



## 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

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### COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

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

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

**II.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

At this point, First Vice Chair Patricia Terranova took the roll call. A quorum was present.

### **III. Vote: Minutes of May 8, 2012**

Before the vote was taken on the May 8, 2012 minutes the following corrections were noted:

- Laraine Donohue was marked absent. She was present at this meeting.
- Tom McKenzie's statement was the Police Sergeant arrested his own mother.

After the corrections were duly noted, Mr. Tom McKenzie made a motion, seconded by Mr. Anthony Moreno, to **accept** the minutes of the May 8, 2012 meeting with corrections.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

### **IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Louis Walker reported the Committees of Community Board 4 were being re-vamped. A form will be handed out tonight requesting to choose your Committee preference.

Mark 1 – First Choice  
Mark 2 – Second Choice  
Mark 3 – Third Choice

Mr. Walker noted it does not mean you will be assigned to the Committee of your choice. It depends on how many people have chosen to serve on that same committee.

At this time, Chairperson Walker introduced the Board's part-time office worker, Mr. Bill Pappas.

Next, Chairperson Walker announced a request had come to his attention through several Board members regarding street co-namings in honor of former District Managers Rose Renda-Rothschild and Richard Italiano.

At this point, Chairperson Walker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tom McKenzie, for both street co-namings, one in Elmhurst for Rose Renda-Rothschild and the other in Corona, for Richard Italiano.

Chairperson Walker called for a discussion. Since there was none, the Board voted. By a voice vote, the Board voted unanimously to support this motion.

The vote was 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, Chairperson Walker informed the Board the candidate selected for the District Manager's position, Ms. Jenny Fernandez, had declined the position. Therefore, a new search will resume in September. Advertising will begin in June, and commence through July and August. In September, the Committee will start work again. Major as well as local newspapers will carry the ad.

At this point, Mr. Tom McKenzie asked why tonight's meeting was not held in Elmhurst.

Chairperson Walker responded a meeting cannot be moved on a month's notice because one or more persons want it moved. Mr. McKenzie brought up six meetings were held in Corona. Discussion ensued about potential meeting places in Elmhurst.

Chairperson Walker stated suggestions are taken under advisement for future consideration. One Elmhurst site, the Queens Center Mall, was looked at, but was not available the second Tuesday of the month stated Chairperson Walker. Other potential sites in Elmhurst are being explored. Also to keep in mind, meeting places must be handicapped accessible pointed out Mr. Walker.

Next, Mr. McKenzie questioned from a total of 50 Board members, only 14 are from Elmhurst. Discussion ensued about the Board's membership.

In response to a statement from Mr. McKenzie about Community Boards, Chairperson Walker stated Community Boards are mandated in the City Charter.

## **V. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS**

Council Member Julissa Ferreras reported she was very proud of the suggestion to co-name neighborhood streets for Richard Italiano and Rose Renda-Rothschild. Working closely with both District Managers through the years, the Council Member wholeheartedly supports this endeavor.

The Council Member reported a request for a letter of support for Corona Plaza is needed. It is an honor for her to see the Plaza renovated because of her long struggle with EDC to identify monies and re-fund Corona Plaza to become a pedestrian plaza. The Plaza is not just about creating a new vision, but to help address public safety and quality of life issues at Corona Plaza. In memory to Richard Italiano and the many conversations she had with him on this project, she is happy to see it move forward. With amazing partners like Queens EDC and the Queens Museum of Art that will be in charge of programming.

Corona Plaza will be a nice place to sit in our community and nice place to be proud of. Corona will become a destination inviting people to our neighborhood. It is very frustrating when important events occur in our community and no one mentions it happened in Corona. Corona should not be forgotten. In Spanish, “Corona” means crown, and this project will be the crown of our neighborhood.

Next, Mr. Bruce Eiber, representing Council Member Karen Koslowitz, reported the office never closes for the summer. Any landlord/tenant issues visit the Council Member’s office on Tuesday nights and have a one-on-one with the attorney on staff.

June 14 is Flag Day. Proudly display your flag. July 4 is the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Baltimore and the War of 1812 where Francis Scott Key’s poem became our national anthem.

