

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, J. Caruso, F. Mohamed, L. Amorim, A. Cosentino, N. Santiago, F. Dardani, A. Gellineau, A. Maharaj, J. Fazio, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Dhanpat, A. Hill, M. Cherenfant, P. Granickas, B. Ramsundar, M. Adams, R. Narine, N. Bissoon, R. Graziano, E. Cheng, J. Stahl, A. Rajnauth, S. Mohammed, J. Quijano, S. Uddin, S. Pace

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Amin, P. Baumann, J. Calcagnile, J. Coulverson, A. Deebrah, I. Dimoh, B. Escobar, E. Fraylon, A. Garcia, R. Gendron, R. Hitlall, E. Holland, P. Kishun, M. Logan, R. Martinez, D. Mitchell, A. Nocerino, G. Russo, V. Singh, I. Van Putten, M. Vecchio, L. Walker

COMMUNITY BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

K. Petersen D.M.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Ariola; C. Moore, rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; S. Karetnaya, rep., Hon. J. Rajkumar; K. <u>Burgie</u>, rep., Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato; L. Shelborne-Barfield, rep., Hon. A. Adams; P. Inserillo, rep., Hon. J. Ariola; L. Fogal, rep., Hon. J. Ariola; S. Olosunde, QBP Office of Planning; S. Bajaracharya Shakya QDCP; D. Brown, rep., Queens DA; Capt. J. Bacchi, CO 106 Precinct; D. Tanis, Resorts World; B. Grimaldi, National Grid

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

The Chair explained to the Board Members present, the purpose of the Good and Welfare cup that was being passed around.

The Chair opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Bryan Grimaldi representing National Grid to present information regarding the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) targets and where the state is in its process and what National Grid is doing to ensure a fossil free future. He explained that New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) is among the most ambitious climate laws in the world and requires reducing greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030 and 85% by 2050. The CLCPA dictates what must be achieved not how. The law created a Climate Action Council (CAC) charged with developing a plan to meet these targets. In December 2021, the CAC released its draft scoping plan for public feedback and a Final Scoping Plan to be released in December 2022.

The draft scoping plan had an emphasis on electrification, increasing efficiency, and renewable energy sources according to National Grid and also included some bans such as: no new gas service to existing buildings beginning in 2025; no natural gas in newly constructed buildings beginning in 2025; no new natural gas appliances for home heating, cooking, water heating, clothes drying beginning in 2030; and no gasoline-automobile sales by 2035, that National Grid thinks will be harmful in their service areas. He went on to say it was their view that the use of existing natural gas delivery system and the electric system for a reliable, resilient, integrated energy system made more sense that a system almost totally reliant on electricity. National Grid recognizes that the gas network can be decarbonized and can enable the

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transition. Mr. Grimaldi explained that heat is the largest sector of New York's energy economy, and the annual heat energy consumption is more than double the annual total of electricity produced in New York and more than 11 times the annual power generation from all offshore wind NY aims to build by 2035. Most heating is with gas and relying totally on electric may not be advisable or affordable. A hybrid pathway with both may make more sense to get to the goal of net zero carbon emissions. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Grimaldi for his presentation. He said he would send the office a copy of a PowerPoint that would provide information on the topics he spoke about. The Chairperson said it would be provided to all Board members when received.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone from the public who had any questions or comments. There were none. The Chairperson closed the Public Hearing and asked if there were any questions from Board members. A member asked for the definition of a gigawatt if Mr. Grimaldi could explain why 60 to 70% of the buildings in NYC are hard to electrify. Mr. Grimaldi explained what a gigawatt measured and clarified that the reason that most of the buildings in NYC are hard to electrify is because it is difficult to build an incremental electric system above ground because of storms and it is very costly to convert homes with electric heat pump systems that meet the heating needs in this region where we have a colder climate. Another member inquired as to what people might do to help reduce the reliance on fossil fuels. Mr. Grimaldi answered. There were no further questions.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: The Chair reviewed incoming correspondence for the months of October, which included:

