

**FEBRUARY 11, 2014 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING AND  
REGULAR MEETING  
KEW GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTER 80-02 KEW GARDENS RD**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2013-MARCH 2014**

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1)	Ralph Gonzalez	(0)	Jagir Singh	(5)
Julio Batista	(1)	Sylvia Hack	(1)	Maharani Singh	(2)
D. Bhattacharjee	(1)	Scott Jordan	(1)	Raghibir Singh	(1)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(0)	Patrick Khan	(0)	J. Richard Smith	(1)
Jim Coccovillo	(1)	Joel Kuszai	(1)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(1)
Andrea Crawford	(2)	Priscilla Levine	(1)	Maria Thomson	(0)
Richard David	(2)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(1)	Joseph Todisco	(2)
Joan DeCamp	(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(1)	Marie Turley	(0)
Anton Dietrich	(1)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(1)	Seth Welins	(0)
H. Singh Duggal	(1)	Raj Rampershad	(2)	Clark Whitsett	(1)
Stephen Esposito	(1)	Mohamed Safie	(3)	Kenichi Wilson	(1)
Dr. V. Evangelista	(0)				

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Latchman Budhai	(2)	Sam Esposito	(2)	Marian Molina	(4)*
John Carter	(1)	Linda Fogal	(2)	Regina Santoro	(1)
Nick Comaianni	(2)	Joseph Iaboni	(2)	Naidoo Veerapen	(3)
Sandra Datnarain	(1)	Sherman Kane	(2)	David Adorno	(4)*

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mary Ann Carey, District Manager  
Lisa Gomes, Irina Barayeva, staff

Absences from a meeting shall mean physical non-attendance and /or failure to be present for voting on two or more agenda items marked "Vote to be Taken" at any regular or special meeting of the Board.

### Legislative Representatives

David Renz, Assembly Member Miller  
 Carl Moore, Senator Addabbo  
 Bruce Eiber, Council Member Koslowitz  
 Chris Kaznowski, Assembly Member Hevesi  
 Elisa Velazquez, QBP Katz  
 Vishnu Mahadeo, Senator Sanders

Anthony Lemma, Assembly Member Weprin  
 PO Brendan Noonan, 102 Pct.  
 PO Jose Severino, 102 Pct.  
 Rudy Giuliani, Council Member Ulrich  
 Barry Grodenchik, QBP Katz  
 Greg Lavine, Congress Member Meng

### GUESTS

Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

### PUBLIC FORUM

Jessica Nizar, Riders Alliance- spoke about her organization that reaches out to subway and bus riders throughout NYC to come up with the better ways of service. At this moment, they are receiving numerous complaints regarding bus service on Woodhaven Blvd. Ms. Nizar subsequently passed around a Woodhaven Blvd Bus Rider Survey and encouraged all to fill it out. Her contact info is: (212) 590-9428, [jess@ridersny.org](mailto:jess@ridersny.org)

Mike Scala, Queens Public Transit Committee – stated that the Queens Public Transit Committee broadly advocates for better transportation throughout the borough of Queens. They are interested in what the concerns are when it comes to public transportation. As of right now they ask that constituents email [info@queenspublictransit.com](mailto:info@queenspublictransit.com) with any concerns until their website, [www.queenspublictransit.com](http://www.queenspublictransit.com), is running.

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. ***Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. - “Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival” Oct. 19, 2014***

2. ***Liquor, Beer, & Wine Licenses, Letters of Intent Received***

a. **On Premise Liquor License Application- New**

Esex Lounge Corp.  
 131-15 Jamaica Ave  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
*No speakers*

b. **On Premise Beer License Application- New**

Biao Feng Inc.  
 110-15 101 Ave  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
*No speakers*

**c. On Premise Liquor License-Renewal**

AMD Restaurant Corp.  
 D/b/a Port O Call  
 93-10 Woodhaven Blvd.  
 Woodhaven, NY 11421  
*No speakers*

Destination Food Corp.  
 D/b/a El Viejo Yayo Restaurant  
 97-17 101 Ave  
 Ozone Park, NY 11416  
*No speakers*

Royal India Palace & Restaurant, Inc.  
 118-08 Atlantic Ave  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
 Serial# 1165422 (expires 2/28/14)  
*No speakers*

