

Community Board 1
March 17, 2015

Mr. Vinicio Donato, Chairperson of Community Board 1, commenced meeting at 7:00 pm by introducing Mr. Joseph Risi, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, who read the public hearing item from the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). First item #2042-2015-ASWC – Premises 37-10 30th Avenue (Butcher Bar). An application to establish an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 8 tables and 16 seats. Mr. Mathew Patakis came up on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Risi asked if he could give the Board a little information on the establishment. Mr. Patakis stated that the Butcher Bar started in a tiny little shop at 37-08 30th Ave. They did pretty good business and moved over to 37-10 30th Avenue. They currently have both leases, but the application is only for 37-10 30th Avenue. They hired an architect and an attorney to apply for the DCA permit. They followed all the guidelines for NYC and they were the one who recommended the number of tables and seats. Mr. Risi asked if they are currently open. Mr. Patakis stated that the establishment opened on October 21, 2014 and the establishment is open 7/days from 11:30am to 11pm and on Friday's until 12am. Mr. Risi asked if they had a liquor license in connection with this license. Mr. Patakis stated that they have a full liquor license. Mr. Risi asked about the indication of an alteration to their liquor license. Mr. Patakis stated that the alteration was made for the sidewalk café at 37-10 30th Avenue. Mr. Risi asked if they were aware of the smoking restrictions. Mr. Patakis replied "Yes". He was the owner of Peter Pan and is aware of all the laws and abides by them. Mr. Risi asked if there were any residential residents above the premises. Mr. Patakis stated that there were no residential apartments at 37-10 30th Avenue. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone on the Board who had a question for the applicant. Ms. Frances McDonald asked how many tables and seats are inside the establishment. Mr. Patakis stated that there are approximately 70 seats, he was not sure of the exact number of tables. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak for or against the application. There was no one. No further discussion. Item closed.

The next item #1433268-DCA – Premises 34-02 Broadway (Donato's Bistro). An application to renew the license to operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 10 tables and 20 seats. Mr. Robert Callaghan came up on behalf of the application. He stated that the establishment is an Italian Bistro located at 34th Street and Broadway. The last two years they have had an outdoor café of 10 tables and 20 seats. There have been no enforcement actions taken against them. No complaints from the neighbors upstairs. There are 4 apartments above the café. They have a full liquor license with no music for the outdoor café. The hours of operation are from 11am to 11pm weekdays and Friday and Saturday from 11am to 12am. Mr. Risi asked if anything changed since the last license renewal. Mr. Callaghan replied "No". Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone on the Board who had a question for the applicant. There was no one. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone in audience who wanted to speak for or against the application. Seeing no one. No further discussion. Item closed.

The next item #1224578-DCA – Premises 24-25 Steinway Street (Sabry). An application to renew the license to operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 11 tables and 25 seats. No one came up on behalf the application.

