

MAY 11, 2010 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
THE NEW CENTER AT MAPLE GROVE 127-15 KEW GARDENS RD

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2010

Evelyn Baron	(0)	Palo Dedvukaj	(0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0)	Anton Dietrich	(0)	R. Rampershad	(0)
A. Blenkinsopp	(1)	H. Singh Duggal	(0)	Melissa Rosales	(0)
Wallace Bock	(0)	Sam Esposito	(0)	Ragbir Singh	(0)
John Carter	(1)	Stephen Esposito	(1)	Regina Santoro	(0)
Thomas Chiofolo	(0)	Dr, V. Evangelista	(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)
Jim Coccovillo	(1)	Susan Farrell	(0)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(0)
Albert Cohen	(1)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)	Maria Thomson	(0)
Nick Comaianni	(0)	Scott E, Jordan	(0)	Joseph Todisco	(1)
Andrea Crawford	(0)	Sherman Kane	(0)	Marie Turley	(0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)	Priscilla Levine	(0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(0)
Joan DeCamp	(0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Akhtar Ali	(1)	Jan Fenster	(1)	Balbir Kaur	(1)
Rajinder S. Bawa	(1)	Mel Gagarin	(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(1)
Latchman Budhai	(1)	Ralph Gonzalez	(2)	Clark Whitsett	(1)
Richard David	(1)	Sylvia Hack	(1)	Mohamed Safie	(2)

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.
Joe Nocerino, Council Member Koslowitz
Marian Gottlieb, Sen. Addabbo
Wilma Bynum, QBPO
Larry Love, Assembly Member Pheffer
David Slavkin, Assembly Mbr. Miller
Michel Persaud, Assembly Mbr. Hevesi

P.O. Iollei, 102 Pct.
Jeff Gottlieb, Senator Addabbo
Aisha Jaggassar, Senator Huntley
Lydon Sleeper, Council Member Crowley
Keith Dumoiniski, Assembly Mbr. Pheffer
Alison Weingarten, Assembly Mbr. Lancman
S. Sinnett, Council Mbr. Ulrich

GUESTS

Keneth McDermot, Resident
Teresa Sylve, Resident
Dan Gabba, Marriage Equality
Lorena Caldoron, Resident
Jay Van Deven, Forest Park Coop
B. O'Railly, Resident
Lana Bind, ADC Program
Kimberly Crew, NYC DOT
Omar Barrios, NYC DOH
Nick Caputo, Jamaica Hospital
Rosaria Marinaro, MPLA

Dona Riccobono, Resident
Rich Murray, Marriage Equality
Catherine Osti, Resident
Kevin McLaughlin, Resident
John O'Railly, Resident
Frank Visone, Resident
Joan Brown, Federal Aviation Federation
Vidya Jamoona, NHCC Senior Center
Ralph Mancini, Times News Weekly
D. Russo, Queens Tribune

PUBLIC FORUM

Kenneth McDermott, Donna Riccobono, Terri Sylve, Catherine Osti, Lorena Caleron, Kevin McLoulin, and Frank Visone-Residents all spoke about the ongoing problems with patrons leaving Rumors Bar & Lounge located at 105-06 Jamaica Ave. For the past year neighbors have endured increasing amounts of unacceptable behaviors of patrons leaving the premises. This usually occurs on the weekends between the hours of 2am 7 5am. There have been numerous fights, parties, intoxicated patrons being loud and unruly, destruction of property, urinating and defecating on public property, cars driving across front lawns, cars parking / blocking driveways, etc.

Jay Van Deven, Resident- the Richmond Hill Community Center is closing due to lack of funds. The center provides valuable after school programs to the youth of Richmond Hill and the CB#9 areas as well. The CERT Team meets at the center and will no longer be able to hold meetings, trainings, etc. Mr. Van Deven indicated that there are still ongoing issues at the Forest Park Coops, re: Street lighting, car break-ins, etc.

Rich Murray and Dan Gabbi- are volunteers with Marriage Equality New York. Marriage Equality NY is an all volunteer not for profit organization dedicated to making gender neutral civil marriages legal in NY State. They spoke about the recent bill that was voted down in the State Senate. Information for the public and board members was distributed.

