



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

Queens Borough Hall
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Kenichi Wilson, Chairperson * James S. McClelland, District Manager * Sharon Lee, Acting Borough President

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR TELECONFERENCE VIRTUAL MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2020-MARCH 2021

2nd # Represents Absences as of January-December 2019 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1)(1)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(1)(3)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(1)	Stephen Esposito	(0)(0)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(4)
Faiuze Ali	(1)(1)	Laraine Fletcher	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(0)(0)
Julio Batista	(0)(0)	Linda Fogal	(0)(0)	Maharani Singh	(1)(1)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(3)(2)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(2)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Mohinder Singh	(2)(2)
Zoila Bofill	(1)(1)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(1)(2)
Latchman Budhai	(1)(2)	Sherman Kane	(0)(0)	Sursattie Singh	(0)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Kemanad Kishore	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Lisa Komninos	(1)(1)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Marie Turley	(2)(2)
Andrea Crawford	(0)(0)	Raquel Olivares	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(1)(0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)(0)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(0)(1)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dilraj Batchu	(1)(1)	Nick Comaianni	(4)(4)	Jan Fenster	(1)(1)
Jarnail Singh	(2)(2)				

ALSO PRESENT

James S. McClelland, District Manager
Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Michael Cohen, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Kate Mooney, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams
Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
Daniel Kurzyna, Rep. Council Member Bob Holden
Lisa George, Rep. Senator James Sanders
Mohammad Rahman, Rep. Queens DA Melinda Katz
Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
Tim Thomas, Rep. Assembly Member David Rosenthal
Julio Salazar, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velasquez
Honorable Senator Leroy Comrie
James Mongeluzo, Rep. Comptroller Scott Stringer
Joy Resor, Department of City Planning

1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

9712 Restaurant Corp.
97-12 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

Chrome 101 Inc.
96-03 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

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

Brisas Del Mar Sea Food Market II, Corp.
76-15 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

c. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

Starz Princess Inc. D/b/a Four Ones Car Service
107-11 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

Aristokrat Corp.
D/b/a Oligarchy
86-15 Lefferts Blvd.
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Hermes Billiards & Café Inc.
D/b/a 102 Billiards
102-14 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Tilt Lounge Corp.
131-15 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

2. REPORTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS

Michael Cohen, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz, stated that \$4.2M have been allocated for the Richmond Hill Library renovation.

He also stated that the Council Member is trying to organize a multi-agency task force in order to address numerous issues at the Umbrella Hotel located at 124-18 Queens Blvd.

Kate Mooney, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams spoke regarding the following:

- Council Member's allocations to CD 28 – schools, parks and Queens cultural institutions.
- CM Adams efforts for lien sale.
- Council Member's concerns for Con Ed outages after storm.

Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo gave details on an upcoming recycling event that will take place on Sunday, September 27, 2020 at the Forest Park Bandshell parking lot.

Daniel Kurzyna, Rep. Council Member Bob Holden, stated the following:

- Started with piggybacking on the discussion had by CB9 and Council Member Adrienne Adam's office about streets being dirty, and illegal dumping occurring. He mentioned that Council Member Holden has allocated additional funding to cleaning our streets. They've added another non-profit called ACE, who will supplement the job that Wildcat is currently doing in cleaning streets, tree pits, and removing graffiti. Council Member Holden also allocated funding to bring back an additional day of basket collection. Despite the cuts in the budget, Council Member Holden will continue to ensure that money is put into ensuring that our streets remain clean.
- Thanked Kenny and James, and the Woodhaven BID, WRBA and Woodhaven Historical for their recent Jamaica Avenue clean-up. The Council Member was in attendance and swept up a large swath of Jamaica Avenue. The office will continue to get involved in community clean-ups and looks forward to working with CB9, WBID, WRBA, Woodhaven Historical and the local community in hosting more.
- Publicly thanked the 102 Precinct under the leadership of Commanding Officer Captain Fidacaro, and his Community Affairs Officers Martinez and Iftexhar, along with Sector D NCO's Officer Sorrentino and Correira for their hard work in preserving the quality of life in and around Forest Park. There were serious problems including the meet up of illegal car clubs, drag racing, drug and alcohol use, loud music and noise, and excessive littering and dumping at the park. Council Member Holden sent a letter to Captain Fidacaro and on that same day, the Captain instated a check point at the Woodhaven Blvd. entrance to the bandshell parking lot to deter this type of behavior. Over the Labor Day weekend, they were delighted to see that folks were enjoying themselves, social distancing and at the same time were not impacting the quality of life of the residents around the park. The 102 Precinct has gone above and beyond, and the Council Member's office is grateful for their partnership, along with the Parks Department.
- Council Member Holden, as Chair of the Technology Committee, held a hearing jointly with the Fire and Emergency Management Committee, under Chair Council Member Borelli (of Staten Island), on the 311 and 911 response during Tropical Storm Isaias. The office has heard from many constituents about long wait times while dialing 911, and at times receiving no response from an operator whatsoever. 911 receives approximately 9 million calls annually, and 311 in FY19 received 42 million inquiries, over 20 million through the app and 311 Online, and about 20 million via telephone. At the hearing, education about when to call 911 as opposed to 311 was mentioned. Will continue to work with DOITT, NYPD, FDNY and the various city agencies to bolster the systems and make them more effective in times of need.
- Brought up the need to boost our census numbers in the city, and in the CB9 area of Queens.
- Should anyone need anything, feel free to give the office a call at 718-366-3900 or email District30@council.nyc.gov.

Lisa George, Rep. Senator James Sanders, Jr.

Senator introduced legislation that would postpone the New York City tax lien sale by one year following the expiration of the COVID-19 state of emergency order.

Mohammad Rahman, Rep. DA Melinda Katz, made an announcement that as of today he is employed by the Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz's office and is looking forward to working with the Community Board in his new capacity.

Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin

- Congratulated Mohammad Rahman on his new position.
- Stated that the Assembly Member also played a big role in the tax lien sale battle.
- The office had a tremendous turnout in providing many boxes of food in addition to masks and sanitizer to fellow community members.

Tim Thomas, Rep. Assembly Member David Rosenthal

Assembly Member and Senator Comrie introduced legislation that would give the existing shop owners along the Lefferts Boulevard Bridge the first right of refusal for any new bids or contracts that go out for that property. The office is working closely with other elected officials to find a resolution for Umbrella Hotel issues.

Julio Salazar, Rep. Congressmember Nidia Velazquez, gave the following updates:

- Compelled USDA to allow the Summer Food Service Program that provides free meals to kids and teens in low-income areas to continue until the end of the year.
- Played a major role in the tax lien sale postponement on congressional level.
- Working with NYC Health and Hospitals to bring mobile COVID testing sites to Ozone Park and Woodhaven.
- Should anyone need anything, feel free to give the office a call at 718-599-3658.

Honorable Senator Leroy Comrie

- Thanked all elected officials who worked on getting the Property Tax Lien Sale postponed.
- As of September 21, 2020, the Parsons/Archer Ave subway station will not be operational due to track replacement. The LIRR conductors will cross honor Metro Cards during this time. There will be shuttle buses and other accommodations until this project is completed in November 2020.
- Asked all to fill out the Census Form.
- The office is open to all ideas to restart/energize our economy.

James Mongeluzo, Rep. Comptroller Scott Stringer

- The timeframe for claims for fallen trees and lamp posts in Isaias storm is still open.
- Policy/proposal is being prepared to get high school students to bike to the schools that they attend.

