



Vincent Arcuri, Jr.  
*Chairperson*

## Community Board No. 5

Borough of Queens  
Ridgewood, Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale  
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Gary Giordano  
*District Manager*

### Minutes of Community Board 5 Public Meeting July 12, 2017

#### Board Members Present

Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Tobias Sheppard Bloch; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Peter Comber; Henry Cross; Patricia Crowley; Jerome Drake; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Sarah Feldman; Steven Fiedler; Patricia Grayson; Mohan Gyawali-Chhetri; Fred T. Haller, III; Fred Hoefflerle; Robert Holden; Paul A. Kerzner; Maryann Lattanzio; Edward Lettau; Michael LoCascio; John Maier; Lydia Martinez; Katherine Masi; Eileen Moloney; Margaret O'Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Theodore M. Renz; Kelvin Rodriguez; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; David Sands; Carmen Santana; Christopher Sperrazza; Barbara Toscano; Patrick J. Trinchesi; Maryanna Zero

#### Board Members Absent

Deborah Cox; Brian Dooley; Angela Giovannello; John J. Killcommons; Kathleen Knight; Michael O'Kane; Connie Santos; Lorraine Sciulli; Catherine Sumsky

#### Elected Officials

NYS Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr, 15th SD and staff Neil Giannelli  
NYS Assemblyman Brian Barnwell, 30th AD and staff Mark Papish  
Don Capalbi – US Representative Grace Meng, 6th C.D.  
Alison Cummings – NYS Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, 37th AD  
Carmela Isabella - NYS Assemblyman Michael Miller, 38th AD  
Maggie Hayes - NYC Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, 30th CD

#### Staff Present

Gary Giordano, District Manager, CB5 Queens  
Laura Mulvihill and Catherine O'Leary, Community Associates - CB5Q Staff  
Joseph Nocerino – Queens Borough President Melinda Katz  
P. O. Charles Sadler, Community Affairs Unit - 104<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct

#### GUESTS

Thomas W. Gilbert, on behalf of Adam Klich, the owner of record of 64-25 Central Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385  
and Kris Kozlowski, Architect, 236 Russell Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222  
Lt. Anthony Andreano & Sgt. Christian Oliva, NYPD Facilities Management Division, 1 Police Plaza, NY, NY 10007  
Shamdel Seymour – NYPD-PBQN Community Affairs  
Crystal Wolfe - Catering for the Homeless, Maspeth, NY

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Board Chairman Vincent Arcuri called the monthly Board Meeting to order at 7:37pm, following the Salute to the Flag. He announced the first item on the Board Agenda as:

### **Public Hearing I Re: BSA Application # 97-07 BZ for 80-16 Cooper Avenue**

IN THE MATTER of an Application to the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals by the Law Office of Frederick A. Becker on behalf of Atlas Park LLC, the owner of record, to extend the term of a Special Permit, for a 10-year time, to allow the continued operation of a physical culture establishment (New York Sports Club), to amend the hours of operation and to request a waiver of the Rules of Practice for a late filing at **80-16 Cooper Avenue** (Block: 3810; Lot: 50) in Glendale, Queens, NY, in an M1-1 Zoning District.

At the applicant's request, the Board Chairman said that this item is being laid over until the next monthly Board Meeting on September 13, 2017.

### **Public Hearing II Re: BSA Application # 2017-148 BZ for 64-25 Central Avenue**

IN THE MATTER of an Application to the NY City Board of Standards and Appeals by Kris Kozlowski, Architect, on behalf of 64-25 Central Avenue LLC, the owner of record, for a Special Permit, under Sections 73-03, 73-44 and 44-21 of the Zoning Resolution, to develop a medical diagnostic and treatment facility, including the addition of a second story and a provision for 21 indoor parking spaces, instead of the 42 spaces required as per the zoning text, on the first floor at **64-25 Central Avenue** (B 3641, L 18), in Glendale, Queens, NY, in an M1-1 Zoning District.

