter from the Board is received requesting its feasibility. More research is needed by the Transportation Committee.

## **VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS**

Assembly Member Francisco Moya reported a successful Town Hall meeting was held in Jackson Heights about two weeks ago, which drew about 100 attendees as well as officers from the 110 Precinct and Seth Taylor

from the 82 Street Partnership. A Town Hall meeting was held in Corona in the beginning of the summer. Another Town Hall meeting is planned for Elmhurst before the end of the year. Assembly Member Moya's goal is to keep having these meetings to promote interaction between residents and agency heads.

He spoke about the March for Safety to raise awareness for the three young children that were hit by an automobile. Marchers gathered on 79<sup>th</sup> Street and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue to remember young local lives that were cut short. Yesterday, on Broadway and Queens Blvd. two people were killed. In the State Assembly legislation was passed to install speed cameras by the schools which will curtail speeding around the schools. Although the budget was cut for this program, there will be 20 cameras in the City of New York. Since this implementation is so critical for our children, we had hoped for more cameras.

Assembly Member Moya also spoke about the No Texting Bill. Not only is the fine up to \$150, but motorists will receive five points on their license.

For this legislative session, lawmakers will be fighting to make the budget bigger so that a pilot project can be instituted in Community Boards 3 and 4 for the placement of more speed cameras.

Next, he spoke about the Police Precincts enforcing the slow zones that were placed throughout the district, Mentioning P. S. 19 and areas in Jackson Heights.

Before concluding, Assembly Member Moya asked the Board for its recommendations on what they would like to see in next year's budget. Resources are needed in our community and asked the Board for suggestions so that we can bring more services to our communities.

The Board has great legislative partners mentioning Assembly Members Aubry and Den Dekkar, Senator Jose Peralta, and Council Members Daniel Dromm and Julissa Ferreras working together to make our communities better places to live and work.

A free flu shot clinic is planned for Corona and Elmhurst. Call Assembly Member Moya's office at 718-458-5367 for further details.

Next, Capt. Forgione, 110 Police Precinct, spoke about the dangers of texting and talking on the cell phone while driving. Lives are put in jeopardy. He reported we are #1 in the borough in accident reduction, not only for the last month but also year to date. Additionally, we are in the top 3 for the whole city for the last 28 days. He is proud in knowing he is takes part in reducing accidents and, as a result, saving people from getting hurt or killed.

Regarding burglaries, we are up 43 crimes for the 28 days. We are up on 22 crimes for the year. This is attributed to burglaries. The perps were observed by Police officers and apprehended, Grand larcenies and robberies--cell phone robberies. Secure your items because you will be a crime victim. Be mindful of your surroundings.

Holiday shopping. Perps are watching you. Put purchases in your car immediately and then drive to your next location. Do not put all your bags in the car, leave, and continue shopping. Perps know they will have plenty of time to break in the car.

At the Queens Center Mall during the holidays, a police team will be stationed there to protect shoppers for the duration of the shopping hours.

Also, if you wish to register your electronic device, call P. O. Janine Rivera who will connect you with P. O. Wen who will guide you through the registration process or come to the Precinct for personal assistance.

Board Member Lucy Schilero thanked Capt. Forgione for his help in the community. Whenever a job needs to get done and he is asked, it gets done. We are lucky to have him.

Next, Emely Paez, representing NYS Senator Jose Peralta's office, reported on an event the Senator is co-sponsoring with the Hispanic Federation, "Get Up and Get Moving". It is a day filled with health awareness and activities scheduled for Saturday, November 16, 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at ElmCor, 108 Street and Northern Blvd. Many activities are planned such as health screenings, free giveaways, and much more. She urged all to attend.

Secondly, the Senator's office sends out weekly e-mail blasts to constituents. If you would like to receive information from the Senator's office, please call his office to sign up.

Next, Joel Trinidad-Santos, representing Council Member Julissa Ferreras' office, reported on the Anthony Caminiti street co-naming, which has been approved by the City Council. He said the dedication is planned for early spring as per the family's wishes. Dates for the upcoming ceremony are being looked at. The designated street is between 108 Street and 51 Avenue on the side of the street of William F. Moore Park.

