



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

January 4, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Braton, B. Ramsundar, D. Wesby, J. Caruso, R. Gendron, A. Cosentino, R. Ciulla-Frisone, G. Singh, K. Roan, K. Ludhiana, M. Cherenfant, N. Santiago, J. Quijano, L. Amorim, S. Mohammed, B. Lall, J. Stahl, A. Maharaj, S. Pace, J. Fazio, P. Granickas, A. Rajnauth, F. Dardani, J. Calcagnile, R. Narine

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: E. Fraylon, R. Martinez, A. Nocerino, D. Mitchell, L. Walker, I. Van Putten, A. Hill, I. Dimoh, S. Uddin, P. Nostramo, A. Deebrab, M. Vecchio, R. Hitlall, B. Escobar, R. Ramgopal, A. Dhanpat, M. Amin, A. Gellineau, N. Latchana, G. Russo, F. Mohamed, N. Bissoon, P. Kishun

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Rajkumar; J. Viechweg-Horsford, rep., Hon. R. Persaud; C. Moore, rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; F. Sharif, rep., Hon. J. Sanders; W. Bao rep., Hon. K. Anderson; M. Bernath, rep., Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato; T. Eason rep., Hon. A. Adams; A. Leguisamo rep., Hon. J. Ariola; K. Morris, rep., Mayor's Office CAU; D. Brown rep., D.A. M. Katz; G. Katsalis, QBPO; A. Nurmansyah, QDCP; Capt. B. VanTull, C.O. 106 Pct.; B. McCants, Parks Dept., L. Songhai, B. Liona, C. Leiber, MTA; D. Tanis, rep. Resorts World; E. Stoeher, Jamaica Bay Conservancy.

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairperson welcomed everyone back and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

The Chairperson introduced Captain Berkley VanTull of the 106th Precinct and invited him to speak.

J. Fazio arrived at 7:04 pm

P. Granickas arrived at 7:04 pm.

Captain VanTull wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated that it was great being here this evening, and that he had a chance to meet with everyone at last month's Board Meeting. He introduced himself as the new Commanding Office of the 106th Precinct. He stated that this year crime has decreased a little over 1% and that most of our crime was driven by property crimes and that Grand Larceny Auto was causing the uptick last year. He continued that he wanted the community to get the word out that if you are warming up your vehicle during the winter months, to stay with the vehicle and don't leave it running because if criminals see the opportunity, they will take it and that a few seconds is all that they need. He continued that it doesn't matter what type of car it is because these criminals are very advanced. He also warned of some groups of individuals in the area that are purposely getting into car accidents with individuals if they are seen coming out from an ATM by rear ending them and when the driver gets out to check his car, they get into his car and take the envelope of cash that they got from the ATM. He reminded everyone to always be aware of your surroundings. He also warned to always sign for packages that are being delivered to your home or to pick them up at the Post Office to prevent individuals from stealing them from your front porch. He also stated that people sometimes have cameras on their home that have motion detection so when someone comes up to their porch it can make a recording which is helpful to the Police when trying to find individuals who have stolen packages.

Captain VanTull also stated that they have seen a lot of domestic incidents and that they want everyone to feel safe in their home, and they have a Domestic Violence Team to help provide resources to those who need them. He continued that, overall, he was glad that we are down in crime for the year, and he wished everyone a Happy New Year.

J. Calcagnile arrived at 7:07 pm.

The Chairperson opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Lucille Songhai, Assistant Director of Government Relations at MTA New York City Transit to present on the installation of the new ADA elevator at the Rockaway Boulevard Station.

Lucille Songhai introduced herself and stated that they were here tonight to speak about new elevator that will be installed on Rockaway Boulevard. She announced that copies of the presentation were available up front along with a fact sheet and stated that the elevator is crucial on the A-line at Rockaway Boulevard since that location is where commuters pick up the shuttlebuses. She introduced two of her colleagues, Brian Liona, the Project Manager and Carl Leiber from the MTA who would be assisting with the presentation.

