

Community Board 1, Meeting Minutes

May 16th, 2017

Board Member Attendees – List Attached

OPENING: 6:30pm

- Chairman Joseph Risi welcomed attendees, and asked for people to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was recited.
- Mr. Risi requested a moment of reflection in honor of the recent passing of long time Board Member Kevin Mullarkey. Chairman Risi extended condolences to Mr. Mullarkey's family.
- Chairman Risi acknowledged Alisha Mayfield, officers from the 114th precinct, and Damaris Moné from Senator Peralta's office.
- Mr. Risi introduced Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer, who was in attendance to speak. Mr. Risi provided a brief biography of the Councilman, acknowledged with gratitude the work the Councilman has done for the community, and stated "we are honored to have him as our Councilman."

REMARKS BY COUNCILMAN JIMMY VAN BRAMER

- Councilman Van Bramer thanked the Board for their service, and stated he is grateful to represent the community. The Councilman also specifically thanked Chairman Joseph Risi and District Manager Florence Koulouris for their work.
- Councilman Van Bramer acknowledged two new Board Members for their hard work in the community; Ms. Helen Ho for her work at LaGuardia Community College, and Ms. Giselle Aida Burgess for her work as the troop leader of the first Girl Scout troop for homeless girls in the City of New York.
- Councilman Van Bramer discussed several recent initiatives he has worked on; the repaving of a portion of 21st Street, working towards traffic safety improvements in Dutch Kills (especially 39th Avenue and 29th Street), expanding regulations that require bicycle [restaurant] delivery drivers to wear reflective vests, a presentation held on 5/20 at the Broadway/Steinway Library branch by the Commissioner for the Department of Cultural Affairs to announce details of the new city cultural plan, the removal of the abandoned park house and installation of a new park house at Queensbridge Park, renovations at Dutch Kills Playground (if constituents have comments on the design they should contact the Councilman's office and the Parks Department), traffic safety improvements on Northern Blvd. (in the vicinity of 48th Street), Participatory Budgeting (and the resulting investments in multiple local schools who won funds), and the possibility of moving the 21st Street sanitation garage.
- Councilman Van Bramer acknowledged and thanked Ms. Debra Tharrington, who is a CBI/Astoria resident and works in the Councilman's office.
- The Councilman again thanked Members of Community Board 1, and reiterated his commitment to working with the Board, reminding them to contact him with any concerns they have or issues he can help address.
- Chairman Risi thanked the Councilman and called for the representatives from the MTA to proceed with their presentation.

PRESENTATION

1. **Joyce Mulvaney, Director of Community Affairs, Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Bridges and Tunnels; RFK Bridge Team. An update on the RFK/Triborough Bridge construction and conversion to cashless tolling – Summer 2017.**
 - Ms. Joyce Mulvaney thanked the Board for taking the time to host the presentation, and proceeded to introduce the other MTA employees in attendance.
 - Ms. Mulvaney provided an overview of the RFK Bridge, which consists of three separate spans (the Queens suspended span, the Bronx span, and the Harlem River lift span). The bridges opened for service in 1936. These spans serve approximately 180,000 vehicles a day.
 - Cashless tolling on all 7 bridges and 2 tunnels serving the city was announced by Governor Cuomo in October 2016 and will be rolling out on the RFK bridge during the summer. Cashless tolling was first implemented on the Henry Hudson Bridge in 2012. Additionally, cashless tolling was implemented in the two tunnels (the Hugh L. Carey and

Queens-Midtown Tunnels) and on the bridges serving the Rockaways (Marine Parkway and Cross Bay Veterans Memorial Bridges) earlier this year. Tolls are collected via a series of sensors (for collecting EZ Pass data) and cameras (for capturing license plates in order to bill cash paying/non EZ Pass customers) installed overhead on gantries.