Flyers were distributed regarding the services provided at Council Member Ferreras' office. He spoke about a few of those services offered.

Next, Jacqueline Hsieh representing Congresswoman Grace Meng's office, reported on two Affordable Care Act informational sessions at Elmhurst Hospital and Flushing Hospital. Although no more sessions are planned, please feel to call Congresswoman Meng's office at 718-445-7860 or call the Forest Hills office at 718-445-7861, for more information.

Moreover, Congresswoman Meng had sent letters to local VFW and American Legion posts inviting them to join the Congresswoman for a round table. This will be done every year. If you or someone you know needs help with a claim, please feel free to direct that person to her office.

Next, Bruce Eiber, representing Council Member Karen Koslowitz's office, greeted the Board.

#### **IX. Vote: CB4Q FY2015 Capital & Expense Budget Priorities**

District Manager Cassagnol presented the Budget priorities to the Board. Copies were distributed to all Board members. Thanks were extended to Council Members Julissa Ferreras and Daniel Dromm. Because of their efforts, many items were removed from the listings from last year, specifically mentioned the funding for Veteran's Grove and the 111 Street malls.

He explained about two weeks ago the Committee Chair met and reviewed the budget priorities. If there are any questions, please feel free to ask.

Board Member Audrey Galligen had two questions on the Capital Budget Priorities.

First, #08 – Reconstruct Hoffman Park. What does this mean?

District Manager Cassagnol responded it is a two-step process. First, a scoping meeting is held. At that meeting, it is determined what should be added or removed. Usually, an architect, the Parks Committee, and the District Manager is present as well as the Parks Manager. The Parks Manager points out what needs to be done. The architect will determine if the request is feasible or not. Then, the District Manager listens to the community's needs.

Secondly, Item #10 was questioned – Construct Medical Center In South Elmhurst  
Why is this necessary when the St. John’s Hospital property is vacant and there is another medical facility available?

District Manager Cassagnol replied the status of the St. John’s Hospital property is unclear. Initially, the property was purchased, gutted, refurbished, and sold. Now, it’s up for sale again.

Board Member Lucy Schilero asked if a community center can be established just for the Lefrak community.

District Manager Cassagnol pointed out #09 on the Expense Budget – Fund Senior Citizen Center In Lefrak City/Sherwood Village Area.

District Manager Cassagnol emphasized 40 items are allowed for the Capital Budget and 25 for the Expense budget. We are maxed out on both categories. An existing item must be removed or shifted.

Board members agreed there is already a senior center in Lefrak City. Instead, they had requested a Lefrak Community Center. Board Member Patricia Martin explained there is already a large senior center, which is not fully utilized. The need for the children is greater.

Discussion ensued.

Board Member Lucy Schilero also brought up establishing a satellite police station for Lefrak City. More discussion ensued about the feasibility of this request.

Board Member Patricia Martin reiterated the need was great for a Community Center in Lefrak City. The Board was in agreement to submit *Fund Youth Center Within The Confines of CB4* as #09 on the 2015 Expense Budget and remove the existing #09: Fund a senior citizen center in Lefrak City/Sherwood Village area.

Following the budget discussion, Board Member Miriam Levenson made a motion, seconded by Board Member Al Perna, to accept the 2015 Capital & Expense budgets as now modified.

To see the modified listing of the 2015 Capital and Expense Priorities, contact the Board office.

Before the vote was taken, the District Manager announced at the front table 9V batteries, given to the Board by the Fire Department to replace batteries in smoke detectors, and crossing guard applications were available. Crossing guards are desperately needed in the Board area.

At this point, Chairperson Walker called for a vote. The Chair reiterated the motion which is to accept the 2015 Capital & Expense budget as now modified. Voting yes means to approve it, voting no means not to approve it.

