

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

May 4, 2020

Via Zoom Telephone Conference

Michael Budabin – Chair

PRESENT AT MEETING

CB 11 Staff:

Joseph Marziliano – District Manager

Christina Coutinho – Community Associate

Jane Bentivenga – Community Coordinator

City Agencies

Captain John Portalatin, Commanding Officer 111th Precinct

Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present:

Melinda Katz

Queens District Attorney

Barry Grodenchik

Council Member

Edward Braunstein

Assembly Member

Anne Marie Boranian

Representing Queens Borough President Sharon Lee

Dave Fischer

Representing Assembly Member Edward Braunstein

Susan Seinfeld

Representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik

Kevin Kiprovki

Representing Council Member Paul Vallone

Jabeen Cheema

Representing State Senator John Liu

Kieran Mahoney

Representing Assembly Member Edward Braunstein

Elaine Fan

Representing New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the Chair, Michael Budabin.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Captain Portalatin gave an update on the crime statistics for the 111th Precinct. He spoke regarding crime patterns and that everyone should lock their doors and windows when not at home and/or leaving their vehicle. Captain Portalatin also gave an update on Lavoo Lounge. He said that this establishment is closed due to Covid-19. Mr. Budabin asked for an update regarding social distancing restrictions and how the 111th Precinct is handling enforcement. Captain Portalatin stated that the District has been complying with the temporary laws. There have been no serious complaints.

Council Member Barry Grodenchik stated that he and State Senator Liu have been working together with the New York State Liquor Authority regarding Lavoo Lounge. He said that

currently their liquor license is inactive and they were hoping with the help of CB11, it would remain that way. He said that one of the challenging issues due to the pandemic is getting food to seniors in need. The Samuel Field Y and SNAP are providing meals.

Assembly Member Edward Braunstein said that his office is readily available for questions. He spoke regarding how the Federal Government needs to recognize New York State and New York City for additional funding due to the pandemic.

Jabeen Cheema representing, the Office of State Senator Liu, stated that the office is accepting telephone and email messages.

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz spoke regarding domestic violence and how it is being handled during the pandemic. She gave an update on how the District Attorney's Office is continuing to work under the pandemic restrictions.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Sila Asa	Michael Budabin	Susan Cerezo	Ocelia Claro
Carmen Collado	Victor Dadras	Paul DiBenedetto	Mary Donahue
Henry Euler	Mario Ferazzoli	Jack Fried	Albert Galatan
Joan Garippa	Michael Golia	Rosemarie Guidice	Bernard Haber
Christine Haider	Laura James	Mohan Jethwani	John Kelly
Linda Lee	Yosef Lee	Robert Liatto	Fleur Martino
George Mihaltses	Eileen Miller	Allan Palzer	Akshar Patel
Stephen Pivawer	Stephan Popa	Christina Scherer	Jyothi Sriram
Benjamin Turner	Alex Yagudaev		

Board Members Absent:

Lana Bind	Justin Chew	Lourdes December	Elias Fillas
Barbara Gillespie	Stanley Jin	Janet McEneaney	Douglas Montgomery
Wendy Pelle-Beer	Henry Wang		

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the revised minutes of the March 2, 2020 meeting by Mrs. Haider. The motion was seconded by Ms. Martino. Discussion ensued regarding additions and corrections. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 33 in favor and one present. The March 2, 2020 minutes were accepted with corrections.

(In-favor- Asa, Budabin, Cerezo, Claro, Collado, Dadras, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fried, Galatan, Garippa, Golia, Guidice, Haber, Haider, James, Jethwani, Kelly, Y. Lee, Liatto, Martino, Mihaltses, Miller, Palzer, Patel, Pivawer, Popa, Scherer, Sriram, Turner, Yagudaev- Present – L. Lee)

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 6, 2020 meeting by Mr. Popa. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jethwani. There were no changes or corrections. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 34 in favor. The April 2020 minutes were accepted as written.

(In-favor- Asa, Budabin, Cerezo, Claro, Collado, Dadras, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fried, Galatan, Garippa, Golia, Guidice, Haber, Haider, James, Jethwani, Kelly, L. Lee, Y. Lee, Liatto, Martino, Mihaltses, Miller, Palzer, Patel, Pivawer, Popa, Scherer, Sriram, Turner, Yagudaev)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Budabin gave his condolences to Eileen Miller on the loss of her Aunt and to Mario Ferazzoli on the loss of his Grandmother and to Paul DiBenedetto on the loss of his Mother. He asked that we all join in a moment of silence for those who lost their lives this month.

Mr. Budabin resumed the meeting with the following updates:

At this time, the owner of the property behind the Douglaston Shopping Center, proposing to build a senior care facility has not filed a certified application for height authorization to the NYC Department of City Planning.