- Correspondence regarding a court action.
- Notice of completion from DDC for the work they did on the green infrastructure.
- Thank you card from John Fazio and his family.
- A notice from OMB relating to the DPR.
- Notice from OMB relating to DOT and DPR.
- A notification that 117 Street bet. Liberty Avenue & 107 Avenue would be closed to traffic from November 7 to November 10.
- Demolition notice at the property located at 129-16 133 Street
- Demolition notice at the property located at 120-15 150 Avenue
- DCP Comprehensive Waterfront plan which is also available on the DCP website.
- Letter from area residents regarding conditions at the Gateway property at 92 Street and 90 Street.
- DDC updated strategic plan.
- Letter from DOT regarding the request for speed cameras on North Conduit Avenue bet. Cohancy Street & 84 Street stating that they will consider mobilized special enforcement since it is within ¼ of a mile of a school and that they will add this location to their listing of speed enforcement sites.
- A request from DOT for a letter of support.
- Letter from a resident regarding the boiler project at PS 124.
- Public Notices from NYMTC.
- Notices from NYSDOT.
- Public Hearing Notice regarding the rent stabilization code.
- · Notices regarding Franchise and Concessions Review.
- E-mail from DFTA regarding the discontinuation of the My Ride Program
- Copy of SCA response regarding the PS 124 boiler project stating that it is still an active project. The temporary boiler cannot be removed until the new boiler is operational.
- Calendar of Public Hearings and Contract Awards from November 10 and October 27.
- Notification of a voter registration training webinar.
- News Release from National Grid regarding philanthropic efforts.
- Copies of CB10 recommendations to BSA regarding actions taken last month.
- · PAR for merit increase for DM.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Treasurer, N. Santiago read the report of expenditures for the month of October.

<u>DISTRICT MANAGERS REPORT</u>: The District Manager reported that notification was received that the DTFA My Ride Plot Program has been cancelled in the best interest of DFTA's My Ride participants and their safety. It was stated that they have decided to suspend the second phase of the My Ride Pilot Program and they are in the process of notifying cohort applicants that there will be no more onboarding happening.

Notification was also received that in the coming weeks National Grid has planned construction work to install a new gas main at the following locations: 114 Place at the intersection of 135 Avenue, 114 Place bet. 135 Avenue & 149 Avenue, 114 Place at the intersection of 149 Avenue, 114 Place bet. 149 Avenue & 150 Avenue, 149 Avenue bet. 114 Place & 115 Street, 149 Avenue bet. 114 Place & 114 Street, 125 Street at the intersection of Sutter Avenue, Sutter Avenue bet. 125 Street & 126 Street, 126 Street at the bend of Rockaway Blvd., 125 Street bet. Rockaway Blvd. & Sutter Avenue, 126 Street at the bend of Sutter Avenue, 126 Street at the intersection of Sutter Avenue, 125 Street at the intersection of Rockaway Blvd., Rockaway Blvd. bet. 125 Streets & 126 Streets. 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. 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.

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

- 10 years after Sandy resiliency
- Lithium Ion batteries
- Jobs at JFK
- Information from the Road Runners
- Various Committee Reports