Kris Kozlowski, the architect for Adam Klich, the owner of record for 64-25 Central Avenue, displayed photos of the former mechanics garage building on this site, as well as renderings of the proposed 2nd floor expansion, as he spoke about the proposed medical facility on the northwest corner of Central Avenue at 64 Place, in Glendale. He showed several floor plans for the proposed medical facility on the second floor with a parking facility for their patrons on the ground floor. He said that the building plans include an elevator to take patrons from the first to the second floor. In addition, he said that their plans call for renovations to the façade, and all new windows, doors and roof, with plumbing and electrical upgrades throughout. He said that the proposed facility would encompass 24,984 sq. ft. on an irregular-shaped lot, with a footprint of approximately 12,000 square feet. He introduced Thomas Gilbert as the consultant for this project, and gave him the floor.

Mr. Gilbert explained that the proposed expansion of this structure is permitted as-of-right in the existing M 1-1 district. He pointed out that the owner is in the process of finalizing a lease agreement with the prospective tenant. He said that the owner is required to provide proof that the new facility will be occupied as diagnostic and medical treatment facility, prior to receiving approval from the Dept. of Buildings for the proposed renovations and addition of a new 2nd story at this site. He explained that his client also seeks a special permit from the Board of Standards and Appeals, regarding parking requirements for the proposed facility.

He said that earlier this year, he completed an initial parking survey of the surrounding area and found that there were more than 40 on-street parking spaces available within a 1,000 foot radius of this site at several times during the day. He pointed out that he conducted parking surveys on several weekdays during January and February, between 10am and 6pm. In addition, he pointed out that there are several local bus routes within walking distance of this site, and the M train station on Fresh Pond Road is also within walking distance of this site.

The Board Chairman opened the floor to questions.

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Walter Sanchez said that parking availability is an important issue in the community. He asked how many patients could be accommodated at a time in the proposed facility. Mr. Kozlowski replied that there are 34 exam rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, as shown on the building plans. Mr. Sanchez said that he would expect that most of their patients would likely be driving to the proposed facility.

Katherine Masi asked what type of medical facility is planned at this site. Mr. Gilbert said that a general medical facility is planned.

Barbara Toscano asked how many of the proposed parking spaces inside the facility would be dedicated to staff. Mr. Gilbert said that no parking spaces inside the building would be set aside for employees.

Edward Lettau asked if the facility would be handicapped accessible. Mr. Kozlowski replied that the proposed building plans meet all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mr. Cermeli asked if the facility would be affiliated with a local hospital. Mr. Gilbert said that currently, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center is planning to lease this site. Board Chairman Arcuri pointed out that he serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of WHMC. He explained that according to the hospital's patient census, 17% of their patients currently live in the 11385 zip code area, and this site would be much more convenient for them to complete routine blood tests, etc.

Patrick Trinchese asked what the hours of the proposed facility would be. Mr. Gilbert said that he did not know yet. Mr. Trinchese said that he believes that 21 parking spaces would not be sufficient to accommodate the number of patients they expect to treat at this facility on a daily basis.

Peggy O'Kane pointed out that the proposed facility is across the street from Stop and Shop Supermarket's parking lot, where local residents often park their cars because they cannot find parking spaces on their block. As there were no other questions or comments from the floor, the Board Chairman referred the matter to the Zoning and Land Use Review Committee for further consideration.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Luz Ramos-Sealy, an outreach specialist in the Human Resources Administration's Public Engagement Unit, informed everyone about the Mayor's Get Covered NYC Initiative whose goal is to enroll 50,000 more New Yorkers in 2017 in health insurance plans who are not currently enrolled in any insurance plan. She said that outreach teams have been proactive in contacting uninsured New Yorkers who have recently visited Health and Hospital facilities, either by making home visits and/or making site visits to the local neighborhood offices of community partners and elected officials, in order to provide direct in-person assistance in enrolling uninsured city residents in the best health coverage options that are available.

