



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

CITY OF NEW YORK ♦ BOROUGH OF QUEENS
115-01 LEFFERTS BOULEVARD
SOUTH OZONE PARK, N.Y. 11420
TEL: (718) 843-4488
FAX: (718) 738-1184
E-MAIL: qn10@cb.nyc.gov



KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

April 22, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, J. Caruso, L. Walker, I. VanPutten, F. Dardani, L. Amorim, E. Fraylon, A. Gellineau, M. Vecchio, P. Granickas, E. Holland, N. Nigro, J. Ariola, P. Baumann, J. Stahl, A. Maharaj, J. Quijano, N. Santiago, R. Gendron, C. Malizia, J. Calcagnile, S. Pace, A. Antonino, R. Ciulla-Frisone, A. Dhanpat, I. Dimoh, D. Mitchell, F. Mohamed, B. Ramsundar

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Q. Amin, G. Duldulao, R. Graham, R. Hitlall, K. Randall, G. Russo, M. Salim, N. Shuyab, P. Kishun, N. Bissoon, M. Cherenfant, A. Cosentino, J. Fazio, R. Martinez, D. Sookram-Singh, J. Singh, P. Lynch

COMMUNITY BOARD 10 STAFF PRESENT: K. Petersen, D.M.; M. May

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Addabbo; Hon. S. Pheffer Amato, S. Chuprik, Rep. Hon. H. Jeffries; D. Randell, Rep. Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato; N. Kozikowska, Rep. Hon. E. Ulrich; K. Mooney, Rep. Hon. A. Adams; J. Mongeluzo, NYC Comptroller's Office; D. Brown, QBPO; Det. B. Reddick, P.O. S. Jaffe, P.O. J. Iaboni, Community Affairs, 106 Precinct; Chae No, DOHMH; M. Righi, CCRB; (name inaudible), ACS

The Chairperson began the meeting at 6:40 pm and welcomed all to the Board's first meeting conducted remotely in accordance with the procedures set forth by NYC for the conduct of Community Board meetings during the month of April 2020 due to the emergency situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chairperson thanked all for their cooperation during recent weeks and explained the procedures for using Zoom to the members.

The Chairperson acknowledged the arrival of Senator Addabbo and invited him to speak. Senator Addabbo spoke about the recently enacted budget and the budget issues faced by NYS which is now having to deal with a \$17 Billion deficit as we go forward. He also spoke about the importance of funding food pantries and food distributors who are working to keep food available to those in need. The senator expressed his optimism regarding the way people will move forward to meet the challenges of this crisis by working together as we have done in other crises such as 9/11 and Sandy and explained the procedures his office is using to continue serving during this crisis. The Senator thanked everyone. The Chairperson thanked Senator Addabbo for his comments.

The Chairperson then acknowledged Assembly member Stacey Pheffer Amato who also expressed optimism that by working together we would meet the challenges of this crisis and urged all to continue observing social distancing and to wear face coverings when out. She commented on the work her office is doing relating to small businesses, the importance of the Census, the procedures her office is utilizing to continue serving the people of the district and thanked everyone. The Chairperson thanked Assembly member Pheffer Amato.

The Chairperson expressed the gratitude of the Board for all the amazing work under the most trying of circumstances that our first responders and all of the healthcare workers in our city and state are performing and also expressed condolences to all who have lost family and friends to COVID-19 in recent weeks.

The Chairperson then opened the informational public hearing for the evening by introducing Mr. Chae No, Queens Community Liaison and PIO ICS Coordinator for the NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene.

Mr. No thanked the Chair and said he will provide a few updates. As of this morning, globally we have over 2.5million reported cases. NYS has 251,690 reported cases. As of 6pm yesterday, NYC has 134,894 cases. Queens County has the highest number of reported cases in NYC with, as of yesterday, 41,520 confirmed cases. Of those confirmed cases 11,431 people have been hospitalized. Unfortunately we had 2,877 confirmed deaths, and 875 probable deaths as of yesterday. To those of you who have lost loved ones, I'm sorry for your loss and I share that grief myself. He said, the past couple of weeks have been very tense and wishes this outbreak would be over so we can properly send them off.

