

Community Board 1, Meeting Minutes

June 21st, 2016

Board Member Attendees – List Attached

OPENING – 6:30 PM

- Chairman Joseph Risi greeted attendees, and asked for people to stand for the pledge of allegiance. The pledge was recited.
- Mr. Risi reviewed several points of order. These included keeping sidebar conversations during the meeting quiet (and to a minimum), having individuals wait until they were acknowledged to address the Board, and having Board members identify themselves prior to speaking.
- Mr. Risi then added that there would be a report from the Mayor's Office regarding the Fiscal-Year 2018 budget. The item was not included on the agenda.
- Chairman Risi called for Public Hearing Items from the Department of Consumer Affairs to proceed.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Department of Consumer Affairs

- Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Mr. John Katsanos greeted attendees and notified attendees that there were two Unenclosed Sidewalk Cafés on the agenda.

1. #7102-2016-ASWC, Astoria Craft, LLC, D/B/A Astoria Craft, 18-10 26th Road. An Application to OBTAIN a license to operate a new Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 11 Tables and 31 Chairs.

- The Chair asked representatives for the first application, #7102-2016-ASWC to come up to the podium, and introduced the establishment and the application to the Board.
- Mr. Katsanos also informed the Board that the establishment had been several noise complaints (though no specific objections), and that there were also emails from residents supporting the application. The Chair also noted that the Old Astoria Neighborhood Association also expressed some concerns about the noise from the establishment, though the group was not outright against the proposed Sidewalk Café.
- Mr. Katsanos questioned representatives for the application, Mr. Steve Wygoda, Mr. Brian Connell, and an additional representative.
- Having no further questions, Mr. Katsanos opened the meeting to Board questions and comments.
 - Board discussion and questioning of the applicant proceeded.
- Having concluded the Board's line of questioning, Mr. Katsanos opened the meeting to public commentary.
 - Two constituents expressed reservations regarding the amount of space that the outdoor café would leave for pedestrians on the sidewalk.

2. #7777-2016-ASWC, Leli's Bakery & Pastry Shop, Inc., D/B/A Leli's Bakery & Pastry Shop, 35-14 30th Avenue. An application to OBTAIN a license to operate a new Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 6 Tables and 12 Chairs.

- Mr. Katsanos proceeded to discussion of DCA Public Hearing Item 2, and introduced the establishment and the application to the Board. The DCA Chair further informed the

Board that a discussion by the Consumer Affairs Committee concluded that there was reason for concern regarding the current table layout plan, and that the applicant had been asked to rearrange the tables and photograph the outcome for the Board to consider. These photographs were passed around for the Board to view during discussion of application #7777-2016-ASWC.

- Mr. Katsanos questioned the representative for Aly Ayman, the business contact for the application (who was not present at the meeting).
- Having no further questions, Mr. Katsanos opened the meeting to Board questions and comments.
- Having no questions or comments from the Board, the DCA Chair opened the meeting to public discussion.
 - One constituent had a concern regarding the amount of space the Unenclosed Sidewalk Café would leave for pedestrians, and further expressed concerns about pedestrian safety on the busy street given the need for pedestrians to navigate around the new cafe.
- Chairman Risi directed the meeting to proceed to the three presentations on the agenda, starting with one from the Department of Design and Construction.

Presentations

1. Department of Design and Construction – A presentation by the Taxi and Limousine Commission and NYC Department of Design and Construction of the expansion plans for the existing TLC Woodside Inspection Facility at 24-55 Brooklyn Queens Expressway West. A community review and comment is required before the project is reviewed by the Public Design Commission.