The next item # 1259-2015-ACAB – An application to establish a Cabaret at 26-50 Brooklyn Queens Expressway (NYC Gentlemen's Club). Mr. Kerry Kitsoris, attorney, came on behalf of the applicant. He stated that the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for the building was changed in January to permit eating and drinking. Mr. Kitsoris stated that they came before the Board last on an application for a change in method of operation. He believes at that time, the application, if his memory serves him was approved. However, they withdrew their application for a cabaret license because Mr. Caliendo was correct about the dimensions of the rooms not being approved by the Department of Buildings as an as of right. They hired an architect in order to correct the CO. The new CO came out in January 2015 to permit the use of these two rooms for eating, drinking, and entertainment. Mr. Risi asked if he could give the Board a brief description of the type of establishment that NYC Gentleman's Club. Mr. Kitsoris stated that it is not an adult entertainment establishment, there are no women performing that are topless. There is dancing permitted for only 2 performers that are clothed without having a cabaret license. The owners would like to extend dancing to the patrons as well as having additional performers. The establishment has had no incidents with the 114th Pct. unlike other establishments in the area. Mr. Risi asked what are the hours of operation. Mr. Kitsoris responded 6pm to 4am. Mr. Risi asked if they would have live entertainers. Mr. Kitsoris replied "Yes". Mr. Risi asked if the license for a cabaret was for two separate rooms inside the establishment, both with the maximum occupancy of 75 people. Mr. Kitsoris replied "Yes". Mr. Risi noted that the application that the Board received from DCA is incorrect, only because it is requesting recreation for a gaming café. The application itself is for a cabaret. Ms. Lucille Hartmann stated that the Board called DCA on more than one occasion and they keep saying that they are going to send the correct document. Ms. Hartmann stated the Board can send a letter out instead of using the enclosed form. Mr. Risi stated that they are going to amend the application for a request for gaming café to a cabaret. Ms. Hartmann stated that the application was listed as a cabaret. Mr. Risi stated that a cabaret license is to permit both patron and performer dancing. Mr. Kitsoris stated yes, but not together. Mr. Risi asked what type of performing or performers you will have at the location. Mr. Kitsoris stated that they will have go-go dancers that are scantily clad but not nude. It is not adult entertainment and there are no rooms to permit lap dancing, everything is out in the open. Mr. Risi asked if there will be topless dancing. Mr. Kitsoris stated that there is no topless dancing and believes that there was a stipulation signed to that affect. Mr. Risi stated that is correct, it was part of the liquor license. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone on the Board who had a question for the applicant. Ms. McDonald asked if the application was for a cabaret license. Mr. Kitsoris replied "Yes". Ms. McDonald stated she could go to the establishment and dance. Mr. Kitsoris stated only if they are approved for a cabaret license. Ms. McDonald asked if they are granted a cabaret license customers will be able to dance. Mr. Kitsoris replied "Yes". Mr. Piazza stated that the last time that they were before the Board, as he recalls, was two years ago and the situation was quite a little different in terms of the entertainment with the girls up on stage and there was a mention about topless dancing and now it has changed. Mr. Kitsoris stated that it has never been a topless place. The topless places that are in the area were Starlet's and Perfections which have closed. The owner is female and she will not permit topless entertainment. Mr. Piazza stated that the name of the club is a bit confusing. Mr. Kitsoris stated that different adjectives are used to get people to come in. Mr. Piazza asked what type of clientele the establishment would be catering to. Mr. Kitsoris stated that the people who will come to the establishment will be over the age of 25 and for the most part they will be over the age of 30 all the way up 70. These

are the clientele both male and female. Mr. George Alexiou asked if they had any violations from 114th Pct. Mr. Kitsoris replied "No". Mr. Katsanos asked if they have private room and how many bathrooms. Mr. Kitsoris stated that there are no private rooms and there are 8 bathrooms. Mr. Katsanos asked if they have bachelor parties at the establishment. Mr. Kitsoris stated he didn't know. Mr. Katsanos stated that Mr. Kitsoris has been representing the establishment for 2 years and you do not know what goes on there. Mr. Katsanos stated that previously you were certain of what types of dancing goes on at the establishment and now a specific question is being asked and you are unable to answer. Mr. Kitsoris stated that he is being asked about a bachelor party, but he is sure that they must have all kinds of parties. Mr. Katsanos asked if he could go over the stipulations for this establishment and if he could explain it. Mr. Kitsoris stated that there were no stipulations for this establishment. Mr. Risi stated that the stipulation had to do with the liquor license and had nothing to do with the cabaret license. He believes that Mr. Katsanos is referring to another establishment. Mr. Risi explained what is involved and the requirements with obtaining a cabaret license to Board. Mr. Katsanos stated that at previous consumer meeting with the 114th Pct. they mentioned that this establishment is in one of the most dangerous parts of Astoria and it stems from what flows from these clubs particularly from the NYC Gentleman's Club. Mr. Katsanos stated the he had previously mentioned that his client has not received nor has the area been a target for any police attention. He asked the Board to remember that within 500' the club called Perfection/Pure was located and three blocks from there was Starlet's. This establishment is on the opposite side of the Brooklyn/Queens Expressway adjoined to a health club He believes that Mr. Katsanos is thinking of the wrong location and premise. Mr. Katsanos stated that he does not have the wrong location and premises and remembers that it was mentioned that this establishment was trouble and the Mr. Kitsoris was also at the meeting. Mr. Katsanos stated that Mr. Kitsoris questioned the owner who showed up and found her to be disingenuous in her responses. Claiming that there are no issues, Mr. Katsanos does not believe that. Mr. Kitsoris stated that you can believe what you want to believe, he is representing the owner. Ms. McDonald asked the Chairman if this establishment was the place that the Board had problems with. Mr. Risi stated no, it was Pure/Perfections across the street. Mr. Katsanos stated that it was not at the last consumer meeting but at a previous meeting that the NY Gentleman's Club was mentioned. Mr. Risi stated he did not recall. Ms. Rosemarie Poveromo asked if they have security. Mr. Kitsoris stated that they have a security agency that provides security and is licensed by the State of New York. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak for or against the application. Seeing no one. No further discussion. Item closed.