- Cashless tolling has environmental benefits, since vehicles will no longer be forced to idle while waiting to pay tolls, and improves traffic conditions keeping traffic moving rather than forcing them to stop at gated plazas or slow significantly at traditional plazas. Additionally, customers will no longer have to switch lanes to use either EZ Pass or pay cash, which will also prevent backups. It also has the benefit of improving safety at the toll plazas for both employees and customers.
- Anne Marie Brestler (Deputy CFO of the Revenue Management Division for Bridges and Tunnels, and Easy Pass and Tolls by Mail) discussed the logistics regarding EZ Pass payments and how cash payers can continue utilizing bridges/tunnels in the absence of toll plazas.
 - The MTA is marketing EZ Pass heavily in an effort to convert cash payers to EZ Pass users. Benefits of EZ Pass use include a discount in toll prices, as well as offering an efficient system to pay tolls.
 - EZ Pass users have multiple ways to pay. Customers can now pay per trip (pay as you go). Traditional options include manually replenishing the tag's account, or automatically having funds pulled from a given account. Those who do not have or do not wish to link their bank accounts to their EZ Pass account can utilize prepaid cards, which can be reloaded at a variety of local merchants.
 - EZ Pass market share on the Henry Hudson Bridge (where cashless tolling has been in place since 2012) is between 95-96%. Current EZ Pass market share at the Bronx collection point is 78-79%, and 86% on at the Manhattan plaza. Market share at both sites is expected to rise with the implementation of cashless tolling.
 - Those who wish to continue being cash payers will have their license plates photographed by cameras installed on the gantries. The registered owner will then receive a bill approximately 30 days after utilizing the toll (i.e. "the first transaction") for the full cash rate. This bill must be paid in 30 days, and if not paid, a \$5 late fee will be applied. If not paid within 60 days (30 days past due), the transaction becomes a violation, and an administrative fee of \$50-\$100 will be assessed. The State of New York has partnered with DMVs across the country to ensure that drivers nationwide can/will receive bills for their toll use in New York.
 - Bills do include information about how much the customer could save off of the cash rate by switching to EZ Pass to help incentivize people to switch.
 - Those who don't pay toll bills after 3 separate days of using tolls during the course of a 5 year period may have their registrations suspended. Previously, registrations could be suspended after failing to pay tolls on 5 different days in the course of 18 months. Out of state registrants may be barred from use of MTA toll facilities.
 - Violations (which occur after the first two bills not being paid) may also be referred to a collection agency after 30 days, depending on which state the plates are registered in.
 - Anyone with an EZ Pass tag can use that tag in any vehicle they wish (even rental vehicles).
 - Rental car companies also typically have EZ Pass policies; these include automatic programs to assess EZ Pass fees, or to provide customers with access to EZ Pass tags in advance.
 - Cash payers can pay in advance using the Pay Tolls Now feature. This allows cash toll users to register their license plate in advance, and pay online prior to using the toll. There are also signs posted by the tolls directing cash customers to dial *826 from their mobile phones. Mobile customers then receive a text with a link to enter their license plate and pay online. Cash payers who pay in advance will not receive a bill in the mail, but will still be charged cash rate.
- Mr. Irshad Huq (RFK Bridge facilities engineer) discussed construction updates and future benchmarks. The end goal is to have cashless tolling infrastructure complete and the system working by sometime this summer.
 - The decks of the Manhattan and Bronx plazas have been and are being replaced (fiberglass rather than steel reinforcement), and some ramps have been replaced. The Bronx plaza is being narrowed. Gantries have been installed at the Bronx and Manhattan approaches, and were being installed at the time of the presentation on the Queens side near the 31st Street exit. Some work may be (and has been) conducted overnight to avoid significant traffic backups that would result from daytime lane closures.
 - EZ Pass users are asked to keep their tag on their windshield at all times to ensure the sensors pick up the tag information. If the tag isn't in a location where it can be easier scanned (e.g. if a driver waves the tag out the

window or by the windshield rather than keeping the tag attached to the windshield as recommended), drivers may receive bills for the full cash price.

