



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

May 2, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Acuqui, L. Amorim, N. Bissoon, B. Braton, J. Calcagnile, J. Caruso, B. Ciaramella, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Cosentino, F. Dardani, A. Dhanpat, I. Dimoh, K. Edwards, E. Fraylon, A. Gellineau, R. Gendron, P. Granickas, G. Hewitt, P. Kishun, R. Martinez, F. Mohamed, S. Mohammed, A. Nocerino, P. Nostramo, S. Pace, J. Quijano, B. Ramsundar, K. Roan, G. Russo, A. Sancier, N. Santiago, J. Stahl, I. Van Putten, L. Walker, D. Wesby

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: M. Cherenfant, F. Gulluscio, A. Hill, R. Hitlall, B. Lall, N. Latchana, K. Ludhiana, D. Mitchell, R. Narine, A. Rajnauth, R. Ramgopal, A. Siewnarine, G. Singh, A. Vital

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

J. Reina, rep., Hon. G. Meeks; C. Moore, rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; F. Sharif, rep., Hon. J. Sanders; M. Bernath, rep., Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato; D. Sanchez rep. Hon. J. Rajkumar; A. Leguisamo, rep., Hon. J. Ariola; D. Brown rep., Hon. M. Katz, DA; G. Katsalis, QBPO; A. Nurmansyah, QDCP; P.O. Robinson, 106 Pct; P.O. Milani, 106 Pct.; D. Jeong rep. Con-Edison; J. Jennings, V.P Justice Youth and Family Services Rising Ground; E. Poulard, Dir. Operations Rising Ground SOP LSP facility; Iza Ceden, Program Director Rising Ground SOP LSP facility

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

The Chairperson opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Daniel Jeong, Con Edison Consumer Outreach & Education Team, and invited him to provide updates on different projects and initiatives ConEd is working on.

Mr. Jeong spoke about the zero emission 2040 initiative and how New York State is planning to go to zero emissions by the year 2040. He also stated that customers are experiencing billing rates going up and that if energy consumption does not decrease bills will continue to go up substantially. He offered some energy saving tips such as making sure your appliances are clean so you will use 30% less energy and by upgrading your appliances to be more energy efficient. He also spoke about weatherization and how Con-Ed can cover \$2,000 of the cost for new windows and that homeowners can google the New York State Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) website to see the available incentive programs. He continued that if Con-Ed doesn't cover it, the state and city may cover it. He also advised upgrading water heaters. He added that many of these incentive programs are first come, first serve and that eventually the money will run out. He also spoke about the energy affordability program where homeowners may qualify for a discount on their monthly energy bill if they receive benefits from certain eligible governmental assistance programs.

Homeowners will be enrolled automatically if an agency notifies them that they receive Home Energy Assistance Program HEAP, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Direct Vendor or Utility Guarantee, Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) - NYC TANF; Westchester TANF or Safety New Assistance (SNA) - NYC SNA; Westchester SNA. Homeowners must apply to enroll themselves if they receive

benefits from the following programs such as Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit or Lifeline Telephone Service Program (Lifeline).

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone from the public that had any questions. Hearing none.

The Chairperson closed the Informational Public Hearing.

The Chairperson asked if there were any Board Members that had any questions.

A question was raised by a Board Member about if there were any rebates for car charging systems for private homes. Mr. Jeong stated that they have a lot of programs for EV chargers. Mr. Jeong added that he often receives many inquiries from residents about his feelings on using solar power. He stated that he hasn't met anyone who didn't like solar power and that it will pay for itself in 4 years and many homeowners' energy bills have dropped from \$200 down to \$40.

A question was raised by a Board Member about if the discounts apply to those who live in co-ops or condos.

Mr. Jeong stated that the Energy Affordability Program would apply to those who live in co-ops or condos, but some other programs may not apply to them.

The Chairperson asked if there were any other Board members who had any questions. Hearing none.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Jeong for his updates.

