



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, L. Amorim, J. Calcagnile, J. Caruso, E. Cheng, M. Cherenfant, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Cosentino, F. Dardani, A. Deebrah, I. Dimoh, J. Fazio, E. Fraylon, P. Granickas, A. Gellineau, A. Hill, R. Hitlall, E. Holland, P. Kishun, A. Maharaj, R. Martinez, D. Mitchell, F. Mohamed, S. Mohammed, R. Narine, S. Pace, A. Rajnauth, B. Ramsundar, G. Russo, N. Santiago, S. Uddin, I. Van Putten, L. Walker

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Adams, M. Amin, P. Baumann, N. Bissoon, J. Coulverson, A. Dhanpat, B. Escobar, A. Garcia, R. Gendron, R. Graziano, M. Logan, A. Nocerino, J. Quijano, V. Singh, J. Stahl, M. Vecchio

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. R. Persaud; Hon. J. Addabbo; Hon. J. Rajkumar; T. Strong, rep., Sen. R. Persaud; C. Moore, rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; W. Bao, rep., Hon. K. Anderson; L. Fogal, rep., Hon. J. Ariola; B. Jackson, rep., Hon. A. Adams; J. Mongeluzo, rep. Hon. B. Lander; D. Brown, QDA Office; S. Bajracharya Shakya, QDCP; M. Cano, QBPO; Capt. J. Bacchi, CO 106 Precinct; J. Reischel, NYCH & H; M. Righi, CCRB

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7pm.

The Chair stated that we have been joined by three elected officials this evening, one of which is new. She continued that State Senator Persaud is a Senator from Brooklyn who now covers part of Howard Beach in Queens since the reapportionment district lines took effect on 1/1/23 and this is the first meeting that she has attended in Community Board 10. The Chair welcomed Senator Persaud.

Sen. Persaud wished everyone a good evening and a happy new year. She stated that she represents the 19th Senate District and that this is her first meeting at Community Board 10, and that she wanted to listen to the discussion. She continued that she and her staff are committed to working with everyone and that her staff member Tanequa Strong, will remain on the call to take back any information or concerns. She stated that her office is located in Canarsie at 1222 East 96 Street and that the office phone number is 718-649-7653. She announced that her first newsletter was sent out this afternoon and that she hopes that even more people sign up to receive it. She stated that she looks forward to working with all of you and that she and Senator Addabbo work well together and will continue to work well together along with the other elected officials. She continued that she has been meeting with community leaders and that anyone that wants to meet with her can reach out to her office to make an appointment.

The Chair asked if there were any questions for Senator Persaud. There were none. The Chair once again welcomed Sen. Persaud and stated that we look forward to working with her.

The Chair introduced Senator Addabbo.

Senator Addabbo thanked the Chair and welcomed Senator Persaud. He stated that he knows that she will represent us greatly. He announced that his office was moving to Jamaica Avenue but that his phone number (718-738-1111) will remain the same. He continued that yesterday was his first session in Albany and they are addressing very serious issues. He stated that the budget in January is \$22 trillion dollars, and that if anyone has any issues of concern, to let him know. He continued that some of the high priority issues that he will be addressing are crime, public safety, health care and labor issues and that if anyone would like to weigh in on any of these issues to reach out to him and he hopes to answer any questions or concerns. Sen. Addabbo wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

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

The Chair introduced Assemblymember Rajkumar.

AM Rajkumar thanked the Chair and wished everyone a happy new year and wished everyone the best for 2023 and hoped that it will be filled with happiness. She stated that she had attended a toy give away at the 106th Precinct with Santa and Sen. Addabbo. She welcomed her new colleague, Sen. Persaud and stated that she will be a wonderful addition. She continued that she hopes that everyone is doing well after winter storm Elliot and announced that the Mayor has a new investment of \$390 billion dollars for new infrastructure to store stormwater in flood prone neighborhoods to keep them free from damage. She stated that she went to the Inauguration of Gov. Hochul in Albany and has also had several prior discussions with her. She announced that NYLAG will be offering free legal services to constituents at her office, and that on January 23 she will be offering free mammographies in partnership with Mount Sinai at her office as well. She continued that she gave out medals at a ceremony for youth that completed her 40-day reading challenge and that she also has helped youth with internship programs. She stated that she is working on passing legislation regarding public safety, quality of life, Veteran's, and school issues and wants to ensure that funding from the budget will be allocated to the Queens community and that she will continue to fight for funding this year. She continued that last year she and Mayor Adams made a plan to have Diwali as a holiday in city schools and she hopes that her bill will make that happen. She thanked everyone for the privilege to serve them.