- Ms. Mulvaney requested to open the meeting to the public resulting in the following clarification:
 - All construction employees are union members, receiving union wages, per the law.
- Chairman Risi requested the representatives take Board Member questions prior to constituent/public questions and comments.
- Chairman Risi requested information on issues of privacy, tracking, and data collection/sales obtained from EZ Passes and conducted by the MTA.
 - The representatives clarified that EZ Passes do not contain GPS trackers, nor does the MTA sell any information collected by the EZ Pass readers or stored in the EZ Pass database (e.g. what toll plazas given registrants use and how frequently). Any information collected can only be used for the application of the toll per regulations. Tag information isn't used for tracking. However, there are companies who could possibly remotely access some non-specific information by scanning the tags themselves (i.e. via use of transponders), though information never exchanges hands between the MTA/EZ Pass and third party vendors.
- Board Member questioning resulted in the following clarifications:
 - Automatic replenishment of EZ Pass funds may vary in quantity depending on use. Efforts are made to tailor periodic withdrawal amounts (for EZ Pass replenishment) to match usage. This amount is based on a simple 90 day average of EZ Pass usage. Conducting withdrawals this way helps prevent constant charging of one's account.
 - If an individual is concerned about changes in the amount of funds withdrawn for EZ Pass use, and believe the withdrawal amount is too high, EZ Pass users now have the option to pay as they. Individuals may also request the replenishment amount be changed for reasons such as variations in seasonal usage (i.e. working from home over the summer and commuting the rest of the year via car, thus using the tolls more frequently).
 - Concerns were expressed about traffic backups stemming from roadwork and lane closures. A representative responded that coordinating work and lane closures is incredibly complex, and the MTA attempts to balance meeting deadlines with community impact. One method that is relied on to alleviate traffic congestion has been to open and close toll lanes according to need. However, work should be completed over the summer, and in order to meet strict deadlines, the lane closures and work must be conducted both day and night. Traffic should lessen significantly once work is complete.
 - EZ Pass tags can be moved between vehicles. Funds will be withdrawn from whatever account the tag is linked to. However, EZ Pass tags should always be mounted (no matter what car they are being used in), because it is possible that if tags are waved or used in any other way other than recommended, the registered owner could be charged cash price and receive a bill in the mail.
 - Drivers do not have to slow below the speed limit in order to have gantry sensors and cameras obtain necessary information, nor is the efficacy of sensors and cameras impeded by higher rates of speed. Drivers reminded they are always required to obey speed limits through the gantries, and elsewhere.
 - Currently, there are approximately 90 officers employed, who work at the two current plazas. There are three shifts per day.
 - Toll workers are NY State Peace Officers. Once toll booths are closed, their on duty time will be reallocated to toll and law enforcement. Employees will not lose jobs as a result of implementing cashless tolling, nor will positions be phased out through attrition.
 - There will be shoulders installed to permit officers to pull drivers over.
 - It is inaccurate that tolls were created to pay for the construction of the bridge. Toll revenue is used for maintenance and upkeep of the bridges and tunnels, as well as supporting mass transit lines.
 - EZ Pass tags can be used in as many vehicles as one would like, but extra tags can also be linked to a given account.
- Chairman Risi called for questions and comments from members of the public, resulting in the following clarifications:
 - Rental car companies have protocols in place to charge customers for tolls, and the issue is covered by their contracts. Tolls are charged to rental car company's accounts and passed along to the company's customers.
 - While the NY DMV does not yet have an agreement with the Canadian Provinces to bill their citizens based on licenses plate tags, an agreement is in the works (to engage in tolls by mail collection). There is presently an agreement in place for violation processing.

- The only discount offered for EZ Pass users is the EZ Pass discount (discounted from cash price), and a program for Staten Island residents. There are no programs for those with disabilities or from low income homes, and there are no “unlimited passes”.
- The EZ Pass program is used throughout a large segment of the country, and is not an MTA venture.
- Ms. Mulvaney stated that should there be any additional questions, concerns or comments arise, the District Manager Florence Koulouris can easily contact her.
- Chairman Risi thanked Ms. Mulvaney and the MTA team, and called for the representative for the application with the Board of Standards and Appeals to take the floor.

