



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
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Louis Walker
Chairperson

Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

January 12, 2016

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: VFW POST #150
51-11 108 STREET
CORONA, N.Y.

I. First Vice Chairperson Al Perna opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

II. A moment of silence was observed for Queens Community leader Robert Valdes-Clausell.

III. Executive Secretary Lucy Schilero took the roll call. A quorum was **not** present.

At this point, D. I. Christopher Manson, Deputy Inspector 110 Precinct, addressed the Board. D. I. Manson presented the following statistics on year ending 2015.

- Crime – Overall decrease by 7.3%
- Murders - 8 last year, 1 murder this year. The 110 Precinct never had 1 murder. In 1993, there were 29 murders and 1500 robberies. This year 1 murder; 275 robberies--Massive decrease in crime.
- Down in every area except felony assaults; up slightly in domestic violence.
- Grand Larceny - Up slightly (identity theft etc.)
- Arrests - 5,468 people were arrested
- Confiscated 16 guns.
- Twenty 26 people charged with possession of guns. 326 people arrested for narcotics.
- DWI - 178 arrests

- Parking Summonses - 9,068 issued
- Moving violations – 11,700
- C-summonses - 6,400 (drinking/urinating on the street)

- Accidents – 152. There were approximately 3,500 accidents.
 - Pedestrian injuries down 8%
 - Motorcycle summonses - 424
 - Bicycle summonses - Almost 1,000
 - Speeding - Almost 1,000
 - Yield to Pedestrian: 1,032
 - Disobey traffic control devices -1,610
 - Texting while driving - almost 400
 - Cell phones - 1,400
 - Failure to wear seatbelts -2263
 - Unlicensed drivers - 1177
- Tow operations: 140 cars towed (illegally parked, no plates). A tow operation is scheduled for Thursday night.

Subsequently, he spoke about Corona Plaza. Trucks continue to park. NYPD has an on-site with Department of Transportation. Signs are needed on Corona Plaza stating: “No Commercial Parking Unless Actively Loading or Unloading”. By installing signs, all the moving trucks will be gone since they stay there waiting for jobs. He was optimistic signage will be implemented quickly.

Captain Ortiz the new Executive Officer was introduced to the Board as well as six new officers from the Academy.

Next, D. I. Manson spoke about the Night Market event in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Last year, there were some problems but they were corrected early on. The organization is re-applying to hold the event again this year with a beer garden included.

D. I. Manson said he will review it with his staff. Personally, he did not think it would be a problem and he would never let the event get out of control. “*Like wolves on a kill*” the Deputy Inspector would vigilantly monitor it.

Board Member James Lisa brought up the City Council just voted parks land is parks land. No outside for-profit entity can rent parks land, pointing out the Park closes at 9 p.m. Mr. Lisa brought up community problems caused by this event.

Discussion ensued.

From the Deputy Inspector’s point of view, the Night Market should be a nice event for people. It was inexpensive, a family type atmosphere, people could buy and do things, and he did not find it to be a problem with Police.

There are more problems with a three block stretch on Roosevelt Avenue than the Night Market. His thought was it was not a burden; it was a nice community event and not considered a problem. The approval or denial of the beer garden is at the Board’s discretion. However, please let him know what the seating capacity is.

District Manager Cassagnol asked the Deputy Inspector for his recommendation regarding a cut off on hours if a beer garden were approved.

D. I. Manson responded the beer garden should end one hour before closing and asked for a count on the seating.

Only wine or beer can be served. No hard liquor. Security provided by the Night Market should be on site to proof people.

District Manager Cassagnol reported the Night Market can get a temporary liquor license from the SLA for one day, however, the Open Container Law does apply and patrons cannot leave the enclosed space with drinks.

IV. VOTE: Minutes of December 8 Meeting

Since a quorum was now present, a vote on the December 8 Minutes was taken.

Board Member Clara Salas made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to approve the minutes.

By voice vote, the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

No Report. District Manager Cassagnol will provide added information on agenda items.

VI. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Catherine Moore, Queens Borough President's Office, reported the Borough President will hold budget hearings Monday, January 25. If you wish to give testimony, please send it to the Borough President by e-mail Or come to the Borough President's office and sign up to give testimony. Expense or Capital funding can be requested for not for profit organization.