In closing, Ms. Ramos-Sealy explained that while the open enrollment period ends on January 31<sup>st</sup>, residents can apply year-round for coverage under public health insurance programs, like Medicaid, Essential Plan, and Child Health Plus. She said that private health insurance options are available during the open enrollment period that runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, a Special Enrollment Period that runs from February 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>, allows local residents who have experienced a life-changing event, such as, marriage, pregnancy, change of employment or immigration status, to enroll in a private health care plan that meets their needs. For more information, she said that New Yorkers can connect with free in-person enrollment assistance near them, either by calling 3-1-1, or by texting "CoveredNYC" to 877-877. Flyers were distributed.

Maryann Lattanzio, a long-time resident of Maspeth and Board member, said that she no longer sees a security guard working at the Holiday Inn Express, where homeless men have been placed. She said that for the past few weeks, she has seen a significant increase in the number of men smoking marijuana near this shelter site and in local parks. She requested increased security at this site, as well as more of a police presence in this area of

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Maspeth. In addition, she said that she's seen dogs running around inside the Juniper Valley Park running track at night, off their leashes and requested increased parks enforcement there, too.

Debbie Drake, a homeowner in Maspeth, said that she has seen groups of men congregating in the sitting park, that is located at 60 Street and 55 Drive in Maspeth, well past midnight for the past month. She said that they drink alcohol, smoke marijuana, play loud music, and create a public nuisance there until well past midnight each night. She requested that "Park Closes at 9pm" signs be installed on the gates around this park, as well as new security lighting inside the park. She also requested more of a police presence in the area. The Board Chairman directed staff to request additional signage and lighting in the sitting park.

Bill Harvey, a Glendale resident and retired NYPD officer, asked if the Dept. of Health has replied to the Board's request for information about the legality of serving CBD-infused meals and beverages in a coffee shop located at 64-02 Myrtle Avenue. He said that he's concerned about this issue because CBD is derived from hemp, which is classified as a Level 1 narcotic, and it could lead to negative health impacts on patrons who eat or drink this substance. The Board Chairman replied that the NYPD's Legal Department is currently looking into this matter.

Leighton Knowles, a consultant for the proposed Flower Power Coffee Shop at 64-02 Myrtle Avenue in Glendale, responded to the prior speaker's statement by saying that the cannabinoid substance known as CBD is not a psycho-active drug and does not contain THC, the cannabis-based drug in marijuana. He said that he has had years of experience working as a professional chef with licensed distributors in the United States who provide cannabinoid (CBD) oils to local restaurants. He said that the owner of the Flower Power Coffee Shop is applying for a food handler's license to be issued by the NYC Dept. of Health, prior to opening in September. He pointed out that several health benefits have been associated with CBD-infused products, including relieving nausea, stress, and seizures related to multiple sclerosis. The Board Chairman referred the matter to the Health and Human Services Committee for further consideration.

Greg Vasicek, founder of the Play 4 Autism Foundation, welcomed everyone to participate in their fund-raising events this Summer, including a Citywide Slingshot 4 Autism car show at Christ the King High School on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, and a Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> in Kissena Park, in Flushing. For more information about these events, he welcomed everyone to visit their website at: [www.play4autism.org](http://www.play4autism.org). Flyers were distributed.

Genevieve Fricano, a lifelong Maspeth resident, said that she is concerned about the condition of a house located at 53-50 66 Street, on her block, that has been vacant for the past 10 years. She said that earlier this year, she tried to purchase this house at auction, but her bid was not accepted. For the past few weeks, there's been discarded furniture piled up in front of this house which has not been picked up yet. She also said that someone has moved into the basement of this house recently. The Board Chairman directed staff to contact the proper authorities regarding this situation.

