# NOVEMBER 10, 2015 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING ROYAL INDIAN PALACE, 118-06 ATLANTIC AVE

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2015-OCTOBER 2015

2<sup>nd</sup> # Represents Absences as of January 2015 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia Julio Batista D. Bhattacharjee Kamal Bhuiyan Latchman Budhai John Carter Jim Coccovillo Nick Comaianni Andrea Crawford	(1) (2) (2) (3) (0) (0) (0) (0) (3) (5) (1) (3) (0) (0) (3) (3) (2) (2)	Laraine Fletcher Linda Fogal Joseph Iaboni Mohamad Z. Islam Sherman Kane Patrick Khan Joel Kuszai Marian C. Molina Kevin O'Leary	(1) (1) (1) (1) (0) (0) (1) (1) (1) (1) (2) (2) (0) (0) (1) (1) (0) (1)	Jagir Singh Jarnail Singh Matthew Singh Raghbir Singh J. Richard Smith Dr. Stephen Sofer Maria Thomson Marie Turley Seth Welins	(0) (1) (0) (1) (0) (0) (0) (2) (1) (1) (1) (1) (0) (1) (0) (0) (0) (0)
	(2)(2)	•	(0) (1)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Sandra Datnarain Richard David	(0) (0) (1) (1)	Rabbi D. Pollack Raj Rampershad	(0) (0) (0) (0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(1) (1)	Regina Santoro	(1) (2)		

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Alex Blenkinsopp	(3)(4)	Sylvia Hack	(2) (3)	Mohamed Safie	(3)(6)
Stephen Esposito	(1) (1)	Scott Jordan	(5) (6)	Harichandan Singh	(6)(6)
Jan Fenster	(2) (2)	Priscilla Levine	(2) (5)	Maharani Singh	(2) (2)
Ralph Gonzalez	(6)(6)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(2) (3)	Naidoo Veerapen	(2)(3)

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Lisa Gomes, District Manager Irina Barayeva, Community Associate Victor Ampuero, Community Assistant

<sup>\*</sup>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

Maricela Cano, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin Kevin Wisniewski, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi Senator Joe Addabbo Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo Mohamed Hack, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz Arlene Brown, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich Capt. Molloy, 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Council Member Karen Koslowitz Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller Brandon Clarke, Rep. Council Member Ruben Wills Aliya Latif, Rep. City Comptroller Scott Stringer Kevin Jean Baptiste, Rep. Senator Sanders Scott Wolff, Rep. Assembly Member Simanowitz

Guests' sign-in sheets are available upon request.

#### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

#### 1. PUBLIC HEARING

#### Capital & Expense Budget FY2017

No speakers

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

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

Grazi Foods, Inc. 85-19 126<sup>th</sup> St.

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

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

Hustle Barber Shop, Inc.

135-22 Hillside Ave

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

New Metro Sushi Café, Inc.

118-21 Metropolitan Ave

Kew Gardens, NY 11415

No speakers

Golden Arrow sports Bar, Inc.

107-14 101 Ave

Ozone Park, NY 11416 No speakers

## c. On Premise Liquor License- Renewal

Rain Nightclub Inc.

89-29 130<sup>th</sup> St.

Richmond Hill, NY 11418 No speakers. Chair Rampershad stated that no

vote will be taken; the committee Chair will be

commenting on this

96-03 Bar & Grill Corp.

96-03 101 Ave

Ozone Park, NY 11416 No speakers

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

Fortune Hut, Inc.

76-11 101 Ave

Ozone Park, NY 11416 No speakers

## e. Corporate Change

New Talent Zone Corp.

D/b/a VENUE

119-30 Metropolitan Ave

Kew Gardens, NY 11415 No speakers

#### 2. PUBLIC FORUM

**Paul Capocasale, Task Force Committee for a Better Woodhaven,** spoke against the implementation of Selected Bus Services on Woodhaven Blvd.

**Jose Vazquez, Woodhaven Resident,** spoke against Select Bus Services coming to Woodhaven, as it will affect traffic and create more dangerous situations on side streets.