The Chair asked if there were any questions for AM Rajkumar. There were none.

The Chair opened the informational Public Hearing and introduced Jason F. Reischel, Senior Advisor for Strategic Partnerships, Test & Treat Corps, NYC Health + Hospitals, who will share the latest COVID-19 data and provide information on the no-cost prevention resources that are available to the general public.

Jason F. Reischel introduced himself and stated that he works with Heath & Hospitals Test and Treat. He stated that they have now changed the name of Test & Trace to Test & Treat and that they are seeing a rise in COVID cases. COVID cases have been on the rise since Halloween, and some neighborhoods have the highest reported positivity rates. Ozone Park has a 20% reported positivity rate, South Ozone Park has 20% and Howard Beach/Lindenwood has 23%. These rates are high compared to other parts of the city. He added that real time data by zip code can be found at nyc.gov/COVIDdata. He continued that he is concerned with reports of the flu in NYC, and that in the beginning of February, they typically see peaks in flu rates but in December the flu rate doubled, and we saw 16,000 cases which is much higher than the rate historically. He stated that the flu shot is out there, and that Health & Hospitals recommends that everyone get the flu shot. He stated that Health & Hospitals launched their mobile Test & Treat, the nations first mobile Test & Treat program in June 2022. In the past, they only did testing but now you can get a prescription for Paxlovid an antiviral medication that reduces the chance of hospital death by 88%. It is a 5-day pill regimen (3 pills, 2 times per day). They are open 7 days a week in all 5 Boroughs from 8 am to 6 pm. All units offer free Paxlovid and the option of taking a free rapid or PCR test. Some units also offer Flu and RSV testing and can write Tamiflu prescriptions. No insurance is needed and there is not any out of pocket cost at all. To find a mobile test & treat go to the link <https://bit.ly/NYC.weeklytestingsites>. He added that they also provide free PPE and at home test kits. To arrange to pick up the free PPE go to <https://bit.ly/contacttestandtreat> and to order at home testing kits go to https://bit.ly/rapidkit_waitinglist. He also mentioned that they are available to do presentations as well.

The Chair closed the informational public hearing and asked if there was anyone on the phone with any questions or comments. There were none.

The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public on zoom with any questions or comments. There were none.

The Chair asked if there were any Board Members with any questions or comments. There were none.

The Chair thanked Mr. Reischel for the enlightening information and stated that we look forward to sharing it with everyone.

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 Chairperson resumed the regular order of business and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the December 2022 minutes. Hearing none, the minutes will stand.

