



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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

OCTOBER 12, 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)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(1)(3)
Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1)(1)	Jan Fenster	(2)(2)	Mohamed Safie	(3)(3)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Linda Fogal	(1)(2)	Anjali Seegobin	(0)(0)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(1)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(3)(4)
Julio Batista	(1)(2)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Ragbir Singh	(0)(0)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(2)(2)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(2)	Sursattie Singh	(0)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sherman Kane	(2)(2)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Latchman Budhai	(0)(0)	Reaz Khan	(1)(1)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Katharine Maradiaga	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Marie Turley	(0)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(1)(1)	Michael Pereira	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(2)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(0)(0)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)
Sandra Datnarain	(0)(0)	Sassy Ramoutar	(0)(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Dilraj Batchu	(1)(1)	Laraine Fletcher	(1)(1)	Jarnail Singh	(1)(2)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(2)	Kemanad Kishore	(2)(4)	Maharani Singh	(2)(2)
Kirpal Billing	(1)(1)	Raquel Olivares	(3)(4)	Mohinder Singh	(3)(3)
Stephen Esposito	(3)(4)	Regina Santoro	(2)(2)	Lilian Yagual	(3)(3)

ALSO PRESENT

James S. McClelland, District Manager

Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo

Amparito Rosero, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards

Rokeya Akhter, Rep. Queens DA Melinda Katz

Michael Cohen, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz

Ty Hankerson, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams

Craig Caruana, Rep. Council Member Bob Holden

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar

Wanda Manley, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie

James Mongeluzo, Rep. NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Golden Palace Hall Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Caleta 111 Bar Inc.
111-25 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Fairfield Pavilion
131-10 101st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *No speakers*

117 Hillside Avenue Corp.
D/b/a Nectar
117-11 13 Hillside Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

b. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

Golden Arrow Sports Bar Inc.
D/b/a Golden Arrow Bar & Lounge
107-14 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

Showtime Bar & Lounge LLC
119-02 101st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *No speakers*

Golden Palace Catering Hall Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

c. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application – Renewal

Armando's Pollo Rico Restaurant Inc.
110-02 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

d. On Premises Beer & Cider License Application – Renewal

Fortune Hut Inc.
76-11 101st Ave
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

3 In 1 Deli & Grocery Inc.
131-11 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

e. **FY 2023 Capital & Expense Budget**

No speakers

2. REPORTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS

Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo, made the following announcements:

- Senator will be at the Esquire Diner on Cross Bay Blvd. on Thursday, October 21st 5:30 to 7 PM.
- COVID-19 Antibody Testing Event will take place at the Wave Newspaper Building located at Beach 129th St on Friday, October 22nd.
- The 2021 Virtual Job Fair, co-sponsored by Resorts World NYC, will be a 3-day online event running from Tuesday, October 26 through Thursday, October 28. Each day during the event, jobseekers will be able to log on and search through all the registered companies from several different fields across the tristate area.
- Free Mammogram Screening will take place on Tuesday, November 2nd 9 AM to 4:30 PM outside Senator's Howard Beach office. Call the office at 718-738-1111 to make an appointment as spaces are limited and filling up fast.

Amparito Rosero, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, made the following announcements:

- In honor of LGBTQ Month Celebration, the Borough President will be screening the film "Brother Outsider" on Wednesday, October 13th at 5:30 PM at the Helen Marshall's Cultural Center. RSVP at queensbp.org/rsvp.
- Italian Heritage Celebration Event, co-sponsored by St. John's University Italian Heritage Cultural Committee, will take on Thursday, October 14th at 5:30 PM at the Helen Marshall's Cultural Center. Proof of vaccination for COVID-19 or negative test results must be presented at registration.
- Virtual Re-Districting Town Hall, sponsored by BP Richards, will take place on Monday, October 18th at 5:30 PM. Attendees will be able to give their input as to how redistricting can be best accomplished. RSVP at queensbp.org/rsvp.

