

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

*April 5, 2021*

*Via Zoom Telephone Conference*

*Michael Budabin – Chair*

**PRESENT AT MEETING**

*CB 11 Staff:*

Joseph Marziliano – District Manager  
Jane Bentivenga – Community Coordinator

Christina Coutinho – Community Associate

*Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present:*

David Fischer	Representing Assembly Member Braunstein
Susan Seinfeld	Representing Council Member Grodenchik
Jon Gallo	Representing State Senator Liu
Katherina Thompson	Representing Queens Borough President Richards
Isabel Pulgarin	Representing Assembly Member Nily Rozic

*111<sup>th</sup> Precinct*

Police Officer Galano – Community Affairs Unit

Mr. Budabin had a scheduling conflict and was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Victor Dadras, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, conducted the meeting at the request of Mr. Budabin.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Victor Dadras.

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

PO Galano spoke regarding the crime statistics for the month.

Jon Gallo, representing State Senator Liu, spoke regarding upcoming events. The Senator will be conducting a town meeting for anti-Asian bias hate crimes. Anyone interested in attending can contact the Senator's office.

Susan Seinfeld, representing Council Member Grodenchik, spoke regarding upcoming events.

Katherina Thompson, representing Queens Borough President Richards, stated that she can be reached at 718.286.2620.

Isabel Pulgarin, representing Assembly Member Rozic, stated that there will be a Town Hall meeting on April 21, 2021 for the residents of CB11. Residents will need to register through the Assembly Member's office.

Jessica Burke, a member of Friends of Crocheron Park and John Golden Park, spoke regarding the paths in John Golden Park. She said the paths are atrocious, there are several potholes and decaying slopes. Ms. Burke said the park cannot be enjoyed with these needed repairs. She asked the Board for support to improve these conditions. Ms. Burke followed up with a topic from a CB11 Parks Committee meeting regarding a farmer's market initiative; she asked if this initiative would be for a Community Agriculture Program (CSA) or a farmer's market. Parks Committee Chair, Paul DiBenedetto, stated that this will not be CSA, the proposal is for a farmer's market.

Pastor Stephen wanted to introduce himself to the Board and community. He is the pastor for Community Church of Little Neck. He would like to serve the community and the needs of the residents. Ms. Thompson said she is the BP's Clergy Liaison and asked the Pastor to contact the BP's office.

## **ROLL CALL**

### *Members Present*

Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Barbara Gillespie, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, George Mihaltses, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong

### *Members Absent*

Lana Bind, Michael Budabin, Lourdes December, Rosemarie Guidice

## **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the March 2021 meeting by Christine Haider. The motion was seconded by Douglas Montgomery. The minutes were approved as written.

(*In-favor* - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Barbara Gillespie, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, George Mihaltses, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Mr. Dadras gave the Chair's report on behalf of Mr. Budabin.

The first Community Advisory Board meeting (CAB) for the proposed homeless shelter was held this afternoon. Several Board Members were in attendance as well as Joseph Marziliano. Mr. Marziliano stated that he asked the following questions at the meeting: Would there be transportation provided for the clients during the day? Will there be 75 beds? Is the client staff ratio 1 to 25? Mr. Marziliano stated that he was advised of the following: there will be one van used for transportation and metro cards will be given (excluding LIRR). At the meeting, Mr. Marziliano stated that one van is inadequate; the original plan was for 81 beds, then lowered to 72 and now 75. Mr. Marziliano stated at the meeting, that this number increased with no notice to CB11; the staff ratio is only one social worker for each 25 clients. Mr. Marziliano will continue to follow up.

The site of the Korean Community Services (KCS) is now a NYC full-time vaccination site.

In the month of March, the following committee meetings took place: two Public Safety and Licensing, joint Transportation and Public Safety Licensing, Public Relations, Capital and Expense, and Landmarks and Parks.

Mr. Dadras invited the new Board Members to introduce themselves. Each gave a brief introduction: Jessica Burke, Jason Chen, Vidya Pappachan and Jena Lanzetta.

## **BOARD MEMBER NEW BUSINESS**

Henry Euler gave an update on the open Board of Standards and Appeals cases. He said he was able to get his Covid-19 vaccine at KCS and it was a very organized process. Mr. Euler stated that last month he spoke regarding legislation that was being brought before the NYS Assembly and NYS Senate to permit accessory dwelling units. The Board agreed to have a speaker for this month's meeting, but we were not quite ready, therefore, it will be scheduled for next month. Lastly, Mr. Euler discussed how the discarded face masks are a hazard for birds. He suggested cutting the straps to help the birds avoid getting their feet and wings stuck in the straps.