Brian Liona thanked the Board for inviting them to attend this evening and stated that he is happy to do this ADA project to increase accessibility throughout the system. He continued that Rockaway Boulevard is a critical station to get the new elevators and that the overall goal is to increase accessibility. They plan to start the project next month. The contract was awarded to a Design-Builder, EAE in May 2023. The completion of this project will be in 2025. The customer benefits will be the addition of 2 new elevators, 1 mezzanine to the northbound platform and 1 street to mezzanine to the southbound platform. There will also be raised ADA boarding areas, ADA compliant stairs, agent booth modifications, braille signage, and glazed elevator enclosures. They will need to do utility relocations for NYCDEP Sewer & Water, National Grid, Con-Ed, and Verizon along with structural concrete work, structure and elevator steel framing, mechanical/plumbing work, electrical work, ADA path of travel work and platform repairs as well as architectural work including concrete painting, roofing, misc. metals, and glazing. One elevator will be on the street on the north side of Woodhaven Blvd. and the 2 existing staircases will remain. The second elevator will be located across the street, but it will not be street level. It will go from the mezzanine to the platform area. It was stated that MPT Plans are still under review by the DOT and that trees within the work zones will be protected, fire hydrants and bus stops will be always accessible, and the contractor will coordinate the removal/relocation of parking spots, parking pay stations, meters and benches. A few parking spots may be impacted near PC Richards and the work will take about 5 to 8 months to complete, however, there will always be access maintained on the sidewalk. The start date is January 2024, and they will begin to mobilize by setting up barricades and identifying the utilities. They expect to start up in 3 weeks and they will relocate the utilities by mid-2024. They will then start the concrete work from the street to the platform level and extending the mezzanine. By the end of 2024, the contractor will be ready to install specific components of the elevator which takes approximately 7 to 8 months then the commissioning process takes about 4 to 6 weeks so the items should be completed by the third quarter of 2025. It was also mentioned that there is a major water line located close to that area. The public can visit the project website at <https://new.mta.info/project/station-accessibility-upgrades> or call the project hotline at 845-735-3600 for them to respond to non-emergency complaints and issues, or they can reach out to the MTA Community Relations Representative Lucille Songhai at Lucille.Songhai@nyct.com.

The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public with any questions or comments.

A question was raised if this project will affect traffic in the area.

The response given was that in the largest work zone, it won't affect traffic in the main road. It will take up a few feet of the road on the service road on 94th Street because in a work zone when they close off the area, they must barricade the area. It was explained that sometimes they don't have enough room for a firetruck to turn so DOT may have to re-route the area but that would be the most significant impact right now.

Lucille Songhai added that as soon as they know more, they will let the community know more. They are aware that there are many small businesses in the area but there won't be significant parking removal.

The Chair asked if there was anyone else from the public who would like to speak. Hearing none.

The Chair asked if there were any Board Members who would like to speak.

The Land Use Committee Chair inquired if this would affect the medians and if they will need to widen the islands and lane width south of PC Richards.

The response given was that they must fit the elevator work in those existing islands and that there are no plans to make it wider.

The Land Use Committee Chair stated that the lane between PC Richards and the islands is where people cross over to enter up and he asked if there will be any street controls for people to get there without any incident.

The response given was that there are plans to have striping and a traffic signal.

The Board Chair added that this area is one of our most hazardous traffic locations.

The response given was they will bring that up with DOT.

The Board Chair stated that over the years the traffic modifications have been some help, but that it is a complex situation.

The Board Chair asked if there were any other questions.

A Board member stated that he would like to know that when they are finished working for the day that they will not leave the road blocked. The response given was that there are areas where they won't be able to break it down, but they will maintain space on the sidewalk. The Board member suggested they put a steel plate over the work being done in the street so that traffic can get back on the road. The response given was that DOT does not allow them to take lanes out of service unless it permits them to build it and that DOT determines the minimum lane area.

The Board Chair asked if there were any other questions.

A Board member stated that the contract was awarded to EAE and that several years ago an elevator was built at the Lefferts Blvd. train station. He asked if it was the same contractor and if not, how much experience did they have doing this type of work. The response given was that it is a development corporation to build elevators and that it is a Public Project Partnership that is funded by a developer and that the contractor will be constructing the elevators. Lucille Songhai added that the Design/builder will also be responsible for the maintenance of the elevators for 25 years.

The Board Chair asked if there were any other questions.

