

COMMUNITY BOARD #14

CITY OF NEW YORK - BOROUGH OF QUEENS

1931 MOTT AVE., ROOM 311
FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691



718-471-7300
QN14@CB.NYC.GOV

Community Board #14Q
November Board Meeting
November 5, 2025, at 7:00pm

Knights of Columbus
333 Beach 90th Street
Rockaway Beach, NY 11693

BOARD MEMBERS:

Present: Beverly Childs, Kimberly Comes, John Cori, Maria Foreman, Menashe Friedman, Yitzchok Goldstone, Josephine Gonzalez, Jacqueline Guiterrez, Samuel Jaroslawicz, Amanda Johnson, Patrick Kelly, Paul King, Richard Knott, Damara Lee, Betty Leon, Sharon Lewis-Williams, Annette Lord-Cohen, Nancy Martinez, Helen Montero-Hernandez, Zina Moratti, Dolores Orr, Shannel Parker, Vernell Robinson, David Rood-Ojalvo, David Shelborne, Karen Sloan-Payne, Israel Tavera, Christopher Tedesco, William Tietjen, Christina Torres

Absent: Ebony Beaty, Brittny Chong, Amber Clinkscales, Dr. Gerald David, Rose Marie Duggan-Gulston, Jack Epter, Iona Folkes, Avionne Gumbs, Lisa Johnson-Cooper, Josmary Ochoa-Cruz, Dr. Harold Paez, Eric Rasmussen, Alexa Roberts, Aramiam Sacnite, Jose Santana, Monice Small, Jose Velez

ELECTED OFFICIALS/ REPRESENTATIVES:

Representatives: Congressman Meeks – Jose Reina, Senator Sanders – Lisa George & O Ivan Young Jr., Queens Borough President Richards – Oluwanisaola "Sola" Olosunde, Councilwoman Ariola – Stacy Spataro

NYPD/ TRANSIT/ FDNY:

NYPD 100th Precinct – Detective Byrd, 101st Precinct –Lieutenant O'Shea, Transit D23 – Lieutenant Hughes, FDNY 47th Battalion - Chief McKeefrey

GUESTS:

NYC Emergency Management – Dustin Ridener, Special Projects Administrator, Community Engagement Bureau; Heather Roiter, Deputy Commissioner for Planning and Resiliency; Johanna Conroy, Assistant Commissioner for Interagency Coordination

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and announced that we are officially LiveStreaming on YouTube. Quorum was present.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Betty Leon made the motion to accept the October 14th minutes as written, John Cori 2nd the motion. Vote was taken. Approve - 26, No - 0, Abstaining - 0. Motion carries.

UPDATES FROM NYPD/ ELECTED OFFICIALS:



NYPD 100th Precinct – Detective Byrd: Thanksgiving Day - Thanksgiving meal distribution. Home deliveries available for those who can't attend, RSVP needed. Deliveries will be made across both sides of the Rockaway peninsula (100 and 101 precincts). **Veterans Day** - Veterans breakfast starts at 10:00 AM at the Precinct. All veterans are welcome. **Hurricane Relief** - Donation box located at the precinct. Collecting items for hurricane relief efforts.

NYPD 101st Precinct Lieutenant O'Shea: Overall crime is down 5%. Shooting incidents are reduced by 28.6%. Gun arrests are up 43%, showing strong enforcement efforts. Welcoming 19 rookie officers starting this Friday, thanks to Chief McIntosh. All positive developments in the 101st Precinct so far this year.

NYPD Transit – Lieutenant Hughes D23: In the past 28 days, one robbery occurred at Beach 90th Street. The suspect was apprehended about 5 days later by the Transit Robbery Squad. No new officers were assigned this round. Hoping for additions in the next cycle. Focused on preventing train surfing incidents involving children by intervening early and raising awareness. Things are going well, and the team is doing their best with current resources.

