

FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
KEW GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTER 80-02 KEW GARDENS RD

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2016-MARCH 2017

2nd # Represents Absences as of January 2016-December 2016 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(2) (0)	Stephen Esposito	(1) (1)	Jagir Singh	(1) (0)
Julio Batista	(3) (0)	Jan Fenster	(1) (0)	Jarnail Singh	(2) (0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(1) (1)	Laraine Fletcher	(0) (0)	Maharani Singh	(2) (0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(1) (0)	Sylvia Hack	(0) (0)	Mohinder Singh	(2) (0)
John Carter	(1) (1)	Joseph Iaboni	(1) (0)	J. Richard Smith	(1) (0)
Jim Coccovillo	(1) (0)	Sherman Kane	(1) (0)	Maria Thomson	(3) (0)
Andrea Crawford	(2) (1)	Marian C. Molina	(4) (1)	Marie Turley	(0) (0)
Sandra Datnarain	(1) (0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0) (0)	Seth Welins	(0) (0)
Richard David	(1) (0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0) (0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(3) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(1) (0)	Raj Rampershad	(1) (0)	Kenichi Wilson	(1) (0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Latchman Budhai	(1) (1)	Joel Kuszai	(4) (2)	Matthew Singh	(4) (2)
Nick Comaianni	(4) (1)	Ivan Mrakovic	(2) (1)	Ragbir Singh	(1) (1)
Linda Fogal	(4) (1)	Mohamed Safie	(8) (2)		
Mohamad Z. Islam	(5) (2)	Regina Santoro	(2) (1)		

ALSO PRESENT

Lisa Gomes, District Manager; Irina Barayeva, Community Associate; Victor Ampuero, Community Assistant, Leela Venketachalam, City Seasonal Aide

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joseph Addabbo
 Talya Skolnik, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz
 Daniel Blech, Rep. Assembly Member Simanowitz
 Carmela Isabella, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller
 Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz
 Adrienne Felton, Rep. Public Advocate Letitia James
 Muhammad Rahman, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
 Leslie Patterson, Rep. Council Member Ruben Wills
 Kevin Jean Baptiste, Rep. Senator Sanders
 P.O. Severino, 102nd Pct.
 P.O. Martinez, 102nd Pct.

Guest sign in sheets are available upon request.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

Liquor, Wine & Beer Licenses, Letters of Intent Received

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Bichi Tapas Bar, Inc.
88-09 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

Atlantis Hall, Inc.
91-42 Lefferts Blvd
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

b. On Premises Beer & Cider Only Application – New

113 Deli Grocery, Inc.
112-27 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

c. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

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

The Little Brown Jug, Inc.
D/b/a Little Brown Jug
124-02 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Jim Byrne Wee Pub, Inc.
D/b/a Jim Byrne's Wee Pub
93-01 95th Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

d. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider Application – Renewal

84-23 Polleria, Inc.
D/b/a Mistura Peruana Restaurant
84-23 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

d. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider Application – Renewal (Cont'd)

Dani Pizza & Rest Corp.
81-28 Lefferts Blvd
Kew Gardens, NY 11415 *No speakers*

e. TLC For Hire Base Station License Application – New

Purple Heart Transportation, Inc.
81-16 Rockaway Blvd
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

f. Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. - Street Festival – October 15, 2017

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Gary Chin, American Red Cross Disaster Program Manager, stated that his unit deals with disasters, i.e. fires, provides shelter, food and emotional support to victims of disasters. Mr. Chin said that there is a great need for volunteers to provide home, fire safety and other disaster preparedness to the public.

Ken Davis, Woodhaven Resident, raised the following issues:

- Requested a speed hump on 75th Street between Jamaica and 88th Avenues.
- Stated that people are inconsiderate with their parking by blocking spots for people and leaving gaps in street parking.
- Trash problems on the corner of Jamaica Ave & 75th Street.

Chair Rampershad acknowledged Legislators and their representatives.

Carl Moore, Rep. State Senator Joe Addabbo, no report.

Carmela Isabella, Rep. Assembly Member Miller, stated that they are having a mammogram van on May 7th, 2017.

Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz, no report.