- Randy LaFargue from the Department of Design and Construction, James Carrs and additional representatives (architects) attended the Community Board Meeting as representatives for the project. Mr. Carrs presented the project to the Board.
- Mr. Carrs notified the Board that the project includes a renovation and an addition to the present Woodside facility. 25000 feet of space will be replaced, an additional 7000 feet will be added, and a 3 level parking garage will be built for the enforcement fleet.
- Project Goals are as follows:
 - Improve traffic conditions in and around the site.
 - Improve landscaping on facility grounds and street-side.
 - Expand facilities to allow for future growth (increase capacity).
 - Enhance community cohesion with the addition of common spaces.
 - Improve site drainage and soils such that storm water can be better handled.
 - Develop a sustainable facility, in turn reducing energy consumption approximately 75% over standard facilities.
- The current facility, built in 1986, has problems with soil quality resulting in the current facility sinking, and traffic backups as a result of the facility design.
- The Chairman questioned the representatives, resulting in the following clarifications:
 - Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, with inspections taking place between 5am and 4pm.
 - Employee parking: Current none. Once the project is complete, enforcement agents would park on site, and there would be 10 spaces allotted to employee parking. A shuttle currently runs (and will continue to run) between local subway transportation stops.
 - The facility is located in a manufacturing/industrial zone. There is no surrounding residential housing.

- Board Members questioned the representatives, expressing the following concerns and resulting in the following clarifications:
 - Concerns were expressed regarding idling vehicles and the environmental impact of these vehicles. Representatives expressed they are looking to decrease wait times by 50% through changes in the facility design, which should cut back on idling time and in turn exhaust fumes. Improvements in appointment scheduling and increasing hours of operation were also discussed. While the frequency at which cabs are inspected was discussed as well, the issue is legislative in nature, and could not be addressed by the representatives in attendance.
 - Concerns about the district bearing the brunt of the environmental impact as a result of there being few other inspection facilities were discussed. Only one other exists; a small, recently build facility in Staten Island.
 - Inspections will continue at the current site throughout construction. Enforcement and office operations will be relocated temporarily.
 - The number of trees on site will increase from 12 to 25. This may be of environmental benefit. Grass will also be planted, further increasing green space.
 - Construction should take place between August 2017 and Winter 2019.
 - Ms. Elizabeth Erion (Chair of Land Use and Zoning) informed the Board that a draft letter including all the concerns discussed during the meeting was included in their folders, and would require a vote (in response to a discussion regarding what the DDC was requesting from the Board). The letter was developed during the recent Land Use and Zoning Committee Meeting. Ms. Erion also indicated that given the project is As of Right, there was little the Board could do to approve or disapprove the project (though a letter outlining conditions could be sent out).
 - Presently the facility sees approximately 980 vehicles daily. This is expected to increase to 1180 upon completion of the new facility.
 - The TLC is increasing the number of hybrid and electric vehicles in the fleet. All city vehicles are currently hybrid, and the city is transitioning to electric.
- The Chairman called for public discussion. James McIntire expressed concern that the project was appropriate, given rapid changes how the taxi and livery industry operate (i.e. changes in how hailing takes place).

2. Phoenix House – 34-25 Vernon Boulevard, a presentation to request a letter of support for the expansion of services to provide outpatient for substance disorder treatment.

- Mr. Peter Scaminaci and Ms. Kathy O’Loughlin were in attendance to speak on the matter of expanding substance abuse treatment services provided by Phoenix House. The representatives updated the board regarding the status of the project.
 - In response to a request by the Health and Senior Services Committee, Phoenix House held a town hall meeting to receive feedback from the community on the project.
- Board Members questioned the representatives, resulting in the following clarifications (and with several concerns being expressed):
 - New physical facilities are not being built. Rather, this is a restructuring of the treatment programs offered by the facility.
 - Approximately 100 patients will be treated in the new outpatient program. Inpatient beds will be reduced to 190.
 - Outpatient services will include withdrawal support and patient stabilization services primarily for opiates.

