

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11
GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

May 1, 2023

Paul DiBenedetto – Chair

PRESENT AT MEETING

CB 11 Staff:

Joseph Marziliano – District Manager

Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present

Jon Gallo	Representing State Senator Liu
Susannah Go	Representing Assembly Member Rozic
Sila Asa	Representing Council Member Lee
CM Paladino	Representing the 19 th Council District
Kate Boehme	Representing Queens DA Katz
Jess Mueller	Representing Assembly Member Braunstein
CM Lee	Representing the 23 rd Council District

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair, Paul DiBenedetto.

Mr. DiBenedetto led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Council Member Paladino spoke regarding upcoming events that she is sponsoring. District 19's office telephone number is 718-619-8611.

Kate Boehme, representing Queens DA Katz, spoke regarding upcoming events.

Jess Mueller, representing Assembly Member Braunstein, spoke regarding their annual Mother's Day essay event.

Council Member Linda Lee gave a general update on what her office is working on. District 23's office number is 718-468-0137.

Jon Gallo, representing State Senator Liu, spoke regarding upcoming events.

Susannah Go, representing Assembly Member Rozic, spoke regarding upcoming events.

Francis Lewis High School Principal, Dr. David Marmor, spoke regarding a Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) application to convert auto repair bays to a burger express take out establishment. This establishment is across the street from Francis Lewis High School. Dr.

Marmor said that this will be an attraction for the students to leave the building which could cause many dangerous issues.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Dawn Anatra, Adriana Aviles, Lana Bind, Michael Budabin, Jessica Burke, Sharon Chin, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Henry Euler, C. Omarr Evans, Michelle Fields, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Roy Giusetti, Michael Golia, Rosemarie Guidice, George Hadjiconstantinou, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, Jena Lanzetta, Matthew Mamak, Karen Mazza, Eileen Miller, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Ann Puckett, Megan Rha, Ralph Ruiz, Seihee Ryu, Christina Scherer, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong

Members Absent

Susan Cerezo, Carmen Collado, Mario Ferezzoli, Elias Fillas, Christopher Fuentes-Padilla, Tim Hao, Travis Kessel, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, George Mihaltzes, Douglas Montgomery, Akshar Patel, Steve Pivawer, Gunjan Rastogi, Jyothi Sriram, David White, Fern Zimbalist

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 3, 2023, meeting by Mrs. Guidice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hadjiconstantinou. There were no additions or corrections. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 32 in favor and 1 abstention. The minutes were approved as written.

(In favor – Dawn Anatra, Adriana Aviles, Lana Bind, Michael Budabin, Jessica Burke, Sharon Chin, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Henry Euler, C. Omarr Evans, Michelle Fields, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Roy Giusetti, Michael Golia, Rosemarie Guidice, George Hadjiconstantinou, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, Jena Lanzetta, Matthew Mamak, Eileen Miller, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Ann Puckett, Megan Rha, Ralph Ruiz, Seihee Ryu, Christina Scherer, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong - Abstain – Karen Mazza)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. DiBenedetto said there was a site visit at the newly constructed building at the northwest corner of Northern Blvd. and Douglaston Parkway. An inspection by the Dept. of Buildings was performed; there will be a final inspection. St. Mary's Hospital for Children is holding an event on May 21st at Crocheron Park. Locations were given to the District Manager for graffiti cleanup. The general board meetings will be in person moving forward. If a property owner removes greenspace in front of their home or several vehicles are parked in a driveway, please report the address to CB office or the Dept. of Buildings. There was a groundbreaking ceremony for construction at Captain Dermody Triangle. The Governor's housing proposal was eliminated from the budget. Board Member committee selection forms are due. Mr. DiBenedetto ended his report by saying that if an area does not have a civic association, it is important to create one.

BOARD MEMBER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Euler stated that Mary Donahue is no longer a Board Member. He spoke with Mrs. Donahue, and she was not notified that she was not reappointed. Mr. Euler said that it was very disrespectful that she was not notified.

Mr. Euler spoke regarding BSA application for the proposed express burger establishment across the street from Francis Lewis High School. CB11 voted in favor of this application. Mr. Euler requested that a letter be forwarded to the BSA stating the dangers of having this establishment so close to the school. This is a safety issue for the students. A motion was made to forward a letter

to the BSA regarding the safety of the students by Mr. Euler. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lanzetta. A question-and-answer period followed with the main concern for the safety of the students but also how this establishment creates a distraction. Dr. Marmor said that because of the proximity of this establishment, students will be more likely to leave school to grab food. Students are not allowed to leave the school during school hours. The motion was amended to ask the BSA to consider Dr. Marmor testimony and the safety of the students. Discussion ensued on how the CB cannot write a letter in opposition of a business because students may leave a school. Dr. Marmor said there has been cases that involved students getting struck by a car. Mr. Dadras said that these concerns (school safety, traffic controls and safe intersections) can be brought before the Transportation Committee. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 14 in favor and 18 opposed. The motion was denied.

(In favor – Adriana Aviles, Jessica Burke, Paul DiBenedetto, Henry Euler, Albert Galatan, Roy Giusetti, Mohan Jethwani, Jena Lanzetta, Karen Mazza, Ann Puckett, Megan Rha, Ralph Ruiz, Seihee Ryu, Christina Scherer - Opposed - Dawn Anatra, Michael Budabin, Sharon Chin, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, C. Omarr Evans, Michelle Fields, Jack Fried, Joan Garippa, Michael Golia, Rosemarie Guidice, George Hadjiconstantinou, Laura James, Matthew Mamak, Eileen Miller, Wendy Pelle-Ber, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)

Mr. Euler gave an update on the open BSA cases. There has been a newly appointed Commissioner for the Dept. of Buildings, James Oddo.

Ms. Rha shared information regarding Commercial Rent Assistance. Information will be included in the CB weekly digest.

Mr. Galatan stated that the Government Affairs Committee meeting is postponed. He also said the roadway near the Bayside LIRR needs repair.

Ms. Burke spoke regarding recreation centers in the borough.

Mr. Dadras said that the Udall's Cove annual clean-up event was postponed to May 6th.

Mr. DiBenedetto will be conducting a tour on May 6th on how the Clearview Expressway was built.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Transportation – Mr. Dadras, Committee Chair, said that the Transportation Committee meeting was canceled because MTA was not able to attend.

CB11 Budget – Mr. Jethwani, Committee Chair, stated that at the Committee meeting, there was discussion on operating costs, supplies needed, and union contract salary increases. There will be supplies purchased for National Night Out. Future Board discussion will take place regarding Mr. Marziliano's increase as soon as Human Resources forwards a plan of action.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 PM.