In NYC there is wide spread community transmission, and as per the Governor's Order, we are asking all New Yorkers who do not work in essential services to remain at home as much as possible. All New Yorkers that have to leave home should wear a face covering or a face mask and continue to practice good hand hygiene and physical distancing including remaining at least six feet away from each other. If you're with other people other than your family, please have a face covering on. This does not make you invincible from the virus, it's to protect other people. If you feel sick stay at home, and if symptoms are mild to moderate you can take care of them at home. This is not to discourage people who have serious health issues from seeking emergency or primary care. We have seen various cases over the past couple of weeks where people did not reach the hospital or medical care in time, and passed away. We are not turning people away from hospitals. The hospitalization trends are going down. The hospitals can and will take of you. If you need to seek medical assistance, please do so. We recently released a provider guidance telling doctors not to turn people away and also to take into consideration that people may be sick with other things but are not seeking care.

Under the Pause Order, (Policy to Assure Uniform Safety for Everyone) from the Governor's Office which is extended until May 15th, schools, NYC Parks including dog parks are closed, and all non-essential workers are directed to work from home. The City has also cancelled non-essential events in June, which includes parades, marches, concerts, rallies and other large gatherings. He noted that driving to work on the LIE he saw a lot of cars and the amount of cars has been increasing over several days and it's quite concerning; so if you have family, friends, or neighbors, that are not engaged in staying home tell them to stay home unless it's absolutely necessary. For our neighbors and friends that may not have health insurance, or may lost health insurance because they were laid off from work, they can apply for health insurance via NYS of Health through May 15 (the original deadline of April 15 has been extended), but they must apply within 60 days of losing coverage. The State is launching on-line portals to connect hospitals and health care facilities with health care volunteers. In NYC alone we have about 13,000 medical volunteers and they are being assigned to different locations: hospitals, nursing homes, and other points of care. In reference to capacity issues, we have the field hospital by Javits Center, the Central Park Field Hospital, the USNS Comfort run by the US Navy, and the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, all accepting COVID patients; and are thankful for all organizations and individuals that continue to donate valuable resources to the City so we can help people.

As per the Executive Order from the Governor, nursing homes must report positive COVID-19 cases and deaths to the families of those who are living in the nursing homes within 24 hours. Plans will be checked by NYS Dept. of Health. He indicated they have been receiving a lot of nursing home inquiries and while the NYC Dept. of Health engages with the nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, ultimately NYC DOH does not regulate them, New York State does. But, questions can be sent to NYC DOH and they will see if they can get the issue addressed. NYS is conducting a statewide antibody testing survey, basically selecting random New Yorkers to estimate the percentage of the population who has COVID-19 antibodies. NYC is producing a new line of ventilator and personal protective equipment.

The news and various press conferences have been reporting that there are various types of disparities as to COVID-19 hospitalizations and fatalities. Communities in NYC that have been impacted the greatest by the COVID-19 are also communities that have seen other profound health disparities for years, and higher rates of underlying chronic

illness contribute to higher rates of premature mortality from those chronic illnesses. NYC has dedicated several million dollars to digital media campaign focusing on those communities and are reaching out by mail, phone, internet, etc. and are still working on those issues. Today the Mayor announced he will be expanding testing which will be prioritized first in those highly impacted areas; and are partnering with One Medical to provide testing to essential workers, health care workers, persons over the age of 65, and also SEIU members. Currently they have testing sites in East New York, Brooklyn; Morrisania, Bronx; Harlem, Manhattan; Jamaica, Queens; Vanderbilt Clinic, Staten Island; and are also expanding those sites.

They have been trying to expand testing for a while but due to the national shortage of PPE, collection swabs, and viral transport media supplies, laboratory testing was prioritized for hospitalized or seriously ill people. We have recommended that persons with COVID like illness, not requiring hospitalization should be instructed to stay home, because it's safer for the patients and health care workers and testing does not currently change the clinical management or our recommendations about staying home, because we have no cure for it. Also, mildly or moderately ill persons with COVID-19 who seek testing are exposing others within health care settings, including other patients and health care staff; for these and other reasons we discourage out-patient testing and encourage mild to moderately ill persons to assume they have COVID-19 and stay home. With the decrease in case reads, we may be switching to a different phase where we're going to be contact tracing - tracing where the disease came from, how it was transmitted, through various methods, and also trying to extend the testing options. As the Governor and the Mayor said, we are low on various supplies that are needed for the testing, and are working to replenish those numbers. He said please feel free to share any questions.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from members of the public participating, there were none. The public hearing was closed. The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the Board members. There were none. The Chairperson invited anyone with a question to email it to the Board and we would get an answer from Chae. The Chairperson thanked Mr. No for his presentation and expressed the thanks of all to him and all at DOHMH for the work they are doing.