Talya Skolnik, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz, reported on the following:

- Thanked everyone who attended the Borough President's third annual State of the Borough Address.
- On January 29th, in response to the Trump administration's executive orders, the Borough President went to John F. Kennedy International Airport to meet with attorneys and representatives of the Mayor's Office who were assisting individuals detained there.
- Townsend Harris High School, which is currently led by an interim acting principal, recently experienced substantial unrest regarding the C-30 process, which is the NYC Department of Education's official public review process for hiring a permanent principal for a school. On December 20, 2016, the Borough President sent a letter to Chancellor

Farina, urging her to review the concerns raised by the school community and to restart the C-30 process at the school.

- Borough President Katz has also appointed Andrew P. Jackson to the Queens Library's Board of Trustees. Mr. Jackson is an East Elmhurst resident with a long history of community service.
- The next Borough Board meeting is tomorrow night at 5:30pm. There will be a hearing and a vote on the Borough Board's budget priorities for FY18.
- Borough President Katz's Celebration of Black History Month will be this Thursday, February 16th at 6pm in the Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Borough Hall.
- The Borough President's Celebration of the Lunar New Year will be Monday, February 27th at 6pm, also in the Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Borough Hall.

Daniel Blech, Rep. Assembly Member Simanowitz, stated that the NYLAG van from the NY Legal Assistance Group will be at their office on February 27, 2017 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Leslie Patterson, Rep. Council Member Ruben Wills, stated that there was no ICE task enforcement at Van Wyck Expressway and 109th Ave. She also distributed Know Your Rights with ICE flyers.

Adrienne Felton, Rep. Public Advocate Letitia James, stated that she covers the south east Area of Queens and is the ombudsman for the agency. Ms. Felton said that one of the items on their February 2017 Newsletter is about preserving affordable housing and protection of homeowners who are at risk of losing their homes. Ms. Felton can be reached at (646) 942-1663.

Muhammad Rahman, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin, made two announcements:

- Town Hall meeting will take place on Thursday, March 2nd, 2017 at Hillcrest Jewish Center.
- Bangladeshi American Advocacy Group will hold a Job Fair tomorrow, February 15th, 2017 from 11 am to 3 pm at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 150-75 Goethals Avenue. This event is co-sponsored by State Senator Comrie, Assembly Member Rozic, Council Members Lancman and Daneek Miller.

Kevin Jean Baptiste, Rep. Senator Sanders, stated that their Career Fair will take place on Monday, February 27th, 2017, from 10 am to 2 pm at 116-70 Guy Brewer Blvd.

3. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

1st Vice Chair Smith asked for any corrections or additions to the January 10th, 2017 minutes.

Maria Thomson stated that board members who have legitimate medical reasons or are recuperating from an operation should not be removed from the board.

Corrections submitted by Maharani Singh:

On the Public Safety portion:

Members Only Bar & Grill, 106-05 101st Ave motion was not to oppose with a 1 am stipulation.

Caridad Rest. 90-19 Jamaica Ave was **not** up for a vote.

Nolascos Deli 104-03 101 Ave was up for a vote.

Motion # 1: To accept January 10th, 2017 minutes as amended

Vote # 1: 27 in favor and 3 abstentions

4. **Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.**

PO Severino spoke about Check Washing Scheme stating that thieves steal outgoing mail from drop boxes using an acid based mixture to dilute the ink on personal checks and rewrite them to another recipient. This process accounts for more than \$815 million in fraud annually. The NYPD recommends bringing all outgoing mail to the post office and to review bank and credit card statements frequently.

PO Severino notified all about a website www.nypdonline.org which has very useful info, i.e. comp stats, traffic stats, collision reports, etc.

PO Martinez announced the next 102nd Pct. Community Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 7-9 pm at the Richmond Hill Library. Constituents can follow the 102nd Pct. On Twitter at @nypd102pct for the latest updates on criminal activities, street closures, etc.

Question and answer period followed.

5. **Chairperson's Remarks & Exec. Report – Raj Rampershad** reported on the following:

- The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 at 7 pm at the board office.
- Executive Committee met with Breaking Ground and DHS. 100-32 Atlantic Ave site was selected for a drop-in center but no lease was signed and no budget has been finalized as of yet.
- More affords will be made in creating a Veteran's subcommittee.