- Medical detoxification will utilize buprenorphine rather than methadone.
- As a response to concerns regarding loitering of patients not following the program or released early from treatment as a result of program violations, the representatives noted discharge planning is taken very seriously (and is heavily regulated due to licensing requirements), and that the facility will utilize security services. Parking and subway shuttle services will also be provided for those coming from out of town and the facility does not foresee a problem with loitering or those who did not complete the program causing problems for the community.
- The program restructuring is a result of the Medicaid redesign.
- Anyone who can access the facility through driving or public transit could foreseeably enroll in treatment at the facility
- Approximately 25% of patients may be dual diagnosed.
- The Chairman notified the Board that this matter could be discussed further during a breakout session.
- Mr. Edwin Cadiz expressed support for the facility, and stated he had no concerns that the proposed changes would result in issues with loitering.
- The Chairman called for public discussion to proceed.
 - The community was generally in favor of the proposal, though discussion did turn to the issue of outreach, the detoxification process, and financial access. Representatives for the proposal discussed the process by which outreach is conducted, and further notified the community that this facility is specifically geared towards those with mild to moderate withdrawal (and that those with severe withdrawal require hospitalization). The Committee Chair also notified the Board that the issue of outreach was discussed at the Committee Meeting.
- The Chairman called for the presentation on the 31st Avenue Bicycle Lane to proceed.

3. NYC Department of Transportation – A presentation by the Department of Transportation for changes and safety implementations to 31st Avenue from Flushing Bay and Jackson Heights CD3 to Shore Blvd., Astoria CD 1.

- Mr. Nick Carey (Project Manager) and Ms. Samantha Dolgoff were in attendance to give a presentation on the matter, with Mr. Carey giving the presentation. Mr. Carey noted that he had recently attended a walkthrough with District Manager Florence Koulouris, and Department of Transportation Committee Chair Robert Piazza.
- The presentation summarized the following points:
 - There are many north-south bicycle lanes in the district, but few east-west lanes. The goal of this project is to compensate for poor subway access, connect Astoria and Jackson Heights, and provide better access to the parks. Additionally, the project seeks to connect people without placing an undue burden on drivers.
 - 31st Avenue is an ideal candidate for a bicycle lane, because unlike many other streets in the district, it does not terminate at the BQE. It provides a straight route between the Astoria waterfront and the Flushing Bay Promenade.
 - The route is already popular with cyclists (over 200 on weekdays, 300 on weekends according to a DOT study conducted in the fall of 2015).
 - Intervention type is dependent on street width:
 - 40-Foot Width: Vernon to Crescent and 32st Street to 49th Street.
 - 50-Foot Width: Crescent to 32st Street and 49th Street to the BQE.
 - Relevance: Width is a critical criterion limiting the nature of bicycle lanes in a given area, especially when the desire is to not remove parking or travel lanes.

