

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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Sherry Algreto, Chairperson * James S. McClelland, District Manager * Donovan Richards Jr., Borough President



NOVEMBER 10, 2022 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING HELEN MARSHALL CULTURAL CENTER 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD KEW GARDENS NY 11424

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2022-MARCH 2023

2nd # Represents Absences as of January-December 2022 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Sassy Ramoutar	(2)(3)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(2)(3)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(1)	Jan Fenster	(2)(4)	Anjali Seegobin	(4)(6)
Dilraj Batchu	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Jarnail Singh	(0)(1)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(1)	Sylvia Hack	(1)(1)	Maharani Singh	(1)(1)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(1)	Daniel Coffaro Hill	(0)(0)	Mohinder Singh	(0)(0)
Zoila Bofill	(1)(2)	Joseph Iaboni	(1)(1)	Raghibir Singh	(2)(3)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Reaz Khan	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(1)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(1)(1)
Marilyn Custodio	(2)(2)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(1)(2)	Kenichi Wilson	(0)(0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Marla Abarca	(1)(2)	Sherman Kane	(6)(9)	Matthew Singh	(3)(3)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(3)(4)	Kemanad Kishore	(6)(8)	Sursattie Singh	(3)(4)
Latchman Budhai	(2)(2)	Katharine Maradiaga	(2)(3)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delv	(1)(1)
Andrea Crawford	(3)(3)	Cristal Rivera	(1)(2)	Marie Turley	(3)(4)
Sandra Datnarain	(2)(3)	Bernard Robert	(3)(3)	Seth Welins	(2)(2)
Carmela Isabella	(1)(1)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(3)	Lilian Yagual	(5)(8)

ALSO PRESENT

James S. McClelland, District Manager
Leela Venketachalam, Community Assistant

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
Senator Joe Addabbo
Council Member Joann Ariola
Lynette Shelborne-Barfield, Rep. Speaker Adrienne Adams
Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joann Ariola
Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
Kevin McAleer, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman
Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, 102nd Pct.
PO Scott Adelman, 102nd Pct.
Ean Fullerton, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie
Nathaniel Hezekiah III, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks
Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz

Chair Algreto started the meeting by wishing Happy Veterans Day to all veterans.

Mr. Gennaro Kravitz sang the Star-Spangled Banner.

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar, Council Member Joan Ariola and Senator Joe Addabbo presented CB9 Veterans DM James McClelland, Mr. Joe Iaboni, and Mr. J. Richard Smith with certificates.

Mr. Jahad Hoy from Assembly Member David Weprin's office and Mr. Nathaniel Hezekiah III, representing Congress Member Gregory Meeks presented citations to DM McClelland, J. Richard Smith, and Joe Iaboni.

Kevin McAleer, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman, also presented CB9 Veterans with citations.

Chair Algreto presented senatorial certifications to DM McClelland, J. Richard Smith, and Joe Iaboni on behalf of Senator Leroy Comrie.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Embajada Restaurant, Inc.
84-21 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

La Obeja Negra Corp.
105-05 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

Serie 56 Sport Bar, Inc.
94-10 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

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

Cinco Mexican Grill
112-11 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

Shake Shack New York LLC
D/b/a Shake Shack
106-08 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

c. On Premises Liquor License Application - Renewal

Ross Code Lounge Corp.
D/b/a Ross Code Lounge
117-15 101st Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *no speakers*

d. On Premises Beer & Cider License Application - Renewal

Richmond Hill Deli Corp.
D/b/a Richmond Hill Deli Restaurant
123-07 Jamaica Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

e. Letter to the SLA Requesting Revocation of Liquor License

Blend Restaurant & Lounge LLC
127-07 94th Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

2. GUEST SPEAKER – Juan Santiago, Borough of Queens Corporate Affairs Manager, National Grid

- ***Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act (CLCPA) - Where the state is in its process***
- ***What National Grid is doing to ensure a fossil free future***

Not present to give presentation.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Bill Knight, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke in support of liquor license revocation for Blend Restaurant & Lounge as it has been a problem for the Richmond Hill community.

Aleena Knight, Richmond Hill Resident, thanked Chair Algreto and DM McClelland for their support and participation in the Richmond Hill Clean Up event.

Juliet Ganpat, Richmond Hill Resident, also spoke in support of liquor license r revocation for Blend Restaurant & Lounge.

4. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to October 11th, 2022 meeting minutes and motions.

Maharani Singh: to change the wording of the motion 8 and 9 from Not To Approve to Oppose.

Motion # 1: To accept October 11th, 2022, meeting minutes and motions as amended.

Vote # 1: 26 in favor and 4 abstentions

5. GREETINGS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS

Legislative officials spoke during the presentation in the beginning of the meeting.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS & EXEC. REPORT–Sherry Algreto/District Manager's Report-James McClelland

- **FY2024 Capital & Expense Budget**

DM McClelland thanked the board members for submitting their suggestions for Capital and Expense Budget requests and explained the budget procedure.

Motion # 2: To accept 2024 Capital & Expense Budget as presented

Vote # 2: Unanimous

7. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102nd Pct. Report

Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, the 102nd Pct. Commanding Officer, reported on the following:

- Crime stats are up 28% compared to 50% rise from last reporting period.
- Commercial robbery cases are on the rise. An individual was arrested after robbing a smoke shop on 134th St and Liberty Ave. This individual has admitted to five other robberies throughout Queens South.
- A double shooting occurred at the Blend Night Club at 127-07 Atlantic Ave. Investigation is still ongoing.

Question and answer period followed.

