



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

June 16, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, L. Amorim, A. Antonino, J. Ariola, P. Baumann, N. Bissoon, J. Calcagnile, J. Caruso, M. Cherenfant, R. Ciulla-Frisone, F. Dardani, I. Dimoh, J. Fazio, E. Fraylon, A. Gellineau, R. Gendron, P. Granicakas, E. Holland, A. Maharaj, C. Malizia, R. Martinez, D. Mitchell, C. Mocombe, N. Nigro, S. Pace, B. Ramsundar, M. Salim, A. Siewnarine, J. Stahl, I. VanPutten, M. Vecchio, L. Walker

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

M. Q. Amin, A. Cosentino, A. Dhanpat, J. Duldulao, R. Hitlall, P. Kishun, P. Lynch, F. Mohamed, J. Quijano, K. Randell, R. Rathour, G. Russo, N. Santiago, J. Singh, D. Sookram Singh

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Addabbo; C. Moore, Rep. Hon. J. Addabbo; M. Matteo, Rep. Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato; C. Torres, Rep. Hon. M. Miller; T. Hankerson, Rep. Hon. A. Adams; M. Palacios, Queens DA's Office; J. Mongeluzo, NYC Comptroller's Office; D. Brown, QBPO; J. Resor, QDCP; P.O. J. Iaboni, Community Affairs, 106 Precinct; M. Righi, CCRB; A. Hill, Con Edison; B. Tyler, Con Edison

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Board Chairperson announced the names of board members who had been reappointed to the Board by Borough President Lee to two year terms: M. Amin, L. Amorin, J. Caruso, A. Cosentino, F. Dardani, A. Dhanpaat, I. Dimoh, G. Duldulao, J. Fazio, E. Fraylon, P. Granickas, R. Hitlall, P. Kishun, P. Lynch, D. Mitchell, F. Mohamed, J. Quijano, N. Santiago, J. Stahl, M. Vecchio, L. Walker, and also the names of the new appointees: C. Mocombe, R. Rathour, and A. Siewnarnine

The Chairperson began the meeting at 6:40 pm conducted remotely via ZOOM. Board member attendance was taken and it was established that a quorum was present.

The Chairperson opened the informational public hearing for the evening and introduced Mr. Anthony Hill, Con Edison's Queens Corporate Affairs Manager, to speak about summer season preparations. He indicated he was joined by Bayly Tyler, General Manager, B/Q Electric Operations, who will be giving a summary of the overview of their electric system in Queens, and speak about some of the steps they have taken for summer preparation readiness and discuss system performance in CB10.

Mr. Hill touched base on what they have done as a corporation in lieu of the impact Covid-19. He said that since March 1st the company has partnered with a lot of non-profit community partners to expedite giving out more than \$5.3million to some of our non-profit partners. Mr. Hill said one of the most important things done, in addition to

expediting the money to those who need it most, is that Con Ed has also given these organizations the flexibility to pivot off the typical programming that they would do with Con Ed and essentially use the money as needed in terms of the impact in the community. As an example, we have given more than \$300,000 for organizations remedying food insecurity, and also provided \$40,000 in aid to first responders which includes the NYC Fire Dept., NYPD as well as helping US National Guard Members, who were essential in coming in and helping us out during the crisis. We contributed more than 100,000 (N95) face masks to first responders and actually began producing face shields at our Van Nest property in the Bronx and made a considerable contribution to first responders as a result of the manufacturing of face shields. In terms of some of the things done for the individual customers: as of March 13th Con Edison suspended the termination of services for non-payment, and in addition is waiving any late payment fees for anyone who falls behind during this pandemic. We are providing extremely flexible payment agreements for any customers who are in need of assistance in terms of catching up, because they have fallen behind, or have been laid off or furloughed. We want to get the word out to the community, if you've fallen behind, you can reach out and we would be more than happy to set up any type of flexible payment agreement for customers. We are trying to do our part, to get out into the community and make the community aware we understand how difficult the situation and circumstances are, and are trying to help customers.