The Chairperson stated that the next agenda item was a guest speaker from the Limited Secure Placement (LSP) Juvenile Justice Facility that is located in our Board area. She explained that unfortunately there was an incident last month at the facility and one of the youths in custody went AWOL. We requested an update of what is currently going on at the facility. She added that the facility is located on a residential block and that there will also be a meeting held tomorrow with Speaker, Adrienne Adams about this incident.

The Chairperson introduced Mr. Jestin Jennings, Vice-President Rising Ground, Inc. and invited him to speak.

Mr. Jennings introduced himself as the Vice-President for Justice Youth and Family Services for Rising Ground which operates the LSP facility located at 133rd Avenue & 127th Street South Ozone Park. He stated that he ran that site for many years and that his background includes being a licensed clinical social worker. He continued that he is now running multiple Juvenile Justice sites across the city, and he thanked everyone for allowing him to speak this evening and added that he understands the concerns of the community.

The Chairperson explained that the concerns that have been expressed to the Board by the community revolve around a couple of issues. She stated that over the years there was a notification system that was in place where key residents were notified when there was an incident. That apparently failed to be implemented for this recent incident. There was a great deal of concern expressed when a young person went AWOL. From a residential standpoint - it is a residential block, and The South Ozone Park Civic Association meeting was taking place during the same timeframe at the church on the corner. The civic and its members felt endangered. The Chairperson added that we understand that it was the intention of the young man who went AWOL to go to his home neighborhood, but to do that, he had to go through our neighborhood. The Chairperson stated that our residents want to know how this individual got out of the facility. We understand that it had to do with him pulling the fire alarm, but it was our understanding that problem had been previously corrected. If he went out to the back of the facility, the only way he could get out was to go over the fence into a neighbor's yard and that is concerning to those on the block. She added that the neighbors are not happy and rightfully so.

Mr. Jennings explained about the failure of the text messaging system. He stated that in June, Sheltering Arms transferred to Rising Ground. They had last sent out a text alert in October about an incident that occurred, however, now the notification system caught up that they transferred over, and it now needed to be re-validated. Unfortunately, they had the recent incident when the system was down, however, now it is up and running and they recently did a

notification test. They also have a sign-up sheet available this evening for all those who want to sign up to be notified. He explained that unfortunately, they had no way to notify anyone while the system was down.

Mr. Jennings stated that the FDNY and OCFS are currently in discussion about updating the fire alarm system so if the alarm is pulled, the doors won't open. He added that Rising Ground has been successful with this type of fire alarm system in their other facilities that previously had this issue.

The Chairperson stated in regard to the fire alarm, our understanding was that it was first an issue with the alarm going off when there was a low population of 1-3 residents in the facility. She stated that there needs to be a system in place that staff be near the door if an incident should occur, certainly now when the population in the facility is larger. The Chairperson then focused attention on another issue of concern, which is the use of the outdoor recreation area. We understand the youths need to exercise and play ball, but we ask that the use of the yard be limited to small groups playing at one time and that whenever they are outside that there is a sufficient number of supervising staff. It is concerning that someone got out by apparently scaling the fence to the neighbor's yard.

The Chairperson continued that the other issue involves one of the agreements that was made with the community when the facility was first sited. That was that staff would not be taking up parking on the block. She stated that parking is at a premium and we sympathize that the staff may have to walk 2 or 3 blocks but taking up the parking is unfair to the residents of that block.

The Chairperson continued that another concern was how many staff were present at the time of the incident and what their functions were.

A Board Member stated that while their Civic meeting was going on, the police came in and asked to view the cameras on the church and their meeting had to end early because everyone wanted to get home. He added that they want to be notified of what is going on.

Mr. Jennings stated they can enroll in their text message system.

The Chairperson stated that we are trying to reach out to get you the key people in the community who should be notified.

An inquiry was made by a Board member as to how the program is going to solicit the residents' phone numbers and e-mails for their message notification.

Mr. Jennings stated that they held Community Advisory Board Meetings quarterly and they also went door to door with flyers to let them know that these meetings were being held. He continued that now they are working with the library. They were previously holding the Advisory Board Meetings virtually but now they are hoping to hold their next meeting in the library on the last Thursday of the month in June. He will also speak with CB 10 about whether there are any others that would like to be invited to this meeting.

