

JANUARY 12, 2016 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
QUEENS BOROUGH HALL, 120-55 QUEENS BLVD., ROOM 213

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2015-JANUARY 2016

2nd # Represents Absences as of January 2016-December 2016 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1) (0)	Jan Fenster	(2) (0)	Mohamed Safie	(3) (0)
Julio Batista	(2) (0)	Laraine Fletcher	(1) (0)	Regina Santoro	(1) (0)
D. Bhattacharjee	(0) (0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0) (0)	Maharani Singh	(2) (0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(0) (0)	Sherman Kane	(1) (0)	Matthew Singh	(1) (0)
Alex Blenkinsopp	(3) (0)	Patrick Khan	(2) (0)	Ragbir Singh	(0) (0)
John Carter	(1) (0)	Joel Kuszai	(1) (0)	J. Richard Smith	(1) (0)
Jim Coccovillo	(1) (0)	Priscilla Levine	(2) (0)	Dr. Stephen Sofer	(1) (0)
Andrea Crawford	(2) (0)	Marian C. Molina	(1) (0)	Maria Thomson	(0) (0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0) (0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(2) (0)	Marie Turley	(0) (0)
Richard David	(1) (0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0) (0)	Seth Welins	(0) (0)
Joan DeCamp	(1) (0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0) (0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(2) (0)
Stephen Esposito	(2) (0)	Raj Rampershad	(1) (0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0) (0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Latchman Budhai	(4) (1)	Sylvia Hack	(3) (1)	Jarnail Singh	(1) (1)
Nick Comaianni	(4) (1)	Mohamad Z. Islam	(3) (1)		
Linda Fogal	(2) (1)	Jagir Singh	(1) (1)		

ALSO PRESENT

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

Scott Stringer, NYC Comptroller
Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Kenneth Lazar, Department of Buildings
Amir Abbady, Senator Comrie
Mohamed Hack, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz
Arlene Brown, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich
Fareesha Ali, Council Member Rubin Wills
Adam Chen, Public Advocate Letitia James
Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller
Deputy Inspector Urprasad, NYPD/102 Pct.
P.O. Jose Severino, NYPD/102 Pct.
P.O. Edwin Martinez, NYPD/102 Pct.
Scott Wolff, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz

Guests' sign-in sheets are available upon request.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Public Hearing

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

a. On Premise Liquor License Application - New

Antojitos De San Cecilio, Inc.
90-04 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

b. On Premise Liquor License Application – Renewal

AMD Restaurant Corp.
D/b/a Port O Call
93-10 Woodhaven Blvd
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

c. On Premise Wine & Beer License Application - Renewal

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

d. El Gran Canario Restaurant, Inc. – **Complaints Received**
111-17 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

e. **Corporate Change**

El Puerto Mexicano, Inc.
84-28 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

Happy Days Lounge Corp.
118-16 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

f. **Transportation Item - Speed Hump Request**

➤ 78th St. from 86th Ave to Jamaica Ave *No speakers*

g. **Land Use - Variance Request**

➤ BSA Cal No. 933-28-BZ
125-24 Metropolitan Ave
Kew Gardens, NY 11415 *Chair Rampershad announced that there will not be a vote taken for this BSA item.*

2. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Vance B. Barbour, Woodhaven resident, spoke against the Woodhaven Blvd. SBS proposal, stating that the current plan is not a great idea.

City Comptroller Scott Stringer addressed the board and stated that boards across the five boroughs should have more input on issues affecting the city. He spoke on the following:

- Pension fund protection for New Yorkers
- Monitoring of city agencies
- City contracts
- Homeless crisis and shelter policies for the city
- City and the Social Service System
- Budget increase for the Community Boards

Question and answer period followed.

Joseph T, Howard Beach Resident, spoke against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal.

Philip McManus, Rockaway Park Resident, spoke against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal and in favor of Queens Way.

Eugene Falik, Far Rockaway Resident, spoke against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal because it will slow down the traffic during the rush hour.

Aaron Siegel, Rep. Assembly Member Weprin, announced that the Assembly Member is sponsoring a Food Drive that will benefit the River Fund New York.

Giedra Kregzdys, Woodhaven Resident, spoke against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal stating that other options should be implemented.

Ron Carroll, Flushing Resident, spoke against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal and in favor of Queens Way.

Rudy Simhaef, Kew Gardens Resident, spoke to raise awareness for the need of traffic safety improvements for the intersection of Park Lane South, Park Lane, Beverly Rd and Onslow Place.

Chair Rampershad recognized legislative representatives.

Adam Chen, Rep. Public Advocate Letitia James, gave community update for January 2016.

Mohamed Hack, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz, invited all to the State of the Borough Address on January 21, 2016 at Queens College Colden Auditorium.

Diana Santana, Rep. Assembly Member Miller, stated that the Assembly Member is sponsoring a Valentines For Veterans Drive.

Scott Wolff, Rep. Assembly Member Michael Simanowitz, summarized that there will be a State of the State Address on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. He added that the Assembly Member is interested to know the Governor's agenda and if it aligns with the constituents.

Foreesha Ali, Rep. Council Member Rubin Wills, made an announcement regarding the Wild Cats Organization which helps senior citizens with snow removals.

3. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Secretary Mrakovcic read corrections to November 10, 2015 minutes submitted by Maria Thomson:

Under 10: Transportation and Traffic Committee Report, Kenny Wilson-Chair

Under 2nd paragraph top of page # 9, Addition under Maria Thomson's statement:

“Also that the SBS Proposal would not allow this Commercial traffic onto the Jamaica Avenue Woodhaven Business Improvement District and affect the economy of Woodhaven in addition to placing our families in danger.