The Chairperson continued with the regular order of business and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 2020 minutes. There were none.

The next item on the agenda was the annual election of the Board's officers for 2020-21. The Chairperson explained the requirement in the Board's by-laws that the annual election take place at the April meeting. She acknowledged that some members might be uncomfortable with conducting an election in a remote setting. The Chairperson explained the action taken by the Borough President in regard to reappointments and new appointments which have been deferred to May 31st as permitted by the City Charter. She then expressed that the Board members could revisit the election whenever we resume physical meetings if they wish, but there is no provision in the Charter that supersedes our by-law requirement to do the election in April, thus we will do it with the understanding that if the Board wishes to, we will address revisiting it at the next physical meeting, whenever that occurs.

The floor was opened to nominations. F. Dardani made a motion to nominate the existing Board of Officers. The motion was seconded by A. Gellineau. The Chairperson asked for any further nominations for each position. There were none. Nominations were closed. Nominated were: Betty Braton, for Chairperson; John Calcagnile for first Vice Chairperson; Isabel VanPutten for second Vice Chairperson; Nellie Santiago for Treasurer; and Rosemary Ciulla-Frisone for Executive Secretary. In accordance with the requirement that each member's vote be public and recorded, a roll call vote was taken:

Yes on All:

AMORIM
ANTONINO
ARIOLA
BAUMANN
BRATON
CALCAGNILE
CARUSO
CIULLA-FRISONE
DARDANI
DHANPAT

Yes on All

DIMOH
FRAYLON
GELLINEAU
GENDRON
GRANICKAS
HOLLAND
MALIZIA
MAHARAJ
MITCHELL
MOHAMED

Yes on All

NIGRO
PACE
QUIJANO
RAMSUNDAR
SANTIAGO
STAHL
VANPUTTEN
VECCHIO
WALKER

There were no "No" Votes on any. There were no abstentions on any. The motion to passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Chairperson reviewed correspondence for the month of March 2020, which included:

- Letter from DOT, notifying of a speed camera installation in the vicinity of St. Helen's Academy
- 6 Letters from DOT, notifying of action on speed reducer requests at various locations.
- Letter from DDC, notification re: Trench Reconstruction on 111 St. between 111 Ave. & Rockaway Blvd. and on Linden Blvd. between 125-126 St.
- Email from OMB notifying of a PEG cut to the Board's FY20 budget and a cut to the FY21 budget.
- Notice from OMB re: Capital Project ED-0409/81-243 (EDC)
- Notice from OMB re: Capital Project t-5A, T-7A (MTA)
- Letter from DDC re: Pedestrian Ramp installations. Liberty Ave. 113-116 St.
- Letter from DSS re: federal changes to SNAP
- Letter from Assemblyman M. Miller, re: variance
- Letter from Rockaway VIP Services, Inc., re: car service letter of no objection
- Letter from T.C. Systems notifying of utility work to occur at 133 Ave. & Boss St.