An inquiry was made by a Board Member about if there is any security agency that comes in after these types of incidents happen to assess and if so, do they give you a report and will it be shared with CB 10. Mr. Jennings stated that ACS and OCFS come in and they work with them on an active plan. The plan is not shared with the community; however, they will share it at the Community Advisory Board Meeting.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Jennings and stated that these questions will come up at tomorrow's meeting with Speaker Adams. She added that since Rising Ground is contracted with ACS, we will ask ACS for any report generated.

The Chairperson asked if there were any other questions from the Board Members. Hearing none.

The Chairperson stated that we will fill everyone in with the outcome of tomorrow's meeting with CM Adams regarding this matter.

The Chairperson announced that those signing up to receive text notification from the facility should be those residents in immediate proximity to the facility and the text notification should be confined to the area around the block of St. Anthony's Church. She continued that the So. Ozone Park Civic Association West President does a good job of notifying his members and that the Precinct Council President also does a good job of notifying his members as well. She added that the purpose is for these community leaders to reach out to the community members so that accurate information can get out.

A question was raised by a Board Member about if they could give an overview of the program.

Mr. Jennings stated that it is a Limited Secure Placement (LSP) facility for youth that were adjudicated for cases heard in family court. The youth are placed there by family court, not criminal court. They remain at the facility for approximately 6-12 months where clinical services are provided to them as they integrate them back into the community. The youth also receive 3-4 months of aftercare where they make sure they have all the resources they need.

A question was raised by a Board Member about if it is a co-ed program. Mr. Jennings stated that it was not co-ed.

The Chairperson stated that since it has been in operation, the population at the facility has increased and gotten older, and most of the youth were under the age of 16 however, with Raise the Age, many of the youth coming in may be 17 or 18 years old. She continued that we need to know what security features are in place with more youth now in the facility.

A question was raised by a Board Member about when they said the system was down for 2 months was it because they switched over from one company to another. The Chairperson stated that the transition between the two agencies took place months ago and this should have been addressed earlier, not after the incident occurred. She continued that the contact list didn't get transferred over and that was also a concern.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Jennings for attending the meeting.

Mr. Jennings introduced Emmanuel Poulard, Director of Operations at the facility and Iza Cedeno, Program Director at the facility. He added that he has also sent a complete contact list for the staff at the LSP facility to the District Manager.

The meeting continued with the regular order of business.

The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections on the April 2024 minutes. Hearing none.

CORRESPONDANCE: The Chair reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of April which included:

- Letter from DOT regarding approval for a speed hump request at 155 Avenue bet. Cohancy St & Killarney St. Howard Beach. Installation will take place when the resources are available.
- Letter from DOT regarding denial of a speed hump request at 127 St. bet. Linden Blvd. & 115 Ave, So. Ozone Park. It was stated that the location didn't meet the criteria.
- Notice from Metropolitan Transportation Council regarding transportation approve amendment comment period on 4/6/24.
- Notice from Metropolitan Transportation Council meeting notice for 4/15/24.
- Letter from DSS requesting sites for homeless shelters in CB 10
- DPR product waiver notices
- Notice of Hamilton Beach substation work beginning on 4/22/24.
- BSA Hearing Notice on 4/15/24 regarding 2 gas station items in CB 10
- Notice from Bay Crane Services for a crane operation on 149 Ave bet. Cross Bay Blvd. & Redding St from 4/23/24 to 4/29/24
- Notice from DWCP regarding review of tobacco and cigarette licenses.
- Notice from DWCP regarding caps on tobacco and cigarette licenses.
- E-mail correspondence from OTI regarding Link 5G sites in the district.

