

**APRIL 13, 2010 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING**  
**VILLA RUSSO IL PALAZZO 101-12 LEFFERTS BLVD**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**  
**ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2010**

|                  |     |                    |     |                   |     |
|------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| Akhtar Ali       | (0) | Anton Dietrich     | (0) | Kevin O'Leary     | (0) |
| Evelyn Baron     | (0) | H. Sing Duggal     | (0) | Rabbi Pollack     | (0) |
| R. Singh Bawa    | (0) | Sam Esposito       | (0) | Raj Rampershad    | (0) |
| D. Bhattacharjee | (0) | Dr. V. Evangelista | (0) | Melissa Rosales   | (0) |
| Wallace Bock     | (0) | Susan Farrell      | (0) | Regina Santoro    | (0) |
| Latchman Budhai  | (0) | Jan Fenster        | (0) | Ragbir Sing       | (0) |
| Thomas Chiofolo  | (0) | Melquiades Gagarin | (0) | J. Richard Smith  | (0) |
| James Coccovillo | (0) | Sylvia Hack        | (0) | Dr. Stephen Sofer | (0) |
| Ivan Mrakovic    | (0) | Joseph Iaboni      | (0) | Maria Thomson     | (0) |
| Nick Comaianni   | (0) | Scott Jordan       | (0) | Marie Turley      | (0) |
| Sandra Datnarain | (0) | Sherman Kane       | (0) | Naidoo Veerapen   | (0) |
| Richard David    | (0) | Balbir Kaur        | (0) | Clark Whitsett    | (0) |
| Joan DeCamp      | (0) | Priscilla Levine   | (0) | Andrea Crawford   | (0) |
| Palo Dedvukaj    | (0) |                    |     |                   |     |

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

|                  |     |                |     |                |     |
|------------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| A. Blenkinsopp   | (1) | Ralph Gonzalez | (1) | Joseph Todisco | (1) |
| John Carter      | (1) | Mohamed Safie  | (1) | Albert Cohen   | (1) |
| Stephen Esposito | (1) |                |     |                |     |

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mary Ann Carey, District Manager  
Lisa Gomes, 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**

P.O. McCoy, 102 Pct.  
Marian Gottlieb, Sen. Addabbo  
Wilma Bynum, QBPO  
Larry Love, Assembly Member Pheffer  
Council Member Ulrich  
Jeff Gottlieb, Senator Addabbo  
David Slavkin, Assembly Mbr. Mike Miller

Joe Nocerino, Council Member Koslowitz  
Aisha Jaggassar, Senator Huntley  
Roman Paprouci, Assembly Member Hevisi  
Kate Mooney, Council Member Crowley  
Allison Weingarten and Jane Carey, Assembly  
Mbr. Lancman

## **GUESTS**

Vanessa Silva, Resident  
F. Plasenda, Resident  
T. Bonavolonta, Con Edison  
Doug McPherson, CB 10  
Farouk Samaroo, SW Queens Dem. Club  
Glenn Urbanas, Resident  
Akhtar Ali, Jr., Resident

Ralph Mancini, Times News Weekly  
Ruben Ramales, Resident  
Morgan Jones, CAU  
Donna Caltabiano Resident  
Chandra Morgan, SW Queens Dem. Club  
Scott Strober, Marbridge Realty Co. Inc.  
Brigit O'Reilly, Resident

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

**Brigid O'Reilly**- informed the board that The Atlantic Diner at 111-16 Atlantic Ave is proposing to expand their restaurant which will include underground parking and additional stores. Ms. O'Reilly's mother lives next door to the diner and the entrance and exit ramps to the underground parking are next to her property. She is concerned that this will impact vehicular traffic and her mom's property as customers will be exiting in front of Ms. O'Reilly's home. She asked if this project needs Community board approval, and if there was a traffic study. In addition she raised concerns regard pile driving during construction and it's effect on her mom's property/house.