6. **District Manager's Report – Lisa Gomes:**

Borough President Melinda Katz State of the Borough Address

The Borough President outlined the accomplishments of the past year and the direction the Borough is going.

- Queens is experiencing the highest tourism increase City Wide, while school overcrowding has been reduced.
- The Borough President stated that the Willets Point Area is going to get a face lift with a proposed Soccer & Hockey Stadium.
- Immigrant Support will be a High Priority in 2017. Since the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services field office in Long Island City shut its doors, Borough President Katz & Congressman Meeks are proposing to reopen the queens office in the vacant space available at the Federal Citizenship Office space at the Addabbo Federal Building in Jamaica, which is accessible by public transportation. Immigrant Support will be a High Priority in 2017.
- She called for the creation of a special permitting process for all new proposed hotels.

This Process would compel all Hotel projects in the City to go through a mandated public review through the city's Uniform Land Use Review Process (ULURP).

- The process would grantee community Input and allow Government to better monitor Hotel Growth City Wide.

Attended the Chamber of Commerce Breakfast on Feb. 7, 2015 at La Guardia Plaza Hotel which featured Borough President Melinda Katz who spoke about accomplishments of the past year and the direction of the Borough.

I testified at the QBP'S FY2018 Preliminary Budget Hearing Re: CB9Q Capital & Expense Budget Hearing. The Borough President and Council Woman Karen Koslowitz were interested in the Kew Gardens Senior Center's request for computers.

- Irina processed 47 Complaints for the month of January.
- Victor processed 8 Liquor Licenses and 2 Taxi & Limousine Licenses.

The next staff meeting is on Thursday, February 16th at 12 pm.

7. Land Use Committee Report – Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane, Co-Chairs Sylvia stated the following:

“The proposed 421a legislation concerns us because of the lack of money for affordable housing. We would not need shelters if we had more affordable housing. The majority of the 61,000 homeless people in this city are homeless because they cannot afford a home. Lack of affordable housing is impinging on more and more communities. We hope to have some sort of resolution next month depending on what is happening with the proposed legislation in the state, for which the city is now losing \$1.5 to \$2 billion a year in property taxes, most of it to subsidized housing for the very rich and the super-rich.”

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

- **Resolution re: CEC 27 demanding the release of school funds owed by NYS.**

Motion # 2: To approve CB9 Resolution re: CEC 27 demanding the release of school funds owed by NYS

Vote # 2: 29 in favor and 1 abstention

- The committee met with Dr. Harold Paez, President of CEC 27, at our last committee meeting on January 18th. We discussed issues relating to District 27 schools.
- The Education and Youth Services Committee agreed to support a CEC 27 resolution requesting that NYS release funds owed to New York City public schools. The full board approved this resolution at the February board meeting.
- Council Member Ulrich has prioritized Participatory Budget funds for a new auditorium at P.S. 90.

9. Transportation & Traffic Committee Report – Kenny Wilson, Chair

➤ **Letter of Support re: Co-Naming of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial Drive**

Motion # 3: To support co-naming of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial Drive

Vote # 3: Unanimous

DOT will meet with the Kew Gardens Civic Association and discuss the Park Lane South safety proposal tomorrow, February 15th.

➤ **Speed Hump on 108th St. between 101st & 103rd Ave**

Motion # 4: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation

Vote # 4: Unanimous

➤ **Speed Hump on 90th St. between Park Lane South & 85th Rd.**

Motion # 5: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation

Vote # 5: Unanimous

➤ **Speed Hump on 90th St. between 85th Rd & 86th Rd**

Motion # 6: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation

Vote # 6: 29 in favor and 1 abstention

➤ **Speed Hump on 129th St. between Kew Gardens Road & Metropolitan Ave**

Motion # 7: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation

Vote # 7: Unanimous

Mr. Wilson read the Department of Sanitation's Snow Removal Rules: "Every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant, or other person having charge of any lot or building must clean snow and/or ice from the sidewalk within 4 hours after the snow has stopped falling, or by 11:00 AM if the snow has stopped falling after 9:00 PM the previous evening."