At this point, Chairperson Walker introduced Deputy Inspector Ronald Leyson of the 110 Police Precinct who reported this was the first Community board meeting he was able to attend since his appointment as the Commanding Officer of the 110 Precinct.

D.I. Leyson gave background information on his previous assignments. Most recently, he was assigned to the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct in Bayside, prior to that assignment he was the Commanding Officer of the Queens North Taskforce and before that command, he was the Commanding Officer for two years of the specialized burglary unit in the Queens North Anti-Crime Team. He is very honored to serve this area and privileged to return to the district of Corona/Elmhurst.

Crime statistics for the area was given to the Board. For the month, crime is up 16% in overall crime. Robberies increased one felony assault, eight burglaries, a couple grand larcenies and stolen cars. Many street robberies are occurring because of people not paying attention to their surroundings and not being aware of what is happening around them.

With I Phones and Smart Phones, people are walking around checking text messages or listening to music with ear buds on and are oblivious to their surroundings. Unfortunately, there are unscrupulous individuals who will seize the opportunity to snatch or take those phones by force. Since these smart phones are very expensive, you must be very careful. Do not give up your safety. Be aware of what is going on around you, he cautioned.

Another safety tip: do not leave windows open. Lock windows to avoid individuals unlawfully entering your home and stealing your property.

The Precinct recently received 15 additional officers, which increases staffing to 185, half of which are assigned to patrol divisions. These new officers replace 15 positions the Precinct had lost to promotions, attrition and moves during the four months D.I. Leyson has served.

D.I. Leyson is redeploying officers depending on location and time of the crime. He also reported on some Gang violence earlier in the year around Lefrak City.

Next, D.I. Leyson reported on a homicide that occurred June 11, which appeared to be a domestic related incident.

At this point, Deputy Inspector Leyson took questions from the Board members.

Mrs. Judy D’Andrea brought up the quality of life issues, specifically, loud noise on the weekends, which “go on continuously.” Parties go on all night long. Calling 311 is not responsive. Call the 110 Precinct, the response is they have the complaint, and they will send some over, but the party is still ongoing to 6:00 a.m.

Next, Mrs. D'Andrea brought up incidents at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Namely, a Cinco De Mayo Festival was held last month in the Park. Since she lives in very close proximity to the Park, people were walking on her block all day long throwing garbage and urinating behind her car. Also, homeless people are living on her corner. She had reported the condition to the Precinct, to no avail. The response is to send a car, but the homeless are still there.

Moreover, she stressed Quality of Life issues keep the community stable. Although she realizes there are more important issues to address, people do need a reasonable Quality of Life or they will be driven out of a community.

Deputy Inspector Leyson responded he keeps in touch with the community and is very accessible to its residents. He also prides himself on the fact he is visible to the community and addresses Quality of Life issues. Although crime is important, Quality of Life is equally important. Being a firm believer in the "broken windows" theory where maintaining urban environments in a well ordered condition may stop further vandalism and escalation in more serious crime.

Deputy Leyson stated he is serving this community for four months, and those concerns were not brought to his attention, but rather under a prior administration. In the future, bring up the concern to him, he will advise on what to do, and how he will address it. Then, if the concern is not addressed, tell him what he is not doing.

Next, Mr. Tom McKenzie commended Deputy Inspector Leyson on his exemplary work by removing the tractor trailer trucks parked all over the neighborhoods. For example, Police tow trucks removed both tractor trailers parked in front of McDonald's Restaurant on Queens Blvd. Specific details were given.

Next, Ms. Clara Salas asked is the NYPD empowered to give summonses for the Dept. of Sanitation. Specifically, on garbage overflowing the garbage cans and spilling out onto the sidewalk?

Deputy Inspector Leyson responded no and advised to call 311. The Department of Sanitation or the Dept. of Buildings (if it's within the fence line) will respond. More details were given by Deputy Inspector Leyson on Sanitation violations. Because of jurisdiction, the NYPD does not address those types of complaints.

Next, Ms. Rovenia McGowan expressed concern about the vendors on 111<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the Hall of Science. Deputy Inspector Leyson said he had assigned Enforcement to the area. Some of the vendors are licensed; however, vendors are not licensed to sell food from a shopping cart. Vendors may have a valid vending license but if they do not have a proper food cart, they are in violation. The Police Department is working in conjunction with the Parks Department.

