



COMMUNITY BOARD NO.9

Queens Borough Hall
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 Kew Gardens, NY 11424

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J. Richard Smith, Chairperson * Lisa Gomes, District Manager * Melinda Katz, Borough President

APRIL 10, 2018 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
VILLA RUSSO IL PALAZZO, 101-12 LEFFERTS BLVD, RICHMOND HILL, NY 11419

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2017-MARCH 2018

2nd # Represents Absences as of January 2018-December 2018 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Laraine Fletcher	(0)(1)	Jagir Singh	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Linda Fogal	(0)(0)	Jarnail Singh	(0)(0)
Dolores Baldassare	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Maharani Singh	(0)(0)
Julio Batista	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(1)	Matthew Singh	(0)(1)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Sherman Kane	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(0)(2)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(0)(1)	Marian C. Molina	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(0)(1)	Marie Turley	(0)(1)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(1)	Seth Welins	(0)(1)
Jim Coccovillo	(0)(0)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0)(0)	Naidoo Veerapen	(0)(3)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)(0)	Raj Rampershad	(0)(0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)
Richard David	(0)(1)	Cristal Rivera	(0)(2)		
Joan DeCamp	(0)(1)	Regina Santoro	(0)(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Faiuze Ali	(1)(2)	Stephen Esposito	(1)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(1)(1)
Latchman Budhai	(1)(3)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(2)	Naima Sultana	(1)(1)
Nick Comaianni	(1)(3)	Jan Fenster	(1)(4)		
Andrea Crawford	(1)(1)	Mohamed Safie	(1)(4)		

ALSO PRESENT

Irina Barayeva, Community Associate
 Victor Ampuero, Community Assistant
 Leela Venketachalam, Community Service Aide

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Amparito Rosero, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz
 Assembly Member Mike Miller
 Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
 Kate Mooney, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams
 Elaine Fan, Rep. NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer
 Carmella Izabella, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller

Lili Arquiero, Rep. Assembly Member Daniel Rosenthal
Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Anthony Nunziato, Rep. Council Member Robert Holden
Matthew Pecorino, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich
Muhammad Rachman, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Julio Salazar, Rep. Congress Member Nydia Velazquez
Lisa George, Rep. Senator James Sanders, Jr.
Lt. Estrella, 102nd Pct.
PO Severino, Community Affairs, 102nd Pct.

Guest Sign in Sheets are available upon request.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

El Palacio Del Rey Corporation
75-11 Rockaway Blvd
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

Jamaica Ave Entertainment Inc.
D/b/a The Smoking Pie
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

b. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider Application – New

Rancho Cibaeno Restaurant Corp.
D/b/a Tavares Restaurant
96-10 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

c. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

Bicheiros Café Inc.
105-05 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

Flor A Garcia
76-20 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

d. Corporate Change Application

Members Only Bar and Grill Inc.
D/b/a Escape Bar & Grill
106-05 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *no speakers*

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Assembly Member Miller addressed the board and congratulated J. Richard Smith on being elected Chairperson and thanked the board members for serving on the board.

Assembly Member Miller spoke about bills that he introduced recently:

- School entrances to be locked during the school hours;
- A bill requiring students to be tested for lead poisoning;
- Bill on school safety in the city of New York.

\$168M Budget was passed on time, out of which \$50M was allocated for public transportation in Queens.

Semi-Annual Electronic Recycling Event, co-sponsored by Senator Joe Addabbo, will take Place on Sunday, April 29th, 2018, 10 AM-2 PM at Bandshell Parking Lot at Forest Park.

Senator Addabbo, Council Member Nolan and Assembly Member Miller are organizing a State Fair at the Fidelis Center on Thursday, April 26, 2018.

13 new police cameras will be installed next week at locations around Forest Park, chosen by 102nd Pct.

A meeting with various city agencies was held yesterday regarding Woodhaven Blvd. SBS issues and ways to address them.

1st Vice Chair Rampershad recognized legislator representatives.

Amparito Rosero, Rep. QBP Melinda Katz, stated that:

- The Borough President congratulates the new Elected Officers and welcomes the new board members.
- Ms. Rosero thanked Raj Rampershad for all his help.
- There will be a Swearing In Ceremony for new and re-appointed Board Members on April 26, 2018, 5-7 PM. It will take place at the Queens Borough Hall Atrium. Attendance is mandatory.
- The Office is still accepting Summer Internship Applications for college and high school students.