➤ **Greater Woodhaven Development Corp - Street Festival – Oct.15, 2017**

Motion # 8: To send a letter of support for the GWDC October 15th, 2017 Street Festival

Vote # 8: 28 in favor and 2 abstentions

➤ **Letter of support for proposed LED distinctive lighting street scape improvement project along Jamaica Ave Corridor**

Motion # 9: To send a letter of support for proposed LED distinctive lighting street scape improvement project along Jamaica Ave Corridor

Vote # 9: Unanimous

Sherman Kane reported on a meeting with Council Member Eric Ulrich where they discussed The involvement of the Queens Botanical Garden in helping to plant more trees on Woodhaven Boulevard, from Park Lane South going down, until the money runs out.

Chair Rampershad stated that from now on the FDNY Firehouse Ladder 143 at 102-02 Jamaica Ave will have control of the traffic signals.

10. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report – M. Singh & J. Coccovillo, Co-Chairs

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Bichi Tapas Bar Inc.
88-09 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 10: Not to oppose new on premise liquor license application with 1 am stip.

Vote # 10: Unanimous

Atlantis Hall Inc.
91-42 Lefferts Blvd
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 11: To oppose new on premise liquor license application based on 102nd Pct. reports

Vote # 11: Unanimous

b. On Premises Beer & Cider Only Application – New

113 Deli Grocery, Inc.
112-27 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 12: To oppose new on premise beer and cider license application due to non-compliance with CB9 paperwork

Vote # 12: Unanimous

c. TLC For Hire Base Station License Application – New

Purple Heart Transportation Inc.
81-16 Rockaway Blvd
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion # 13: Not to oppose new TLC For Hire Base Station license Application with the condition that a copy of their license and a list of cars are received

Vote # 13: 26 in favor, 3 opposed and 1 abstention

Caridad Restaurant Corp., located at 90-19 Jamaica Ave, was removed from agenda due to missing paperwork.

Maharani Singh reported out on Four Ones Car Service being relocated from Middle Village to 127-01 Metropolitan Ave. She also announced that the next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the district office.

11. Health & Social Services Committee Report – Marian C. Molina, Chair

Ms. Molina gave an update on Breaking Ground as per their report during the Executive Committee Meeting:

1. Lease: to be signed by the end of February.
2. Update or plan for outreach to local elected: DHS has alerted all local elected officials that this plan is moving forward.
3. Breaking Ground said they already met with, and are scheduling follow - up meetings with the following entities:
 - a. Richmond Hill Block Association
 - b. Richmond Hill East Block Association
 - c. Woodhaven Resident's Block Association – Breaking Ground made contact by telephone but weren't able to get an in-person meeting.
 - d. High School for Construction Trades, Engineering, and Architecture – Together with DHS, have a meeting scheduled with the principal and superintendent. No date was given.
4. Anticipated timeline is as follows:
 - Phase 1: small drop in center - early March 2017
 - Phase 2: full drop in center - summer or fall 2017
 - Phase 3: drop in center and safe haven - spring 2018

Question and answer period followed.

12. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report – J.R. Smith & R. Santoro, Co- Chairs

J. Richard Smith announced that Friends of Forest Park will have Mulch Madness on March 11th, 2017 at Raoul Wallenberg Square (Park Lane South & Metropolitan Ave) at 9 am.

13. Economic Development Committee Report – Richard David & Matthew Singh, Co-Chairs

Richard David stated that forty illegal immigrants were picked up in New York City.

Economic Development Committee is planning on organizing a workshop to allow minority and women owned businesses to get an advantage in certain government contracts.

14. Old Business *no speakers*

15. New Business

Kamal Bhuiyan invited all to a Job Fair tomorrow, February 15th, 2017 from 11 am to 3 pm at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 150-75 Goethals Avenue. This event is co-sponsored by State Senator Comrie, Assembly Member Rozic, Council Members Lancman and Daneek Miller.

Seth Welins informed all that HIAS is a Jewish organization that provides legal protection and social care to people who are being harassed by ICE.

Stephen Esposito thanked the board for voting in favor of the GWDC 2017 Street Fair.

Sherman Kane invited all to Summer Trios Workshop.

Sandra Datnarain announced that the next 102nd Pct. Community Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 7-9 pm at the Richmond Hill Library.

16. Public Forum *no speakers*

Jim Coccovillo made a motion to adjourn, Joe Iaboni seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.