Mr. Donato introduced Guest Speaker Jimmy Van Bramer, NYC Council Majority Leader. Councilman Van Bramer greeted the Board and the audience. He stated that he is a Council Member for the 26 CD which covers a portion of CB1. As many know, he grew up in Astoria and his mother still lives on 44th Street. He is a graduate of PS70, IS10 and Bryant HS. He came by to update the Board. He mentioned that he has the greatest team in the world and he believes that they are well served by having Ms. Debra Tharrington as his representative for CB1. As you may know, there are other Tharringtons in the room as well, it is a family affair. He had a couple of things to get to before getting to the reasons that he is before the Board tonight. The first if that they have been working hard on 21st Street with Council Member Costa Constantinides and DOT hope to have some terrific news on some of the improvements that are coming. This is incredibly important for both Districts and all of Astoria and Long Island City that they make that area safer for everyone. He thanked everyone at CB1 for their work and tireless effort on that project. He then went on to some good news, the Broadway Library just celebrated a brand new children's room on the second floor. Almost a Million dollars was allocated to that project. It is a beautiful facility and a lot of work was done on it. He mentioned that both Council Member Constantinides and he are engaged in Participatory Budgeting. They will be giving out more information about that important initiative; you can only vote in the district that you live in. He encourages all those who live in the 26th District to vote. Councilmember Van Bramer stated that Ms. Hartmann is a pleasure to work with and values her input in their office a great deal and he wanted to thank her for all that she does for our communities. He then went on to say that there were a few terrific hard-working people from 32BJ present who will be speaking. He was approached and met two young men who were let go at the Packard Square Building. We believe that they were unjustly let go. Later you will hear from a few people who are currently working at the same building, he thinks that everyone who grew up in a union household care about all workers and want them to be paid good wages, good benefits, and have job security. He knows that these workers have come to speak to the Board, to appeal to the Board for their help in their ongoing fight for dignity and justice at that particular premise and more broadly as we see incredibly amount of work being done in all of Astoria and Long Island City in both Districts. If builders are receiving multi-million dollar tax incentives and breaks, at the very least, those builders should be paying good wages not just minimum wage. Builders should treat their employee's right and make sure that they have the benefits that all people need to make their rent or mortgage and bring their children up with dignity. They want to make sure that the building is built responsibly and there is 7 Million dollars in tax breaks/abatement you have to do right by your workers. He knows that many people present care deeply about others and will be impacted by the stories that he had heard. He hopes that the Board will join in calling and making sure that employers are acting responsibly and holding true to the deals that were made that go along with the 7 Million dollar incentives like the Packard Square Building in Long Island City. When people come forward and say they want to make more than the minimum wage, they are entitled to make more than the minimum wage and they get fired as a result. He is compelled to come before the Board and support some of the people that are present tonight. People who work in the building at the moment and like the two men who spoke with him had worked in the building are not present because thankfully they found a new job. They would love for the Board to continue to work with them to make sure that companies that are getting millions in tax breaks treat their workers right and they are working with HPD and some of the unions like 32BJ and the hard working men and women of Queens, like the one standing behind him. He has served on CB2 and on the Land Use Committee and knows how critical roles these are in the mission to make sure to holding people accountable and they are doing the right things. He thanked the Board for their service, time, and energy for the benefit of the community. We are grateful for that and keeping Astoria, Dutch Kills and our city strong. He thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to serve his District.

