# DECEMBER 10, 2013 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING THE NEW TRUMP PAVILION 89-40 135 STREET

# BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2013-MARCH 2014

David Adorno	(2)*	Sam Esposito	(1)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(1)
Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)	Stephen Esposito	(1)	Regina Santoro	(0)
Julio Batista	(1)	Dr. V. Evangelista	(0)	Jagir Singh	(5)*
D. Bhattacharjee	(0)	Linda Fogal	(1)	Raghbir Singh	(1)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(0)	Ralph Gonzalez	(0)	J. Richard Smith	(1)
Latchman Budhai	(1)	Sylvia Hack	(1)	Maria Thomson	(0)
John Carter	(1)	Joseph laboni	(1)	Joseph Todisco	(2)
Jim Coccovillo	(0)	Scott Jordan	(1)	Marie Turley	(0)
Nick Comaianni	(1)	Sherman Kane	(1)	Seth Welins	(0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)	Patrick Khan	(0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(2)
Richard David	(2)	Joel Kuszai	(0)	Clark Whitsett	(1)
Joan DeCamp	(1)	Priscilla Levine	(1)	Kenichi Wilson	(1)
Anton Dietrich	(1)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(1)		
H. Singh Duggal	(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)		

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Evelyn Baron	(3)*	Jan Fenster	(3*)	Mohamed Safie	(2)
Wallace Bock	(4)*	Marian Molina	(3)	Maharani Singh	(2)
Andrea Crawford	(2)	Raj Rampershad	(2)*	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(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.

#### <u>Legislative Representatives</u>

Aida Morel, Congress Member Meng PO Brendan Noonan, 102 Pct. Chris Kaznowski, Assembly Member Hevesi Scott Wolff, Assembly Member Simanowitz Anthony Lemma, Assembly Member Weprin Arlene Brown, Council Member Ulrich PO Jose Severino, 102 Pct.
David Renz, Assembly Member Miller
Carl Moore, Senator Addabbo
Vishnu Mahadeo, Senator Sanders
Mohamed Hack, Council Member Wills

#### **GUESTS**

Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

Bruce J. Flanz, President and CEO of Jamaica Hospital wished all a happy holiday season. He stated that they are positioning the Hospital to accommodate patients through Affordable Care Act. NY State has had over 300,000 people apply for health insurance. When this process is completed it is expected that over 2 million people in NY State and about half a million residents of Queens County will have health insurance.

Jamaica Hospital is promoting a prevention agenda that includes creating a tobacco-free environment in and around the Hospital. They are also promoting the benefits of breast feeding for newborns.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

<u>Helen Krisilas, Woodhaven Resident</u>- thanked the board members for their hard work and wished all a happy holiday season.

Gopaul Sewnarine - spoke about his intent to extend the business.

Sasha Austrie, Resorts World Casino – stated that the Casino is partnering with New York Cares and starting a coat drive. She invited all to a New Year party.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

<u>Murray Berger</u>, Executive Chairman, KGCA, spoke on behalf of the Board of Governors and the Association: "Last month we canvassed our members, all those who had e-mail addresses; overwhelmingly, the respondents expressed their disapproval of the DOT proposal to convert Beverly Road and Grenfell Street to one-way. KGCA's president, Dominick Pistone, who cannot be here tonight, has also provided me with a personal message objecting to the DOT proposal.

There is not one proposed solution that promises to solve a problem without creating another one, either for pedestrians or drivers. For the long term, we would welcome a serious DOT traffic study of all of Kew Gardens, one that includes consultation with some of our residents for a knowledgeable awareness of the ramifications of any changes. And in the meantime we have also suggested to the Transportation

Committee some easily implemented reforms like traffic lights, Stop signs, and code enforcement.

KGCA strongly recommends that the Community Board, in responding to DOT's September request for a determination, and after its review of the proposed changes and community input, advise DOT of its rejection of the DOT proposal."

Renee Levine, Kew Gardens Resident – spoke in opposition to Beverly Rd and Grenfell Street conversion and asked for a comprehensive study of the area.

<u>Bjorn Matz, KGCA</u> - spoke in opposition to Beverly Rd and Grenfell Street conversion stating that one-way streets in the neighborhood have been a problem.

<u>Samuel Davidoff, Kew Gardens Resident</u> - spoke in opposition to Beverly Rd and Grenfell Street conversion and asked for a comprehensive study of the areal.

#### 1. Liquor, Beer, & Wine Licenses, Letters of Intent Received

#### a. On Premise Liquor License Application- New

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

Hamburguesas Dona Maria Corp. D/b/a Delicias Dona Maria 88-09 Jamaica Ave. Woodhaven, NY 11421 No speakers

## b. On Premise Liquor License Application-Reconsideration

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

#### c. On Premise Wine & Beer License-New

Mister Pan Bakery Corp. 83-17 101 Ave Ozone Park, NY 11416 No speakers

#### d. On Premise Beer License- New

One Prince Deli & Tobacco, Inc. 111-25 Jamaica Ave Richmond Hill, NY 11418 No speakers

#### e. On Premise Wine & Beer License- Renewal

Nebu Hookah Lounge, Inc. 86-72 80<sup>th</sup> St. Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers* 

Exotic Zone Bar & Lounge, Inc. 77-02 101 Ave Ozone Park, NY 11416 No speakers

#### f. TLC For Hire Base Station- Renewal

General Car Service, Inc. 86-44 121<sup>st</sup> St. Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers* 

# g. Street Conversion Request

Conversion of Beverly Rd to a one way northbound from Brevoort St to Park Lane South and Grenfell St, btwn Onslow PI & 83<sup>rd</sup> Ave to a one way southbound from a two way operation.

