

**MARCH 10, 2015 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR
MEETING QUEENS BOROUGH HALL
120-55 QUEENS BLVD**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2014-MARCH 2015

2nd # Represents Absences As of January 2014 (Borough President's Attendance)

David Adorno	(2) (0)	Sam Esposito	(2) (0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0) (0)
Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1) (1)	Laraine Fletcher	(1) (0)	Raj Rampershad	(1) (0)
Julio Batista	(2) (1)	Linda Fogal	(1) (0)	Regina Santoro	(2) (1)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0) (0)	Ralph Gonzalez	(1) (1)	Maharani Singh	(2) (0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(1) (0)	Sylvia Hack	(2) (1)	J. Richard Smith	(1) (0)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(2) (1)	Joseph Iaboni	(1) (0)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(0) (0)
Jim Coccovillo	(0) (0)	Sherman Kane	(1) (0)	Maria Thomson	(1) (1)
Nick Comaianni	(1) (0)	Patrick Khan	(1) (0)	Marie Turley	(0) (0)
Andrea Crawford	(0) (0)	Joel Kuszai	(1) (0)	Seth Welins	(0) (0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0) (0)	Marian Molina	(3) (1)	Clark Whitsett	(2) (1)
Richard David	(1) (0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(1) (1)	Kenichi Wilson	(0) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(0) (0)				

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Latchman Budhai	(5) (2)	Priscilla Levine	(6) (3)	Jarnail Singh	(3) (1)
John Carter	(3) (2)	Kevin O'Leary	(1) (1)	Raghibir Singh	(3) (2)
Stephen Esposito	(3) (0)	Mohamed Safie	(6) (3)	Naidoo Veerapen	(3) (1)
Dr. V. Evangelista	(2)* (1)*	Jagir Singh	(3) (1)		
Scott Jordan	(3) (1)				

ALSO PRESENT

Lisa Gomes, District Manager Elect
Irina Barayeva, Community Assistant

*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.

LEGISLATORS & LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Lauren Capotti, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi
Bruce Eiber, Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joseph P. Addabbo
David Renz, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller
Scott Wolf, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz
Angela Kanhai, Rep. Senator James Sanders, Jr.
Deputy Inspector Deodat Urprasad, 102nd Pct.
P.O. J. Severino, 102nd Pct.
P.O. E. Martinez, 102nd Pct.

Guests' sign-in sheets are available upon request.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Marie Turley asked for additions/corrections to the minutes. There were none.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented.

Vote # 1: 33 in favor and 2 not present

2. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report- Ralph Gonzalez

Chair Gonzalez asked all to join him to congratulate soon to be new District Manager Lisa Gomes.

3. District Manager Elect's Report- Lisa Gomes

Thanked the Board Members for their support and read her report.

“At the 102 Pct. Council meeting Captain Danielle Raia, Executive Officer presented three Police Officers with The Cop of the Month Award. They were, Keith Doumas, Joseph Cortright and Neil Conde for making arrests of individuals operating stolen vehicle on Jan. 26 & 27. The Precinct will be increasing its focus on traffic violation such as failing to yield to pedestrian, speeding, texting and calling while driving in an effort to lower driving fatalities in accordance with the mayors Vision Zero Plan. They will now have the authority to give out summonses when a pedestrian is struck by a vehicle and can make an arrest when there is injury to the pedestrian during a crash.

There were several murders in the 102nd Pct. and one was on Atlantic Ave & 89th St.; they are still under investigation.

P.O. Silverstein, Domestic Violence Officer gave information on reporting domestic violence issues. The Borough President held a meeting with Commissioner Silver and Lewandowski of Parks, CB Park Chairs & District Managers. He spoke of expected changes & updates for NYC Parks and noted that Queens has 166 active projects: 49 in design, 86 in procurement and 31 in construction. The design phase

takes 10-17 months, procurement takes 7-10 months and construction takes 12-18 months. He spoke on many issues. A copy of Commissioner Silver's presentation is available upon request.

