



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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

OCTOBER 10, 2023 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING QUEENS BOROUGH HALL 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD ROOM 213 KEW GARDENS NY 11424

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2023-MARCH 2024

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

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Sandra Datnarain	(1)(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Tiffanie Placeres	(1)(1)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(3)(3)
Dilraj Batchu	(1)(1)	Stephen Esposito	(1)(2)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(4)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(3)	Albert Gamarra	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(4)(5)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(1)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(2)(3)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(1)(3)
Daniel Chu	(2)(3)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(0)	Victor Starsky	(1)(1)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(3)	Carmela Isabella	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Ruben Cruz	(0)(0)	Reaz Khan	(2)(3)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(1)(2)
Marilyn Custodio	(0)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(1)(1)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Marla Abarca	(5)(5)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(3)(3)	Maharani Singh	(3)(4)
Juan Batista II	(1)(1)	Sassy Ramoutar	(4)(6)	Andrew Taranto	(1)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(1)(1)	Bernard Robert	(5)(5)	Marie Turley	(3)(3)
Daniel Coffaro Hill	(3)(5)	Jarnail Singh	(2)(3)	Seth Welins	(1)(1)

ALSO PRESENT

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

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Senator Joe Addabbo
Senator Leroy Comrie
Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson
Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
Chris Carlon, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman
Raimondo Graziano, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola
Viola Isufaj, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Velazquez
Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, Commanding Officer, 102nd Pct.
PO Salamone, 102nd Pct.
Jared Hunter, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks
Norris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz

Chair Algreto acknowledged the atrocities occurring in the Israel-Hamas War and asked all to hold a minute of silence for war victims.

She recognized Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the importance of regular mammogram screening.

Victor Starsky shared his story about a family member who was diagnosed with breast cancer and asked all to show Support by participating in Cancer Walks and other related events.

1. OPENING OF MEETING & READING OF MINUTES

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to September 12th, 2023 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Inderpaul Ahluwalia made a motion to accept the minutes, Stephen Esposito seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented

Vote # 1: 27 in favor and 9 abstentions

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

DM McClelland reported on the following:

- Wished Happy Birthday to Dilraj Batchu, Carmela Isabella, Jarnail Singh, Matthew Singh, and Mohinder Singh.
- Stated that all agency budget consultations are completed.
- Also stated that the office sent email requesting board members submit Capital/Expense budget project ideas for the next fiscal year. All suggestions should be submitted by October 31st.
- The board will vote on the capital and expense priority list on November 14th. DM McClelland advised the board that the deadline for him to submit it is November 17th.

Chair Algreto stated that due to Indigenous People's Day yesterday, Queens Borough Board meeting was rescheduled for a later day.

Congratulated Regina Santoro for receiving the Woodhaven/Ozone Park Woman of the Year award.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- **Fy2025 Capital & Expense Budget** *No speakers*

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Leon Volskis, Woodhaven Resident, asked the board for help with ongoing loud music conditions.

Paul Trust, Ozone Park Resident, gave an update on Queens Link proposal and about this project's broad spectrum of benefits to the community.

Sam Esposito, Ozone Park Resident, commented on the etiquette of the pledge of allegiance directed at Mr. Ali.

Akal Singh, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about an incident involving his child wherein he was allegedly attacked and harassed on September 11th at one of the schools in Richmond Hill. Chair Algreto stated that she will address the issue with the school's principal.

Senator Joe Addabbo addressed the board and spoke about various issues, i.e., illegal scooters, illegal smoke shops, and his recently passed bills.

The senator stated that his office is participating in a multi-agency task force operation trying to keep the area around Bessemer and Babbage Streets safe and clean.

Senator Addabbo announced upcoming events that he sponsored.

Senator Leroy Comrie addressed the board and thanked the board members for their services. The Senator

stated that his office continues working with the MTA on the Lefferts Bridge project. He also announced the upcoming events and programs that he is sponsoring.

5. MONTHLY UPDATE NYPD 102nd Pct. Report

Capt. Jeremy Kivlin, the 102nd Precinct's Commanding Officer, started his report by reassuring the constituent who spoke at Public Forum, that the issue will be addressed with the school principal.

Captain also stated that the residential noise complaints are hard to combat.

Announced the stats stating that crime is down 4% for the last 28 days and is down 3.5% year to date. There is a minor increase in grand larceny of autos. There was a high-profile incident on 127th Street which was inside the residence. The individuals were arrested withing 24 hours and the investigation is ongoing.

Question and answer period followed.

6. Health & Social Services Committee Report – Carmela Isabella, Chair

Stated that it's Breast Cancer Awareness Month and according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, breast cancer is the second leading cause of death in women in the USA.

October is also Liver Cancer Awareness Month. Ms. Isabella read statistics about the predicted number of deaths from this disease in the USA.

She encouraged all to participate in all the health events that are taking place in our community.

Ariella Davidov, Rep. Borough President Donovan Richards, spoke about upcoming events sponsored by Borough President Richards.

7. Traffic & Transportation Committee Report – Faiuze Ali, Chair

- Committee Chair Ali spoke about the *One Fare Free Bus Route in Each Borough Pilot Program* that will be re-evaluated at the end of a 6-month period.
- The Van Wyck Bridges Restoration Project is ongoing.
- Mr. Ali spoke about proposed light rail service that will run on the LIRR Lower Montauk Branch from Jamaica to Long Island City.
- All buses will be equipped with cameras to capture images of the vehicles driving on Bus Lanes.

