

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND REGULAR MEETING
VILLA RUSSO IL PALAZZO 101-12 LEFFERTS BLVD**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2013-MARCH 2014

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)	Sam Esposito	(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)
Evelyn Baron	(1)	Stephen Esposito	(0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(1)
Julio Batista	(1)	Dr. V. Evangelista	(0)	Raj Rampershad	(0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0)	Jan Fenster	(1)	Mohamed Safie	(1)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(0)	Linda Fogal	(1)	Regina Santoro	(0)
Wallace Bock	(2)	Ralph Gonzalez	(0)	Ragbir Singh	(1)
Latchman Budhai	(0)	Sylvia Hack	(1)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(0)
John Carter	(1)	Joseph Iaboni	(1)	Maria Thomson	(0)
Jim Coccovillo	(0)	Sherman Kane	(1)	Joseph Todisco	(1)
Nick Comaianni	(1)	Patrick Khan	(0)	Marie Turley	(0)
Andrea Crawford	(1)	Joel Kuszai	(0)	Seth Welins	(0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)	Priscilla Levine	(1)	Naidoo Veerapen	(0)
Richard David	(1)	Marian Molina	(1)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)
Anton Dietrich	(0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

David Adorno	(1)*	H. Singh Duggal	(1)	Maharani Singh	(1)
Akhtar Ali	(2)	Scott Jordan	(1)	J. Richard Smith	(1)
Joan DeCamp	(1)	Jagir Singh	(3)*	Clark Whitsett	(1)

ALSO PRESENT

Mary Ann Carey, District Manager

Lisa Gomes, Irina Barayeva, staff

* Absences from a meeting shall mean physical non-attendance and /or failure to be present for voting on two or more agenda items marked "Vote to be Taken" at any regular or special meeting of the Board.

Legislative Representatives

Wilma Bynum, QBPO
Kate Mooney, CM Crowley
PO Brendan Noonan, 102 Pct.

Angel Vasquez. AM Miller
Inspector Sautner, 102 Pct.

GUESTS

Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

Due to other commitments the 102 Pct. was given the first opportunity to speak.

1. Monthly Update Report- 102 Pct. – Deputy Inspector H. Sautner encouraged all to attend the 102 Pct. Community Council meeting where he can address the concerns of residents of Richmond Hill, Woodhaven, Ozone Park & Kew Gardens. Deputy Inspector Sautner stated that there were no major incidents in the summer in 102 Pct. except for rape that occurred on 8/26/2013 inside of Forest Park. He gave a detailed update on a progress and actions of the 102 Pct. and asked all to be alert and report any pertinent information. Due to this incident a temporary command post has been established at the Buddy monument. Two officers from each outlining precinct has been assigned to all entrances to assist the 102 Pct. to protect the park. Deputy Inspector Sautner stated that he is aware that the Community Board and the local legislators are strong advocates of bringing the Mounted Unit back to Forest Park. The police officers are very proactive in issues in Forest Park and if he had more man power it would be easier to deal with those issues.

Question and answer period followed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Carol Lacks, Kew Gardens- expressed her gratitude to Community Board 9 for sharing information about last year's Walk to End Alzheimer's where \$92,000 was raised for the cause.

She invited all to join this year's event on Sunday, September 29, 2013 at Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

Misba Abdin, BACDYS President spoke in support of the installation of a Pedestrian Plaza on 101st Ave, between Drew & 75th St.

He gave a brief presentation on Bangladeshi American Community Development & Youth Services Corp. (BACDYS) - the non-for profit organization that has been instrumental in providing services to the youth and families of the diverse communities neighboring two counties.

Ed Wendell, WRBA asked the board to oppose the granting of a liquor license to the Billiard Hall located at 76-15 Rockaway Blvd. due of history of drinking on the street, fighting, assaults, drug dealing, etc.

Sasha Austrie, Resorts World, informed all that a covered walkway was built from subway station to Racino.

Ms. Austrie made an announcement about the Turner Classic Car Show on 9/14/13 and Boxing event on 9/16/13 at the Resorts World Casino.

Jordan Thomas, Nextdoor.com, introduced Nextdoor.com, a free, private online social network for neighborhoods. He stated that people are using it to:

- Quickly alert neighbors about crime or safety issues
- Discuss issues affecting the neighborhood
- Organize neighborhood events, such as meetings & block parties
- Find a new home for used furniture or appliances

Nancy DiCroce spoke about the long admirable career of District Manager Mary Ann Carey and stated that she supports her continuing in the position.