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

Captain Bacchi wished everyone a Happy Veterans Day and a Happy Thanksgiving. He stated that there has been a downward trend in crime in the 106th Precinct but there has been an uptick in burglaries in Sector D. He continued that they have identified the individuals responsible and who on two separate dates, were walking in the early morning hours in that area. He stated they were not using tools to break into homes since breaking a window or door would make noise. They instead would look for an unlocked window or find ground floor doors that were left unlocked and were stealing wallets, purses, credit cards and car keys and would then steal the homeowner's car. These individuals were later found using the stolen credit cards at Gateway Mall. He suggested to always lock all your windows and doors and to set your alarm when you are home and to turn on exterior lighting. He also suggested installing a motion light as a deterrent so when you are inside you will be made aware that someone is approaching your home. He also stated that a surveillance system might also deter these types of crimes and cause the perpetrator to move on to another home. He suggested getting a cloud-based surveillance system that uploads the video to the cloud system since DVR footage can be lost or removed by the perpetrator. He also recommended setting motion alerts and using real time monitoring from your cellular device. He also recommended getting a Ring type doorbell so you can receive alerts and view who is there. This way the police can be notified right away and can identify whom these people are. He continued that the holiday season is approaching, and many individuals will be using on-line shopping which has increased package thefts. He suggested coordinating with the delivery service so you can sign for your package instead of having them lay it on the steps since individuals have been seen following the delivery trucks so they can steal packages as they are delivered. He stated that the weather is starting to get cool, and individuals have been leaving their cars unattended which invites thieves of all ages and drove our crime numbers up in the beginning of the year. He stated that over the past weekend, 2 vehicles were stolen on Friday night, 2 were stolen on Saturday night and 1 was stolen on Sunday night for a total of 5 vehicles being stolen over the weekend and that only one of these vehicles has been recovered. He continued that this is a dangerous practice that invites thieves of all ages, including 14, 15 and 16-year olds who sometimes crash the car putting themselves and others at risk. He reminded everyone to never leave their keys in an unattended vehicle and announced that he left some auto theft prevention material up front. He

also announced that they are looking for crossing guards and the salary is \$15.45 per hour. More information can be found on the nyc.gov link to the agency page for the NYPD.

The Chairperson asked if Board Members had any questions for Captain Bacchi. A member inquired if the burglaries that were mentioned earlier were taking place in one particular part of the Board area. The response given was that it was happening in the eastern part of the Board area from 109 Avenue to Rockaway Blvd. from 122 Street to 134 Street

The Chairperson then introduced Councilmember Joann Ariola who announced that she had hosted the 125th Anniversary of Howard Beach at St. Helen's Church and thanked CB 10 for their partnership with that event. She also announced that she held a Columbus Day Italian Feast, which was also well received. She mentioned that there are tin pots placed on some of the center malls along Cross Bay Blvd. that were from a previous horticultural art project at the traffic circle in Lindenwood and that DOT is allowing them to be put on the center malls along Cross Bay Blvd. However, two were left at the traffic circle in Lindenwood so drivers won't drive through the circle. She stated that she also held a clean-up by the cemetery in Ozone Park with the Cityline Ozone Park Civilian Patrol (COPCP) and is trying to have a charitable organization or DSNY make sure this is routinely done. She also stated that there have been issues with individuals cutting the fence at 157 Avenue & 88 Street so they can walk through and that she is trying to work with DOT and the Community Board about what can be put there to prevent the fence from being cut. She announced that she is also doing clean-ups at the Addabbo Bridge in partnership with Senator Addabbo and the National Park Service. She stated that if anyone has any complaints, they can call her office at 718-738-1083.

The Chairperson announced that she will need to go out of order on the agenda so the Budget Committee can vote on the Capital and Expense Budget while we still have a quorum as a member needed to leave at this point.

The Committee Chairperson stated that the Budget Committee met to review the FY 2024 Capital and Expense Budget and they made the recommendation that the full board approve it as it was presented.

The Chairperson stated that the Committee Chairperson made a motion for the full board to approve the FY 2024 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities as presented. The Chairperson asked the Board Members if there were any questions or comments regarding the Capital and Expense Budget. Hearing none, the Chairperson restated the motion on the floor.

All were in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining. The motion carried.

The Chairperson asked if there were any additional questions for CM Ariola.

A member asked CM Ariola if there were any suggestions made by constituents about what can be used to prevent the fence that she spoke about earlier from being cut. CM Ariola stated that the constituents want a barrier wall. The fence is currently a chain link fence, and it has been cut several times often on the same day the repairs were made.

