

**FEBRUARY 10, 2015 MINUTES OF PUBLIC
HEARING & REGULAR MEETING KEW GARDENS
COMMUNITY CENTER 80-02 KEW GARDENS RD**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2014-MARCH 2015

2nd # Represents Absences As of January 2014 (Borough President's Attendance)

David Adorno	(2) (0)	Stephen Esposito	(3) (0)	Raj Rampershad	(1) (0)
Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1) (1)	Dr. V. Evangelista	(1) (0)	Jagir Singh	(2) (0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0) (0)	Laraine Fletcher	(1) (0)	Jarnail Singh	(2) (0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(1) (0)	Linda Fogal	(1) (0)	Maharani Singh	(2) (0)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(2) (1)	Ralph Gonzalez	(1) (1)	Ragbir Singh	(2) (1)
John Carter	(2) (1)	Sylvia Hack	(2) (1)	J. Richard Smith	(1) (0)
Jim Coccovillo	(0) (0)	Joseph Iaboni	(1) (0)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(0) (0)
Nick Comaianni	(1) (0)	Scott Jordan	(2) (0)	Maria Thomson	(1) (1)
Andrea Crawford	(0) (0)	Sherman Kane	(1) (0)	Marie Turley	(0) (0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0) (0)	Patrick Khan	(1) (0)	Seth Welins	(0) (0)
Richard David	(1) (0)	Joel Kuszai	(1) (0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(2) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(0) (0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0) (0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0) (0)
Sam Esposito	(2) (0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0) (0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Julio Batista	(2) (1)	Priscilla Levine	(5) (2)	Mohamed Safie	(5) (2)
Latchman Budhai	(4) (1)	Marian Molina	(3) (1)	Regina Santoro	(2) (1)
H. Singh Duggal	(2) (1)	Ivan Mrakovic	(1) (1)	Clark Whitsett	(2) (1)

ALSO PRESENT

Lisa Gomes, Acting District Manager
Irina Barayeva, Community Assistant

*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.

LEGISLATORS & LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Bruce Eiber, Council Member Koslowitz
David Renz, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller
Scott Wolf, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz
Redmond Haskins, Rep. Council Member Ulrich
Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joseph P. Addabbo
Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Jahi Rose, Rep. Council Member Ruben Wills
P.O. J. Severino, 102nd Pct.
P.O. E. Martinez, 102nd Pct.
Hayden Horsham, Rep. Senator Sanders, Jr.
Barry Grodenchik, QBPO
Elisa Velazquez, QBPO
Dev Awasthi, Rep. Comptroller Stringer
Vishnu Mahadeo, Rep. Senator Sanders, Jr.
Mahan Nanda, Rep. Assembly Member Hevesi
Lt. M. Ruiz, NYPD Community Affairs Bureau
P.O. G. Singh, NYPD Community Affairs Bureau
Alexander Bennett, Rep. Congress Member Grace Meng

Guests' sign-in sheets are available upon request.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Chair Gonzalez opened the meeting and thanked Kew Gardens Community Center for hosting. Marie Turley asked for additions/corrections to the minutes.

Corrections submitted by Jim Coccovillo:

Page 5 - The evaluation tool was designed to be used by the CB9 Chair and at least one other elected board official, not the Ad-hoc committee.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as amended.

Vote # 1: 33 in favor, 1 not present and 4 abstentions

2. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report- Ralph Gonzalez

Chair Gonzalez reminded all that the election of officers will take place in March. There is a list of CB9 Chairs and Vice Chairs in the board members' envelopes. He stated that board members might consider running for CB9 Chair.

3. Acting District Manager's Report- Lisa Gomes

"I attended the WRBA town Hall meeting on Jan. 17, 2015. Mr. Andrew Newman, Communications Manager NYC Parks Dept. Forestry Division, spoke about The Million Trees NYC Initiative and stated the program has planted 938,000 trees throughout NYC. Trees can be planted via nyc.gov/parks, Constituent Requests or Environmental Need.

Fiorella Trimble, Senior Forester stated the Parks Dept. works with the Community and Individuals do not have the right to refuse to have trees planted in front of their homes. They indicated that some medians along road ways are too narrow for planting as evidenced by the high mortality rate. Medians need to be 8ft. wide for trees to survive.

Greg Mitchel representative from Eric Ulrich's office announced that the Councilman was holding a Participatory Budget session at his Office on 1/22/15. I attended this meeting and some of the budget items discussed were:

- Equity Park Improvement/Renovation- 88th Ave at 90th St. (behind PS60).
- Library Improvements- Richmond Hill Branch (118-14 Hillside Ave) & Ozone Park Branch (92-24 Rockaway Blvd).
- 911 Memorial in Forest Park (by the Bandshell).
- Neighborhood Signs, i.e. "Welcome to Woodhaven".
- Funding for Local Schools PS 97, PS 66, PS90, PS 306, \$75,000 per school for a total of \$300,000.