Mr. Hill turned the floor over to Ms. Tyler who indicated she is the General Manager for Brooklyn & Queens for both the Overhead & Services Groups. She stated she was going to give a little insight as to what they do to get ready for the summer. Accompanied by a power point presentation, she provided details of the electric operations that included an overview of the distribution system, readiness, and system performance. Every year they come up with a summer prep plan based on the performance of the system of the year before and also past historical data. Con Edison has 3.5million electric customers – Queens has 780,000 residential & commercial electric customers and $\frac{3}{4}$ of them are served by the underground system and $\frac{1}{4}$ by the overhead system. They plan and act based on temperature variables, which takes in not only the heat but also the humidity. There is constant monitoring of the temperatures and variables and look out ten days ahead.

Ms. Tyler said, this year we were very challenged with everything that happened with COVID and people that were out and all of the challenges that we had, but are really very happy to be able to report that all of our summer load relief work that was planned was completed. This included one high priority transformer replacement, upgrading four transformers, replacing 118 vintage and underground and overhead cable sections on feeders, replacing a transformer supplying JFK Airport; rerouting Flushing Creek feeder cable, and in the fall we plan on replacing 78 vintage underground and overhead cable sections on feeder 5Q60. For the CB10 area, Con Edison supplies approximately 40,000 customers – approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of that is on the overhead non-network system (Richmond Hill 4kV Grid) and approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ is on the underground network (Richmond Hill 9B network). We're really happy to say we did all the summer prep work that we had planned to do, and the numbers are showing that the system is holding up well and we'll continue to be prepared throughout the summer. Ms. Tyler indicated she would take 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 thanked the speakers and expressed appreciation for their coming.

The Chairperson acknowledged Senator Addabbo and invited him to speak. The Senator said it's going to be critical, especially this year as we stay home, to make sure that we have utility services. He spoke about how some may feel a little safer now that the weather is nicer, and the three day average for hospitalizations has gone down, but reminded everyone there are still fatalities out there due to the virus. He spoke about the importance of being safe and asked everyone to please wear their masks. Anyone who may need masks or sanitizer should let his office know. He noted, his office is still participating on City & State conference calls regarding the Corona virus. He expressed thanks to NYC DOT for cleaning the Addabbo Bridge, and noted they are working as well with National Parks Service. The Senator thanked the Chairperson and said he would be more than happy to answer any questions.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. A Board Member addressed the Senator and asked if he had any inkling as to the Phase 2 Opening. The Senator explained that normally the phases are two weeks apart. Phase 1 was June 8 and two weeks from there would be Phase 2. It was noted that there is talk that the Governor may withhold Phase 2 from the City, but that may be all talk at this point, so Phase 2 is still two weeks from June 8. The Board

Chairperson noted that according to what she and the District Manager have gotten from some of the meeting calls on the City side, two weeks is not etched in stone and that might not happen.

The Senator said, on the calls with the Governor's Office we still impress upon the Governor that these phases are somewhat ambiguous at times. I know we have to check off boxes on the matrix in regard to hospitalization and possible new virus cases, but the idea here is that many of our businesses can reopen safely and we are asking the Governor's Office to allow some of the businesses that may be in Phase 2 or Phase 3 to open in a safe manner with protocol and safety measures installed. We need our businesses to come back and many can come back safely. We still impress upon the Governor that there are businesses that may not have to wait till Phase 2 or Phase 3, and they can open sooner. The Chairperson thanked the Senator for his work up in Albany.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: The Chairperson reviewed correspondence for the month of May and June 2020, which included:

- Letter from NYC DOT regarding 84th Street Jamaica Bay Greenway Bicycle Lanes
- Letter from Dennis Walcott, President, Queens Library regarding things they will be doing in anticipation of opening the libraries
- Email from NYS DOT regarding long term closure of the exit 5 ramp from the southbound Van Wyck Expwy. to Atlantic Avenue in Queens. The ramp will close on or about June 11 and will reopen as an entrance ramp on or about June 24. During ramp closure, motorists traveling on the southbound Van Wyck who want to access the southbound service road or Atlantic Avenue should take exit 4 and follow the detour.
- Notification NYC OMB: DEP regarding upstate watershed stubs
- Notification NYC OMB: DOT regarding scope of work and cost limitation for Construction and Resident Engineering Inspection (REI) services for curb reconstruction in the boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn, the Bronx & Staten Island
- NYC DPR - Agency Concession Plan (two items in CB10):
Cedar Lane Stables / Sunrise Stables / Gallop NYC (a long term ongoing concession)
mobile food truck at Edward Byrne Park
- NYC DEP notice regarding a study to develop a geographic information system (GIS) map layer that displays citywide impervious area at the parcel level. A public webinar will focus on the objectives, methodology, and findings from the study. The Chairperson asked that anyone who may be interested in participating in the webinar, reach out to her and she would provide the webinar info
- National Grid construction notices for various areas in CB10
- Notice of a resolution passed by QCB#8
- Notice of TLC license renewal: Mazin Car & Limousine Service (125-01 Liberty Avenue, RH)
- Notice of intent to file for sidewalk café operation – Bruno's