Rokeya Akhter, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, stated that Queens DA's Office is hosting a Hispanic Heritage Celebration Event tomorrow in Woodside. Registration is required. For more information visit www.queensda.org. Ms. Akhter's contact information is as follows: rakhter@queensda.org, 929-232-9016.

Michael Cohen, Rep. Council Member Karen Koslowitz stated that three high rise structures are going up on Horace Harding Expressway and 108th Street and will provide affordable housing. Applications are being accepted. Affordable housing link: www.phippsny.org/housingapps/apex-place-apartments. Occupancy is expected to take place February of next year.

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar stated the following:

- Her office promotes art and culture of the local Woodhaven artists.
- Had a Walk-Through down Jamaica Avenue in Woodhaven with the Department of Sanitation where problems with trash pickup and situation of issuing summonses to small businesses was discussed.
- Spent this morning educating small business owners on 101 Ave & 83 St in Ozone Park on various State Grants that are available to small businesses.
- The Recycling Event, co-sponsored by Senator Addabbo, was a great success.
- Introduced new legislature that will help Veterans obtain college credit by insuring college equivalency credit for any of the applicable military service.
- A proclamation will be issued by AM Rajkumar declaring October Hindu Heritage Month in the State of New York.
- Hosted a Backpack Giveaway Event for school kids.

Craig Caruana, Rep. Council Member Bob Holden

- E-Waste Recycling Event will take place on October 16th, 2021 12-4 PM at Maspeth Savings Bank parking lot.

- Halloween Events, sponsored by CM Holden, will take place on October 23rd and 30th.
- Meeting with DEP Commissioner will take place next Tuesday to discuss catch basins and sewers flooding issues.
- The building at 78-19 Jamaica Ave is marked for demolition.

Ty Hankerson, Rep. Council Member Adrienne Adams

- Job Fair Event will be held at Rochdale Mall on October 20th, 2021.
- Hispanic Heritage Kids Puppet Show (date tba).
- Faith Leaders Breakfast will be held at the end of October.
- Partnering with QBP Office on sponsoring Vaccination Events at the local barber shops.
- Thanked DM McClelland for helping to organize debris removal on 101st Ave.

Wanda Manley, Rep. Senator Leroy, Comrie, made the following announcements:

- Job Fair for Veterans will be held on October 13th at the American Legion Hall 483 in Rosedale.
- All in Neighborhood Grant Information Session will take place on October 18th at 12 PM.
- Neighborhood Business Grant Information Session will take place on October 20th at 4 PM.
- Personal Finance Series will take place on October 26th at 5:30 PM.

James Mongeluzo, Rep. NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, stated that anyone who wishes to file a claim regarding any damages after hurricane Ida can do so through the Comptroller's website using the property damage/water damage claim form by mail or in-person within 90-days.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Judge Karen Gopee, CB9 Resident, introduced herself and stated that she offers voluntary services to the community regarding domestic violence, anti-bullying, social media mentoring, etc.

Anthony Pena, Woodhaven Resident, addressed quality of life issues, i.e., elimination of illegal conversions and noise coming from neighbors.

Kevin Burns, Kew Gardens Resident, spoke about the Kew Gardens Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Group's Food Scrap Drop-Off Project. Participants can drop off their food scraps at the Kew Gardens Cinema on Austin Street every Sunday from 8:30 to 10:30 AM.

Andrew Hidalgo, MPA, SOR Grant Coordinator, spoke about the Program for the Development of Human Potential (PDHP). He stated that it operates under the auspices of the Department of Education, Diocese of Brooklyn. This program is funded primarily by the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and other state and federal grants. PDHP provides alcohol, substance abuse and gambling prevention services to the Catholic elementary and high schools in Brooklyn and Queens.

Sydney Weiser, Grow NYC, stated that she manages the Forest Park Farmstand on Myrtle Ave and Park Lane South. They are there on Saturdays until November 20th selling local, New York State produce, and reminded everyone that they accept cash bills under \$20, credit and debit cards, EBT/SNAP, and the Farmer's Market Nutrition Program coupons that many community members enrolled in WIC and Centers for the Aging received in the mail.