D.I. Leyson reported the Police Dept. is working with the Parks Dept. to rid the area of people selling food without the proper licenses. The two departments are planning a sweep of the area. By the two departments working together, when vendors are asked to leave they don't relocate close by, however if they do, the other department will be ready. Garbage trucks must be included in the sweep because after summonses are issued, vendors' goods must be disposed of immediately. The Parks Department provides the garbage trucks needed to carry out the enforcement. Specific locations were given.

Ms. Ann Coyne brought up the homeless condition on 78 Avenue, Broadway and 80<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a difficult situation. If the homeless are in the Park, enforcement action can be taken. If the park has signs posted that you cannot be in the park unless you are with a child, that statute can be enforced. It is a minor offense, but if they cannot provide identification, they can be arrested. Primarily, the Police Department would like services provided, to get clients to a shelter, however, it cannot be forced upon them. D.I. Leyson added we would like to get them services, but it has to be voluntary. Mentally challenged homeless provide another problem. Also,

Police can ask a person to leave, but they have to leave on their own. In winter months, Police can remove the homeless because they can be a hazard to themselves in severe winter months.

Next, Mr. Tony Moreno brought up the Mr. Softee truck at the southeast corner Queens Blvd. and 56 Avenue. It is a No Standing zone and the truck is always present. The roadway is very narrow and this leads to a dangerous situation. Please investigate.

Next, Mr. George Onuorah asked how many officers are in the command.

Deputy Inspector Lesson responded it depends on a few things. The officer and management analysis out of headquarters has a formula, which is based on call volume, calls for service, and the area covered. The 110 Police Precinct covers 5 ½ square miles. Much of the covered area includes Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. He also noted the 110 Police Precinct is one of the busiest commands in Queens North.

If response time is too long, officers will be added. If crime increases, officers will be added. This is computed by headquarters. There are 185 uniformed officers, including a supervisor in the command. Five lieutenants, 26 sergeants, and the rest are police officers. Over half the officers are assigned to patrol. The rest are assigned to a specialty unit or command staff.

At this point, the Legislator's Report resumed.

Ms. Carolyn Tran, representing, Council Member Daniel Dromm, thanked everyone who participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pride Celebration.

Next, she reported on the street co-naming for Bobby Guida, the Council Member is endorsing it in the Council as well as the street co-naming for Steven Trimboli. For the Guillermo Vasquez Street co-naming, the Council Member requested a Board vote. It is on the Board's agenda tonight.

## **VI. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Vote: Street Co-naming (South East Corner of 77<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway) To:  
"Guillermo Vasquez Corner"**

Chairperson Walker called for a motion on the above street co-naming requested by Council Member Daniel Dromm.

Ms. Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Alirio Orduna, to **approve** the street co-naming for Guillermo Vasquez (the Southeast corner of 77<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway to Guillermo Vasquez Corner).

Before the vote was taken, however, the Board asked for background information on Guillermo Vasquez.

Since the Transportation Committee Chair was not present, Ms. Tran read the bio. on Mr. Vasquez.

At this point, by a voice vote the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**Vote: LA Corona Express Car Service  
104-12 43 Avenue  
Corona, NY 11368**

In the Committee Chair's absence, Mr. James Lisa presented the report on the above agenda item: LA Corona Express Car Service.

Mr. Lisa reported an on-site visit was made at the Base office, the C of O also was checked, and a site visit was made to the parking lot on 96<sup>th</sup> and Corona Avenue, where the Base has an agreement to park cars. All was in order. With the input of the Committee Chair, the recommendation was to **approve** the request.

Mr. James Lisa made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tony Moreno, to **approve** the base license. By a voice vote, the Board voted 35 in favor, 1 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**VI. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Vote: SLA Applications**

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on June 11 on the following SLA applications.