TREASURER'S REPORT – the Board Chair, explained that due to the physical office closure during the prior months, there was no access to the paperwork necessary for the Treasurer to be able to compile the report of expenditures at the April and May meetings, but now the material was available, the report of expenditures for the months of March, April, and May 2020 was read.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Brown – on behalf of the Borough President, welcomed all new members to the board and extended congratulations also to the reappointed board members. He reported on the efforts and involvement of the Borough President during the pandemic which included bringing supplies and food to the community, providing meals for hospital workers, and giving out masks to all the elected officials' offices and all the community boards. This month is PRIDE Month, and because of the circumstances they are not having the usual event at Borough Hall, but are doing an on-line event on June 18th at 2pm. Go to: www.queensbp.org to RSVP & register and get all the ZOOM details. The Borough President encourages everyone to register for the Census: mycensus2020.gov; early voting is now underway in the Helen Marshal Cultural Center.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING REPORT – J. Resor – indicated she had nothing to report at this time and would keep the Board up to date on ULURPs.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – The District Manager reported notification was received from NYC DOT that a new traffic signal has been approved for 103 Avenue & 98 Street; installation will occur when resources are available. NYC DEP has informed that the Green Infrastructure Project, which includes storm water management systems in city neighborhoods, is resuming construction activity within the boundaries of CB 5, CB 9 and CB 10. This project began late last year and was temporarily paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – The Chairperson informed everyone that a notice was posted on the Queens Community Board 10 Facebook page advising that facemasks are available and will be distributed by the Board via mail upon request to anyone living within CB10. An additional shipment of masks is expected at a future date. The Chairperson reviewed various information contained in the board member folders regarding the next phases toward the reopening of businesses and offices. The Chairperson continued with her report and referenced the Internal Budget for FY2021 indicating that normally the Budget Committee would have met before the board meeting in order to review the internal budget and to be able to come up with a recommendation, but due to the current circumstances, the Committee has not met. She reviewed the internal budget and said there is no intention of any changes in the PS budget and if there are to be any changes, we will bring that back to you for a vote if required. As far as the OTPS budget, the allocations in the codes are based on what's anticipated to be spent in those codes which can be modified. Should we get any further PEGs we will take it out of the OTPS budget and accommodate it from there rather than from the PS budget. We are required to approve the internal budget, and as our next meeting is not until September, the Chairperson asked for a motion that the Board accept the internal budget as presented with the proviso that Board members would be advised of any changes that are necessary when the City Council enacts the final budget and that any changes to the PS budget will be voted upon. Also, as part of that motion, that we empower the District Manager to make necessary changes, if something has to change when the budget comes out from the Council later this month. The Chairperson asked whether the District Manager had anything to add. The District Manager indicated the Chairperson had covered it all. Motion was made by R. Gendron and the motion was seconded by P. Granickas. The Chairperson asked if there was any discussion; there was none. The Chairperson reiterated the motion, which is – to approve the Internal Budget as presented with the proviso that the District Manager can make any necessary changes and the proviso that any changes to the PS budget will be voted on. The Chairperson asked if everyone understood the motion. There were no abstentions, there were no “no” votes and everyone present was a “yes” vote. The motion carried.

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

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

TRANSPORTATION – the Committee Chairperson reiterated the NYC DOT plans to move forward with the Jamaica Bay Greenway bicycle paths in Howard Beach and noted it's not going to cause any loss of parking.