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

- Notice from City Planning regarding the release of the Citywide Statement of Needs FY 2024 & 2025. The Chair stated that is available for review and that we will conduct a Public Hearing at next month's meeting.
- Van Wyck Expressway Contract 1 Traffic Update from December 5 - January 3
- Notification from the Mayor's office that one event that was held on Liberty Avenue was found to be in violation of their permit by the SAPO Unit.
- Notice from NYC Transit regarding their proposal to establish customer service stations.
- Letter from Sen. Sanders regarding an Emergency Town Hall Meeting about winter storm Elliot that is scheduled for tonight. The Chair stated that since tonight is our scheduled Board Meeting, no one from CB10 would be able to attend although many Board Members were impacted with serious flooding. She added that Roger Gendron was excused from tonight's Board Meeting since he was attending this meeting to get information for us and that she hopes in the future, the Senator won't schedule meetings on the same night as the Board Meeting.
- Letter from DOT in response to our letter requesting a speed reducer on Shore Parkway bet. 156 Avenue & 89 Street informing us that the location between 84 & 86 Street meet the criteria and that the location bet. 86 Street & 89 Street meet the criteria and that a total of 4 speed reducers will be installed when resources are available.
- Thank you card for the donation in memory of John Calcagnile's mother. The Chair extended condolences to John Calcagnile and his family again.
- Notice from DDC/OMB that they are upgrading the pedestrian ramps in Queens.
- OMB Notice regarding DOE & DCAS Certificate to Proceed upgrading lighting at 85 DOE facilities in Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens & Staten Island.
- Preliminary material we received regarding cannabis.
- Project newsletter regarding trench restoration in Queens and the Bronx.
- Notice from NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation regarding a special permit for JFK regarding dewatering at the airport.
- Notice from NYMTA Council that the review period for the draft of the Unified Planning Program is open along with a list of obligated projects.
- Letter from the Parks Dept. of the current list of waivers for pesticide products.
- Notice from BSA that January 9 or 10 there will be a Public Hearing regarding: 105-31 76 Street / Lot 106.
- Notice from BSA regarding an amendment to the condition terms for the gas station at: 130 Street & North Conduit Ave.
- Letter we sent to DOT in regard to opinions on the Car Share Program.

The Chair stated that the Board Members have a copy of the directed incoming mail and if any of them would like a copy of anything listed in it to let her know.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Chair read the report of expenditures for the month of December.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT: Maricela Cano, the Director of Community Boards for Borough President Donovan Richards announced that the Community Board Applications are now open and that Board Members up for reappointment need to reapply. The deadline is February 16. If anyone has any questions, she can be reached at Mcano@queensbp.org or to reach out to Karyn or Betty and they can reach out to her for them as well. She announced that they will be holding a Lunar New Year Celebration at Queens Borough Hall on January 19 where

they will have cultural performances and food. To rsvp go to: queensbp.org. She wished everyone a happy new year and stated that she looks forward to continuing to work with the new members and those getting reappointed.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT: Shristi Bajracharya Shakya announced that the Citywide Statement of Needs FY 2024 & 2025 has been released on the City Planning website.

DISTRICT MANAGERS REPORT: The District Manager reported that we have been informed that on the night of Tuesday, January 24th, 2023, DSS-HRS-DHS will conduct its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) Survey, point in time survey undertaken each winter that helps the city estimate the number of unsheltered New Yorkers living on the street on one of the coldest nights of the year. The results gathered through this survey provide the city with valuable information that helps to determine how to allocate resources to best serve New Yorkers in need with care and compassion. Volunteers are needed to canvass the streets, parks, subways, and other public spaces from approximately 10 pm to 4 am on the night of January 24. To learn more or to register visit nyc.gov/hope. Notification was received that in the coming weeks National Grid has planned construction work to install a new gas main at the following locations: 103 Road bet. 105 Place & 105 Street, 103 Drive bet. 105 Place & 105 Street, 105 Place bet. 103 Drive & 103 Road, and 103 Road & 105 Place. 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.

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

- Board Member Applications are out, and they are due on February 16 and for all those reapplying, to get them done.
- Information regarding ongoing Van Wyck Expwy work
- Information regarding Emergency Management and what to do about donations after a disaster, winter weather planning and CERT events.
- Information regarding careers in technology for young people.
- Information on recent social security scams.
- Cannabis information.

The Chair stated that it is illegal for any location to sell cannabis without a state retail license however, there are reports of stores selling it. If anyone is aware of any locations selling cannabis to let us know so enforcement action takes place. She continued that as of today, no one has reached out to us about wanting to open a retail licensed establishment to sell cannabis. There is also a brief explanation of the Community Board approval process, and we will provide more information as it rolls out.

- Citywide Statement of Needs

The Chair stated that it is a lengthy document that doesn't have anything specific for CB 10. It can be found on the City Planning website or she can e-mail a copy of it since it is 200 pages. She continued there are 2 new proposals for Queens. One is for office space in CB 6 and another proposal in CB 14. There is no new proposal for a site in CB 10. She continued that the one to watch is the ongoing need in the city to look for homeless shelter sites where they will construct specifically to be a shelter. On the school list of needs in District 27 which relates to CB 9 & 10, there is a need for a small primary school and primary/intermediate site but no site has yet been identified.