8. PUBLIC SAFETY & CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT – Rabbi D. Pollack & Maharani Singh, Co-Chairs

a. On Premises Liquor License Application - New

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

Motion # 3: Not to oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application for Embajada Restaurant Inc.,
84-21 Jamaica Ave, Woodhaven, NY 11421

Vote # 3: Unanimous

La Obeja Negra Corp.
105-05 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 4: Not to oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application (no live music) for La Obeja Negra Corp.,
105-05 Jamaica Ave, Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Vote # 4: Unanimous

Serie 56 Sports Bar Inc.
94-10 Jamaica Ave
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 5: Not to oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application (no live music) for Serie 56 Sports Bar Inc.,
94-10 Jamaica Ave, Woodhaven, NY 11421

Vote # 5: Unanimous

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

Cinco Mexican Grill
112-11 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Motion # 6: To oppose new On-Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application for Cinco Mexican Grill,
112-11 Jamaica Avenue, Richmond Hill, NY 11418 due to lack of paperwork

Vote # 6: Unanimous

Shake Shack New York LLC
D/b/a Shake Shack
106-08 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

There was a typo in the address of this new license application. The correct address is 160-08 Jamaica Ave which is not in CB9 district. No vote was taken.

e. Letter to the SLA Requesting Revocation of Liquor License

Blend Restaurant & Lounge LLC
127-07 94th Ave
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Ms. Singh made a motion to send a letter to the SLA recommending license revocation for Blend Restaurant & Lounge, located at 127-07 94th Avenue, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419 due to increase in violent crimes.

Motion # 7: Send a letter to the SLA recommending license revocation for Blend Restaurant & Lounge, 127-07 94th Avenue, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Vote # 7: 28 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention

Co-chair Maharani Singh reported on license renewal applications that were processed during the month of October.

The next Public Safety and Consumer Affairs Committee zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14th, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

9. EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Alexandria Sumpter-Delves & Seth Welins, Co-Chairs *were not present to give a report*

Chair Algreto made a motion to send a letter requesting an investigation regarding the delay in Richmond Hill Branch Library Renovation Project to NYC Comptroller Lander.

Motion # 8: Send a letter requesting an investigation regarding the delay in Richmond Hill Branch Library Renovation Project to NYC Comptroller Lander

Vote # 8: 29 in favor and 1 abstention

10. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Marla Abarca, Chair *not present to give a report*

11. ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Matthew Singh & Kirpal Billing, Co-Chairs

No report

12. LAND USE & HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT – Sylvia Hack & Andrea Crawford, Co-Chairs

Ms. Hack stated that the Committee received a re-zoning request for the property located at 190 83rd Avenue in Kew Gardens. Department of City Planning will ask the applicant to give a presentation to talk more about their proposal.

13. TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT – Faiuze Ali, Chair, reported on the following:

- Queens Bus Redesign-the finalized plan for Queens County will be released in 2023.
- Governor Hochul' s Plans for NYC Subway Safety - \$5M were allocated, 200 cameras were already installed. More transit police officers and NYPD officers will be present in the subway.
- New Parking Mobile App will replace the one that expired. The app users will be charged 20 cents per usage.
- 1,500 Miles of Bike Lanes were created throughout all five boroughs. Some are protected with barriers and the rest are not. There were 36 incidents when bicyclists collided with vehicles in 2021. Three of the incidents that took place in the 102nd Pct. area had fatalities. Mayor Adams had allocated additional funds to install 300 more miles of bike lanes throughout the city.
- Speed Cameras are active 24/7. If a car is caught speeding by a speed camera, the motorist will be sent a Notice of Liability (NOL) in approximately 14 days. The fine is \$50.

14. PARKS, RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – J. Richard Smith, Chair

Chair Algreto stated that Senator Sanders has allocated \$750,000 to add exercise equipment to Phil Rizzuto Park.

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

Mr. Carter stated that aside from regular monthly expenditures, the board spent about \$3,300 for public outreach events.

16. BY-LAW COMMITTEE REPORT – REAZ KHAN, CHAIR, *no report*

17. REPORTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS

Lynette Shelborne-Barfield, Rep. Speaker Adrienne Adams, stated that all Speaker Adams' legislatives can be found on her website. Ms. Shelborne-Barfield encouraged all to participate in Participatory Budgeting, recognized and congratulated the Veterans and made an announcement regarding the retirement of her former Budget Director Kate Mooney.

Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joann Ariola wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Kevin McAleer, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman, reported on the events sponsored by the Council Member.

Ean Fullerton, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie, reported on the events sponsored by the Senator.

Nathaniel Hezekiah III, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks, reported on the events sponsored by the Congress Member.

Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, reported on the Buy Back Gun event, sponsored by DA Katz, where sixty-two guns were collected.

18. OLD BUSINESS

Chair Algreto talked about a Tree Planting event in memory of those who lost their lives to COVID. The event took place at Phil Rizzuto Park and was sponsored by the Federation of Hindu Mandirs.

Chair Algreto invited all to a free Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by Juice101 at 97-16 101st Ave and to the First Annual Thanksgiving Supper event sponsored by Cityline Civilian Patrol on Thursday, November 24th 12-3 PM at the Dashi Center, 83-10 Rockaway Boulevard.

E.J. Sydell stated that over \$2,300 have been raised since the beginning of the "Let's Light Up Kew Gardens" campaign and thanked all who donated.

19. NEW BUSINESS *no speakers*

20. PUBLIC FORUM *no speakers*

Rabbi Pollack made a motion to adjourn, E.J. Sydell seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:57 PM.