



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

CITY OF NEW YORK ♦ BOROUGH OF QUEENS
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KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, M. Amin, L. Amorim, N. Bissoon, J. Calcagnile, J. Caruso, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Cosentino, F. Dardani, A. Dhanpat, I. Dimoh, J. Fazio, E. Fraylon, A. Gellineau, R. Gendron, P. Granickas, A. Hill, E. Holland, P. Kishun, A. Maharaj, R. Martinez, D. Mitchell, F. Mohamed, S. Mohammed, R. Narine, A. Nocerino, S. Pace, J. Quijano, B. Ramsundar, G. Russo, N. Santiago, J. Stahl, S. Uddin, I. Van Putten, M. Vecchio, L. Walker

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Adams, P. Baumann, E. Cheng, M. Cherenfant, J. Coulverson, A. Deebrab, B. Escobar, A. Garcia, R. Graziano, R. Hitlall, M. Logan, A. Rajnauth, V. Singh

COMMUNITY BOARD STAFF PRESENT: K. Petersen, D.M.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Addabbo; F. Karim rep. Hon. Gregory Meeks; T. Strong, rep. Sen. R. Persaud; C. Moore, rep. Hon. J. Addabbo; W. Bao, rep. Hon. K. Anderson; K. Bourgie rep. Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato, J. Gross rep. Hon. J. Rajkumar; L. Fogal, rep. Hon. J. Ariola; D. Brown QDA's Office; S. Bajracharya Shakya, QDCP; Capt. J. Bacchi, CO 106 Precinct; D. Tanis rep. Resorts World

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7pm.

The Chair introduced Senator Addabbo and invited him to speak.

Senator Addabbo stated that he hoped that everyone was doing well and announced that in Albany, the Governor has started the budget season and is introducing the Executive Budget. At the end of April, the final budget will be agreed upon by the Senate and the Assembly. There are proposed increases in education, health care and there is language about bail reform to make our streets safer. He explained that this is a framework, and that he will bring back the information to everyone as the State budget process continues. He continued that the Governor also mentions Aqueduct and that there will be reduced racing days there. As they renovate Belmont Park, the racing will go to Aqueduct and then it will go back to Belmont once again. He stated that Aqueduct won't be gone overnight and that it will take years. He urged residents to please weigh in on this matter since it is the residents tax dollars that are being spent. He also announced that he is planning to hold recycling events and another Java with Joe event; and his staff member, Carl Moore will provide more information on these events once they are scheduled and if anyone has any questions, they can call his office at 718-738-1111.

The Chair asked if there were any questions for Sen. Addabbo. There were none.

Sen. Addabbo wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

The Chair opened the Public Hearing regarding the Citywide Statement of Needs for Fiscal Years 2024-2025. She explained that we have received the Statement of Needs for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 which provides information on city facilities that they plan to expand or consolidate. It is a lengthy document but there are no proposals in it that

are directly related to Community Board 10. There were two new Queens proposals, one of which is an operational stormwater pumping site in Community Board 14 and the other was for office space in Community Board 6. She continued that on the school list in District 27, for both Community Board 9 and Community Board 10, they are looking for a small primary school site and a primary and intermediate school site, but no locations were given. She added that a school site would come before the Board if a site was found.

The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to comment of the Citywide Statement of Needs. Hearing none.

The Chair asked if there was anyone on the phone line who would like to comment on the Citywide Statement of needs. Hearing none.

The Chair asked if there was anyone on Zoom who would like to comment on the Citywide Statement of needs. Hearing none.

The Chair stated that those viewing the YouTube link with any questions or comments can reach out to the Community Board 10 office by phone at 718-843-4488 or by e-mail at qn10@cb.nyc.gov before the end of business tomorrow.

The Chair announced that the Public Hearing was now closed.

The Chair opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Barbara Baer, Home Sharing Director, New York Foundation for senior Citizens who had asked to speak about the Home Sharing Program. Ms. Baer was not present on the zoom. The Chair stated that since the speaker was not in attendance, we will reschedule her for another time and then closed the Informational Public Hearing.