VOTING:

Mr. Risi reiterated public hearing item from DCA who read public hearing item from the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) #2042-2015-ASWC – Premises 37-10 30th Avenue (Butcher Bar). An application to establish an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 8 tables and 16 seats. He stated that the committee met and recommended approval

of the application, seconded by Mr. Babor. Mr. Donato asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried with 2 Against.

The next item from DCA #1433268-DCA – Premises 34-02 Broadway (Donato's Bistro). An application to renew the license to operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 10 tables and 20 seats. Mr. stated that the Committee met and recommended approval of the application, seconded by Ms. D'Alleva. Mr. Donato asked if there were any questions. No further discussion. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried unanimously.

The next item #1224578-DCA – Premises 24-25 Steinway Street (Sabry). An application to renew the license to operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 11 tables and 25 seats. He stated that the Committee met and recommended tabling of the application. Ms. Hartmann stated that the Board has to respond by March 28, 2015. Mr. Risi recommended disapproval of the application because no one came on behalf of the application, seconded by Mr. Babor. Mr. Donato asked if there were any questions. No further discussion. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried with 1 Against.

The next item # 1259-2015-ACAB – An application to establish a Cabaret at 26-50 Brooklyn Queens Expressway (NYC Gentlemen's Club). The Committee met and recommended approval of the application, seconded by Ms. D'Alleva. Mr. Donato asked if there were any questions. No further discussion. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried with 4 Against.

Mr. Khuzami asked why the general Board did not vote on the committee's recommendation for Sabry's. Mr. Donato stated we did. Mr. Risi stated that it may have been the way the Chairman phrased it. Mr. Risi reiterated that the recommendation is to disapprove the application for Sabry's renewal of an unenclosed sidewalk café. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried to disapprove the application.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

A Member of 32BJ came up and stated that he has been a member for over 25 years. He is before the Board to speak about the Packard Building who received a 421-a Tax Abatement that requires that the workers in the building be paid prevailing wage. Workers are paid minimum wage with no access to affordable health care. After workers started organizing 32BJ to address these issues, the workers experienced intimidation, drug interrogation, discipline, and termination. As unfair labor practices continue workers remain hopeful that working conditions will change for the better. This community board has a unique opportunity to ensure responsible development in the area. The Packard building has been saving close to 7 Million in taxes, while Siempa management continues to pay workers minimum wage with no benefits. Siempa is currently building another building in the area and they have applied for another tax break. They are asking CB1 to call an open hearing if Siempa applies for another hearing in any future projects. HR Solutions is disapproving their application on the grounds that they are breaking the law with their current 421-a law and to send a letter to HPD demanding a special review of non-compliance of the 421-a law and urging them to take away the tax break if they do not obey the law.

Mr. Jonathan Parr, Worker at the Packard Building, stated that he works as a doorman at the Packard Building for the past year. He has been making minimum wage without health insurance from his employer. He and his co-workers are organizing because they want a better future. He would like to go to school but can't afford it at the moment. It is not fair that they get paid so much less doing the same work that other doormen do. Siempa Management needs to be held accountable and he hopes everyone will support them in sending a message.