By a roll call vote the Board voted 29 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

## **IX. PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Mr. Seth Taylor, Executive Director**

#### **82 Street Partnership**

#### **--Presentation on Proposed Jackson Heights/Corona BID Expansion**

With the aid of a power point presentation, Mr. Taylor reported working very closely for the past ten months with a number of business and property owners, residents, civic groups, and elected officials, to develop a proposal to expand the boundaries of the BID district along Roosevelt Avenue and Junction Blvd.

About six months ago, Mr. Taylor had addressed the Board when the project was in the beginning stages. Since then, more meetings were held to clear up any confusion or concerns. Some were in agreement to the proposal, others opposed and still others not sure. Through those meetings, workshops, and walking tours, a strong proposal was formed which will be presented tonight.

Under the new administration, the BID will also be back in the next calendar year when the proposal will be submitted to the City for their review process. At this point, it is mostly informational.

Tonight, the following key points will be presented:

- Boundaries
- Services
- Budget And Cost
- Outreach

### Boundaries

The district boundaries (see in red on the slide is the existing BID on 82nd Street) from 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue down to Baxter Avenue. It includes about 125 ground floor businesses; about 75% are independently owned and operated businesses, many of them by immigrant families who have been on the block for years, paying the annual assessment for many years.

He pointed out the blue area on the map is the expansion area, which is a stretch of Roosevelt area from 81 Street to 104 Street and also Junction Blvd. to 35 Avenue, which would be included as part of the business improvement district.

In the total expansion area, there are about 1,000 businesses and about 450 property lots.

### Services

There are five main core services:

Supplemental Sanitation

Advocacy and Planning

District Marketing and Neighborhood Events

Street Scape and Beautification

Small Business Assistance

### Supplemental Sanitation

These services go above and beyond what city government provides, Since the late 1970's, business owners have been organizing to form BID's because they recognized the need in a bustling commercial district which generates a lot of foot traffic and litter. Additional services are needed to keep the corridors clean and shoppers coming.

On 82 Street, BID sweepers sweep the sidewalk 365 days a year, for 12 hours a day, two shifts, remove graffiti on a daily basis from street furniture and also clean graffiti from private properties, and remove unwanted flyers. Thanks to the support of the Mayor's Office and Council Member Julissa Ferreras, a pilot program was launched on Roosevelt Avenue, about ten sweepers are assigned to Roosevelt Avenue and Junction Blvd. from early morning to the evening sweeping litter off the sidewalk, emptying the trash cans so they are not overflowing, cleaning graffiti, taking away unwanted flyers, and providing a sense of comfort that someone is taking care of the community.

Statistics for the last two months were presented on those efforts.

### Advocacy and Planning

When a BID is formed, it is an organized entity of 1,000 businesses, about 400 property owners, and all residents located in the district. Together, a vision is created for the commercial corridor. Improvements are thought about to enhance the public spaces to improve the quality of life and support small business growth.

For example, the public space at the intersection of 90th, Gleane, and Case Streets and Roosevelt Avenue where there were a couple of daytime murders. Business owners were scared—locking their doors and residents were avoiding the area. The community does not want to live in fear. The BID worked with businesses there for a temporary installation where movable tables and chairs were put out, planted flowers etc. to reclaim the space from the negative uses. This is an improvement project done one block at a time.

The foresight along Roosevelt Avenue is to adopt these plaza spaces and create a vision, beautify and activate them and make them spaces people want to go to that are inviting. Other advocacy goals are in addition to working with the Department of Transportation on better street lighting, better parking rules and working with the Parks Dept. to see more trees are planted in the neighborhood. Working with the Dept. of Consumer Affairs to ensure all the food establishment operators understand the requirements.

### District Marketing and Neighborhood Events

Mr. Taylor spoke about the annual festival Viva La Comida. It is a big celebration of the neighborhood's diversity and culture celebrating with food, music, and dancing. It was held this past September drawing hundreds of people outside the neighborhood to support the small businesses on 82<sup>nd</sup> Street. Similar community events along 82<sup>nd</sup> Street are being looked at that reflect the diversity of the neighborhood and support the business community. He cited an example at 90<sup>th</sup> Street where a portable mobile library was set up. Children and families enjoyed the project which demonstrated the possibility for more use for spaces along Roosevelt Avenue.

