



# COMMUNITY BOARD NO.9

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

**MAY 8, 2018 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**  
**The Center at Maple Grove Cemetery, 127-15 Kew Gardens Rd, Richmond Hill NY 11415**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2018-MARCH 2019

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

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Jan Fenster	(1)(4)	Regina Santoro	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Laraine Fletcher	(0)(1)	Jagir Singh	(0)(0)
Faiuze Ali	(1)(2)	Linda Fogal	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(0)(1)
Dolores Baldassare	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(2)	Raghibir Singh	(0)(2)
Julio Batista	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(1)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Joseph laboni	(0)(1)	Naima Sultana	(1)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sherman Kane	(0)(0)	Marie Turley	(0)(1)
Latchman Budhai	(1)(3)	Marian C. Molina	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(1)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Ivan Mrakovcic	(0)(1)	Naidoo Veerapen	(0)(3)
Jim Coccovillo	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(1)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)
Joan DeCamp	(0)(1)	Rabbi D. Pollack	(0)(0)		
Stephen Esposito	(1)(1)	Raj Rampershad	(0)(0)		

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kamal Bhuiyan	(1)(2)	Richard David	(1)(2)	Maharani Singh	(1)(1)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(2)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(5)	Mohinder Singh	(2)(2)
Sandra Datnarain	(1)(1)	Jarnail Singh	(1)(1)		
Nick Comaianni	(2)(4)*	Cristal Rivera	(1)(3) *		

\*Not present for more than two votes

**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  
 Carl Moore, rep. Senator Joe Addabbo  
 Carmella Izabella, Rep. Assembly Member Mike Miller  
 Bruce Eiber, rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz  
 Kate Mooney, rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams

Andrew Taranto, rep. Senator Leroy Comrie  
Natalia Kozikowska, rep. Council Member Eric Ulrich  
Alexa Arcchi, rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi  
Capt. Courtney Nilan, 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct.  
PO Severino, Community Affairs, 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct.

*Guest Sign in Sheets are available upon request.*

**1. PUBLIC HEARING**

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

**a. 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*

Tipsy's Bar & Lounge Inc.  
106-07 Jamaica Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418                      *no speakers*

**b. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal**

Overtime Bar and Lounge Corp.  
D/b/a C Bar & Lounge  
87-22 Lefferts Blvd  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418                      *no speakers*

Ked's I Corp.  
D/b/a Nest Restaurant and Bar  
125-17 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419                      *no speakers*

El Puerto Mexicano  
84-28 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421                      *no speakers*

**c. Class Change – Extension of Hours + Change in Method**

88 18 Tropical Restaurante Corp.  
88-18 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421                      *no speakers*

**d. Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) - Proposed M1 Hotel Text Amendment**

**2. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mk Moore, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about numerous petitions that he has created for 116<sup>th</sup>

Street and stated that he is advocating for safety recommendations to be implemented by DOT.

Phillip Condon, Richmond Hill Resident, stated that in his opinion, in order to make 116<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> Streets safer, the Department of Transportation needs to convert them into one way streets and install speed humps.

Kevin Burns, Kew Gardens CSA, reported that it is the Kew Gardens Community Supported Agriculture group's second season of selling farm fresh vegetables, fruit, and more and invited all to join them.

Peter Albrechtsen, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke in favor of speed humps installation on 116<sup>th</sup> St and conversion of 116<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> streets into a one way operation.

Eliot Shapiro, Richmond Hill Resident, stated that speed hump installation on 116<sup>th</sup> Street will make it safer for residents who live on that block.

Katie Adams, Richmond Hill Resident, presented the neighborhood petition to have the PS 90's school playground closed at the end of the school day and on weekends. She stated that the majority of neighbors who support the petition are in direct proximity to the playground and unanimously agree that the playground poses safety risks and decreases their quality of life.

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

Treasurer Carter asked if there were any changes/additions to April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 minutes and motions. There were none.

**Motion # 1:** To accept March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 minutes as presented

**Vote # 1:** 34 in favor and 2 abstentions

### 4. Monthly Update Report 102 Pct.

Capt. Nilan reported on the following:

- The numbers are up in property crimes (grand larceny) and credit card crimes for the past month. Four incidents occurred at the Planet Fitness on Metropolitan Ave where patrons did not lock their lockers and had their valuables stolen. 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Auxiliary and Crime Prevention Officers were handing out flyers with prevention tips at the Planet Fitness lobby today.
- Many cases were solved with the help of constituents who recognized individuals whose pictures were posted as Wanted on 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Twitter page.
- There is a slight increase in burglaries. There is a case of the same person burglarizing Yeshiva at 117-06 84<sup>th</sup> Ave on five occasions. The police presence was increased at that location.
- NYPD Precincts have monthly Motorcycle and Moped Initiatives. 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Traffic Team consist of one Sergeant and four Police Officers and they are trying their best to attend to as many complaints as possible. The Precinct had four initiatives for the month of April and approximately 45 mopeds and motorcycles were confiscated.
- Auto theft incidents are up for the year, but about 30-40% of them are fraudulent.
- The situation with PS 90 Playground will be addressed by the Precinct.
- The individual who was involved in car breakings in Kew Gardens last month is under arrest and is awaiting a court date at the end of May.