The Chairperson resumed the regular order of business and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January 2023 minutes. Hearing none, the minutes will stand.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Chair reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of January, which included:

- Letter from the Office of the Comptroller regarding an audit on payroll, personnel, and purchases of the 14 Queens Community Boards.
- Letter from the Department of Transportation that they have completed their study for the need of a traffic control at 133 Avenue & 123 Street and that a traffic signal has been approved. It will be installed by contract and the work should be completed by April 2023.
- Notification from the Department of Housing and Preservation of an order to repair / vacate premises at 132-25 Ruby Street.
- Notification from the Department of Housing and Preservation of an order to repair / vacate premises at 158-37 95 Street.
- Notice of Demolition at 102-10A 160 Avenue.
- Notice of Demolition at 133-24 125 Street.
- Letter from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene responding to an ongoing issue regarding a bar on Liberty Avenue. The Chair stated that they did an inspection and made recommendations. The owner received violations and hopefully the condition will be corrected.
- Notice from DSNY that on March 27 composting service will resume in Queens and DSNY is making brown bins available but any 55-gallon bin with a secure lid can also be used. It was also announced that all Queens residents can now pick up 40 lbs. of compost from DSNY to be used in their gardens.
- Notice from OMB regarding FDNY purchase of 7 area ladders.
- Notice from the NYMTC.
- Calendar of Public Hearing Contract Awards for February 9 and January 26.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer read the report of expenditures for the month of January.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: The District Manager reported that notification was received that in the coming weeks National Grid has planned construction work to install a new gas main at the following locations: 126 Street bet. 135 Ave. & 149 Ave., 126 Street bet. 133 Ave. & 135 Ave., 135 Ave & 126 Street, 126 Street & 135 Ave., 126 Street & 133 Ave., 132 Street bet. 133 Ave. & 131 Ave., Albert Rd. bet. 149 Ave. & Jaegers Lane, Albert Rd. bet. 149 Ave. & Redding Street, Cross Bay Blvd. bet. 149 Ave. & North Conduit Ave., 149 Ave. bet. 94 Street & Albert Rd., 150 Ave. bet. 126 Street & South Conduit Ave., 150 Ave. bet. 126 & 127 Street, 150 Ave. bet. 127 Street & 128 Street, 150 Ave. bet. 128 Street & 129 Street, 150 Ave. bet. 129 Street & 130 Street, 126 Street bet 150 Ave. & Old South Rd., 127 Street bet. 150 Ave. & Old South Rd., 127 Street bet. 150 Ave. & South Conduit Ave, 128 Street bet. 150 Ave. & South Conduit Ave., 129 Street bet. 150 Ave. & Old South Rd. 126 Street & 150 Ave., 127 Street & 150 Ave., 128 Street & 150 Ave., 129 Street & 150 Ave., 130 Street & 150 Ave. The new gas main will be installed in the street or sidewalk and the excavation required will be backfilled each day. The entire work area will be kept clean and orderly, and attempts will be made to keep noise, dust, and debris to a minimum. All or part of the gas service may have to be replaced. To complete this work, National Grid may need to gain access to the homes at the point where the service enters the building. If this is the case, the homeowner will be contacted by a National Grid Representative to make an appointment. All street and sidewalk surfaces affected by the construction will be repaved to ensure a smooth surface. Temporary asphalt pavement will be used until all National Grid work is complete and permanent restoration can be performed.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: The Chairperson reported / commented that information on the following was in members' folder material:

- Information from Office of Cannabis Management on how the Community Boards relate to the process to approve these sites.

The Chair explained that municipalities are allowed to express an opinion on these licenses somewhat like the process with SLA. Community Boards are designated as the "municipality" for cannabis licenses; we will be the municipality that may express an opinion on proposed sites within our district. We cannot approve or disapprove per se, but we can express an opinion. She continued that Community Boards do not have a role in other cannabis licenses for nurseries, cultivators, processors, or distributors. People or businesses who apply for a cannabis dispensary license should submit notification of the property location in the boundary of the Community Board where they submit the application. Discussion ensued as the Chairperson reviewed the material provided to all board members in their folders. She stated that we have until February 13th to submit our comment on the material provided regarding the proposed rules for siting.

The Chair asked that a motion be made that CB 10 won't consider for support, any location that doesn't notify us in advance as required and that the Board submit by Feb. 13, 2023, the substance of this evening's discussion on the proposed rules regarding siting as our opinion on the rules. R. Ciuulla-Frisone made the motion. The Chair asked if there is anyone to second the motion. T. Cosentino seconded the motion. The Chair asked if there were any comments.