### Street Scape and Beautification

There are many amenities this neighborhood is lacking such as bicycle parking. The idea is to work with city agencies to bring in bicycle corrals on 82 Street, which is extremely popular and was supported by the Board in the past.

Community gardens also make the blocks and neighborhoods more beautiful. Its doers are the businesses, but it takes the BID to advocate for the community gardens and to maintain them.

### Small Business Assistance

On 82<sup>nd</sup> Street at the northeast intersection of Roosevelt Avenue and 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, there are six ground floor shops (such as a jewelry store, and a bakery). Those businesses had a problem with storefronts as they had temporary signs and their window displays mediocre. They were losing customers. Not only did BID approach those businesses to assist, but they also applied for a grant through the City and were awarded \$50,000. With those funds, the BID was able to provide free design assistance to them, which is a \$3,000 value per store front. In addition, business operators were guided through the permitting process i.e. Dept. of Buildings and Landmarks Preservation Commission, which saves the business owner time dealing with city agencies. Similarly, those businesses will be receiving brand new store fronts, new windows, new awnings, new signs, and new exterior lighting. A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned in the next couple of weeks.

Partnering with other neighborhood groups such as the Business Outreach Center in Queens to explore ways to help businesses gain more access to loans and capital.

To fund all of those services, there is a cost. A breakdown of the budget followed. The proposed budget originally was about \$1.75 million, which was when the district was proposed to extend to 114<sup>th</sup> Street. However, based on conversations and meetings, it was learned from business owners, merchants, and property owners the strip from 104 to 114 Streets is different—it does not have the same foot traffic or retail density. Based on the data collected, the decision was made to shorten the boundaries to 104 Street. With that reduction, the proposed budget was brought down to \$860,000. In addition, other ways were devised to bring down the costs further. The breakdown of the budget was explained.

Mr. Taylor turned the floor over to his colleague Cheryl Tse who explained the assessment formula. With the main thought of making the BID affordable, the operating fee would be about \$75.00 per month, per property lot. Along Roosevelt Avenue two or three businesses share the lot the cost is brought down even further. The cost is based on an assessment formula which takes into account the front footage of a property lot as well as the assessed value.

The reason this formula is used is to make it as fair and equitable as possible. 82<sup>nd</sup> Street is assessed at a straight frontage fee and some lots along Roosevelt Avenue are triangular.

There are five categories of properties:

Class A – Commercial properties are charged based on an assessment formula and will be paying an average fee of \$75 per month.

Class B – Property/Parking lots, pay 1/2 of the commercial rate

Class C – Vacant lots, pay 1/3 of the commercial rate.

Government & non-profits are exempt and residences pay a nominal \$1 fee.

As far as outreach, the team canvassed hundreds of businesses during the last year sharing information on the proposal. Currently, more than 300 businesses are in support of the proposal, approximately 100 business and property owners have signed the support ballot. The formal mailing, which includes the ballot letter and a notice of two public meetings, will go out early next year.

To contact the 82<sup>nd</sup> Street Partnership, the website is [82ndstreet.org](http://82ndstreet.org); or to learn more about the proposal go to [cleanersaferoosevelt.org](http://cleanersaferoosevelt.org) or call 718-335-9421. A petition was also available to sign to show support.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker called for a vote on the street co-naming for Police Officer Robert M. Ehmer.

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Stephen Castro, to **approve** co—naming the corner of 95<sup>th</sup> Street & 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (300 feet east of the 110 Police Precinct) in honor of Police Office Robert M. Ehmer.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 29 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

## **B. Presentations (continued)**

**Karen Ellis, Borough Coordinator  
NYC Environmental Protection  
DEP Bioswale Program**



Ms. Mikelle Adgate, Project Manager, Department of Environmental Protection reported on DEP's implementing the Green Infrastructure Program in priority combined sewer areas.