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

- Allison Weingarten/Jane Carey- representing Assembly Member Lancman stated the assemblyman is in Albany and is working very hard and wishes he could be at this meeting.
- Joe Nocerino- representing Council Member Koslowitz stated she sends her regards and she will be at next month's meeting. The council woman is working with the community, store owners, and the MTA regarding issues on Lefferts Blvd.
- Aiysha Jaggassar – representing Senator Shirley Huntley-
- Jeff Gottlieb- representing Senator Joe Addabbo stated they had a job fair with over 150 vendors and 2500 people attended. The Senator is the chair of the Elections committee and there will be new voting machines. The board of Elections will train poll workers, etc on the new machines, and he does not foresee a problem. Mr. Gottlieb stated that the senator is working hard to ensure that Richmond Hill and

John Adams HS remain open. The senator is working on several pieces of legislation and is fighting to keep Engine Company 293 & 294 open.

- Wilma Bynum representing Queens Borough President Helen Marshall announced that the borough president requested everyone to join her on Monday, April 19, 2010 at LaGuardia Community College, @ 6PM to testify before the Charter Revision Commission. The Borough president along with the Mayor's office will have an orientation meeting for new board members on May 12, 2010 @ 5:30 PM at borough hall in Rm. 213.
- Roman Paprouki representing Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi stated they're graffiti program will began on May 1, 2010. He encouraged everyone to call the assemblyman's office to get the details.
- Larry Love representing Assembly Woman Audrey Pheffer- who states the assembly woman is working on the situation with Aqueduct Racetrack and they're still waiting for the Governor to move forward with the situation. He asked that if you have questions, concerns, or would like to know more about the situation to please call the district office.
- David Slavkin representing Assemblyman Mike Miller stated that he is spearheading an effort to have the Woodhaven Senior Center set up their new site at the Woodhaven/Richmond Hill Ambulance Corp.
- Kate Mooney- stated Council Woman Crowley has been holding rallies throughout the city targeting the Fire houses that are slated for elimination. She is planning a walk from the firehouse in Woodhaven to the firehouse in Richmond Hill, and members can contact her office for more information. Council Woman Crowley is encouraging everyone to write letters to the editors of newspapers in protest of any cuts to firehouses. There will be 4 new benches installed at Victory Field by the handball courts. NY Cares will be holding a Clean up of the Picnic area in Forest Park the weekend of April 17, 2010. She stated the carousel will be opening this summer. There was some confusion over the DOE High School application process, and anyone who hasn't applied yet can still apply to the new high school on Metropolitan Ave, "Queens Metropolitan HS."
- Council Member Eric Ulrich- stated he attended the rally at Queens Borough to lend his support to restore the budget of the Community Boards. The Council Member feels it is unfair to balance the city's budget on the backs of Community Boards. Mr. Ulrich wrote a letter to the mayor urging him not to hire additional police officers and stated since the year 2000 we have lost 8,000 officers. He spoke about his tour of Forest Park with Debbie Kuha, Forest Par Administrator, and Maryann Carey, District Manager, CB9Q and was pleased that a vendor had been chosen to run the Carousel and it is the same vendor that runs the one in Central Park. They will be adding Antique Rides fro small children, and will have a mini theme park. The Mary Whalen playground is in need of a bathroom and that is a capital project that he is working on with Helen Marshall, Queens Borough President and other elected officials.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

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

#### **a. On Premise Beer License- New**

City 99 Discount Store.  
117-20 Jamaica Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
*No Speakers*

#### **b. On Premise Wine & Beer License- New**

Caroline Restaurant Corp.  
86-50 78<sup>th</sup> St.  
Woodhaven, NY 11421  
*No Speakers*

#### **c. On Premise Liquor License- New**

The Rush 86, Inc.  
107-12 101Ave.  
Ozone Park, NY 11416  
*No Speakers*

#### **d. On Premise Wine& Beer License - Renewal**

Metro Sushi Café  
118-21 Metropolitan Ave.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
*No Speakers*

The Village Food Corp.  
D/b/a Village Diner  
81-74 Lefferts Blvd.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
*No Speakers*

Bicheiros Café, Inc.  
105-05 Jamaica Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
*No Speakers*

#### **e. On Premise Liquor License- Renewal**

Majestic Marquise Corp.  
88-03 101 Ave  
Ozone Park, NY 11416  
*No Speakers*

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

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

J.R.Smith stated that under his report the third sentence should read that new benches will be installed at the band shell in Forest Park.