BOARD OF STANDARDS AND APPEALS

2. **BSA Special Order Calendar Application No. 157-06-BZ Applicant: TSI Astoria, LLC d/b/a New York Sports Club located at 28-56 Steinway Street, Astoria, to extend the term of the previously granted special permit allowing the operation of a physical culture establishment (PCE) at the premises.**
- Representative for the applicant, Mr. Fredrick Becker was in attendance to discuss the matter. This is an extension of a previously granted permit. The establishment opened in 2006. The initial term was 10 years.
 - For context, Mr. Becker discussed the history of physical culture permits, which were established as a way to combat massage parlors doing business as gymnasiums in the early 1980’s.
 - The establishment, which is a legitimate fitness center, has not had a change its method of operation, and while there are some building violations with the Department of Buildings, the violations are against the owner of the building rather than the gym’s operator (including elevator violations for elevator inspections; the elevators are operational). Evidence that the establishment has a working fire alarm and sprinkler system can be provided. Access to the gymnasium by those with mobility issues is available.
 - Chairman Risi requested discussion by the Co-Chairs of the Land Use and Zoning Committee.
 - Co-Chair Gerald Caliendo asked the representative: 1. Does the establishment have a public assembly permit, 2. Is there an active fire alarm system, and 3. Does the building meet all regulations (in terms of fire codes, and Department of Buildings egress and occupancy rules and regulations).
 - The representative answered that it was his understanding that there is a public assembly permit that has expired and has yet to be renewed because there is no Certificate of Occupancy due to other outstanding issues. The fire alarm system is fully operational to the representative’s knowledge.
 - Co-Chair Elizabeth Erion stated that the facility is located in the former Astoria Movie House on the corner of Steinway and 30th Avenue, and then proceeded to discuss the Land Use and Zoning Committee’s careful review of the application. While the applicant seems to meet the findings in terms of qualifying for the special permit, the Committee had serious concerns regarding the amount of violations with the Department of Buildings and Environmental Control Board, and while these violations are not the fault of the applicant, the motion posed by the Committee requests the applicant address the building’s owner directly in an effort to remediate these problems.
 - The Land Use and Zoning Committee voted unanimously on a motion recommending conditional approval.
 - **MOTION by Ms. Elizabeth Erion for the Land Use and Zoning Committee, to conditionally approve the application with the following stipulations:**
 - All fire prevention protection systems must be fully functional, with Department of Buildings approvals and permits in place prior to renewal,
 - The applicant should provide the Board of Standards and Appeals with a time frame for outstanding violations [to be] resolved and [in which] the Certificate of Occupancy will be issued,
 - The applicant should show proof of a current public assembly permit,
 - The special permit should be limited to a term of five years rather than the ten requested, so that the building can be monitored in term of the violations and the issuance of the required permits.
 - Chairman Risi called for discussion on the motion, which resulted in the following clarification:
 - The stipulations do not state that the Certificate of Occupancy must be in place prior to approval, but rather than the applicant provide a time frame in which it can be obtained. The violations are the building’s, but a Certificate of Occupancy for their specific use is required.
 - **MOTION SECONDED by Rose Anne Alafogiannis.**
 - Chairman Risi called for public commentary, but no requests were heard.

- Jean Marie D'Alleva took roll call.
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**
- Chairman Risi called for the applicant with the Department of Consumer Affairs to take the floor.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

