

FEBRUARY 9, 2016 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
ATRIA KEW GARDENS, 117-01 84th AVE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2015-FEBRUARY 2016

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

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1) (0)	Jan Fenster	(2) (0)	Raj Rampershad	(1) (0)
Julio Batista	(2) (0)	Laraine Fletcher	(1) (0)	Jagir Singh	(1) (1)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0) (0)	Linda Fogal	(2) (1)	Jarnail Singh	(1) (1)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(0) (0)	Sylvia Hack	(3) (1)	Maharani Singh	(2) (0)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(3) (0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0) (0)	Matthew Singh	(1) (0)
Latchman Budhai	(4) (1)	Mohamad Z. Islam	(3) (1)	Ragbir Singh	(0) (0)
John Carter	(1) (0)	Sherman Kane	(1) (0)	J. Richard Smith	(1) (0)
Jim Coccovillo	(1) (0)	Patrick Khan	(2) (0)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(1) (0)
Andrea Crawford	(2) (0)	Joel Kuszai	(1) (0)	Maria Thomson	(0) (0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0) (0)	Marian C. Molina	(1) (0)	Marie Turley	(0) (0)
Richard David	(1) (0)	Ivan Mrakovic	(2) (0)	Seth Welins	(0) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(1) (0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0) (0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0) (0)
Stephen Esposito	(2) (0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0) (0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Nick Comaianni	(5) (2)	Mohamed Safie	(4) (1)	Naidoo Veerapen	(3) (1)
Priscilla Levine	(3) (1)	Regina Santoro	(2) (1)		

ALSO PRESENT

Lisa Gomes, District Manager
 Irina Barayeva, Community Associate
 Victor Ampuero, 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/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Nick Gulotta, CAU/Mayor's Office
Arlene Brown, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich
Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller
Scott Wolff, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz
P.O. Jose Severino, NYPD/102 Pct.
P.O. Edwin Martinez, NYPD/102 Pct.
Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Koslowitz
Iggy Terranova, Dept. Of Sanitation
Henry Ehrhardt, Dept. Of Sanitation

Guests' sign-in sheets are available upon request.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Chair Rampershad announced two items regarding agenda:

- Addition to agenda

On Premise Liquor License Application-Renewal

Esex Lounge Corp.
131-15 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

- Addendum to agenda

On Premise Liquor License Application-New

LaBoy Family, Inc.
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

There will be no vote to taken for this item.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

***Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. –
“Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival” Oct. 16, 2016***

No speakers

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

a. On Premise Liquor License Application – New

Pop's Restaurant
85-22 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

No speakers

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Public Hearing Cont'd

Liquor, Beer, & wine Licenses, Letters of Intent Received

Aroma Indian Cuisine and Restaurant Corp.
116-01A 101st Ave
South Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *No speakers*

Harbor Breeze Restaurant & Lounge Inc.
107-12 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

b. On Premise Beer Only License Application – New

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

c. On Premise Liquor License Application – Renewal

Woodhaven Manor Caters and Banquet, Inc.
96-01 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

Atlantic Bamboo Garden, Inc.
Bamboo Garden Restaurant
107-04 Atlantic Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

Esex Lounge Corp.
131-15 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Elixir Lounge & Restaurant, Inc.
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

New Talent Zone Corp.
D/b/a Venue
119-30 Metropolitan Ave
Kew Gardens, NY 11415 *No speakers*

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Thomas Grimaldi, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about the problems regarding cars speeding on the street and causing fear for pedestrians. He stated he has a petition with over a hundred signatures for the request of a traffic safety study on 116 St, Metropolitan Ave & 84th Ave.

Michael Moore, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about the problem of cars speeding on 116 St & Curzon Rd and stated that implementing a Slow Zone area in the perimeter of Metropolitan Ave, Lefferts Blvd., Park Lane South and Myrtle Ave will improve quality of life for local residents.

Jason Schneider, Woodhaven Resident, asked the board members to vote in favor of speed hump installations on Woodhaven Blvd. service road, from Park Lane South to 98th street.

Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member Weprin, announced that the Assembly Member and NYS Dept. of Taxation & Finance are hosting a Facilitated Self-Assistance Tax Preparation Site at the Queens Library at Lefferts, 103-34 Lefferts Blvd. All sessions will be held from 10 a.m-4 p.m. every Wednesday from February 3rd, 2016 to April 13, 2016. Household income must be less than \$62,000 in order to be eligible for this service. Assembly Member Weprin is also sponsoring a Food Drive that is ending on February 18, 2016 and will benefit the River Fund New York.

