

# 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](mailto:qn09@cb.nyc.gov)

Website: [www.nyc.gov/queenscb9](http://www.nyc.gov/queenscb9)

Facebook: [@communityboard9](https://www.facebook.com/communityboard9)

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

**APRIL 11, 2023 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**  
**VILLA RUSSO IL PALAZZO 101-12 LEFFERTS BOULEVARD RICHMOND HILL NY 11418**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2022-MARCH 2023

2<sup>nd</sup> # Represents Absences as of January-December 2023 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Tiffanie Placeres	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Sassy Ramoutar	(0)(2)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(0)(1)	Mohamed Safie	(0)(2)
Juan Batista II	(0)(0)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(0)(0)
Dilraj Batchu	(0)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(0)(2)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(1)	Victor Starsky	(0)(0)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(1)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Daniel Coffaro Hill	(0)(2)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(1)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(0)	Andrew Taranto	(0)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(0)(1)	Carmela Isabella	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Ruben Cruz	(0)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(0)(0)		
Marilyn Custodio	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)		

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Marla Abarca	(1)(1)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(1)(1)	Matthew Singh	(1)(2)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(1)(2)	Cristal Rivera	(1)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(1)(2)
Daniel Chu	(1)(2)	Bernard Robert	(1)(1)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(1)(1)
Sandra Datnarain	(1)(1)	Jarnail Singh	(1)(2)	Marie Turley	(1)(1)
Reaz Khan	(1)(2)	Maharani Singh	(1)(2)		

**ALSO PRESENT**

James S. McClelland, District Manager

Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

**LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

Rokeya Akhter, Rep. Queens DA Melinda Katz  
Anthony Giudice, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo  
Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola  
Seth Urbinder, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman  
Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards  
Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Velazquez  
Viola Isufaj, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar  
Anthony Miranda, NYC Sheriff  
Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, Executive Officer 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct.  
PO Scott Adelman, 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct.

Chair Algreto started the meeting by stating that April is Autism Awareness Month.

She then welcomed the new board members to Community Board 9 and asked them to introduce themselves.

The new board members are Juan Batista II, Ruben Cruz, Warlito DeLeon, Stephen Forte, Albert Gamarra, Nina Kulkarni, Tiffanie Placeres, Victor Starsky and Andrew Taranto.

Chair Algreto informed the board members of office procedures for handling constituents' complaints and communicating with city agencies liaisons.

She also stated that Alexandria Sumpter-Delves and Zoila Bofill received the Literacy Phenomenal Woman Award from the Queens Public Library.

## 1. PUBLIC HEARING

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

#### **a. On Premises Liquor License Application - New**

Los Pollos Locos, Inc.  
97-12 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *no speakers*

Zest Lounge Inc.  
124-14 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

The owner of the restaurant introduced herself stating that she is looking forward to working with the community.

Infinity Bar & Lounge LLC  
119-12 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *no speakers*

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

Yosmira Bar Inc.  
131-09 Jamaica Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *no speakers*

The bar owner introduced herself stating that she is looking forward to working with the community.

#### **c. On Premises Liquor License Application - Renewal**

Antojitos de San Cecilio Inc.  
90-04 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

Karp Hill Inc.  
D/b/a Last Call  
81-72 Lefferts Blvd.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415 *no speakers*

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

Mingle #1 Inc.  
D/b/a Mingle's  
130-18 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *no speakers*

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

GSFA Restaurant Corp.  
D/b/a The Classic Diner  
130-18 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419 *no speakers*

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

9010 Atlantic Ave, Inc.  
D/b/a Queens Buffet  
90-10 Atlantic Ave  
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *no speakers*

8423 Polleria Inc.  
D/b/a Mistura Peruana Restaurant  
84-23 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *no speakers*

Noaya Corp.  
77-15 Jamaica Ave  
Woodhaven, NY 11424 *no speakers*

**2. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Report**

Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, the 102<sup>nd</sup> Precinct's Executive Officer, reported that crime was down overall with an increase in auto theft, assault and domestic related crimes for the last 28 days. Captain gave a brief update on the deadly smoke shop robbery in Richmond Hill.

Question and answer period followed.