A Board member asked if this is cost effective and justified. The response given was when putting in elevators, there is never a really good location since there are utilities everywhere and, in this case, a large water main where they must keep a certain distance away. They have worked around utilities before and that Rockaway Blvd. is where people pick up shuttlebuses, so it is important to have this key location along the A-line. It is crucial and it is something that people have been asking for. It was stated that in 2025 there will be a 16-week shutdown of the A-line so it is important to have the elevators there so everyone can utilize it.

The Board Chair announced that we have been joined by a guest and she asked that everyone hold their questions and give them to the District Manager, and she will get the answers for you.

The Chair introduced Assemblymember Rajkumar and invited her to speak.

Assemblymember Rajkumar wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that she is happy to be here and that she wants to make it a great 2024. She attended Medal Day to honor the officers at the 106th Precinct. She also met with the Small Business Commissioner to help encourage holiday shopping. She continued that she had her first day of session this week and introduced the Smoke Out Act to shut all illegal smoke shops throughout NYC. She stated there are 35,000 smoke shops that have recently popped up and that there are 1,500 illegal smoke shops in NYC but only 9

illegal smoke shops were closed last year and that the pace of closing them is way too slow. She stated that her legislation will allow cities and municipalities to close them on their own where right now they can't because only the State can close them, however, there is not sufficient manpower. The NYPD would be able to close them instantly. She added that the Mayor said that he would close them within 30 days. She continued that people across the city are upset with the way illegal stores are plaguing the community and targeting children. She added that they are also fueling crime in NYC and that someone was recently killed in a smoke shop in her district. She stated that Senator Leroy Comrie has agreed to co-sponsor this bill and that she will be in touch with ways that the public can communicate their feelings about this topic to Albany. She continued that she feels that we also need more housing and that we need to pass a housing plan to fix the housing crisis. She stated that the shelter system in NYC is disabled and that we have received 60,000 migrants and that 500 migrants were arriving daily. With this surge, the problem is not ending, and that NYS has to help. She thanked everyone for allowing her to speak and stated that her office is located on Woodhaven Blvd and that she wishes everyone a happy and successful 2024.

The Chair thanked Assemblymember Rajkumar and added that we were happy to have her with us this evening.

The Chair stated that we were going to jump out of the regular order of business because at the December Board meeting, we deferred the vote on the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity. Since it was a lengthy document, the committee reviewed it and last month the Board approved the Committee's motion that the Land Use Chair continue to go through the 18 separate proposals and come up with the recommendation for the Board to vote on it tonight. She added that The Land Use Chair may not be able to stay until the end of the meeting since his daughter is having a baby because he will become a grandfather tonight.

R. Narine arrived at 7:45pm

The Land Use Chair stated that we did the carbon neutrality portion of the City of Yes and now we are looking at the economic opportunity portion of it. Later in 2024, the City of Yes for Housing will come before the Board for action. He continued that there are 18 parts to this proposal and the City provided a worksheet and we will propose feedback with what we support, what we don't support and what modifications we would like made. The Land Use Chair read off his recommendations and stated the reasons on the following items:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reactivate Storefronts | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 2. Simplify district types | Recommendation is to support |
| 3. Small scale production | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 4. Loading docks | Recommendation is to support |
| 5. Upper floor commercial | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 6. Use Terms | Recommendation is to support |
| 7. Urban Agriculture | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 8. Life sciences | Recommendation is to support |
| 9. Nightlife | Recommendation is to oppose with modifications |
| 10. Amusements | Recommendation is to oppose with modifications |
| 11. Home Occupations | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 12. Streetscape | Recommendation is to support |
| 13. Auto repair | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 14. Micro-distribution | Recommendation is to support |
| 15. Campus commercial | Recommendation is to support |
| 16. Corner stores | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 17. Better waiver process | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| 18. New loft-style district | Recommendation is to support |

The Board Chair explained what is meant by support with modifications.