Carl Moore, Rep. Senator Addabbo, welcomed the new Board Members on behalf of the Senator and reiterated that their Biannual Recycling Event with Assembly Member Mike Miller will take place on Sunday, April 29th, 2018 at Forest Park from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Kate Mooney, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams, reported on the following events sponsored by the council member:

- Mobile Legal Truck will offer free legal help on Friday, April 13, 2018, 10 am – 3 pm. at Rochdale Village Big Mall Parking Lot, 165-46 Baisley Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11434.
- 2018 NYC Tax Lien Outreach Session will be on Monday, April 23rd, 2018, 6-8 PM at the Richi Rich Palace, 110-19 Atlantic Ave, Richmond Hill, NY 11418.
- Soccer Skills Challenge Event will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018, 10 am-1 pm at P.S. X274, 275 Harlem River Park Bridge.
- A Celebration of Bangladesh Independence will take place on Monday, April 23rd, 2018 at 5:30 pm at Council Chamber City Hall.

Elaine Fan, Rep. NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, invited all to Greek Community Breakfast on Friday, April 27, 2018, 9-10 AM at Stathakion Cultural Center, 22-51 29th St, Astoria, NY 11105.

Bruce Eiber, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz, no report.

Antony Nunziato, Rep. Council Member Robert Holden, stated the following:

- Council Member Holden congratulates the new Chairperson, Elected Officers and welcomes the new board members.
- The Council Member meets with other legislators to make sure that his constituents' concerns are addressed. The office contact number is (718) 366-3900.
- Brought to DOT's attention the issue of traffic being very slow in both directions on Woodhaven Blvd due to traffic lights being out of sync. DOT will address the issue.
- Council Member Holden is one of the few who is against the closing of the prison on Rikers Island.
- The district office will be relocated from Atlas Mall to a Dry Harbor Rd location by the end of the week. Office contact number is (718)366-3900, and office's new address is 64-69 Dry Harbor Road.

Lili Arquiero, Rep. Assembly Member Daniel Rosenthal, announced that the Assembly Member is hosting the MTA Reduced Fare MetroCard Mobile Sales Bus Event on Thursday, May 31, 2018, 1-3 PM at 158-11 Jewel Ave, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365.

Allison Alexis, Cancer Support Group for Survivors, Current Patients, Family and Friends, invited all to Angel's of Hope Cancer Support Group Event that will take place the first Thursday of every month, 5-6 PM at Lefferts Branch Library, 103-34 Lefferts Blvd., Richmond Hill, NY 11419.

Alyssa Panzarino, Earth Day, made an announcement about Ozone Park's Earth Day Event 2018 on Sunday, April 22, 2018, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

Joseph Reuter, Richmond Hill Resident, voiced his concern regarding traffic safety on 103rd Ave & 107th St. He recommended installation of an All Way Stop sign at that intersection.

Benjamin Raff, Con Edison Company, suggested all to sign up to receive free LED lightbulbs by calling (212)328-0174 or visiting www.coned.com/neighborhood .

EJ Sydell and Camille Pajor, Forest Park Barking Lot, stated that Forest Park Barking Lot, located behind the Overlook, 80-30 Park Lane, is a fenced-in dog park for dogs to exercise and socialize under the supervision of responsible dog owners. They thanked the board for their continued support of Dog Run Programs.

Kevin Burns, Kew Gardens CSA, stated that signups are open for the 2018 Summer/Fall CSA season and asked all to join them for their second year of farm fresh vegetables, fruit, and more. Throughout the season, members receive a box of seasonal produce straight from the farm.

Alexandria Delves, Ozone Park Resident, stated that the incidence of car vandalism has increased on 78th St between 94th and 95th Ave and asked for Police Enforcement.

Dawud Delves, Ozone Park Resident, stated that quality of life in his neighborhood has improved since the Community Board has helped to shut down the Traphouse Night Club last year. He also stated that with the closing of Allied Construction Company at 78th St and Atlantic Ave, another night club will not be opened in its place.

3. Opening of Meeting & Reading of Minutes

Treasure Carter asked if there were any changes/additions to March 13th, 2018 minutes. There were none.

Motion # 1: To accept March 13th, 2018 minutes as presented

Vote # 1: 32 in favor and 2 abstentions

4. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Lt. Estrella reported on the following:

- There is a 17% decrease in all major crimes in the 102nd Pct. year to date.
- Incidents of car vandalism on Kew Gardens Rd that were reported are under investigation.
- There was an isolated shooting incident on 91st St and 89th Ave where an individual was walking his dog and decided to test out the gun that he owned. 102nd Pct. is working on a sketch of him and flyers will be posted shortly.