- E-mail correspondence looking to install Link 5G at the following addresses:
105-40 Rkwy. Blvd., which is commercial; 129-15 150 Ave. which is residential so it will not have an advertising screen; 133-38 135 Ave. which is by the park and will not have a screen; 118-09 Sutter Ave. which is residential and will not have a screen; 117-02 130 St. which is commercial and will have a screen; 120-08 131 St. which has a commercial overlay and will have an advertising screen.
The Chairperson stated that if any of these locations are problematic let us know and we will contact the agency.
- Copy of a Letter from SOPCAW that was sent to Speaker Adams regarding signage requests in our area that were not accomplished.
- Calendar Contract of Awards
- Correspondence from Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic regarding the City of Yes

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

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT: Georgia Katsalis, from the Borough President's Office, wished everyone a good evening and wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day on behalf of the Borough President. She announced that on 5/22 at 10 am they will be celebrating Mother's Day at Borough Hall; on 5/29 at 12 noon they will be celebrating Senior Day; and on 5/30 they will be celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. To RSVP for any of these events go to www.queensbp.org/rsvp. She wished everyone a lovely evening.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING: A. Nurmansyah wished everyone a good evening and stated that the City of Yes Housing Opportunity presentation was released this past Monday, and all Community Boards will be reviewing it over the next 60 days. There will be 4 info sessions on YouTube that will be live streamed and there will be a one-hour question and answer session. She continued that she looks forward to scheduling a committee meeting with the board and presenting it to the full board in June.

The Chairperson explained that this will be a public presentation, not a hearing at the June meeting. Following that presentation the Land Use Committee will meet. After that meeting the public hearing will be scheduled and the Land Use Chairman will schedule an information session.

A. Nurmansyah stated that the official date for certification is 9 days after Monday and then to count 60 days after that.

The Chairperson stated the issue of concern is how to get it all done before the summer break or to meet over the summer. She continued that the Land use Committee Chair has some ideas as to how to share that information more broadly. She stated that in the board folders, we included City Planning's notice that all of the documents are available online and can be read on the ZAP portal and she urges the Land Use Committee members to familiarize themselves with it.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: The District Manager announced that we have received notification that beginning Monday, May 6th, between the hours of 9 pm and 5 am, the NYCDOT Division of Bridges is constructing a containment area in preparation for lead paint removal and protective coating operations on the Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge. There will be single and double lane closures on westbound North Conduit Avenue N.Y.S. (Route 27) between 114th Place and Cross Bay Boulevard Bridge according to the following schedule: single lane closures 9 pm to 12 am – weekend nights 12:01 am to 5 am and double lane closures 12:01 am – 5 am – weekend nights 12:01 am – 7 am. The traffic pattern will be in place for approximately 4 weeks. At least 1 lane will be maintained at all times. We have also received notification that in the coming weeks National Grid has planned construction work to install a new gas main at the following locations: 77 Street bet. Belmont Ave & Sutter 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 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. In order 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. Apologies to the Board members for not getting the Board folders out as

early as usual. The folder materials were sent out this morning. If you have not seen them as of yet, please check your e-mail.

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

- Guide for the City of Yes regarding housing
- JFK Redevelopment newsletter
- Information regarding rats.
It was stated that this information is also posted on the CB 10 Facebook page.
- Information regarding the survey that was out from DFTA.
It was explained that it was a service needs assessment for older adults and that everyone can share the survey with others.
- 5 G Link kiosk information
- Information on the solar project.
- It was stated there was a groundbreaking ceremony held last week at the long-term parking lot near the Air Train where they are planning to build a covered canopy parking lot. They are also building a solar area that will be built in 2 phases. Phase 1 will deliver energy to the airport by March 2025 and Phase 2 is a community solar project that will deliver solar energy to the surrounding community by April 2026. They will also have a battery backup storage if there are any strains on the grid.
- Report on NYC Commission of Human Rights
- Communication from Sherwood Development.
It was stated that they had contacted us to meet with them, but the meeting was cancelled, and we will reschedule it. The project is in Brooklyn CB 5 and they are planning to develop property and they are in contract to acquire an 8.6-acre site in Brooklyn with 300,000 sq. feet of parking. They plan to pursue redevelopment and will change the 1 theater to a Food Bazaar Supermarket, and they will try to rezone the property. This project will go before Brooklyn CB 5 and the development may take 30-36 months. They are working as part of the Jewel Street study area and part of it is on our boundary line. They will redevelop the site if they get the rezoning.