She also mentioned that there have been issues at corridors where the muni meter kiosks don't work, and individuals are unable to put their quarter in because these kiosks were not emptied. She added that sometimes individuals find that their credit card also doesn't work at these kiosks. She stated that the reason for that was because you usually get 2 years on your credit card before it gets renewed and since many of these cards were not reissued during COVID, many won't be reissued until the year 2027 and these machines can't read these cards because they haven't been reprogrammed and that these machines will need to be updated.

AQUEDUCT: The Committee Chair stated that the report is in the Board folder.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS: The Committee Chair stated that the report is in the Board folders. He spoke briefly about how people are purchasing inexpensive bootleg lithium Ion batteries and how unsafe they are when being used for scooters and how they have caused fires in many apartments. He suggested that people need to stay away from these items.

EDUCATION: The Committee Chair announced that the deadline for 8th graders to file for the Specialized High Schools exam is November 4th. She announced that \$120 million dollars has been funded for schools and that \$12

million dollars has been funded for schools for the influx of students in temporary housing, language accessibility and temporary classrooms. She also announced that the schools would be closed on Election Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving.

JFK INTERNATIONAL: The Committee Chairperson stated that the runway work at JFK is finished, and it is ready for use. She wished everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

LAND USE: The Board Chair stated that the Committee Chair could not attend tonight's meeting because his mother was rushed to the hospital. He wanted to let everyone know that the BSA responses to last month's items were sent in and there is no movement with the 78th Street project in Lindenwood at this time and there is nothing further pending.

<u>PUBLIC SAFTEY</u>: The Committee Chairperson stated that the report is in the Board folders. He spoke about how there were 954 crashes in 2019 with 7 fatalities and 1200 injuries and that we have had 554 crashes in 2022, with 1 fatality and only 839 injuries so far. He stated that whether it is because of red light or speed cameras, we are decreasing in these areas over the last couple of years.

SANITATION: The Committee Chairperson announced that there are openings for snow laborers for snow removal and anyone interested can report to the District at 130th Street for an application. He also announced that 99% of the snow route now has GPS and that GPS will be used to plow on small side streets so cars can get through. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

SUMMER YOUTH: The Board Chair indicated that the report is in the Board folders and that individuals can also go to the DCAS website: www.dcas.com

TRANSPORTATION: The Committee Chair thanked the Committee Members for attending the Transportation Committee Meeting on October 27th to discuss the DOT pilot Car Share Program. She stated that it was an excellent meeting and that our voices were heard. She explained that the Car Share Program is similar to the Citi Bike Program, where DOT wants people to rent cars for short-term use that will be parked on residential streets. She stated that DOT didn't come to the Board first for input on choosing locations for this program and that there are 4 locations of concern in Ozone Park, Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park because street parking will be lost. She continued that DOT didn't communicate with the Civic Associations, to let them know that this was happening or us. Discussion ensued regarding other issues of concern raised by the committee with DOT at the committee meeting.

The Board Chair clarified that there will be 1 Car Share location in Ozone Park, 2 in South Ozone Park and 1 in Richmond Hill. She stated that DOT will be taking away parking spots in residential neighborhoods where people are already complaining about the lack of available parking spaces. One issue of concern is that this is a commercial operation that DOT has chosen to be put on residentially zoned blocks. She added that there is no reason these vehicles could not be placed on a commercial strip that is zoned for commercial use.

A member expressed frustration that DOT was not asking us; they were telling us that this is happening and that there should have been consultation before the fact rather than after. The Chairperson asked for a motion to be made for the Board to write a letter to DOT to follow up on the concerns raised at the committee meeting. R. Ciulla-Frisone made the motion, J. Fazio seconded the motion.

All were in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. The motion carried.

The Board Chair acknowledged various representatives from elected officials.