Next, Borough President Melinda Katz issued a press release denying all applications by for-profit companies to hold paid admission music festivals this summer in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park:

BP Katz: "Fair to All Applicants, Allows City to Establish Official Policy, Criteria and Process for Community Input"

"Mayor de Blasio's decision today is both fair to all applicants and allows the City to first establish an official policy as to whether and how we shut down and rent out public parks to for-profit companies. Events of any scale that enhance our borough are encouraged. The use of our public parks, however, needs to be publicly vetted and coordinated under an official city policy, because the absence of one renders the entire process unfair. The merits – or lack thereof—of any existing or future individual application cannot be fairly considered in the void of policy and public participation, which are paramount. I look forward to reviewing the subsequent policies crafted on a selection criteria and a process for community input that will be used to consider future proposals."

The Borough President feels Flushing Meadows-Corona Park impacts very seriously on our community.

Mrs. Moore invited all to the State of the Borough on January 21, 2016, 10:00 a.m., at Queens College.

Next, Lillian Zepeder, Communication Director, representing Council Member Julissa Ferreras' office, read the following statement from Council Member Ferreras on music festivals, which Parks had denied.

"I am disappointed that Panorama has moved to Randall's Island because I believe our community has greater potential and much to offer. On the other hand, I don't believe the request this Board made of those greater transparency and greater regulations are matters that are insolvable. I will continue to work with this

community towards bringing world class events to Queens and improving parks for everyday visitors and district residents. I look forward to continuing my works with this Community Board and with the Parks Alliance, which some of your members are part of to highlight and preserve our iconic Park.”

Continuing with the Parks report, Sparrows Nest, which is a community garden located on the other side of 108 Street, is slated for senior affordable housing. Groundbreaking will begin soon. The community garden was moved to Corona Mac Park. Council Member Ferreras helped secure the right permits and funding. Also, Corona Mac Park will be receiving funding for improvements.

Council Member Ferreras is accepting applications for Discretionary Funds. Last year, she funded ambulance bicycles for the Corona Community Ambulance Corps. The link will be on her Facebook page to submit applications.

Last, celebrate Black History Month. (Andrew Jackson will be honored) Join the Council Member & Elmcors Youth & Adult Activities for a celebration of the achievements of Black Americans and the central role of African Americans in U. S. history:

Wednesday, February 3, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
At Elmcors Youth & Adult Activities
33-16 108 Street
Corona, NY.

Next, Michel Mallon representing Council Member Daniel Dromm’s office reported the office will be hosting free legal services every Wednesday from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Attorneys specialize in a range of issues. Please call 718-803-6373 to make an appointment.

Save the date: Saturday, February 27 for the Elmhurst Lunar New Year event. Location to be announced. Most likely St. James Church, but still needs to be confirmed. More information will be distributed as we get closer to the date.

Next, Elyse Nagiel, representing Assembly Member Francisco Moya’s office reported session is beginning in Albany and the Assembly Member will be advocating for the Dream Act. Also, he will be working on protecting worker’s rights and expanding educational technology in our schools. She spoke about the Three Kings Day celebration this week. Hundreds of toys were donated to children in the local community. The event was co-sponsored by Congressman Joseph Crowley, Senator Jose Peralta, Council Member Julissa Ferreras and Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry.

Next, she spoke about a liquor license application for Club Devine (El Trio Corp.) a neighborhood club located on 44th Avenue. Assembly Member Moya is opposed to this club in our residential neighborhood. A mega club not drawing a family crowd is not needed. Assembly Member Moya has a long history of trying to shut this establishment down. There were various ownerships, numerous violations, and many problems associated with this club. It opened near a house of worship and many of the neighbors are opposed to it. Since we are already suffering from an oversaturation, there is no place for this club in our residential neighborhood. As a result, we have seen an increase in petty crime and quality of life issues.

The Assembly Member is committed to ensuring our community remains a family community. He has written to the SLA and will advocate on the issue to ensure it does not become problematic for our neighborhood.

District Manager Cassagnol clarified the club is located at 102-01 44 Avenue, adjacent to the LIRR. For many years, the Community Board has been fighting to get this club closed. Several months ago, the Public Safety Committee and Community Board denied the application based on the 200’ rule. (If the establishment is within

200' of a church and/or school, it's a denial). We received word from the SLA that the 200' rule does not pertain to this location because the church is around the corner from the establishment. For the 200' rule to take effect, the establishment must be along the same street as the church.

The Community Board will write to the SLA stating why this club impacts negatively on our community.