3. **ULURP #N160358 ECQ/DCA #6358-2016-ASWC. Two Lizards Inc., d/b/a Two Lizards Mexican Bar & Grill 35-02 Ditmars Boulevard an application to obtain a license to operate an Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 19 Tables and 39 Chairs.**
- Consumer Affairs Committee Chair John Katsanos requested the applicant and representative introduce themselves. Mr. Liz was available as the owner (he is the operating owner, his wife Laura Liz is listed at the President and 100% owner), while Mr. Robert Callahan was available as the representative for the matter.
 - Mr. Katsanos questioned the applicant regarding details of the application, the establishment's operation, and quality of life issues. Discussion included the following clarifications: the 19 tables can be combined for large groups, but can't be separated further, the floodlights outside face outward but have not be the subject of complaint, the structure (which contains roll up doors) has been in existence for approximately 20 years and received approval at that time (it was built under previous ownership), speakers playing light background music are not located in the enclosed café but rather the restaurant, and service isle meets regulation. Other specifics regarding entry and architectural/design plan issues such as square footage and location of planters outside the establishment were discussed. The establishment has a full liquor license with no complaints, and its hours are within constraints.
 - The establishment doesn't have any complaints with the 114th precinct, nor does it have any community complaints.
 - Mr. Risi called for the Board to question the applicant. The Board questioned the applicant further regarding the nature of the establishment. These questions resulted in the following clarifications
 - The issue of Americans with Disabilities Act compliance was discussed between the applicant and the Board. The establishment does not meet ADA criteria due to the placement of the wheelchair ramp as a secondary means of access (at the rear of the building) rather than a primary means of access, though it does meet Department of Buildings Standards (per statements by Land Use and Zoning Co-Chair Gerald Caliendo). A recommendation was made to include a stipulation that a ramp be included at the primary entrance of the establishment. However, signs at the primary entrance stating that accessibility/assistance to those requiring it can be provided by an employee upon request is sufficient to mitigate the issue of liability per legal precedence, according to Land Use and Zoning Co-Chair Gerald Caliendo. The representative stated it wouldn't be a problem to put up such a sign.
 - The existing structure isn't being altered; this application is to legalize the enclosed café as is.
 - Despite the application being new, the structure is not. As such, the application went to the Consumer Affairs Committee and not the Land Use and Zoning Committee.
 - Establishment hours are Monday-Thursday 11am-11:30 or 12am and Friday-Sunday 11am-12:30am or 1am according to Mr. Liz. When open late, the rolling windows may be left open but the music is kept low as to not disturb the neighbors. No complaints from local residents regarding noise have been heard.
 - No members of the public wished to speak on the matter.
 - Chairman Risi called for a brief breakout session to allow the Consumer Affairs Committee to meet regarding the matter.

----- Breakout Session 7:51pm -----

----- Meeting called back to order 7:57pm -----

- Chairman Risi called the meeting back to order and requested a decision be announced by the Consumer Affairs Committee.

DECISION ON AGENDA ITEM 3 (Application with the Department of Consumer Affairs) BY THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- **MOTION** by Committee Chair John Katsanos for the Consumer Affairs Committee to approve the enclosed sidewalk cafe application with a stipulation that "... leaves it to their discretion.... to ensure that [the] accessibility issue is resolved as... [they]... deem to be in accordance to the law."
- **MOTION SECONDED** by Nancy Silverman.
- Roll call taken by Jean Marie D'Alleva.
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**
- Chairman Risi called for the business segment of the meeting to commence.

BUSINESS

A) Approval of Minutes:

- Chairman Risi called for a motion to approve the minutes.
- **Motion to approve minutes made by RoseMarie Poveromo.**
- **Motion to approve minutes seconded by Rod Townsend.**
- **Motion to approve minutes PASSED.**

B) District Manager's Report – Florence Koulouris: The District Manager discussed the multitude of events and meetings she had attended during the previous month.