Nina Kulkarni, Kew Gardens Resident, brought to Board's attention the issue of the dangerous traffic situation at the Intersection of Union Turnpike and Park Lane.

4. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES

Chair Wilson asked if there were any corrections/additions to September 14th, 2021 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion # 1: To accept September 14th, 2021 meeting minutes and motions as presented

Vote # 1: 35 in favor and 1 abstention

5. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102nd Pct. Report

P.O. Adelman reported on the crime stats stating that the numbers are even comparing to the last year and for the last 28 days, except for grand larceny auto cases which are up mostly due to vehicle owners' negligence. A homicide took place at 102nd Rd and 84th St. This case is still under investigation.

Question and answer period followed.

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

- Reported on the events that Community Board 9 was represented at: Open Street Events with DOT; Backpack Giveaway Event with Woodhaven BID, Co-naming of Neir's Tavern Event with CM Holden.
- Chair Wilson thanked the Department of Sanitation for arranging medians clean up throughout the district.
- Mr. Wilson suggested all to call the office regarding vehicles that are parked at the same spot for over seven days instead of calling the 102nd Pct.

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

- Wished happy birthday to Linda Fogal, Jarnail Singh, Matthew Singh, and Mohinder Singh. Also, wished happy 30th Wedding Anniversary to Regina Santoro.
- Agency budget consultations are completed. The office sent an email requesting the board members to submit Capital/Expense project ideas for Fiscal Year 2023.
- The District Manager will be calling each member over the next couple of weeks to obtain feedback regarding pressing issues, Capital and Expense Budget requests. Please be advised that DM's deadline for submission has changed from October 31st to November 12th.
- Since January, the office has received over 250 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.

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

- Reported on September 27th Committee meeting- Guest Speaker Narine Bharat-Director of Operations, Queens South, NYC DOE.
- Discussed ventilation and COVID-19 precautions taken in schools.
- Mayor Bill de Blasio is phasing out NYC's Gifted and Talented Program. Current students in the accelerated learning program can stay in their separate schools and classrooms to completion. But new cohorts will be eliminated by fall 2022, ending testing for kids as young as four. The model, which admits roughly 2,500 kids per year, is being replaced by Brilliant NYC, a program offering students aged 8 and up chances for accelerated learning while staying in their regular classrooms with other pupils.
- Council Member Eric Ulrich announced that the Woodhaven branch of the Queens Public Library will receive major funding for a big renovation.
- A citywide panel cleared the way this week for NYC to begin overhauling its special education data system SESIS, approving nearly \$43 million to replace the costly and glitchy database.
- An act to require any public school located in a city with a population of one million or more to provide a remote learning option when such public school is in a county where community transmission of COVID-19 is at a substantial or high level.
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD Programs)-The ASD Nest and ASD Horizon Programs are two different special education programs in District 1-32 schools that serve students with autism.
- New York is taking steps to address a mounting school bus driver shortage.
- The next Education Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 25th, 6-7 PM. Hoping to have someone from The Office of Pupil Transportation that handles the city bussing of school children to attend and address some of the bussing issues.

9. TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT

- Chair Wilson asked if anyone is interested in chairing the committee as the Chair position is vacant.
- He also spoke about a shortage of bus drivers and explained the process of becoming a school bus driver.
- Chair Wilson stated that he received numerous phone calls regarding Lefferts Boulevard resurfacing.
- Mr. Wilson recognized the 102nd Pct. which became a leader in Queens for confiscating dirt bikes.

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

- Encouraged all to get back to a routine of scheduling annual visits with their physicians, cancer screening and any other necessary tests.
- Reviewed criteria of getting a COVID booster shot and the stated many reasons why it is very important to get vaccinated.