Board Member Edgar Moya responded this is an on-going fight. The club draws 400-600 people and stays open until 4 a.m. even though it bills itself as a family restaurant. In the SLA Statute, it states if it is not in the public interest, the establishment should not be in the community. Also, noise levels are detrimental to the community, which also should be stated.

Traffic, parking and noise are key factors, including its location in a residential community, must be conveyed to the SLA.

Next, Nick Gulotta, Queens Borough Director, Mayor's Office-Community Affairs Unit, reported NYC is the safest city in America. This past summer was the safest in 20 years. He reported on the following initiatives:

Universal Pre-K: 68,000 families secured seats in 2015. Up from 19,000 in the previous two years before the Mayor took office.

IDNYC: Happy Birthday to IDNYC which is one year old. Over 700,000 New Yorkers obtained ID's. For many people it is not only identification but also their primary identification.

Vision Zero: Since its implementation, there was the lowest level of fatalities since 1910 (down 12% in the City of New York). Hailed as a major victory.

In 2016, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced to raise the minimum wage for city employees to \$15 an hour which will involve a pay increase for 50,000 workers. It will be phased in until 2018 to take full effect.

Also, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced a new paid parental leave policy for New York City employees providing six weeks of paid time off for maternity, paternity, adoption, and foster care leave at 100 percent of salary or up to 12 weeks total when combined with existing leave.

Yesterday, the City of New York secured financing for over 40,000 housing units, which will house 100,000 New Yorkers.

In conjunction with Community Board 4 a fire safety seminar/smoke alarm giveaway will be held on January 28, 6:30 p.m., at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, 98-15 55th Avenue. The FDNY will be the presenters.

Next, Alexander Bennett, representing U. S. Rep. Grace Meng's office, brought the Congresswoman's 2016 calendar to the meeting for distribution to the Board and residents.

Mr. Bennett presented the following updates from Washington, D.C.:

U. S. Reps. Elijah Cummings, Ranking Member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Robert Scott, Ranking Member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce; Grace Meng praised the passage of their bill, *The Federal Protection Act*, which would make it illegal to discriminate against or sexually harass unpaid interns in Federal government. Congresswoman Meng was quoted, "It is unacceptable that interns working in the U. S. government continue to be denied the same safeguards that are provided to employees."

U. S. Rep. Grace Meng also welcomed the passage of critical tax breaks that will benefit individuals and small businesses in Queens. Permanent tax breaks include the following:

The Child Tax Credit
Commuter Tax Credit
The American Opportunity Tax Credit
The Earned Income Tax Credit
Teachers' Tax Credit

Lastly, legislation was passed that would permanently extend benefits for 9/11 responders. The extension of the health program and the Victim Compensation also established by the Zadroga Act is a victory.

VII. Guest Speaker: Damaris Acosta, Deputy City Clerk

Office of the City Clerk

“Lobbyist Bureau Amnesty”

--*What is lobbying?*

--*What is the amnesty period?*

--*How do you apply?”*

Since Mr. Acosta did not address the Board, The General Counsel for the Office of the City Clerk was the presenter. One unit of the City Clerk's Office is the Marriage Bureau. He spoke about the city's Lobbying Law. Unwittingly, Community Boards are lobbying. When you lobby a certain amount, you must report it. There is a failure of many Community Boards to do this. In 2012 the law was changed to raise the threshold amount to cross up to \$5,000 and there would be an amnesty. Pamphlets were distributed. He explained lobbying is an attempt to influence. Specific activities considered lobbying include:

1. Any determination made by the NYC Council with respect to local legislation;
2. Any determination made by the Mayor with respect to local legislation;
3. Any NYC determination with respect to procurement of good or services or the solicitation, award or administration of a grant, loan or agreement involving the use of public monies;
4. Any NYC determination involving zoning or land use;
5. Any NYC determination regarding the sale or purchase of real estate or a license or permit for the use of real estate;
6. Any determination regarding a NYC agency rule;
7. Any part of a City agency rate making proceeding;
8. The agenda or determination of a NYC board or commission;
9. Calendaring or scope of a NYC Council Oversight Hearing;
10. Issuance, repeal, change or substance of a mayoral executive order; or
11. Any support or opposition of federal or state legislation by a NYC elected official or employee

Examples of Lobbying Activities:

- Attempting to obtain discretionary funding from the NYC Council
- Attempting to influence the NYC Council or mayor with respect to passing a new law
- Attempting to influence investment decisions of the NYC's Pension Funds and Retirement Systems

Secondly, is your organization's activity excluded from Lobbying? There are activities that do not have to be reported because they are exclusions listed in the Lobbying Law. He read the eleven exclusions to the Board.

