

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

January 1, 2021

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

Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present:

Dave Fischer

Representing Assembly Member Edward Braunstein

Susan Seinfeld

Representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik

Kevin Kiprovski

Representing Council Member Paul Vallone

Jon Gallo

Representing State Senator John Liu

Isabel Pulgarin

Representing Assembly Member Nily Rozic

Maria Di Leone

Representing Congress Member Grace Meng

Dan Brown

Representing Queens DA Melinda Katz

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

Susan Seinfeld, representing Council Member Grodenchik, announced upcoming events sponsored by the Council Member.

Mike Lyons, representing the Bay Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps., thanked CB11 for scheduling a Health and Human Services Committee meeting on January 21, 2021.

Isabel Pulgarin, representing Assembly Member Nily Rozic, spoke regarding upcoming events.

Jon Gallo, representing State Senator John Liu, stated that if anyone has questions relating to the NY State COVID-19 Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2020, they can call the Senator's office for additional information.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Michael Budabin, Susan Cerezo, Justin Chew, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue. Henry Euler, 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, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong

Members Absent

Lana Bind, Sharon Chin, Ocelia Claro, Mario Ferazzoli, Elias Fillas, Barbara Gillespie, Stanley Jin, George Mihaltses, Stephen Pivawer

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting by Mrs. Haider. The motion was seconded by Mr. Popa. A roll call vote was taken resulting all in favor. The minutes were approved as written.

(In-Favor - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Michael Budabin, Susan Cerezo, Justin Chew, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue. Henry Euler, 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, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephan Popa, Gunjan Rastogi, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

There was a Douglaston Zoning and a Health and Human Services Committee meetings held in the month of December that will be discussed during the Committee Report section of tonight's meeting.

There was a PPE giveaway at the Auburndale LIRR train station. There has now been a PPE giveaway in every portion of our district. Mr. Budabin thanked everyone that participated at this event.

There has been an additional round of budget cuts. CB11 had enough uncommitted funds to meet the cut.

The Board office is currently working on standard internal policy audits with various City agencies.

There will be a joint Douglaston Zoning and Health and Human Services Committee meeting on January 12, 2021 to discuss a proposed homeless shelter. The Dept. of Homeless Services will be in attendance. This will be reported at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Euler gave an update of the Board of Standards and Appeals case for location, 200-15 Horace Harding Expressway. This case has been closed and the decision will be given in March 2021. Mr. Euler thanked Mr. Budabin, Mr. Marziliano and Mr. Patel, on behalf of the Auburndale Improvement Association, for their efforts with a successful PPE giveaway. Lastly, Mr. Euler spoke regarding snow removal and how the plows throw snow on already clear driveway aprons and sidewalks. There was a meeting with DSNY and this was addressed. Mr. Euler said that there must be a better plan of action to avoid this recurring problem. There are several areas that have the same complaint. Mr. Budabin stated that this will be addressed again with the DSNY. Mr. Kelly stated there was improvement in his area. Mrs. Donahue stated that her driveway, and sidewalk on 46th Avenue and two other neighbors on the Avenue, were completely blocked. She said that DSNY came to clear the community driveways in her area and she asked them to clear the blocked portions. Discussion ensued regarding a future meeting with DSNY to discuss a plan.

Mr. Chew spoke on behalf of Kat Brezler, the new Deputy Director of Community Boards. Mr. Chew said Ms. Brezler wanted to extend her welcome but had another meeting to attend. Ms. Brezler wanted to know if CB11 has any input for a COVID-19 testing site. Locations were discussed.

Ms. Lee said KCS is partnering with Health and Hospitals for self-COVID-19 testing at KCS on Monday's from 9 am through 12 noon.

Ms. Martino said the Windsor Park test center has very long lines. She said that Health and Hospital is giving out care packages for those who test positive and there are in-home tests.

Mr. Akshar Patel suggested the area of Senator Liu's office.

Mr. Montgomery said that questions for the homeless shelter should be forwarded to the Board office prior to the meeting. There will be no community discussion at this joint committee meeting on January 12, 2021. Mr. Montgomery said the Douglaston Garden Club is celebrating its 100-year anniversary. He suggested the Board to acknowledge this accomplishment.

Mr. Budabin said the first step regarding the homeless shelter is to hear the presentation from DSS and DHS. This meeting on January 12, 2021 is to receive information to avoid opinions being made without the proper information.

Mrs. Haider announced that this year she will be with the Board for 30 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health and Human Services – Mrs. Miller, Committee Chair, stated that if there are any questions regarding COVID she is available.

Douglaston Zoning – Douglas Montgomery, Committee Chair, stated that there was meeting on December 21, 2020 to discuss a zoning change at location – 232-06/20 Northern Blvd. At this meeting, the owner's attorney discussed opinions of what could be built at this location. The Committee advised to come back with a proposal. Discussion ensued to the nature of this area. It was discussed how a variance through the Board of Standards and Appeals gives the Board the ability to give input. With a zoning change there is no Board input. Mr. DiBenedetto opposed an up-zoning near that location. He suggested the City purchase the property along that strip to allow

the property to go back to nature. Mr. Budabin suggested Mr. DiBenedetto submit specific ideas to the Board office to be forwarded to the appropriate committee. Mrs. Miller asked why preliminary meetings are being scheduled.

MONTH AHEAD

Mr. Budabin said there will be a joint Douglaston Zoning and Health and Human Services Committee meeting on January 12, 2021. There is also a Health and Human Services Committee meeting on January 21, 2021.

Mr. Budabin spoke regarding Board member renewal applications.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.