Royal India Palace & Restaurant, Inc.  
 118-08 Atlantic Ave  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
 Serial# 1174877 (expires 2/28/14)  
*No speakers*

**d. Off Premise Wine & Beer License Application- Renewal**

Durso Lefferts Blvd. Food Corp.  
 D/b/a Key Food #968  
 87-25 Lefferts Blvd.  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
*No speakers*

**e. On Premise Wine & Beer License Application- Renewal**

Nebu Hookah Lounge Inc.  
 86-72 80 St  
 Woodhaven, NY 11421  
*No speakers*

SAI Lakshmi Corp.  
 D/b/a Baba's Corner  
 108- 24 Myrtle Ave  
 Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
*No speakers*

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### 1. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Ivan Mrakovcic made a correction: Old Business- to change realm of private sector to private realm.

Marie Turley and Dr. Sofer motioned to accept minutes as amended.

**Motion # 1:** To adopt minutes as amended.

**Vote # 1:** 33 in favor, 2 abstentions and 1 not present

### 2. Monthly Update Report- 102 Pct. – PO Noonan, PO Severino

PO Noonan made an announcement about NYPD 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Domestic Violence Awareness Seminar which will take place on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at the Fair Field Pavilion. He stated that the domestic violence rate is high at the 102 Pct.

The next Community Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 7-9 pm at the Richmond Hill Branch Library.

Question and answer period followed.

#### **Chairperson Coccovillo introduced legislative representatives.**

**David Ranz, representing Assembly Member Miller,** gave an update on the installation of six cameras in and around Forest Park stating that they will be installed in a few months at the sharp turn on Forest Park Drive, between Oak Ridge and the Jackie Robinson Parkway; near the entrance to the golf course; at the Bandshell; at Woodhaven Boulevard & Myrtle Ave; at Freedom Drive and Myrtle Ave & at the Buddy Monument.

Assembly Member Miller's office submitted a request to DOT to do a study on Woodhaven Boulevard to increase a time for pedestrians to cross the intersection.

**Carl Moore, representing State Senator Addabbo,** stated that the Town Hall meeting regarding the Core Curriculum will take place on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at PS 232 in Howard Beach. The NYS Comptroller's meeting on unclaimed funds will take place on Wednesday, February 19 2014 at the Ozone Park Senior Center and the free Prostate Screening will take place on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the Senator's Howard Beach office.

**Anthony Lemma, representing Assembly Member Weprin,** stated that their office is working on an issue at the Burger King, located at 129 St & Liberty Ave as well as supporting the DOE's moratorium on co-locations in city public schools.

**Bruce Eiber from Council Member Kozlowitz office** gave no report.

**Chris Kaznowski, representing Assembly Member Hevesi**, stated that Assembly Member along with over 80 of his colleagues met with speaker Silver last month and asked him to allocate \$3M in the 2014/2015

State budget to upgrade an antiquated freight locomotive as part of the project to over hold the State owned fleet.

**Elisa Velazquez of Queens Borough President Katz** stated that BP Katz will be attending the next CB 9 meeting. Ms. Velazquez is a council to BP Katz's office and will be a liaison to CB9.

Question and answer period followed.

**Rudy Giuliani from Council Member Ulrich's office** gave no report.

**Barry Grodenchik of QBP Katz's office** reminded all board members to submit their renewal applications.

**Vishnu Mahadeo, representing State Senator Sanders**, stated that the Senator is arranging for three buses to go to Albany this weekend to the event where all business owners' minorities can lobby for themselves. For info call the office (718)523-3069.

### 3. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report- James Coccovillo

- Mr. Chairperson wished all a Happy New Year and gave an update on security cameras in Forest Park.
- The Forest Park Jewish Center on Myrtle Ave expressed interest in becoming a senior center. Mr. Chairperson subsequently made inquiries and was informed that difficulty in opening and maintaining senior centers has caused CB9 to lose centers in the past. Mr. Chairperson contacted Councilmember Elizabeth Crowley's office which outlined the challenges in taking such a step, and stated that a joint effort of offices will be necessary to see the much needed senior center be established.
- Mr. Chairperson has requested that the Land Use committee create a list of Stop Work orders, as the DOB does not keep such a list.
- The CB9 office has requested a list of all the runs that the Woodhaven Fire Department Ladder 143 has gone on in the months of November, December and January, including codes and causes as available.
- Mr. Chairperson thanked the office personnel for their efforts in dealing with the changes that have been implemented.
- Chairperson Coccovillo also thanked all of the executive committee chairs for the work they have put in and the professionalism they have displayed.
- Mr. Chairperson noted that all the board members deserve his thanks and the recognition of the entire community.
- Chairperson Coccovillo thanked the Borough President's office for assisting DM Mary Ann Carey and himself in resolving concerns and establishing a better working procedure. DM Carey also agreed to put any differences behind and focus on the community issues and concerns.
- Mr. Chairperson wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