FDNY Chief McKeefrey of 47 Battalion: The 47th Battalion covers the whole peninsula. **Daylight Savings Reminder** - Change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Two detectors are better than one, encourage neighbors to check theirs. **New Firehouse** - Groundbreaking just took place for a new firehouse at Beach Channel Drive and 116th Street (Engine 268/Ladder 137). Construction is expected to take 30–36 months. The 47th Battalion continues to serve the entire peninsula.

Office Of Congressman Gregory Meeks – Jose Reina: Government Shutdown Impact - Key federal programs like SNAP, Home Energy Assistance, and TSA at JFK are experiencing funding interruptions. Many federal workers are continuing to work without pay, leading to service delays. The office is handling a surge in IRS-related casework due to staffing shortages. Programs Still Operating: Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid remain funded, and payments are being issued as scheduled. **Medicare Open Enrollment** - Began October 15th and ends December 7th. Beneficiaries can review and update their health and prescription drug plans for 2026. **Work Permit Policy Change** - As of October 30th, DHS will no longer offer automatic extensions for immigrant work permit renewals. Those at risk of losing employment due to processing delays can contact the office for expedited support, typically requiring a letter from their employer. The congressman's office remains open and active during the shutdown.

Office of Senator James Sanders – Ivan Young Jr.: Ivan is the new representative for the Far Rockaway office. **Swim Safety Initiative** - Hosted the Rockaway Swim Safety Stakeholders Meeting to improve coordination and prevent drownings. Proposed upgrades include drones with flotation devices, kayaks at lifeguard stations, and later lifeguard shifts to address incidents occurring after 6 PM. **SNAP Benefits Advocacy** - Federal funding for SNAP remains uncertain; recent court filings suggest partial funding, but it's insufficient. Governor Hochul added \$41 million to the previously fast-tracked \$65 million, totaling \$106 million, still fall short of the \$600 million needed for New Yorkers. The senator is calling for an emergency session of elected officials to find a sustainable solution for winter support. **Youth Council Launch** - Recruiting youth ages 13 to 24 from across the district. Monthly meetings will gather input to help shape legislation that reflects community needs and aspirations. Flyers are available for: The Youth Council, A NYLAG legal assistance event and A Veterans Day luncheon.

Office of the Borough President Donovan Richards – Oluwanisola "Sola" Olosunde: November Events:
Veterans Celebration - Honoring distinguished military veterans from Queens. Queens Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Blvd., Thursday, November 6th at 1:00 PM. **Transgender Day of Remembrance** - Commemorating lives lost to anti-transgender violence. Queens Borough Hall, Tuesday, November 19th at 6:00 PM. **Virtual Parent Advisory Board Meeting** - Open to all advocates for public schools, no need to be a parent. Monday, November 25th at 6:00 PM. RSVP or for more email queensbp.nyc.gov, or call.

Office of City Councilmember Joann Ariola – Stacy Spataro: Councilwoman Ariola expressed deep thanks to the voters of District 32 for their support. She ran unopposed this election cycle and credits her team, volunteers, and constituents for their continued trust. She reaffirmed her commitment to being a strong, common-sense advocate for families at City Hall. **Upcoming Community Events:** Tree Lighting Ceremony – December 1st at Beach 116th Street, Christmas in Belle Harbor – December 7th at Beach 129th Street, Menorah Lighting – December 16th at Beach 116th Street.