Ms. Lorraine Moore, Realty House, stated that Realty House is located on 8th Street and Astoria Blvd. Realty House is a transitional house for various issues of homelessness and addiction. They also offer outpatient services. Many people in the community are unaware of what they provide. They provide substance abuse recovery, DUI/DWI Assessment, anger management, etc. She brought flyers with further information and stated they work with various other groups to provide services to all in the community. She invited the Board to come down to tour the facility on 8th Street. There is a residence as well as outpatient facility. She looks forward to having the Board come down to meet the staff and tour the facility.

Ms. Ana Rodriguez, Director of Community Information and Volunteer Service at Mt. Sinai Hospital of Queens, stated that it is always a pleasure seeing everyone. She came to introduce a new program/initiative which is a Volunteer Ambassador Program which started in Mt. Sinai Hospital a few years ago. They would like to adopt the concept of having volunteers in the front entrance when you enter the lobby and main areas of the hospital you will be greeted by a friendly person that can provide assistance. The volunteers will create a warm environment in the waiting areas. They have many opportunities right now and for anyone interested in offering their services. She brought information flyers for anyone interested in the program. It is a wonderful thing to give back to the community just like many of you who are volunteers and you understand the importance of giving back and the satisfaction that you get. Mr. Aliberti asked what the volunteers' duties would be. Ms. Rodriguez stated that patients would come in and the volunteers would welcome you and provide you with information regarding what was being sought within the facility and provide services in their community. Mr. Aliberti asked if they would be requiring bilingual people. Ms. Rodriguez stated that they are a very diverse community and they welcome all background. This is Queens, with the most diverse hospital as well, all are welcomed.

Ms. Penny Ringel, Community Affairs Unit with the Mayor's Office, stated that Pre-K application are available and people can start applying for this coming year. The applications started March 16th until April 24th. Anyone who is interested can go to nyc.gov/PreK. She brought informational flyers for anyone who needed more information on registering and where to get the applications. She then went on to say that she is looking for space to run Pre-K programs, especially in the Astoria area. She brought an informational flyer about all the requirements and restrictions for a daycare on the premises. If anyone knows of a vacant space that anyone wants to rent out for the Pre-K programs should take a flyer and spread the word. If you need more information there is an email address on the flyer to for further information about the Pre-K Program.

Mr. Mario Delia, resident, stated that the parking space is limited because of all the schools near IS10Q area. On Monday, there is a particular problem because there are two signs that have been there forever which say that you can't park from 8am to 6pm. It makes no sense whatsoever. The two signs cover 6 parking spaces. Everyone gets tickets on Monday. Mr. Donato asked why he didn't he call the Board office about the issue instead of waiting for the Board's monthly meeting. The Board members will not be able to do anything about it. Mr. Donato asked him to give the Board a call and speak to Ms. Hartmann who will look into it. He also asked if he could put something in writing so they would know what they are inquiring about.

Ms. Ayana Green, resident, stated that she was born and raised at Queensbridge Houses and went to PS76/ 111 and JHS209. After that she went off to the United States Navy and served in Iraq and Afghanistan and has returned to get reacquainted with her community to see how she can be of service and help the community. She would like to help the members.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Mr. Donato noted that minutes can be changed at any time, next month, next week, in six months, and so on. If you read something in the minutes that is not correct you can inform the Board. The Board is approving the minutes to send it forward. Mr. Donato asked for a motioned to accept the minutes of February 2015 Board meeting. Ms. Daniel Aliberti motioned to accept minutes, seconded by Mr. Babor. Motion called and carried unanimously