4. District Manager's Report- Mary Ann Carey

*At the January 14th Community Board Meeting during the District Manager's report if I made statements that were inappropriate, if I said anything that offended the Chair, I apologize.*

*The chair and I have agreed to put our differences behind us, to move forward and focus on issues of concern to the Board and the community. I am confident that's something we will all strive for.*

5. Transportation Committee Report- Andrea Crawford

- Kenichi Wilson will be attending the Borough Transportation Committee meeting tomorrow.
- TIP, the Transportation Implementation Plan, select bus service is planned for the Woodhaven Boulevard corridor, through the NYS DOT Federal FY2014/2018 Transportation Improvement Program. The total of \$9.5 to \$15M for this 5-year project has been allocated. The construction is planned to begin in January 2015.

► ***Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. - "Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival" Oct. 19, 2014***

***VOTE TO BE TAKEN***

Andrea Crawford made a motion to support the Greater Woodhaven Development Corp., Wonderful Woodhaven Street Fair on October 19, 2014.

***Motion #2:*** To support the Greater Woodhaven Development Corp., Wonderful Woodhaven Street Fair, October 19, 2014

***Vote #2:*** 34 in favor, 2 abstentions (due to conflict of interests)

6. Land Use Committee Report – Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane

Sylvia Hack stated that Sherman Kane is going to draft a letter regarding legalizing basement apartments as a way to address the need for more affordable housing and it will be discussed at the next Land Use committee meeting.

Discussion followed.

7. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Seth Welins

- 1: Universal Pre-K program: NYS and NYC elected officials are supporting Universal Pre-K programs. By 2015, NYC hopes to enroll 73000 students in these programs. The following schools in Community Board 9 currently have Pre-K programs: P.S. 51, 60, 306, 273, 254, 161, and 55. There are many private and community-based organizations that also provide Pre-K programs. It is uncertain whether the funding for this program will come from a special NYC tax on those earning over \$500,000/year or from the general NYS Education budget allocations.
- 2: Testing: The NYS Board of Regents issued new testing guidelines. They are now allowing districts to reduce the number of standardized tests some students will take and

they will extend the phase-in of Common Core Regents exams required for graduation. The class of 2022 will be the first class held to these new standards. Schools do not have to rely solely on Common Core exam results when making placement or promotion decisions for students.

- 3: Technology: Gov. Cuomo's will ask for a \$2 billion bond issue for technology upgrades to classrooms.

District Manager Mary Ann Carey apologized to the Chairman's family: *I neglected to say to Jim if any of my comments were hurtful to him or his family I apologize and want to reiterate that I'm sorry and that some of the comments I made were not completely accurate.*

#### 8. Health & Social Services Committee Report-Ralph Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez wished all a Happy Heart Day. He said that a print out of his report is included in board members' packages.

Ralph stated that:

- More than 45,000 NYC seniors seek medical treatment from falls each year.
- In 2010, 17,000 older adults are hospitalized and 300 die as a result of a fall.
- 3,000 HRA employees work to serve 3 million New Yorkers through essential and diverse programs.
- On 1/30/204 the American Red Cross provided assistance to 11 adults & 4 children due to a fire at 87-33 96<sup>th</sup> St.

Chairperson Coccovillo commended Mr. Gonzalez's work as a chair of Health & Social Services Committee.

#### 9. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report- J. R. Smith & J. DeCamp

Joan DeCamp stated that they requested and are waiting for a final report from Endzone, Inc.

Mr. Smith stated that on Saturday the Assembly Member Miller held a news conference on Woodhaven Blvd. & Jamaica Ave regarding traffic safety on Woodhaven Blvd.