C) Committee Reports

- Chairman Risi announced he made committee assignments, and that anyone with any questions, suggestions, or concerns should contact him.
- Ms. Nancy Silverman requested clarification on the role of committee assistant chairs.
- Chairman Risi clarified the roll of assistant chair, stating that assistant chairs take the place of a committee chair in the event that the chair is unable to conduct a meeting. Mr. Risi then called for committee reports to proceed.
- **Legal, Legislative & Parliamentary:** Committee Chair John Katsanos discussed updates regarding revisions to the Board's Bylaws. A draft of the amended Bylaws will be available for review and comment (by the Chairman, then committees and finally Board Members) soon. Content changes have been drawn from multiple sources, including bylaws from Manhattan Boards, and include changes such as adding term limits and limiting the number of committees an individual Board Member can be the Chair of to a single committee.
- **Access and Disability:** No Report.
- **Airport:** No Report.
- **Capital/Expense & Budget/Planning:** Committee Chair Norma Nieves-Blas discussed the upcoming Fiscal Year 2019 Capital and Expense Budget process. The budget planning process will begin in June, and a public hearing will be held in September. The process will run from June 1st to November 1st. Committee Chairs were encouraged to brainstorm requests for budget items for FY 2019.
 - Chairman Risi recommended distributing the FY 2018 Capital and Expense Budget to Committee Chairs. Ms. Nieves-Blas agreed, and stated that the Committee Chair and the District Manager had a meeting planned to start discussing phase 1 of the budget process.
- **Community & Economic Development:** No Report.
- Board Member Thomas Ryan discussed concerns with the rules regarding quorum in the upcoming bylaws, and offered ideas for solutions. Discussion took place between Chairman Joseph Risi, Legal, Legislative and Parliamentary Committee John Katsanos, and Mr. Thomas Ryan regarding the matter.
- Chairman Risi stated that if any Committee Chair had issues with committee member attendance, to notify him.
- **Consumer Affairs:** Committee Chair John Katsanos discussed the liquor license list for the month. All licenses were reviewed by the committee per usual; Deficient licenses were resolved by the Board Office.
- **Education/Library:** No Report.
- **Environmental Protection:** No Report.
- **Health and Senior Services:** Judy Trilivas discussed a current initiative being proposed by Councilman Vincent J. Gentile to better regulate hookah bars by adding them to the smoke free air act. A quorum was present at the recent

committee meeting at which the issue was discussed, and the committee voted in favor of approving the initiative with stipulations.

- Additional stipulations include:
 - Regarding sanitizing hookah equipment and paraphernalia, the second violation should be suspension of the permit with a re-evaluation in 30 days. If the facility is still in violation then the permit will be revoked.
 - Regarding general fire code provisions, fabric and decorations should be flame resistant.
 - Rules over hookah bars may not exceed over the rules of cigar bars.
- **MOTION MADE by the Health and Senior Services Committee to approve sending a letter to Councilman Gentile in favor of the bill, with three stipulations contained within the letter**
- **MOTION SECONDED.**
- **MOTION PASSED by a majority vote, 4 opposed.**
- Chairman Risi called for comments by Board Members.
- Mr. Richard Khuzami recommended clarifying in the letter that the threshold to be issued a permit for non-tobacco hookah smoking establishments at a cost of \$25 should be 50% of the profit rather than the gross [incoming generated from the on-site sale of non-tobacco smoking products]. The statement stems from contradictions between the bill and the summary sent by Councilman Gentile.
- The matter was discussed further, with specific attention to the fact that while hookah pipes aren't supposed to contain tobacco, many do (thus supporting restricting hookah bar access to those 21 and older).
- Mr. Risi stated a letter would be sent to Councilman Gentile with the three stipulations originally outlines, as well as Mr. Khuzami's recommendation to clarify that the 50% threshold should pertain to profit rather than gross revenue.
- **Housing:** Committee Chair RoseMarie Poveromo discussed a legislative effort currently in committee in the State Senate (proposed by local State Senator Michael Gianaris and being cosponsored in the Assembly by Brian Barnwell) to calculate AMI (area median income) using zip code specific calculations rather than regional figures.
- **Land Use and Zoning:** Committee Co-Chair Elizabeth Erion discussed flood resiliency planning being done by the Department of City Planning (who will be at the June meeting to present the current work). The City Planning Department will send representatives to discuss Flood Resilience Zoning in June for that month's Community Board 1 Public Hearing. Ms. Erion recommended Board Members notify those who might be impacted by these zoning changes of the meeting.
 - Chairman Risi stated this issue was a topic of discussion at the recent Borough Board meeting. The Chairman then elaborated that public outreach will be conducted during 2017, and that a ULURP will be done in 2018. Information was provided to the District Manager to post on the Board's webpage.
- **Office Staff:** No Report.
- **Public Relations:** No Report.
- **Public Safety:** Committee Chair Antonio Meloni discussed the recent 114th Breakfast, as well as the 114th Council Meeting (at which the decrease in crime was discussed). Questioning about the Council Meeting led to the clarification that the meeting is open to the public, and is hosted on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 7-8:30pm at Riccardo's by the Bridge.
- **Street Festivals/Special Events:** No Report.
- **Transportation:** No Report.
- **Youth Services:** Committee Chair Jose Batista announced that lottery selection for the summer youth employment program was underway (at the time of the meeting), and that applicants should be notified of positions soon.
- **Parks/Recreation & Cultural Services:** Committee Chair Richard Khuzami discussed the recent Earth Day celebration and bocce court opening at Astoria Park, sponsored by the Astoria Park Alliance. Socrates Sculpture Garden was opened May 6th. Finally, a visioning meeting was scheduled for May 25th at Riccardo's by the Bridge for phase 2 of the Astoria Park renovations/Anchor Park Program renovations, with specific focus on Charybdis Playground and the sprinkler park.
- **Veterans Services:** No report.
- Chairman Risi opened the meeting to public commentary.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- A constituent [inaudible] expressed concerns about possible animal abuse and crime. She was informed that the best course of action in any case of suspected criminal activity is to notify the police.
- Mr. Neil Herdan expressed concern regarding the pending demolition of the Dulcken House, and support for working in advance to landmark properties in the community.
 - Chairman Risi encouraged the community to be proactive rather than reactive to these situations, and asked Mr. Herdan to put together list of properties that should be landmarked for the Board to review.
- Mr. Robert Singleton of the Greater Astoria Historical Society discussed concerns regarding the pending demolition of the Dulcken House after failed attempts to landmark the property. Mr. Singleton stated he believed the property could be saved if the Community Board and the Councilman came out in favor of the matter.
 - Chairman Risi reiterated his request for the community to be proactive rather than reactive.
 - Board Member Evie Hantzopoulos suggested adding a public member who has experience with the landmarking process, with knowledge of the history of properties in the neighborhood, or both.
 - Chairman Risi stated he would be happy to appoint someone if there was a recommendation made.
- Board Member Frances Luhmann-McDonald announced this year's Senior Stars performance, which will be held on the last Saturday in June. She will be performing stand-up comedy with the Astoria Performing Arts Center (APAC).
- Chairman Risi thanked Ms. Luhmann-McDonald for the announcement and called for new/old business.