Chairperson's Report – Dolores Orr: Election Turnout & Ballot Proposals - Strong voter turnout reported during early voting and Election Day, especially at the Y site. Proposals 2–4 passed, focused on development and housing. Queens as a whole, 60% of the voters voted yes. Concerns raised about misleading use of the term "affordable housing," which often only applies to a small percentage of units due to how AMI (Area Median Income) is calculated across NYC, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester doesn't follow the true income of residents on this peninsula. Many voters may not fully understand the implications of these proposals. There are many ways developers get their financing, there are programs that you fall under if you have "affordable" housing. Only 20% of units in a recent build were affordable, and the other were market rate. Unfortunate that 60% of the population in Queens didn't understand that. Disappointing and unfortunate. **Flood Camera Initiative** - Rockaway has several flood cameras, but more are needed. Recent flooding near the Firehouse and 100th Precinct highlights the urgency. Again, residents are encouraged to report frequently flooded locations to help expand monitoring. Beach 84th Street (300 block) has had 120 flooding incidents, making it a priority area. **Executive Board Elections** - Per the bylaw's elections occur every two years. Articles Five & Six of the bylaws were read by the chairperson. Chair appoints an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee who will present their nominations by committee at the December meeting. Also, at the December meeting nominations will be accepted from the floor. Voting will take place by a signed printed ballot at the January meeting. In case of a tie, a second vote is held at the next meeting. Eligibility Requirements - Must be appointed by the Borough President. Must have served at least one year and attended 75% of meetings. Positions: Chair, 1st–4th Vice Chairs, and Secretary. Damara Lee appointed chair of the nominating committee and chair will appoint one member from zip code 11691. A member raised the question of Term Limits & Succession affecting board elections. The Chair clarified that if any executive board member steps down, the remaining members move up one level, and a vote is held to fill the Secretary position. It was also suggested that there be an Ad Hoc Committee to assist newly appointed board members. The Chair will discuss this suggestion with the Executive Board. Chair extended a heartfelt thank-you to all veterans and their families in honor of Veterans Day.

District Manager's Report - Felicia Johnson: Correspondence Letters: Shelter Conversion at 4318

Rockaway Beach Blvd - A letter was sent to DSS and all elected officials regarding the proposed conversion from a 72-bed family shelter to a 135-bed male-only shelter. Council Member Brooks-Powers arranged a Zoom call with the DSS Commissioner, raising concerns about shelter distribution and requesting heat maps. The maps revealed a clear inequity, with Southeast Queens disproportionately hosting shelters, while some districts have none. The commissioner was asked to halt the conversion, but it remains unclear if it has already taken place. It was noted that the shelter has historically housed males, despite claims of serving families. **Shelter Data Gaps** - Heat maps do not include shelters not contracted with DSS/DHS, such as those housing: Individuals released from jail, domestic violence survivors, sex offenders. This omission skews the data and underrepresents the true shelter footprint in the Rockaway peninsula. **Queens Borough Hall Staff Changes** - Tarika Morrison is the new Chief of Staff. Michael Mallon has transitioned to Second Deputy Borough President. **Arverne Library Art Installation** - Justin Valdez, a Rockaway resident and artist, was selected to create artwork for the expanded library on Beach 54th Street. **Flood Sensor Initiative** - DEP is seeking input on locations for FloodNet sensors to monitor frequent flooding. Priority areas include Beach 32nd Street and others mentioned by community members. Residents are encouraged to report regularly flooded blocks to help guide sensor placement. **Parks & Public Space Updates** - Beach 17th Street: Ongoing issue with illegal electricity use during summer. New solution: cutting power via breakers after park closes at 9 PM. **Bayswater Park Reconstruction**: Request made to keep parts of the park accessible during construction. Awaiting a PDF or link detailing construction phases to share with the community. **Bay Breeze Park Access**: Request for a crosswalk or traffic signal was deferred until the park opens and a builder's pavement plan review is completed. No opening date yet due to contractor delays. **Wanda Patterson Women's Shelter** - Community Advisory Council met on October 21st. Shelter is operating smoothly with no complaints from the precinct. Current status ~97 residents with recent activity of 115 intakes, 117 discharges to permanent or transitional housing and 3 transfers to other facilities. **Traffic & Safety Requests** - Speed bump request at Beach 22nd, Collier, and Camp Road was denied. A stop sign was successfully installed in one requested location. **Economic Development Notices** - OCM submitted a notice for 2101 Mott Avenue; response sent, awaiting next steps. New consideration received for 1238 Cross Bay Blvd. in Broad Channel, former Hillebrand Funeral Home. Awaiting formal notification regarding proposed development. Current zoning is not commercial and a park is located within 500 feet of the site. Noted ongoing community objections to cannabis-related developments. **ULURP for 1410 Beach Channel Drive** - Community Board vote was submitted. The proposal is now under review by the Borough President, who has 30 days to respond. A public hearing was held; only one board member testified in person, John Cori, while written testimony was submitted by others. Late submissions were noted, but Damara's testimony was accepted as it arrived just after the deadline. Written testimony was also received by Kimberly Comes and Iona Folkes which has been recorded.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The Chairperson opened the floor for public speaking. 3 individuals signed up to speak. They were recognized and heard. Public speaking was closed. 3 minutes per speaker.