Mark Gallagher, Woodhaven Resident, spoke against SBS.

**Cathy Rojas, Ryder's Alliance,** spoke in favor of SBS and stated that the Ryder's Alliance has a petition signed by 6,500 people supporting SBS on Woodhaven Blvd.

**Colleen Aiello, Woodhaven Resident,** asked the board members to help DOT find a better solution than SBS.

Joanne Capocasale, Woodhaven Resident, spoke against SBS on Woodhaven Blvd.

**Shawn Slavin, Swim Strong Foundation,** introduced a new affordable program that saves and changes lives through the great sport of swimming. Ms. Slavin gave out pamphlets that indicate locations and schedules.

Betty Ann Deegan, Woodhaven Resident, spoke against SBS on Woodhaven Blvd.

Chair Rampershad recognized Legislators and their representatives.

**Council Member Karen Koslowitz** addressed the board and asked all to submit proposals for Participatory Budget.

**Mohamed Hack, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz,** wished the Indian community a Happy Diwali and invited all to the State of the Borough Address on January 21, 2016 at Queens College.

**Senator Joe Addabbo** thanked the board members who are Veterans for their service and dedication. The Senator announced that a Resource Fair, co-sponsored by Congress Member Grace Meng, will take place in P.S. 49 on Thursday, November 12, 2016 at 6 p.m.

## 3. Presentation of Recognition Awards for Firehouses in CB9

Sandra Datnarain presented the Recognition Awards to the representatives of the four Fire Houses.

Engine Co. 293
Battalion 51, Division 13
89-40 87<sup>th</sup> Street
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Squad 270 Division 13 91-45 121<sup>st</sup> Street Richmond Hill, NY 11418 Engine Co. 294, Ladder 143 Battalion 51, Division 13 101-02 Jamaica Ave. Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Engine Co. 285, Ladder 142 Battalion 51, Division 13 103-17 98<sup>th</sup> Street Ozone Park, NY 11417

Chair Rampershad resumed the recognition for the legislative representatives.

Marcella Cano, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin, stated they are collecting clothing for Veterans at their Richmond Hill office.

**Kevin Wisnewski, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi**, stated that he brought a Fall Newsletter that reflects the current events at the Assembly Member's office.

**Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller**, stated that the Assembly Member is sponsoring a Food Drive until November 23, 2015. Food can be dropped off at the Woodhaven district office.

**Brandon Clarke, Rep. Council Member** Rubin Wills, stated that the Council Member is sponsoring a Winter Coat Giveaway on November 21, 2016. Mr. Clarke will be replacing Mr. Jahi Rose and will be attending CB9 meetings from now on.

**Arlene Brown, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich**, said that she will be covering CB9 meetings from now on and stated that the Council Member is preparing a surprise for his Veteran constituents.

Aliya Latif, Rep. Comptroller Scott Stringer, announced two events that will be sponsored by the Comptroller: Diwali Breakfast on Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Comptroller's Board Room and the Celebration of Jewish Heritage and Culture on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at the Surrogate Courthouse.

**Kevin Jean Baptiste, Rep. Senator James Sanders, Jr.**, stated the Senator is sponsoring a Job Fair for Youth on November 18, 2015 and a Senior Resource Expo on December 16, 2015.

# 4. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

J. Richard Smith asked for any corrections/additions to the minutes, there were none. He made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Joe laboni seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To accept the minutes as presented

Vote # 1: Unanimous

#### 5. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Capt. Molloy reported on the following:

- Crime is down 9%
- There is a slight increase in burglaries in Richmond Hill and Woodhaven
- Numerous tickets were issued during a special operation that took place on Atlantic Ave corridor two weeks ago.

Question and answer period followed.

#### 6. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec Report- Raj Rampershad

 Chair Rampershad stressed the importance of attending board and committee meetings.