Assemblyman Mike Miller discussed a bill he introduced to create a Civilian Summons Review Board to hear cases involving summonses issued by the Dept. of Sanitation. Woodhaven residents have been getting an unusual amount of summonses and have asked for the Assemblyman's help.

Of course one of the major issues was that of The Woodhaven Ambulance Corp. Shutting Down!! Both Martin Colbert WRBA President & Ed Wendell, former president & member of WRBA stated they are starting the process. This is due to the delays in construction work on the building. The newest deadline for the roof completion is 2/22/15.

I have been in contact with Anthony Illiano, of the DOB to arrange a meeting with Martin Colbert & Ed Wendell to discuss their frustration with the legal process and its impact on the buildings & Ambulances future and its importance to Woodhaven and its residents.

I attended the 102 PCT Council Meeting 1/20/15- Special Guest Speaker was: Chief Joanne Jaffie. Chief Jaffie was promoted to the City's Community Affairs

Bureau 10 months ago. Her experience in working closely with Public Housing residents provided valuable experience in developing trust & bonds with the community at large. She oversees Community Outreach teams throughout the city, and the bureau oversees Community Affairs Units, i.e. Crime Prevention Division and Juvenile Justice Division. She Urged residents to subscribe to the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau Email List to be kept in the loop on breaking news. TEXT "NYPD" to 22828 on your cell phone.

Deputy Inspector Saunter reported on following:

9% decrease in Major Crimes for 2014 with significant decreases in Robberies and Felony Assaults.

Six Rookie Police Officers were assigned to the Pct. They will complete a six month on the job training at the Precinct.

Two Officers were honored with "The Cop of the Month Award" for their efforts in thwarting a robbery in progress last month. They were Eric Contreras & Annmarie Tyrrie.

The Deputy Inspector and our own Latchman Budhai, 102 PCT Council President, presented the Rookie Officers with Plaques.

A moment of Silence was observed to remember & honor Detectives: Rafael Ramos & Wenjian Liu.

DOT created 40 to 50 angled parking spots on 134 St. btwn Union Tpke & Hoover Ave. Extended metered parking south bound on Queens Blvd, south of 83rd Ave and converted to 6 hour metered parking. Estimates: this will create an additional 20 to 25 spots.

Last but not least, I had the great privilege of attending Borough President Katz Borough Cabinet meeting with the Queens Chamber of Commerce."

2nd Vice Chair Smith recognized NYPD representatives.

4. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

P.O. Severino & P.O. Martinez stated the following:

- 102nd Pct. Community Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, Feb.17, 2015, 7-9pm at the Richmond Hill Branch Library.
- The Precinct is on Twitter which is a new way of reaching out to the public.
- Information from the precinct can also be received via email.

- Increase of deception burglaries in 102nd Pct.

Vice Chair Rampershad recognized legislative representatives.

Elisa Velasquez, Rep. Borough President Katz, announced that the new Deputy Borough President is Melva Miller. She stated that the BP's Budget Hearings will take place on Monday, Feb. 23, 2015. Community Organizations and Groups who want to apply for QBP Capital funding should submit their applications by Feb. 26, 2015. Information can be obtained by calling (718) 286-3000 or on the QBP website.

Hayden Horsham, Rep. Senator Sanders, Jr. introduced himself and stated that Senator Sanders is working closely with Council Member Wills regarding a juvenile facility in South Ozone Park. Mr. Horsham can be reached at (718) 523-3069.

David Renz, Rep. Assembly Member Miller, nothing to report. The office phone number is (718) 805-0950.

Scott Wolf, Rep. Assembly Member Simanowitz, stated that the Assemblyman voted on a bill that will establish a State Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate. This office will create an independent body that would represent consumers of this state when it comes to utility issues, in addition to the Public Service Commission that represents both consumers and utility companies. Forty states currently have a Utility Consumer Advocate Office. We hope that New York State will be the Forty First.

Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member Weprin, stated that the Assemblyman is in Albany trying to make sure that our schools get proper funding.

Redmond Haskins, Rep. Council Member Ulrich, spoke about Participatory Budget sessions stating that some of the topics that were submitted include: 911 Memorial in Forest Park, Emergency Call Box Post in Forest Park, Equity Park improvements and renovations, upgrade and renovation of Richmond Hill and Ozone Park branch libraries and auditorium upgrades in P.S. 64. The next Participatory Budget session will take place in March. Mr. Haskins distributed the Winter 2015 Newsletter.

Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz, stated that the office will be working late hours Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 5-8pm.

Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, stated that Senator Addabbo and Assembly Member Miller's Recycling event will take place April 26, 2015 at the Forest Park from 10 am to 2 pm.