A board member inquired if they will be treating these establishments like a retail store like the ones along Cross Bay Blvd. The Chair stated that we can include in our comment that all our retail strips all have homes behind them, and we can add a comment that we would like to see a regulation that recognizes potential land use issues. The board member stated that he heard that there are 1 or 2 of these type of stores in Manhattan. The Chair stated that there are no facilities in CB 10 and that we have not received any applications of interest regarding this type of establishment. She continued that we do have smoke shops, some of which are illegally selling cannabis and that if anyone is aware of any locations selling anything that is not allowed, to let us know and we will send the authorities out to investigate. She continued that if we receive a notification, we will send the notification out to the Civics like we do with the SLA applications. We will hold a public hearing on any cannabis license site we receive. The Chair asked if there were any other further questions on cannabis. There were none. A board member added that as of today, only 4 licenses have been authorized in Queens and that no bodegas or gas stations will receive that type of licensing.

The Chair stated that there is a motion on the floor to authorize comment about cannabis site regulations. She asked if anyone was opposed. There were none. She asked if there were any abstaining. There were none.

The Chair confirmed that all were then to be counted as in favor. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The Chair stated that we will draft a comment to send to the Office of Cannabis Management to hopefully develop rules that work.

- The Chair continued that earlier this week the Queens Borough Board Budget Hearing was held where they heard testimony on Capital and Expense Budget items. All the Community Boards delivered testimony and Karyn presented the testimony for CB 10.
- The Chair reported that she, the DM, and the Public Safety Chairperson will be meeting with NYPD Chief Chell this week regarding quality of life issues and reviewed some data regarding our quality of life complaints.

The Chair introduced Captain Bacchi, Commanding Officer of the 106th Precinct and invited him to speak. Captain Bacchi stated that they receive thousands of calls per year about abandoned vehicles and they call tow companies to tow the vehicles, but there is no place to house them. He added that it all comes down to neighbors being neighbors and that if a neighbor is not using a vehicle, perhaps they should sell it not to have it take up parking. He announced that for the year we had an increase in felony assaults and vehicle theft; and 8 vehicles that were left unattended were stolen. He recommended to not leave your vehicle running while unattended. He continued that felony assaults have increased and that we are up 20% in domestic violence crime such as domestic robberies and felony assaults. He stated that help is available if needed and to please seek service before it elevates to violence. He continued that anger management is available as well as help for substance abuse. If anyone needs these services, they can call 718-845-2227 or the NYC Helpline at 1-800-621-HELP. He stated that it has been a quiet month and that there will be no Community Council Meeting until March.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. There were none.

The Chair asked Roger Gendron if he would like to provide an update on The Army Corp of Engineers project.

R. Gendron announced that on February 11th they will be hosting a Flood Smart community event from 12 pm to 4 pm at the Our Lady of Grace school hall in Howard Beach where the Army Corps will discuss the HATS Study at Jamaica Bay; also in attendance will be Emergency Management, DEP, Flood Watch and FloodNet which handles flood sensors so residents can get flood alerts near their homes. He continued that there will be 6 or 7 different stations set up to provide information to residents. He announced that they are also trying to do an oral history on people that lived through Superstorm Sandy. They are documenting it and it will be memorialized at Brooklyn College. He stated that flooding doesn't just affect coastal areas, it effects all areas. He added that he will send us a flyer about these upcoming events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – The Committee Chair stated that the information is in the folder.

EDUCATION – The Chair stated that education is a priority in CB 10 and that the applications for the Community Education Council are available until February 19th.

LAND USE – The Committee Chair stated that there is a renewal variance on a gas station that is coming up. He asked if cannabis issues where they are asking for a response can be considered a Land Use action. The Chair stated that we can recommend that it would be a good procedure basically, like the one we have with the liquor license process. We can incorporate into our comment that Land Use designation should come into play. The regulations are not finalized. Whatever comment we make now should be a regulation comment period. We will consider as a board, what criteria we would like an applicant to have to open a site in our area. It is not binding. We have entered into stipulations with bars and this kind of process may come into play. The applicant must notify us if they want to site something in our area. We won't consider anyone for approval if they don't notify us that they are opening.

The Committee Chair stated that a common question that we are being asked is how you can stop this since many are confusing these establishments with smoke shops. The Chair stated that it is an issue, and it must have stringent rules to work and that if anyone hears of a place that is selling, to let us know so the authorities can stop it.

LEGISLATION – The Committee Chair stated that regarding cannabis issues, before the applicant comes before us for approval, they should have the regulations in place. The Committee Chair stated that perhaps we can have stipulations that maybe they can't sell after a certain hour. The Chair stated that we will certainly have the opportunity for future comment.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chair stated that the crime stats are in the board folders and that we should be talking a lot about cannabis and get a consensus on the Board.