*Andrea Crawford motioned to accept minutes as amended.*

*Wallace Bock seconded the motion.*

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

**Vote #1:** *unanimous*

### **2. Chairperson's Remarks – Ivan Mrakovic**

The chair welcomed board members back and thanked Andrea Crawford for her three years of service and stated it is nice to be back. Mr. Mrakovic went on to summarize the March 24<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting where outreach and notification efforts were discussed regarding public hearings. The board notifies the public with despite it's limited resources and often relies on the civic & religious organizations to spread the word as they are on the board's mailing list and many board members belong to these organizations. Voluntary removal of cigarette ads by store owners was discussed and Community Board 7Q has spearheaded such effort. Other issues discussed were:

- Sanitation and keeping sidewalks clean along with planting strips, on the part of both homeowners and store owners.
- Refurbishment of the J/Z subway stations and infrastructure.
- Queens Borough Board meeting where DEP summarized the condition of the 2,759 miles of sewer piping in Queens and the anticipated capital improvement contracts in areas such as South Jamaica for the benefit of residents and Jamaica Bay watershed.
- NYC EDC presented the Boundary Fence property sale and he voted in favor of the sale along with council and borough board members.

He introduced and welcomed the newly appointed board members, Melissa Rosales and Mel Gagarin.

Committee assignment forms were placed in board members folders and were asked to fill them out and to write one thing the board should focus on for 2010.

### **3. Monthly Update Report- 102 PCT.**

PO McCoy stated the Captain was unable to attend the meeting as he was called to a meeting downtown. He reported that crime was down and that there are additional officers patrolling Jamaica Ave as well as Forest Park. Question and answer period followed.

### **4. District Manager's Report- Mary Ann Carey**

Mrs. Carey welcomed the new board members. She stated there were three staff members at the board, those being Irina Barayeva, Lisa Gomes, and herself. She informed the board members that Irina was recently hospitalized and is home recovering. In addition Lisa's mom broke her hip. Mrs. Carey stated that there was a rally at Queens Borough Hall today

to protest the Mayor's proposed budget cuts to the Community Boards. There were over 150 people at the rally including elected officials, community board members, civic and religious organizations, and the media, etc. Council member Eric Ulrich was there, Karen Koslowitz, and Leroy Comrie, etc. The boards are to be cut by an additional \$17,500 making the total cut to the board's budget at approximately \$40,000.

Mrs. Carey attended a meeting with DOT regarding Safety improvements on Rockaway Blvd./Liberty Ave, Rockaway Blvd, and Crossbay Blvd. Numerous changes are scheduled for this area and you can view the proposals online at the DOT website. The Queens DOT Commissioner, Maura McCarthy will be attending the Public Safety, Transportation & Consumer Affairs committee on Monday, April 19, 2010 to discuss these projects. This project will involve expansion of sidewalks, elimination of a full lane of traffic, along with widening of pedestrian malls, etc.

There is a new DOB program called Stalled Sites Program, and it is accepting applications. The program helps protect New Yorkers from unsafe stalled construction and enables owners and their crews to get back to work fast once financing is secured. Mayor Bloomberg signed it into law on Oct. 28, 2009 and it expires on June 30, 2010. To participate in the program email [StalledSites@buildings.nyc.gov](mailto:StalledSites@buildings.nyc.gov).

The 2010 Livable Neighborhoods Program Training at the Municipal Art Society at Hunter College will take place on May 8, 2010 from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM. The Livable Neighborhoods Program was created to provide communities with the knowledge, tools, and training needed to strengthen neighborhood decision-making and transform local vision into effective plans. Participants receive: practical information at facilitated workshops, a take home comprehensive community planning toolkit, and access to a web-based network for ongoing discussion and additional resources. It is designed to help communities plan for equitable and sustainable change.

##### **5. Guest Speaker- Terry Bonavolonta- Specialist, Con Edison- Energy Efficiency**

In the 1970's Con Edison did a lot of outreach to the community on energy efficiency. In the 1980's the state took that over, and now they are doing some outreach to the community once again. Residential customers between 5 & 50 units (i.e. an apartment building) can request information on energy surveys; efficiency measures for individual units, etc. get rebates for air conditioners, etc. Ms. Bonavolonta gave out information on Residential Energy Efficiency programs, Multi-Family Efficiency, and Small-Business Energy Efficiency. Question and Answer period followed.