Joy Resor, Department of City Planning

- Department of City Planning public review process, which has been on hold since March, will resume on September 13th, 2020.
- Workshop about comprehensive waterfront plan is coming up on October 15th.
- Several training webinars will be held by the department regarding budget quests and community district needs.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Harpreet Singh, Census Bureau

The 2020 Census is ending on September 30 and it is critical that all New Yorkers are counted. New York City stands to lose billions of dollars in federal aid every single year for schools, hospitals, health clinics, affordable housing, transportation, and more, as well as our representation in Congress and in Albany if we do not achieve a complete count.

We stand to lose funding for the very programs that our communities, especially our older adult communities, rely on.

The census is easy, safe, and confidential. It can be completed online or by phone; it is just ten simple questions that can be answered in under ten minutes. By law, all responses are completely confidential and cannot be shared with anyone. Not immigration, not the police, or your landlord. There are no questions about immigration, citizenship, criminal history, or income.

Mr. Neil Ganesh, Richmond Hill High School Principal

- Thanked the Community Board for their support in this difficult time and stated that he is looking forward to a continued partnership.
- The RHHS staff was welcomed into the building today. September 21st the building will be opened for students for the first time in six months. Looking forward to welcoming 400 freshmen into the school.
- The 2020 Senior class was awarded \$6.5M in scholarships.
- The need for laptops for students to work remotely is still there. Any help would be appreciated in terms of technology.

4. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES

Chair Wilson asked if there were any corrections/additions to June 9th, 2020 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Sylvia Hack made a motion to adopt the minutes, Sandra Datnarain seconded it.

Motion # 1: To accept June 9th, 2020 meeting minutes and motions as presented

Vote # 1: Unanimous

5. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102nd PCT REPORT

NYPD officers are restricted from Zoom therefore they could not join tonight's meeting.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS & EXEC. REPORT – Kenichi Wilson

- Census: Richmond Hill has the lowest count. Participated in numerous Census 2020 Events in all CB9.
- Did many Walk Throughs for restaurants with outdoor seating areas to keep them in business.
- Sanitation Department budget cuts - had a Walk Through on the avenues with first floor commercial and second floor residential areas. Explained to the landlords that they are required by law to have a little area for their tenants' garbage until it's ready to be picked up by DOS.
- The next Exec Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020 at 6:30 PM.

7. DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – James S. McClelland

"Welcome back. I hope everyone had a great summer despite all the craziness.

Wish happy Birthday to Sandra Datnarain, Lisa Komninos, Maharani Singh, and Marie Turley.

A Happy Rosh Hashanah, a blessed Yom Kippur and Paryushan Parva.

It's been a busy summer. Major storms, downed trees, power outages, reduction in litter basket pick up (recently elected officials have allocated additional money to assist Sanitation Department in coping with budget cuts).

There has been an increase in criminal activity at the Umbrella Hotel located at 124-18 Queens Blvd. As you all know, we held a meeting on August 13th. Various city agencies were invited and only DOB attended. On August 14th the elected officials sent a letter to the Mayor requesting a multi-agency meeting. We haven't heard from them yet.

Agency budget consultations start next week via Zoom. We will provide agency response to appropriate committee.

The office will be sending emails requesting that board members submit Capital/Expense project ideas for next fiscal year 2022.

Looking forward to working with all of you in the upcoming months."

8. EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Sherry Algreto, Chair

- Gave her condolences to all the educators and students who have lost loved ones to COVID-19.
- Thanked Principal Ganesh from Richmond Hill High School for the updates.
- 2020-2021 school year for NYC Public School remote lessons will start on September 16th and in class blended learning September 21st. So far approx. 700 thousand kids have opted for in schools blended learning and approximately 300 thousand for Remote. Many parents and educators fear the lack of proper ventilation in schools.
- Posted many updates as they had happened on NYC DOE on our webpage over the past few months and will continue to post them as they are received.
- The NYC DOE school calendar is now out for the 2020-2021 school year and not in printable version yet.
- Many parents have been asking about the \$420 benefit for kid's school food. Many have not received letters or any information.
- Update on Richmond Hill Library Renovation Project: Received substantial Capital funding for the library for the 2021 budget year from Council Member Karen Koslowitz. DM McClelland is working with the Committee Chair regarding the allocation and status.
- P.S. 56 and P.S. 97 are funded by Council Member Ulrich for security cameras.
- Classroom ventilation update: there are 1400 school buildings (64550 classrooms) in NYC. 61568 are ready as per daily update from SCA and Mayor's office. Also confirmed - Pre-K centers are being checked as well.
- Discussed Learning Bridges Program where Community and Cultural Centers will be used for free childcare.

9. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Andrea Crawford, Chair

- Anyone who works for the Department of Education needs to get tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to work.
- Flu Season is approaching. All are advised to get inoculated in the first week of October. There is a senior flu shot, which is a double dose and is recommended for people with compromised immune systems.
- COVID-19 cases are below 1 %. There are some spikes in Queens that jump up and climbs down. It is important to continue to wear a mask, wash hands frequently and keep social distancing.

10. LAND USE & HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT – Sylvia Hack & Sherman Kane, Co-Chairs

Sylvia Hack relayed her concerns regarding the monies that were awarded to various companies associated with the Jail Project. James Mongeluzo from City Comptroller's Office stated the following:

The City's Capital Budget includes total of \$8.7B for the Borough Based Jails Plan from FY 2021 through 2027. Of that amount, the City plans to spend \$196M during FY 2021. The City has a contract of \$107M with company named AECOM-Hill for the program and project management services for the design. The contract started on May 6th, 2019 and runs through May 2nd, 2029. Up to this point, \$16M of \$107M has been spent. The Department of Design and Construction released three requests for qualifications related to the Jail Plan. One was released on November 21, 2019 and the due date to submit it was January 10, 2020. But no requests for proposals or awards were associated with any of the three requests for qualification from DDC. Comptroller's Office is still looking into it.

11. ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Cristal Rivera, Chair

Invited all to her committee meeting on September 21st to discuss with the local business organizations various topics.

12. PUBLIC SAFETY & CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT – Joe laboni & Rabbi Daniel Pollack, Co-Chairs

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

9712 Restaurant Corp.
97-12 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion #2: To table new on premises liquor license application for 9712 Restaurant Corp., 97-12 101st Ave
Vote #2: Unanimous

Chrome 101 Inc.
96-03 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion #3: Not to oppose new on premises liquor license application for Chrome 101 Inc., 96-03 101st Ave
Vote # 3: Unanimous

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

Brisas Del Mar Sea Food Market II, Corp.
76-15 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion #4: Not to approve new on premises wine, beer & cider license application for
Brisas De Mar Sea Food Market II, Corp., 76-15 Jamaica Ave
Vote #: 4 Unanimous

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7 PM at the district office.

13. TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT – Faiuze Ali, Chair

- Resolution: Street Co-Naming in Honor of Detective Brian Simonsen

DM McClelland read the biography of late Detective Brian Simonsen.

Motion # 5: To support the co-naming of 118th Street and Jamaica Ave in Honor of Detective Brian Simonsen
Motion # 5: Unanimous

14. PARKS, RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Regina Santoro, Chair

Invited all to a co-naming of 89th Ave and 134th Street in honor of Anton Dietrich, who was a proud WWII Veteran and former member of Community Board 9.

15. BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – John Carter, Chair

Last Fiscal Year: CB9 was able to absorb the cut and returned about \$9,600 to the city from Other Than Personal Services (OTPS) budget. We had an extra \$40,000 last year as part of an enhancement initiative which we did not receive this year.

Current Fiscal Year: with a budget of \$230,000 we must spend wisely.

16. OLD BUSINESS *No speakers*

17. NEW BUSINESS *No speakers*

18. PUBLIC FORUM *No speakers*

Joe laboni made a motion to adjourn. Andrea Crawford seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 10:02 PM.