



Antonio Reynoso
Borough President

THE CITY OF NEW YORK COMMUNITY BOARD 12

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Yidel Perlstein
Chairperson



Barry Spitzer
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD 12 DECEMBER MINUTES

HELD ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021

VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

AAMAH KHAN
ADAM COHEN
ALAN DUBROW
AVI GREENSTEIN
AVROHOM WOLFSON
AYESHA RAHIM
BENJAMIN THEODORE
BERNARD FREILICH
DAVID FRIEDLANDER
EDGAR GLUCK
ELLIE KASTEL
JACOB ASKAL
JACOB EISDORFER
JACQUE FRIEDMAN
JEFFREY DWECK
JOHN TALMADGE
JOSEPH GROSS
LILY MARINELLI
MIRIAM HERSKO
MORDECHAI KATZ
SAM STOBER
SHARON FUCHS
SHLOMIE RIEGER
SOL WAHBA
YAAKOV KAPLAN
YAAKOV SCHAPIRO
YERUCHIM SILBER
YIDEL PERLSTEIN
YONAH MOSES

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS

APPROXIMATELY 30 RESIDENTS PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ANNA CALI
CHESKY BLAU
DAVID SHLOMOVICH
DOUGLAS JABLON
JACOB HASS
JULES FLEISCHER
LARRY JASON
MAMNUNUL HAQ
MARIA ARETTINES
MONIQUE WALLACE
MORRIS SENDEROVICH
MORTON PUPKO
NAFTALI TESSLER
PETER REBENWURZEL
ROCHELLE ZAMI
SAHIBZADA AHMAD SHABIR
YECHIEL MALIK
YITZCHOK ITZKOWITZ
YITZCHOK MOSKOWITS

STAFF PRESENT

BARRY SPITZER – DISTRICT MANAGER
GITTEL FEKETE- COMMUNITY
COORDINATOR

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES

PINNY RINGEL, REP. MAYOR DE BLASIO
SHARON FUCHS, REP. SENATOR FELDER
ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN
SOL REIGER, REP. AM. EICHENSTEIN
GABRIELLA FRIEDLANDER, REP. CM
LANDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ATTENDANCE

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- November Minutes were adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Delivered by First Vice Chair Yaakov Kaplan

- Mr. Kaplan congratulated former Deputy Inspector Richie Taylor on his promotion, he is now Inspector Taylor.
- CB12 joins the Police Commissioner and NYPD in recognizing Detective Tommy Nihill for his 30 years of outstanding service.
- Unfortunately, anti -Semitic graffiti was found in our district, at the 18th Ave. Park. Then, one day later 2 visibly Jewish men were viciously attacked for being Jewish. Mr. Kaplan thanked Governor Hochul for her quick condemnation of the attack. And hoped there would be a thorough investigation and the perpetrators will no longer be a threat. He thanked the Hate Crimes Task Force for their steadfast support and vowed to continue working with the NYPD to make sure residents in this district can feel safe.
- He congratulated former Councilman David Greenfield, currently leading the Met Council, on being appointed to serve on Mayor-elect Adams' transition team, specifically relating to human services. He also congratulated former board member Joel Eisdorfer on his appointment to the Mayor-elect's transition team.
- He announced the members whose terms will expire on 3/31/22. These members will need to submit an application for reappointment by the deadline of February 18:

Jacob Eisdorfer

Peter Rebenwurz

Shlomie Rieger

Douglas Jablon

Sharon Fuchs

Yitzchok Itzkowitz

Yechiel Malik

Jules Fleischer

Morton Pupko

Adam Cohen

Bernard Freilich

Rochelle Zami

Lily Marinelli

Monique Wallace

Larry Jayson

Samuel Stober

Ayesha Rahim

Joseph Gross

Sol Wahba

Anna Cali

Mordechi Katz

Yaakov Kaplan

Yaakov Schapiro

The office sent out an email to all these members with instructions on how to file.

- This meeting was the last meeting of 2021. Mr. Kaplan hoped for a better 2022. Happy Holidays to all and we'll see you in 2022.

District Manager Barry Spitzer:

- The District manager had a point of order prior to continuing the board meeting: the public session would from now on be called a public hearing. This is because of an audit by the comptroller's office which determined that according to the NYC charter, community boards need to hold at least one public hearing a month. And a public session during a board meeting doesn't fulfill that requirement, so it will be called public hearing in order to comply.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Julie Vega- Resident:

- Ms. Vega brought up a concern with the Covid Testing Center at 40th St. and Ft. Hamilton Pkwy, which is near her house. Employees are illegally putting cones around the neighborhood to reserve parking, they should be using the space inside the lot. Because of this infraction, people are blocking hydrants and her driveway. Though she had a car towed, it is not a realistic solution as by the time NYPD responds the cars usually have moved already. She asked the Community Board for assistance in resolving this matter.

Chairman Yidel Perlstein- The Chairman thanked Mr. Kaplan for running the meeting. He thanked the District Manager for everything and also wished all board members a Happy New Year.

Avi Greenstein, CEO of the Boro Park Jewish Community Council.

Rabbi Greenstein provided a community update to advise and update on BPJCC programs people should be made aware of.

- There is a new program; the NYS Homeowners Assistance Fund (NYHAF) program to help homeowners struggling with up to \$50,000 in payments toward delinquent homeowner expenses. The funds will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. Applications are open from January 3 through February 4 only. Those interested can go online to bpjcc.org for additional information.
- BPJCC is an official HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) site. Applications filled at the center will go directly to processing.
- BPJCC has made it its mission to cover senior related topics, as there are over 1,000 people in this area that turn 65 every year. Many of them struggle to understand the applicable areas of social services such as Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security. The next in this series of seminars will be January 19. The topic is Medicaid Made Simpler, visit BPJCC.org to register.
- We have a fire initiative in conjunction with the Red Cross and Senator Felder where everyone is entitled to have smoke alarms installed in every room. There is no income verification.
- For the previously mentioned services and all social services needs, make an appointment at 718-972-6600 and we will gladly help.
- Rabbi Greenstein thanked Assemblyman Eichenstein for his support as well as Councilman Yeger.
- He wished all a Happy New Year.

