



Community Board 12
The City of New York
Borough of Queens

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

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Melinda Katz
 BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Rene Hill
 CHAIRPERSON

Vicky Morales Casella
 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
 DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, QUEENS
MAY 16, 2018

MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- **PRESIDING:** Rene Hill, Chairperson
- **PRESENT:** Amir Abbady
 Maxine Allen, Treasurer
 Melvin Artis
 Yasinul Ashraf
 Geraldine Taylor-Brown
 Kenneth Carter
 Manuel Caughman
 Clifton Stanley Diaz
 Barbara Duncan
 Alexandra Dyer
 Daniel Englander
 Mabel Everett
 Joan Flowers, 1st Vice Chair
 Marcia Francis
 Nadi Ghaness
 Dora Griszal
 Ian Harris
 Nurul Haque
 Rene Hill, Chairperson
 Richard Hogan
 Derek Irby
 Khondokar Tarikul Islam
 Audrey Lee Jacobs
 Celeste James

Clementine James
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson
Bilal Karriem
Michele Keller, Secretary
Michelle Kirkland
Rev. Edward McKay
Tunisia Morrison
Jean Phelps
Rodney Pride
Kamal Saleem
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
Yvette Sledge
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Benjamin Wright, Jr.
Nigel Barker
Jacqueline Boyce
Brittany Chambers
Thomas Greenaway
Glenn Greenidge
James Heyliger
Gregory Mays
Kemar Newman
Toni Totten
Bryan White

ABSENT:

I. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Rev. Thorbs, 2nd Vice Chair

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

- Trying to get the Committees to become more functional. Ms. Reddick gave Rene an area chart; so each Chairr would know their area.
- CB 12 has 2 Area Chairs at this time, but is in need of 2 more. Would like the board members to sign up for the different committees.
- Glenn Greenidge will only Chair the Economic Committee because of the JFK Development project will take up a lot of his time.
- CB 12 needs someone that can devote their time to Chair the Land Use Committee.

Elected Officials and their Representatives were acknowledged by the Chairperson.

III. PRESENTATION

- Application #2018-28-B2 submitted by Rothkrug, Rothkrug & Spector, LLP, 130-20 Farmers Boulevard, west of intersection of Farmers Boulevard and Merrick Boulevard (Block 12542, Lot 3).
- This is an application for a special permit to allow physical culture establishment (Blink Fitness) in portions of new of new commercial building.
- The establishment will be located on the 2nd floor of the building and will have 47 parking spaces for clients.

Representative from NYC DOT

- Presented the Downtown Jamaica Ave/Sutphin Blvd. Transportation Study
- There is an issue with the mismatched designated bus land and usage on Jamaica Ave – Sutphin Blvd. to 148 Street.
- Making improvements on Jamaica Ave – Sutphin Blvd. To 148h Street, shift curbside bus lane to the designated left turn lane. Reassign curb lane as a moving lane at all times, and provides truck loading/unloading on 148t Street/147 Place side streets)
- Sutphin Blvd. – Jamaica Ave to 95 Ave – there is an issue with congestion and conflicts along the corridor impedes bus operation
- Improvements proposed Jamaica Ave to 95 Ave:
 - convert to northbound 144 Street – Archer to 91 Ave, 91 Ave
 - Convert to eastbound 91 Ave – 146 to Sutphin Blvd.
 - Install for Hire taxi stand – 91 Ave (south curb) approaching Sutphin Blvd.
 - Install hardened centerline on Sutphin Blvd – Archer Ave to Jamaica Ave
 - Signal timing changes – Sutphin Blvd/94 Ave
 - Remove parking to provide additional moving lane, create exclusive left turn land and thru land, and truck loading/unloading zone on 95 Ave.

Samantha Dolgoff, NYC Department of Transportation

- Gave a presentation on the Jamaica Market Bike Corral
- Provides entire capacity bike parking where the demand could not be met on the sidewalk
- Alleviates illegal bike parking on street signs, trees, and fences
- There will be four u-shaped bike racks attached to two metal based plates installed in the curb side lane of the street
- As of October 7, 2017 the map shows all of DOT’s corrals – there are about 51 bike corrals in the five boroughs.
- First corral in Community Board 12
- Location selection and maintenance – bike corral program identified through an Application process
- Their maintenance partner will keep the corral free of debris, trash, leaves, snow, etc.

IV. BUSINESS SESSION

Michele Keller, Secretary, 29 members present at roll call; quorum pronounced

- I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Motion to table the April 18, 2018 minutes (waiting for Resolutions to be distributed) until the June 20, 2018 meeting.

No one made a motion to table the minutes until June 20, 2018 meeting.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson

- NHSJ is a 44 year old nonprofit supporting the communities of Southeast Queens. They are currently looking for an Executive Director locally. The organization provides Grants up to \$40,000, Home Improvements & Construction Management. NHSJ offers workshops in the following areas;
 - First Time Homebuyers
 - Qualifying Home Owners
 - Foreclosure Counseling

- Renters Workshops
 - Disaster & Storm Recovery
 - Handyman Certifications
- Discussed that the community does not have all this information Geri & Amir will work with NHSJ to suggest outreach strategies so that our community can benefit from these programs.
 - City Planning will be proposing a special permit for hotel development in certain M1 areas which we hope will slow down some of the hotel development in our area.
 - Proposed Southeast Queens Federal Credit Union is meeting every 2nd Saturday. The Last 2 meetings have been held at African Center for Community Empower located at 111-20 Farmers Blvd St Albans. Meeting starts at 9:30 am – 12 noon.