PRESENTATIONS:

NYCEM – Dustin Ridner:

NYC Emergency Management – Coastal Storm Evacuation Planning

Presenters: Heather Roiter, Deputy Commissioner for Planning and Resiliency, Johanna Conroy, Assistant Commissioner for Interagency Coordination

NYC Emergency Management coordinates the city's emergency response before, during, and after disasters. Works with hundreds of partner agencies (e.g., transit, sanitation, utilities) to adapt

operations during emergencies. **Evacuation Planning Overview** - Focused on coastal storms and hurricanes, especially storm surge, which is the primary reason for evacuation. The Coastal Storm Plan, created in 2006, outlines timelines, decision-making, messaging, and sheltering logistics.

Evacuation Timeline - Planning begins 5 days before a potential storm (based on Hurricane Center data). 48 hours before tropical storm-force winds (called “zero hour”), the Mayor may issue an evacuation order. At that time, evacuation centers open, offering accessible shelter options with parking. **Rockaways Specifics** - Entire Rockaway Peninsula is designated Evacuation Zone 1 due to its geography and vulnerability. Zone 1 designation ensures early evacuation to safer inland areas. Evacuation signage has been revised in 2017 and now follows a go to high ground model. The current signs are pointing towards the shortest path to go inland. NYCEM has a few strategies that they use, suspension of toll collection, modification of traffic signal timing, suspension of all side parking, and deployment of personnel to direct traffic. They also do lane reversal to make more lanes go towards inland. MTA would also change their subway service and modify routes to assist in moving people inland. Works a lot with Notify NYC and amplify things through social media programs. Residents can find their nearest evacuation center by calling 311 or visiting NYC Emergency Management’s website. The community can help by amplifying the message and spreading notice of evacuation orders, getting out of harm’s way is number 1 priority. **Evacuation Coordination** - A Coastal Storm Steering Committee convenes to coordinate citywide response. Includes all relevant agencies and partners to ensure a unified, rapid response.

Coastal Storm Evacuation Planning – Key Takeaways

Evacuation Timeline & Transit - MTA shuts down 8 hours before “zero hour” (when tropical storm-force winds begin). Evacuation orders are issued 48 hours before zero hour. Mass transit vehicles are moved to higher ground; plan ahead if relying on public transportation. **Recommended Evacuation Options** - Family and friends outside the evacuation zone are the preferred option. Hotels/motels may be viable. Evacuation centers are available citywide, accessible by transit and some with parking.

Evacuation Centers & Shelter Info - Over 60 centers across all 5 boroughs. All shelters are pet-friendly and staffed by trained city personnel. Special Medical Needs Shelters are available for individuals requiring extra care. Shelters are accessible for people with disabilities and functional needs. Essentials to bring: change of clothes, bedding, toiletries, medications (1-week supply), medical equipment, comfort items for family and pets. **Evacuation Signage** - NYC uses a “Go to High Ground” model (not one-directional). Signs point to the shortest inland route due to NYC’s complex street grid.