Participatory Budget 3/5/15 at WRBA

The delegates met last Thursday, and here are the items that made the final ballot:

- 1) Technology Upgrades - \$75,000 each for the following schools: PS 90 Horace Mann and PS 66 Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis (Richmond Hill) and PS 97 Forest Park and PS 306 New York City Academy for Discovery (Woodhaven).
- 2) Construction - \$300,000 worth of auditorium renovations for PS 64 Joseph P. Addabbo (Ozone Park).
- 3) Parks – A \$250,000 renovation of the 9/11 Memorial in Forest Park. This may include some sort of mural along with landscaping, pavers and benches.
- 4) Parks – The addition of Emergency Call Boxes throughout Forest Park to improve safety. Technically, this would go through the NYPD as they would decide the best places in Forest Park to place them. They cost \$7,000 each and we would be getting 20 of them (for a total of \$140,000).
- 5) Parks – Improvements to Equity Park, across from the American Legion Post, there is a large empty space that used to be a tennis court. It is proposed to convert that into a nice park with benches, trees, bocce ball courts, etc. Total cost for this project is estimated at \$800,000 – but for this year, we are only able to vote for \$400,000 meaning that it will need to come back next year for the rest.
- 6) Parks – Refurbishment of Lt. Clinton L. Whiting Square at 91st Avenue and 84th Street. This would include \$240,000 worth of improvements - landscaping and benches - for the World War 1 memorial.
- 7) Parks - \$175,000 worth of upgrades (new fencing and benches) to the Forest Park Dog Run at 85th Street and Park Lane South.
- 8) Libraries - \$100,000 each for technology and security upgrades for Ozone Park and Richmond Hill.

You will be allowed to select up to five items from the ballot. Voting will take place for most of the month of April, and there will be several voting areas within Woodhaven.

The ballot will be reviewed at the next meeting of the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association, which takes place on Saturday, March 21, at noon at the American Legion Post 118, 89-02 91st Street.

I am composing a form in which board members can make suggestions and ideas on how we can improve CB 9 operations and upgrades to technology. Joel Kuszai sent me a detailed blueprint for our computer needs, email addresses, domains, etc. I would like to have a committee formed for this purpose. Please contact me and let me know if you want to be part of this committee.”

1st Vice Chair Rampershad acknowledged the passing of fellow board member Harjinder Singh Duggal who served on the board for twelve years.

1st Vice Chair Rampershad recognized legislative representatives and asked for updates.

Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member Weprin, announced that the Assemblyman is sponsoring Free Mammogram & Clinical Breast Exams event that will take place on Sunday, March 22, 2015 from 9a.m. to 4:30 P.m. at the Sikh Cultural Society, 95-30 118th Street; contact the Assemblyman’s Richmond Hill office for an appointment.

Lauren Capotti, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi, stated the Assemblyman in partnership with the NYC Dept. of Finance will host a Notice of Property Value Workshop at the Glendale Public Library on Thursday, March 12, 2015 from 5p.m. to 7 p.m. She brought Community flyers with information regarding Assembly Members Hevesi and Rosenthal securing \$3 Million for programs that serve runaway and homeless youth population in assembly one-house budget proposal.

David Renz, Rep. Assembly Member Miller, nothing to report. Call the office (718) 805-0950 with any problems or concerns.

Scott Wolf, Rep. Assembly Member Simanowitz, thanked the board members for giving him an opportunity to be interviewed for the District Manager’s position stating that board made the right decision by choosing Lisa Gomes. He said that this year’s Seniors’ Guide edition will be published shortly and that he will be bringing it to the next meeting for distribution.

Angela Kanhai, rep. Senator James Sanders, Jr. stated the Senator is sponsoring “Women in Power Conference” on Saturday, March14, 2015, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz, nothing to report.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Shubmani Dhanraj, Indo-Caribbean Alliance spoke about their special immigration program for undocumented individuals. “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” or DACA would protect them from deportation and give them a work permit if they are eligible. Monthly workshops are on Thursdays at the Indo-Caribbean Alliance Community Center.

Helen Krisilas, H&R Block, spoke about free tax planning and seminars that are offered by H&R Block.

Patrick Khan, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke regarding silent protest that took place at the previous CB 9 meeting and the way Community Board handled it.