#### 10. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo & R. Daniel Pollack

##### ▶ On Premise Liquor License Application- New

Esex Lounge Corp.  
131-15 Jamaica Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion # 3:** To send a letter of no objection for Esex Lounge Corp. 131-15 Jamaica Ave

**Vote # 3:** 34 in favor, 2 not present

##### ▶ On Premise Beer License Application- New

Biao Feng Inc.  
110-15 101 Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion # 4:** To send a letter of no objection for Biao Feng Inc., 110-15 101 Ave

**Vote # 4:** 34 in favor, 2 not present

► **On Premise Liquor License-Renewal**

AMD Restaurant Corp.  
D/b/a Port O Call  
93-10 Woodhaven Blvd.  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion # 5:** To send a letter of no objection for AMD Rest. Corp. d/b/a Port O Call,  
93-10 Woodhaven Blvd.

**Vote # 5:** 32 in favor, 2 opposed, and 2 not present

Destination Food Corp.  
D/b/a El Viejo Yayo Restaurant  
97-17 101 Ave  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion # 6:** To send a letter of no objection for Destination Food Corp., d/b/a El Viejo Yayo Rest.  
97-17 101 Ave

**Vote # 6:** 34 in favor, 2 not present

Dr. Evangelista stated that the correct address for this establishment is 97-12 101 Ave.

► **On Premise Wine & Beer License Application- Renewal**

Nebu Hookah Lounge Inc.  
86-72 80 Street  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion # 7:** To send a letter of no objection for Nebu Hookah Lounge, Inc. 86-72 80<sup>th</sup> St

**Vote # 7:** 33 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 not present

► **On Premise Liquor License-Renewal**

Royal India Palace and Restaurant, Inc.  
118-08 Atlantic Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
Serial# 1165422 (expires 2/28/14)

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN (Pending info. Received)**

Royal India Palace and Restaurant, Inc.  
118-08 Atlantic Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419  
Serial# 1174877 (expires 2/28/14)

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN (Pending info. Received)**



**Motion # 8:** To send a letter of no objection re: all licenses for Royal India Palace & Rest, Inc.  
118-08 Atlantic Ave upon receipt of copies of their current licenses

**Vote # 8:** 32 in favor, 2 abstentions and 2 not present

Durso Lefferts Blvd. Food Corp.  
D/b/a Key Food # 968  
87-25 Lefferts Blvd.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**Motion # 9:** To send a letter of opposition to on premise liquor license renewal application and no objection to the renewal of present retail off premise consumption liquor license for Durso Lefferts Blvd. Food Corp. d/b/a Key Food # 968, 87-25 Lefferts Blvd

**Vote # 9:** 34 in favor, 2 not present

SAI Lakshmi Corp.  
D/b/a Baba's Corner  
108- 24 Myrtle Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**Motion # 10:** To send a letter of opposition to the renewal of on premise wine & beer license and no objection to the renewal of retail off premise wine and beer license for SAI Lakshmi Corp. d/b/a Baba's Corner, 108-24 Myrtle Ave

**Vote # 10:** 34 in favor, 2 not present

Rabbi Pollack reported on a presentation for NYPD Clergy Liaisons at 1 Police Plaza. The presentation was about "Operation Crew Cut"-the police response to an increase in shootings among youth gangs. There are 300 known crews in the city. Two of which are engaging in crimes in the CB 9 area: Woodhaven Mayans operate from 85<sup>th</sup> to 88<sup>th</sup> Streets and from 85<sup>th</sup> Ave to Atlantic Ave; G-Fly operates from 92<sup>nd</sup> St & Jamaica Ave and 90<sup>th</sup> St & 88<sup>th</sup> Ave, end in the Equity Park.

Next meeting is on Wednesday February 19, 2014 at 7 pm at the district office.

11. Old Business *No speakers*

12. New Business

Raj Rampershad thanked the board's office for having Sanitation to come out and clean the park by Van Wyck Expressway & Jamaica Ave.

Alexander Blenkinsopp-the next WRBA Town hall meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014 at the Christ Emmanuel Church.

Jim Coccovillo stated that there will be a slide show at Nears about Woodhaven on Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 7:30.

### 13. Public Forum

Greg Levine from Congress Member Meng's office spoke about The Protect Cemeteries Act and replacing diesel engines initiative.

The meeting ended at 10:00 pm