Mr. Donato introduce guest speaker Costa Constantinides, Council Member. Council Member Constantinides thanked the Board for allowing him to speak before the Board. He appreciates the time and service that each members of the Board gives to the community. He stopped by to give a quick update on the Participatory Budgeting which is coming up for a vote. They have close to 100 volunteers and 250 ideas that were proposed at the forums held. They have worked vigorously with the city agencies to whittle down the 250 ideas to 18 projects that were completely people driven. There will be 18 projects up for the vote and they are setting aside \$1 Million dollars. April 13th to the 19th there will be a public vote on how to spend the public capital money. There will be 5 permanent locations for people to cast their vote. These pole sights will be open from 9am to 9pm for 7 days. They are hoping to have some pop-up sites. He added that anyone who wanted to vote will have to show proof that they are a resident of District 22, and then you will be able to vote for up to 5 projects. The winning 5 projects will be put into the capital budget this year. Ms. Hartmann said that there are informational flyers in the Board's folders. Ms. Nancy Silverman asked that in order to vote you have live in the district and be over 14 years old. Assemblyman Constantinides replied "16 years old". Ms. Silverman stated that it is pretty important that people who work with teenagers, high school students and that live in the district are informed. Council Member Constantinides stated that anyone that lives in the district and is at least 16 years old can vote and agreed with Ms Silverman. Ms. Hantzopoulos asked if you can vote online. Council Member Constantinides replied "No". Mr. Mullarkey asked who would be manning the pole sites. Council Member Constantinides stated that members of his staff and local volunteers. He stated that if anyone is interesting volunteering, he would appreciate any time that you can give them at the pole sites. They can call his office at 718-274-4500 or email him at costa@council.nyc.gov. He thanked the Board for their time. Mr. Donato thanked him for coming

Ms. Lucille Hartmann, District Manager, reported that in the Board's folders there was a copy of a letter regarding the Taxi Smart Card Program. This program will terminate at the end of June and the City is, at this time, anticipating an RFP that will make it a City-Wide Program. Nothing is definite and for anyone who is a participant or knows of anyone who is a participant to let them know of the changes and to follow the instructions on the letter they received in the mail. She then went on to say that there will be free trees distributed on Saturday April 18 from 9-11am at the Astoria Heights Playground, 45th Street and 30th Road, to be planted on homeowners private property. She then asked Mr. George Alexiou to report on the final statue to be unveiled in Athens Square Park. Mr. Alexiou reported the unveiling is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 1:00pm with the pre-Greek Celebration at 12pm. It will be part of the Pre-Greek Independence celebration. He thanked everyone who provided donations. Mr. Stamatiades invited everyone to come out on Saturday for the ceremonies.

Ms. Rosemarie Poveromo, Chair of Airport Access Committee, reported that the Port Authority is considering lifting the existing perimeter rule, which banned most long distance flights over 1500 miles to and from LaGuardia Airport. She described how for over two decades as a major jetport smack in the middle of a residential community and a heartbeat away from their homes, to accommodate the increase in the region's air traveling public, valid health concerns regarding the air and noise pollution from airports by UCCA and Community residents have so far fallen on deaf ears. U.S. representative Joseph Crowley was at the forefront of the battle on air and noise pollution generated by airlines and airports activities. He has voiced his opposition to any increase to air traffic uniquely situated and small LaGuardia Airport where there is a cap on the number of planes able to land and take-off. Hopefully, the FAA will grandfather the cap if they have not done so already. Mr. Donato asked if she would like the Board to send a letter. Ms. Poveromo stated that the Board should send a letter to the Port Authority indicating that the Board is in opposition of any additional flights no matter the distance. Mr. Donato asked Ms. Poveromo to reach of the Ms. Hartmann to work on a letter to send.

Mr. Daniel Aliberti, Chair of Capable Disabled, reported that the Taxi Smart Card Program will not be refunding any of the money that people have put on their cards. Participants received a letter from the Taxi Smart Card Program informing that there will not be any refunds. Participants need to spend all the money that is on their cards that they put in.