You are free to do those activities, but if you reach the threshold of \$5,000 it must be reported. Prior to 2014, the threshold was \$2,000. You must register with the City Clerk's office and file a report. He announced the amnesty which began January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016. Eligible if engaged in reportable lobbying activities but have not filed since December 10, 2006 and if you have never registered as a lobbyist (system where you file your reports). If your organization is not under any criminal investigation relating to a lobbying law violation or your organization is not a party to criminal litigation involving a violation of a lobbying law.

One of the reasons this was done was for the not-for-profit organizations. There are people who should be complying with the law but are not. If you do register, you will not be subject to late fines or criminal prosecution. Pamphlets were on hand.

VIII. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Report and Vote

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero spoke about Club Divine at 102-01 44 Avenue (El Trio Corp.). She asked the Board to vote on the application separately. She reiterated the prior statement District Manager Cassagnol mentioned earlier about the SLA's decision on the 200' rule for this establishment. The establishment must be on the same block as the church, not around the corner. This is a loophole in the laws which she and other community members are getting together to look closer at those loopholes in the law.

District Manager Cassagnol repeated the motion to write a letter to the SLA stating reasons Club Devine does not belong on that corner.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Edgar Moya, to write the letter to the SLA stating the facts why this establishment should not be doing business at their present location.

By a voice vote the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, she reported on the renewal applicants, specifically, Mexican Junction Restaurant Corp. The establishment was on the news in 2013 as a result of a homicide at this location. A husband and wife and lover had an argument at 4 a.m. and the boyfriend was killed. Ever since that time more complaints were received such as assault complaint (resulting in arrest), criminal mischief complaints (resulting in arrest), robbery complaint, and criminal possession of a controlled substance (resulting in arrest). She noted a representative was sent to the Public Safety Committee meeting. The vote was split. Two committee members said no to issue the liquor license; two members said yes on the basis they said it was a family owned business and did not think there were many complaints issued. It was brought to the Board for a vote.

Public Safety Chair Schilero felt the owners should have appeared before the Committee, not a representative. She also mentioned the representative was not aware of the homicide at the restaurant. The license for the establishment expires at the end of the month, she noted.

Discussion ensued about the timeframe the Board has to do a study, vote, and investigation. Mexican Junction Restaurant may get their license, but it will be on record the Board was not in favor of issuing the license, said Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero.

More discussion ensued about the Public Safety Committee's procedure on calling in applicants.

At this point, Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Edgar Moya, to **deny** Mexican Junction Restaurant, which will result in them coming back regarding their liquor license.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, she spoke about Tony's Pizzeria, 45-18 104 Street, Corona, NY. The establishment was denied because applicant did not complete paperwork. Although there are no issues with the restaurant, the paperwork must be submitted same as every other establishment.

Next, she spoke about Coatzingo Enterprise Inc. (California Sports Bar), 79-18 Roosevelt Avenue. They had a fire a few years ago and found another location. Another sports bar had previously occupied this location (82-18 Roosevelt Avenue), which the Board had closed down because of numerous problems. The applicant asked for an alteration and there will be a change. They will take the license they are getting from 79-18 Roosevelt Avenue to the new location. This location is under a 500' rule; the area is saturated with other establishments serving liquor. There have been assaults and fights in the past location, but not as many as others.

Public Safety Chair Schilero felt it was important to support the community and not put another sports bar there. She was advised to get a petition by reaching out to some of the neighbors but there was not enough time to organize, adding there are people not in favor of the sports bar. However when the owners go to court, the petition would be ready by that time. We must stand up for the laws we fought for, she stated.

First Vice Chair Al Perna asked for the violations.

From 2010 to now: Assaults and arrests; failure to ID; numerous noise complaints; theft of service, said Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero.

First Vice Chair Perna asked for the last time they were issued a license.

Two years ago replied Public Safety Chair Schilero. She pointed out they had a fire, which was the reason they were not open that much.

First Vice Chair Perna stated we cannot go back to 2010 on violations.

Board Member Sandra Munoz asked Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero shouldn't you be representing your Committee's vote.

