

NOVEMBER 9, 2010 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
ROYAL INDIAN PALACE, 118-06 ATLANTIC AVE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2010

Akhtar Ali	(1)	Anton Dietrich	(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(2)
Evelyn Baron	(0)	H. Singh Duggal	(0)	Rabbi Pollack	(0)
Rajinder S. Bawa	(4)	Stephen Esposito	(2)	Raj Rampershad	(0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(1)	Dr. V. Evangelista	(0)	Melissa Rosales	(1)
Wallace Bock	(0)	Jan Fenster	(1)	Ragbir Singh	(1)
Thomas Chiofolo	(0)	Ralph Gonzalez	(5)	Regina Santoro	(1)
Jim Coccovillo	(1)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)	J. Richard Smith	(1)
Albert Cohen	(2)	Scott Jordan	(1)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(0)
Nick Comaianni	(1)	Sherman Kane	(1)	Maria Thomson	(0)
Andrea Crawford	(1)	Balbir Kaur	(3)	Joseph Todisco	(4)
Richard David	(2)	Priscilla Levine	(1)	Marie Turley	(1)
Joan DeCamp	(0)	Ivan Mrakovic	(0)	Clark Whitsett	(2)
Sandra Datnarain	(1)	Naidoo Veerapen	(1)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Latchman Budhai	(3)	* Sam Esposito	(3)	Sylvia Hack	(2)
John Carter	(2)	Susan Farrell	(1)	Mohamed Safie	(5)
Palo Dedvukaj	(1)	Mel Gagarin	(2)		

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

Capt. Briffa, 102 Pct.
Senator Joe Addabbo
Michael Persaud, Assembly Mbr. Hevesi
Eric Ulrich, Council Member
David Slavkin, Assembly Mbr. Miller
Kate Mooney, Council Mbr. Crowley
Nigel Lonche, Congressman Meeks

PO John McCoy, 102 Pct.
Tom Dillanno, Senator Addabbo
Jeff Gottlieb, Senator Addabbo
Marian Gottlieb, Senator Addabbo
Wilma Bynum, QBP Marshall
La Vonne Brown, Assembly Mbr. Rory Lancman
Richard Mumith, Council Mbr. Koslowitz

GUESTS

Darrel Sukdeo, Aqueduct Flea Market
Yvonne Kissoon, Aqueduct Flea Market
Michael Aziz, Aqueduct Flea Market
Deodat Kissoon, Aqueduct Flea Market
John Gonzalez, Ozone Park Resident
Dmitri Vassiliev, Brooklyn Resident
Rajeev Vohra, Richmond Hill Resident
Billy Madramoton, Richmond Hill Resident
Asad Raida, Richmond Hill Resident
Jose Delgado, Richmond Hill Resident
Patrick Clark, Ridgewood Resident
Gus Taveras, Richmond Hill
Gerarcio Taveras, Richmond Hill
James Peruci, Times News Weekly
L. Persaud, Aqueduct Flea Market
Alyson Beha, New Yorkers for Parks
Maximo Peratlu, Woodhaven Resident
Leny Malfi, Guest

Reggie Bea, Aqueduct Flea Market
Nen Sewdat, Aqueduct Flea Market
David Quintana, Forest Park Carousel
Saleen Shan, Grants for Your Block Program
Vishnu Mahadeo, Richmond Hill Resident
Inderpaul Ahluwaha, Kew Gardens Resident
Rumpu Bindra, Richmond Hill Resident
Phyllis Knistel, Richmond Hill Resident
A. Eskadeu, Richmond Hill Resident
R. Kharbanoa, Richmond Hill Resident
Percie McLain, Jamaica Resident
Nelson Bonifacio, Richmond Hill
Claudia Doque, Kew Gardens Resident
S. Salahudin, Guest
Kirpal Billing, Richmond Hill Resident
Hilda Taveras, Woodhaven, Resident
Teresa Gonzales, Richmond Hill Resident
Mohamed Mihdi, Guest

PUBLIC FORUM

Darrel Sukdeo, representing the Aqueduct Flea Market Vendors Association asked the Board for a letter of support and help in facilitating a meeting with Genting New York and NYRA to find a way for the vendors to co exist with Racino.