John F. O'Reilly and Brigid O'Rielly- spoke about the construction at the Atlantic Diner at 111-16 Atlantic Ave. The 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. They are concerned that this will impact vehicular traffic and their mom's property as customers will be exiting in front of Ms. O'Reilly's home. In addition she raised concerns regard pile driving during construction and its effect on their mom's property/house. The Chairperson expressed the Board's willingness to assist within the community board's purview but strongly suggested the Owners seek private legal counsel.

Lana Bind representing The Margaret Tietz Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Ms. Bind spoke about the Adult Day Health Care Program. They offer older adults quality medical, social, nutritional and rehabilitative care on a daily basis. Older Adults with conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Stroke, etc. can remain and function in the community for an extended period of time. Additional services include but are not limited to: meals, Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy, Dentistry, Medical & Nursing services, Yoga, ESL classes, etc.

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

- Marian Gottlieb- representing Senator Joe Addabbo- nothing to report.
- Jeff Gottlieb- representing Senator Joe Addabbo stated the senator recently had a job fair and 2800 people participated along with 130 vendors. Senator Addabbo participated in a rally to protest the closing of FDNY engine companies organized by Council member Elizabeth Crowley, including engine companies 293 & 294 in Woodhaven. He informed the board the senator is working on legislation that prohibits state funding to business entities that outsource jobs.
- Allison Weingarten/Jane Carey- representing Assembly Member Lancman reminded board members that the assemblyman's office is always available to help with any issues or concerns.
- Joe Nocerino- representing Council Member Koslowitz.
- Aiysha Jaggassar – representing Senator Shirley Huntley- informed the board that the senator is up for reelection, and they are looking for volunteers to work on her reelection campaign. The senator has been fighting to save schools in her community, worked with her constituents on many issues such as senior centers, workshops regarding networking, jobs, etc.
- Wilma Bynum representing Queens Borough President Helen Marshall.
- Michael Persaud 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.
- Lydon Sleeper representing Council Member Elisabeth Crowley- stated the Councilwoman recently held a rally to stop the closure of Engine Companies 293& 294 in Woodhaven and she is continuing to fight the closing of any Fire houses/ Engine companies. Twenty engine companies are slated to be cut, and when the announcement is made as to which ones, more rallies will be organized.
- David Slavkin representing Assemblyman Mike Miller
- Larry Love & Keith Dumoinski representing Assembly Member Audrey Pheffer-

PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premise Liquor License- New

9303 Jamaica Ave. Corp.
93-03 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

Shots Pool Hall Inc.
D/b/a Michaels Side Pocket
87-50 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

b. On Premise Wine & Beer License- New

Hamburguesas Dona Maria, Corp.
88-09 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

c. On Premise Beer & Wine License- Renewal

Tropical Deli Café Corp.
88-19 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

Queens Buffet Inc.
90-02 Atlantic Ave.
Ozone Park, NY 11416
No Speakers

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

d. On Premise Beer License- Renewal

Jamaica Fish Market, Inc.
D/b/a Jamaica Fish Market
88-02 Van Wyck Expy #3A
Richmond Hill NY, 11418
No Speakers

e. On Premise Liquor License- Renewal

El Rinconcito de Nagua
76-20 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

Francy Restaurant, Inc.
D/b/a Frank's Restaurant
80-29 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No Speakers

Ruby Enterprise of New York, Inc.
D/b/a Punjabi Kabob House
91-48 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

f. **TLC For Hire Base Station- New**

Queens Car Service, Inc.
91-79 111th St.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No Speakers

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

1. The Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Submitted by Maria Thomson- Pg 3 under Eric Ulrich's report 3rd sentence should *read to hire* additional police officers. Under New Business- Maria Thomson- the Rubella family should be Labella and owners of Labella and Sons Funeral Home.

Motion # 1: *To adopt minutes as amended*

Vote #1: *unanimous*

2. Chairperson's Remarks – Ivan Mrakovcic

At the Queens Borough Board meeting there was a presentation of NYC DOT Plaza program. This program asks communities who are interested in making unutilized streets into public space for people to enjoy. The deadline is June 30, 2010. If there are any suggestions for sites please contact the chair of the parks committee. The chair went on to announce the new committee assignments:

Land Use Committee: Sylvia Hack and Sherman Kane Co- Chairs, Andrea Crawford, Dual Bhattacharjee, O. Raj Rampershad, Clark Whittsett, Rajinder S. Bawa, Richard David, Mel Gagarin. Non Board Members, Lisa Atkins, Murray Berger.