Jahi Rose, Rep. Council Member Rubin Wills, reported on Free Family Legal Law Clinic taking place at the Councilmember's office every Wednesday from 10 am to 4 pm. The constituents will be able to get free one-on-one legal consultations on:

- Child Support
- Child Custody/Visitations
- Orders of Protection in Family & Criminal Court
- Child Protective Services.

This program is sponsored by the Urban Justice Center and is a part of the Domestic Violence Project. The consultations are by appointment only and can be scheduled by calling (718) 206-2068.

Mr. Rose stated that the office provides free tax preparation.

Dev Awasthi, Rep. Comptroller Stringer, distributed 'A Year in Review' newsletter and stated that the Comptroller's office is accepting suggestions for this year's audits.

Alexander Bennett, Rep. Congress Member Grace Meng, reported on the following:

- The Congresswoman supports the proposal to extend the Airtrain to LaGuardia Airport.
- A press conference was held to warn the public about the scams related to President's Obama Executive Act on Immigration.
- The Congresswoman wrote to Chancellor Farina to reopen a Gifted and Talented Program in middle schools, in the District 25 & 28.
- Will hold an Info Session on Executive Act on Immigration on February 23, 2015, 5 p.m. at the Elmhurst Hospital
- Distributed 2015 US House Representative calendars, a gift from Congress Member Meng.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Vishnu Mahadeo, RHEDC, extended invitation to all seniors to attend seminars at the center located at 128-04 Liberty Ave. Seniors can get information regarding all benefits available to them. The info sessions will take place every Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The School Construction Authority will have information on when the trailers will be removed from the Richmond Hill High School as well as the plans for the new design of the RHHS playground.

Mike Divalle, South Ozone Park Resident, stated that the South Ozone Park community is very upset because of a decision of one board member to lease his property at 133-27 127th Street to a Juvenile facility/prison. The residents of the affected area have asked Council Member Wills for help. Mr. Divalle suggested

opening this facility across the Belt Parkway next to a shopping mall, where a Health Facility is being closed.

Carl Yannotti, South Ozone Park Resident, spoke against opening of juvenile facility in a residential area and suggested it be opened in an industrial area. He asked Community Board 9 to help Community Board 10 in opposing it.

Murray Berger, KGCA, spoke about Council Member Koslowitz drafting of bill for DSNY to provide for regularly scheduled pick-ups of e-trash belonging to residents living in buildings of less than eleven units.

Yudraj Tiwari, South Ozone Park Resident, asked for assistance from QBP Katz and the CB 9 members in preventing the opening of a juvenile facility in a residential area.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premise Liquor License Application-New

Mazi Night Club Inc.
130-35 91st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Spice Catering, Inc.
D/b/a Spice Restaurant & Lounge
100-05 Atlantic Ave.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

HN Sons LLC
D/b/a Bushwick Public House
124-11 Metropolitan Ave
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

b. On Premise Beer License Application- New

MBM Deli & Grill Inc.
102-47 Jamaica Ave.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

c. On Premise Alteration Application-New

Fusion NYC Inc.
124-12/14 101 Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
No speakers

d. On Premise Liquor License Application- Renewal

Hamlens Café Inc.
D/b/a Lenihans
119-09 Atlantic Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Little Brown Jug
124-02 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

A One Restaurant, Inc.
D/b/a Shadow Lounge NYC
101-01 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416
No speakers

Forge Diner Inc.
D/b/a Pasta Lovers Trattoria
124-18 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

Arena Lounge LLC
89-25 130th St.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Jim Byrne Wee Pub Inc.
93-01 95th Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416
No speakers

e. On Premise Wine & Beer License Application- Renewal

Paul Michael's Brick Oven Café, Inc.
D/b/a Paul Michaels's Brick Oven Café
85-19 126 St
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Caridad Restaurant Corp.
D/b/a Caridad Restaurant
90-19 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Diaz Grocery of NY, Inc.
114-07 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

8. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee- Joe Iaboni, Chair

a. On Premise Liquor License Application-New

Mazi Night Club Inc.
130-35 91st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 2: To send a letter of no objection to the SLA
Vote # 2: 26 in favor, 11 opposed and 1 abstention

Spice Catering, Inc.
D/b/a Spice Restaurant & Lounge
100-05 Atlantic Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 3: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote #3: Unanimous

HN Sons LLC
D/b/a Bushwick Public House
124-11 Metropolitan Ave
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Lisa Gomes stated that a letter was received from the business owner stating his establishment is in Brooklyn. The business owner stated the address on the application is his home residence.

Motion # 4: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote #4: Unanimous

b. On Premise Alteration Application-New

Fusion NYC Inc.
124-12/14 101 Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Motion # 5: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 5: Unanimous

A One Restaurant, Inc.
D/b/a Shadow Lounge NYC
101-01 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Maharani Singh made a motion to send a letter of opposition to the SLA due to the negative reports from the 102 Pct. and constituents' complaints.

