

Community Board 1, Queens – Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2018

Meeting Opens with Chairperson, Marie Torniali at 6:30 p.m. – Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Joe Nocerino, Community Coordinator from the Office of the Queens Borough President, Melinda Katz said he had nothing to report and gave regards from the Queens Borough President and wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Nick Roloson, Councilman Costa Constantinides' Office – He shared that Councilman Constantinides introduced a Bill that requires all City Buildings that are over 25,000 square feet retrofit the building to become more environmentally friendly. He said 70% of our emissions come from our buildings, not from power plants or the street, hope to make this legislation pass through the council and signed by the mayor and be able to make a serious dent over 40% reduction over the next 20 years. He ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairperson Report:

Marie Torniali, Chairperson – She stated that she attended the Borough Board. She said that the Charter Revision Committee 2019 will take a broader look at the Constitution of the City of New York including the Board of Elections, Governance, Land Use, Procurement, Campaign Finance and City Budget Process. You may go on www.charter2019.nyc and list your priorities. In addition, in a couple of days they will have more information and email to the Board members. She added that they are recommending that the Committee Chairs in particular reach out to their committee members to make city government better.

Presentation:

Chairperson Torniali introduced the Members of the LaGuardia Redevelopment Team, Richard Smyth, Shanel Thomas-Henry and Larry Gallegos.

Richard Smyth, Project Executive for the LaGuardia Redevelopment Project

(Provided a Program Slide Show to Update)

Mr. Smyth added that Lysa Scully the General Manager of the Airport and Hersh Parekh from the Governor's Office are in attendance as well and available to answer questions.

1. Construction Updates

- Concourse B slated to open in December
- Terminal B Headhouse, Concourse G and Central Hall construction progressing well

2. Project Timeline

- 2018 - Terminal B garage and Concourse B
- 2019 - Concourse G
- 2020 - Terminal B Headhouse and Concourse A North
- 2021 - Unifying canopy, Terminal C Headhouse and Concourse E
- 2022 - Concourse A West

3. Noise and Vibration Monitoring

In addition to several monitors on airport there are 9 monitors at residents' homes. If anyone feels the need for a monitor please contact Shanel or Larry. In addition, if any homeowner feels there has been damage to their property as a result of construction please contact them.

4. Air Monitoring

Air monitors have been placed around the construction site and in the community. Readings have been well below action level

5. Roadways

- Completed new flyer over roadway over the summer
- There's a new temporary bridge connector on the departures level connecting Terminals C and D
- For Hire Vehicles (FHV's) servicing Terminals C and D are being temporarily staged at the Marina lot until March 2019

6. Terminal B Garage

Opened in February and has over 3100 spaces. Passengers meet their For Hire Vehicles (FHV's) such as Uber and Lyft in the garage where they are staged.

7. Air Train Overview

Project Objectives

- Will provide a quick and reliable 30 minute travel time from Midtown Manhattan
- Connect with public transportation at Willets Point, relieving congestion at LaGuardia

Benefits

- Reduce airport-related traffic on Grand Central Parkway and local streets, and ease parking problems
- Developing a fast and convenient transfer between LIRR and Air Train means that the subway will not bear the burden of accommodating a majority of Air Train passengers
- Funded entirely by the Port Authority and/ or private capital, at no cost to taxpayers

Next phase is the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

8. Economic Growth

- MWBE Contracts, as of September 30, 2018, over \$1 Billion awarded to MWBE's totaling over 750 contracts
- Local Businesses, as of September 30, 2018, \$368 Million in business to local businesses | 219 contracts
- On September 27, 2018 the Port Authority Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted an expanded minimum wage policy for LaGuardia, JFK International and Newark Liberty International airports that will bring the wages of thousands of airport workers to \$19/hour by 2023
- Concessions Jobs for the New Concourse B - over 20 hiring events, several community meetings and thousands of email blasts led to the hiring of over 200 employees, more than half of which were from Queens and 40% of the Queens hires came from boards 1 and 3

9. Community Development & Outreach

- \$2.7 million invested in the community this year through the expansion of the Council for Airport Opportunity (CAO) to a second location near LGA in partnership with CBO's Elmcot Youth & Adult Activities and NHS of Queens CDC. Also, 6 scholarships are currently available for high school seniors to attend Vaughn College. All Queens students are eligible with a preference going to students that reside near the airport in East Elmhurst, Astoria, Corona and Jackson Heights. In addition to tuition, this program offers summer internships while in school and a full time position with the Port Authority upon graduation.
- Mobile Van continues to be out in the community at local libraries to share information about the redevelopment, employment and contracting opportunities. There have also been turkey and book bag giveaways.