Robert Cermeli, a Middle Village resident and Board member, spoke about last Wednesday's murder of veteran NYPD Police Officer Miosotis Familia, while working on a midnight tour and sitting in the passenger seat of a patrol vehicle in the Bronx. He said that the incident reminded him of the assassination of Police Officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, who were both shot and killed at point blank range, while sitting in their patrol car in Brooklyn, in December of 2014. He also reminded everyone that P.O. Edward Byrne was shot and killed at point blank range while sitting in a patrol car in South Jamaica in 1988. He said that this year, the current City administration plans to spend \$3.1 Million to retrofit the windows and side panels of mobile command police vehicles and patrol cars in order to make them bullet-proof. He said that these safety measures are long overdue because NYPD patrol officers risk their lives every day in order to protect the public in our City.

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### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Vincent Arcuri, Jr.**

Board Chairman Arcuri announced that the annual September 11th memorial service in Glendale will begin at 1pm on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 80 Street and Myrtle Avenue, inside Forest Park. He welcomed everyone to participate.

The Board Chairman introduced the Board's District Manager Gary Giordano, and staff members Catherine O'Leary and Laura Mulvihill.

The Board Chairman invited local elected offices and their staff to address the Board.

State Senator Joseph Addabbo thanked Board members for all of their good work on behalf of the community. He reported that the State Legislature voted to extend Mayoral control of the City's public school system for another 2 years. He said that this year, nine bills that he sponsored were passed by the Senate during the legislative session, including Senate Bill 6750 that will require chain pharmacies to collect unused, unwanted or expired controlled substances from the public, which the Governor is expected to sign, and Senate Bill 6673 to increase public information about safe drug disposal sites and local events.

In closing, he welcomed constituents to attend several upcoming events that he is sponsoring:

- 1) MTA's MetroCard van will be stationed at the Maspeth Federal Savings Bank on 69 Street at Grand Avenue between 10am and 12 Noon and in front of St. Margaret's School in Middle Village from 1pm to 3pm on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 2) The annual free B-B-Q for Veterans at the Howard Beach Motor Boat Club at 59 Russell Street on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.
- 3) A Job Fair at the Resorts World Casino at 110-00 Rockaway Blvd, in South Ozone Park, on Friday, October 6, 2017.

Regarding the complaints about the Holiday Inn Express shelter in Maspeth that were brought up earlier at tonight's meeting, he said that his staff contacted the Department of Homeless Services to inform them about the problems with security there. Copies of his newsletter were distributed.

On behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Joseph Nocerino announced the Katz Summer Concert series of free weekly outdoor concerts that will be sponsored in partnership with the Kupferberg Center for the Arts and NYC Parks at various locations throughout Queens. He also welcomed everyone to attend the City Resource Fair that will be held in Queens Borough Hall, on Tuesday, July 18th from 9am to 1pm. He also announced that next week, Mayor Bill de Blasio, Deputy Mayors, and senior Administration officials will run the City of New York from Queens Borough Hall with a special focus on the needs and concerns of Queens residents and local businesses. He welcomed everyone to meet and greet the Mayor and his representatives during normal business hours between Monday and Friday. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of State Assemblyman Brian Barnwell, Mark Papish welcomed calls for assistance from constituents at (718) 651-3185. Their district office is located at 55-19 69 Street, in Maspeth, he said. Flyers were distributed about upcoming events.

On behalf of Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Alison Cummings reported that the Assemblywoman recently sent a letter to the NYC Buildings Commissioner to object to the proposed overdevelopment of a construction site located at 54-27 Myrtle Avenue in Ridgewood, where a 17-story mixed-use residential tower is planned.

On behalf of Assemblyman Mike Miller, Carmella Isabella announced that their office will host the NYLAG Mobile Legal Help Center at their office, located at 83-91 Woodhaven Blvd, from 10am to 3pm on Monday, July

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24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. She advised anyone interested in this service to make an appointment either by calling their office (718) 805-0950, or via email at: <https://mobilelegalhelpcenter.acuityscheduling.com>. She also announced the next Recycling Event that they are planning to co-sponsor with State Senator Joe Addabbo inside the Forest Park Bandshell parking lot on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, between 10am and 3pm. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, Maggie Hayes reported that the new design plans for the reconstruction of Evergreen Park Playground were well received at yesterday's unveiling ceremony inside the park. She thanked everyone for their input. She also welcomed everyone to attend a free CPR training session at 7pm on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> in the Community Room at Atlas Park, 80-00 Cooper Avenue in Glendale. She advised anyone interested in registering to contact their office by calling (718) 366-3900.