Question and answer period followed.

Chair Smith congratulated Cristal Rivera on the birth of a new baby girl and welcomed Jan Fenster back.

1<sup>st</sup> Chair Rampershad recognized Council Member Adrienne Adams who addressed the board stating the following:

- She is the **first woman** ever elected to serve District 28 in the NYC Council appointed by NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson to Chair the Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Siting and Maritime Uses under the Land Use Committee.
- Appointed by NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson to sit on the following committees: Land Use, Finance, Economic Development, Civil Service and Labor, General Welfare, and Rules, Privileges and Elections. In addition, a member of the Women’s Caucus, the Black, Latino & Asian Caucus, and the NYC Council Budget Negotiating Team.
- First piece of legislation, Intro 613-A was included in an unprecedented package of bills entitled the “Stop Sexual Harassment in NYC Act.” This bill mandates all city agencies to conduct risk assessments to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace, passed into law by the Mayor.
- My colleagues and I sent an expansive response to the Mayor’s Fiscal 2019 Preliminary Budget & Fiscal 2018 Preliminary Management Report. Among other things, our intention in the Council was to propose improvements to the City’s capital budget, new capital priorities, and provide steps to improve the transparency and effectiveness of the City’s overall budget process. Some of our items included:
  - Instituting Fair Fare – Provide half-fare Metro Cards to individuals and families living below the poverty level, affecting approximately 800,000 low-income individuals.
  - Provide Property Tax Relief – Giving 450,000 homeowners a \$400 property tax rebate for their primary residence if their annual income is \$150,000 or less.
  - Prioritize Permanent Housing – Reassess homeless shelter spending and reallocate funding to programs that support move outs from the shelter system.
- Locally, I’ve begun to move some long-overdue DOT infrastructure projects, like repaving several sections of the district from Guy R. Brewer Blvd to the Van Wyck expressway and many areas in between. I have also requested studies of the implementation of one-way conversions throughout sections of the district for overall safety purposes.
- Some highlights since taking office:
- Hosted a gathering of the principals of District 28 as my first action in office.
- My weekly mobile office is at Lefferts Library every Thursday from 12:30 pm-3:00 pm.

**5. Chairperson’s Remarks & Exec. Report – J. Richard Smith, stated the following:**

- Community Board 9 considers safety issues a top priority.
- It was the Department of Transportation’s decision to determine whether the speed humps are feasible on 116<sup>th</sup> Street. If the board receives responses from 60% of residents of the affected block, the board will then take a vote on speed humps installation.
- CB9 had a similar situation a few years ago with the 87<sup>th</sup> Street conversion and did vote for it to be converted into a one-way street southbound.

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

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

➤ **ULURP – Proposed M1 Hotel Text Amendment – Presentation by Queens Department of City Planning**

Ms. Hallah Saleh, City Planner stated that The New York City Department of City Planning is proposing a zoning text amendment to establish a new Special Permit under the jurisdiction of the City Planning Commission for new hotels, motels, tourist cabins and boatels in light manufacturing (M1) districts

citywide. A Special Permit is a discretionary action by the City Planning Commission, subject to the public review process (ULURP), which may modify use regulations if certain conditions specified in the Zoning Resolution are met.

By establishing a new CPC special permit, DCP proposes a case-by-case, site-specific review process to ensure that hotel development occurs only on appropriate sites, based on reasonable considerations regarding the achievement of a balanced mix of uses and jobs in the area and other opportunities for the future siting of a permitted use on the site. A CPC special permit would allow for the consideration of appropriateness of hotel development in both the actively light industrial areas, where hotels and existing uses are potentially incompatible, and the more mixed-use areas within M1 districts, where the City may want to direct growth towards various other employment sectors or additional housing. A CPC special permit would also still allow for hotels to serve the needs of the tourism industry when appropriate.

For materials related to the scoping documents for the environmental review please refer to the website: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/applicants/scoping-documents.page#industry-city>.

Question and answer period followed.

## **8. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report – James Coccovillo, Chair**

### **a. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application – New**

Rancho Cibaeno Restaurant Corp.  
D/b/a Tavares Restaurant  
96-10 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**Motion # 2:** Not to oppose new on premises wine, beer & cider license application for Rancho Cibaeno Rest. Corp., d/b/a Tavares Restaurant, 96-10 Jamaica Ave

**Vote # 2:** Unanimous

Tipsy's Bar & Lounge Inc.  
106-07 Jamaica Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**Motion # 3:** To table new on premises wine, beer & cider license application for Tipsy's Bar & Lounge Inc., 106-07 Jamaica Ave

**Vote # 3:** 16 in favor, 18 opposed and 2 not present

**Motion # 4:** Not to oppose new on premises wine, beer & cider license application for Tipsy's Bar & Lounge Inc., 106-07 Jamaica Ave

**Vote # 4:** 9 in favor, 25 opposed and 2 not present

Joan DeCamp made a motion to oppose this application based on saturation in the immediate area. Raj Rampershad seconded the motion.