Norville Barrington, Gospel Church, reported on the 10th Year Ministry Anniversary Celebration Event that took place at 89-17 114th St over the weekend and thanked all supporters of the church.

Marcus Bullock, DDC, gave an update on the Installation of Water Main Project # QED-1003 and said that its completion is projected for September, 2016.

John DeCristoforo, Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens, introduced himself to the board members and extended an open invitation to visit Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens which is open seven days now.

3. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Secretary Mrakovcic asked if there were any corrections/additions to January 12, 2016 minutes. There were none.

Motion # 1: To accept January 12, 2016 minutes as presented

Vote # 1: 37 in favor and 1 abstention

4. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Captain Molloy stated that:

- The 102 Pct. is down over 35% in crime this year.
- Pedestrian collision stats are down.

P.O. Severino invited all to attend 102 Pct. Community Council Meetings that usually take place on the third Tuesday of the month at the Richmond Hill Branch library. He made an announcement about the March 15, 2016 meeting taking place at the New Heaven Ministries, 130-05 101 Ave,

7-9 p.m. where a presentation by the NYPD's Hate Crime Task Force will take place.

P.O. Severino stated that there are fourteen new recruits coming to the 102nd Pct.

Questions and answers period followed.

5. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec. Report - Raj Rampershad

Chair Rampershad reported on the following:

- Testified at the Capital & Expense Budget Hearings at Queens Borough Hall on Jan. 25, 2016. A copy of the handout will be scanned and emailed to all board members.
- Next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 7 p.m.
- Thanked Mr. Jay Lawrence for hosting tonight's meeting at Atria Kew Gardens.

Chair Rampershad recognized legislative representatives.

Nick Gulotta, CAU/Mayor's Office, gave an update on the following issues:

- Snow storm complaints
- Wage increase to \$15 per hour for over 50,000 city employees
- A new paid parental leave policy for NYC employees which allows six weeks of paid time off for maternity, paternity, adoption and foster care leave
- Benefits of Mayor's Vision Zero Initiative

Questions & answers period followed.

Scott Wolff, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz, stated that staff from State Comptroller DiNapoli's & Assembly Member Simanowitz's office will be at the Queens Community House Forest Hills Senior Center on Friday, March 18, 2016, checking to see if local residents are owed some of New York's \$14 billion in unclaimed funds.

Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Koslowitz, had nothing to report.

Aileen Brown, Rep. Council Member Ulrich, announced dates for Queens Symphony Orchestra Concert Series sponsored by the Council Member.

Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Miller, stated that the Assembly Member is working on a series of five bills to combat illegal massage parlors. The other two bills he is working on are: enable New Yorkers to refill their metro cards online and a Free Fare Program for firefighters and fire officers.

6. District Manager's Report - Lisa Gomes

"I met with John De Cristoforo, the new Dir. of the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Queens, formally known as the South Queens Boys and Girls Club. The club serves 1400 youths daily and they have a Universal Pre-K program.

Founded in 1957, The Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens' goal is to help young people improve their lives by building self-esteem and developing values and skills during critical periods of

growth. They are reaching out to local businesses, churches, synagogues, the 102 Precinct, etc. to form partnerships with the community. They are renovating the old building and have submitted a request to The Borough President for Capital Funds of \$1.9 million for this project.

I met with Rosemary Sepaul who is our liaison to the Dept. of Aging program and of which we have seniors who work part time in the office doing clerical work, answering phones and mailings. At this time we have one worker, Alam. We have been working with this program for at least 3 years. It is an asset for seniors who want to stay in the workforce and we benefit tremendously.

I had the privilege of attending our Queens Borough Presidents State of the Borough Address along with our Chair Raj Rampershad. It was very inspiring and our Borough President led with her Mantra: If It's Good for Our Families, it's Good for Queens. She shared that her children keep her grounded. BP Katz stated she was not a big fan of Common Core stating standards need to be revamped so that instructional methods are no longer so needlessly complicated for students and parents.

The Borough President touched on Milestones that have helped make Queens a great place to raise a family and emphasized her commitment to help Queens Families. The Borough President praised the work of the Borough's 14 Community Boards which are made up of 700 dedicated, civic minded residents who serve a critical role in shaping city policies.

Queens Borough Cabinet Meeting – the Borough President held her annual February cabinet meeting in the Marriot Hotel near LaGuardia Airport. The meeting was sponsored by the Queens Chamber of Commerce. The Queens District Managers, representatives from city agencies, and Queens Chamber members were in attendance. Queens Borough President, Melinda Katz spoke about how people are choosing to live in Queens because of all the opportunities available to families and businesses. The following are just a snapshot of what she mentioned.

