

Queens Community Board 13

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Donovan Richards
Borough President

Maricela Cano
Director of Community Boards



Bryan J. Block
Chair

Mark McMillan
District Manager

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 23, 2022 Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Present:

Robert Alleyne; Angela Augugliaro; Corey Bearak; Bryan Block; Kyle Bragg; Sylvia Cothia; Marissa Cronin; Tanya Cruz; Delroy Dawkins; Bess DeBetham; Stephanie Delia; Charles Farruggia; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Robert Glover; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Mohamood Ishmael; Jaslin Kaur; Rhonda Kontner; Michael Mallia; Sophia Mighty; Curlene Nelson; Loleta Beckett-Nicholson; Marcia O'Brien; Cinnamon Paltoo; David Pecoraro; Nagassar Ramgarib; Ashok Satkalmi; Jackie Wilson

Absent:

Rachelle Antoine; Alain Berrouet; Alexandra Brathwaite; Barbara Clements; Derrick DeFlorimonte; James Delaney; Nicholette Emptage; Vernal Holder; Bonnie Huie; Antony Kuncheria; Jonathan Logan; Kangela Moore; Michael O'Keeffe; Anup Ramnauth; Peter Richards; Sheila Beverly-Skinner; Steven Taylor; Perminder Thiara; Koshy Thomas; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; Pritpal Singh Walia;

Meeting Called to Order at 7:32 PM

Pledge of Allegiance led by BM Michael Mallia.

Chair's Report

- Inspector Neteis Gilbert is ill. Please, no inquiries.
- The Chair detailed the meetings and events he attended since April 2022 General Board Meeting.
- This coming Wednesday is the 105 Precinct Council Meeting and new Queens South Patrol Borough Chief Kevin Williams will be attending.

- BM David Pecoraro motioned to accept the Chair's Report. Seconded by BM Michael Mallia. Unanimous "yes" voice vote.

DM Report (written)

- BM David Pecoraro motions to accept DM Report as written.
- Seconded by BM Richard Hellenbrecht.
- Unanimous "yes" by voice vote.

The Board Chair confirms that all Board Members have received the updated Bylaws.

Elected Officials

Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers speaks:

- 147 Avenue project officially voted on last week:
 - R5B – one of four lots.
 - Owner has made a commitment for community space with in the building.
 - There is a commercial overlay for all four lots.
 - The community's preference is for a medical facility.
- This is [city] budget season.
- There is a moratorium on homeless shelters in the 31st Council District.
- There is a Superintendent District Screening for District 29 High Schools.
- ...had a visit with the DSNY Commissioner:
 - Cameras funded for Snake Road (Brookville Boulevard) will be installed asap.
 - A Grant Application has been filed with the federal government to raise Snake Road.
- Upcoming Townhalls:
 - Quality of Life
 - Utility Bill Increases
- Speed Cameras – Home Rule Bill now allows for them to operate 24 hours.

Kevin Morris – **Mayor's Office**

James Mongeluzo – **NYC Comptroller Brad Lander's Office**

Kahleel Bragg – **Queens Borough President's Office**

Rokeya Akhter – **Queens District Attorney's Office**

Ari Inniss – **State Senator Leroy Comrie's Office**

Akshar Patel – **State Senator John Liu's Office**

William Bao – **Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson's Office**

Casey Lajszky – **Council Member Linda Lee's Office**

Rasha Kabir – **Council Member Nantasha Williams' Office**

Roll Call

April 2022 General Board Meeting Minutes:

- Unanimous voice vote of approval.

Committee Reports

Nomination Committee –

- Nomination Committee Chair Corey Bearak:
 - Thanks members of the committee.
 - The committee met once and recommend all Executive Committee members remain in their present positions:
 - Bryan Block, Chair
 - Richard Hellenbrecht, First Vice Chair
 - Marcia O'Brien, Second Vice Chair
 - Rhonda Kontner, Executive Secretary
 - Mohammed Ismael, Treasurer
- Committee Chair Bearak asks if there are any nominations from the floor:
 - Chair – None
 - First Vice Chair – None
 - Second Vice Chair – None
 - Executive Secretary – None
 - Treasurer - None

Parks & Environment Committee – Committee Chair Fay Hill:

- Barbara Brown gave a presentation on the newly open Idlewild Park Environmental Center.
- Committee Chair Hill expressed her disappointment in Council Member Brooks-Powers' position on the proposed Dog Run.
- CM Brooks-Powers calls in to respond to the Parks Chair comments:
 - A Dog Run costs more than the \$1M presently in the budget.
 - There can be no Capital investment until it is fully funded.
 - There are other requests for Brookville Park like a comfort station which costs at least \$6M.
 - There was more opposition than support for the Dog Run at the two locations proposed.
 - Speaking with CM Williams about a site in Roy Wilkens Park.

Public Safety – Committee Chair Michael O'Keeffe:

- 5 of 6 liquor license applications were supported.
- BM Alain Berrouet would like to partner with this committee on "Drill Culture." Other Board Members voicing interest in working with the youth include Jaslin Kaur, Vernal Holder, Sylvia Cothia and Marcia O'Brien. Rokeya Akhter from the Queens District Attorney's Office stated she would be helpful in any initiative.

Transportation Committee – Committee Vice Chair Sophia Mighty:

- Various constituent issues related to traffic mitigation and illegal truck and bus parking.
- Traffic jams during the rush hour on Rockaway Boulevard for underground construct next to the Nassau County line.

Youth, Education & Libraries Committee – Committee Vice Chair Lorraine Gittens-Bridges:

- **Guest Speaker: Allika Thompson-Young**, Principal, Mathematics, Science Research and Technology Magnet High School spoke about her school.

Land Use Committee – Committee Chair Michael Mallia:

- BSA 172-86-02, 256-10 Union Turnpike – Request to amend the Resolution and extend term of the variance, which will expire on 3/31/22, for a period of ten (10) years.
 - Land Use Committee voted 10 Yes, 0 No, in committee.
 - BM Richard Hellenbrecht motion to approve application as stated. BM David Pecoraro seconds the motion.
 - Roll Call Vote: 26 Yes; 0 No.

Seniors, Social Services & Special Needs – Committee Vice Chair Tanya Cruz:

- **Guest Speaker: Cheryl Roberts**, Bank of America – “Finances for a Vulnerable Population.”

Health – No report.

No Public speaking requests.

Comments from board and community members:

- BM Mohamood Ismael announces Queens Village Civic Association & the American Legion are having a Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park on Memorial Day.

BM Richard Hellenbrecht motion to adjourn @ 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMillan
District Manager
Queens Community Board 13