- Community Outreach Office opening in 2019
- Art exhibits continue in the Marine Air Terminal both by the Port Authority and local artists in conjunction with the Queens Council on the Arts
- New website is now live www.ANewLGA.com. Get project updates, calendar of events/ meetings, job and contracting information

Public Session:

Jesse Marchese, Executive Director of Astoria Performing Arts Center (APAC) – He shared that he wanted to update everyone. Spoke about losing their lease but they have a special invitation, they will be performing at the Variety Boys & Girls Club they have used space there for about 11 years so it is a bit of a homecoming for them. He said they are still looking for a permanent home. Mr. Marchese added that this is their 18th Season and producing a new play, “Queen” by Marjorie Shaker from January 31st to February 16th. He also added that they are also producing a revival of the Tony nominated musical “Caroline, or Change”, May 2nd to May 25th. He ended by inviting the Board.

Margaret Rodgers, Justice for All Coalition Group – She said they are working with Astoria and LIC mainly helping with Housing issues. She shared that they have a meeting on Monday, November 26 at Jacob Riis Center and hope the community speaks out. She added that the focus is on NYCHA and Amazon position to be discussed on the agenda as well. She ended by saying that flyers about the meeting are available on the table.

Desiree Conway, Student at CUNY School of Public Health and advocate in support of the New York State Bill #A9863 - She shared that it is an act that will require Medical Assistance coverage for medically tailored bills in medical nutrition therapy for the purpose of disease management. She said the bill is sponsored by the New York State Assemblyman Richard Gottfried (Health Committee Chair). She described the bill and importance of good meals and good nutrition. She ended by urging everyone to review and learn more about the bill.

Richie Cerrod, Urban Dove, Charter School Organization – He shared that they are looking to open a 3rd Charter School in Queens preferably in Community Board 1 or Community Board 2. He said that they currently have 2 other Charter schools, one in Brooklyn and one in the Bronx. He added that they are transfer schools for 15/16 year olds that are under credited. Mr. Cerrod said that they are hoping to get support from the Community Board. He ended by saying that Queens currently has 5 transfer schools and none target the same population they are targeting.

Neil Herdan – He wished the Board a Happy Thanksgiving. He said he is with Friends of Whitey Ford Field and said they have received their 2nd Park Equity initiative and would like to thank Council Member Costa Constantinides very much and also thank the Ford Family. He said this is a very exciting time for our parks. He also congratulated other small parks for receiving their parks initiative. He said that one of the Participatory Budget proposals is the signage by key areas of Astoria by the Ferry and Steinway Street. He shared that he writes a restaurant blog since 2010 and has reviewed about 300 restaurants in Astoria.

Kevin Montalvo, Founder of Queens Distance Runners – He said they have a not-for-profit organization of about 800 runners representing Queens and that they have an event on April 21st. He said the Queens Marathon’s route will take place within Flushing Meadows Corona Park. He asked the public to please reach out to him and that his friend James was handing out flyers for their upcoming fundraiser on December 16th, taking place at Flushing Meadows Corona Park. One of their runners will possibly/hopefully will represent France in the 2020 Olympics for the Women’s Marathon. He added that they have a few kids who attend 10 local high schools and are going to college on Scholarship. They are looking to get folks into distance running and that the sport is taking off like never before. He ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Luisana Santana, Director of Outreach at Community Lutheran Church located in Astoria – She invited everyone to their Live Nativity 2018 on December 9th from 9:30 am to 11 am. She said this year the donations are going to Christmas gifts to families in poverty around the world for over 500 families in Africa

Marie Torniali, Chairperson motioned for Adoption of the of the October 16, 2018 Minutes

Jean Marie D’Allewa motioned; Ed Babor seconded.

District Manager Report:

Florence Koulouris said she has her agenda for the month available if anyone wants to know what meetings she has attended or gather any information. Due to the holiday season there are a lot of events throughout Astoria and for the special holiday in Astoria Park hosted by Central Astoria LDC. George Alexiou's group is doing the Turkey's for people in need, he will give you more information on it. RoseMarie Poveromo from UCCA will give you more information on the Holiday Champagne Brunch and Woodside Annual Tree Lighting is taking place on Sunday, December 2nd. She wished everyone a happy healthy holiday season and for everyone to enjoy their turkey.