### MINUTES

The Board Chairman asked Board members to review the minutes of the June 14, 2017 Board Meeting. The minutes were approved by acclamation, on a motion to accept them as written by Jerome Drake and seconded by Margaret O'Kane.

### LIQUOR, WINE and BEER LICENSE APPLICATIONS and RENEWALS

The Board Chairman read aloud the list of establishments in the Community Board 5 area that are in the process of applying for liquor, wine and beer licenses since the last monthly Board Meeting on June 14, 2017. Each Board member received a copy of the list.

#### New Liquor Licenses

- 1) \*Patrizia's of Maspeth LLC d/b/a **Patrizia's** 69-35 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378

#### Liquor License Renewals

- 1) O'Neill's of Maspeth Inc. d/b/a **O'Neill's** 64-15/23 52 Drive, Maspeth, NY 11378
- 2) Maria Y Howie Corp. d/b/a **El Coqui Billiard & Lounge** 54-19 Myrtle Ave – 2<sup>nd</sup> FL, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 3) **Piekielko Inc.** 62-36 Forest Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 4) Giuseppe Sottile d/b/a **Milan Sport Inc.** 73-11 Metropolitan Ave, Middle Village, NY 11379
- 5) **Pollos Mario Woodhaven Corp.** 63-20 Woodhaven Blvd., Rego Park, NY 11374
- 6) **Super Pollo Restaurant Inc.** 865 Woodward Ave, Ridgewood, NY 11385

#### New Wine and/or Beer Licenses

- 1) **Rico's Chicken Corp.** 74-27 Metropolitan Avenue, Middle Village, NY 11379

#### Wine and/or Beer License Renewals

- 1) **Buon Gelato & Euro Bar of NY Corp.** 74-02B Eliot Avenue, Middle Village, NY 11379
- 2) **Ridgewood K & K Inc.** 341 St. Nicholas Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

*\*Outdoor Area*

#### Class Change Notification

- 1) **East Coast Burgers Inc.** 53-21 Metropolitan Ave, in Ridgewood, NY 11385 has reported that they will be applying for a 'Class Change' to upgrade their current Restaurant Wine License to a Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License.

Carmen Santana asked if the Super Pollo Restaurant is required to obtain a sidewalk café permit for their use of the outdoor area surrounding their corner property, where patrons sit at small tables in an area that is enclosed by a 3-foot high railing and elevated about a foot above the sidewalk. She also asked if they are permitted to have a sound system that plays music outside the restaurant. The Board Chairman said that staff would investigate the matter. He said that complaints about loud music on the sidewalk or street should be reported to 3-1-1, if and when it occurs.

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### **Demolition and Construction Notices**

The Board Chairman reported that the Board received the following demolition notices since last month's Board Meeting: a residential garage in backyard of 2-family house at **78-02 82 Street, in Glendale**; a garage at **60-18 56 Avenue, in Maspeth**; a 1-family house and garage at **78-13 Metropolitan Avenue, in Middle Village**; and a 1-story commercial garage at **331 St. Nicholas Avenue, in Ridgewood**.

The Board also received a notice of excavation in connection with the construction of a 1-family house and accessory garage in a vacant lot located at **60-28 78 Avenue, in Glendale**.

The Board Chairman asked Board members to remain vigilant and to advise the Board 5 staff about any questionable construction work in the Board area, so they can investigate further.