Acting Chairman Yaakov Kaplan: Mr. Kaplan extended congratulations to the 2nd vice chair Yeruchim Silber, who is also on the Mayor's transition team.

- Mr. Kaplan congratulated Councilman Kalman Yeger on winning a second term with 97.80% of the vote!

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Delivered by District Manager Barry Spitzer

- He advised that FEMA extended the deadline for underinsured to apply for assistance due to Storm Ida, applications are now open until January 4th. For more information you can go to Disasterassistance.gov or call 800-621-3362
- The SBA also extended the deadline for to apply for low interest loans for businesses, homeowners and renters affected by Ida to January 4th. Call 470-443-4422 with questions.
- Some residents asked about composting sites, since we don't yet have regular composting pickup. There are 2 sites we know of in our district- 1 at Rapaport Playground at Ft. Hamilton pkwy and another at McDonald Ave and Albemarle Road. Both are open Tuesdays from 10-2.
- We have had numerous abandoned and delinquent cars parked for a long time and NYPD worked very well with us to remove them. If you see delinquent cars on your block, give us a call and we'll have it towed.

- This is a PSA that came from our office staff. We ask when you see a problem please notify us by phone or email. You can tweet as well, but sometimes more information than can be tweeted is needed to get a matter resolved. If it's something that needs more information than a tweet, please also follow up with an email or a phone call.
- This Monday through Thursday trains will run less frequently than usual. MTA has been affected by the COVID surge and has limited available staff. So you may wait a little longer for your train.
- OATH the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings has a text messaging system that can remind you of your upcoming ticket hearing dates. We have had a lot of people come to us with tickets in collections. The tickets are no longer in the city system, they are in collections and people don't even know it. OATH has text messaging so they can send you reminders to avoid any collections. To sign up text the words OATHreminder to 917-451-8829.
- The attorney General sent an advisory that there is price gouging again for COVID related items such as at home testing kits. Be vigilant as people may be overcharging. It is illegal and you can report it.
- He wished everyone a Happy New Year. 2021 has been a challenge and we hope that 2022 will be brighter and better.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein representing the 48th Assembly District

- The assemblyman congratulated all those who were appointed to the mayor-elect's transition team.
- He thanked the Assistant Commissioner of the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, Pinny Ringel, for his service these past 8 years. Mr. Ringel made sure to always be available to serve his community, 24/7, which included Shabbos in extreme emergencies.
- The assembly will be back in session on January 5th. If the community board continues meeting via zoom the assemblyman will look forward to participating at board meetings from Albany.
- Following up on what Mr. Kaplan said earlier, there were 2 anti-Semitic hate crimes this past week, the assemblyman noted that he is the prime sponsor of 2 pieces of legislation allowing judges discretion in sentencing for hate crimes. Hate crime perpetrators are driven by an inner unstoppable hate and judges should have the discretion as it relates to these perpetrators. These people are unfortunately likely to strike again. This is something he vowed to be relentless on this session. There are some serious hate crime perpetrators that have been released in a revolving door policy and have struck again upon release within 24 hours. The bills he sponsored are aimed to end this.
- He wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year. As the district manager said, 2021 was a hard year and hopefully we are looking at a brighter year.

Pinny Ringel, representing Mayor Bill de Blasio.

- Mr. Ringel thanked Assemblyman Eichenstein. He had the pleasure of working with the assemblyman as a colleague in the mayor's office, before he became assemblyman. Mr. Ringel thanked all the board member for their service these past 8 years. A lot of work was done on behalf of the community.
- Mr. Ringel responded to the the resident that complained about the testing site on Ft. Hamilton Parkway; he sent an email to the vaccine command center that is in control of setting up the sites and asked them to stop this practice of blocking streets and driveways. Hopefully this practice will end.
- Mr. Ringel wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Yaakov Kaplan- commented that this is the fastest response at any community board and anywhere in the city. He thanked Pinny Ringel for all he's done till now and for what he is sure to do in the future.

District Manager Barry Spitzer

Mr. Spitzer read a Community Board citation prepared for Mr. Ringel.

- The district manager added that Mr. Ringel did not only serve the public for 8 years during the De Blasio administration, he served for 2 decades in public service starting with Simcha Felder in the City Council, then with the current mayor de Blasio as public advocate. This isn't just a job to him, he goes above and beyond what a regular city employee does. As the assemblyman said, it included nights, it included weekends and sometimes when there was a bad situation, it included Yom tov and Shabbos as well. We express deep gratitude for his public service, we wish him well and hope he stays in public service.

Pinny Ringel- Said he hoped to stay in public service and to continue working with the community board.

- He added that he got a response from the vaccine command center saying they will follow up on this issue with the site manager to stop this practice.

Gabby Friedlander, representing Councilman Brad Lander.

Rabbi Freilich thanked Mr. Ringel for his service and said he knows Mr. Ringel will continue working with the community.

- Rabbi Freilich advised of the new visiting rules at Maimonides. Starting January 29th visitors will have to either be vaccinated or take a COVID PCR test within the 72 hours before going into the hospital.

Sharon Fuchs, representing Senator Simcha Felder.

Sol Reiger, representing Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:

No old business.

No new business.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Respectfully submitted by: Gittel Fekete