BUSINESS

D) New/Old Business

- **New Business:**
 - Mr. Rodolfo Sarchese announced a meeting of the Astoria Home Owners Civic Association, which was held on May 17th.
- **Old Business:** No requests to discuss old business were heard.

E) Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn made by George Alexiou.**
- **Motion to Adjourn seconded by Jean Marie D'Alleva.**
- **Motion passed.**

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:35pm

Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Rose Anne Alafogiannis	✓			Richard Khuzami	✓		
George Alexiou	✓			Nancy Konipol			E
Daniel Aliberti	✓			Jerry Kril			E
Loren Amor	✓			Melanie La Rocca	✓		
Joan Asselin		✓		Frances Luhmann-McDonald	✓		
Avninder Auja	✓			Antonio Meloni	✓		
Edward Babor			E	Prabir Mitra	✓		
Jose Batista	✓			Stella Nicolaou	✓		
Ann Bruno	✓			Norma Nieves-Blas	✓		
Giselle Aida Burgess	✓			Mary O'Hara	✓		
Edwin Cadiz	✓			Robert Piazza			E
Gerald Caliendo	✓			RoseMarie Poveromo	✓		
Jean Marie D'Alleva	✓			Joseph Risi	✓		
Antonella Di Saverio			E	Yawne Robinson	✓		
Katie Ellman		✓		Thomas Ryan	✓		
Elizabeth Erion	✓			Manuel Salce		✓	
Mackenzi Farquer	✓			Rodolfo Sarchese	✓		
Dean Feratovic	✓			Nancy Silverman	✓		
Evie Hantzopoulos	✓			Dominic Stiller	✓		
Amy Hau			E	Andre Stith	✓		
Helen Ho	✓			Danielle Tharrington	✓		
Pauline Jannelli	✓			Marie Torniali	✓		
Vanessa Jones-Hall			E	Rod Townsend	✓		
George Kalergios	✓			Judy Trilivas	✓		
John Katsanos	✓						

Number Board Members Present 39

Present 39 Absent 3 Excused 7