Mr. James Coccovillo asked for the 102nd Precinct's input on any information on any establishments on Jamaica Avenue. In the past, there were problems with an establishment on 105 and Jamaica Avenue and he was told by other people that the 102 may have a position on certain locations.

Lt. Estrella stated: "As far as the establishment that I'm thinking that you may be bringing up is 105-06 Jamaica Ave? They were called Remedy, Elixir, and they were called Room 105. It was a problematic incident. It was just constant issues. A person inside getting robbed, people shot outside; gangs used to attend this location. So we had to take resources from the Precinct and set up a car outside—constant operations that were done by myself with the State Liquor Authority to go in there: summonses were issued, arrests were made. We were able to ascertain that the location was under David Persaud's name. He was the owner of the license but he wasn't running the location. The location was being ran by someone else. So in that aspect, we were able to get it shut down with the help of the authority of the SLA and everything else that we put our resources to it. But it was a constant, constant battle to get it off them because of all issues that were happening at that location. We built a big case against them with the State Liquor Authority and were able to shut them down. If I'm not mistaken, I believe they are looking to re-open that location. I'm not sure if they're still tied with the previous owners. Your previous CB9 meeting which was back on February was tied to the manager that was running that location. That location was also being ran by the manager of Traphouse which was also a constant battle of us getting them to close down with gang members and incidents that were happening at that location. There's just a raucous that comes into the neighborhood, the customers that are from there were causing a raucous on 105 Street as well as a raucous that was happening on 78th Street with Traphouse. And the manager who was running both locations did not look into it. I do know that the manager was trying to open the location again back in February with a name. And I see that the name is up there again with what's called "The Smoking Pie". If he's tied to it, I don't know what type of customers, I don't know what type of place it's going to be. It leaves a bad taste when you already didn't do well your first time around or your second time around because you had two locations. And that's me being very honest. That's with the hard work of myself and my officers that work under me because that's what I do for everybody else here to know... I am the Special Operations Lieutenant and I have to deal with pretty much all the special operations within the community and the SLA issues. And as far as what happened at Zen, a couple weeks ago, with the shooting, we were able to help with the

situation there and get them shut down as well. But it's a constant battle if we continue allowing these locations to open up in our neighborhood. That's the type of individuals that do come in. And, honestly, there's no reason to be drinking till 4 o'clock in the morning. There's no reason to be out in a nuisance where causing issues for the residents that are trying to sleep at that time."

Question and answer period followed.

5. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec. Report – J. Richard Smith

Thanked the Board for electing him as Chairperson. Chair Smith stated that he was able to spend numerous hours at the board office last week to observe and get himself familiarized with the process. He was amazed by the amount of emails that are being processed on a daily basis. Chair Smith would like for the Committee Chairs to get involved in making a decision on how the information that was emailed to them should be addressed.

Chair Smith asked the Board Members to fill out the Committee Assignment Preference Form 2018 that is included in their packages. He also welcomed the new Board Members and asked them to introduce themselves.

6. District Manager's Report – Lisa Gomes *not present to give a report.*

7. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report – James Coccovillo & Rabbi Pollack, Co-Chairs

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Jamaica Ave Entertainment Inc.
D/b/a The Smoking Pie
105-06 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 2: To oppose the new liquor license application for Jamaica Ave Entertainment Inc., d/b/a The Smoking Bar, 105-06 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 2: Unanimous

El Palacio Del Rey Corporation
75-11 Rockaway Blvd.
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 3: Not to oppose the new liquor license for El Palacio Del Rey Corporation, 75-11 Rockaway Blvd.

Vote # 3: 32 in favor and 2 abstentions

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will take place on Monday, April 16, 2018, 7 PM at the board office.

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

Mr. Wilson stated that Play Street Application was filed and signed off for P.S.254 on 101st St between Park Lane South and 85th Rd. Dates/times for street closure will be September 1st, 2018 to June 30th, 2019 from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

Municipal Parking Lot behind Queens Borough Hall reopened on Friday, March 26th, 2018. It consists of 302 spots, of which 7 are for handicap, 7 for motorcycle and 4 for electric cars. There is a 6-hour parking limit; it's \$3 for the 1st hour and \$4 for every hour after.