With the aid of a power point presentation, she explained when it rains; water goes into the sewer systems, catch basins, also buildings and homes.

In New York City, the water that goes into the sewer system can lead to pollution in our local waterways. During some rain events that storm water makes its unsanitary flow from homes and businesses and can result in a sewer discharge into local waterways.

When it rains in Community Board 4, it can lead to water pollution in Flushing Bay. DEP is working very hard to improve water quality in Flushing Bay and the green infrastructure practices that will be designed and built in the Community Board will lead to improved water quality in the Bay.

The most prominent feature is the right-of-way (ROW) bioswale. It looks like a standard street tree pit with key differences. Water that is flowing down the block going toward the catch basin is directed into the bioswale. It is excavated and has storage capacity underneath the sidewalk with layers of stone and soil. The water goes into the system and absorbs into the underlying layers and into the underlying soil conditions. During some rain events, the system may fill to capacity. If it does, there is an overflow outlet where water can come out of the system into the catch basin, the way it normally would. The water is going in at a reduced volume.

In addition to the storage capacity, there are also plants and usually a tree as well. The plants are absorbing the water therefore there is infiltration in the ground below, working to prevent water from going into the catch basin.

Ms. Adgate spoke about the Storm water Green Streets which are planted areas designed to collect and manage storm water that runs off streets and sidewalks. They are constructed in the roadway, are usually larger than ROW Bioswales and have varying lengths, widths and soil depths based on the characteristics of the existing roadway—working to keep water out of the sewer system and keeping pollution out of Flushing Bay.

When the City planted trees several decades ago, often times there was not enough room in the tree pit for the roots to grow, therefore, the roots would expand looking for water or oxygen thus breaking up the sidewalk. Now the Parks Department has expanded the standard tree pit for new trees. Bioswales are much larger, averaging 20 ft. long and 5 ft. wide. Because they are also five ft. deep, the roots have plenty of room to spread out and grow. Because it is specifically designed to collect water, water is being constantly housed in the system. Similarly, roots will not break up the sidewalk.

In terms of selecting where locations go, it is a very detailed process. First, engineers conduct a hydraulic analysis. Looking at all the sidewalks in the city to determine when a rain drop falls on the sidewalk, where does it go, what happens to it, could it lead to pollution as a discharge point in Flushing Bay? Secondly, staff looks at the existing street conditions. Since there is a lot of competition on city streets (bus stops, driveways, etc.) an inspection is conducted with the Dept. of Transportation, to determine if Bioswales can fit there. Any location that is selected meets all of DOT's requirements for both pedestrian and vehicle clearance, which means there is plenty of room for businesses etc. At that time, the soil is tested to determine the location is suitable. Since there are many types of soil in the city, many contain very high bedrock so that it is not suitable. Working to determine if each site is appropriate and the infrastructure sound is essential.

Depending on the location, the process could be several months. However, the construction is relatively quick and inexpensive, which is why the City has stressed this as a remedy for the pollution in our local waterways.

It is much faster and cheaper to build green infrastructure than it is to build another large wastewater treatment plant and it proves important community benefits such as improved air quality, street beautification etc. Details were provided on construction in terms of the finished products.

Next, she spoke about locations that have already been constructed city around the Queens Center Mall, the Rego Park Mall. Construction is about to start on 13 more Bioswales. Construction in this area has already started and will continue until early January. She pointed out future locations in the design process.

Subsequently, she spoke about maintenance. During a typical rainstorm, the GI installation collects storm water running off the street and sidewalk before it enters the combined sewer system. The City is responsible for GI maintenance. NYC Parks & Recreation crews will remove sediment, weeds and litter from the GI installations on a regular basis.

In terms of how communities can get involved, educational opportunities for schools and community members' workshops are available.

For property owners, a grant program is available. Guidelines were explained. Go to [nyc.gov/dep](http://nyc.gov/dep) for more information on the grant program. More funding opportunities will be available in 2014.