The Chair restated that the motion on the floor from the Committee regarding the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Reactivate Storefronts | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Simplify district types | Recommendation is to support |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Small scale production | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Loading docks | Recommendation is to support |
| Upper floor commercial | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Use Terms | Recommendation is to support |
| Urban Agriculture | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Life sciences | Recommendation is to support |
| Nightlife | Recommendation is to oppose with modifications |
| Amusements | Recommendation is to oppose with modifications |
| Home Occupations | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Streetscape | Recommendation is to support |
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| Micro-distribution | Recommendation is to support |
| Campus commercial | Recommendation is to support |
| Corner stores | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| Better waiver process | Recommendation is to support with modifications |
| New loft-style district | Recommendation is to support |

The Chair asked if there was any discussion on the motion. Hearing none.
All in favor. 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.
The motion carries.

The Chair thanked the Committee Chairperson for the work on this issue and excused him from the rest of the meeting so that he could join his family to await the birth of his first grandchild.

The Chair went back to the regular order of business.

The Chair opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Benne McCants from the NYC Parks Department and invited him to speak about the Let's Green NYC Volunteer Program.

Benne McCants, District Manager of Parks introduced himself and stated that if anyone has any Park issues to contact him so he can address them and that he looks forward to working with everyone. He stated that the Let's Green NYC Initiative is Citywide to engage volunteers to work on green spaces. He stated that Parks provided relief during the pandemic and people were able to come out and walk around to get some peace, however, people are still recovering on certain levels and there is now an epidemic of loneliness, and that volunteering helps these issues and helps to combat anxiety by utilizing greenspaces. This initiative allows people to tend to our street trees and planting by partnering with community entities and groups. He continued that he has been with the Parks Department for 28 years and has served as the Director of Citywide Park Enforcement and he understands how they rely on volunteers to help get their jobs done. He continued that there is always a shortage of personnel and equipment but anything that can be done to help helps them. They want to record the number of volunteers through 2024 and are using different color bags at clean-up sites to show the work that has been done by the volunteers. He spoke about the clean ups that were done in Community Board 12 at Baisley Park and how much debris was found in that lake. He added that we don't have as many groups in District 10, but you can put your park on the website to have a group and that you can have someone from anywhere who can be a part of the group. The Parks Department will help them with equipment, and assign gardeners to work with them. This new volunteer program will match groups with volunteer opportunities in parks such as trail maintenance, cleanups and more. To get involved go to the Parks volunteer website where there are flyers with the QR code that takes you directly to the website. You can include the park group and have their own page and you can also start a volunteer day at a local park. He announced that he also left his business cards up front if anyone needs to reach him.

The Chair introduced Elizabeth Stoehr from the Jamaica Bay Conservancy and invited her to speak.

Elizabeth Stoehr introduced herself and stated that they are starting to hire for the Jamaica Bay wetlands restoration and are looking for individuals aged 18 to 25 to help restore the wetlands and to do maintenance for 6 months. They want to hire locally, and they have positions available for 12 young people where they will be learning about ecology and wildlife. She added that they also assist with resume building and OSHA training and that many young people

went on to more crucial jobs after working with them. She added that local young people are the key to improving our waterways at Jamaica Bay and for more information there is a QR code on the flyer left up front.

The Chair went back to the regular order of business.

The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the December 2023 minutes. Hearing none, the minutes will stand.

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

- Notice received from DDC regarding Project SEBLQX01 the replacement of Sanitary combined sewers and distribution of water mains in Queens. A small location in our area is included in this project on 115 St. & 150 Ave. partially down the block to 149 Avenue
- Notice to partially vacate at 104-37 103 Street
- OEM notification that relates to DEP and a second notification from OEM that deals with DOT.
- Reconstruction Newsletter for construction project HWTRQX1 which is ongoing in the district which gives the work done in the 4th quarter of the year
- Notice from the Borough President that the application period to serve on Community Boards is now open.
- Notice from the Franchise Concession & Review Committee about a meeting to be held on January 10, 2023
- Calendar Hearing of Public Contracts awarded on January 11 and December 28
- City Planning CEQR review for Green Fast Track for Housing

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

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT: Georgia Katsalis rep. for the Borough President's Office and Director of Community Boards introduced herself and stated that on behalf of the Queens Borough President's Office they wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. She also announced that Community Board Applications are available on the website until February 16th for any civic minded community members that want to join, and she asked everyone to help spread the word. She added that if there are any questions about the application process, to reach out to Khaleel Bragg at Kbragg@queensbp.org. She also announced that on January 24th at 6 pm they will be holding a Haitian Independence Celebration at Borough Hall and that on January 27th, they will be holding a job fair at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center from 10 am to 2pm. They will also be holding a Queens Women's Mental Health Basketball game at St. Francis Prep at 1 pm and that the Borough President will be attending that event. To RSVP for any of these events go to www.queensbp.org/rsvp.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT: Alisa Nadhifa Nurmansyah wished everyone a Happy New year and announced they will be holding a Green fast track rule making virtual session on January 29th.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: The District Manager wished everyone a happy and healthy new year.