### **District Manager's Report**

#### **Gary Giordano**

District Manager Gary Giordano announced that the Board will conduct a public hearing regarding the City's FY 2019 Capital and Expense Budget at the next monthly Board Meeting, which is scheduled to take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria of Christ the King High School. He informed everyone that the Executive Committee plans to meet during the week following this public hearing in order to formulate a list of at least 30 capital budget items to be listed on the Board's FY2019 Budget Surveys. Budget surveys will be distributed to all Board members so they can prioritize each item on the survey, and return their surveys once they are completed to the Board office. He said that staff will tabulate the results of the budget surveys and present them to the Executive Committee for their review and recommendation. He said that the full Board will vote on the Executive Committee's recommendations at the next monthly Board Meeting on October 11th.

The District Manager reported that work on the Penelope Avenue sewer replacement project is proceeding on schedule now. He said that the contractor on this \$22 Million project, C.A.C. Industries, began replacing the sewer mains on Gray Street this week, and plans to begin the installation of new sewer mains on 75 Street btw Gray Street and Penelope Avenue soon.

Regarding the major sewer replacement project on 69 Street and Calamus Avenue on the Woodside/Maspeth border, the District Manager reported that C.A.C. Industries, Inc., the contractor for this \$25 Million project, began excavating the street and installing a big box sewer on Calamus Avenue between 72 Place and 74 Street, and a new sewer chamber at the intersection of 74 Street and Calamus Avenue, in Maspeth. He said that this project is expected to be complete by mid-year in 2018.

The District Manager said that street flooding conditions due to heavy rains will be less likely to occur once both of these major capital improvements have been completed. The Board Chairman explained that now that the capacity of the sewer system in Maspeth and Middle Village has been increased, it is possible that additional sewer upgrades in other areas of Community Board 5 will be undertaken by the City.

The District Manager wished all a good Summer.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Zoning & Land Use Review**

##### **Walter Sanchez**

Regarding ULURP Application # **C 170394 PCQ** to the NYC Planning Commission by the New York City Police Department and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Section 197-c of the NYC Charter, for the site selection and acquisition of property located at **55-15 Grand Avenue** (Block 2610; Lots 305,

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336 and 357) in Maspeth, Queens, to facilitate the development of a consolidated NYPD Property Clerk Warehouse facility, Walter Sanchez reported that the committee met to review this application with representatives of the NYPD and Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Board office. After a lengthy discussion of their plans to consolidate five other storage facilities into one large site in Maspeth, he said that the committee recommends no objection to this application.

As there were no questions or comments on this matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the committee's recommendation, which passed unanimously by a vote of – 38 – in favor; - 0 – opposed; - 0 – abstentions, and – 0 – not voting.

Regarding Application # **N170425 ZRY**, a proposal by the NYC Department of City Planning to require a special permit, under the jurisdiction of the City Planning Commission, for all new self-service storage facilities in newly established Designated Areas within manufacturing districts, Mr. Sanchez reported that the Queens Borough Board recently abstained from voting on this zoning text amendment.

Mr. Sanchez said that the committee is looking into reports of overdevelopment in the Board 5 area.

## **Transportation & Public Transit Services**

### **Toby Sheppard Bloch**

Toby Sheppard Bloch reported that representatives of the MTA-NYC Transit gave a presentation regarding their plans to shut down the “L” Train Canarsie Tunnel that runs under the East River, between Bedford Avenue in Brooklyn and First Avenue in Manhattan, in order to complete necessary repairs to the tracks, lighting, signals and infrastructure in the tunnel, to committee members at their meeting, on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> in the Board 5 office. He said that the MTA plans to increase commuter service on the G, M, J and Z train lines for the duration of this project.