At this point, the Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Next, Mr. Michael Mallon, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm, reported the Council Member had allocated \$1.5 million for the re-design of Veteran's Grove.

Reporting on the problematic aircraft noise in the Elmhurst area, Council Member Dromm has been working with Queens Quiet Skies to address this issue. A forum will be co-hosted with this organization and other lawmakers on Monday, November 25, 7:00 p.m., at P. S. 69, 77-02 37 Avenue.

Council Member Dromm's office is working with the Corona Lions on the Annual Toy Drive. The office is open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m, Monday through Friday. Please feel free to drop off at Council Member Dromm's office an unwrapped toy to a needy child anytime from now to mid-December.

## **X. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on November 6, 2013. The denied applications were read to the Board.

### **NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES**

November 2013

#### **NEW APPLICANTS**

<b><u>Establishment's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Establishment's Address</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>
Pico de Gallo, Inc. Wine and Beer Only Failure to show. No paperwork was submitted to committee (C of O, proof of ownership, corporation papers etc.)	82-12 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Denied.
Sabor Colombiano II Pasteleria Steakhouse Inc. Wine and Beer Only	90-31 Corona Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved

### **NEW APPLICANTS (cont'd)**

<b><u>Establishment's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Establishment's Address</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>
Albion Village LLC Liquor, Wine and Beer	79-17 Albion Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Hercules—Apollo Corp. Liquor, Wine & Beer "El Burrito Loco"	90-18 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
G. S. Deli & Grocery Inc. Wine and Beer Only	41-36 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Denied
Paperwork is illegible; establishment must re-do the paperwork. Failure to show. No paperwork submitted to committee ( C of O, proof of ownership, corporation papers etc.)		

### **RENEWAL APPLICANTS**

<b><u>Establishment's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Establishment's Address</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>
Mitad Del Mundo Bar Rest, Corp Liquor, Wine & Beer	104-10 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
Failure to show. No paperwork was submitted (C of O, proof of ownership, corporation papers) 7/10/11 – Petit larceny complaint; 7/1/11 – Criminal Mischief complaint; 7/14/13 – Assault complaint resulting in arrest.		
Mini Picanteria El Guayaquileno Beer Only	94-52A Corona Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Castillo Sports Bar Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	82-18 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Denied
311 Complaint 2/22/2012; 5/30/12 – Harassment complaint; 10/7/12 – Petit larceny complaint; 2/17/13 – Grand larceny complaint; 3/10/13 – Assault complaint resulting in arrest; 4/16/13 – Assault complaint resulting in arrest; 7/7/13 Assault complaint resulting in arrest; 7/11/13 – Assault complaint resulting in arrest		
Dom Music Box Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	40-08 74 Street Elmhurst, NY	Denied
No paperwork was submitted to committee (C of O, proof of ownership, corporation papers etc.) Numerous 311 complaints; 6/1/11 – Grand larceny complaint; 1/16/12 – Grand Larceny complaint; 6/28/13 – Pettit larceny complaint; 9/2/13 – Pettit larceny complaint		
Wa Wa San Inc. "Penang Malaysian Cuisine" Wine and Beer Only	82-84 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Cositas Ricas Ecuatorianos Corp. El Pequeno Coffee Shop	86-10 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Denied
Failure to show. No paperwork was submitted to committee ( C of O, proof of ownership, corporation papers).		

Numerous 311 noise complaints; 3/11/11 – Assault complaint, 4/27/11 – Criminal Mischief complaint; 2/6/12 Assault complaint; 5/14/11 – 3Cs: No Certificate of Occupancy, Soda container not marked, roll down gate not locked.

### **RECONSIDERATION**

RMA-PRO LLC	79-51 Albion Avenue	Initially Denied.
Liquor, Wine and Beer	Elmhurst, NY	Now Under Review

New owner has not officially taken over the establishment. No signed contract of sale. This location has a history of 311 noise complaints, and has had numerous grand and petit larcenies. The surrounding residents are concerned about another night club in this location.