Traffic Management Strategies - Contraflow lane reversals may be implemented to speed up inland traffic. Coordination with state DOT, NYPD, Port Authority, and Coast Guard. Possible suspension of tolls and changes to traffic signals. NYPD will manage traffic and distribute evacuation flyers. **MTA**

Adjustments - Increased subway service out of evacuation zones. Modified routes to connect evacuees with nearby shelters. **Emergency Messaging & Community Role** - Alerts via Notify NYC, social media, 311, and elected officials. Community members are encouraged to amplify messages to neighbors and vulnerable populations. NYPD will assist with street-level outreach during emergencies. **Final Reminder** - Rockaways is in Evacuation Zone 1. For evacuation info, call 311 or visit NYC Emergency Management’s website. **Evacuation Awareness & Community Preparedness** - Know Your Zone: Visit nyc.gov/knowyourzone or call 311 to find your evacuation zone and nearest evacuation center. Rockaways residents are in Zone 1, if an evacuation order is issued, you must leave. NYC Emergency Management is the official source for evacuation orders and safety guidance. Encourage others to rely on verified city information. Beyond citywide plans, every household should have its own: evacuation destination, transportation plan, emergency supplies, communication strategy. **CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)** - A 10-week volunteer training program run with NYPD and FDNY. Teaches skills like fire suppression, search and rescue, basic medical aid, and traffic management. Next training cycle begins December 2025.

Strengthening Communities Program - supports local organizations in building emergency preparedness. Groups receive a stipend and can be compensated for assisting during emergencies. Applications for the next cohort are due November 26th. An FAQ Zoom session will be held on November 12th for interested groups.

Members' questions and concerns raised during the session:

Coordination & Local Planning - Residents emphasized that general city plans are insufficient for Zone 1, especially given the peninsula's vulnerability to flooding and limited exit routes. Residents requested Rockaway-specific emergency materials, noting that current city booklets are too general. Strong calls for pre-storm action, not just evacuation orders, due to early flooding from high tides and wind. Due to budget constraints, NYCEM cannot produce customized printed materials for individual communities but encouraged the community to develop a local evacuation plan tailored to Rockaway's unique geography and needs, with support from city resources. NYCEM offered to support with maps, graphics, and data to help illustrate local evacuation strategies. **Housing & Evacuation Zone Awareness** - Concern over 10,000 new housing units being built in Evacuation Zone 1, which some consider unsafe and irresponsible. It was asked whether incoming tenants are informed they're moving into Zone 1. **Recommendation:** City agencies like HPD and developers should disclose evacuation zone status during housing placement.

Emergency Contact & Notification Systems - Proposal to include emergency contact info and evacuation zone education in annual housing safety requirements (similar to smoke detector and window guard notices). **Suggestion** to send evacuation zone info with property tax bills to homeowners. **Advanced Warning System** - A citywide network of social service providers that receives emergency updates. Providers are asked to translate and relay messages to their clients in accessible formats. Partners include NYC Aging, Meals on Wheels, and organizations serving vulnerable populations. **Evacuation Signage & Visitor Awareness:** The importance of visible, consistent signage to build "muscle memory" for evacuation routes. Lack of signage contributes to confusion and panic during emergencies. Concern that visitors and tourists, beach crowds (up to 100,000 visitors), being unaware of evacuation procedures. **Recommendation** to install kiosks or signage on the boardwalk to inform day visitors of emergency protocols, potentially useful for other waterfront communities. Additional request for clear signage to guide non-residents during emergencies. **NYC Emergency Management** acknowledged the need for a citywide audit of evacuation signage. No current map available; audit will begin this winter in preparation for the next hurricane season.