#### h. Speed Hump Request

Speed Hump request on 78 St. between Rockaway Blvd. and 91 Ave.

#### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

#### 1. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Sylvia Hack made a motion to adopt minutes as presented. Nick Comaianni seconded the motion.

**Motion # 1:** To adopt minutes as presented

**Vote #1:** 38 in favor, 2 abstentions

#### 2. Monthly Update Report- 102 Pct. – PO Noonan & PO Severino wished all happy holidays.

Question and answer period followed.

#### 3. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report- James Coccovillo

Chairman Coccovillo paid tribute to all those that protect us and our freedom by observing a moment of silence.

#### 4. <u>District Manager's Report- Mary Ann Carey</u>

DM Carey attended a meeting with Congress Member Meeks on Affordable Care Act on November 18, 2103. Many legislators from south east Queens were present. They all addressed the Affordable Health Care Act. There are nearly 1,600,000 uninsured New Yorkers and many more are under-insured. At full enrollment, over 516,000 people will obtain health insurance through NY State of Heath; 308,000 individuals and 208,000 small business members.

NY State of Health is open to individuals or small business owners with 50 or fewer employees. Everyone should come to the Marketplace to see what it can offer at <a href="https://www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov">www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov</a>.

At the borough cabinet meeting on December 3, 2013 representatives from the Fire Departments Safety Unit discussed winter and Holiday Safety. More than 33% of candle fires occurred when candles were left unattended. 25% of fires occurred because combustibles i.e. curtains or paper are too close to the flame.

The use of kerosene or propane heaters is strictly prohibited and illegal in NYC. The leading cause of fire death in seniors 65 and older is smoking. Smokers are seven times more likely to be victims of fire. I am attempting to obtain copies of the material but I need a volunteer to go Fort Totten & Bell Blvd. to pick up the package. If anyone would like to volunteer they should call the District Office and the arrangements will be made.

The NYC Mobile food Safety Director, James Middleton spoke about vending license, permits, carts and enforcement. There are 19,000 venders in Queens with carts of various sizes from ten gallon capacity to 40 gallon trucks. In 2012 there were 2100 inspections from complaints one third of which were founded. Thirty nine carts were seized or impounded. DOH has added seven additional inspectors and has a team of attorneys reviewing applications Records for Fraud.

The DM's made their displeasure known regarding the lack of communication from DEP in Emergency to Contracts Director of Community Affairs Manager Shane Ojar who promised better communication.

She wished Happy Holiday season to all.

#### Chairperson Jim Coccovillo introduced legislative representatives.

Aida Morel, Congress Member Meng spoke about a Spoofing Bill that was introduced by the Congress Member Meng. Rep. This bipartisan bill will reduce the number of fraudulent phone calls and texts that millions of Americans constantly receive. The scheme consists of fake names and phone numbers being displayed on recipients' caller IDs in order to trick them into answering the phone or replying to text messages. Deceitful telemarketers employ the practice to dishonestly sell their merchandise, and fraudsters use it to obtain personal or financial information by misrepresenting themselves as, among other things, government agencies, hospitals, banks, pharmacies and credit card companies.

*Chris Kaznowski, Assembly Member Hevesi* stated that the Assembly Member is hosting a Food Drive in his office and wishes all happy holidays.

**David Renz, Assembly Member Miller** announced that the legislator met with Dept. of Parks Commissioner Lewandowski regarding camera installation in Forest Park. Mr. Renz stated that working with the Parks Dept. instead of the NYPD would make it easier to ensure that the money would go towards surveillance that would definitely be at Forest Park.

Carl Moore, Senator Addabbo wished happy holidays to all.

**Scott Wolf, Assembly Member Simanowitz** reminded all about the basic STAR registration process and stated that their office offers help to fill out the application.

Vishnu Mahadeo, State Senator Sanders said that he and other parents are urging Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio to void a recent city Panel for Education Policy vote that approved the transfer of Richmond Hill High School students from an annex to a trailer. Mr. Mahadeo invited all to Senior Holiday Luncheon and Cultural Program on Sunday, December 22, 2013 at the Villa Russo at 12:30.

**Anthony Lemma, Assembly Member Weprin** stated that there two issues that the Assembly Member will be talking about at the upcoming session: the water rates and mayoral control of the schools.

Mohamed Hack, Council Member Ruben Wills whished all a Happy Holiday season.

Arlene Brown, Council Member Eric Ulrich stated that the Council Member is at the City Council hearing on the rezoning of Ozone Park. Chairman Coccovillo stated that it was approved by the City Council.