**3. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES**

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Stephen Esposito made a motion to accept, J. Richard Smith seconded the motion.

**Motion # 1:** To accept March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting minutes and motions as presented.

**Vote # 1:** 25 in favor and 9 abstentions

**4. GREETINGS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS**

Senator Joseph Addabbo, Jr. addressed the board, welcomed the new board members, and thanked all members for their services. Senator Addabbo spoke about the following:

- Prevention tactics due to rises in crime.
- Status update on bail reform.
- Illegal smoke shops.
- Upcoming events sponsored by the Senator.

Evelyn Cruz, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velasquez, presented Janet Forte, public school psychologist and vice president of the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association, with the Congressional Record for her dedication to children with autism as April is Autism Awareness Month.

Ms. Cruz recognized CB9 Chair Sherry Algreto, a parent of a child with autism, and presented her with a Congressional Record as well.

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar addressed the board and welcomed all new board members. She thanked Congress Member Nidia Velasquez for recognizing Ms. Janet Forte and Chair Sherry Algreto stating that she also presented them with the Great Women of South Queens Award.

Assembly Member spoke about the latest bills that she presented and the events that she is sponsoring. She also stated that she worked with her colleagues in the Assembly and the Senate to recognize April as Punjabi Month.

## 5. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS & EXEC. Report–Sherry Algreto & District Manager's Report - J. McClelland

Chair Algreto gave a brief recap of Borough Board meeting presentations for the month of April, 2023.

DM McClelland wished Happy Birthday to Ruben Cruz, Andrea Crawford, and Tiffanie Placeres.

He welcomed our newest Board Members Juan, Ruben, Warlito, Steve, Albert, Nina, Tiffanie, Victor, and Andrew stating that he is looking forward to working with them.

BP Richard's office along with CB9 Economic Development Committee visited businesses along 94<sup>th</sup> Ave and discussed various issues.

The office is starting to receive notifications from individuals looking to open legal cannabis shops in our district. The following two have been received: 120-34 Queens Blvd. and 117-09 Hillside Ave.

Planning on meeting with members of Gospel Baptist Church to discuss potential quality of life issues around Smokey Park as the nicer weather draws near.

CB9 in partnership with Woodhaven BID and the Sanitation Department are organizing a community clean-up for Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

DM McClelland met with CM Ariola and CM Schulman COS to discuss our capital priorities.

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM

Kenichi Wilson, Former CB9 Member, stated that he was not re-appointed for board membership and gave an explanation of the reasons why.

Juliette Ganpat, Richmond Hill Resident stated her disappointment regarding the SLA granting conditional liquor License to Blend Restaurant & Lounge, located at 127-07 94<sup>th</sup> Avenue, despite the board calling attention to the ongoing complaints.

Bill Knight, Richmond Hill Resident read a letter on behalf of his friend regarding quality of life in Richmond hill.

- **Guest Speaker, NYC Sheriff Anthony Miranda**, explained the collaboration among agencies in cannabis enforcement. He stated that a task force includes the Office of Cannabis Management, the Sheriff's Office, the NYPD, the city departments of Consumer Affairs, Department of Buildings, and others.

Sheriff Miranda said that even though the Nuisance Abatement Law, which can be used to close businesses, can take up to two years, enforcement and seizures will continue. Each city agency can issue its own penalties.

Investigations that particularly target people, track money, and street level enforcement are ongoing. Long-term investigations into taxes and other issues are also underway.

Question and answer period followed.

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

Chair Algreto read the report on behalf of committee co-chairs.

**a. On Premises Liquor License Application - New**

Los Pollos Locos, Inc.  
97-12 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Application was withdrawn.

Zest Lounge Inc.  
124-14 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**Motion # 2:** To oppose new On-Premises Liquor license application

**Vote # 2:** Unanimous

Infinity Bar & Lounge LLC  
119-12 101<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

No vote will be taken. Letter of opposition was sent on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The attorney for the applicant has requested to present before the Public Safety committee on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

Yosmira Bar Inc.  
131-09 Jamaica Ave  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

**Motion # 3:** Not to oppose new On-Premises Wine, Beer & Cider license application

**Vote # 3:** 33 in favor and 1 abstention

DM McClelland reported on the renewal applications.