Public Safety Chair Schilero responded the reasoning was the 500' rule and the establishment is moving from one location to another.

More discussion ensued. An explanation of the reasoning behind the committee members vote was taken. A petition will be brought either way of the Board's vote, said Public Safety Chair Schilero.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero made a motion to honor the 500' rule and wait to submit the petition (if possible).

Before the vote was taken, District Manager Cassagnol explained where the establishment is moving to was already a business. The 500' rule does pertain because on that block there are 7 or 8 other locations that serve liquor on both the CB3 and CB 4 side. With the 500' rule, the representative does have the option of going to a hearing to have the 500' rule waived if he can prove there is a reason why he is allowed to be there. Probably, he will use the fact there was a sports bar there previously.

Public Safety Chair Schilero said it was under the 500' rule. Because we fought for the 500' rule, it will reduce the number of sports bars in the area.

At this point, First Vice Chair Al Perna asked to hear from the Public Safety Committee members on their recommendation.

Committee Member Gurdip Singh Narula pointed out the liquor license had not expired yet and spoke about the 500' rule.

Board Member Alirio Orduna said to use 82-18 Roosevelt Avenue history does not matter. The establishment's owners have to support their families. He lives in the community too.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow brought up the Committee had overruled the Committee Chair. What is the next step? She also suggested tabling the matter.

Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero responded they would get their license either way.

A motion based on the Committee's recommendation can be made suggested District Manager Cassagnol.

First Vice Chair Al Perna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Sandra Munoz, to follow the Committee's recommendation.

Before the vote, Board Member Patricia Terranova stated to make a motion based on the Committee's recommendation does not solve the problem with Tony's Pizzeria. He was denied because he did not submit his paperwork. Tony's Pizzeria and California Sports Bar are two separate issues. Conversely, the location California Sports Bar is moving to has issues and not just with the 500' rule. Those two establishments would have to be voted on separately.

If the Board wanted to vote on liquor licenses separately, a motion can be made to vote for each one individually, said District Manager Cassagnol. He reiterated the reason the Public Safety Committee denied Tony's Pizzeria was for lack of paperwork. The other location California Sports Bar was approved by three out of the four Public Safety Committee members, said District Manager Cassagnol.

Discussion ensued.

The Board can follow the Committee's recommendation or vote on each establishment separately, suggested District Manager Cassagnol.

Public Safety Chair stated she will bring a petition against California Sports Bar either way of the Board's vote.

Before the vote, District Manager Cassagnol recapped the motion on the floor. The motion was not to pull any of the licenses of the individual restaurants. In other words, the vote is strictly on the Committee's recommendation. Specifically, would you like to approve the Committee's recommendation?

By a roll call vote, the Board voted 10 yes, 14 no, with 0 abstentions. The Committee's recommendation was **not approved**, which means each applicant must be voted on individually.

Discussion ensued about the Committee process and the role of Board Committees.

Board Member Sandra Munoz objected to the way the Public Safety Committee's report was presented to the Board by the Committee Chair. Specifically, when Committee Chair Schilero stated this is the first time the Committee went against her. Instead, it should have been stated this is my view on this application.

Did the other Committee members know Committee Chair Lucy Schilero was going to come forward with this point of view, she asked.

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero responded she was following the laws.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol explained since the Committee's recommendation was denied instead of voting on each applicant individually, he suggested making a motion approving the establishments already approved. The denial applicants can be voted on separately, of which there are two or three.

At this point, Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion to **accept** the Public Safety Committee's report on the approved establishments and to take a vote separately on the disapproved locations.

No vote was taken.

Discussion ensued on Tony's Pizzeria.

Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to **accept** the Committee's report on Tony's Pizzeria Restaurant, which is to **deny** the application (waiting for paperwork),

By a voice vote, the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

The following is the Public Safety Committee's report from the January 5, 2016 meeting:

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
NY El Diamante Corp. Liquor, wine and Beer	90-18 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Diamante Blvd. Bar Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	42-18 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Approved
PPP Family Inc. Wine & Beer Only	86-08 Whitney Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Brenmac Tavern Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	85-35 Grand Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Mexican Junction Restaurant Beer Only	96-06 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Split vote 2-2
Coatzingo Enterprises Inc. <i>California Sports Bar</i>	79-18 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved

RENEWAL APPLICANTS (cont'd)

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
104 th Street Restaurant Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer Tony's Pizzeria Restaurant Applicant did not respond to our request to meet.	45-18 104 Street Corona, NY	Denied

ALTERATION

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
79-51 Albion LLC <i>Club Vitro</i> Liquor, Wine and Beer	79-51 Albion Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved

Before moving on to the next agenda item, District Manager Cassagnol mentioned an application submitted for an internet café on 86th Street and Broadway. The Board could not act on it because it was outside the timeframe.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Consumer Affairs

No Report said Committee Chair Erica Cruz

Environmental/Parks

Environmental Committee Chair was not present.