Claudio Zamparini spoke in support of the installation of a Pedestrian Plaza on 101st Ave because it would improve the quality of life and safety issues.

Chairperson Jim Coccovillo introduced legislative representatives.

Kate Mooney deferred her report because Council Member Crowley was on her way to CB 9 meeting.

Angel Vasquez, Assembly Member Miller- introduced himself as a chief of staff for Assembly Member Mike Miller.

Mr. Vasquez stated that AM Miller & Senator Addabbo secured \$250,000 of funding in cooperation with Queens Parks Commissioner Lewandowski for surveillance cameras in and around specific entrances of Forest Park. This is in response to the overwhelming safety concern after the recent rape of an elderly jogger on 8/26/13.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Proposed 101 Ave. Pedestrian Plaza

Chairperson Coccovillo allowed guest speaker Dalila Hall, Queens DOT Commissioner and Emily Weidenhof, Director of Pedestrian Plaza Program to give their presentation.

Ms. Weidenhof stated that DOT works with selected no-for-profit organizations to create pedestrian plazas throughout the City to transform underused streets into lively, social public spaces.

NYC Plaza Program is an application based program. BACDYS applied to the Plaza Program in 2012 and were awarded. Ms. Weidenhof stated that BACDYS

organization will be responsible for the following: outreach, design, funding plan, appropriate insurance, maintenance, programming & events. DOT will monitor and inspect the plazas to assess and confirm that the not-for-profit partner organizations are fulfilling their responsibility as set forth in an agreement with DOT.

There were some concerns raised by board members that the plaza could bring more crime and public drinking to the area because of how open the area would be to the public. David Adorno, who supports the idea, said while that concern is valid, it should not mean that it should be rejected.

Alexander Blenkinsopp stated that he would like to know more about the plaza before taking a side on the issue. He would like to speak with residents who live near to the proposed plaza to hear their opinions on the project.

District Manager Mary Ann Carey said the board will send out a letter to residents and businesses in the immediate area informing them about the plaza and that a vote is set for the October meeting to decide its fate.

Question and answer period followed.

2. *Liquor, Beer, & Wine Licenses, Letters of Intent Received*

a. On Premise Liquor License Application- New

Woodhaven Manor Caters & Banquet, Inc.
96-01 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Overtime Bar & Lounge Corp.
87-22 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

EL Rey IV Billiard Lounge, Inc.
75-16 Rockaway Blvd.
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Katarina Bar & Grill Inc.
125-22 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

Fusion NYC, Inc.
124-12/14 101 Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
No speakers

Whiskey Bar Inc.
105-13 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

b. On Premise Catering Hall License- New

Golden Palace Catering Hall, Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

c. On Premise Wine & Beer Application- New

Tropical Deli Restaurante Corp.
88-18 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

d. On Premise Wine & Beer Application- Renewal

Mexico El Salvador Rest. Inc.
114-02 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Lucky Thailand Kitchen, Inc.
86-05 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Best Seafood & BBQ Chicken Corp.
D/b/a El Anzuelo Fino
98-01 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Armando's Pollo Rico Restaurant, Inc.
110-02 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

e. On Premise Liquor License Application- Renewal

Aristokrat Corp.
D/b/a Oligarchy
86-15 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

KDR Restaurant Inc.
D/b/a Kaieteur Restaurant & Sports Bar
87-12 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

The Ranch Rest & Bar of Guyana, Inc.
134-01 Liberty Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
No speakers

Neirs Tavern Inc.
D/b/a Neirs Tavern
87-48 78 St
Woodhaven, NY 11421
No speakers

Bicheiros Place Inc.
94-04 80 St
Woodhaven NY, 11421
No speakers

Naciones Unidas 7 Inc.
D/b/a Naciones Unidas
112-07 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

Golden Palace Catering Hall, Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

111 Atlas Restaurant Corp.
D/b/a Atlantic Ave
111-16 Atlantic Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
No speakers

f. Alteration Application

Tequila Barr LLC
D/b/a Eres Libre Restaurant
105-13 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY11418
No speakers

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Latchman Budhai made a motion to adopt minutes as presented. Regina Santoro seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented

Vote #1: Unanimous

2. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report-James Coccovillo

Mr. Coccovillo reported on following issues:

- After the vote on DM's probation was taken at the June meeting an Ad Hoc committee was put together to clarify the DM's responsibilities and followed by evaluation. The starting date of probation was not specified at the June meeting. An evaluation took place on 8/29/13 and the six month probation period starts on 8/30/13. The review will take place in three months and the probation is up in six months.
- Personnel files were established
- Endzone project was visited during the summer. Everything seems to be proceeding well. There were some issue mentioned and we will revisit the location again.
- A letter was sent to the DA's office regarding the incident at 119-13 83rd Ave and we have not received a response.
- New equipment was purchased for the office to assist us with presentations at the office
- The office is looking into the process of removing of Civic Virtue statue.
- The 101 Ave is proceeding as planned.
- Office Procedures & Policy Log is still in progress.
- Forest Park still remains a great concern. Resolution will be written to obtain a permanent police presence in Forest Park.

Board member Sam Esposito made a motion to go to an executive session. Discussion ensued.

Sam Esposito was overruled by the Chairperson and withdrew his motion.

John Carter reported on behalf of Ad Hoc committee regarding the duties and responsibilities of the District Manager. He stated the following:

1. We established our own charge and focus.
2. We created a "functional" job description for the DM which could be appended to the formal one. It simply provides specificity and clarity.
3. We created an evaluation tool.

Recommendations made to Exec Committee:

1. Complete an evaluation prior to the September meeting of full board
2. If evaluation is such that a probation period is confirmed to be warranted, then the probation period clock should begin when the evaluation is presented.
3. That an interim evaluation be presented three months into the probation.

He stated that they are not doing an evaluation of the district manager.

Discussion followed.

3. District Manager's Report- Mary Ann Carey-started her report and stated the Ad Hoc committee guidelines were very fair and that the Chairperson Coccovillo have his own evaluation which was total opposite and failed the District Manager in every category. Discussion followed.

Joel Kuszai made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was not seconded-he withdrew his motion.

District Manager Mary Ann Carey did not give her report.

4. Land Use Committee Report- Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane

➤ Ozone Park Rezoning

Sylvia Hack stated that the Ozone Park rezoning was certified yesterday by City Planning Department. This will be on the October agenda for a public hearing.

Tom Smith from City Planning stated that this is the exact same proposal that he had showed to the board at the June meeting. Nothing was changed in between then and now. DCP completed environmental review over the summer and found no issues, therefore they were able to proceed with the certification.

Mr. Smith gave a brief presentation on the Ozone Park rezoning.

Question and answer period followed.

Ms. Hack stated that the committee will be meeting with the Republican Club representatives at the September Land Use committee meeting.

5. Transportation Committee Report- Andrea Crawford – stated that Transportation Committee will meet with MTA/Bus regarding articulated buses.
6. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Seth Welins
 - The current principal, Wayne Anderson, is still at Richmond Hill High School. The annex has opened for 9 graders. Unfortunately, the infrastructure of the school is still in terrible condition. There are inadequate toilet facilities and the temporary classrooms in the school yard are in a state of disrepair. The school is overcrowded and the average class size is way too high for students who are experiencing serious academic delays.
 - There is pending legislation in the NYS legislature which would effectively end mayoral control of the schools in NYC. A majority of the current 13 member Board of Education seats are now appointed by the Mayor. In effect, the Mayor currently appoints the chancellor. The pending legislation would allow the mayor to appoint only 4 board members. The remaining seats would be filled by the borough presidents, and 4 would be appointed by the NYC Council. Three of the 4 city council seats would include a representative of a college or university, a member of a parent organization and a member of a community district education council. The board of education would appoint the chancellor. This legislation has not yet been taken out of committee.
7. Health & Social Services Committee Report- Evelyn Baron.
 - Stated that on Saturday, September 28, 2013 AM Miller and LULAC council will hold a free Immigration Law & Community Health & Safety Event. Information is available at the district office.
 - NYC ACS Commissioner Richter sent an update on Close to Home Initiative stating that out of 560 young people 170 have successfully completed the program since September 2012. 98% of youth are earning DOE credits and 91% of the young people who have completed Close to Home have transitioned into DOE schools. Once the full report is available, it will be emailed to all board members.
 - Starting this year all medical personnel in health care industry are required to get a flu shot.
High dose flu shot is available for people with compromised immune system and are over 65 years old.
8. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report- J. R. Smith & J. DeCamp-not present

Maria Thomson reported on the land marking of the Carousel.