Reggie Bea has been a vendor at the Aqueduct Flea Market for 24 years. He states there are over 1000 vendors, and they each employ at least 2 people. He is asking for support from the board to find a way for the vendors and their employees to meet with Genting NY so they can maintain their livelihood.

Yvonne Kissoon has been a vendor at the Aqueduct Flea Market for 24 years and is appealing to the Board in helping the vendors set up a meeting with Genting NY to discuss their future. She stated that the vendors provide jobs and opportunities to the community and provide needed items at discounted prices.

Nen Sewdat, Aqueduct Flea Market vendor who states his livelihood is threatened by the Racino and that he will be unemployed in the next 5 months.

David M. Quintana asked that the monies received by the NYC Parks Department for the filming in Forest Park should be earmarked for the opening of the Forest Park Carousel.

Saleen Shah, Citizens Committee for NYC discussed grants that are available to Community Groups, Civics, i.e. for neighborhood and block beautification efforts. The grants are for \$1000. There is also another grant available for community projects dealing with any issue important to the area. These grants are from \$1,000 to \$3,000. The groups do not have to be a 501c(3) organization.

John Gonsalves PTA president of PS. 62 who is concerned for children's safety and is seeking support from the on the conversion of 97th Avenue

Vishnu Mahadeo- Richmond Hill Economic Development Council (RHEDC) – in an effort to establish business with the Genting Resort Board of NY RHEDC will be launching the MWBE program for prospective contractors in the community that want to become a qualified vendor. The meeting will take place tomorrow at Marine Funding located at: 108-05 Liberty Avenue at 6PM.

Phyllis Kinstel – resident of 130 St in Richmond Hill informed the Board that there are three night clubs in the area that negatively impact the quality of life in the area from Thursday night to Sunday night. General complaints included claims of shootings, urinating on property, and even dead bodies.

Chairperson Mrakovcic introduced the legislators and their representatives, and asked for updates:

- o Joe Addabbo: Senator thanked the board and the community for his re-election to the Senate. He stated he will help facilitate a meeting between a representative from the Aqueduct Flea Market Vendors Association and representatives from Genting and NYRA.
- o Michael Persaud representing Assembly member Andrew Hevesi: He is the new Chief of staff and he will be attending CB9 meetings. He stated they had a very successful graffiti program and it will resume in the spring. The assemblyman sends his thanks for re-electing him. He thanked all the veterans who sacrificed so much for their country.
- o David Slavkin representing Assembly Member Michael Miller: on behalf of the assemblyman he thanked everyone for their support in his re- election. They will be doing a VIN etching program and their Safe Child program on a monthly basis.
- o Kate Mooney, Council Member Crowley: The councilwoman met with Independent Residences and visited the group home and she thanked CB#9 for their accommodations to people with disabilities. The Office has been actively seeking land for future schools in District 27. They are in contact with CB9 chair regarding the curb sidewalk replacement project and they are looking forward to the walking tour.
- o Nigel Loncke representing Congressman Meeks: introduced himself to the board and he looks forward to attending the board meetings and relaying concerns and information to the Congressman.
- o Eric Ulrich- Councilman: Congratulated all the newly elected officials and vowed to work with everyone despite party affiliation. He spoke about a hearing held today to introduce

legislation to allow people to park after mechanical brooms have swept for alternate side parking. This is a very controversial bill and there was much discussion between The Dept. of Sanitation, The Dept. of Transportation and members of the city council DOT and DOS committees. There was no resolution reached and they will continue to work out a compromise. He discussed a scam that is occurring now throughout his district, regarding utility companies who are telling home owners and targeting Senior citizens that they need to have their chimneys cleaned, and they are using names that are familiar to most residents, like Brooklyn Union Maintenance. He urged all to spread the word to neighbors and especially the elderly. The councilman went on to discuss the city's budget and stated it will be a tough year ahead. Question and answer period followed.

PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. **On Premise Beer & Wine License- New**

Nic's Restaurant, Corp.
111-17 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

Tabled from Last Month

Caridad Restaurant Corp.
90-19 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

Sancocho Tipico, Inc.
89-20 101 Avenue
Ozone Park, NY 11416
No Speakers

b. **On Premise Eating Place Beer License- New**

AZ Grocery and Meat, Inc.
119-17 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
No Speakers

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

Las Nuevas Delicias De Acapulco, Corp.
76-15 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

97-07 Jamaica Avenue Tavern Corp.
D/b/a McHugh's
97-07 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

PUBLIC HEARING (CONT'D)

Altiff Corp., Inc.
D/b/a Cherry Blue
107-12 101 Avenue
Ozone Park, NY 11416
No Speakers

d. On Premise Restaurant Wine & Beer License- Renewal

Karina Restaurant
126-19 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

e. TLC For Hire Base Station- New

Kings of Queens Car and Limousine Service
91-79 111th Street
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

- 2. *Conversion of 97th Ave to a one way eastbound between 108 & 109th Sts from a two way operation.***
- 3. *NYC Department of City Planning- Citywide Zoning Text Amendment.***

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

1. The Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Andrea Crawford made a motion to prepare a resolution supporting the Aqueduct Flea Market Vendors Association in finding a suitable resolution to keep the Flea Market opened and the vendors employed. Raj Rampershad 2nd the motion. Discussion followed.

Joan DeCamp motioned to amend the motion to include shopping opportunities for members of our community. Wallace Bock 2nd the amendment.

Motion #1: to prepare a resolution supporting the Aqueduct Flea market vendors Association
Vote #1: 35 in favor, 3 abstentions, 1 not present.

Wallace Bock submitted Corrections/Addition to the minutes. (See attached)
Stephen Esposito made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected
Sandra Datnarain 2nd the motion.

Melissa Rosales also added that on legislative representative list pg. 3 Jane Care, should read Jane Carey.

Motion #2: To adopt minutes as corrected
Vote #2: Unanimous

2. Monthly Update- 102 PCT-

Executive Officer Briffa reported crime is down by 6% in all categories. There has been, however, a rash of burglaries in the Kew Gardens area. Officer Briffa stated there have been 44 incidents in 28 days. He urged board members to call 911 if they see anything suspicious or witness a crime. Cars are being broken into for pocket change and advised against leaving chain in your car. The precinct has issued summonses and warnings for abandon cars and noise complaints. They have been distributing flyers regarding the burglaries in the area. The 102 PCT. issues over 200 summonses per day, which includes, cars parked in bus stops, fire hydrants, etc. Question and answer period followed.

3. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report – Ivan Mrakovcic

The chair thanked The Royal Indian Palace for hosting the meeting and for their generosity. Mr. Mrakovcic met with representatives of the NYC Parks Department in mid October 2010 to regarding conditions of Forest Park re: infrastructure and the general condition of the park. According to the representatives it is a funding and budget issue. The Chair relayed his concerns to Council woman Crowley, and Councilman Ulrich's offices. Mr. Mrakovcic announced meetings to discuss the Draft Re Zoning of Woodhaven and Richmond Hill. The meeting in Woodhaven will take place on December 1, 2010, and the meeting in Richmond Hill will take place on December 15, 2010.

He announced the resignation of Alexander Blenkinsopp who has accepted a position with the Obama Administration in Washington D.C.,. The Chair stated that at last month's meeting Sam Esposito was presented with a Certificate of appreciation from Queens Borough President Helen Marshall for 15 years of service on the Community Board. He then wished Richard David, (CB#9 Board Member) a Happy Birthday.