Education & Youth Services Committee: Nick Comaianni, Chair Priscilla Levine, Jan Fenster, Regina Santoro, Dr V. Evangelista, Scott Jordan, Palo Dedvukaj. Non board member, Leo Compton.

Public Safety, Transportation & Consumer Affairs Committee: James Coccovillo & Tom Chiofolo, Co-chair, Kevin O'Leary, Harjinder Singh Duggal, Latchman Budhai, Anton Dietrich, Melissa Rosales, Sam Esposito, Rabbi Daniel Pollack, Joe Todisco, Joe Iaboni, Sandra Datnarain, Susan Farrell.

Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee: J.R. Smith, Chair, Maria Thomson John Carter, Balbir Kaur, Naidoo Veerapen, Alexander Blenkinsopp, Mohamed Safie, Marie Turley, Stephen Esposito, Ragbir Singh.

Health & Social Services Policy Ad Hoc Committee: Evelyn Baron, Chair, Stephen Sofer, Joan DeCamp, Albert Cohen, Ralph Gonzalez.

Legal & Legislative Committee: Wallace Bock, Chair, Clark Whitsett, Andrea Crawford, Tom Chiofolo, Evelyn Baron.

Executive Committee: Ivan Mrakovcic, Chair, Andrea Crawford, 1st Vice Chair, Rabbi Daniel Pollack, 2nd Vice Chair, Clark Whitsett, Executive Secretary, Wallace Bock, Nick Comaianni, James Coccovillo, Thomas Chiofolo, J. Richard Smith, Evelyn Baron, Sylvia Hack, Sherman Kane. The Chair announced and welcomed two new board members, Alexander Blenkinsopp, and Albert Cohen.

3. Monthly Update Report- 102 PCT.

PO McCoy informed the board and the residents of 106th & 105th Streets that he is aware of the problems with Rumors Bar & Lounge and that the precinct has prepared a package documenting the incidents that have occurred there and it will be forwarded to the NYS Liquor Authority. He then took questions from the residents who went on to elaborate on the ongoing problems they have been experiencing for the past year. Mrs. Carey, District Manager, CB 9 stated she spoke with Mr. Smith from the SLA and they indicated this location was on their radar and summonses have been issued for health violations, serving liquor to minors and she informed them of the incident of the altercation with police officers from the 102 PCT while responding to a call at the establishment. Question and answer period followed.

- 4. District Manager's Report-** Mary Ann Carey disturbed some flyers on from Bike NY Bicycle Education Program. Mrs. Carey, along with Marie Turley (board member) attended a workshop sponsored by The Municipal Arts Society. The program was created to provide communities with the knowledge, tools, and training needed to transform local vision into effective plans. It provides participants with in-person training, a take-home comprehensive community planning toolkit, and access to a web-based network for ongoing discussion. There was a unique mix of facilitators from community-based organizations, government, advocacy, and academia which gave multiple perspectives on neighborhood issues. Mrs. Carey stated that the Richmond Hill Block Association was funded by NYS senate in the past and we should lobby our elected officials to restore funding.

5. Guest Speaker- Joan Brown- Program Manager, Federal Aviation Administration

Mrs. Brown spoke on the FAA's Aviation and Space Education Programs- **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics- STEM.** There are four national programs, Smart Skies, Real World Design Challenge Build A Plane and ACE Academies. The Smart Skies Program is for grades 5-9. There are two programs, Fly by Math and Line Up with Math, with Distance-Rate –time math problems and the challenge of safe separation of two airplanes with the use of pre- algebra and algebra in Air Traffic Control. The Real World Design Challenge is for grades 9-12. The FAA and the US Dept. of Energy Parametric Technology Corporation, Cessna Crop and others create a design challenge for to utilize their skills in real-world applications of STEM. Each participating school is provided \$900,000 worth of software. States compete for a national challenge in Washington, DC. Build A Plane is dedicated to promoting aviation and aerospace careers by giving young people the opportunity to build real airplanes. The Aviation Career Education Academies are for middle and high school students for one day to one week. The focus is on science, technology, engineering and Mathematics and aviation career exploration.