- Proposal for 40-Foot Wide Stretches: Shared Lane Markings (used by DOT when the road is not wide enough for a dedicated bicycle lane without removing parking/travel lanes).
- Proposal for 50-Foot Wide Stretches: Dedicated bicycle lane, 8ft. parking lanes (permitting motorists to exit vehicles safely for both themselves and cyclists), 4ft. painted flush median to help prevent head on collisions
- High visibility zebra striped crosswalks to be installed throughout the corridor to increase pedestrian safety (to replace current outline crosswalks)
- Concerns expressed during walkthrough (and proposed solutions):
 - PROBLEM: Pedestrian safety at 49th Street, and 55th Street due to lack of street signals; SOLUTION: Initiation of signal studies for 49th and 55th by the DOT Signal Division (it should be noted that a series of federal warrants must be met prior to asking for signals to be installed, and these take approximately 6 months to complete).
 - PROBLEM: Alignment of traffic lanes at 51st Street, where motorists must turn suddenly. SOLUTION: A painted buffer could be installed to create a gradual turn (rather than the sudden one present at this time), thus improving visibility. By installing a dedicated bicycle lane, motorists will not have to worry about a cyclist being in the middle of the street as they come around the bend.
 - PROBLEM: Complaints of speeding on 57th street north of 31st Avenue. SOLUTION: DOT is analyzing the feasibility of installing a speed hump on 57th street to alleviate speeding.
 - PROBLEM: Paragon Honda Service Center, where cars often line up between 56th and 58th Streets causing congestion. SOLUTION: Change 2 hour parking between 56th and 57th Streets to 1 hour parking to increase turn over in parking, in turn making more room for cars queuing up for the service station.
 - PROBLEM: Low visibility under railroad bridge. SOLUTION: Parking under the railroad bridge could be changed, removing two spots and installing a painted buffer to improve visibility.
 - ADDITIONAL NOTE: Loss of parking is an additional item not included in the initial proposal, and could be included or not included in a recommendation. The same was true for parking changes around the dealership.
- Crash statistics within the district highlight an overall reduction of 7.4% in total injuries for areas in which the DOT has installed bicycle routes.
- Mr. Robert Piazza, Transportation Committee Chair, expressed serious concerns with the safety of bicyclists using 31st Avenue between approximately 55th and 59th Streets due to cars waiting to access the service station and delivery trucks double parking. Mr. Piazza stated that he would like it placed in the record that he did not feel this portion of the corridor was safe enough to put cyclists on. The Chair then suggested that the bicycle lane be diverted to 32nd Avenue starting at 55th, and also highlighted that doing so could allow for a second bicycle lane [by having a lane return to 31st Avenue, while maintaining the bicycle lane on 32nd Avenue, as well until it met up with 75th Street].
- Board Discussion Ensued. The following clarifications arose from questioning and discussion of concerns:
 - Special markings would be placed near major driveways so that motorists and bicyclists would be aware of the traffic conflict, such as the driveway at the Corpus Christi Church.
 - While schools and similar institutions are common concerns during the planning of bicycle lanes, avoiding obstacles like schools would limit the ability to have a bicycle network in the city, and the DOT has not encountered any issues installing

bicycle lanes in front of such institutions. Furthermore, these changes are geared towards increasing safety for everyone, including pedestrians/children attending the schools along the route.

- The issue with double parked trucks by the grocery store between 56th and 57th Streets could be solved by creating a designated loading zone, so that during periods of time when most deliveries are being made, the curb would be free for trucks to park rather than double park. However, the point was made by the DOT representatives that double parking is common in cities, and any road user should expect it and take appropriate precautions.
- Because no traffic lanes are being affected, no traffic studies were conducted.
- This proposal is the same one discussed at an earlier committee meeting, and no changes have been made since.
- There have been increased efforts to engage in outreach and educational programming by the DOT.
- Regarding safety concerns about the newly renovated 20th Avenue:
 - Representatives noted that prior to the changes, studies suggested approximately 85% of individuals were speeding on this roadway. They continued, noting that while it often takes about 4-6 weeks for people to adapt to the changes, DOT is confident once residents do adjust, the modifications would come with great safety benefits for the community.
- There are no projections for how many additional cyclists may use this route once work is completed.
- The planned lane width will be appropriate for designated truck routes, despite 31st Avenue not being one. This may help keep cyclists safe from trucks making deliveries. The four-foot flush median may help as well.
- The Chairman called for public commentary on the proposal to proceed:
 - Community support was mixed. The following issues were discussed:
 - Community planning meetings can be held to better organize placement of bicycle lanes in the future and determine how to address issues regarding cycling. These workshops have been successful in CB2 and CB5.
 - Bicycle lanes have helped remove ambiguity in double-parking regulations, thus helping improve enforcement in ticketing vehicles engaged in the practice.
 - There is room for improvement in bicycle laws regarding issues such as cyclists wearing helmets.
 - Placing a “wiggling” route to avoid dangerous road conditions can lead to individuals not complying with the bicycle route. It is easier (and more desirable) to follow a straight route than one that alternates between roadways.
 - The DOT does not have good data on how long it takes for cyclists to comply with new road changes (i.e. Motorists typically take 4-6 weeks).
 - Bicycle routes help people better access services and businesses, and generally improve rather than decrease safety.
 - A protected bicycle lane cannot be installed along 31st Avenue, as the road width available would not permit street sweepers or snow plows to access the area.
- The Chairman called for the report from the Mayor’s Office regarding the budget.