5. <u>Transportation Committee Report- Andrea Crawford</u> – Sylvia Hack gave the transportation report on behalf of Andrea Crawford.

She stated that the Transportation Committee wrote a resolution objecting DOT's proposal to convert Beverly Rd to a one way northbound from Brevoort Street to Park Lane South and

Grenfell Street to a one way southbound from Onslow PI. to 83<sup>rd</sup> Ave from a two way operation. The resolution says that these changes would be disruptive to the community and cause potentially hazardous traffic conditions to these blocks.

**Motion #2:** To oppose the proposed resolution to convert Beverly Rd, btwn Brevoort St & Park Lane South and Grenfell St, btwn Onslow PI & 83<sup>rd</sup> Ave to a one way southbound from from a two way operation.

Vote # 2: Unanimous

Speed Hump request on 78<sup>th</sup> St, btwn Rockaway Blvd. & 91<sup>st</sup> Ave.

**Motion # 3:** To support the installation of speed hump on 78<sup>th</sup> St, btwn Rockaway Blvd. & 91<sup>st</sup> Ave.

Vote # 3: Unanimous

Kenichi Wilson reported on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 DOT's PowerPoint presentation on the synopsis of Woodhaven Blvd. congested corridor study and answered board member's questions.

6. <u>Land Use Committee Report – Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane</u> – Sherman Kane gave an update on the collapsed building situation at 78-19 Jamaica Ave. He stated that as per Assembly Member Miller's office, DOB is waiting for property owner to respond.

## 7. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Seth Welins- Update

- The committee will meet again on December 18<sup>th</sup> to draft a letter to Mayor-Elect Di Blasio regarding his future appointments to the Panel for Educational Policy. We will ask him to appoint members who are responsive to our community and who will reverse the re-siting plan for Richmond Hill High School.
- The NYC Council approved a resolution asking Gov. Cuomo, the NYS Education Dept. and legislators to de-emphasize the role of test scores when grading and placing students and evaluation schools and teachers. The resolution also asks them to reduce the number of standardized tests that students take each year.
- 8. <u>Health & Social Services Committee Report- Evelyn Baron</u> report was waved.
- 9. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report- J. R. Smith & J. DeCamp Mr. Smith stated that the Parks Committee will try to get the mounted unit police in Forest Park on a regular basis next year.

Chairman Coccovillo reported on Queens Way meeting. Nick Comaianni stated that the residents that live along proposed Queens Way are very much opposed to this project and feel that the issue is being pursued by individuals that are outside the community.

Discussion followed.

#### 10. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report- Jim Coccovillo & R. Daniel Pollack

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

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

This item was removed from agenda as it has to be reconsidered by the Committee.

Hamburguesas Dona Maria Corp. D/b/a/ Delicias Dona Maria 88-09 Jamaica Ave Woodhaven, NY 11421

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 4:** To send a letter of no opposition for Hamburguesas Dona Maria Corp., d/b/a Delicias

Dona Maria, 88-09 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 4: 33 in favor, 7 opposed

#### ► On Premise Liquor License Application- Reconsideration

88-18 Tropical Restaurant, Corp.

88-18 Jamaica Ave

Woodhaven, NY 11421

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 5:** To send a letter of no opposition for the reconsideration of 88-18 Tropical

Restaurant Corp. 88-1 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 5: 37 in favor, 3 opposed

#### ➤ On Premise Wine & Beer License - New

Mister Pan Bakery Corp. 83-17 101<sup>st</sup> Ave Ozone Park, NY 11416

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 6:** To send a letter of no opposition for Mister Pan Bakery, Corp.

83-17 101<sup>st</sup> Ave

**Vote # 6:** Unanimous

#### ► On Premise Beer License - New

One Prince Deli & Tobacco, Inc. 111-25 Jamaica Ave Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion #7:** To send a letter of opposition for One Price Deli & Tobacco Inc.

111-25 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 7: 38 in favor, 2 opposed

#### ► TLC For Hire Base Station - Renewal

General Car Service, Inc. 86-44 Hillside Ave Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion #8:** To send a letter of opposition for General Car Service, Inc.

86-44 Hillside Ave

Vote # 8: Unanimous

Rabbi Pollack stated that the next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will take place on Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7pm at the district office.

Chairperson Coccovillo stated that despite the committee's decision to oppose an on premise liquor license for City 99 Discount Store, 117-20 Jamaica Ave, SLA renewed their liquor license.

#### 11. Old Business No speakers

#### 12. New Business

Maria Thomson stated that the Woodhaven BID held its annual tree lighting ceremony. The tree was voted the best Christmas Tree by Chanel 7news.

David Adorno stated that Queens Borough Democratic Club is sponsoring a Toy Drive on December 19, 2013 at the Tropical Restaurant (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor).

Latchman Budhai stated that there will be no 102<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Council meeting for the month of December, 2013.

# 13. Public Forum No speakers

Alexander Blenkinsopp made a motion to adjourn, Stephen Esposito seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 10 pm