

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 June 27, 2022 Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Present:

Robert Alleyne; Rachelle Antoine; Angela Augugliaro; Corey Bearak; Bryan Block; Kyle Bragg; Barbara Clements; Sylvia Cothia; Marissa Cronin; Tanya Cruz; Delroy Dawkins; Bess DeBetham; Stephanie Delia; Charles Farruggia; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Robert Glover; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Vernal Holder; Bonnie Huie; Jaslin Kaur; Rhonda Kontner; Michael Mallia; Sophia Mighty; Kangel Moore; Curlene Nelson; Marcia O'Brien; Michael O'Keeffe; Cinnamon Paltoo; David Pecoraro; Nagassar Ramgarib; Anup Ramnauth; Ashok Satkalmi; Steven Taylor; Pritpal Singh Walia

Absent:

Alain Berrouet; Alexandra Brathwaite; Derrick DeFlorimonte; James Delaney; Nicholette Emptage; Mohamood Ishmael; Antony Kuncheria; Jonathan Logan; Loleta Beckett-Nicholson; Loleta Beckett-Nicholson; Peter Richards; Sheila Beverly-Skinner; Perminder Thiara; Koshy Thomas; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; Jackie Wilson

Executive Committee vote tally begins at 7:00 pm. Tally is conducted by Nomination Committee Chair Corey Bearak via Zoom.

Results announced:

Chair – Bryan Block 39 votes. There are 39 votes in total cast. Bryan Block remains Chair.

First Vice Chair – Richard Hellenbrecht 39 votes. There are 39 votes in total cast. Richard Hellenbrecht remains First Vice Chair.

Second Vice Chair – Marcia O'Brien 39 votes. There are 39 votes in total cast. Marcia O'Brien remains Second Vice Chair.

Executive Secretary – Rhonda Kontner 39 votes. There are 39 votes in total cast. Rhonda Kontner remains Executive Secretary.

Treasurer – Mohamood Ishmael 39 votes. There 39 votes in total cast. Mohamood Ishmael remains Treasurer.

Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM.

Executive Committee Members thank Board Members for their votes.

Chair speaks about the Board Members lost over the past years, especially Jerry Wind. Fortunately, no Board Members have been lost to Covid-19 over the past 2 years.

Pledge of Allegiance led by BM David Pecoraro.

Chair's Report

- Lists events/meeting attended since the May 2022 General Board Meeting.
- Announces there will be a street co-naming for Bill McCreary on August 14, 2022.
- BM David Pecoraro motioned to accept the Chair's Report. Seconded by BM Richard Hellenbrecht. Unanimous "yes" voice vote.

NYPD Patrol Borough Queens South Chief Kevin Williams

- Introduces himself and talks about NYPD initiatives.
- Entertains questions from those in attendance.

DM Report (written)

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

Elected Officials

Kevin Morris – **Mayor's Office**

Nathaniel Hezekiah – **Congressman Gregory Meeks' 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**

Shana Gladden – **Assembly Member Alicia Hyndman's Office**

Narveet Kaur – **Council Member Linda Lee's Office**

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

Norman Jones – **Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers Office**

May 2022 General Board Meeting Minutes:

BM Kyle Bragg motion to accept. Seconded by BM Michael Mallia.
Unanimous voice vote of approval.

Roll Call

Committee Reports

Land Use Committee - Chair Michael Mallia, Vice Chair Steven Taylor:

BSA Calendar Number 268-03-BZ

- 145-55 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard.
- Extension of term for variance.
- The Land Use Committee voted 9-0 to approve this item with conditions.
- Hiram Rothkrug, facilitator of this item for the applicant, sent a letter to QCB13 agreeing to the conditions and agreeing to work with the community board going forward.
- Motion to approve application by BM Richard Hellenbrecht. Seconded by BM David Pecoraro.
- Roll Call vote: 35 yes, 0 No, 0 Abstaining.

Land Swap between Yeshiva Har Torah and School Yard behind PS18Q (The Winchester School)

- After some background from Casey x of Council Member Lee's Office and a longstanding member of the Board at the Yeshiva, lively debate ensued on this issue.
- Ultimately the Land Use Committee took a vote to support the Land Swap:
 - 7 Yes, 2 No.
 - The DM will draft a letter to Council Member Lee indicating the Community Board's support for the land swap.

Parks & Environment Committee – Committee Chair Fay Hill:

- Still working on getting a dog run.
- Committee Chair spoke with Parks manager Justin Argo on what was not done in Brookville Park on Memorial Day weekend.
 - Parks workers did not clean up.
- There seems to be problems with the mowing of grass at the corner of Brookville Boulevard and 147 Avenue.
- The barbeque area of Springfield Park will be closed beginning July 11 to restore this heavily used area,

Public Safety – Committee Chair Michael O'Keeffe and Vice Chair Robert Glover:

- August 2, 2022 is "*National Night Out Against Crime*".
- Two liquor license applications; both were approved.
- NYPD Sergeant Taormina – alert the 105 Precinct if portable toilets are put on the street or if something is seen on social media about a backyard party.
 - NYPD has limited power over backyard parties but there are some things they can do.
- 180 Street & 145 Drive – a squatter house:
 - After 30 days it is difficult to remove people.

Combined Youth, Education & Libraries Committee & Health Committee – Committee Chair Rhonda Kontner and Vice Chair Lorraine Gittens-Bridges & Chair Bonnie Huie:

- **Guest Speaker: Dr. Vera Fauer – “The State of Mental Health for Children”**
 - Cohen Children’s Hospital has a Mental Health Program in the Emergency Room at Northwell Long Island Jewish Medical Center.
- One of the schools at Campus Magnet is changing its name without complying with NYC Department of Education regulations.
 - Looking to convene an Emergency Meeting in July to demand community input in this process.

Transportation Committee –Vice Chair Sophia Mighty:

- Presentation by DOT on Hempstead Avenue Safety Project.
 - Transportation Committee unanimously voted to support these improvements.
 - QCB13 to write a letter of support.

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

- Tried to have a year-end social but no one showed up.

No Public speaking requests.

BM Richard Hellenbrecht motion to adjourn @ 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMillan
District Manager
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