Committee Reports:

Airport, RoseMarie Poveromo, Chair – No report.

Community & Economic Development, Rod Townsend, Co-Chair – He reported that they met last week and met with an Urban Planner to discuss commercial areas in the district. They are pursuing bringing in an Urban Planning student to specifically study the commercial districts development for the 2019 school year.

Capital & Expense Planning, Richard Khuzami, Chair – No report, but added that it was interesting hearing about 19th Avenue and Luyster Creek freeing up, particularly for the Sanitation garage.

Consumer Affairs, Andy Aujla, Chair – He said the Committee had a meeting yesterday, and thanked members of the Dutch Kills Civic Group and Officer Mashriqi for attending. He shared that Studio Square did not attend and that they received a letter from their attorneys stating they are currently closed and plan on remaining closed, also turning in their liquor license and not requesting a renewal. He also said that he advised the representatives that if there are any changes that the Committee will call them in and will have a full board review as well. He added that they are not letting them get off the hook with just the letter. The next entity he discussed is, The Collective, they are going to replace the Paper Factory Hotel. He said that they are a chain of hotels, they have about 5/6 in London and 1 in Manhattan. He added that they are purchasing this location. He also discussed the problems that the community had with the Paper Factory and that he can provide more information if anyone would like. The following entity he discussed is, Circulo Español, they discussed with 114th Precinct about issues they had and how to be a better neighbors and improving security and how to prevent complaints from happening in the future. The following entity discussed was Bungalo, and said they did not come in due to family illness but received a letter confirming that they will remedy some of the issues and also advised them that if we get more complaints they will be asked to come in. The last establishment is a New Application currently going by John Marks which potential owner is a Judge and former Police Officer, seems to be a very reputable person. He said Mr. Marks will be leasing the location formerly known as Aces, you may know them as an adult establishment in the area. He added that they don't know too much about them and that they asked them what the plan is going to be, if they are going to be a restaurant and what security plan they have and who will be managing. Mr. Marks did not have any answers to these questions. They tabled it at this time, pulled back and they will come in December. He added that they will be reviewed at the time and they are claiming they will not be a strip club but will be a bikini bar. Mr. Aujla said they may choose not to come back after the questioning they were given. He notified the Board of the usual spreadsheet for Liquor License List in the folder. He said that stipulations are sent to entities for new and renewal licenses to vote on. Stipulations are to streamline the process for the Board. He said they are given to bars not to restaurants and sent for sidewalk cafes which helps businesses who have not read the law, to become familiar with the law. He told the Board to feel free to reach out to him if they want to know in detail what the stipulations are for and he can guide them through it. He added that on the spreadsheet there are 2 stipulations that were completed which are La Sala and Paper Factory. He asked for a motion to approve these 2 establishments and 2 on the back. Vote to approve: Rod Townsend motioned; Ed Babor seconded.

Marie Torniali, Chairperson – Commended and thanked Antonella Di Saverio and Katie Ellman for putting together the event to show the film "A Plastic Ocean" which was very sad but very educational.

Environmental Protection, Antonella Di Saverio, Chair – Thanked Marie for her support and Florence for doing an amazing job and for getting the venue. She shared that they received a lot of good feedback. She added that the panel consisted of Councilman Costa Constantinides, Department of Sanitation, Department of Environmental

Protection and Katie Ellman from Green Shores and that they discussed the local impact of the use of plastics. She added that if you have not seen the film, it is available on Netflix, it is called "A Plastic Ocean" and highly recommends it. She also shared that last month they had the Department of Parks speak about the Glyphosate chemical use in the parks also known as Roundup in the local parks. She added they said they have decreased the use of the chemical but the Committee feels they can do better. She shared that Glyphosate is a chemical that is a probable carcinogen. Ms. Di Saverio said they are putting up signage in the parks alerting where they have used it so that if your children or pets are utilizing those areas you can keep them out of those spots. She ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Health & Human Services, Judy Trilivas, Co-Chair – No report and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Land Use & Zoning, Gerry Caliendo, Co-Chair – He said the Committee met on November 7th and had a presentation on the following. First, 44-01 Northern Boulevard a 12 story, 310 unit, not certified yet but going through the motions. The next one is, 47-15 34th Avenue at the intersection of Northern Boulevard and 34th Avenue. He said they are coming up in January. He share that something new was just received, a housing proposal for a new building at 46-09 31st Avenue. He said they will be certified sometime in January as well. He added that they have been on top of Sunnyside yards and advocating for a presentation to the Community Board by the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and their architects and planners. Mr. Caliendo also said they are working with a fellowship program to do a study within the neighborhood to direct Ravenswood and Northern Boulevard development. He ended by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Public Safety, Ann Bruno, Co-Chair – No report and wishing everyone to enjoy the holidays. She added that the 114th Community Council is hosting a Christmas Party for 200 underprivileged children at the Astoria World Manor on December 8th and that it is for children 10 years and younger. She ended by saying that it is a really enjoyable event and tickets are required.