However, the Committee received today specific documents needed. Those documents will be reviewed by the Committee and if the documents that were asked for are submitted and meet state guidelines, the Committee will allow the application for the liquor license with stipulations such as noise complaints and arrests. Also, State officials will be included in the review process.

Committee Chair Schilero also reported the CERT Team handed out over 400 flyers regarding the missing teen Avonte Oquendo.

Following the report, Board Member Stephen Castro made a motion, seconded by Board member Jennifer Lagos, to **accept** the Committee's report as presented. By a voice vote, the Board voted 29 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

## **XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### ***Environmental***

Committee Chair Giancarlo Castano reported a meeting is scheduled for November 20.

### ***Health***

No report. However, Committee Chair Clara Salas reported at the next meeting future meeting dates will be announced.

### ***Youth***

Committee Chair Lucy Cerezo-Scully reported the Committee did not meet but plans to meet in December.

### ***ULURP/Zoning***

Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported the Committee did not meet.

Board member Lucy Schilero asked about the status of a proposed Best Western hotel on 112 Street, a five story building, on Roosevelt Avenue on the Elmhurst side. District Manager Cassagnol replied no information was received and if it is as of right the Board would not be notified.

Discussion ensued about developers or city agencies notifying the Community Board about new construction. At this point Board Member Clara Salas relayed information on the Social Justice project she started as part of the Youth Committee in September 2012 and completed October, 2013. This free project enables students from minority families who cannot afford the course fees to pass the SHAT required to enter select Specialized High Schools in New York City. Two students from the Bronx High School of Science went to different schools in the area where the principal was recruited for referrals. Sixty students participated in the program. Elmhurst Hospital was instrumental in providing the classroom space. Students met on Saturdays from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Saturday, tutored by two students from the Bronx High School of Science.

Students were a reflection of this area, immigrants from every country: Russia, Ecuador, and Venezuela--all countries from all over the world. Test results are expected at the end of next month.

The only other agency in this area performing this free service is SAYA (South Asian Youth Agency) working out of the basement of Newtown Church. They have a small group of students (between 10 and 15 students) preparing seventh graders for this in Queens.

Next, she reported Saturday, November 23, the annual free UFT Education Conference at the Sheraton-LaGuardia East Hotel in Flushing. All types of workshops and activities will be held.

Ms. Salas will offer information on how to prepare children for taking exams for high school and college. Flyers were available.

### ***Postal***

Committee Chair Stephen Castro reported no meeting was held. Since the Station Manager was changed, the Committee Chair is in the process of setting up a meeting.

### ***Parks***

Committee Chair Al reported he toured the area triangular parks with Eric Goetz, Supervisor NYC Dept. of Parks. They were rundown with overgrown trees, uncut branches, fallen branches etc. However on a follow-up inspection, those parks were cleaned up due to the efforts of Parks Supervisor Goetz.

The Parks Committee did not meet; however, Committee Chair Perna was present at the budget consultations held at the Board office on October 28. Also, the tree lighting is planned for Monday, December 2, at William F. Moore Park, 108 Street. All were invited to attend.

## **XII. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Jose Pelaez, Corona Community Ambulance Corps. reported on the occurrences since he last addressed the Board. The ambulance corps. had lost a contract it once held, thereby, losing a significant amount of income. By the end of this year, ambulance services may have to be stopped. The ambulance corps will try to continue the first response service, which would be onsite care as opposed to ambulance transportation.

One idea being considered is a community CPR Program, where volunteer members will teach others to do chest compressions. Details were provided.

The primary target will be children, between sixth and twelfth grades, also exposing them to health training so if they choose to go into the medical field they will already be CPR certified. There is also a Family and Friends CPR program.

At this point, the Board Member Al Perna asked what can be done about retaining the Corona Community Ambulance Corp. in the community and also keeping its building.

At this point, a community resident asked about proposed zoning changes for 91<sup>st</sup> Place and Corona Avenue. District Manager Cassagnol replied he was not aware of any changes for this area.

There being no further business, Board Member Alirio Orduna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Al Perna, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.