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

- Information on the Queens Bus Network Redesign.
- List of job opportunities in the Port Authority
- Information about winter weather
- Committee reports

The Chair read the list of the names of the following Board Members who are up for reappointment and who must re-apply:

Mohamed Amin, Luis Amorim, James Caruso, Anthony Cosentino, Frank Dardani, Anoop Dhanpat, Irene Dimoh, Betty Escobar, John Fazio, Edna Fraylon, Peter Granickas, Anthony Hill, Romeo Hitlall, Pierre Kishun, Dorothy Mitchell, Fazlurrahman Mohamed, Rohan Narine, Jose Quijano, Amar Rajnauth, Nellie Santiago, Jody Stahl, Sharif Uddin, Marilyn Vecchio, Linda Walker

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AIR POLLUTION: The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year.

BUDGET: The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS: The Committee Chair stated that the report is in the folders.

EDUCATION: The Board Chair stated that the Committee Chair was not with us this evening because her father passed away and that the Board Members will be receiving a notification about that.

GATEWAY: The Committee Chair announced that Gateway is looking for paid helpers to work in the park over the summer and how important that type of work is since the Bay is such a beautiful place. He wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

LAND USE: The Board Chair stated that the Committee Chair left the meeting because he will be having a grandchild soon. She announced that there will be a Land Use Committee Meeting on January 17th at the Old Mill Yacht Club and that the items that will be discussed include a BSA case in the Gemini Field and the Stables area where there is a parcel of property where a developer wants to build homes on a de-mapped street, and the second item to be discussed will be the Gaming Text Amendment involving the casino procedures that the city will be following. She stated that we will vote on this at the following meeting, and we will have a presentation on it. She continued that we also would have a BSA gas station renewal application on the Van Wyck Expressway coming down the pipeline.

PARKS: The Committee chair thanked Park Manager Benne McCants and Park Supervisor Joe Mauro for all the work they do in our area to keep our parks up to date.

PERSONNEL: The Committee Chair stated that he hopes that we are successful with filling our open position in 2024 and wished everyone a happy new year.

PUBLIC SAFETY: The Committee Chair stated that the crime stats are in the folder. He continued that there are now 43 legal cannabis shops throughout NYS. The number has jumped, and we will be seeing a bigger number in the next month or so and we will keep you up to date.

The Board Chair added that we received one more cannabis location which was misdirected to Community Board 9 however, there were some issues with the location on the block since there were two religious institutions there. The applicant was notified, and he submitted another application for a different location on 130th Street & Liberty Avenue that we will be reviewing.

SANITATION: The Committee Chair announced that the NYC Sanitation Trash Academy is looking for applicants interested in learning how to create a healthier and more sustainable city. They are offering a free on-line and in person educational series which includes 8 lectures and 2 Field Trips. The Academy will run from February 8th to March 21st and the applications are due by February 2nd. For more information go to www.sanitationfoundation.org/nyc-trash-academy. The Committee Chair wished everyone and happy and safe new year.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: The Committee Chair stated that the report is in the folders.

TRANSPORTATION: The Committee Chair stated that she is planning to have a Transportation Committee Meeting with the MTA to discuss the Bus Redesign Network and that once they set the date, notices will be sent out and she urges the Committee Members to attend this meeting since this is the chance for everyone to express how they feel about this proposal. She wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Chair asked if any other representatives from City agencies were present.