Emergency Preparedness Materials - Emphasis on providing printed materials for seniors and residents without digital access. Materials available in Spanish, Creole, Russian, and other languages. It was suggested a refrigerator magnet with a QR code linking to evacuation info—praised as a daily visual reminder and standard in other coastal communities. **NYCEM staff** agreed it's a strong idea and will bring it to leadership for consideration, noting budget constraints. Current materials include multilingual guidebooks and hurricane maps, updated annually and available through the "Know Your Zone" website. NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will share the **PowerPoint presentation** with the Community Board for wide distribution. **Nassau County Coordination** – Strong concern was expressed regarding being unable to evacuate east or north during emergencies, especially when key routes like Route 878 are blocked. During Hurricane Sandy and recent flooding, Nassau County police blocked access to Route 878, hindering evacuation. Request for formal partnership with Nassau County to ensure access and possibly establish shelters in Nassau for Rockaway evacuees. **NYCEM committed** to engaging Nassau County to improve coordination and ensure access during emergencies and explore shelter options in Nassau, especially for residents closer to the county line. It was stated by a member that 878 was flooded during Sandy, not just blocked by police, highlighting

the need for better infrastructure and communication. Recent rain caused closure of Route 878, highlighting vulnerabilities beyond hurricanes. **Recommendation:** NYC Emergency Management should address flooding risks and access issues year-round, not just during coastal storms. **Shelter Access & Transit Equity** - Inspired by New Orleans' model, residents proposed evacuation signage at every city bus stop indicating pickup during emergencies. Dedicated MTA buses from each line to serve evacuation zones. Emphasis on supporting the 50% of residents without cars, especially those with mobility challenges or young children. Residents called for boat evacuation options, especially for areas like Redfern Houses and Beach Channel Drive, which flood severely during storms. **NYCEM** stated that boat evacuations are not part of the current plan but acknowledged the concern. Community members expressed frustration and joked about buying inflatable boats due to lack of alternatives. **Evacuation Center Clarification** - Maps being distributed show evacuation centers, not shelters. At these centers, individuals are triaged by nurses and directed to appropriate shelters or hospitals. Special Medical Needs Shelters: Available for those requiring higher-level care, coordinated through Health + Hospitals. **Emergency Vehicle Infrastructure** - Members stressed the need to keep inbound routes open for ambulances and buses evacuating nursing homes and shelters. Counterflow traffic strategies must be balanced with resource access during emergencies. Proposal to use federal funds (e.g., New York Forward) to build a multi-level parking structure near the 100th Precinct. Would include a ramp for fire engines and ambulances to shelter during storms and remain available post-disaster. **Agency response:** They were unaware of the issue during Sandy but committed to initiating conversations with Nassau officials. **First Responder Vehicles & Shelter Medical Support** Standard vehicles are ineffective during severe flooding. Response: NYC agencies have invested in high-axle emergency vehicles since Sandy. Concern: Shelters must support residents who forget medications or require medical care. Response: Shelters have basic medications and on-site nurses who can help obtain prescriptions. Special Medical Needs Shelters, staffed by Health + Hospitals, are available for those requiring higher-level care. Nursing homes are required to have evacuation agreements with alternate facilities, monitored annually by the city. **Shelter Capacity & Evacuation Logistics** A Member stated that no shelters exist within the Rockaway peninsula to accommodate residents. **Response:** Evacuees must relocate outside the zone, where shelter capacity is sufficient. **Traffic Management & Infrastructure Concerns** - Criticism of DOT redesigns that reduce lane capacity on key evacuation routes (e.g., Beach Channel Drive, Seagirt Blvd). Residents highlighted a choke point near Beach 30th Street and Edgemere Avenue, worsened by DOT changes and flooding. Concerns that protected bike lanes and parking changes have created choke points and compromised emergency access. Concerns about bridge closures during storms and the impact on evacuation routes. Proposal to implement odd/even license plate evacuation windows to reduce congestion on Rockaway's two bridges. Suggested as a low-cost strategy to improve traffic flow during emergencies. **NYCEM clarified** that bridges will remain open during evacuation orders, which are issued 48 hours before storm impact. Emphasis on early action: residents must evacuate promptly to avoid traffic bottlenecks. **NYC Emergency Management** acknowledged limited authority over DOT decisions but committed to coordinating across agencies. **CERT Program in Rockaway:** The first CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) orientation was held at the Y, with strong community interest. Another orientation is planned for January, with hopes of hosting training at the Addabbo Center to utilize outdoor space for emergency simulations. CERT training is being brought directly to Rockaway to avoid the burden of traveling to Brooklyn. CERT members are not obligated to respond to every emergency. Volunteer hours (e.g., 25/month) can include community events, not just emergency response. Members can choose whether to respond to calls for help outside their area. Youth Participation in CERT - While high school students under 18 cannot currently join NYC's CERT program, other civic engagement options like teen ambulance corps or EMT training exist in some communities. Community members emphasized that CERT is a valuable and impactful way for young