Mr. Richard Khuzami, Chair of Parks & Recreation/Cultural Affairs/OTB Committee, reported that there will be two conferences coming up. Partnership for Parks will be having a conference at the NYU School of Law on Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Greenthumb will be having an event on Saturday, March 21,

2015 at the Eugenia Maria De Hostos Community College in the Bronx from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Jimmy Van Bramer is having Cultural Town Hall on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 and it will feature the DCA Commissioner Tom Finkelppearl on the State of the Arts in New York at MOMA/PS1.

Mr. Robert Piazza, Chair of Transportation Committee, reported that in the Board folders was a recommendation from the Transportation Committee to approve the Department of Transportation's (DOT) proposal to implement safety changes on 21st Street that the community has been requesting for several years. In the proposal it includes a traffic light, a speed bump, and necking out some of the ends of the corners to make it safer for the pedestrians. All of the improvements are really related specifically to the pedestrian's safety across 21 Street. The committee needs approval of the recommendations for the safety measures to be implemented that have been proposed by DOT. Ms. O'Hara motioned to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Mullarkey. Mr. Donato asked if there was anyone who had a question about the recommendations. Mr. Khuzami asked if the proposal involve any expansion of the sidewalks, particularly on the corners. Mr. Piazza replied "Yes". Mr. Khuzami asked for the location that the corners would be expanded. Mr. Piazza directed him to the DOT proposal, 21st Street and Astoria Blvd. Mr. Donato called for a vote. Motion called and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jose Batista, Chair of Youth Committee, reported that the Department of Youth put out the application for the Summer Youth Program for High School students from the ages of 15 up to 24. The applications are available online.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Khuzami stated that he was made aware about a week ago that the largest and tallest building in Queens is about to be constructed in CB1 district. It is a 70-story building and it will be located near the clock tower in Queens Plaza. He asked if CB1 will be able to have input on the project and he was informed that the building was being built as of right. He proposed that the planning committee come up with a way for CB1 can have input on the project. He suggested that the Board send a letter to the developer and City Planning so that CB1 can review the plans and have some input on the project. Ms. Hartmann stated that it was a result of an article in a couple of the local papers, where they said that they were building a 70-story building at the address mentioned. Originally, it was stated that it was in CB2. She spoke with John Young, Department of City Planning on Monday, March 16th who stated that the project is definitely within CB1. However, nothing has been filed at the moment with the Buildings Department. She asked Mr. Young if he would send an email or contact the developer so that she could share it with the Zoning Chair. At the moment, she does not have any information for the Board. The building will be as of right and the developer is going to purchase air rights from the MTA which will give them more height on the building. Ms. Evie Hantzopoulos asked how high the building would be without air rights. Ms. Hartmann stated she did not know for certain, the article stated 70 stories. Mr. Donato asked Ms. Hartmann to speak Mr. Young and ask him to keep CB1 abreast of anything. Mr. Carusone stated that he will check the zoning. Mr. Alexiou stated that means that we cannot do anything about it. Mr. Donato stated that it doesn't mean the Board cannot meet them. Mr. Alexiou stated that at least we can make noise. Ms. Poveromo stated that the Board can request affordable apartments. There was discussion about what is considered affordable apartments in NYC.

Ms. Deborah Tharrington stated that she is speaking as a person not as a representative for Councilman Van Bramer. She stated that she brought a student to speak during general discussion. Unfortunately, he was not able to make it for general discussion but is here now. His name is Jahill Lee and lives in Woodside Houses and he has been selected as a student ambassador for a program called People to People. He has the opportunity to travel to Spain, France and Italy. This will be an educational trip for him as well as community service. He is present because he is seeking help to raise fund for the program. There will be fund raiser on Sunday, March 22, 2015 at Uno Pizzeria & Grill all day and with the voucher they will donate 20% to the organization for Jahill Lee. There is also a direct website that people can donate funds as well. Flyers are on the table for more information for all that are interested in donating.

There was no further business before the Board Ms. O'Hara motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Stamatiades. Motion called and carried.