Education Committee: Represented by Joan Flowers, Esq., Chairperson

- New Schools Chancellor, Mr. Caranza, visited the district on 4/30/2018. His concern continues to be the lack of diversity in the schools.
- SD 29 History Fair was held in April and the winners in each category got to attend the African American Museum in Washington DC. This was sponsored by Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman. The SD 29 Science Fair will take place 6/2/2018 at IS192 starting at 10.00am. This is sponsored by Councilmember Donovan Richards.
- The district is excited about 3K for all. As we know, 3K for all started in SD27 and will be implemented on SD's 28 and 29 over the next 2 years.
- A letter was written by the Education chair for CB12 Chair's signature voicing our opposition to this latest co-location. However, the PEP voted on 4/25/2018 to approve said co-location.
- Concerns that CTE programs were not being made available to our students.
- One of the members was concerned about a move afoot to rename PS30, such that It would no longer bear the name of Ruby Couche. The committee asked her to put together a history of Ruby Couche's contributions to the community and that school, so they would have the ammunition needed should they decide to work on behalf of keeping the name the way it is.

Blocks United Committee: Represented by Rev. Edward McKay, Chairperson

- Encouraged attendees to get involved in Community Board 12 by attending meetings and joining a Community Board Committee. Community Board 12 meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center at 172-17 Linden Blvd. at 7:00pm.
- Encouraged residents to pull down any illegal/bandit signs that are posted on their block or in the neighborhood and call our coordinator if the association or Neighborhood group would like for the team to assist in pulling down "Bandit Signs".
- Guest Speaker: Ms .Tricia Ramcharit - Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB): Gave an overview of the CCRB. The CCRB is city agency/oversight agency established in 1993. The CCRB investigates and mediates complaints from the public about misconduct by NYPD officers. If you think you've experienced or witnessed police misconduct file a complaint with the CCRB. The CCRB handles four types of complaints: excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, offensive language. Complaints are

resolved by mediation, investigation, discipline. CCRB information pamphlets were distributed at the meeting.

*The full Committee reports were provided to all members and is on file at CB 12's District Office

V. VOTE ON ULURP/BSA APPLICATIONS

Re: Application 2018-28-BZ (130-20 Farmers Blvd. Block#12542, Lot: 3)

Voting Results: 30 Approvals; 2 Opposition; 3 Abstentions

Re: Vote on DOT Jamaica Market Bike Corral

Voting Results: 32 Approvals; 3 Opposition; 0 Abstentions

**Vote on to table vote on Downtown Jamaica Transportation Study Presentation
Until the June 20, 2018 General Meeting**

Voting Results: 35 Approvals; 0 Opposition; 0 Abstentions

VI. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Carol Hunt

- Over the years downtown Jamaica has become an area for the people that are homeless
- Across the street from her building is a former hotel that has now become an adult assessment center; soon to be turned into a family shelter
- In the summer the individuals from the shelters loiter
- Individuals in her building complex and others decided to bring the community together and held their first meeting at the Community Board. Everyone involved has been meeting since November 2017.
- The staff of the shelters wanted a place for the residents to have a place to go at night and contacted three politicians in the area and explained what the staff of the shelters were asking; hope to have the backyard setup for the residents to enjoy

2. Archie Spigner

- Parks Department Commissioner Silver initiated Parks Without Borders
- There were hearings throughout the City and made recommendations that certain parks should be subjected to where barriers are moved to make parks more accessible and compatible.
- Thought Southern Queens Park Association (Roy Wilkins Park) was a perfect fit for Parks Without Borders

3. Kevin Livingston

- On Saturday will have the honor to be the coordinator of the Malcolm X's 93rd Birthday celebration
- There will be a public march from State Office Building in Harlem to the Shabazz Center at 3:30 p.m., from 5:00p.m. to 7:00 p.m. there will be speakers, honoring Colin Kapernick at the Audubon Ballroom
- Doing a prom pop up next Wednesday, targeting Eagle Academy. Secured over 200 tuxedos

4. Bishop Norris

- Concerned about putting trades in existing high schools, admitting students
- District Leaders play an important role in electing Judges in Civil, Supreme, and

- Surrogate Courts; we should be concerned with who is selected for the District Leaders positions.
- Electing the Chairperson for a Democratic Organization of Queens, are we represented as African Americans and Latinos?
- Heard from reliable resources that Congressman Crowley, who is the Chair, has an integrated staff on his Congressional seat

State Assemblyman Leroy Comrie

- Things are strange in Albany at this time; every day is a new day.
- Hopefully, next year he will be able to bring better news about his position and the opportunities that they will have democrats in the State Senators in Albany.
- The independent democrats have come back to the democratic poll and we are talking as 1 at this time.
- Question and Answer with the Community

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.