Report From Mayor's Office Regarding Fiscal-Year 2018 Budget:

- Mr. Nicholas Gullota attended the meeting to provide details about budget allocations that will benefit the district.
- City Budget is \$82 Billion. This includes:
 - Over \$20 Million allocated to keep every NYC library open 6 days a week.
 - Over \$200 Million for repairs and renovations on the Queensboro Bridge.
 - \$3 Million allocated to Vision Zero outreach.
 - \$1.7 Million allocated to keep pools/beaches open one week past Labor Day.
 - \$21 Million to purchase smaller snow plows to clear smaller streets.
 - Raised the number of youth employment seats from 50,000 to 60,000.

****BREAKOUT SESSION: 8:45****

*****MEETING RECONVENED: 9:04*****

- Chairman Risi called the meeting back to order, and took a count of Board Members still in attendance. After the count, Mr. Chairman indicated the meeting still had a quorum, and could proceed to votes on the Public Hearing Items, starting with the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. #7102-2016-ASWC, Astoria Craft, LLC, D/B/A Astoria Craft; Application to Obtain a License to Operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café.

- Mr. Katsanos, Consumer Affairs Chair announced the committee voted unanimously to approve the application, subject to a reduction of one 4-person table to a 2-person, and additionally, the removal of either a 4 or 2 person table at the discretion of the establishment.
- **MOTION by Gus Prentzas to conditionally approve application.**
- **SECONDED by Rose Ann Alafogiannis.**
- **Roll Call Taken By Jean Marie D'Alleva.**
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. #7777-2016-ASWC, Leli's Bakery & Pastry Shop, Inc., D/B/A Leli's Bakery & Pastry Shop; Application to Obtain a License to Operate an Unenclosed Sidewalk Café.

- Mr. Katsanos announced the unanimous approval by the Committee for the application.
- **MOTION by John Katsanos to approve the application, and do so by asking for objections rather than taking roll call.**
- **SECONDED by Gus Prentzas.**
- Mr. Risi asked for any objections.
- Hearing no objections, the **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- The Chairman called for the recommendation from the Land Use and Zoning Committee.

LAND USE AND ZONING RECOMMENDATION

1. Department of Design and Construction/Taxi and Limousine Commission: Expansion plans for the existing TLC Woodside Inspection Facility.

- Committee Chair Ms. Elizabeth Erion announced to the Board that a draft letter had been included in each folder, conditionally supporting the expansion of the TLC Woodside inspection facility. The letter took in to account the concerns discussed by the Board and the committee (e.g. the concerns about emissions). Conditions in the letter included: Eliminating idling, installing signage directing taxis, installing air scrubbers in car

exhaust collection machinery, asking that there be an attempt to secure similar facilities elsewhere in the city, and increasing the hours of operation.

- Ms. Erion asked the **MOTION** be in the form of the draft letter.
- **SECONDED BY: [inaudible]**
- Mr. Risi asked if there were any objections from the Board.
- Hearing no objections, the **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- The Chairman called for a recommendation from the Health and Senior Services Committee.

HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICE'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. Phoenix House's request for a letter of support for the expansion of services to provide outpatient substance abuse treatment.

- Committee Chair Ms. Judy Trilivas announced the Health and Senior Services Committee voted unanimously to grant Phoenix House's request for a letter of support (no draft letter was presented to the Board, and Ms. Trilivas noted she would be writing one).
- **MOTION by Judy Trilivas to send a letter of support**
- **MOTION SECONDED by Norma Nieves-Blas.**
- Hearing no objections from the Board when asked by Chairman Risi, the **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- Mr. Risi called for a recommendation from the Transportation Committee regarding the 31st Avenue Bicycle Lane.

TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATION

1. Proposal by the Department of Transportation to install a bicycle lane on 31st Avenue.

- Transportation Chair Robert Piazza announced the committee had voted unanimously to approve the bicycle lane on 31st Avenue [**MOTION**].
- Ms. Melanie LaRocca **SECONDED Transportation Committee's MOTION to approve the bicycle lane as is.**
- Mr. Risi called for Board discussion regarding the matter.
- **MOTION:** Ms. Antonella Di Saverio stated that she believed it would be safer to do a 5-block detour, and provide a safer alternative.
- **MOTION SECONDED by Daniel Aliberti**
- Mr. Joseph Risi clarified that there was a motion to amend the recommendation to include a detour between certain streets, and asked for continued discussion regarding the matter.

Board Members Discussed the Matter among themselves

- Mr. Risi requested specific streets be given for the detour (as the current recommendation did not specify).
- Board Members discussed the matter among themselves
- Mr. Katsanos made a **MOTION** to accept the plan as is, but request that the DOT engage in educational (i.e. community outreach) sessions with the public.
- **MOTION SECONDED by Vanessa Jones-Hall**
- Mr. Risi noted that community outreach would be part of the motion and asked if anyone else would like to speak on the matter.
- Subsequent Board Discussion clarified that no parking would be removed as a part of the motion.
- Ms. Stella Nicolaou requested the 2-hour meter parking in front of the grocery store between 56th and 57th Streets not be changed.

- Mr. Risi clarified that a **MOTION** was made to not change the status of the parking meters.
- **MOTION SECONDED by Edwin Cadiz.**
Board discussed the matter among themselves, followed by discussion regarding procedure.
- Mr. Risi stated a motion was made for an amendment to the original plan, to include a detour, to not reduce the hours on the parking meter, and for further safety programming by the Department of Transportation. Mr. Risi then asked for someone to specify the exact streets where the detour should take place.
- Ms. Danielle Tharrington requested the bike lane detour from 31st Avenue at 55th Street, divert to 32nd Avenue, and return to 31st Avenue at 60th Street.
- Mr. Risi asked for a Board Member to make a formal motion incorporating each of the elements discussed by the Board.
- Ms. Norma Nieves-Blas made a **MOTION to amend the initial presentation for the bike lane on 31st avenue:** The bike lane should run as planned on 31st Avenue, until 55th Street. At 55th Street, the bike lane should detour to 32nd avenue, until 60th Street at which point it should return to 31st avenue. Additionally, the two-hour parking meter for shoppers should remain as is, so that there is no decrease in the maximum allowable parking time.

The Board further discussed procedure, and clarified the motions.

- Jean Marie D'Alleva took a roll call on the **MOTION to approve the bicycle lane as initially presented** (Seconded by Melanie LaRocca).
- **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROJECT AS IS FAILED: 13 in Favor, 19 Opposed**
- Chairman Risi called for a vote to be taken on the amended motion.
- Jean Marie D'Alleva took roll call on the **AMMENDED MOTION** (seconded earlier by Edwin Cadiz).
- **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AMMENDED MOTION PASSED: 21 in Favor, 10 Opposed.**
- Mr. Risi called for public discussion to proceed.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- Constituent Ms. Sheila Morris discussed concerns regarding inconsistencies in the scale of the architectural drawings presented by The Pomeroy at last month's Community Board 1 meeting.
- Constituent Mr. Neil Hood discussed concerns regarding pedestrian safety on Astoria Blvd. [South] by St. Michael's Cemetery. Mr. Hood further discussed concerns regarding visibility at the St. Michael's driveway. He asked the Board to look in to how this area could be made safer.
- Constituent Norm Sutaria discussed concerns he had with the detour the Board requested be included in the 31st Avenue Bicycle Route.
- Constituent Ms. Gloria Maloney notified the Board that Dutch Kills residents were still awaiting installation of a stop sign at 39th Avenue and 29th Street to help increase safety at a presently dangerous intersection, even though a stop sign had been installed at 40th Avenue and 29th Street.
 - Chairman Joseph Risi recommended Ms. Maloney call the District Office to discuss the problem with the District Manager.
- Richard Melnick, a Greater Astoria Historic Society Board Member, discussed upcoming events and area historical anniversaries.
- Juan ReStrepo expressed concerns regarding the detour amendment to the bicycle lane.