However, Parks Committee Chair Al Perna called on Board Member A. Redd Sevilla to address the Board on the redesign of CC Moore Park. Photographs and a sketch of five CC. Moore redesign requests were distributed. He reported millions of dollars are being spent on this park. Since he had issues with the redesign, he was advised by the Parks Department to contact the Borough Commissioner. CC Moore is one of the more utilized parks and we need to get it right. In April 2015, the Parks Department had a meeting at the Park to hear the statements of the community residents. Those statements were documented. The schematics were presented. He reviewed the minutes of the statement of the residents and compared the schematics with the minutes. Although there were many great features, five requests were missed, which were pointed out by the community residents. When he contacted the Parks Department, he was told he could have those five features but he had to contact the Borough Commissioner. Before he does that, however, he wanted to advise the Board. The five missing points on the handout were reviewed.

He asked the Board is it permitted to go back to the Parks Department and ask why those five points were denied. Also, he inquired is it necessary to make a motion to write to the Borough Commissioner.

Board Member Alirio Orduna suggested involving Council Member Daniel Dromm in the process.

Parks Committee Chair Al Perna said he would like to sit with Board Member A. Redd Sevilla including the Parks/Environmental Committee to review the information before a letter is sent. The sit down will take place within a couple of weeks.

District Manager Cassagnol said as a result of this meeting a letter can be written without coming back to the full Board.

Health

Committee Chair Sal Lombardo reported the Committee did not meet, but he is working on a guest speaker for next month.

ULURP/Zoning

No. Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

District Manager Cassagnol reported the Committee had met on the Georgia Diner. The Georgia Diner had sold a portion of their parking lot. As of right, developers can build a very tall residential tower with no height limitations. Many years ago, however, the Community Board denied them the possibility of building in their parking lot, specifically, restaurants.

At the time, there was an influx of too many restaurants in the area. Therefore, a stipulation was set that the parking lot cannot have any commercial building in it. The reason developers contacted the Community Board was in addition to the planned residential tower, would the Board lift the stipulation to allow a commercial overlay on professional offices, medical offices, community facility etc. on the lower floors of the tower. No vote was taken at the ULURP meeting because the plan was not finalized. Their intent was to determine if the Board was in favor of the plan.

Transportation

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Postal

Committee Chair Gigi Salvador reported on the last suggestion that was made by Board Member Lucy Schilero at the November CB meeting to write to the Postmaster regarding problems with mail delivery. A letter needs to be sent.

Youth

Committee Chair Cristian Romero reported the first Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for January 19, 6:30 p.m., at the CB4 office. All were invited to attend.

X. PUBLIC FORUM

Atiyah Butler, Director of External Affairs & Marketing at Elmhurst Hospital Center, read a letter on behalf of their Safety Director on a proposal for a newsstand on the sidewalk near the intersection of Broadway & Baxter Avenue. An excerpt follows:

“If the application were approved, it would greatly disrupt the flow of emergency medical services in an already congested area. There are currently two food vendors servicing the Hospital, one adjacent to the main entrance and another down the block on Broadway in front of the entrance to the Pediatric Emergency Department.

Please be advised there is already a newsstand servicing the hospital campus outside of the heavily trafficked community medical center. An additional newsstand is not necessary, but will also impede progress on a long-planned expansion of the Adult Emergency Department.

We hope you will oppose the addition of yet another street vendor in a space that should be dedicated to allowing NYC Health & Hospital/Elmhurst and Emergency Services personnel to do their jobs without interference.”

First Vice Chair Al Perna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to **deny** the newsstand application.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, Bill Kregler, a Woodside resident, brought up Phase 1 of the bicycle lane on Queens Blvd. and to talk about Phase 2. Bike lanes took two lanes of car traffic away. This has caused a tremendous amount of congestion in the neighborhood. It also took away exit and entrance lanes to come to and from the main entrance to the service and vice versa. Details were provided. Quality of life has not been improved by this, he stated. He spoke about the added time for bus travel. A full written report with documentation was submitted outlining the fundamental problem. You cannot take from possibly a 100,000 drivers to give to maybe a 100 bike riders, he commented.