Mr. Dadras spoke regarding the comprehensive plan proposal to allow accessory units. He stated that this proposal will allow several families to move into a single-family dwelling. He reinforced that this needs immediate attention.

Linda Lee said that KCS has six staff members working on community appointments for the Covid-19 vaccination. If you want an appointment, contact KCS.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Parks** – Paul DiBenedetto, Committee Chair, stated that at the Committee, that the members discussed the plans for Captain Dermody Triangle. The Dept. of Parks gave a detailed presentation. This is a capital design project with funding through the State Senate office. The presentation outlined the design and scope of the construction. They will use some of the old pavers and stone to reconstruct the walkways of the park with some new material as well. Trees and shrubs of native species will be planted throughout the park. The Committee questioned the repair of the curb on the western edge of the park. It was discussed how community involvement will be needed to plant bulbs in the Fall. Mr. DiBenedetto suggested that another material that resembles bronze be used to restore the park's plaque. There could be a problem with the plaque being stolen because

bronze is in demand. It was discussed that an alternative material be used. Mrs. Haider made a motion to approve the design. Mr. Euler seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 45 in favor and 0 opposed. The motion carried.

*(In-favor - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Barbara Gillespie, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, George Mihaltses, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)*

**Public Relations** – Adriana Aviles, Committee Chair, discussed a proposal for a community service award sponsored by CB11. The Board would reach out to local schools and youth service organizations for their recommendation on a youth that has gone above and beyond to help the community. The youth would give a presentation and be awarded a certificate for their outstanding service. There would be two awards initially, given annually. A motion was made to start the process for an annual certificate of service to a youth in the community by Stephan Popa. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Miller. Discussion ensued on the ages of the candidates and if a Board Member's child could be eligible. Mr. Dadras said the Committee would discuss the specifics and report back to the full Board. Mr. Popa said that youths up to grade 12 should be included. An amendment to the motion was made and accepted to add youths up to grade 12. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 45 in favor and 0 opposed. The motion carried.

*(In-favor - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Barbara Gillespie, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, George Mihaltses, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)*

Mr. Dadras discussed the next topic of expanding the audio recording of a committee meeting to the CB11 website. This topic was discussed at last month's meeting by Mr. Popa. Mr. Popa said that since the posting of the general meeting's audio recordings are working out well, committee meetings should be recorded and posted to the CB11 website. He proposed an opt out procedure for committees that are discussing personal information. Mr. Popa made a motion to implement a requirement for committees to post the audio recordings, starting September 1, 2021, except if they have provided a reason for the opt out procedure approved by the Board Chair. The motion was seconded by Albert Galatan. A lengthy discussion ensued with John Kelly stating that he opposed the opt out procedure. He said that the Board is a public group and we are here to serve the community, all committee meetings should be posted. Carmen Collado suggested that for the protection of everyone, postings should be screened by the District Manager. She said that sometimes employees pick up on things that the Board Members do not. Mrs. Miller stated that at the end of a Health Committee meeting, she asks everyone for a mental health evaluation. This gives someone the opportunity to discuss something in their life that is traumatic. Laura James said it was discussed prior to this meeting that the Landmarks Committee has personal information regarding the interior plans of a house. It was stated that floor plans are not on audio recordings. Stephen Pivawer said that each committee chair submits a report of what took place at a committee

meeting; why do a report if there is an audio recording? Benjamin Turner discussed that audio recordings will have more information and details than a written report. He stated that another purpose of the audio recordings is to check the behavior of board members. Through the years, there has been some members who were abusive and unprofessional at times; posting the meetings could discourage poor behavior. Mr. Turner added how the Board is not a healthcare provider; people should not be discussing their personal issues. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 19 in favor and 25 opposed. The motion was denied.

*(In-favor* - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Sharon Chin, Victor Dadras, Mary Donahue, Albert Galatan, Barbara Gillespie, John Kelly, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, George Mihaltzes, Akshar Patel, Stephan Popa, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong - *Opposed* - Lander Bravo, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Carmen Collado, Paul DiBenedetto, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Jack Fried, Joan Garippa, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, Jena Lanzetta, Robert Liatto, Fleur Martino, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer)

### **MONTH AHEAD**

Mr. Dadras announced the upcoming committee meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.