- Constituent Mr. McCartney Morris expressed support for bike lanes, and discussed the safety benefits of biking as opposed to driving.
- Constituent Mr. James McIntire expressed concerns with the manner in which the DOT vote was taken and offered recommendations for improvements to the Board.

BUSINESS

- Mr. Risi asked to move on to the business segment of the meeting, and called for discussion of approval for the previous month's meeting minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion made by Jean Marie D'Alleva to approve the May 2016 Minutes.
- Motion Seconded by Vanessa Jones-Hall.
- Mr. Risi raised the issue of the proposed amendments to the minutes (to clarify the Land Use and Zoning Committee report) made by Elizabeth Erion.
 - The amendment was included in the Board Members' folders.
- **MOTION** made by Ms. Elizabeth Erion to amend the Land Use and Zoning Committee Report to identify the ULURP items that were voted on and to clarify the committee's actions and letters that were sent.
- **MOTION SECONDED by Rose Ann Alafogiannis.**
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chairperson's Report- Joseph Risi:

- Mr. Risi met with representatives from the NYC Department of Sanitation at the Board office regarding a proposal to relocate/shut down of the garage on 21st Street. Mr. Risi approves of this proposal, but noted that it is a preliminary plan, and that the Department of Sanitation will attend a future Board Meeting to provide a presentation on the project.
- Mr. Risi recently attended a Borough board meeting where a recommendation was made to approve the LIC-BID (which CB1 approved at their May meeting).
- Mr. Risi met with the District Manager Florence Koulouris and the new operator/developer for LaGuardia Airport on the morning of June 21st. Construction has begun on the airport, and it is projected the project will take 5 years. Mr. Risi noted the changes would be great for Queens.
- Mr. Risi concluded by noting tentative meetings are scheduled for July 19th and August 16th, but the Board could expect to hear for certain whether these meetings would take place at a later date.
- The Chairman called for the District Manager's report.

District Manager's Report – Florence Koulouris:

- District Manager, Ms. Florence Koulouris greeted attendees, and then discussed the multitude of meetings and events she attended throughout the month within the district. She also summarized office affairs throughout the last month.
- Mr. Risi acknowledged Mr. John Katsanos, Chair for the Consumer Affairs Committee, to begin the committee reports.

Committee Reports:

1. Consumer Affairs:

- Mr. Katsanos reviewed the liquor license applicants, and made a **MOTION** to have the Board approve them.
- **MOTION SECONDED by Nancy Silverman.**
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. **Access and Disability:** No Report.
3. **Airport:** No Report.
4. **Capital/Expense & Budget/Planning:**
 - Ms. Norma Nieves-Blas reported that she and District Manager Florence Koulouris met with nine city agencies to discuss the FY-2018 capital and expense budget. Ms. Nieves-Blas announced she would be meeting with each committee individually in the coming days/months in preparation for the capital expense budget public hearing at the September Board meeting.
5. **Community & Economic Development:** No Report.
6. **Education/Library:** No Report.
7. **Environmental Protection:** No Report.
8. **Health/Senior Services:** No Report.
9. **Housing:** No Report.
10. **Land Use & Zoning:** No Report.
11. **Legal, Legislation & Parliamentary:** No Report.
12. **Office Staff:** No Report.
13. **Parks/Recreation & Cultural Services:**
 - Chair Richard Khuzami summarized the many parks projects receiving additional funding, and notified the Board that there would be a Parks/Recreation & Cultural Services Committee Meeting on June 23rd. Mr. Khuzami also updated the board on an upcoming event at Socrates Sculpture Park.
14. **Public Relations:** No Report.
15. **Public Safety:** No Report.
16. **Street Festivals/Special Events:** No Report.
17. **Transportation:**
 - Chair Robert Piazza addressed two requests for DOT studies:
 - LIC Partnership asked for a study in the proximity of Crescent Street, Vernon Blvd., 36th Ave., and 40th Ave. to analyze the feasibility of changing parking regulations to enable large trucks to access businesses during business hours. Presently trucks have difficulty doing so as a result of parked cars.
 - Old Astoria Neighborhood Association asked for a study to analyze the feasibility of turning 14th Street in to a two-way (it is presently a one-way) to improve traffic flow.
 - The Board discussed procedure, and Ms. Florence Koulouris (District Manager) offered a statement to clarify.
 - Ms. Koulouris noted that while it is well within her authority to send the letters herself (and this is the way in which other districts operate, as well as CB1 prior to her tenure), she felt it more appropriate given she is new to the position of District Manager to ask the Chair of the Transportation Committee, Mr. Robert Piazza, to bring the matter before the Board for approval to request a study.
 - **MOTION made by Robert Piazza to send two letters to DOT.**
 - **MOTION SECONDED: [inaudible]**
 - **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

18. Youth Services:

- Chair Jose Batista reiterated the increases in funding discussed by Nicholas Gullota (from the Mayor's Office) during the city budget presentation, and discussed the start of the summer youth program.
- Mr. Risi called for discussion of new business.

New Business

- Ms. Frances Luhmann-McDonald announced to the Board that the Astoria Performing Arts Center was hosting an event (Senior Stars) on Saturday June 25th, in which she would be performing stand up comedy. A flier was included in Board Members' folders.

Old Business

- The Chairman called for any old business to be discussed. No requests to discuss old business were heard from the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Chairman Risi asked if a motion would be made to adjourn the meeting.
- **MOTION to ADJOURN.**
- **MOTION SECONDED.**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:55PM

COMMUNITY BOARD 1, QUEENS

Date 6/21/16

Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Rose Ann Alafogiannis	✓			Jerry Kril			E
George Alexiou	✓			Melanie La Rocca	✓		
Daniel Aliberti	✓			Vincent G. Marsanico			*R
Joan Asselin	✓			Frances Luhmann-McDonald	✓		
Edward Babor	✓			Antonio Meloni	✓		
Jose Batista	✓			Prabir Mitra		✓	
Ann Bruno		✓		Kevin Mullarkey			E
Edwin Cadiz	✓			Stella Nicolaou	✓		
Gerald Caliendo			E	Norma Nieves-Blas	✓		
John Carusone			E	Mary O'Hara	✓		
Jean Marie D'Alleva	✓			Linda Perno			*R
Joanna D'Elia	✓			Robert Piazza	✓		
Dolores DeCrescenzo	✓			RoseMarie Poveromo	✓		
Antonella Di Saverio	✓			Gus Prentzas	✓		
Katie Ellman			E	Joseph Risi	✓		
Elizabeth Erion	✓			Yawne Robinson		✓	
Mackenzi Farquer		✓		Thea Romano	✓		
Dean Feratovic	✓			Thomas Ryan			E
Evie Hantzopoulos	✓			Rodolfo Sarchese	✓		
Amy Hau	✓			Nancy Silverman	✓		
Pauline Jannelli	✓			Dominic Stiller	✓		
Vanessa Jones-Hall	✓			Danielle Tharrington	✓		
John Katsanos	✓			Marie Torniali	✓		
Richard Khuzami	✓			Rod Townsend	✓		
Nancy Konipol		✓		Judy Trilivas	✓		

Number Of Board Present 37

Present _____ Absent _____ Excused _____

Comments * Retired