Carl Moore rep. Senator Addabbo announced that the Senator would be holding a job fair on the 3rd Floor of Resorts World on Friday November 18th from 10 am to 2pm. He stated they are still in the process of gathering vendors, but they will have a complete list of vendors the week before the event. The Senator will also be holding mammogram screenings on Friday, December 2nd at St. Camilla's church parking lot in Rockaway. To make an appointment for a mammogram screening, call their office at 718-738-1111.

Kathy Burgie rep. AM Pheffer-Amato introduced herself as the new Community liaison. She stated that the Assembly member attended the celebration of the 11th Anniversary of Resorts World and that she also recently passed a resolution commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane Sandy.

Sima Karetnaya rep. AM Rajkumar introduced herself as the new Public Affairs Director. She stated that it is great to see everyone, and that the Assembly member has been working tirelessly. She announced that October is Domestic Violence month and that they will be holding 2 events; a partnership with the Mayor's Office to end domestic violence and to raise awareness about domestic violence, and they will also be partnering with DA Melinda Katz and Senator Joe Addabbo to raise awareness about domestic violence at the Ozone Park Library. She continued that the Assembly member recently met with students at MS 137 to discuss the Assembly member's role. She announced that the Assembly member's events are shared on her newsletter, and anyone interested can sign up to receive it. She announced that the 102^{nd} Precinct received additional foot post officers and that she hopes that the 106^{th} Precinct will eventually receive some additional foot post officers as well. She wished everyone a Happy Veterans Day and a Happy Thanksgiving.

Lynette L. Shelborne-Barfield rep. CM Adams announced that their Senior Budget Director, Kate Mooney had retired, and that last Friday was her last day. She continued that the Councilmember met with religious leaders on how government and religious leaders can work together. She also passed legislation on October 27th for the survivors of Domestic Violence, and also to address other issues such as the rat population, greenways, and public bathrooms. She announced that on October 29th, they held a clean-up at Baisley Pond Park and reminded everyone to apply for the Property Tax Rebate if they qualify. She also announced that the DFTA My Ride Program has ended, and that Speaker Adams will be hosting assistance with citizenship applications at the Lefferts Library all day, twice a week, on Thursdays and Fridays, and that the FDNY Cadet Academy is accepting applications - High School graduates between the ages of 18 and 26 can apply. The salary is \$15.67 per hour, and they can earn 35 college credits. For additional information call their office at 718-206-2068.

Dan Brown rep. DA Katz announced that the DA will be hosting a domestic violence event along with AM Rajkumar and Senator Addabbo at the Lefferts Library and that the focus of this event is to provide resources for the immigrant population. He stated that the DA spoke at the Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic Association on Tuesday and also attended the 125th Anniversary Celebration of Howard Beach. He continued that DA Katz will be hosting a Veterans Day Observance Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial on November 7th and she will also be holding another gun buy back on November 19th at a church in Far Rockaway, from 10 am to 4 pm.

The Chairperson asked for any Veterans in attendance to please stand up so that we can applaud you to show our appreciation.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC FORUM: The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public who has a comment or a question.

Mr. Cummings raised a complaint about cars parking in front of fire hydrants on Sutter Avenue, 106 Street, 107 Street and 108 Street. He stated that he does not see these vehicles being ticketed and that he has concerns about these vehicles being parked there in case there is ever a fire.

E. Cheng reminded everyone that Tuesday is Election Day and to make sure that you go out and vote.

The Chairperson announced that the Early Voting locations located in CB 10 are at the former Our Lady of Grace School and Resorts World.

David Tanis from Resorts World introduced himself and announced that Early Voting is currently taking place at Resorts World and that Resorts World recently celebrated their 11th Anniversary. He also announced that they would be working with the Precinct to help remove tractor-trailers off the street in the community by allowing them to store these impounded vehicles on Resorts World property.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karyn Petersen Draft – Subject to Approval