4. District Manager's Report- Mary Ann Carey

Mrs. Carey reported that a crew cleaned up the Carousel area, taking out tons of garbage and debris, replaced light bulbs, etc. She stated that she received information from Felix Okolo, NYC DOT regarding outstanding requests/complaints. A speed hump was requested at 95th Avenue between 91st & Atlantic Ave's. It has been approved and will be installed in January of 2011. In addition a cross walk was approved for Freedom Drive between Myrtle Ave and Park Lane South which should be installed by the end of the month.

The District Manager stated she received a list from The Department of Environmental Protection regarding complaints in CB#9 and they are available to board members upon request. These complaints were broken down by issue i.e. sewer backups, clogged catch basins, etc. Community Board 9 had a total of 3700 complaints of which 215 remain open. Mrs. Carey gave an update on noise issues. There are 46 Inspectors for all of New York City. They work from 8am-4pm and on nights and weekends. They respond to varied complaints re: air and noise complaints and advised members to call the district office with any of these types of complaints.

In addition Mrs. Carey reported that The Department of Sanitation gave out 12,387 posting violations during from the beginning of the year including the recent elections. She also stated that at the Jamaica Hospital Ambulatory Committee meeting there was a presentation on Inner

City Asthma. In the US 1.2 Billion dollars a year is spent on mild Asthma, 1.4 billion on moderate Asthma, and 12 billion dollars a year spent on severe Asthma. The group most affected by Asthma is children & teenagers as evidenced by emergency room visits. This year alone there were 2.6 million emergency visits, and 6,000 deaths. This information is available at the district office.

5. Guest Speaker- New Yorkers for Parks, Alyson Beha, Dir. Research, Planning & Programs

This is an independent non profit organization that advocates the protection of parks. This is done through research, advocacy and coalition building. Each year they sponsor a Parks Advocacy Day which includes discussions on local park challenges and successes through group workshops, panel discussions with City Council Parks Committee members, networking, and attendees split up into breakout groups to discuss such issues as, PlaNYC, concessions, and public-private partnerships. Sessions are led by community facilitators.

Ms. Beha also discussed the Daffodil project which is a living memorial to 9/11, and is a citywide effort to beautify every neighborhood by planting daffodils. The project is in its ninth year and this years daffodil distribution in Queens was in Forest Park. Since the project's inception, nearly 4 million daffodils have been planted throughout New York City. She handed out informational brochures regarding City Council District Profiles in CB#9. Question and Answer period followed.

6. Transportation Committee- Andrea Crawford

Mr. Felix Okolo- NYC Dept. of Transportation- gave a presentation of the proposed conversion of 97th Ave to a one way eastbound between 108 & 109 Sts. from a two way operation. This request came from the School Safety Division from PS 62 and the parents association. Mr. Gonzalez president of the PA was present. Question and answer period followed.

Andrea Crawford made a motion to support the conversion of 97th Avenue to a one way Eastbound between 108 & 109th Sts. from a two way operation.
Joan DeCamp 2nd the motion.

Motion #3: to support the 97th Avenue Conversion

Vote #3: Unanimous

The Chair asked for an update on the time line of the Woodhaven Traffic Study.

7. Land Use Committee Report- Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane

The committee discussed the Citywide Zoning Text Amendment proposed changes to clarify definitions as they appear in the zoning resolution. It defines the distinction between a building a residential building and a development. Please see attached Dept. of City Planning correspondence.

Motion #4: To support the NYC Dept. of City Planning's Key Terms Clarification Text Amendment.

Vote #4: 38 in favor, 1 opposed

The committee also discussed the rezoning of portions of Woodhaven, Richmond Hill and Ozone Park. John Young of DCP presented a very detailed proposed draft rezoning which will be submitted to various community groups for input. Two meetings are scheduled, one in Woodhaven on Dec. 1, 2010 and one in Richmond Hill on Dec. 15, 2010.

8. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Nick Comaianni

Mr. Comaianni announced NYC Schools Chancellor, Joel Klein resigned today and Mayor Bloomberg immediately appointed Kathy Black, who has no education background or experience. She has served on the board of one of the charter schools. Her background is in publishing. In addition eight new Deputy Chancellors have been appointed by the Mayor and most don't have educational experience. It was suggested a letter be written to express concerns for the Chancellors inexperience. It was reported that Franklin K. Lane HS campus now has a brand new sports field.

9. Health& Social Services Committee Report- Evelyn Baron

Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

10. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report- J. Richard Smith

A new Public Playground/ Space has been opened at PS 51, located at 87-45 117 St. in Richmond Hill.

11. Public Safety &Consumer Affairs Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo & Tom Chiofolo

The committee met with representatives from the NYS Liquor Authority, namely Mr. David Rosen, Chairman and Mr. Michael Jones, ESQ Deputy Chief Exec. Officer. The meeting was very informative and the representatives were open and helpful. The committee is concerned with small businesses, grocery stores, deli's etc. who are applying for on premise beer & wine or liquor licenses and are not a restaurant or where food service is their primary. The SLA stated that any establishment with less than six tables must go before all three commissioners before they will consider the license. Mr. Chiofolo encouraged board members to inform the committee if they have issues concerning any establishment on their agenda and give specific details.

❖ On Premise Beer & Wine License- New

Nic's Restaurant, Corp.

111-17 Jamaica Avenue

Richmond Hill, NY 11418 (tabled from last month)

Mr. Coccovillo indicated there was a misunderstanding with the application and the owner met with the committee and clarified he lived on the third floor and the restaurant is on the first floor.

Motion #4: To send a letter of No Objection to the SLA

Vote # 4: 38 in favor, 1 opposed

11. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo & Tom Chiofolo (cont'd)

❖ On Premise Eating Place Beer License- New

AZ Grocery and Meat, Inc.
119-17 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Motion #5: *To end discussion*

Vote #5: *Unanimous*

Motion #6: *To send a letter of objection to the SLA due to incomplete renovations of the establishment.*

Vote #6: *23 in favor, 16 opposed, and 4 not present*

❖ TLC For Hire Base Station- New

Kings of Queens Car and Limousine Service
91-79 111th Street
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion #7: *To send a letter of no objection to the TLC*

Vote #7: *33 in favor, 5 opposed, and 1 not present*

12. Old Business

No speakers

13. New Business

Ragbir Singh along with his partner *Rajinder Singh Bawa* welcomed their fellow board members to the Royal Indian Palace and stated it is available when needed. He announced and invited all to the Annual Celebratory Parade to honor the birthday of *Guru Nanak*, the founder of the Sikh religion. It will take place on Saturday November 13, 2010, starting at 12:00 PM.

Maria Thomson advised board members to leave their porch lights on for safety purposes.

Jim Coccovillo stated that the Forest Park Coop residents lost parking spots due to the Filming in Forest Park. At least 150 residents were unable to park. The film crew blocked off Forest Park Dr. to Myrtle Avenue and didn't use the space.

Evelyn Baron reported similar situations in Kew Gardens during filming.

Richard David stated that last weekend they had the largest Diwali Motorcade and NYC Council Speaker Quinn and NYC Comptroller John Liu were Grand Marshalls.

Ivan Mrakovcic informed board members that two local resident's co-authored a book

about the Cypress Hills Cemetery. They are Allen Smith, a Woodhaven resident and retired Architect, and Stephen Duer, a Tour Guide and Richmond Hill resident. There are bus tours available through Cypress Hills Cemetery on the Sundays from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM.

Akhtar Ali stated his opinion that women who want to wear Burka's should be allowed to.

14. Public Forum

Cynthia Dickerson- Not present

Wallace Bock motioned to adjourn the meeting, Andrea Crawford 2nd the motion.

The meeting ended at 11:00 PM