**Motion # 5:** To oppose new on premises wine, beer & cider license application for Tipsy's Bar & Lounge Inc., 106-07 Jamaica Ave based on saturation in the immediate area

**Vote # 5:** 27 in favor, 7 opposed and 2 not present

**b. Class Change – Extension of Hours + Change in Method**

88 18 Tropical Restaurante Corp.  
88-18 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**Motion # 6:** To oppose class change-extension of hours + change in method for 88 18 Tropical Restaurante Corp., 88-18 Jamaica Ave

**Vote # 6:** Unanimous

The next Pubic Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will take place on Monday, May 14, 2018, 7 PM at the board office.

**9. Transportation & Traffic Committee Report – Kenichi Wilson, Chair**, reported on the following:

- Attended New York Community Aviation Roundtable meeting on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Due to recent events and interactions with the media, CB9 Traffic and Transportation Committee is going to implement new policies and procedures on public outreach regarding speed hump installations and street conversions. Community Board 9 has always been in favor of any proposed safety improvements.
- CB9 will not accept any speed humps requests from individuals who do not live on the block.
- The next Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> where 116<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> street conversions will be discussed.
- State DOT will be presenting the latest project details on Van Wyck Expressway-EIS process at the end of May.

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

- Received an email regarding Queens Community House conducting a needs assessment for their Beacon programs one of which is located at JHS 210 in Ozone Park. The Beacon programs are best known for their after-school programs. They are intended to be community centers that serve everyone in the community, not just students at the schools.
- Nearly 50% of Long Island Students, but only 4% of NYC students, opted out of the recent ELA and math tests. Many parents objected to many issues associated with the testing procedures, the test questions, and how the test results were being used by school officials.
- The Beacon Program at IS 210 will be administered by Queens Community House. The new organization wants to run the program as a community center for students from IS 210 as well as other schools in the community.
- Sherry Algreto and Raj Rampershad attended an event at Richmond Hill HS. They met Principal Ganesh and had a chance to visit some of the innovative programs at the school. They were both impressed with the accomplishments of many of the students and the overall academic progress of the school.

**11. Parks, Environment & Sanitation Committee Report – Regina Santoro, Chair**, stated that:

- The NYC Department of Sanitation established refashionNYC in 2011, which is a program that offers a free, easy way to donate clothing and textiles through an in-building donation service. Use the [refashionNYC Application Form](#) to request a bin or get more information about the program.

- Assembly Member Weprin will host Free NYC Compost Giveaway on Sunday, May 27, 2018 at Alley Pond Park Playground.
- Friends of Forest Park will have Rainbow Mural painting at the Greenhouse Playground on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM-2 PM.
- Parks Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 5 PM at the district office. Campaign to reform commercial waste collection is the main item on the agenda.

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

De Blasio Administration Announces Paid Safe Leave Law Now in Effect May 7, 2018

Mayor de Blasio and Department of Consumer Affairs announced yesterday that the Paid Sick and Safe Leave Law is now in effect. The law allows employees to use their paid leave if they or a family member have been the victim of any act or threat of domestic violence, unwanted sexual contact, stalking, or human trafficking in order to plan their next steps and focus on safety without fear of penalty.

New York City is the first city in the nation to pass paid safe leave legislation that includes survivors of human trafficking. The amended law also expands the definition of family for whom safe and sick leave can be used to any individual whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of family.

Under the new law, employees can take time off to restore their physical, psychological, and economic health or that of a family member.

The NYC Rent Freeze Program, which includes the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) Program and the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) Program, helps those eligible stay in affordable housing by freezing their rent.

Under this program, a property tax credit covers the difference between the actual rent amount and what you (the tenant) are responsible for paying at the frozen rate.

The longer you are in the program, the greater the benefit. If you enter the program today, continue to renew and meet all eligibility requirements, the current amount you pay for rent today could be the same in 20 years.

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 7-11. Honor NYC's teachers for their ongoing dedication and commitment to the City's 1.1 million students.

## **13. Economic Development Committee Report – Matthew Singh, Chair**

Latchman Budhai stated on behalf of Matthew Singh that Economic Development Committee is planning on inviting City Comptroller Scott Stringer to their next committee meeting.

## **14. Old Business**

Raj Rampershad attended a meeting with business owners and Comptroller Stringer to discuss community concerns.

## **15. New Business**

Laraine Fletcher suggested all to visit an exhibition at the Austin Ale House that is called "Kew Gardens: A Place Where Art Has A Home".

Steve Esposito thanked the board for their concerns and well wishes. He invited all to a Dinner Dance in memory of the late Maria Thomson that will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at the Woodhaven Manor.

Regina Santoro wanted to know how the P.S. 90 Playground complaint will be addressed.

Joan DeCamp requested info regarding Jackson Pond's bathroom hours.

Jim Coccovillo inquired the status on the Lefferts Boulevard Bridge issue. Sylvia Hack stated that the meeting with MTA/LIRR is on Wednesday, May 24, 2018 at 12:30 p.m.

#### **16. Public Forum**

Dave Ehki, spoke about the Close Rikers Campaign.

Seth Welins made a motion to adjourn, Raj Rampershad seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 10:45 p.m.