**New Applicants**

<b><u>Establishment's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Establishment's Address</u></b>	<b><u>Committee Recommendation</u></b>
MJC Group, Inc. Liquor, Wine, Beer	77-14 Queens Boulevard Elmhurst, NY 11373	Denied. No C of O, No paperwork submitted.
Arcoyris Coffee Rest. Corp Wine and Beer Only	99-27 43 Avenue Corona, NY	Denied. Rep. did not have proper paperwork to Represent & violation
Noches Allegres Bar and Rest. Liquor, Wine & Beer	92-02 Corona Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Lucky Thai, Inc. Wine and Beer Only	83-47 Dongan Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
High Flying Birds Liquor, Wine & Beer	78-14 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
El Tucan Inc. Wine and Beer Only	43-24 91 <sup>st</sup> Place Elmhurst, NY	Denied. Needs paperwork
Tacos Tulcingo Corp. Beer Only	40-12 83 Street Elmhurst, NY	Approved

**Renewal Applicants**

<b><u>Establishment's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Establishment's Address</u></b>	<b><u>Committee Recommendation</u></b>
JCYS Inc. Wine and Beer Only	40-39 b/c 82 Street Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Fiesta Latina Sports Bar Corp. Wine and Beer Only	102-30 43 Avenue Corona, NY	Approved

**Renewal Applicants (cont'd)**

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
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D&E Mexican Food Corp. Wine and Beer Only	40-11 82 Street Elmhurst, NY	Approved
RJ Macizos Place Inc. Wine and Beer Only	53-09 106 Street Corona, NY	Approved
Los Valdes Rest. Corp. Wine and Beer Only	42-18A Junction Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Denied. Assault. C Summons Unlicensed Security Guard. C Summons Obstructed View To Bar; Unlicensed Security Guard
Ilda's Place II Liquor, Wine, Beer	81-22 Baxter Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved.
T&T Oasis Liquor, Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	40-11 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Approved
Tacos I Tortas Carrusel, Inc. Wine and Beer Only	108-06 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
Amanecer Latino Rest. Corp. Wine and Beer Only	96-38 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
BPO Elks Lodge Liquor, Wine and Beer	82-20 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved

**RELOCATION**

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
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La Costenita Guayaquiliena, Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	97-12 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied. No. rep. at mtg. No C of O. No paperwork.
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**RECONSIDERATION**

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
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Winner's Bar, Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	82-67 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Denied. Summonses from Police Dept. (Closing)
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Mr. Tom McKenzie made a motion, seconded by Ms. Laraine Donohue, to **accept** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, "Hurricanes and NYC" booklets were passed out to the Board members.

Ms. Schilero reported on the devastation that comes from hurricanes and the resulting flooding. In case of emergency, the booklet also included emergency shelters and contact numbers.

## **Corona Plaza Presentation**

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker introduced representatives from the Department of Transportation to update the Board on the progression of the Corona Plaza project.

Vaidila Kungys and representatives reported the Corona Plaza project will start work in July and will close the one block stretch of 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue that only runs between National and 104<sup>th</sup> Streets and would provide seating, umbrellas, bike racks, and greenery.

“Corona Plaza – Proposal Summary” booklets were distributed the Board.

At this point, Mrs. Judy D’Andrea made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lucy Schilero, to **accept** the proposal and write a letter showing support.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 35 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Next, Mr. Tom Finkelppearl, Executive Direction, Queens Museum of Art, briefed the Board on upcoming events. In particular, Target and the Queens Museum of Art, in partnership with Rooftop Films, present Target Passport Fridays 2012 8<sup>th</sup> International Outdoor Film, Dance & Music Series. Friday evenings, July 6 – August 24, 6:30 – 10 p.m. Flyers were on hand with specifics.

## **VII. CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

### **Vote: Cafes**

- 1. Dansheng Inc. (Gaming Café)**
- 2. Castillo Sports Bar Corp. (Cabaret)**

Committee Chair George Onuorah reported on the successful turnout at the Committee’s Town Hall meeting held on June 5 at the Queens Center Mall. Many people attended and presentations included the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, Police Department, and other guest speakers.

### **1. Dansheng Inc. (Gaming Café)**

Mr. Onuorah reported the establishment was visited on June 9. The gaming café has 38 computer terminals for surfing the internet, games, printing, faxing. A pool table is in the center of the room.

According to the manager, students are not allowed during school time. Fee is \$1.50 per hour to use the computer. Member ID card is issued and customer must show ID at first visit. (ID shows account #, name and age).

The Committee Chair recommended approval of the application.

After discussion on the application, Mr. George Onuorah made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rita Lumia, to **approve** the gaming café.

By a roll call vote, the Board voted 20 in favor, 15 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion passed.