The next Public Safety and Consumer Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

**8. EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Alexandria Sumpter-Delves & Seth Welins, Co-Chairs**

Co-Chair Sumpter-Delves stated that a copy of the committee’s letter in support of opening a new Middle School as opposed to an elementary school at the former Ruby’s Costume Store site on Jamaica Ave is in board members’ packages.

Joan DeCamp made a motion to amend the recipients of the letter and send it to all CB9 legislators.

**Motion # 4:** To send a letter in support of opening a new middle school as opposed to an elementary school at 120-08 Jamaica Ave to all CB9 legislators

**Vote # 4:** 33 in favor and 1 abstention

Co-chair Welins stated that a letter was mailed to all public-school principals. The letter stated that the Community Board 9 Education and Youth Services Committee is eager to provide support for our community schools and their students and parents.

The next Education & Youth Services Committee meeting will take place on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6 PM via Zoom.

**9. TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT – Faiuze Ali, Chair**

Committee Chair Ali read the Resolutions endorsing the co-naming of a local neighborhood street in Richmond Hill in honor of the late Jan Fenster and co-naming of the Corner of Mowbray Street and Kew Gardens Road in honor of the late Murray Berger and Carol Berger.

**Motion # 5:** To approve committee’s resolution endorsing the co-naming of a local neighborhood street in Richmond Hill in honor of the late Jan Fenster.

**Vote # 5:** Unanimous

**Motion # 6:** To approve committee’s resolution endorsing the co-naming of the corner of Mowbray Street and Kew Gardens Road in honor of the late Murray Berger and Carol Berger.

**Vote # 6:** Unanimous

**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**

Kirpal Billing thanked DM McClelland, Chair Algreto and Committee Co-Chair Matthew Singh for organizing a walk with many other city agencies and BP Richards throughout the 94<sup>th</sup> Ave between 120<sup>th</sup> St and Lefferts Blvd. last Wednesday. The area has been maintained and kept clean since then.

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

Ms. Hack stated that the Committee has drafted a resolution regarding a very complicated rezoning issue at 190 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Kew Gardens.

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

Mr. Smith asked Chair Algreto to give a report regarding the Egg Hunt Event at Phil Scooter Rizzuto Park.

A list of all the activities in Forest Park that will take place this summer will be mailed to the board members shortly.

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

Mr. Carter stated that the two members of CB9’s Executive Committee have asked questions about CB9’s budget. Due to time constraint, Mr. Carter was not able to give a summary and asked that his report be included in the next meeting’s agenda.

**15. BY-LAW COMMITTEE REPORT – REAZ KHAN, CHAIR, *not present to give a report.***

**16. REPORTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS**

Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz made an announcement regarding one of the largest takedowns in Queens, a 151-count indictment brought against 33 alleged gang members, five of whom are charged with murder.

She also invited all to participate in the Scams & Frauds Webinar which will take place on Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.

Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joann Ariola, stated that the Council Member is doing all that is possible during the budget negotiations in Albany to get more money for first responders.

Ms. Fogal made announcements regarding events sponsored by the Council Member.

Ariella Davidov, Rep. QBP Donovan Richards, reported on the events sponsored by QBP Richards.

**17. OLD BUSINESS**

Sylvia Hack asked for a follow up on the Kew Gardens Jail Garage Project.

**18. NEW BUSINESS**

Seth Welins stated that there was no response from City Comptroller Lander regarding the Richmond Hill Library renovation project.

Chair Algreto encouraged all to come out and participate in the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Walk sponsored by State Senator Addabbo and Queens Community Board 9 on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 12-2 PM at Phil Rizzuto Park.

Victor Starsky expressed traffic safety concerns at Park Lane South and 115<sup>th</sup> Street.

Chair Algreto announced that CB9 will sponsor a bouncy house for 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Building Bridges Cops for Kids Block Party on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 12-4 PM on 118<sup>th</sup> Street between Jamaica Avenue and 89<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**19. PUBLIC FORUM**

*No speakers.*

Andrea Crawford made a motion to adjourn, Seth Welins seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:22 PM.