The Chairperson stated that Captain VanTull texted that he was working on a police-related matter this evening and would not be able to attend tonight's meeting, however, P.O. Robinson and P.O. Milani are here this evening.

The Chairperson continued about the issue with taking officers from the 106th Precinct to Rockaway over the summer. It is an issue because we are losing needed manpower. She stated that as of 4/28/24, the 100th Pct. has had 145 major felony crimes, the 101 Pct. has had 245 major felony crimes and the 106th Pct. has had 490 during the same time period. If we take the 100 & the 101 Precincts and combine them together, we still have 100 more of the 7 major felony crimes than the peninsula. We understand there is a need during beach season, but it is clear that we too have a need to keep our officers here during the summer.

The Public Safety Chair stated that if you look at the stats after the summer they are not going to change that much. The Chairperson added there will be an increase in beach crime and also an increase in our crime over the summer. The Public Safety Committee Chair stated that they also have PEP Officers in Rockaway to give infractions on the beach and they also have traffic agents down there.

The Chairperson announced that she received a phone call from Sen. Persaud that her representative couldn't attend this evening but is watching on YouTube and had the following announcement that on 5/4 from 11 am to 2 pm they will be holding a Mother's Day clothing give away for mothers and children at 1222 E 96th Street.

The Chairperson spoke about the City of Yes for Housing and stated that we are not pleased that City Planning certified at this time, however, we have to act on this within the 60-day time period for our review. It is confusing and it is lengthy. This is a big piece of work. We wish they would have broken it up into smaller parts but unfortunately, they didn't.

The Chairperson turned the meeting over to the Land Use Chair to discuss this topic.

LAND USE: The Committee Chair stated that there are two issues of action coming. One is in the Centreville area and involves a small street de-mapping for houses in the Bristol Street area. He stated that we will be meeting with the builder next week. He explained the other issue is the City of Yes regarding housing and that this process will be a little longer and detailed from what we normally do. He explained that regularly he will call a Land Use meeting then the committee will make a recommendation and a vote will be taken. At the Board Meeting he will report on it and the Board will vote on it that night however, it is impossible to move this along like that since there is too much material and there are about 1100-1200 pages to read and that doesn't include the environmental impact study which is another thousand pages. He continued that when they released the zoning resolution, he would read each section where they crossed out the old wording and they would insert the new wording once it was approved and that was about 790 pages so we are trying to handle this differently. The Land Use Committee meeting will be held the week of May 20 – 24 and he will have a presentation from City Planning that will be informational. There will be no recommendation or vote. The following Board Meeting will be on 6/6 where a presentation will be made by the Department of City Planning but there will be no vote. There will be a community-wide Public Informational Meeting sometime between 6/10 & 6/21 where we will try to get representation from all parts of the district to get the information out since all of the communities are affected by this. The Public Hearing will be held sometime between 6/4 and 6/28 and then the Land Use Committee will meet to develop its recommendation. By the end of June or the 1st week of July the Board will meet for the Board vote. COY was formally released on Monday 4/29 and we have 9 days from that day for the clock to start as our DCP rep said earlier. If the clock starts ticking on May 13th and we add 60 days that will put us at July 15th to finish up on this action.

The Land Use Committee Chair added that normally we would have July and August off but that we will be having a special meeting in late June or July to vote on this.

A. Nurmansyah stated that City Planning will be voting tentatively in August and that any recommendation by the Community Board will still be considered before the City Planning vote in August. The Board Chair stated we would act within the timeframe required for us to act.

The Land Use Committee Chair added that he hopes that City Planning provides us with the tools in the response package such as a checklist on the different sections and he asked that A. Nurmansyah please bring that back to them and that when they make the presentation to the Land Use Committee in our Board office we would like to have a more pertinent video presentation so we can share it as we need with the community and lastly, he asked that they feel free to bring down other members of the team versed in the City of Yes along with herself and that we would greatly appreciate that.