Sasha Austrie, Resorts World Casino, spoke about events at the Casino.

Vishnu Mahadeo, RHEDC, stated Weekly Senior Luncheon will take place on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 128-04 Liberty Ave. Take Home a Free Tree event will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Phil 'Scooter' Rizzuto Park. Both events are sponsored by RHEDC. Mr. Mahadeo commented on the newspaper article re: Phagwah Parade.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

Liquor, Beer, & Wine Licenses, Letters of Intent Received

a. On Premise Liquor License Application-New

Harbor Breeze Restaurant

107-12 101 Ave

Ozone Park, NY 11416

No speakers

The Ave. Billiards, Inc.

102-14 Jamaica Ave

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

EL Gran Canario II Restaurant (Change in License Class, From Wine & Beer to full Liquor License) which is subject to the 200ft Rule!

111-17 Jamaica Ave.

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

b. On Premise Beer & Wine License Application- Renewal

9010 Atlantic, Inc.

90-10 Atlantic Ave

Ozone Park, NY 11416

No speakers

b. On Premise Beer & Wine License Application- Renewal (cont'd)

Metro Sushi Café Inc.
118-21 Metropolitan Ave
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

The Village Food Corp
D/b/a Village Diner
81-74 Lefferts Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

Dani Pizza & Rest. Corp
81-28 Lefferts Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
No speakers

c. On Premise Liquor License Application- Renewal

Spolini's Restaurant
116-25 Metropolitan Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418
No speakers

6. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Deputy Inspector Deodat Urprasad, the new commanding officer of the 102nd Precinct introduced himself to the community and stated that he will continue the good work that was done by his predecessor.

7. Election of Officers

Jim Coccovillo nominated Raj Rampershad for Chairperson.
Vote: unanimous
Raj Rampershad is elected Chairperson.

Dr. Evangelista nominated J. Richard Smith for 1st Vice Chair.
Vote: unanimous
J. Richard Smith is elected 1st Vice Chairperson.

Ralph Gonzalez received nominations for 2nd Vice Chair.

Nominees: Joe laboni, Marie Turley, Joel Kuszai.

Vote: 17 for Joel Kuszai, 12 for Joe laboni and 6 for Marie Turley.

2nd Vote: 21 for Joel Kuszai and 13 for Joe laboni.

Joel Kuszai is elected 2nd Vice Chair.

Ralph Gonzalez received nominations for Executive Secretary.

Nominees: Marie Turley, Marian Molina, Kenny Wilson and Ivan Mrakovcic.

Vote: Ivan Mrakovcic 15, Marian Molina 11, Marie Turley 5, and Kenny Wilson 3.

2nd Vote: Ivan Mrakovcic 24, and Marian Molina 10.

Ivan Mrakovcic is elected Executive Secretary.

8. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee- Joe laboni, Chair

a. On Premise Liquor License Application-New

Harbor Breeze Restaurant
107-12 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion # 2: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 2: 34 in favor and 1 not present

The Ave. Billiards, Inc.
102-14 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 3: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote #3: 34 in favor and 1 not present

El Gran Canario II Restaurant
111-17 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Vote was not taken. Item was removed from agenda.

b. On Premise Beer & Wine License Application-Renewal

9010 Atlantic Ave Inc.
90-10 Atlantic Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion # 4: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 4: 34 in favor and 1 not present

The Village Food Corp
D/b/a Village Diner
81-74 Lefferts Blvd
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Motion # 5: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 5: 33 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 not present

Dani Pizza & Restaurant Corp.
81-28 Lefferts Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Motion # 6: To end discussion

Vote # 6: 25 in favor, 9 opposed and 1 not present

Motion # 7: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 7: 15 in favor, 19 opposed and 1 not present

c. On Premise Liquor License Application-Renewal

Spolini's Restaurant
116-25 Metropolitan Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 8: To send a letter of opposition to the SLA

Vote # 8: 28 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstention and 1 not present

9. DM Search Committee Report- Dr. Vincent Evangelista, Chair

Dr. Evangelista had to leave due to a family emergency and Regina Santoro read a message from him: "Congratulations to Lisa Gomes on being elected District Manager." He thanked the DMSC committee members for their distinguished service and the committee is formally disbanded. Sylvia Hack thanked Dr. Evangelista for his arduous work.