Next, Chen Chaio-Ching spoke about a street light out at 40-26 82 Street for over a year. 87 Street & Roosevelt Avenue another street light is not working.

Next, Maxine Davila, 1+One: Networking for a Better World (INYC) provided details on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A newsletter was launched and she would like to come every month to provide opportunities and update the Board on its focus and disseminate information. Also, she likes to connect with the Board's Youth Committee.

Next, Yessika Giraldo, representing Madison Square Garden, regarding their application for a music festival at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. About two months ago, Madison Square Garden along with a handful of other Companies applied for a music festival around the summer time. Yesterday, there was a decision announced by the Mayor's Office and the Parks Department that these applications will be denied until there is a public process that is transparent and fair to everyone involved including the community and applicants. She has been talking to Community Boards to create a fair process, which is what the Borough President was calling for. She wanted to introduce herself because she will be the point of contact with the community. Any problems, concerns, or questions about the application contact her. Contact her at 347-669-2259 or e-mail her at yessikagiraldo@gmail.com.

At this point, First Vice Chair Al Perna announced we must go back to the Public Safety Committee Report. Staff member Christina Long explained during the Committee's report, motions were made and votes taken for

El Trio Corp. - Club Divine 102-01 44th Avenue
Tony's Pizzeria -45-18 104th Street
Mexican Junction – 96-06 Roosevelt Avenue

However, no motion or vote was taken on the six approved establishments. Furthermore, a discussion was held on California Sports Bar but no vote.

The question arises, is the Board accepting the Committee's recommendation for all of the approvals, including California Sports Bar or will it be voted on separately? Six applications need to be voted on now.

Board Member Terranova questioned the details of the alteration application. Staff Member Christina Long explained that the alteration was to add two more bars, one on the first floor, and one on an upstairs patio.

At this point, Board Member Erica Cruz made a motion, seconded by Board Member Patricia Martin, to **approve** the Committee's recommendation on the three new applicants, the one renewal, and the one alteration with the exception of the California Sports Bar.

Discussion ensued before the vote.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 26 in favor, 0 opposed with 0 abstentions.

Next, a vote is needed on the California Sports Bar application. To recap, this application had three committee members in favor of and one Committee member against it.

Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gigi Salvador, to **deny** the California Sports Bar application. (No means to approve the application; yes means to deny). (NOTE: RE: California Sports Bar—At a later date, Board Member Patricia Terranova revoked the motion she had made based on the fact the establishment was moving to a new location. The application received was for a renewal of their license at their current location. According to Board Member Terranova, the motion was invalid because the Board voted on a non-existent application).

The vote was taken by a show of hands. Raise your hand if you approve of the California Sports Bar's application, said First Vice Chair Al Perna.

The vote was 7 no, 19 yes, with 0 abstentions. Motion to **deny** passed. (Note: The Committee's recommendation to approve stands.).

Next, a representative from the Queens International Night Market spoke about bringing awareness to events in the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. She read a letter from Mr. John Wang outlining events planned. Mr. Wang is considering holding the Night Market at the New York Hall of Science again this year. The event is affordable and accessible and a series of small business seminars will be featured. More details were provided. Subsequently, Mr. Wang stated he does intend to apply for a beer garden permit.

Next, Board Member James Lisa made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, a letter is written stating parkland belongs to the public.

Promoters are making a profit off it. Both the Borough President and City Council state that it is Park land for the people and should not be sold to vendors. Also, the parking lot is Parks property and not the property of the Hall of Science. Also, the Hall of Science is Parks property. He believes the Hall of Science is acting illegally by issuing a contract/lease because the Park closes at 9 p.m. Community Board 4 should follow the lead of the Borough President, City Council, and ask for a cease and desist by for profit companies to hold paid events at the Park. There are enough problems with parking in the area.

The letter should be written to the Parks Department, the City of New York, Mr. John Wang, with a copy to the Borough President stating we oppose the use of park land for paid admission events.

Discussion ensued.

Since a quorum was not present, a vote could not be taken.

Since there was no further business, First Vice Chair Al Perna adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. A quorum was not present.