Mr. Bloch reported that M Train service between Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village and the Myrtle Avenue/Broadway station in Brooklyn was suspended on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and free shuttle buses have been transporting commuters between the closed stations on a continuous basis around the clock. He said that all of the work related to the replacement of the trestle bridge on the M train line, between the Metropolitan Avenue and Fresh Pond Road stations, is expected to be complete by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

He also reported that representatives from the Dept. of Transportation gave a presentation on the new Carshare Pilot Program and reviewed their plans to dedicate some on-street parking spaces. He said that their proposal includes replacing several car lengths of Alternate Side Parking spaces on Madison Street, Catalpa Avenue, Woodward Avenue and Onderdonk Avenue in Ridgewood, with dedicated Carshare parking spaces. He said that committee members will monitor the impact of this pilot program.

Regarding the Citywide Smart Truck Management Program, he said that the Department of Transportation is currently meeting with merchants and truckers about traffic congestion that builds up along certain commercial corridors at varying times of the day. For more information about this program, he welcomed everyone to visit their website at: [www.dot.gov/trucks](http://www.dot.gov/trucks).

In addition, he said the committee reviewed requests for roadway resurfacing and traffic safety improvements, such as speed bumps, stop signs and traffic signals.

Board Chairman Arcuri announced that there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11am on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, for the opening of the pedestrian plaza at the Glendale Memorial Triangle, where Cooper Avenue and Myrtle Avenue intersect with 70 Street. He also said that the pedestrian plaza at the intersection of Myrtle Avenue, Forest Avenue and 71 Avenue is expected to be complete by the end of September, 2017.



## **Parks Services Committee**

### **Steven Fiedler**

Steven Fiedler reported that a public hearing was conducted regarding the Ridgewood Reservoir on June 21<sup>st</sup> in St. Pancras School Auditorium, sponsored by the NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation. He said the purpose of this hearing was for the Department to receive input regarding the Reservoir, with its 3 basins, being considered as a critical environmental area. He said that representatives of Community Board 5 presented testimony at the hearing, and advocated for all 3 basins in the reservoir to receive wetlands designation.

Mr. Fiedler also reported that the committee met on June 13<sup>th</sup> in the Board office to discuss a proposal from the Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC, the NY Football Club, and the US Soccer Foundation to create a soccer field in Rosemary's Playground, in Ridgewood. He said that the committee agreed to meet on-site to review the proposed site for a new soccer field in this playground. He said that when he visited the park, he found that it was heavily utilized by local youth, the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council's program and I.S. 93-Queens students.

He said that the proposed soccer field is approximately 83 feet long, and 50 feet wide, which is the same size as a basketball court. According to the proposed plans, the new soccer field would displace the existing basketball court on the Madison Street side of the park. He said that the committee believes this is the wrong location for this type of facility, and recommends against installing a new soccer field at this location.

Following a general discussion of the committee recommendation, Mr. Fiedler pointed out that Rosemary's Playground is slated for re-design by the Dept. of Parks this year.

Board Chairman Arcuri requested a Roll Call vote on the matter which carried by a vote of – 31 – in favor; - 7 – opposed; - 0 – abstentions; and – 0 – not voting.

## **Old and New Business**

Fred Haller gave an update on the annual fundraising event for Relay for Life, which was sponsored by the American Cancer Society on the weekend of June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at the running track in Juniper Valley Park. Mr. Haller reported that hundreds of people turned out for this event, and the Glendale Kiwanis Club was able to raise \$220,000 in donations for cancer research. He said that they are still collecting donations this month. He said that everyone had a great time, and welcomed everyone to participate in this event next year. For future updates about this event, he welcomed everyone to visit to their website at: [www.RelayforLife.org/MiddleVillageNY.org](http://www.RelayforLife.org/MiddleVillageNY.org).

Carmen Santana reported that there is an infestation of bed bugs in the Ridgewood area. The Board Chairman replied that complaints must be reported to a 3-1-1 operator, because each complainant must be able to admit a city inspector into their apartment to eradicate the pest.

Ms. Santana also requested that the Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District contact the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities and/or the Dept. of Consumer Affairs, to request information about how local shopping corridors and small businesses should comply with the Americans with Disability Act affects.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Board Chairman Arcuri adjourned the public meeting of Community Board 5, Queens on a motion from the floor at 9:15pm.