adults to serve locally. Once a new orientation date is confirmed, it will be shared widely so interested individuals aged 18+ can attend and get involved. Community leaders suggested Rockaway could serve as a pilot site, given its isolation and history of youth-led response during Hurricane Sandy.

Emergency Documentation App Proposal - Suggestion to create an encrypted app for storing vital personal information (e.g., medication photos, birth certificates, insurance). **NYCEM agreed** it's a strong idea but noted legal and privacy constraints prevent the city from storing personal data. Encouraged individuals to use their own phones to photograph and store important documents as part of their go bag. **Go Bag Education** - NYCEM reiterated its Ready New York program, which teaches residents how to prepare go bags with essential items. Emphasis on personal responsibility for emergency preparedness, especially for seniors and those with medical needs. **Feedback Tracking & Community Engagement** - Frustration expressed over presenters not visibly taking notes during community feedback sessions. Presenters should designate a note-taker to ensure community input is captured and respected. NYCEM assured the board that they are taking notes. **Information Sharing** - Request for NYCEM to provide a PowerPoint or written summary of the presentation to Community Board members. Ensure wider distribution of evacuation information across the peninsula. Reinforced support for Chris's magnet idea as a practical, memorable tool for emergency awareness. **Next Steps** - The Community Board plans to compile and send a list of questions to NYC Emergency Management for follow-up. Appreciation was expressed for the thorough presentation, with hopes for concrete action moving forward.

NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation – Leslie Wright

Bayswater Point State Park Living Shoreline Restoration Project: The presenter postponed until December based on the presenter.

Rockaway Resiliency & Microgrids Project – Bill Schacht: Postponed based on the presenter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks/ Public Safety/ DOT – Chair, Chris Tedesco: Held over to December meeting.

Health & Social Services – David Rood-Ojalvo: The committee did not have quorum, so no formal votes were taken during the meeting. MyMeds Pharmacy: Seeking to co-locate with NYC Health + Hospitals in Rockaway. They claim community support but have not yet contacted Health + Hospitals. Addabbo Health Center: Highlighted services at Beach 68th Street, including dental, pharmacy, and primary care. St. John's Episcopal Hospital: Presented by a VP who praised the hospital's services. Noted that Rockaway's population is too small for a Level 1 trauma center, but the hospital can stabilize patients and would benefit from more primary care providers across the peninsula.

David Rood-Ojalvo made a motion to send a letter recommending that Health + Hospitals engage in discussion with MyMeds Pharmacy, John Cori 2nd the motion. Vote was taken. Approve 23, No 1, Abstentions 0, Recused 2. Motion carries.

Old Business/ New Business:

Shelter Transition at 43rd Street - Community members observed a shift from families with children to single men at the shelter. Originally housed 72 families, now appears to house mostly men, possibly up to 135 individuals. DSS claims the population changed multiple times, but clarity is lacking. The council member requested the transition not proceed until her questions are answered. Community

leaders will follow up with the Council Member and provide updates. **Firehouse** – New location, Beach 116th Street & Beach 117 Street. 116th Street - Construction is set to begin. The Art installation is confirmed; it will be three glass panels as part of the design.

Helen Montero made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Christina Torres 2nd the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Submitted by:
Jeanette Garramone