- Information on the HATS Study

The Chair stated that it related to flood control and that the comment period was supposed to end tomorrow but has been extended to March. She continued that Roger Gendron is gathering signed letters to incorporate into the comment and that we will provide pictures with the written comment so they can see what the impact was to all of Hamilton Beach, all of Howard Beach on the east side of Cross Bay Blvd. at 159 Avenue in the most recent storm on December 23. Many residents had water in their homes and, at this point in time, there has not been a

disaster declaration that would allow for individual assistance from FEMA to residents impacted. She asked that we urge the elected officials to make a request for individual assistance from FEMA so they can make the necessary repairs to their homes. She stated that it also helps their ability to get SBA loans. She continued that one major issue we faced after the storm was the frigid temperatures. Many residents lost their furnaces and were without heat. Many still need their furnaces replaced while we are in the middle of winter. There is a need for the city's response to people's needs. She continued that the storm was just shy of the storm impact from Hurricane Irene and we are not aware of any flooded homes outside the tidal zone. She asked that if there are any to let us know.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AQUEDUCT – The Chair stated that the State Gaming Officials including the Chairman of State Gaming Commission were over at the casino today doing a site visit and that hopefully a proposal for full gaming will move forward.

BUDGET – The Chair announced that any community groups be aware that in February, the Borough President will be holding his public hearing where community groups can apply for funding.

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

EDUCATION – The Chair stated that the Committee Chair could not be here this evening, but she asked us to share information that the kindergarten application process is now open.

LAND USE – The Committee Chair inquired about what the protocol is for sewer treatment before a storm and if there is any way we can receive a notice to let residents know that they may have to do some preventive treatment that may cause a sewer back up for about 15 minutes.

The Chair stated that she will explore that with Vincent Sapienza from DEP to see if there is any kind of a system in place.

LEGISLATION – The Committee Chair stated that regarding the Office of Cannabis Management, he would like to add that when these come up, the Board will have a say. He wished everyone a happy new year and added that he was grateful that tonight's meeting was held via zoom otherwise he would not have been able to attend.

The Chair announced that if they extend that we may hold a zoom meeting in February, that we will do so.

PARKS – The Committee Chair stated that on a social media chat about P.O. DeMutiis playground next to the 106 Precinct, they were saying that the trees are being cut down on the Liberty Avenue side to make way for a parking lot at the 106 Precinct. He stated that no parking lot is being built there and that the Parks Department had informed us that the abundance of ash trees at the corner of 102 Street & Liberty Avenue were cut down due to the Emerald Ash Borer insect.

PERSONNEL – The Committee Chair stated that everything is status quo and that hopefully things will look up in 2023.

The Chair introduced Captain Bacchi, Commanding Officer of the 106th Precinct.

Captain Bacchi wished everyone a happy, healthy new year and he thanked the businesses, elected officials and CB 10 because the precinct wouldn't be successful without their help. He stated that there has been a 13% increase in crime and there were 189 additional crimes for the year. Grand larceny drove the crime all year and that 142 of the 189 crimes were grand larceny for unattended property such as leaving valuables inside your car, leaving possessions in a non-secure gym locker, and package theft. He stated that if you safeguard your property, then grand larceny will go down. He continued that grand larceny auto had a huge spike last year and was caused by running unattended vehicles. In 5 days, 3 vehicles were stolen because they were running unattended. He reminded everyone to always lock your doors and take your car keys with you.

The Chair asked if there were any Board Members that had any questions for Captain Bacchi. There were none.

Captain Bacchi announced that the Police Exam is open until January 31 and for anyone interested, to go to: nyc.gov and follow the links for the Police Department.

The Chair asked Captain Bacchi to extend to all his officers in his command that we appreciate the help they gave in the areas that were flooded in Howard Beach and Hamilton Beach last week.

The Chair also thanked the Sanitation Department for dealing with the ice conditions due to the frigid weather and the for the extra pickups.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chair stated that the stats were in the folder and he thanked Captain Bacchi for meeting with him on many occasions to discuss various issues. He wished everyone a happy new year and good health.