11. LAND USE & HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT – Sylvia Hack, Chair, read a Resolution drafted by the committee regarding the proposed Health and Fitness Text Amendment (N 210382 ZRY):

“If a health fitness operation whether in a C district or other zoning district is proposed within 500 feet of a residence, its hours of operation must be limited to the following: 8 AM to 10 PM. There are many zoning districts, including C districts, that are proximate to or even adjacent to residential housing which could and probably would be affected by any late-night operations and patrons.”

Ms. Hack stated that the Committee recommends the approval of the proposed text amendment.

Motion # 2: To vote in favor of the proposed Health and Fitness Text Amendment (N 210382 ZRY)
Vote # 2: Unanimous

Sylvia Hack gave an update on Kew Gardens Community Center, 80-02 Kew Gardens Road, entrance situation:

The Kew Gardens Community Center located at 80–02 Kew Gardens Road is being seriously affected by building management’s decision now preventing visitors and staff to access the Center through the building’s main large public entrance with its multiple elevators which the Center has used for 24 years. The not so young, the elderly, the able and the disabled use this Center. The community’s civics are protesting this detrimental change.

Queens Community Board 9 is one of the parties involved in the original zoning change agreement, without which this high-rise commercial building could not have been built. Thus, Board 9 is being alerted to the problem. (The existing lease also requires that CB 9 approve a variety of conditions at the Center as well as any re-assignment of the lease.)

The trouble stems from a swap of space before the Center was built, when the District Attorney’s office wished to swap the second-floor space the office was originally supposed to occupy with the first-floor space intended for the community center, along with the outdoor plaza. The DA’s initial space was designed to be accessed by the single private elevator and entrance located in the very back of the building, hundreds of feet off 80th Rd.). The community agreed to swap.

80-02 Kew Gardens Road exists because of the Community Center. Without the major zoning change from R2 to C4-4 approved in 1987 by the New York City Board of Estimate and approval by the City Planning Commission, this building could not have been built. It was the agreement to build and house a functioning community center, which enabled construction of this high-rise commercial building at this location.

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Golden Palace Hall Inc.
123-08 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 3: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for Golden Palace Hall Inc.,
123-08 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 3: Unanimous

Caleta 111 Bar Inc.
111-25 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 4: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for Caleta 111 Bar Inc.,
111-25 Jamaica Ave

Vote # 4: Unanimous

117 Hillside Avenue Corp.
D/b/a Nectar
117-11 / 117-13 Hillside Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 5: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for 117 Hillside Ave Corp., d/b/a
Nectar, 117-11/13 Hillside Ave

Vote # 5: Unanimous

Fairfield Pavilion
131-10 101st Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 6: Not to oppose new On Premises Liquor License Application for Fairfield Pavilion,
131-10 101st Ave

Vote # 6: Unanimous

Rabbi Pollack stated that there were no adverse reports from the 102nd Pct. for any of the establishments listed in the Public Hearing portion of the agenda. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee approved the renewal applications. Approval letters were sent to the SLA.

The next Public Safety and Consumer Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 1st, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

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

Stated that NYC Department of Design and Construction is starting a Mentoring Program Info Session to promote MWBE businesses in construction. The details will be emailed to the board members.

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, October 27, 2021, 7 PM to 8 PM via Zoom.

14. PARKS, RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Regina Santoro, Chair, not present to give a report.

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

Gave an update on CB9's current budget situation and asked the board members to contribute \$20 to CB9's Good and Welfare Fund.

16. OLD BUSINESS

Seth Welins gave his suggestions on crossing situation at the Intersection of Union Turnpike and Park Lane. Chair Wilson stated that it was already addressed at the special Zoom meeting with DOT.

Sylvia Hack asked the board to revisit some of the concerns regarding borough-based jails proposal.

17. NEW BUSINESS

E-J Sydell raised the issue of unsafe street conditions at the Kew Gardens Interchange construction site.

Sherry Algreto stressed the importance of getting checked out since October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

John Carter encouraged all to visit the Farmstand by the Buddy Monument as they have quality products.

18. PUBLIC FORUM *No speakers*

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:56 PM.