- A vote will be taken at the Borough Board meeting regarding DCP Zoning for Quality & Affordability & Mandatory Inclusionary Housing on November 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.
- Asked the committee chairs and the board members to email all issues and helpful email links to the district office so that they can be added to the CB9 website and be useful to the community.

#### 7. District Manager's Report-Lisa Gomes

► Capital & Expense Budget FY 2017

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

District Manager Gomes stated that a copy of the Capital & Expense Budget FY 2017 is included in board members' packages so they can make any additions/corrections or change the order.

Maria Thomson made a motion to make an amendment to the Capital Budget: Enclose the Carousel so the community can enjoy during inclement weather and move it to # 6. Nick Comaianni seconded the motion.

Joan DeCamp made an amendment to Maria Thomson's motion stating that P.S 90's request for indoor gym and air conditioners for the 4<sup>th</sup> floor classrooms should be item # 6 and the Carousel enclosure request should be # 7. Nick Comaianni seconded it.

**Motion # 2:** To make an amendment to the Capital Budget FY 2017: Enclose the Carousel so the community can enjoy during inclement weather and make it #7

Vote # 2: 31 in favor and 3 opposed

Kamal Bhuiyan requested to make an amendment to item # 2: to have a specialized public school in the CB9 area so it can promote the area financially and raise real estate value. Joel Kuszai seconded the motion.

Motion # 3: To have a specialized public school in CB9 area

Vote # 3: Unanimous

Sherman Kane asked to look into the language of item # 7 regarding Planting Street Trees in District 9.

Motion # 4: To adopt the Capital Budget FY 2017 as amended

Vote # 4: Unanimous

There were no additions/corrections to the Expense Budget FY 2017.

**Motion # 5:** To adopt the Expense Budget FY 2017 as presented

Vote # 5: Unanimous

### 8. Land Use Committee Report- Sherman Kane, Co-Chair

▶ DCP Zoning for Quality and Affordability & Mandatory Inclusionary Housing VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Sherman Kane asked if there were any additions/corrections or discussion to Land Use Committee Resolution.

Regina Santoro commended the way the resolution was written and stated that the committee had done an exceptional job.

**Motion # 6:** To oppose the proposed Zoning for Quality and Affordability Text

Amendment

**Vote # 6:** 33 in favor and 1 abstention

**Motion #7:** To oppose Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Plan

**Vote #7:** 33 in favor and 1 abstention

# 9. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report- James Coccovillo & Maharani Singh- Co-Chairs

a. On Premise Liquor License Application- New

Grazi Foods, Inc. 85-19 126<sup>th</sup> St

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion #8:** To send a letter of objection to the SLA for Grazi Foods Inc.,

85-19 126 St

Vote # 8: Unanimous

b. On Premise Wine & Beer License- New

Hustle Barber Shop, Inc. 135-22 Hillside Ave

Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 9:** To send a letter of objection to the SLA for Hustle Barber Shop,

Inc., 135-22 Hillside Ave

Vote # 9: Unanimous

New Metro Sushi Café, Inc. 118-21 Metropolitan Ave Kew Gardens, NY 11415

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 10:** To send a letter of no objection to the SLA for New Metro Sushi

Café, Inc., 118-21 Metropolitan Ave

**Vote # 10:** 32 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention

Golden Arrow Sports Bar, Inc. 107-14 101 Ave Ozone Park. NY 11416

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

**Motion # 11:** To send a letter of no objection to the SLA for Golden Arrow

Sports Bar Inc., 107-14 101 Ave

Vote # 11: Unanimous

#### c. On Premise Liquor License- Renewal

Rain Nightclub Inc. 89-29 130th St. Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

No vote is necessary as the SLA has renewed their license.

96-03 Bar & Grill Corp. 96-03 101 Ave Ozone Park, NY 11416

No vote is necessary; all their paperwork is in order.

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

Fortune Hut, Inc. 76-11 101 Ave Ozone Park, NY 11416

No vote is necessary; all their paperwork is in order.