SUMMER YOUTH – The Committee Chair announced that you can go on the DCAS website for any 2023 exams being offered and that her report is in the folder.

The Chair introduced Maroua Righi from CCRB (Civilian Complaint Review Board).

Ms. Righi introduced herself and spoke about how the CCRB investigates or mediates police misconduct. She also announced that they are accepting applications up to the last day in January for the Youth Advisory Council where youth up to age 18 can apply. They meet once a month virtually. To apply go to: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/ccrb/about/outreach/yac-application.page>

The Board Chair acknowledged various representatives from elected officials.

Carl Moore rep. Senator Addabbo announced that they will be moving on Wednesday to a new location at 84-16 Jamaica Avenue, but they are still available to anyone that needs their help. He wished everyone a happy new year.

Tanequa Strong rep. Sen. Persaud stated that their office is here to serve you and that they can be reached any time of the day.

The Chair announced that Assemblymember Stacy Pheffer-Amato of the 23 Assembly District was finally declared the winner of that race and that there is no representation from her office here tonight because no one has yet been seated in the 23rd AD.

William Bao rep. AM Anderson stated that the Assemblymember is attending Sen. Sanders storm meeting tonight and that their office is still collecting donations of clothing, food, and hygiene products until January 10 and that the Assemblymember wishes everyone a happy new year. He also announced they are accepting applications from non-profit community organizations for funding and that the deadline is February 2.

Linda Fogel rep. CM Ariola stated that the Councilmember is against changes to retirees' medical plans and is fighting to make sure that all retirees keep their medical benefits. She stated if anyone has concerns, to call their office. She announced they will be holding a Valentines Day for Veterans where they will distribute candy donations to Veterans. They will be receiving any collections at the Ozone Park and Rockaway office. For more information call their office at 718-738-1083. She also announced that they will be holding a senior prom on February 7 at 12 pm at Nativity church at 101-41-9 Street. If there are any seniors who want to attend call Jessica or Linda at 718-738-1083. She asked that everyone stay safe and stated that she hopes to see everyone next month.

Brendan Jackson rep. CM Adams stated the Councilmember is hosting OATH Day at their office on January 19 from 10 am to 4 pm where summonses from city agencies can be reviewed. They will also be holding a citizenship event at York College on January 10th from 10 am to 4 pm.

James Mongeluzo rep. NYC Comptroller's Office stated that there was a report about mayoral agency vacancies in critical positions that were understaffed by 20% and there was a statement made to help eliminate budget gaps, but Comptroller Lander doesn't think this is the best thing to do. He feels they need to look more closely at the positions before they are taken out of the job market permanently. He continued that the report of the State of the City Economy

Finance is going well however, there is some risk with commercial real estate and projected drops in Wall Street. The tax revenue is higher than expected (\$900 million dollars). He stated that those indicators are strong. For more details check the report at <https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/cityagencies-face-20-percent-vacancy-in-critical-positions/>. He also stated that if anyone has any questions, he can be reached at 646-689-6509 or at jmongel@comptroller.nyc.gov

Dan Brown rep. DA Katz's office thanked everyone for all their service and wished everyone a happy new year.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC FORUM: The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public on the phone who has a question or a comment. There were none. The Chair asked if there was anyone on Zoom who has a question or a comment.

Pastor Dabee thanked the board for having this meeting and for all they do for CB 10. He introduced himself and stated that he is the Pastor of St. James-St. Matthews church and that he would like to request an all way stop sign at 135 Avenue & 120 Street. He stated that motorists are speeding to catch the traffic light at Lefferts Blvd., and it is a hazardous condition for his parishioners as well as himself. He will send an e-mail regarding his request to the Board office.

The Chair stated that the office is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm and that he doesn't have to wait for these meetings to make a request or a complaint and that the District Manager will send the request to DOT.

The Chair stated that anyone from the public, zoom, or YouTube also don't have to wait to make a complaint, they can also reach out to our office from Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public on Zoom that has a question or 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 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



Karyn Petersen
Draft – Subject to Approval