Motion # 6: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 6: 37 in favor, 1 opposed

9. Budget & Finance Committee Report- E. David Adorno, Chair

David Adorno made a motion to go into executive session, Stephen Sofer seconded the motion. Board members suggested moving the executive session to the end of the meeting and Mr. Adorno withdrew his motion.

Mr. Adorno reported on the following:

- The Finance Committee has met to discuss the potential raises for office personnel Lisa Gomes & Irina Barayeva which will be retroactive to September 9, 2014.
- The Committee discussed the pay scale for management employees and recommended the salary of \$67,500 for the District Manager.

10. Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. Street Fair, Oct. 18, 2015

Motion #7: To support the Greater Woodhaven Development Corp., Wonderful Woodhaven Street Fair, October 18, 2015

Vote #7: 36 in favor, 2 abstentions (due to conflict of interests)

11. DM Search Committee Report- Dr. Vincent Evangelista, Chair

The DMSC meeting was held on 1/14/2015 at which time three candidates were selected for the Community Board 9 District Manager position. The three candidates are: Lisa Gomes, Scott Wolf and James McClelland.

To complete the committee's task, the DMSC held a conference call on 2/11/2015 to schedule a committee meeting for February 19, 2015 at 7 pm at Queens Borough Hall Room 213.

Ms. Sylvia Hack made a motion to have a special meeting for the election of the District Manager. Sam Esposito seconded the motion.

Motion # 8: To have a special meeting for the election of CB 9 District Manager on March 3, 2015 at 7:45 pm.

Vote # 8: 35 in favor, 3 opposed.

12. Transportation Committee Report- Kenichi Wilson, Chair

- Mr. Wilson and Lisa Gomes attended the Area Wide Intermodal Transportation Analysis meeting on 1/28/2015. DOT is planning to prepare a proposal based on concerns from the community. The study area is Brooklyn CB 5, Queens CB 9 & CB 10.
- A meeting about movie shoots is scheduled for February 23, 2015 with the Mayor's Office of Film.

- 40 angle parking spots were added on 134th St & Hoover Ave to address the need for parking due to the closing of municipal parking lot. Demolition of this parking lot will be done by DDC; after it is demolished it will be under the jurisdiction of DOT.

13. Land Use Committee Report – Clark Whitsett, Chair

Ms. Hack spoke about commercial occupancy in commercial buildings and affordable housing in New York City. Joan DeCamp suggested the committee draft a resolution re affordable housing issue.

14. Education & Youth Services Committee Report– Seth Welins, Chair

- The NYC D.O.E will be streamlining the Pre-K enrollment process as of March 16th. Parents will now be able to apply for spaces in both district schools and NYC Early Education Centers via a single application. Parents can apply online and will be offered a seat in in either a district school or an Education Center, according to the admissions priorities of those two types of schools. The deadline to apply is April 24, 2015.
- The NYC Comptroller’s office is proceeding with its financial and organizational audit of the Success Academy Charter Schools and some other charter schools.

15. Health & Social Services Committee Report- Joan DeCamp, Chair

The Health committee meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be rescheduled.

16. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report-Nick Comaianni & J.R. Smith-Chairs

Mr. Smith requested an update on the Mary Whalen Playground from the Parks Dept.

17. Economic Development Committee Report- Richard David, Chair

Mr. David stated he received his New York City ID card. The city is working on ways to correct the system in order for more people to apply and get their card. The committee is working on social media presence for CB 9.

18. Old Business- No speakers

19. New Business

Kamal Bhuiyan made an announcement of a Job Fair on February 19, 2015 sponsored by Senator Comrie, Assembly Member Rozic, Council Member Lancman and the BAAG.

Maria Thomson invited all to a Doowhop Show on Sunday, February 15, 12:30-5 p.m. at the Tropical Rest. 88-18 Jamaica Ave.

J.R. Smith stated there is a 102nd Pct. Community Council meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2015 7-9 p.m. at the Richmond Hill Branch library.

20. Public Forum

Cynthia Soria spoke against opening a juvenile facility in a residential area next to her house.

David Adorno made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the potential raises for CB 9 employees Lisa Gomes and Irina Barayeva. Stephen Esposito seconded the motion.

Motion # 9: To go into Executive Session to discuss the potential raises for Irina Barayeva and Lisa Gomes

Vote # 9: Unanimous

Motion # 10: To give Irina Barayeva and Lisa Gomes a 5% raise based on their current salary levels retroactive to September 9, 2014.

Vote # 10: 36 in favor, 2 not present

Ms. Gomes thanked all board members for their support.

David Adorno made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Stephen Esposito seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 11:30 pm