#### e. Corporate Change

New Talent Zone Corp. D/b/a VENUE 119-30 Metropolitan Ave Kew Gardens, NY 11415

**VOTE TO BE TAKEN** 

The committee does not vote on Corporate Changes and will review their renewal application at the next committee meeting.

#### 10. Transportation & Traffic Committee Report- Kenny Wilson- Chair

Mr. Wilson reported on the following:

- The steel cleaning and surface repainting of the Woodhaven Boulevard Bridge over Atlantic Ave is ongoing.
- The Woodhaven Corridor SBS Study is ongoing; the results of this study will be available by the end of December.

 Trying to get the DOT to give updates on SBS study of the Rego Park bus lanes, but said that Community Boards 5 and 6 have the right to see the results first since the lane is in their districts.

Question and answer period followed.

Maria Thomson expressed her concern about the cars that would be directed through residential streets if they wish to access commercial corridors such as Jamaica Avenue. She stated the added number of cars would be a threat to the families living on those blocks.

#### 11. Education & Youth Services Committee Report- Seth Welins, Chair

Seth Welins reported on the following:

- Federal and NYC guidelines will now limit the amount of yearly standardized testing to 2% of the school year, which will average approximately 23 hours of testing. This figure does not include practice tests and preparation.
- By spring 2017, all NYC students will be able to take the S.A.T. for free (the test normally costs \$54). The test will be administered during class time instead of on Saturdays. It is hoped that more students will opt to take the test. Last year, only 56% of NYC high school juniors took the test.
- Library hours have been expanded to 6 days a week for most libraries and additional staff has been hired.

# 12. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report- J.R. Smith & Laraine Fletcher, Co-Chairs

J.R. Smith thanked Jim Coccovillo for thinking about seniors and recommending installing a foot bridge to help them to go to the Band Shell.

#### 13. Economic Development Committee Report- Richard David, Chair

Mr. David stated that the City's Economic Development Corporation is running three workshops in advance of the next city budget where they are helping nonprofit organizations register to get training to access the capital budget. \$2 billion is allocated each year for these causes, but few organizations apply. For more information, see the NYC EDC website.

## 14. Health & Social Services Committee Report- Marian C. Molina, Chair

Ms. Molina asked all board members to read the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) put together by Dr. Sofer.

#### **15.** Old Business No speakers

#### 16. New Business

Maria Thomson stated that November 28, 2015 is Small Business Day and encouraged all to shop at local shops and do a good thing for the community.

Chair Rampershad thanked Sandra Datnarain for her great work on recognition awards and Ragbir Singh for hosting tonight's meeting.

Dr. Sofer stated the Mets are having their annual Coat Drive in December and offering free tickets and discounts at their club shop; go to their website for more details.

Sandra Datnarain met with the President and volunteers from Calvary Mission. She commended them for their services. If anyone is in need of their services, the Calvary Mission location is 102-16 89 Ave.

Nick Comaianni wished a Happy Veteran's Day to his fellow veterans.

Maria Thomson asked everyone to recognize all the Veterans.

Joe laboni asked all to donate food and bring it Council Member Ulrich's office so he can deliver it to a Veteran's Pantry in Long Island City.

Ragbir Singh invited all to Sigh Prayer Day on Saturday, November 14, 2015.

Joan DeCamp stated that the board should lobby for the Zadroga Bill.

Latchman Budhai reminded all about the 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Community Council meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Richmond Hill Library.

#### 17. Public Forum

**Romie Zelaya, Citizens Committee for NYC**, spoke about Neighborhood Grants that are available for community gardening, tenant organizing, school recycling drives and art projects. To learn about the grants go to <a href="https://www.citizensnyc.org">www.citizensnyc.org</a> or call 212-822-9563.

Rayaaz Khan, Woodhaven Resident, spoke in opposition to SBS.

**Jose Vazquez, Woodhaven Resident**, stated that he does have facts — such as photos and videos — that show the bus lane would not decrease congestion, as its supporters claim.

Nick Comaianni made a motion to adjourn, Regina Santoro seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 10 p.m.