14. Health and Social Services Committee Report- Marian C. Molina, Chair, under 1st paragraph

Addition

Ms. Molina also commented on the Woodhaven Blvd SBS Proposal as to its effect On Woodhaven Board Member Joel Kuszai then stated that “he is a member of the Riders Alliance” and angrily degraded the statement by Ms. Molina, and all those that spoke against this SBS Proposal.

16. New Business- under the seventh statement

Addition

Joe Iaboni’ s statement addition, “He admonished Board Members that would disrespect another Board Member, he also reminded all that we are volunteers and serve in an advisory capacity.

Debate ensued.

Motion # 1: To accept additions to the November 10, 2015 minutes submitted by Maria Thomson

Vote # 1: 31 in favor, 3 opposed and 2 abstentions

Secretary Mrakovcic stated that there were no corrections/additions made to the December 8, 2015 minutes.

Motion # 2: To accept December 8, 2015 minutes as presented

Vote # 2: 35 in favor and 1 abstention

Motion # 3: To accept November 10, 2015 minutes as submitted originally

Vote # 3: 31 in favor, 1 opposed and 4 abstentions

4. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Deputy Inspector Urprasad reported on 102 Pct. stats for 2015:

- Crime was down 7.5%
- 70% increase in gun arrest
- 1.2 % increase in rubbery
- There was a 1st homicide for the new year

Questions and answer period followed.

5. Chairperson’s Remarks & Exec. Report - Raj Rampershad

Chair Rampershad reported on the following:

- Next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 7 p.m.
- USDA made a presentation at the yesterday's Borough Board meeting; their construction project is going according to schedule.
- Work on CB 9 website is still ongoing; we are in the process of updating it so it becomes a useful tool in any of the topics i.e. social services, housing, Medicare, etc.

Paul Rudolph, Woodhaven Business Owner, urged the board to vote against the Woodhaven/Crossbay Blvd. SBS proposal.

Carina Nieves, Richmond Hill Resident, stated that Q52 and Q53 lines should get articulated buses to alleviate lack of buses. She also stated that every single bus route should be redesigned every ten years.

6. District Manager's Report - Lisa Gomes

“On Thursday Jan 7, 2016 J. Richard Smith and I attended a meeting at the Dog Run on 85th St and Park Lane South, Veteran's Memorial and The Skate Board Park in Forest Park to discuss Participatory Budget money from Council Member Eric Ulrich. J.R. Smith will give you an update.

Attended QBP Melinda Katz's Borough Cabinet Meeting-

** DEP Presentation Re: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) **

MS4 are a conveyance or system of conveyances (transports, passages, etc.) They are designed or used to collect or convey storm water (including storm drains, pipes, ditches, etc.)

At this time they are not implanting this in CB9Q, but the Jamaica Bay is part of this project and should be done by June 2016.

NYCNYC will develop a Storm Water Management Program to reduce the contamination of storm water runoff while continuing to prohibit and increase awareness of illicit discharges.

This is a comprehensive plan to describe how the City will address controlling storm water discharges through Best Management Practices and other controls.

The MS4 Permit is citywide and DEP will be coordinating with 14 City Agencies, i.e. NYC Dept. City Planning, DOT, NYC Buildings, Sanitation, Police, Fire and Corrections, Parks, NYC DDC, NYC Citywide Administrative Services, NYC Dept. of Education, etc. You can see the full presentation on the DEP website: <http://nyc.gov/dep/ms4>.

NYC Human Resources Administration- Office of Citywide Health Insurance Access Open Enrollment for Health Insurance is November 1, 2016- January 31, 2016.

NYS implements the Affordable Care Act and sets policy and guidelines for health insurance coverage in NYC. Public Health Insurance coverage: Medicare part A and C, Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Tricare, Peace Corp., Volunteer plans, Veteran's Affairs, etc.

There are several Health Plans to choose from and information on these is available upon request. If you have any questions about health plans please call toll free at: 1855-355-5777, TTY: 800-662-1220.

If you would like a copy of the presentation please let me know.”

7. Land Use Committee Report - Sherman Kane, Co-Chair

**BSA Cal No. 933-28-BZ
125-24 Metropolitan Ave.
Kew Gardens NY, 11415**

Amendment to 11-412ZR – Extend the term of the variance which expired on Oct. 29, 2014

Mr. Kane stated that there won't be a vote to be taken on this BSA item as the Land Use Committee could not evaluate these plans.

The Committee will be meeting with legislators to further discuss the Mayor's Re-Zoning Proposal and decide on the vote.

8. Transportation & Traffic Committee Report – Kenny Wilson, Chair

➤ ***Speed Bump Request – 78th St. from 86th Ave to Jamaica Ave*** ***VOTE TO BE TAKEN***

➤ **DOT/MTA SBS Woodhaven Proposal Presentation**

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

c. On Premise Liquor License Application - New

Antojitos De San Cecilio, Inc.
90-04 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

VOTE TO BE TAKEN

10. Education & Youth Services Committee Report - Seth Welins, Chair:

A Richmond Hill High School staff member informed me that the outside classroom trailers (TCUs) have been removed from the yard.

11. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report - J.R. Smith & L.Fletcher, Co-Chairs

12. Economic Development Committee Report - Richard David, Chair *No report*

13. Health & Social Services Committee Report - Marian C. Molina, Chair *No report*

14. Old Business *No speakers*

15. New Business *No speakers*

16. Public Forum

Joe Iaboni made a motion to adjourn, Jim Coccovillo seconded it.

The meeting ended at 10:09 p.m.