# MINUTES OF COMMUNITY BOARD 11 GENERAL BOARD MEETING

June 1, 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, 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct

Elected Officials and/or Representatives Present:

Council Member Barry Grodenchik

Anne Marie Boranian Representing Queens Borough President Sharon Lee Dave Fischer Representing Assembly Member Edward Braunstein Susan Seinfeld Representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik Isabel Pulgarin Representing Assembly Member Nily Rozic Justin Connor Representing Congressman Tom Suozzi

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

Mr. Budabin stated that at tonight's meeting, the newly appointed Board Members will be introduced.

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

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Council Member Barry Grodenchik give an update on the pandemic. He thanked the new Board Members for volunteering their time.

Captain Portalatin gave an update on the crime statistics for the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct. He spoke regarding a peaceful protest at Springfield Blvd. and Horace Harding Expressway Service Road. Discussion ensued regarding various protests throughout the City. Mr. Budabin asked for information regarding social media's posts of planned protests in the District.

Isabel Pugarin give an update on events hosted by Assembly Member Nily Rozic

# **ROLL CALL**

#### **Board Members Present:**

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

### *Newly Appointed Board Members:*

| Adriana Aviles | Carin Bail | Lander Bravo | Sharon Chin |
|----------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
|----------------|------------|--------------|-------------|

Gunjan Rastogi Sam Wong

#### **Board Members Absent:**

| Lana Bind Susan Cerezo | Justin Chew | Elias Fillas |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|

Michael Golia Bernard Haber **Douglas Montgomery** 

### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to accept the revised minutes of the May 4, 2020 meeting by Stephen Popa. The motion was seconded by Christine Haider. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 33 in favor and six present. The May 4, 2020 minutes were accepted as written.

(In-favor- Asa, Budabin, Claro, Collado, Dadras, December, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fried, Galatan, Garippa, Gillespie, Guidice, Haider, James, Jin, Kelly, L. Lee, Y. Lee, Liatto, Martino, Mihaltses, Miller, Palzer, Patel, Pelle-Beer, Pivawer, Popa, Scherer, Sriram, Turner - *Present* – Aviles, Bail, Bravo, Chin, Rastogi, Wong)

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The applicant for the proposed Height Authorization application with the NYC Dept. of City Planning to construct a Senior Assisted Living facility on 61<sup>st</sup> Avenue will be conducting a meeting to review revised plans on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

At the time of this meeting, the NYS Liquor License for Lavoo Lounge has not been issued to the new owner.

Victor Dadras will review the full Transportation Committee report but regarding to the segment on snow plowing, Mr. Budabin said the DSNY representative that attended the meeting was helpful but most of the answers were "Citywide policies cannot be changed". Mr. Budabin stated that since the answers were high level Citywide answers, the QN11 DSNY Superintendent, Rich Kauke, was asked to attend a Fall 2020 meeting to help resolve some of the issues in the District.

Mr. Budabin acknowledged the Board Members that have resigned from the Board this year. He thanked them for their service to the community. He welcomed and introduced new Board Members; Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lander Bravo, Sharon Chin, Gunjan Rastogi, and Sam Wong. Each spoke briefly.

### **BOARD MEMBER NEW BUSINESS**

Henry Euler gave an update on one case with the Board of Standards and Appeals; the hearing for the McDonald's on Northern Blvd in Little Neck was adjourned. He spoke regarding upcoming hearings for July and August.

Robert Liatto spoke about a problematic issue with speeding on 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and the lack of NYPD enforcement. Mr. Liatto also asked if there was a plan for High School Graduation Ceremonies and if the Board could reach out to local elected officials. He spoke specifically about Cardozo HS. Mr. Budabin addressed both issues by saying that the 111th Precinct will be contacted concerning the speeding on 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and today, the CB Office received a letter from the PTA of Cardozo HS regarding graduation. Adriana Aviles said that she is the CEC 26 President and she has weekly meetings with the District Superintendent. Due to Covid-19, the Dept. of Education, not the Principal of a school, must approve a graduation celebration. They cannot support large gatherings for the month of June.

Fleur Martino spoke regarding the process and in support of the NYC Covid-19 Tracing Program to help monitor the spread.

Mr. Budabin said that previously, the Board voted to suspend the CB11's hard copy notice requirement; excluding M. Donahue and J. Garippa. Since meetings are still virtual, Mr. Budabin asked for a motion to extend digital mailing to the September meeting, with the same caveat that was previously approved. Stephan Popa made a motion to extended digital mailing until the September meeting, excluding those with no email. Benjamin Turner seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

(In-favor- Asa, Aviles, Bail, Bravo, Budabin, Chin, Claro, Collado, Dadras, December, DiBenedetto, Donahue, Euler, Ferazzoli, Fried, Galatan, Garippa, Gillespie, Guidice, Haider, James, Jin, Kelly, L. Lee, Y. Lee, Liatto, Martino, Mihaltses, Miller, Palzer, Patel, Pelle-Beer, Pivawer, Popa, Rastogi, Scherer, Sriram, Turner, Wong)

Mary Donahue and Barbara Gillespie spoke regarding various protests throughout the City. They requested information from the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct about the route of scheduled protests in the District. Discussion ensued regarding the role of the Board during these times.

Christine Haider welcomed the new Board Members.

Paul DiBenedetto stated that he is the President of the redesign of P.S. 41. He stated that there will be 250 new seats added, a Pre-K class, full elevator access, the main entrance will be on 214<sup>th</sup> Lane, security cameras and a modern fire alarm system will be installed, a permanent art installation and the new building and old building will be connected. There will a new music room, art studio, science lab and upgrade to the playground.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Transportation** – Victor Dadras, Committee Chair, reviewed the Transportation Committee report of May 13, 2020. Mr. Dadras said the Bus Resign Proposal is currently on hold due to Covid-19. Mr. Dadras spoke regarding the issues with DSNY snow plowing and said the QN11 Superintendent will attend a meeting to answer the community's concerns. Mr. Dadras spoke regarding the NYC Open Streets Initiative to help support local merchants during the pandemic. He asked for input or suggestions for areas that could be part of this initiative.

# MONTH AHEAD

Mr. Budabin said that this is the last Board meeting before the summer break. There will be Committee meetings when needed. He asked for Members to please complete the Committee Selection form and return to the CB office.

Mr. Budabin reviewed the upcoming Committee meetings.

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 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted 8/7/2020