At this point, the Chairperson acknowledged Det. Reddick of the 106 Pct. Community Affairs Unit and invited her to speak. Det. Reddick updated all regarding the impact of COVID-19 on precinct personnel's health and thanked all for the outpouring of donations of PPE & food supplies to the precinct. The Chairperson, on behalf of the Board, thanked Det. Reddick and all of the precinct personnel for the outstanding work they are doing at this perilous time for all of them. Det. Reddick announced that the precinct's Executive Officer, Capt. Mike Edmonds, had been transferred and a new XO assigned. She also announced an addition to the Community Affairs Unit.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Due to the physical office closure the paperwork necessary for the Treasurer to compile the report of expenditures for the month March 2020 was not available. A full report will be forthcoming when the office is accessible.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – The Chairperson requested Mr. Brown express to the Borough President the Board's gratitude for funding and setting up the Zoom platform accounts for all 14 Boards in Queens which is allowing us to conduct this meeting remotely. Mr. Brown reported on the different efforts underway at the Borough President's office which included a virtual job fair, a virtual Interfaith Prayer Service, the Fresh Direct food distribution program being done in conjunction with the Borough President's office as well as the Borough President's Fuel the Frontlines program in conjunction with business entities throughout Queens. Mr. Brown informed all that Borough Hall was still functioning and provided his phone number.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – the District Manager reported COVID-19 is having a significant impact on the City's economy and finances. To ensure the City can continue to devote resources to essential safety, health, shelter, and food security needs, the City has suspended the Graffiti Free NYC program indefinitely. As a result, 311 has suspended processing of graffiti removal service requests. As recently announced by the Mayor, in an attempt to continue to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, all public gatherings in our parks are cancelled through June 30th. In the interest of the health and safety of all their patrons, NYC Parks is not accepting or reviewing event applications for any special events or field and court permits until further notice. At this point, Community Board 10 is not approving any block party events, as we do not know what will be the social distancing rules for the summer. We have also been notified by the Department of Sanitation that curbside composting is suspended beginning May 4, 2020. During this suspension, residents should discard food scraps and yard waste with their trash. The suspension is currently planned through June 30, 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – Ms. Resor was not present but had provided the information that ULURP land use matters were still on hold.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson reviewed the Board's Telework Policy which was developed to allow our staff to work off-site from the office during the current crisis. She explained how the office work is being done and explained that phone and email contacts are being received but that USPS mail is not available due to the lack of access to the office. The Chairperson thanked all Board members for their cooperation and assistance.

The Chairperson reported on the material that was in Board member folders about a rain garden project that is getting underway. Only a small area of CB10 is included in Phase I of the project. (area between 103 Ave. & Liberty Ave. as shown in the shaded area on the map on page 1 of the material, the other area of CB10 shown within the project boundaries on that map will come later during Phase II)

The Chairperson reported that the Board had gotten no reply from Queens Parks Commissioner Dockette to our detailed letter to him regarding the Parks proposal for Gemini adjacent to Gallop, nor had any of the information we requested been provided. She explained we had gotten an email from our Parks Supervisor indicating the work was proceeding despite the Board's objections.

The Chairperson reported on the actions the city is taking in regard to food supply and that the city had just released a report dealing with food supply and work is ongoing to ensure the food chain continues to function.

The Chairperson reported about the current level of census response in CB10 and stressed the importance of encouraging more people to respond. She explained how the Pause has impacted previously planned outreach efforts and that the Census process has been extended.

The Chairperson explained the process allowing our April meeting to be conducted remotely. She announced that she is postponing the scheduled May 7th meeting, and why, and stated that it would be rescheduled to occur later in May.

The Chairperson urged all to continue to check the Queens Community Board 10 Facebook page regularly as information was posted on it daily.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. A representative from ACS asked which precinct had reported earlier. Det. Reddick responded that it was the 106 Precinct. Mr. Maharaj inquired about a land use process. The Land Use Committee Chairperson explained what he was referring to and how the variance process functions.

The meeting continued with **COMMITTEE REPORTS** as follows:

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – the Committee Chairperson indicated report was in board folders.

BUDGET – the Committee Chairperson indicated report was in board folders.

EDUCATION – in the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson indicated the information regarding Regents Examinations and H.S. graduation requirements announced by the NYSED was in board folders.

PERSONNEL – in the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson reported that the process to hire our new staff member has been completed and the new hire is also working remotely in accord with the policy explained earlier.

PUBLIC SAFETY – the Committee Chairperson indicated crime stats report was in board folders.

SANITATION – the Committee Chairperson indicated information on changes in service was in the board folders.

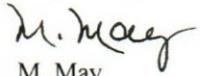
OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS – none

PUBLIC FORUM – the Chairperson asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak. Ms. Righi, of the CCRB, introduced herself and explained her work. There were no other speakers. The Chairperson indicated that due to the constraints presented by this type of a remote meeting, the record of the meeting would be held open until 5 pm on April 23rd to allow anyone from the public to email a comment or question.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. May". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "M" being large and prominent.

M. May

Draft – Subject to Approval