



Community Board 12

The City of New York

Borough of Queens

Jamaica, Hollis, St. Albans, South Ozone Park, and Springfield Gardens

90-28 161st Street
 Jamaica, New York 11432
gn12@cb.nyc.gov
www.nyc.gov/qcb12

(718) 658-3308
 Fax (718) 739-6997

Donovan Richards
 BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Rev. Carlene O. Thorbs
 CHAIRPERSON

Khaleel Bragg
 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
 DISTRICT MANAGER

Minutes of the General Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 7:00pm

Members Present - 31		
Mohammad Ali	Angela Allen	Wanda Best
Jacqueline Boyce	Maxine Brannon	Kenny Carter
Manuel Caughman	Vishal Hardowar, Esq.	Nurul Haque
Rene Cheatham Hill	Crystal Isaac	Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs	Celeste James	Clementine James
Chantel Johnson	Al Hussan-Kanu	Bilal Karriem, 2 nd Vice Chairperson
Latoya Legrand	Donald Murphy	Abdus Salaam Musa
Shah Nawaz	Charline Ogbeni	Krystal Roberts
Fitzroy Searles, Secretary	Owen Shakespeare	Rev. C. Princess Thorbs-Mcgee, Chairperson
Toni Totten	Linette Townsley	Khari White
Patricia Wooden		

Members Absent or Excused – 18		
Ahnaf Alam	Jean Randolph-Castro	Tanbir Chowdhury
Clifton Stanley Diaz	Marcia Francis	Glenn Greenidge
Jolander Headley	Yullanda Hinds	Michele Keller, 1 st Vice Chairperson
Dawn Kelly	Sharon Sweeting-Lindsey	Rev. Edward Mckay
Angela Miskis	Akther H. Rahman	Amanda Sewanan
Florence Simmons	Yvette Sledge	Jeanette Wilson

Rev. Thorbs welcomed attendees and called the general meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Chairperson's Report – Rev. Carlene Thorbs

Rev. Carlene Thorbs announced that the UniverSoul Circus is coming to Roy Wilkins Park. The UniverSoul Circus is family to Southeast Queens. We have tickets, coupons and seats for every Saturday and Sunday morning.

President Donovan Richards, our borough president, is having a Queen's veteran job and Resource fair on Thursday, October 5th, from one to 5. It will be at Queensborough Hall in the Helen Marshall Cultural Centre at Queensborough Hall, 120-55 Queens Boulevard Kew Gardens.

The Board President is also going to have a senior appreciation luncheon Thursday, September the 20, 2023 from 12 pm to 2 pm.

District Manager's Report – Yvonne Reddick

Ms. Reddick announced that The Department of Sanitation training for winter operations begins Monday, September 18, 2023. If you see snow removal equipment, a snowplow, and salt spreader in your area, they are sanitation trainees they will not be training on Sundays.

She also mentioned that Community Board 12 continues to have a high rate of foreclosures, the highest in Queens. Please take advantage of the programs that will work with you.

Community Session

Councilwoman Nantasha - I am happy to be here on your first meeting back from the summer. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. My office has been busy over the summer collecting ceremonial surveys for the Jamaican Neighborhood plan that I'll talk about in just a second. We had back to school drives family days with a fun packed summer.

So, the first thing I want to talk about is the Jamaican neighborhood study. In June 2023, in collaboration with the Mayor, the Queensborough President, Speaker Adams and numerous elected officials, we launched the Jamaican Neighborhood State study. Our goal is to create a comprehensive plan for downtown Jamaica and Hollis and focused on long-term sustainability, housing jobs, public spaces, and infrastructure. I'd like to recognize the successful efforts of past council members. So former councilmember Denise Miller. Now, Senator Conry as Council member. They really laid the groundwork for what we hope will be a substantial investment from the city and our community.

Business Session

Bilal Karriem made a motion for the board to enter its business session. The motion was seconded by Maxine Brannon and passed unanimously.

June 21, 2023, general meeting minutes were tabled until the October 20, 2023, general meeting.

Committees to Report

Land Use Committee – Mr. Vishal Hardowar, Esq.

1. Riseboro Organization regarding the conversion of JFK Hilton into affordable housing.

No vote taken – As a Right

2. In the matter of ULURP Application #2022-51-BZ, (107-20 154 Street, Block #10131, Lot # 30) submitted by Gerald J. Caliendo, RA, AIA, Architect PC. Bulk variance to facilitate the proposed construction of a new two story and cellar two family dwelling on a vacant irregular lot on the corner of 154th Street and Shore Avenue located in an R5 zoning district.

**LAND USE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION MADE BY VISHAL HARDOWAR, ESQ.
TO APPROVE APPLICATION, SECONDED BY AL KANU
22 Members approved BSA Application 6 members Disapproved.**

3. ULURP Application # 23DCP052Q (230262ZSQ, N230263ZRQ) submitted by Applicant Amar 166-11 91st, LLC , Stephanie Shelloe, AICP, Director of EARD requests approval of a Zoning Special Permit and a Zoning Text Amendment (the "Proposed Actions") of approximately 3,600 square feet (sf) comprising Block 9796, Lot 47, p/o Lot 53, p/o Lot 63 (the "Affected Area") bounded by 90th Avenue to the north, 168th Street to the east, 91st Avenue to the south, and Merrick Boulevard to the west in the Jamaica neighborhood within Queens Community District 12. The Zoning Special Permit pursuant to Zoning Resolution ("ZR") Section 115-60 would allow the modification of bulk regulations and permit a development consistent with the height and setback regulations of the Special Downtown Jamaica District as specified in ZR Sections 115- 233 and 115-234, without limitations imposed by ZR Section 23-692 (Height limitations for narrow buildings or enlargements).

**LAND USE RECOMMENDATION – TO APPROVE APPLICATION,
15 Members approved ulurp 11 Members Disapproved**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm as there was no other business.