### **2. Castillo Sports Bar (Cabaret)**

Next, the Committee Chair visited the business on June 9, 2012. The establishment is already operational with a liquor license issued from 12/28/11 and to expire 11/30/13.

Hours of operation are 7 days a week (12 Noon-4:00 a.m.)

Presently, two large screen tvs are used for patrons watching sports.

Committee Chairperson George Onuorah made a motion to approve the application. No second on the motion.

After further discussion ensued about the license application, however, the full Board **opposed** the application based on the following:

- Palm cards advertising the business which showed a scantily clad woman.
- Many people throw those cards onto the sidewalk causing litter
- Hours of operation (12 Noon to 4 a.m.)

By a voice vote, the Board voted 36 in favor of denial, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

## **VIII. PRESENTATIONS**

### ***Forestdale, Inc. – Fathering Initiative -- Juan Roldan Services to help men understand their roles as fathers.***

Mr. Roldan explained this is a multifaceted program designed to offer an array of services to fathers in a supportive and culturally sensitive manner. These services aim to help men understand their roles and responsibilities as fathers, as well as assist them in the care of their children. The program offers supervised visitation, parenting skills workshop, anger management, batterers group, employment training and job placement.

### ***--Friends of LaGuardia Airport-Sean Crowley Air safety associated with the operation of the North Shore Marine Transfer Station. (Impacting area around LaGuardia Airport.)***

Mr. Crowley reported the City of New York is constructing a garbage facility, the North Shore Marine Transfer Station, barely more than 2,000 feet from one of the nation's busiest runways, LaGuardia Airport runway 31. When completed, it is expected to handle 3,000 tons of garbage a day. The sights and smells surrounding that facility will be an irritable attraction to the many varieties of bird life in the area.

A recording of Captain Sullenberger's opposition to the facility was played for the Board.

Some of the concerns are: (These concerns were taken from a letter written to Governor Andrew Cuomo). Copies of which were passed around at the Board meeting.

--Bird strikes to aircraft are a problem everywhere, but nowhere as acute as at airports near large bodies of water such as LaGuardia and Kennedy Airports. A garbage facility in the shadow of LaGuardia air traffic control tower will exacerbate the problem.

--Bird strikes have already been trending upward for a decade, particularly at LaGuardia.

--Regardless of the FAA actions, the facility still stands within the designated Runaway Protection Zone (RPZ) for runway 31 and therefore should never have been allowed to break ground.

Mr. Crowley reported the facility does not have a full permit. Friends of LGA.org are urging the Governor to impose upon the NYS Department of Conservation to order the Department of Sanitation of NYC to immediately halt all construction of the garbage facility. Many of the state and elected officials such as Senator Peralta as well as Assembly Member Francisco Moya and many others are well in opposition of this facility.

It is being built at a cost of \$125 million. To operate this facility, it is estimated the cost would be three times the tonnage fee that is currently being spent. Under the current budget crisis, city services are being cut back.

This money can be spent to restore services. But, first and foremost, it is about attracting birds and safety of the traveling public.

Mr. Edgar Moya made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Judy D'Andrea, to write a letter **opposing** this facility. By a voice vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

### ***Queens Library – Kristin Kuehl***

#### ***Effect of the Proposed City budget on the Queens Library***

Ms. Kristin Kuehl and Mr. Eric Howard, Lefrak City Library Manager, addressed the Board. The proposed budget cuts on this community were discussed. If the proposed budget were to pass, there would be a \$26.7 million or a 31% reduction less than the budget for 2012. More than 600 library employees could lose their jobs.

Aside from the 18 libraries that would close, 30 other branches would have to close four or five days per week. No branch in Queens would be open on Sundays, and only one would serve residents on Saturdays.

More than 2 million residents using the Queens Library branches would have less access to computers, English classes, or assistance with job seeking.

Funding must be restored. Let your elected officials know libraries are important and need to be funded.

Ms. Kuehl turned the floor over to Mr. Eric Howard, who pointed out libraries used to be open on Saturdays at Lefrak City. Due to cutbacks, the library had to close on Saturdays. Instead of restoring those cuts, the Mayor has now proposed deeper cuts. If they are implemented, the library in Lefrak City will be lost. The libraries cannot take any more cuts; otherwise, libraries will be closed.