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

BUDGET: The Board Chair stated that the Budget Committee will be meeting before the June Board meeting and that the District Manager will be presenting the official internal budget.

JFK INTERNATIONAL: The Committee Chair stated that the information is in the folders.

The Chairperson stated she hopes that everyone is reading the press articles for the JFK Redevelopment project.

A Board member inquired if the solar project is part of the City of Yes.

The Chairperson stated that it was not.

GATEWAY: The Chairperson stated that the report is in the folders.

LIBRARIES: The Committee Chair wished everyone a good evening. She announced that the South Ozone Park library is a satellite office for CM Adams, and they will provide lawyers every Thursday on May 9th, 16th from 12 pm to 5 pm who can offer legal advice on immigration, citizenship, family issues and green cards. They will also be holding a mobile pantry food distribution at 94-24 Rockaway Blvd. on May 8th from 12 pm - 2 pm.

PARKS: The Committee Chair announced that he will be holding a Parks Committee meeting on May 14th at 7 pm in the Board Office and that the Committee members will be receiving the committee notice in the mail. The Committee will be reviewing the Tudor Park exercise equipment which is in design review.

PUBLIC SAFETY: The Committee Chair stated that the crime stats are in the folder. He announced that as of today, there are 116 legal cannabis shops in NYS and still none in CB 10. He continued that illegal smoke shops make money only if we frequent these stores and it is up to us to get rid of them. People don't know what they are getting when they purchase from the smoke shops because it is not tested. There are legal dispensaries at 162-03 Jamaica Avenue and at 74-03 Metropolitan Avenue where the product has been tested, however, we don't have any shops selling medical marijuana. He added that we need to get the illegal smoke shops closed.

PERSONNEL: The Committee Chair stated that the personnel are status quo.

LEGISLATION: The Committee Chair stated that last month AM Rajkumar had legislation introduced to allow the Police Department to be able to address issues with illegal cannabis stores and act as an agent to close these stores down.

A question was raised by a Board Member as to how we can know if a cannabis store is legal.

The Public Safety Committee Chair stated that there is a special label that is posted with a QR code that you can take a picture of with your cell phone to verify if the store is legal. He displayed a picture of this label with the QR code for the members to see.

The Chairperson added that we will send everyone out the link.

SANITATION: The committee Chair announced that DSNY will be starting to collect garbage now at 5 am.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: The Committee Chair wished everyone a good evening and announced that the USTA will be holding a job fair at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center from 6/26 to 6/27 from 3 pm - 7 pm. For more information call 1-800-900-8782. She also announced that positions are open for guest services, player services, court services, administration IT and facility operations. For more information go to <https://jobs.nyc.gov>

TRANSPORTATION: The Committee chair announced that the MTA is going to have a few Queens Bus Network redesign Open House Meetings and suggested everyone attend since this is your time to see the actual proposal and you can voice your opinion. Meetings will be held on 5/9 from 5 pm to 8:30 pm at the Helen Marshall Cultural Center at 120-55 Queens Blvd., and on 5/6 from 5 pm to 8:30 pm at the Boys and Girls Club at 21-12 30th Road Astoria. She wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

The Chair introduced Jose Reina rep. for Congressman Meeks and invited him to speak. He wished everyone a good evening and provided information regarding Social Security and to call Congressman Meeks office if you need assistance. He continued that residents can also call the office if they need assistance with obtaining their tax refund from the IRS. He also announced that the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US DOT have allocated millions of dollars on infrastructure funding, 180 electric school buses for a green economy, \$7.4 billion dollars for student debt relief for borrowers in state programs and that in 10 years Federal Student loans will take out \$12,000 less. For more information call 718-725-6000.

The Chairperson introduced Carl Moore rep. Sen. Addabbo and invited him to speak. He introduced himself and announced that they will be holding an Autism Disability Walk on Saturday from 1pm to 5 pm at Rizzuto Park. They will also be holding an e-waste recycling event at Forest Park from 10 am to 2 pm. They will have DOT in the District next Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm and he has highlights of the new budget available up front. If anyone has any questions, they can call the office.