Mr. Ali read the Street Co-Naming Resolutions adopted by CB9 Traffic & Transportation Committee. He also stated that the requests were submitted by Council Member Holden,

➤ ***Street Co-Naming Request Endorsing Intersection of Eldert Lane between Jamaica Avenue and 87th Avenue as Sergent Thomas Francis J. O'Grady Lane***

Motion #2: To approve this street co-naming resolution
Vote #2: Unanimous

➤ ***Street Co-Naming Request Endorsing Intersection of Dexter Court between 85th Drive & 86th Road In Honor Of The Late Orville M. Williams, NYC School Safety Agent***

Motion #3: To approve this street co-naming resolution
Vote #3: Unanimous

Chair Algreto welcomed Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson who spoke about the programs and events that he sponsors. He thanked the Board Members for their hard work and partnership.

8. Economic & Community Development Committee Report – Matthew Singh, Co-Chair

- Presentation from Little Guyana Chamber of Commerce. This organization is in its preliminary stage in developing a Chamber of Commerce and is hoping to serve 2,000 businesses in the area.
- Attended Department of City Planning meeting where the new redistricting proposals were discussed.
- Chair Algreto congratulated Matthew Singh as his church celebrated 25 years in Ministry.

Chris Carlon, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman spoke about the upcoming events sponsored by the Council Member.

Jared Hunter, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks reported on the office updates and shared his contact information.

Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz spoke about an ongoing deed scam and the ways homeowners can protect themselves.

Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola reported on the following:

- The Council Member passed a resolution calling for the federal government to make September 11th a national day of remembrance where schools and businesses are closed so everyone may take the day to remember those who were lost on that day.
- Working on legislation that will require E bike and scooter users to register their vehicles to be held responsible for improper behavior and to ensure they are using a certified battery and charger.
- Fall Festival date is changed to October 28th.
- Will be hosting a Halloween Pet Costume Contest on October 28th.
- Council Member continues cleanups in the vicinity of Jamaica Avenue.

9. Ad Hoc/By Law Committee Report – Faiuze Ali, Chair *No report*

10. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report – Kevin O’Leary, Committee Member, Chair Algreto

a. On Premises Liquor License Application – New

Vivae Corp.
88-09 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Mr. Yonkell, representing the establishment, spoke on behalf of the owner.

Motion # 4: To oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application

Vote # 4: Unanimous

KB Banquet Hall LLC
D/b/a Fairfield Banquet Hall & Platinum United Care
131-10 101st Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Motion # 5: To oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application

Vote # 5: Unanimous

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

Motion # 6: Not to oppose new On-Premises Liquor License Application

Vote # 6: 34 in favor and 2 abstentions

Little Guyana Restaurant
D/b/a Nals Nest
125-15/17 101st Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

The Public Safety Committee tabled this application.

On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application – New

BENR Office Group LLC
D/b/a Benrooftop
78-16 Atlantic Avenue (2nd Floor & Rooftop)
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion # 7: To table new license application

Vote # 7: 34 in favor and 2 opposed

La Playa Seafood Corp.
75-15 Atlantic Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Motion # 8: To oppose new On-Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application

Vote # 8: Unanimous

Chair Algreto reported on the renewal applications listed below. She asked the public for their concerns or comments regarding these licenses. There were none.

On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

Delicioso Restaurant & Bar Inc.
D/b/a Pollos Donna Maria
96-03 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

Golden Arrow Sports Bar Inc.
D/b/a Golden Arrow Bar & Lounge
107-14 101st Avenue
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Motion # 9: To oppose On-Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Renewal Application

Vote # 9: Unanimous

Jefe De Jefes Corp.
D/b/a Junix Bar & Lounge
112-04 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

RECONSIDERATION/VOTE TO BE TAKEN

Motion # 10: Not to oppose New On-Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application

Vote # 10: 34 in favor and 2 abstentions

The next Public Safety and Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will take place on Monday, November 20th.

11. CB9 MEETING LOCATIONS

Motion # 11: To hold all the remaining Community Board 9 monthly meetings through March, 2024 at Queens Borough Hall

Vote # 11: 28 in favor, 7 opposed and 1 abstention

Viola Isufaj, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar spoke about office updates and the upcoming events sponsored by the Assembly Member.

Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Members Nydia Velasquez spoke about office updates, new bills and the upcoming events sponsored by the Congress Member.

Norris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams introduced himself, shared the office contact information and spoke about legislations updates and events.

12. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Chair Algreto gave a brief recap on the events that the board participated in and announced upcoming events.

EJ Sydell asked to address the issue of poor lighting and damaged sidewalks around the Borough Hall.

Raghibir Singh invited all to the Sikh Day Parade Event that will take place on Saturday, November 11th in Richmond Hill.

Chair Algreto asked all public forum speakers to act respectfully and not to target board members personally, stating that she will not tolerate disrespect anymore and this will be reported to the borough president's office.

13. PUBLIC FORUM *No speakers.*

J. Richard Smith made a motion to adjourn; Stephen Esposito seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:35 PM.