➤ ***Plans at 91-30 Van Wyck Expressway on Revocable Consent for Uniprop Corp. – New Stoop & Fenced-in Planted Areas***

Motion # 4: To support Plans at 91-30 Van Wyck Expressway on Revocable Consent for Uniprop Corp.-New Stoop & Fenced-in Planted Areas

Vote # 4: Unanimous

➤ **Speed Hump on 116th St. between Curzon Rd and 84th Ave**

➤ **Speed Hump on 116th St. between 84th Ave and 85th Ave**

Motion # 5: Send the letter of objection for speed humps installation

Vote # 5: 33 in favor and 1 opposed

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

- According to information contained in a recent Richmond Hill High School report, the school has achieved many of its benchmark academic goals. In addition, a significant number of students received college scholarships last year. It is gratifying to see this school improve in so many areas.
- The principal of P.S. 56 reports that her school was visited by two D.O.E. officials and they said that they would follow-up on necessary repairs. According to Principal Leiter, the school had a very good cleaning during the recent holiday. In addition, important repairs were made and the school is hopeful that they will receive requested surveillance cameras before June. The principal thanked the board for our support.

10. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report – J.R. Smith & Regina Santoro, Co-Chairs

Sylvia Hack stated that many trees in Kew Gardens were never replaced due to due to infrastructure conflicts such as utilities.

11. Land Use Committee Report – Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane, Co-Chairs

Sherman Kane stated that the City Planning Department will be presenting the proposed M1Hotel Text Amendment at the next Land Use Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 24th, 2018.

12. Health & Social Services Committee Report – Marian C. Molina, Chair:

On March 27, 2018 the Executive Committee met with Amanda Nasner, Queens Director, Department of Homeless Services. She gave an overview of the Homeless crisis in NYC and its history. In 2012, 250,000 lost rent regulation. Advantage rental assistance ended leaving 150,000 individuals homeless in NYC. In present day eviction is the number one cause of homelessness. Domestic violence is number two. 70% of families with children under 18 account for one third of the homeless population. 34% of those families have an adult working but do not make enough to make ends meet. She presented Mayor De Blasio's Homeless Prevention Initiative. For more details go to www.NYC.gov .

Ms. Nasner stated that there are no Homeless Shelters in Queens but one is about to open. They are seeking locations in the CB9 area because according to statistics by DHS, CB9 has 284 homeless people but is only housing 129 of those. The projected budget for homeless shelters in NYC is \$9.8 Billion. 15,000 new shelters will open around the City. No other details were given regarding the budget. Further information will be forwarded to Board members as it becomes available to me.

13. Economic Development Committee Report – Richard David & Matthew Singh, Co-Chairs

Matthew Singh stated that the Committee is planning on organizing a Workshop for the month of May, 2018.

14. Old Business

Seth Welins suggested taking a vote to have all board meetings at the same location throughout the year. Chair Smith stated that it will be voted on at the next Community Board meeting.

Rabbi Pollack asked if Stability Home Support Program Bill was passed in Albany. Marian Molina stated that the Bill did not pass.

15. New Business

Rabbi Pollack, on behalf of the Jewish Community of Richmond Hill and Kew Gardens, acknowledged Staff Member Irina Barayeva for securing a special sanitation pick up on Passover.

Naidoo Veerapen invited all to the Annual Phagwa Parade Celebration on Saturday, April 14th, 2018 at 12 PM.

Sandra Datnarain announced the next 102nd Pct. Community Council meeting taking place on Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 7-9 PM at the Richmond Hill Branch Library.

Chair Smith invited all to the GWDC's Special Tribute to Maria Thomson Dinner Dance that will take place on Friday, June 1st, 2018 at 7 PM at Woodhaven Manor Caterers, 96-01 Jamaica Ave.

16. Public Forum

Matthew Pecorino, Rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich, stated that the Council Member is sponsoring a CPR Class at Woodhaven Branch Library at 6 PM. on April 16th.

Julio Salazar, Rep. Council Member Velasquez, congratulated the new Chair and thanked the former Chair on behalf of the Council Member. Mr. Salazar gave a brief update on the programs sponsored by Council Member Nidia Velasquez.

Lisa George, Rep. Senator Sanders, stated that Sexual Assault Awareness Event, sponsored by the Senator, will take place on Thursday, April 26, 2018, 6:30-8:30 at the Knights of Columbus in Ozone Park. If you have questions, call the office at (718) 523-3069.

Raj Rampershad made a motion to adjourn, Kenny Wilson seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 9:45 p.m.