SUMMER YOUTH – The Chair stated that the report will be e-mailed to the Board Members tomorrow since it didn't make tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

The Board Chair acknowledged various representatives from elected officials.

Fatima Karim rep. Congressman Gregory Meeks stated that the Congressman announced the passage of FY 23 Omnibus Bill with \$16.3 million dollars in local community project funding for 15 projects and that these projects are listed on his website at meeks.house.gov. She stated that if anyone needs any assistance, they can contact his office at 718-725-6000.

Tenequa Strong rep. Sen. Persaud announced that the Senator's office has 6 ft. & 9 ft. flood barriers and that anyone who is interested in obtaining some can come by their office at 1222 East 96th Street Brooklyn. She also announced that the next event they will be holding will be on Friday, February 10th from 10 am to 3 pm with the Legal Aid Society who will offer free civil services for divorce, tenant, and debt management issues. For more information, call their office at 718-649-7653. Their office is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Kathy Bourgie rep. AM Pheffer-Amato stated that after her re-election the Assembly member opted to serve as Chairwoman of the New York State Governmental Employee Committee and is working with public employees in New York including retirees. In her role, she will now preside over and facilitate legislation and policies for public employees that range in pensions, retirement benefits, and health insurance. For more information call their office at 718-945-9550.

William Bao rep. AM Anderson wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. He announced that the Assembly member will be holding his 2023 State of the District Address in person on February 23rd at 7 pm and the address of the location will be given upon registration. He also announced that any Non-Profit Community Based Organizations can apply for state funding and that he will leave the link in the chat.

Jacob Gross rep. AM Rajkumar announced the Assembly member is introducing legislation relating to still births in New York State. He explained that if a woman gives birth, she is given 12 weeks in paid leave but that if the child is born still born, they have the approval rescinded and that the Assembly member is correcting that. She is also introducing bills for funding for Veterans organizations, increasing awards to crime victims, reviewing the preliminary budget from the Governor and she held a successful mammography event this week. She will also be giving away goods to Veterans for Valentine's Day and from now until February 13th, she will be collecting new clothes, candy, cards, and toiletries for the Veterans.

Linda Fogel rep. CM Ariola stated that the Council member met with Chief Gonzalez of DSNY about hotspots for illegal dumping and having a regular cycle for pick up. They also discussed cameras to be added. She asked everyone to contact their office if they know of any illegal dumping. She stated that the Council member is also working with the Veterans to make sure that they are living appropriately and to let her office know of any Veterans that need assistance. She also announced that the senior prom registration deadline is tomorrow, and that the prom will be held

at the Nativity Church basement at 101-41 91 Street, Ozone Park. She also stated that tax season is approaching and that their constituent liaison Alex, is working with the Department of Finance and he can help residents understand their tax bill. He is in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and if anyone has any questions to call their office at 718-738-1083. She wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and stated that she hopes to see everyone again next month.

Dan Brown rep. DA Katz's office stated that last week DA Katz held a webinar on youth trafficking and that she will be holding a Black History event on February 22nd. For more information go to queensda.org.

David Tanis rep. Resorts World sent greetings from Resorts World Casino and stated that they appreciate the partnership and working with Community Board 10, and they will be moving forward in the coming months. He wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and said if there are any questions to reach out to him.

PUBLIC FORUM:

An inquiry was made by Quinneth Anthony about if there is anything in the budget regarding parking. She stated that she lives at North Conduit Avenue & 124 Street near JFK, and that JFK employees are parking on the street and walking over to the airport to work causing residents to have a hard time parking.

The Chair asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak.

The Chair stated that the office is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm and that you don't have to wait for these meetings to make a request or a complaint. You can call the office at 718-843-4488 or send an e-mail to qn10@cb.nyc.gov and to provide us with your name, address, and phone number so that we can get back to you.

The Chair asked if there was anyone on the telephone who would like to make a comment. There were none.

The Chair asked if there was anyone on Zoom who would like to make a comment. There were none.

The Chair stated for those viewing the YouTube video, that the record of the meeting will stay open until the close of business tomorrow and if there are any questions or comments to call the office at 718-843-4488 or send an e-mail to qn10@cb.nyc.gov

The Chair thanked all those attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



Karyn Petersen
Draft – Subject to Approval