##### **Land Use Committee Report- Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane**

No Report. Question and answer period followed. Maria Thomson asked for an update on the Republican Club. They have electrical permits to put up lighting to deter graffiti, and they have gotten approval for the kitchen. It will be a catering facility. Jim Coccovillo stated the parking lot at Planet Fitness was boarded up and wanted to know why? Sylvia Hack asked if a meeting had been scheduled with John Young, DCP. He will attend the June Land Use meeting.

6. **Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Nick Comaianni**

Mr. Comaianni attended a meeting of all the education Councils where the budget cuts to schools were discussed. He stated the DOE has proposed to cut 8,000 jobs from school offices to teachers, which will impact classroom size. He urged everyone to contact their local officials asking them not to cut the budgets of our schools. Question and answer period followed.

7. **Health & Social Services Committee Report- Evelyn Baron**

Ms. Baron discussed the proposed bill by the state regarding personal care and Medicaid. People with diagnosis of Alzheimer's can now receive 24 hr. care and that will be changed to 12 hrs. There was a discussion on the Healthcare Reform Bill.

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

Mr. Smith informed the board that on April 22, 2010 the EPA will have new regulations for Lead Abatement in buildings, single family homes, etc. It will affect anything built prior to 1978. All workers and or contractors working in the building or on your home must be certified in order to work on buildings, etc.

9. **Public Safety, Consumer affairs, & Transportation Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo & Tom Chiofalo**

o **On Premise Liquor License- New**

The Rush 86, Inc.  
107-12 101Ave.  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion#2:** To send a letter of no objection to the SLA

**Vote#2:** 34 in favor and 6 opposed

Tropicana Bar & Grill, Inc.  
117-11/13 Hillside Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN  
TABLED FROM LAST MONTH**

*This was tabled from last month due to incomplete paper work, and there is a stop work order on the property.*

**Motion#3;** To send a letter of objection to the SLA

**Vote#3:** Unanimous

o **On Premise Beer License- New**

City 99 Discount Store.  
117-20 Jamaica Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

**Motion#4:** To table the vote for further clarification of what kind of license they are applying for

**Vote#4:** 20 in favor 20 opposed

**Motion#5:** To send letter of objection to the SLA

**Vote#5:** 38 in favor 8 opposed

○ **On Premise Wine & Beer License- New**

Caroline Restaurant Corp.

86-70 78<sup>th</sup> St.

Woodhaven, NY 11421

**Motion#6:** to send letter of objection to the SLA

**Vote#6:** Unanimous

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Mr. Coccovillo announced the committee meeting will be on Monday, April 19, 2010 @ 8PM.

**10. Old Business**

- Rabbi Daniel Pollack thanked Mary Ann Carey and the board staff for the special sanitation pickup for the Passover Holiday.

**11. New Business**

Maria Thomson announced that The Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation is having 31<sup>st</sup> annual dinner dance at the new Cordon Bleu Caterers located 96-01 Jamaica Ave honoring their Woman of the Year Elizabeth S. Crowley, City Council Woman, and Man of the year is Eric Ulrich, Councilman and business owner of the year, the Rubella Family, owners of Rubella and Sons Funeral Home. The first Honorable recognition for 2010 will be given to Assembly Member Mike Miller. It will take place on May 14, 2010.

Maria informed the board that Walter Roundtree, who worked for the Comptroller's Office, passed away. He was a great gentleman and representative for all our communities and he had a great singing voice. He will be missed.

**12. Public Forum**

Glenn Urbanas- Presented a letter he wrote to the parks committee 4 years ago regarding safety issues in Forest Park and reported that he received no response. He went on to discuss the budget situation for the State, City and the Country.

Vishnu Mahadeo- US Census stated that Richmond Hill, south Richmond Hill, and Ozone Park are undercounted and we need to continue outreach efforts.

Farouk Samaroo- Co President Southwest Queens Democratic Club invited all to their meeting on May 6, 2010 at the American Legion Hall in Ozone Park @7:30 PM.

Wallace Bock motioned to close the meeting, Tom Chiofolo 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

**The meeting ended at 10:15 PM**