Ann Doherty , Kimberly Crewe, and Matthew Rowe- NYC Dept. of Transportation-

Rockaway Boulevard Corridor Safety Improvements- a presentation was given on improvements to improve safety on Rockaway Blvd in Southeastern Queens. This ranges from a 60 Ft. wide four lane road way at Atlantic Avenue to a 70 Ft. wide five lane roadway from 104 St. to Sutphin Blvd. Improvements: Calm traffic; improve pedestrian and river safety as well as improving mobility through installing planned on street bike routes. Please see attached report. Question and answer period followed.

Land Use Committee Report- Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane

Bryon Munoz, DOB liaison attended the meeting and stated that anyone who has complaints should call 311, and then call the board office with the 311 complaint #, and the office will forward the information to him expediting the amount of time to have the complaint inspected. Sherman Kane emphasized this protocol when reporting illegal conversions. There has been no response from our Council members on the board's LS4 resolution and the committee will follow up with them to see what if any movement has been made on it. The next land use meeting will cover the completion of the rezoning of Richmond Hill, Woodhaven, and Ozone Park. John Young from the Dept. of City Planning will be at the meeting to discuss the completion of the project. Question and answer period followed.

6. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Nick Comaianni

Mr. Comaianni stated despite devastating budget cuts to education, teacher layoffs, etc, the Dept. of Education found money to open 5 new Deputy Chancellor Positions. This includes their staff, and salaries of \$195, 000. 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. Medicaid is looking at who qualifies for personal care mainly the M11Q form which has been modified from check lists to a narrative filled out by the doctor. If the doctor merely states that the client needs help and doesn't provide what specific activities (such as bathing, toileting, getting out of bed), the impact is weakened. These items used to be check off - now they have to be specifically written.

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

Mr. Smith informed the board that an RFP has been released for Outdoor Markets/ concessions, Pushcarts. Information is available on the Parks website. The DOS is targeting 600 workers for layoff.

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

○ **On Premise Liquor License- New**

Shots Pool Hall Inc.
D/b/a Michaels Side Pocket
87-50 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Vote to be Taken

Motion#2: *To send a letter of objection to the SLA*
Vote#2: *Unanimous*

○ **TLC For Hire Base Station- New**

Queens Car Service, Inc.
91-79 111th St.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Vote to be Taken

Motion #3: *To send a letter of objection to the TLC*
Vote #3: *Unanimous*

○ **On Premise Liquor License- New**

93-03 Jamaica Ave
93-03 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Vote to be Taken

Motion #4: *To send letter of no objection to the SLA*
Vote#4: *Unanimous*

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

Hamburguesas Dona Maria, Corp.
88-09 Jamaica Ave.
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Vote to be Taken

Motion #5: *To send letter of no objection to the SLA*
Vote #5: *30 in favor, 4 opposed*

10. **Old Business**

No speakers

11. **New Business**

Ivan Mrakovcic announced that it was Priscilla and Harvey Levine's 26th wedding Anniversary.

Stephen Esposito mentioned that The Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. 31st Annual Dinner Dance will be on May 14, 2010.

Melissa Rosales stated it was Bile month and she left several pamphlets on the table on various bike activities. There will be an education seminar at Oakridge, in Forest Park on May 15, 2010 on traffic skills, etc. The seminar will be from 9am-5pm.

Maria Thomson stated that the Small Business Administration conducted a survey on residents having access to their shopping strips within walking distance of their homes. This is called Walk ability. She also stated we have parkability as there is a park close to our homes as stated by the mayor who stated he wants a park within 10 minutes of everyone's home.

Wallace Bock stated he received notification of a major project in Kew Gardens regarding the installation of new gas lines.

Regina Santoro announced that Holy Child Jesus School is having Street Fair from 12-8Pm this Saturday. Ivan Mrakovcic will be in the Dunk Tank, so you can stop up and try your luck and dunking the chair.

Andrea Crawford announced that KGIA received a "Love your Block Grant", and will be cleaning up on Metropolitan Ave. between Audley & 116th Streets. They will be planting flowers as well, between 10am- 3pm on Sunday, May 16, 2010, as well as plantings on Sat.

Nick Comaianni stated there will be a ceremony at the Woodhaven American Legion Post on Memorial Day.

12. Public Forum

No Speakers

Wallace Bock motioned to close the meeting, Scott Jordan 2nd the motion

The meeting ended at 10:45 PM