Transportation, Bob Piazza, Co-Chair – He started by saying that they sent out several letters to the MTA to run a supplemental bus to run along the route of the N train and one more time they received a letter saying they do not think it is a good idea. He said, however, a study will be done in the area of Community Board 1 and redesign bus routes according to the customer needs. He also shared that they met with Department of Transportation and they are looking for plans and ideas for Northern Boulevard because they want to make it safer. He shared that five (5) members of the Community Board attended the meeting and that the DOT will come back later with study findings. He added that he finds it hard to believe that LaGuardia Airport is being made so much bigger (including a rail system) than needed but nothing is changing with the amount of flights it is going to handle. He ended by saying that they will probably come back to us at the next stage, at a later time, with different information.

George Alexiou, Board Member – He made an announcement on behalf of the Greek-American Homeowners Association reminding everyone that every year there is a Thanksgiving Day Turkey Lunch, the menu includes a full meal including coffee and dessert. He said they also have light Greek music. Mr. Alexiou said, if you are alone to please join them at 23-49 31st Street across the street from PS 85. He ended by sharing that they also deliver to people in need, in their homes and last year they donated 550 whole turkeys to families in need and 2500 meals were delivered.

The Board wished Andre Stith a Happy Birthday.

Yawne Robinson, Board Member – Spoke about "Giving Tuesday", which was coming up. She said she would like to make it a "Making a day of Literacy". She requested everyone to take a photo of their favorite book and post it on social media and #givingtuesdayliteracymatters add something about Queens and "Readers for Smiles". She added that she would like everyone trending and would like to make this an annual thing to showcase to the children on how important reading is.

Motion to Adjourn: Ed Babor; Seconded by Jean Marie D'Alleva.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.

COMMUNITY BOARD 1, Queens

DATE 11/20/18

Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	Community Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.
Rose Anne Alafogiannis	✓		E	Nancy Konipol	✓		
George Alexiou	✓			Jerry Kril	✓	✓	
Daniel Aliberti			E	Melanie La Rocca		✓	
Loren Amor	✓			Frances Luhmann-McDonald	✓		E
Avninder Aujla	✓			Hannah Lupien	✓	✓	
Edward Babor	✓			Antonio Meloni	✓	✓	
Jose Batista		✓		Prabir Mitra	✓		
Ann Bruno	✓			Eric Mouchette	✓		
Giselle Aida Burgess		✓		Stella Nicolaou	✓		
Edwin Cadiz	✓			Norma Nieves-Blas	✓		E
Gerald Caliendo	✓			Mary O'Hara	✓		
Jean Marie D'Alleva	✓			Robert Piazza	✓		
Antonella Di Saverio	✓			RoseMarie Poveromo	✓		
Katerina Duarte	✓			Yawne Robinson	✓		
Katie Ellman	✓			Thomas Ryan		✓	E
Elizabeth Erion			E	Manuel Salce		✓	
Mackenzi Farquer	✓			Rodolfo Sarchese	✓		
Dean Feratovic	✓			Nancy Silverman			E
Evie Hantzopoulos			E	Dominic Stiller	✓		
Amy Hau	✓			Andre Stith	✓		
Helen Ho	✓			Danielle Tharrington	✓		E
Pauline Jannelli	✓			Marie Torniali	✓		
Vanessa Jones-Hall	✓			Rod Townsend	✓		
George Kalergios	✓			Judy Trilivas	✓		
Richard Khuzami	✓			Kathleen Warnock	✓		
Number Board Members Present <u>310</u>							
Present <u>310</u>				Absent <u>5</u>		Excused <u>9</u>	
April 18							