People in Queens would have limited access to computers, borrow materials, get homework help, or prepare for a new job. In addition to lending out books, many more services are provided.

A rally will be held on June 14 at 4 p.m. at the Lefrak City Library. Following the rally, CPR classes will be conducted. A Family Night is planned for later this month. Strong social capital is important for a thriving community. He also mentioned the civic engagement held at the end of the month—every last Monday. An elected official is introduced so that people are aware of their legislators. This month Senator Jose Peralta is the guest speaker. He urged all to attend.

Mr. Tom McKenzie made a motion, seconded by Ms. Laraine Donohue, to send a letter supporting the libraries and stressing the importance of the libraries and to fight the cuts.

By a voice vote, the Board 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### ***Health***

Since Committee Chair Priscilla Carrow had to leave the meeting, Mrs. Judy D'Andrea gave the Health Committee's report.

Mrs. D'Andrea reported Priscilla Carrow is working with an organization called, Make The Road NY as well as the Partnership for A Healthier New York. At the next Health Committee meeting discussion will focus on *The Healthier Queens Initiative*.

An upcoming Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 18 at 4:00 p.m. Call the Community Board 4 office to confirm meeting place and time. The meeting is planned at the Make the Road NY headquarters, at 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue.

#### *Environmental*

Committee Chair Tom McKenzie mentioned the billing from the Water Board. With summer coming, kids turn on fire hydrants and walk away.

Fire hydrants lose a lot of pressure in this way. In case of fire, it is a dangerous practice, citing an example of a fire on 99<sup>th</sup> Street a few years ago. Water could not be pumped to the sixth floor to stop a fire. The whole sixth floor burned out on the building. Details were given.

If you see a fire hydrant running and no one is using it, call 311. The Environmental Dept. is supposed to have staff going out and shutting them off.

He spoke briefly about flooding around the Queens Center and St. John's Queens Hospital during rainstorms.

With the many wooden structures in Corona and Elmhurst, and frame houses being very close together fires are a very real concern. More fires occur in the summertime. Adding to the burden are more people lighting candles and barbeques.

Water from hydrants to extinguish fires is urgently needed to save lives and property.

#### *Parks*

No Report. Committee Chair not present.

At this point, Board Member Judy D'Andrea requested the Board office compile a list of all the events happening in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Many of the festivals are quite large and cause havoc in the neighborhood.

Board Member Alirio Orduna asked block parties also be included.

#### *Youth*

Chairperson Clara Salas reported on the Young Adult Internship Program funded through the Dept. of Youth and Community through the city, specifically for youth between the ages of 18-24 who are currently not working, not in school, court involved youth, anyone aging out of foster care or looking to obtain their GED. The program is of no cost to them, provides them with a paid internship that allows them to earn up to \$2500 for the duration of the program. During the internship, the young adults will have the chance to gain valuable work experience and develop work related skills. The participants will receive services up to 9 months where a permanent job, enrollment in a 2 yr or 4 yr college can be viable options.

A Fair will be held at LaGuardia Community College June 21.

For more information, please call 718-358-8899, ext 116.

A Youth Committee Meeting is planned for October 2012.

#### *Postal*

Committee Chair not in attendance.

#### *ULURP & ZONING COMMITTEE*

Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported no Committee meeting was held.

At this point, Board Member Roseann Geiger informed the Board on Friday, June 29, 2012, at Belmont Race Track a benefit will be held on behalf of Peter Cannon, son of Sgt. Ralph Cannon who is assigned to Queens

Supreme Court. Officers will also be onsite conducting a bone marrow donor drive. Peter has been battling this disease for several years and is in need of our help.

Also, raffle tickets for \$5 are being sold. If anyone is interested, please see her.

#### **X. PUBLIC FORUM**

A representative from the Workers Justice Project invited the membership on June 28 at the Jewish Community Center in Jackson Height to an art exhibit and fundraiser. A raffle will be held to help immigrant women, some of whom work as day laborers, to build the skills needed in a competitive economy.

Besides working as female day laborers, they work in factories or domestic work. Community help is needed to empower low wage immigrant workers gain a voice in the workplace and build strong communities through education, organizing and leadership development.

There being no further business, Ms. Laraine Donohue made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Judy D'Andrea to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.