The Chairperson introduced Faran Sharif rep. Sen. Sanders and invited him to speak. He announced that the Senator will be hosting an event called the University of Streets which will involve community engagement to look for young leaders to hear from them. He will also hold AI for generation Z on 5/10 from 4 pm to 6 pm at 145-01 Farmers Blvd. He announced there are grant opportunities available for faith-based organizations on 6/13/24 from 9:30 am to 11:30

am at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church at 202-03 Hollis Avenue, Jamaica. For more information call their office at 718-523-3069.

The Chairperson introduced Maggie Bernath from AM Pheffer-Amato's office and invited her to speak. Maggie Bernath stated that the Assemblymember has been working on passing the state budget and she brought \$13.6 billion dollars to NYC public schools and has helped to secure grants for non-public schools. She has also worked with the sheriff's office to padlock illegal cannabis businesses and has allocated \$347 Million dollars to decrease gun violence.

The Chairperson introduced Diana Sanchez rep. AM Rajkumar and invited her to speak. Diana Sanchez introduced herself and stated that she is the Director of Constituent Support Services. She announced that the Assemblymember passed the Smoke Out Act and that the Mayor is now closing smoke shops and if there are any trouble spots to call their office at 718-805-0950. She has also introduced legislation for pension benefits for Fire fighter Derrick Floyd who was fired because he had a heart condition. If he had remained on the job, he would have been eligible for hundreds and thousands of dollars of benefits. She continued that the Assemblymember is also working to protect us on cyber attacks and that if anyone has any questions to call them at 718-805-0950.

The Chairperson introduced Alex Leguisamo rep. CM Ariola and invited him to speak. He wished everyone a good evening. He announced the Councilmember introduced a resolution supporting legislation for the sheriff's office to hold migrants if they attack any law enforcement while waiting for trial. He continued that she stands with the NYPD and grieves with them for Detective John Diller. Red line and blue line flags are at each Fire house throughout the city and residents can visit her Facebook link for a flag they wish to list. The Councilmember is in the budget process for this fiscal year, and we are not seeing any cuts to FDNY, NYPD and DSNY and she is also in talks with the Mayor's office regarding the Pre-K budget. He encouraged everyone to sign up and let the council know how you would like the budget spent. He read a statement from the Councilmember regarding her position on the City of Yes and continued that the Councilmember introduced legislation prohibiting anyone wearing ski masks in schools, parks, and city buildings. If caught there is a \$2,000 fee. Residents can follow her social media pages to follow any hearings or call their office at 718-739-1083. He also announced they will be holding a free opera with the Queens Symphony Orchestra that will be livestreamed at Russo's on the bay on 5/13 at 7 pm and to call the office to register. He also stated that he left a list of events up front, one of which is a recycle e-waste event on Saturday May 11th from 10 am - 2 pm at PS 207 on 159th Avenue bet 88th & 89th Street, Howard Beach and he wished a Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers.

The Chairperson introduced Dan Brown rep. DA Melinda Katz and invited him to speak. She also commented that she has to acknowledge that when he worked with BP Katz, he spearheaded the Task Force on the Juvenile Jail and that he was responsible for a lot of the things that went on to address issues with that facility. He announced that he has provided a newsletter on the table up front of what the DA is doing throughout the Borough. He announced that an individual was arrested for illegally occupying a home and renting out rooms to tenants and that criminal charges will be pursued. He continued that you can't enter a home without permission or stay there without consent. The individual will receive a 5-count indictment for numerous charges and will face 15 years in prison if convicted. If anyone has any questions, they can call him at 718-286-6593

The Chairperson asked if there were any other representatives from any elected officials. Hearing none.

The Chairperson asked if there were any representatives from any city agencies. Hearing none.

OLD BUSINESS: The Chairperson asked if there was any old business to discuss. Hearing none.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chairperson asked if there was any new business to discuss. Hearing none.

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

The Chairperson wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Karyn Petersen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "K" and "P".

Karyn Petersen

Draft- Subject to Approval