



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

Queens Borough Hall
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Room 310-A
Kew Gardens, NY 11424

(718) 286-2686

Fax (718) 286-2685

Email: qn09@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb9

Kenichi Wilson, Chairperson * James S. McClelland, District Manager * Donovan Richards Jr., Borough President

DECEMBER 14, 2021 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR TELECONFERENCE VIRTUAL MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2021-MARCH 2022

2nd # Represents Absences as of January-December 2021 (Borough President's Attendance)

Marla Abarca	(0)(0)	Sandra Datnarain	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(2)(4)
Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1)(1)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Mohamed Safie	(3)(3)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(3)(4)	Regina Santoro	(2)(2)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(1)	Jan Fenster	(3)(3)	Jarnail Singh	(1)(2)
Dilraj Batchu	(1)(1)	Laraine Fletcher	(1)(1)	Maharani Singh	(2)(2)
Julio Batista	(1)(2)	Linda Fogal	(1)(2)	Matthew Singh	(3)(4)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(2)(2)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Mohinder Singh	(3)(3)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(2)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(0)(0)
Kirpal Billing	(1)(1)	Joseph Iaboni	(1)(3)	Sursattie Singh	(0)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Reaz Khan	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Latchman Budhai	(0)(0)	Katharine Maradiaga	(0)(0)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Michael Pereira	(0)(0)	Marie Turley	(0)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(2)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(2)	Sassy Ramoutar	(1)(1)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Sherman Kane	(4)(4)	Raquel Olivares	(5)(4)	Lilian Yagual	(4)(4)
Kemanad Kishore	(3)(5)	Anjali Seegobin	(1)(1)		

ALSO PRESENT

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

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Council Member-Elect Joann Ariola
 Greg Slade, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
 Benjamin Fang, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams
 Tara Chester, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz
 James Mongeluzo, Rep. City Comptroller Scott Stringer
 Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
 Joseph Page, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz

1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Blue Tequila Restaurant & Bar Inc.
112-07 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

Katerine Ribadeneira Matute
D/b/a Jefe De Jefes Corp.
112-04 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

Embajada Restaurant Inc.
84-21 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

No speakers

b. Corporate Change

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

No speakers

c. On Premises Liquor License Application - Renewal

El Gran Canario II Restaurant Inc.
111-17 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

d. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application - Renewal

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

No speakers

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers

3. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES

Chair Wilson asked if there were any corrections/additions to November 9th, 2021 meeting minutes and motions. There were none.

Motion # 1: To accept November 9th, 2021 meeting minutes and motions as presented

Vote # 1: 43 in favor and 2 abstentions

4. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102nd Pct. Report

Capt. Eynat Naor reported on the major crime stats for the period of November 15th through December 12th:

- Murder cases are: 0 vs 0 last year.

- Rape cases are down: 1 vs 3.
- Robberies are up: 10 vs 7 with three arrests already made.
- Burglaries are down: 11 vs 19.
- Felony assaults are down 11 vs 20 cases last year.
- Grand larceny cases are up: 48 vs 17, majority of which are identity theft.
- Grand larceny vehicles cases are up: 23 vs 11, the majority of which were preventable.

Capt. Naor asked vehicle drivers to be more cautious and alert towards pedestrians as the days get shorter. She also made a recommendation for pedestrians to carry or wear something reflective to cross the streets safely.

Question and answer period followed.

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

- Stated that the building at 78-19 Jamaica Ave, which was an eye sore for many years, has been finally demolished.
- Chair Wilson expressed his gratitude to all board members who participated in Thanksgiving Food Giveaways.
- Street Co-Naming will be on the City Council's agenda at their meeting tomorrow.
- Thanked the 102nd Pct. for their participation in Woodhaven holiday events.

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

Wished happy birthday to Kamal Bhuiyan, Dulal Bhattacharjee, John Carter, Daniel Chu, and Lilian Yagual.

DM McClelland stated that this year the office has received almost 300 complaints, concerns or questions regarding various quality of life issues and requesting assistance. A vast majority of these cases have been resolved. The office will continue to work to ensure that each one is closed to the satisfaction of the constituent.

Wished everyone happy holidays with the prayer that this holiday season and New Year brings health, joy and great success.

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Blue Tequila Restaurant & Bar Inc.
112-07 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Co-Chair Pollack stated that there will be no vote taken for this establishment due to lack of required paperwork.

Katherine Ribadeneira Matute
D/b/a Jefe De Jefes Corp.
112-04 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 2: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for Katherine Ribadeneira Matute, D/b/a Jefe De Jefes Corp., 112-04 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 2: Unanimous

Embajada Restaurant Inc.
84-21 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 3: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for Embajada Restaurant Inc.,
84-21 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 3: Unanimous

Rabbi Pollack reported out on liquor license renewal applications.

NYPD stated there were no adverse reports for any of the establishments listed below:

El Gran Canario II Restaurant
111-17 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

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

Establishments listed below have applied for an All-Night Permit on New Year's Eve:

S A A K Imperio Corp.
75-16 Rockaway Boulevard
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Heat Caribbean Kitchen & Lounge
100-05 Atlantic Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Kiss Entertainment
130-35 91st Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Mingles #1
130-18 101st Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Peter's Grill & Bar
75-11 Rockaway Boulevard
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Public Safety Committee is **OPPOSING ALL** due to a reduction in the number of police officers due to Times Square assignments on New Year's Eve.