The Chair introduced Carl Moore rep. Sen. Addabbo and invited him to speak. Carl Moore rep. Sen. Addabbo introduced himself and stated that the Senator is on his way back to Albany and he wishes everyone a Happy New

Year and that on February 3rd, the Cross Bay Bridge rebate program will go in to effect so everyone should have their E-Z Pass updated so they can be charged and credited back which will be good for everyone. He wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Chair introduced Faran Sharif rep. Sen. Sanders and invited him to speak. Faran Sharif introduced himself and wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. He announced that Sen. Sanders' bill was presented to establish a reparations committee and it passed and was signed by the Governor. He added that the Senator is very proud of his work.

The Chair introduced Jennifer Viechweg-Horsford rep. Sen. Persaud and invited her to speak. Jennifer Viechweg-Horsford introduced herself and wished everyone a good evening and gave greetings from the Senator. She announced that their office is located at 1222 East 96th Street and that they have new office hours. They will be open Monday to Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm and they will be open on Friday from 9 am to 1 pm. She stated that the Senator has a newsletter and she encourages everyone to sign up to learn about the Senator's past and current initiatives. She also announced that she is the lead for the Jewel Street project and that HPD has been the lead agency on this project, and they will have a series of workshops and they welcome everyone's input. She added that you can also give your input online at Persaud@senate.gov and she stated that she hopes that 2024 brings you all you hope for.

The Chair introduced Maggie Bernath rep., Hon. Stacy Pheffer-Amato and invited her to speak. Maggie Bernath introduced herself and announced that the Assemblymember had 27 bills signed into office this year and that their new district office is located at 159-53 102 Street, Howard Beach where Senator Addabbo's office was previously located. She continued that the Assemblymember wrote to OCM to vote in firm opposition of not recommending the cannabis store to operate in Howard Beach and she also supports the Community Board regarding this matter. She also announced that the Cross Bay Blvd. bridge will no longer be charging tolls to Queens residents, and it will now be free on a rebate program.

The Chair introduced William Bao rep. Assemblymember Anderson's office and invited him to speak. William Bao introduced himself and wished everyone a Happy New Year and a happy 2024. He announced that the Assemblymember will be having a NY Legal Assistance group offering free legal services in his office on January 17th.

The Chair introduced Tiffany Eason rep. Council Speaker Adrienne Adams and invited her to speak. Tiffany Eason introduced herself and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She announced that yesterday, Council Speaker Adams was reelected to be the Council speaker for a second term. On January 8th she will be co-sponsoring a discretionary funding application process on zoom, and she will send out the details. On Saturdays, they have office hours at the South Ozone Park library from 12 pm to 5 pm where the public will also have access to an attorney for consultations. For more information call their office at 718-206-2068. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

The Chair introduced Dan Brown rep. the Queens District Attorney and invited him to speak. Dan Brown introduced himself and announced that they had a takedown with 11 arrests made for drugs and firearms that were seized in Jamaica where they dismantled drug traffickers in the same family. There were 26 buys for heroin and cocaine that was mixed with fentanyl and 8 guns were taken off the street including an assault weapon. He also warned everyone about scammers and how some are stealing homes with deed fraud of the deceased homeowner. They had \$56,000 in restitution and \$100,000 in fines for criminal possession of stolen property and false filing. They also restored ownership of 14 homes to victims. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

The Chair introduced Alex Leguisamo rep. Councilmember Ariola's office and invited him to speak. Alex Leguisamo introduced himself and gave everyone best wishes for 2024. He announced that the Councilmember is offering help to homeowners to apply for assistance with the Department of Finance and that residents can call their office and provide their name, address and telephone number and they can receive help with the process over the phone. He continued that the Department of Finance will be coming to their office in February and that many residents don't apply because they don't understand the process and that the time to apply is now. He wished everyone lots of love, money and health.

The Chair introduced David Tanis rep. Resorts World and invited him to speak. David Tanis introduced himself and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He announced a program where for 12 weeks Resorts World sponsors and

connects students who will receive stipends. He also announced that Resorts is currently engaged in the full casino licensing process and is preparing their application. They also hope to expand in the community and offer new jobs. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

OLD BUSINESS: None

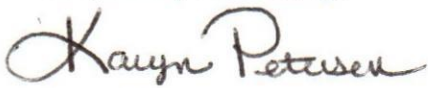
NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

The Chair asked if there is anyone else from the public who would like to speak. Hearing none.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Karyn Petersen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karyn Petersen
Draft- Subject to Approval