JFK International – In the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Board Chairperson stated the construction at JFK should be getting back underway as construction is reopening.

LIBRARIES – The Committee Chairperson indicated libraries should be reopening sometime in July.

PARKS – the Committee Chairperson reported that during the COVID lockdown, some playground/park fences were cut and locks were broken: Addabbo Playground, Tudor Fields, Pals Oval, Southern Fields, and the temporary fencing was breached on a number of occasions in Rocket Park.

PUBLIC SAFETY – the Committee Chairperson indicated crime stats report was in board folders, and noted crime is coming down except for GLAs (still experiencing unlocked vehicles and cars left running).

The Board Chairperson acknowledged 106 Precinct, Community Affairs, P.O. Iaboni and asked if he had anything to report. P.O. Iaboni said police personnel is back in the Precinct, they are practicing social distancing whenever possible, and are trying to build the NCO Program.

A board member questioned whether park permits could be revoked for groups in Southern Fields who are non-compliant. The Board Chairperson indicated there are issues at every park all over the City; noting, yesterday, she

and the District Manager had a discussion on the Mayor's Office Zoom call with the Queens Parks Commissioner that was specific to Southern Fields. The District Manager has been trying to address the issue with the Precinct, with Sgt. Singh and the NCOs.

AQUEDUCT – The Board Chairperson reported the construction that has been stalled at Resorts World will be resuming; the Early Voting Site at Aqueduct is accessible, and it was noted the property is also being used for the COVID testing.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC FORUM – the Chairperson asked if anyone from the public wished to speak, and there was no one.

The Chairperson asked if there were any elected officials' representatives who wished to speak and invited them to do so. Information/updates were provided by: Mr. Mongeluzo, representing Comptroller Stringer; Mr. Moore, representing Senator Addabbo; Mr. Matteo, representing Assembly Member Pheffer-Amato; Mr. Hankerson, representing Council Member Adams; Mr. Palacios, representing Queens DA Katz; Ms. Righi, representing CCRB.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone else from any of the agencies that wished to speak, and there were no other speakers.

The Chairperson stated due to the constraints presented by this type of remote meeting, the record of this meeting would be held open until the close of business June 17, 2020 to allow anyone from the public to submit questions or comments via e-mail or phone if they wished.

The Chairperson announced the CB10 regular monthly board meetings will be back on schedule to the first Thursday of the month starting in September, although, at this time, it still has not been determined whether it will be an actual physical meeting or if it will be held remotely.

Addressing the board members the Chairperson stated, normally at the time when reappointments are made, an updated board member contact information listing is compiled and mailed to all members. Everyone was reminded that this is personal information, which includes home addresses, telephone numbers, and personal e-mails, which are not for sharing on different e-mail blast lists. It was stressed, it's colleagues' personal information and is not sharable. New members were asked to think about what committees they would like to be on, and to feel free to call anytime if they have any questions. The Chairperson wished everyone a great summer.

Ms. Ariola, President of the Howard Beach-Lindenwood Civic, restated that the Civic, the Board, and Transportation Committee Chairperson, want stop signs along the 84th Street bike path, especially on 164 Avenue & 84 Street (4 way stop). She said she did ask Craig Chin/NYC DOT directly, but has not gotten a response. The Board Chairperson said, we will follow up on that.

Mr. Hankerson announced they are providing a vegetarian food giveaway every Friday at 12pm at the Sikh Cultural Center.

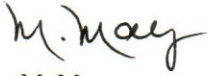
A board member, Mr. Maharaj, thanked the community board office for sending the facemasks and expressed his appreciation. The Chairperson said if you need more just give the office a call and more will be sent. We'll send them till we run out.

A board member, Ms. Antonino, said some area residents have been getting mailings from Pennsylvania advertising fireworks that can be ordered/purchased directly from a supplier in PA, which will be personally delivered to their house. She asked whether this might be of interest to the NYPD. The Chairperson said copies can be provided to the NCOs and noted possession and use of fireworks is illegal in the City of New York. She added, if it is being done by mail, the postal inspectors might be interested in this. Tell anyone who received that kind of mail to contact the postal inspector.

The Chairperson wished everyone a great summer.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. May". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. May

Draft – Subject to Approval