The next Public Safety and Consumer Affairs Committee Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 17th, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

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

- Remembering the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting nine years ago.
- Next Education meeting will take place on Monday, January 24th, 2022 at 6 PM.
- Minutes from November Education Committee meeting:

“We had Mark Laster from CB6 and Alexandria from our education committee present about the NICE program. Parents are concerned about limit to middle schools in our CB9 and schools being K-5 instead of K-8. Mohinder Singh addressed the need for more integration.”

- Incoming NYC schools Chancellor David Banks stated his goals to expand G & T Programs instead of removing them, keeping the SHSAT and looking at possibly expanding school days.

- Sherry Algreto showed a plaque that she received from PS 97 for work over the years with schools.
- Chair of Education Committee requested clarification from Chair of the Board about her role when it comes to school visits and being requested to attend and speak as Education Chair at their events.
- Congratulated CB9 Member Raghbir Singh for his appointment to the incoming Mayor transition team as a part of the religious and clergy team.
- Wished everyone a Happy Holiday and a safe and healthy New Year.

9. TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT

- Meeting with DOT at the intersection of Park Lane South and Union Turnpike revealed the necessity to make the crosswalk wider and possibly extend the timing to clear the cars. These and other precautions will make this intersection much safer for the pedestrians.
- The Train Stations Elevator Project that was slated for 2015 is now going to be put into 2022-2026. MTA released an announcement regarding an elevator being installed at the J train Woodhaven Station.
- Queens Bus Redesign project will be revisited by DOT to make more improvements.

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

- USA passed the 800,000 deaths mark from COVID-19, many of which could have been avoided.
- New mask mandate was executed by Governor Hochul: must wear masks in all public spaces.
- Children age 5-11 must show proof of vaccination of at least one dose to attend public spaces.
- Omicron tsunami is inspected in New York next month. Omicron variant is less severe in vaccinated individuals.
- There is no religious exemption available in New York State.

11. LAND USE & HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT – Sylvia Hack, Chair

Sylvia Hack stated the Committee will be sharing the Alternative Plan to Rebuilt Rikers Island with the board members. This more humane and very thorough 61-page long document will also be forwarded to the Members of the City Council in January 2022.

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

- Met with the Queens EDC representative at the last committee meeting and discussed Small Business Grants that were distributed in Queens.
- Additional funding is available for small businesses. The link to the small business resource network is: www.nycsmallbusinessresourcenetwork.org .
- The EDC is investing in the future of Queens by doing Life Science Internship Programs. It's citywide, but 25% of applicants will be from High Schools and College students in Queens.
- GMDC manufacturing site on 101st Ave had provided their construction update.
- QEDC gave an update on Liberty Avenue Project.
- Next Economic & Community Development Committee meeting will take place in January.

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

- Leaves pick up will take place today.
- Sanitation Department will be picking up holiday trees starting January 6th.
- The compost program did not go forward in CB 9. Another attempt will be made in Spring.
- There are two hidden decorated trees in Forest Park. They both have little ornaments under them and are replenished every day for kids to do a scavenger hunt.

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

Reported on CB9's current budget and reminded the board members to contribute \$20 to CB9's Good and Welfare Fund.

15. REPORTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS

Joann Ariola, Council Member-Elect CD 32, wished everybody happy holidays and asked all to feel free to contact the office with any issues or concerns at joannariola32@gmail.com.

The office will maintain the same address and phone numbers.

Gregory Slade, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar, reported on the events sponsored by the Assembly Member. Gave a shout out to Ms. Sherry Algreto for the work she does for the community and the schools.

Contact info for AM Rajkumar's office is: sladeg@assembly.gov, rajkumarj@assembly.gov, 718-805-0950.

Benjamin Fang, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Council Member.

Tara Chester, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, stated that DA's office has many Advisory Councils and attorneys who are willing to give presentations on various issues: domestic violence, identity theft, scams, etc. Contact Rokeya Akhter at rakhter@queensda.org or 718-286-6469 for more information.

James Mongeluzo, Rep. City Comptroller Scott Stringer, talked about different reports that were released by the Comptroller's office.

Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo, stated that the Senator has sent out a district wide mailer with a community questionnaire that will show the Senator which issues/services are most important to the constituents. This information will help to better serve the community. There is a virtual link to that questionnaire on Senator Addabbo's website.

Mr. Giudice made an announcement regarding upcoming events sponsored by the Senator and shared his contact information: 718-738-1111, agjudice@nysenate.gov.

Joseph Page, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz wished all happy holidays and stated that the Council Member emailed her last newsletter to her constituents.

16. OLD BUSINESS

Sylvia Hack asked CM Adam's representative for clarification on a street co-naming meeting tomorrow.

Michael Pereira asked the District Manager to reach out to the Sanitation Department regarding the city's Compost Program.

17. NEW BUSINESS

Latchman Budhai thanked the CB9 staff members for being very efficient and helpful.

Michael Pereira reminded all that the deadline to send a hardship letter if you are on a tax lean sale is tomorrow.

Sherry Algreto thanked the CB9 staff for their excellent work.

Chair Wilson thanked all and wished all happy holiday season.

18. PUBLIC FORUM

Alessandra Gjomarkaj, Kew Gardens Resident, asked for an update on the police enforcement issue at PS 99.

Andrea Crawford made a motion to adjourn. Esta-Joy Sydell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:53 PM.