10. Budget & Finance Committee Report- E. David Adorno, Chair

Mr. Adorno reported on the following:

- The Committee discussed the pay scale for management employees and recommended the salary of \$67,500 for the District Manager which will not affect the board's budget.
- Read a list of supplies that will be purchased for the office.
- Announced his resignation from the board in light of recently increased vocational responsibilities. He stated he has enjoyed his three years of service.

Sylvia Hack asked for a copy of an itemized budget.

11. Transportation Committee Report- Kenichi Wilson, Chair

- Mr. Wilson congratulated Lisa Gomes on her appointment to District Manager position.
- New signal lights were installed on Woodhaven Blvd. as part of The Mayor's Vision Zero initiative.
- There is a change in the Pedestrian Safety Law making it a misdemeanor and increasing the penalties associated with carelessly harming a pedestrian or bicyclist.
- The Transportation Committee is trying to arrange a meeting with the new MTA representative in order to discuss ongoing problems with lack of buses, etc.
- Gave an update on DDC's municipal parking lot demolition project (flyers distributed).
- An ongoing issue with Logan Bus company will be addressed at the March 23, 2015 Transportation Committee meeting.
- Attended Mayor's Film Shooting Permit meeting. Permits are listed on nyc.gov/sapo. All the complaints should be addressed to David Moy. The movie industry brought in \$7.1 billion to the city's budget.

12. Land Use Committee Report – Clark Whitsett, Chair

The committee will hold its meetings every fourth Tuesday of the month at the district office.

13. Education & Youth Services Committee Report– Seth Welins, Chair

- The 2015 Summer Youth Employment Program is now accepting applications through April 10, 2015. All youth aged 14-24 who permanently reside in NYC are eligible to apply.
- The NYC DOE has added to two Muslim holidays to the school calendar (Eid Al –Fitir and Eid Al-Adha). The Asian Lunar New Year is being considered as another school holiday. Schools will be closed on these days.
- Parents have the right to opt their children out of the NYS ELA and Math tests. Principals can meet with parents and explain why the student should take the test. If the parent still wants to opt out of the testing program, the school will make appropriate accommodation for the student while the rest of the class takes the test. If more than 5% of a school's enrollment opt out or are absent from a NYS ELA (English Language Arts) or Math test, the school is designated having "failed to make the Adequate Yearly Progress for that school year" and can lead to various negative designations (such as "not being in good standing").

14. Health & Social Services Committee Report- Joan DeCamp, Chair-no report

15. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report-Nick Comaianni & J.R. Smith-Chairs-no report

16. Economic Development Committee Report- Richard David, Chair-no report

17. Old Business- No speakers

18. New Business

David Adorno made a motion to revisit a policy on restaurants closings. There was no quorum, no vote could be taken.

Maria Thomson stated that the letter that is sent to the SLA regarding the restaurants not serving alcohol after 1 a.m. should be very specific. Lisa Gomes confirmed that it is.

Clark Whitsett stated it is inappropriate to vote on a liquor license based upon whether they favor a certain restaurant in the neighborhood.

Joan DeCamp suggested relooking at the by-laws because some of them are out of compliance with the most recent policies and parliamentary procedures issued by the city.

Andrea Crawford stated that the new Exec Committee should have a by-law ad hock committee.

David Adorno suggested revisiting liquor license approval policies.

Rabbi Pollock stated that the Public Safety Committee is trying to always be fair, consistent and treat all liquor licenses equally.

Maria Thomson asked the board members to patronize local stores and restaurants in order to boost the economy.

Andrea Crawford congratulated the new Exec Committee members stating that there is a good balance of experience and wisdom to rule with equanimity and moving the Community Board forward.

Maria Thomson thanked Ralph Gonzalez and congratulated the new Exec Committee.

19. Public Forum-no speakers.

Dr. Sofer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Maria Thomson seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 11:00 pm