The rezoning application to build on the corner of Douglaston Parkway and Northern Blvd. has been approved by City Council. To date, the owner has not submitted plans to the Department of Buildings for the construction of an as of right, mixed use building.

Last year there was an issue that was raised on how the Dept. of Sanitation plows snow. On May 13, 2020 there will be a Transportation Committee meeting and a representative from the DSNY will be joining to discuss this matter. The Bus Network Redesign proposal is currently on hold due to the pandemic. This topic will be discussed during the Transportation Committee meeting.

To reiterate what Captain Portalatin discussed earlier regarding Lavoo Lounge, their license has expired. Our Public Safety/Public Relations Committee had notified the State Liquor Authority recommending not renewing or issuing a liquor license to this establishment. Currently, the new owner has not received a NYS Liquor License.

Mr. Budabin stated that he and Mr. Marziliano had an introductory telephone call with Council Member Grodenchik to discuss working together.

There was a Health Committee meeting which Mrs. Miller will review later.

A few weeks ago the Community Construction Liaison for the curb and sidewalk restoration on 216th Street between 38th and 39th Avenues reached out asking for the CB's input regarding the continuation of work in the area. Mr. Budabin stated that the suggestion to hold off was made due to the pandemic. The continuation would require driveways and streets to be blocked and under the current circumstances this is not a good idea. A follow up to the liaison will be made shortly.

There have been social media posts regarding the discovery of holes in residential yards. Mr. Budabin stated that everyone should be aware that these holes may be rat burrows. The regular food source for rodents has been disrupted and they may be seeking harborage in residential areas.

The Mayor has extended the suspension of ULURP (Uniform Land Use Review Procedure) and any laws, rules and processes related for another five days starting April 30th.

Mr. Budabin discussed the Citywide budget. He stated that currently there is hiring freeze and CB's have received a targeted budget cut for fiscal years of 2020 and 2021.

BOARD MEMBER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Euler gave an update on one case for the month of April with the Board of Standards and Appeals. This was an application to build a single family, two and half story, detached house that does not meet the lot requirements in a R3-1 zone. This was brought to the Board in November 2018 and was denied. Mr. Euler said that it appears the BSA will be granting this application at a continued hearing in June 2020. He also gave an update for three cases that were heard today, May 4, 2020; (1) Genesis Auto Repair located on the corner of Northern Blvd. and Francis Lewis Blvd. was granted (2) auto showroom/repair located at 233-02 Northern Blvd. was continued and (3) used auto sales located at 233-20 Northern Blvd. was continued.

Mr. Liatto asked for a status of the vacant space in the Douglaston Shopping Plaza. Mrs. Guidice gave an update as to the possible prospective tenants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health – Eileen Miller, Committee Chair, discussed the specific details of Covid-19. She reviewed the Committee report of April 23, 2020. She suggested keeping shoes outside because they carry a lot of germs. Mrs. Miller asked for an update with Mr. Yagudaev's complaint regarding remote learning and teacher responsibility. Mr. Marziliano stated that the information was forwarded the day after the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the lack of practicing social distancing. Mr. Budabin added that DSNY is responding to 311 complaints regarding discarded personal protection equipment thrown on public property.

MONTH AHEAD

Mr. Budabin said that there will be an Economic Development Committee meeting in May to discuss ways to be proactive in helping small business leaders in the community. He said elected officials will be invited.

Mr. Budabin stated that on May 13, 2020 at 7:30 pm there will be a Transportation Committee meeting. On the agenda will be the discussion of the NYC's Open Streets Initiative. The City is seeking to close off 100 miles of City streets to vehicular traffic to allow for proper and safe social distancing as stores start to open up. He is looking for recommendations.

Mr. Budabin discussed a plan for a community outreach initiative and how he would like to increase the CB's profile. He is looking for input to be discussed at a Public Safety Committee/Public Relations meeting in June. Mr. Budabin wants the community to know the CB is available to them.

Mr. Galatan stated that the matter discussed during the Health Committee report referring to a survey regarding the current system for remote learning does not pertain to untraditional schools that are funded by the City. Discussion ensued as to how Mr. Galatan can add his input. Mr. Budabin asked Mr. Galatan to send a request to Mr. Marziliano for follow up.

Mrs. Miller asked if addresses have been given for the NYC's Open Street Initiative. Discussion ensued as to how this initiative is community based and gives communities that are interested the opportunity to be proactive. Further discussion will take place during the meeting of May 13, 2020.

Mr. Budabin discussed updating the CB11 By-Laws with a concrete goal to achieve completion prior to the Summer of 2021. He also discussed a review of the CB11 Committees prior to the Summer of 2020. Committee meetings will be scheduled.

Mr. Budabin concluded the meeting with a message for everyone to take care and stay safe. He said we are here if anyone needs assistance.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted 5/12/2020