Alex Blenkinsopp stated there were many complaints at the last Woodhaven Residents Block Association meeting regarding London Plane Tree Playground at the Atlantic Ave & 106th Street.
9. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo/Rabbi Pollack

Rabbi Pollack wished all a Happy Jewish New Year. He welcomed David Adorno back after having a rough summer.

► **On Premise Liquor License Application- New**

Woodhaven Manor Caters & Banquet, Inc.
96-01 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Committee has no opposition to this liquor license.

Motion # 2: *To send letter of no opposition for Woodhaven Manor Caters & Banquet, Inc. 96-01 Jamaica Ave*

Vote # 2: *Unanimous*

Overtime Bar & Lounge Corp.
87-22 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

“ “ “ “

Committee has no opposition to this liquor license.

Motion # 3: *To send letter of no opposition for Overtime Bar & Lounge Corp. 87-22 Lefferts Blvd.*

Vote # 3: *Unanimous*

EL Rey IV Billiard Lounge, Inc.
75-16 Rockaway Blvd.
Woodhaven, NY 11421

“ “ “ “

Rabbi Pollack stated that it has been a problem location in the past therefore committee opposes to this liquor license.

Alex Blenkinsopp urged all board members to oppose this license.

Discussion followed. Nick Comaianni made a motion to close debate. Joe Todisco seconded the motion.

Motion # 4: *To close debate re: El Rey IV Billiard Lounge Inc. 75-16 Rockaway Blvd.*

Vote # 4: *36 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 not present*

Motion # 5: *To send letter of opposition for El Rey IV Billiard Lounge, Inc. 87-22 Lefferts Blvd.*

Vote # 5: *40 in favor, 1 abstained, 1 not present*

Katarina Bar & Grill Inc.
125-22 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

“ “ “ “

Motion # 6: *To send letter of no opposition for Katarina Bar & Grill, Inc.
125-22 Queens Blvd.*

Vote # 6: *Unanimous*

Krystal Hall, Inc.
D/b/a Fusion NYC
124-12/14 101st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

“ “ “ “

Committee is opposed to this license because they did not submit necessary papers.

Motion # 7: *To send letter of opposition to Fusion NYC, Inc. 124-12/14 Queens Blvd.*

Vote # 7: *Unanimous*

Whiskey Bar Inc.
105-13 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Committee is opposed to this license because they did not submit necessary papers.

Motion # 8: *To send letter of opposition to Whiskey Bar, Inc. 105-13 Jamaica Ave*

Vote # 8: *Unanimous*

On Premise Wine & Beer License Application- New

Tropical Deli Restaurante Corp.
88-18 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

“ “ “ “

Committee is opposed to this license because they did not submit necessary papers.

Motion # 9: *To send letter of opposition to Tropical Deli Restaurante Corp.*

88-18 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 9: *39 in favor, 2 opposed*

On Premise Catering Hall License- New

Golden Palace Catering Hall, Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

“ “ “ “

Committee is opposed to this license because they did not submit necessary papers.

Motion # 10: *To send letter of opposition to Golden Palace Catering Hall, Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave*

Vote # 10: *39 in favor, 1 abstained, 1 not present*

10. Old Business
No speakers

11. New Business

Rabbi Pollack stated that his family welcomed to new grandchildren.

Regina Santoro stated that Anton Dietrich will turn 95 years old next week.

Maria Thomson invited all to attend annual GWDC Fair on Sunday, October 20, 2013.

Jim Coccovillo reminded all about Recycling event on Saturday, September 29, 2013.

Latchman Budhai stated that next 102 Pct. Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 from 7-9pm at the Richmond Hill branch library.

Ivan Mrakovic made an announcement about RHBA annual Park Fair on Saturday, September 21, 2013.

Jim Coccovillo stated that Akhtar Ali is requesting a temporary leave of absence from the board as he is going to California to continue educational training.

12. Public Forum *No speakers*

The board observed a moment of silence for victims 9/11.

Wally Bock made a motion to adjourn, Nick Comaianni seconded it.

The meeting ended at 11 pm