

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

May 3, 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:

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

111th Precinct

Commanding Officer Captain Portalatin

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chair, Michael Budabin.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Captain Portalatin spoke regarding current scams that are taking place. He stated that police officers, FBI and other government agents would not ask for money over the phone (or in person). Captain Portalatin stated that all entrances and exits should be locked to avoid being burglarized. There was a question and answer period. Christine Haider, Susan Cerezo and Eileen Miller thanked the officers of the 111th Precinct for their services in matters where they recently needed police assistance.

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

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

Isabel Pulgarin spoke regarding upcoming events.

Katherina Thompson, representing Queens Borough President Richards, stated that she can be reached at 718.286.2620. She stated that Board Orientation for new and reappointed members is on May 15th.

Jessica Burke, President of Friends of Crocheron Park and John Golden Park, spoke regarding a farm box at Crocheron Park. She said they have already spoken to the Transportation Committee because they need to obtain a permit for the street area. They are still looking for support from local organizations and local politicians. Ms. Burke asked for suggestions to connect with local community members. Suggestions can be sent to friendsofcrocheron.org.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lana Bind, Lander Bravo, Michael Budabin, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Elias Fillas, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Rosemarie Guidice, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong

Members Absent

Jason Chen, Justin Chew, Barbara Gillespie, Michael Golia, Bernard Haber, Stanley Jin. Fleur Martino, George Mihaltses, Gunjan Rastogi

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 2021 meeting by Christine Haider. The motion was seconded by Stephen Popa. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 37 in favor and one present. The minutes were approved as written.

(In-favor - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lana Bind, Lander Bravo, Michael Budabin, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadras, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Elias Fillas, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Rosemarie Guidice, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong – *Present* – Lourdes December)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This month, there was a Town Hall meeting with Assembly Member Rozic. There was a groundbreaking ceremony for the Vanderbilt Motor Parkway. Mr. Budabin thanked all who attended both events. Mr. Budabin, Mr. Marziliano and Education Committee Chair, Justin Chew, toured the construction site at Cardozo HS. This addition will create 400 seats for the school but not increase enrollment.

Starting Wednesday, May 5, 2021, the CB11 office will be staffed five days a week. Due to the size of the office this avoids an overlap. Each employee will have two days in the office and three days remote. At this time, there will be no walk-in visitors.

In the month of April, the following meetings took place: Capital and Expense, Douglaston Zoning, Landmarks, Transportation and Education.

Committee selection forms will be circulated this week. Each member should carefully consider what committee(s) they are passionate about, have ideas for and will attend. Prior attendance and engagement will be reviewed as will the completed committee selection forms. The assigning of committee chairs will also be reviewed.

BOARD MEMBER NEW BUSINESS

Sharon Chin gave a presentation on Ranked-Choice Voting. She stated that ranked-choice voting will be used for the NYC June 2021 Primary Election. Voters will be able to vote in order of preference with a choice of up to five candidates for each role. The deadline for registration is May 28, 2021 and June 15, 2021 is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. Additional information will be distributed in the weekly digest.

Henry Euler gave an update for an open Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) case. A physical culture establishment at 41-19 Bell Blvd. The BSA said that the applicant fulfilled everything CB11 asked for including cleaning up the side entrance on 42nd Avenue. There was a new condition added: that if the adjacent establishment complained about vibrations from the gym, the gym owners would have to address the situation. The application was approved. Mr. Euler spoke regarding the state legislation proposal regarding accessory dwelling units that would legalize extra dwellings on private property. CB11 thought it would be a good idea to have representative come to speak but there has been no response. Mr. Euler announced that former Board Member, Mandingo Tshaka, will be turning 90 on May 12th.

Douglas Montgomery stated that the 8th annual electronic recycling waste event will take place on May 22, 2021 at the St. Anastasis's parking lot. There will be a shredding event in the spring or summer of this year. There will not be a Memorial Day Parade due to COVID. The City is not granting permits.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Douglaston Zoning – Douglas Montgomery, Committee Chair, gave an update regarding the rezoning of a portion of Northern Blvd. Mr. Montgomery said he found out privately that the owners of Mizumi are seeking to apply for a rezoning to a commercial overlay from the site of Mizumi to Alameda Avenue. Nothing has been submitted to City Planning yet. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the negative environmental impact this would cause to the parkland, wetlands and flyway for the birds. The members also discussed how a BSA application has terms with an expiration date and how rezoning an area is permanent.

Public Relations – Adriana Aviles, Committee Chair, stated that at last month's meeting, the Board voted in favor of issuing an award certificate to an outstanding student. Ms. Aviles said that she would like to amend the approved motion to: there will be two awards each year, one to a male student and one to a female student. The amendment was approved. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 41 in favor and 0 opposed. The motion carried.

(In-favor - Sila Asa, Adriana Aviles, Carin Bail, Lana Bind, Lander Bravo, Michael Budabin, Jessica Burke, Susan Cerezo, Sharon Chin, Carmen Collado, Victor Dadrás, Lourdes December, Paul DiBenedetto, Mary Donahue, Henry Euler, Mario Ferazzoli, Elias Fillas, Jack Fried, Albert Galatan, Joan Garippa, Rosemarie Guidice, Christine Haider, Laura James, Mohan Jethwani, John Kelly, Jena Lanzetta, Linda Lee, Yosef Lee, Robert Liatto, Eileen Miller, Douglas Montgomery, Vidya Pappachan, Allan Palzer, Akshar Patel, Wendy Pelle-Beer, Stephen Pivawer, Stephan Popa, Christina Scherer, Jyothi Sriram, Benjamin Turner, Sam Wong)

MONTH AHEAD

Mr. Budabin announced the upcoming scheduled committee meetings for May. He stated that moving forward the Capital and Expense Committee meeting will not be scheduled on the same night as the monthly Bayside Historical Society meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted 5/14/2021