- ▶ Willets Point Cleanup, Airports, Train to the Plane for LaGuardia Airport, Ferry from Queens to Manhattan.”

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

**BSA Cal No. 933-28-BZ
125-24 Metropolitan Ave.
Kew Gardens NY, 11415**

Amendment to 11-412ZR – Extend the term of the variance which expired on Oct. 29, 2014
VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Mr. Kane read the Land Use Committee Resolution:

Queens Community Board 9 supports the request for a ten-year extension of the variance at 125-24 Metropolitan Avenue for an auto repairs shop provided that the following conditions are met:

- 1) That the proposed site plan submitted to Queens Community Board 9 on January 4, 2016 by Caliendo Architects is adhered to and supplemented by the following:

- a) An additional street tree is planted on 126th Street in accord with Department of Parks' regulations re tree pit size, etc.
- b) That the proposed plantings noted on the plans, including those labeled T1 and T2, be maintained throughout the variance period. Thus, any and all plants that wither or die would be replaced with the same or similar plants as soon as the weather permits.

Motion # 2: To support the extension of the term of the variance that has expired on 10/29/14 for the BSA Cal No. 933-28-BZ, 125-24 Metropolitan Ave

Motion # 2: 36 in favor and 2 abstentions

- Mr. Kane testified at the City Council's Hearing on the M.I.A and Z.Q.A. proposal and handed the CB9 resolution to Council Members.
- Habitat NYC will be attending the next CB9 Land Use Committee meeting to talk about an initiative to rehabilitate vacant, dilapidated homes in Southeast Queens.
- DOB representative will also be attending the next Land Use Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 8 p.m.

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

► **Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. – “Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival“**
October 16, 2016 **VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Motion #3: To support the Greater Woodhaven Development Corp., Wonderful Woodhaven Street Fair, October 16, 2016

Vote #3: 36 in favor, 2 abstentions (due to conflict of interests)

► **Speed Hump Request - 97th St. from 101st to 103rd Ave** **VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Motion # 4: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation on 97th St, from 101st to 103rd Ave

Vote # 4: 37 in favor and 1 opposed

► **Speed Hump Request - 76th St. from Jamaica Ave to 88th Ave** **VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Motion # 5: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation on 76th St, from Jamaica Ave to 88th Ave

Vote # 5: Unanimous

► **Speed Hump Request - Park Lane South from 104th St to 107th St** **VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Motion # 6: To send a letter of support to DOT for speed hump installation on Park Lane South, from 104th St & 107th St

Vote # 6: Unanimous

► **Speed Hump Request - Woodhaven Blvd Service Rd from Park Lane South to 98th St**

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Motion # 7: To send a letter of support to DOT for a speed hump installation on Woodhaven Blvd. Service Rd, from Park Lane South to 98th St

Vote # 7: Unanimous

► **Speed Hump Request - Woodhaven Blvd Service Rd from 98th St to Forest Park Dr. VOTE TO BE TAKEN**

Motion # 8: To send a letter of support to DOT for a speed hump installation on Woodhaven Blvd. Service Rd, from 98th St to Forest Park Drive

Vote # 8: Unanimous

► **DOT Update on Pedestrian Safety Improvements to the Intersection of Hillside Ave & Metropolitan Ave**

Richard Carmona of NYCDOT gave an update presentation on pedestrian safety improvements to the complicated intersection of Hillside Avenue and Metropolitan Avenue that was approved by Community Board 9 in 2014. He stated that this initiative plans will make pedestrian safety improvements including concrete sidewalk extensions, shorter and safer pedestrian crossings, an improved traffic network with more efficient signal timing, turn restrictions to improve traffic flow, and the elimination of dangerous pedestrian and vehicle conflicts at the intersection of Hillside and Metropolitan Avenues.

These changes are complicated by the current routing of Q54. NYCT proposes re-routing the Q54 bus to accommodate these safety changes.

NYCDOT's proposal will enhance pedestrian safety and mobility while improving traffic flow through the complex Hillside Avenue and Metropolitan Avenue intersection.

Questions and answers period followed.

9. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report – James Coccovillo & Maharani Singh – Co-Chairs

a. On Premise Liquor License Application - New

Pop's Restaurant
85-22 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 9: To table New Liquor License Application for Pop's Restaurant, 85-22 Jamaica Ave due to conflict on hours of operation

Vote # 9: 37 in favor and 1 abstention

LaBoy Family, Inc.
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

*Removed from agenda due to conflicting information on four CB9
Information Questionnaires*

Aroma Indian Cuisine and Restaurant Corp.
116-01 A 101st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Motion # 10: Not to oppose New Liquor License Application for Aroma Indian Cuisine,
116-01 A 101 Ave

Vote # 10: 37 in favor and 1 abstention

b. On Premise Beer Only License Application – New

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

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Motion # 11: To oppose New Beer Only License Application for 113 Deli Grocery, Inc.,
112-27 Jamaica Ave due to lack of information and cooperation

Vote# 11: Unanimous

c. On Premise Liquor License Application-Renewal

Esex Lounge Corp.
131-15 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Motion # 12: To oppose Liquor License Renewal Application for Esex Lounge Corp.,
131-15 Jamaica Ave due to numerous complaints

Vote# 12: Unanimous

Elixir Lounge & Restaurant
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 13: Not to oppose Liquor License Renewal Application for Elixir Lounge & Rest.,
105-06 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 13: Unanimous

Mr. Coccovillo stated that the Public Safety Committee will take place on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the district office.

10. Education & Youth Services Committee Report - Seth Welins, Chair, stated:

- The Richmond Hill Library branch will undergo extensive renovations. The work will commence after the design and procurement process is finished (approximately 18-24 months). The construction will last for approximately 14 months. Unfortunately, the library will have to close during the renovation period. Queens Library will provide a mobile library during the closure. Officials did say that they would be open to moving books and other library material to a temporary site, but the cost of the rental space would be deducted from the renovation budget. The Education Committee is opposed to any reduction of the renovation budget should rental space be found.
- A representative of the N.Y.C. Charter School Association will attend the Education Committee meeting on February 23, 2016 at 5:30.

11. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report - J.R. Smith & L. Fletcher, Co-Chairs

Alexander Blenkinsopp noted that many residents in the CB9 area were dissatisfied with the snow clean-up during and after Winter Storm Jonas. He introduced two guests from the Department of Sanitation who came to discuss the subject: Iggy Terranova, Citywide Community Affairs Officer, and Henry Ehrhardt, Director of Customer Relations. Blenkinsopp thanked the guests for their patience awaiting their turn to speak.

Mr. Ehrhardt reported on the following:

- Distributed 0x30 Zero Waste to Landfills by 2030 pamphlets, NYC Snow Operations FAQs flyers and Snow Removal Homeowner Responsibilities Guide.
- Latest snow storm handling facts and stats for Queens.
- Snow removal delays on tertiary streets in Queens.

Question and answer period followed.

12. Economic Development Committee Report - Richard David, Chair, informed board members that there are many qualified sites throughout the city that can assist on free tax preparations. Households with an annual income of \$62,000 or less are eligible.

Ad Hoc Committee- John Carter informed that there were opportunities during the fall for the Committee to meet. The Committee renewed activities on February 8th. Comparisons are being made between “Model” by-laws, our own, and CB’s 5Q, 6Q and 1M.

Because of the nature of the process, no time line is available yet.

13. Health & Social Services Committee Report - Marian C. Molina, Chair, stated that the CDC has issued a Health Advisory on Zika Virus infections for returning travelers from Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico. The CDC has also issued a Level 2 Travel Advisory for those same areas. Latest and detailed information is available at nyc.gov.

As of Feb. 2nd, 2016, there have been three cases reported in NYC all three patients were recovered. The symptoms are flu like symptoms. It is strongly suggested to use repellent if you are planning to visit those places.

14. Old Business

Jim Coccovillo submitted a copy of the petition to the Department of Transportation, signed by 135 residents, against the elimination of parking along Woodhaven Blvd., btwn Myrtle Ave and 85th Road. The petition is in opposition to implementation of a select bus service northbound and southbound on Woodhaven Blvd., as well as Cross Bay Blvd. resulting in the reduction of traffic lanes and elimination of curbside parking.

Maria Thomson suggested that all should read Robert's Rules for Dummies.

15. New Business

Stephen Esposito thanked all for voting in favor of the GWDC Wonderful Woodhaven Street Fair and thanked Marian Molina for giving educational information on Zika virus.

16. Public Forum

Paul Hines, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke against changing the Q54 bus route and eliminating a bus stop.

Charlotte Taylor, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about a ticket that she received for improper garbage disposal and very poor mail delivery service in her area.

Andrea Crawford made a motion to adjourn, Jim Coccovillo seconded it.

The meeting ended at 10:15 p.m.