



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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

JANUARY 9, 2024 MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING

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)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Sassy Ramoutar	(5)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(3)(0)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(2)(0)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(0)
Juan Batista II	(1)(0)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(0)
Dilraj Batchu	(2)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(0)(0)	Jarnail Singh	(3)(0)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(1)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Raghibir Singh	(1)(0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Victor Starsky	(1)(0)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(0)	Daniel Coffaro Hill	(3)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Zoila Bofill	(1)(0)	Carmela Isabella	(2)(0)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(1)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Reaz Khan	(2)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydel	(1)(0)
Daniel Chu	(2)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(0)(0)	Andrew Taranto	(1)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(1)(0)
Ruben Cruz	(0)(0)	Tiffanie Placeres	(2)(0)		
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(0)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(3)(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Marla Abarca	(7)(1)	Bernard Robert	(6)(1)	Marie Turley	(5)(1)
Sandra Datnarain	(3)(1)	Matthew Singh	(7)(1)		
Joseph Iaboni	(1)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(4)(1)		

ALSO PRESENT

James McClelland, District Manager
 Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Council Member Joan Ariola
 Alisa Nurmansyah, Department of City Planning
 Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
 Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
 Daiquan Llewellyn, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie
 Jared Hunter, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks
 Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
 Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez
 Kevin Morris, Rep. Mayor Eric Adams
 Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola
 Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melida Katz
 Viola Isufaj, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
 Norris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
 Capt. Maldonado, Commanding Officer, 102nd Pct.

Chair Algreto started the meeting by recognizing The National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and thanking the 102nd Pct. for their community outreach and engagement, and for protecting our community.

1. GREETINGS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Council Member Ariola spoke about two bills that recently passed at the City Council: intro 0586 would require the NYPD to provide quarterly reports detailing information on level one, two, and three investigative encounters between the police and civilians.

The other bill 0549 would ban the use of solitary confinement in city jails. The bill would also provide individuals in custody of the Department of Correction due process protections prior to being placed in restrictive housing or continued use of restraints.

CM Ariola also mentioned that Council Member Lynn Schulman and herself are co-sponsoring Senator Comrie and Assembly Member Rajkumar's resolution in support for local authorities to have more power in closing illegal smoke shops.

Council Member answered Board Members' questions.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS & EXEC. REPORT–Sherry Algreto DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT- James McClelland

Chair Algreto reported on the items that were discussed at the Borough Board meeting.

DM McClelland wished happy birthday to Juand Batista II, Stephen Esposito, and Cristal Rivera. He stated that Community Board Applications are due by February 16th.

A testimony regarding CB9 Budget requests and district needs will be provided on January 29th to Council members and Borough President's office regarding our Budget requests and district needs which we submitted to OMB in November.

Also, the Chair and the District Manager will be meeting with CB9 elected officials regarding capital projects.

The next district service cabinet meeting for all city agencies is scheduled for January 18th.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Bill Knight, Executive Director of Phil Rizzuto Park Organization, gave a summary of activities and events their organization successfully coordinated in 2023.

Pablo Rubio, Executive Director of Formativas Barcelona SC, NYC, had asked for a follow up on his request from one month ago to illuminate the darkened Victory Field in Forest Park.

Mr. Saidi, Queens Resident, spoke about the need for better lighting in Forest Park.

4. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – Carmela Isabella, Chair

Committee Chair Isabella stated that the following information was emailed to all board members:

- Common symptoms of a Cold, the Flu, and COVID-19.
- January is Thyroid and Cervical Cancer Prevention Month.
- The Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) NYC Survey - an annual survey conducted during the last 10 days in January to estimate the number of unsheltered individuals in New York City.

Ms. Isabella also raised awareness about the human trafficking issue in Queens. She shared Queens District Attorney Katz's contact information to report victims of human trafficking: 718-286-6548 or by emailing humantrafficking@queensda.org.

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

Committee Chair Smith stated that at the last committee meeting they had a presentation from the executive director of New Yorkers for Parks regarding pushing for the mayor to commit to funding the city's parks at 1% of the city budget. This organization is also actively trying to stave off the massive budget cuts the mayor has proposed for parks.

6. NYPD 102nd Pct. Briefing

Captain Maldonado addressed the board and thanked Chair Algreto for expressing her condolences to PO Clifford's family. PO Clifford lost his life coming into work.

Capt. Maldonado stated that the 102nd Pct. finished the year strong with a decrease in all major crime categories, except for grand auto larceny, which increased not just at 102nd Pct. but citywide.

She asked for all to remain alert and continue to exercise caution.

Question and answer period followed.

7. GREETINGS & UPDATES FROM ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Alisa Nurmansyah, Rep. Department of City Planning, thanked the board members for their opinions on the City of Yes proposal. She will continue to provide the board with the new proposals and updates.

Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin, thanked the board for organizing various events last year.

Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, made an announcement regarding upcoming events. She also reminded all that the deadline for Community Board Applications is February 16th.

Daiquan Llewellyn, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Senator.

Jared Hunter, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Congress member.

Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo, provided a link that has all the new bills that take effect this year.

Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Congress member.

Kevin Morris, Rep. Mayor Eric Adams, gave an update on the city's migrant situation and the mayor's new initiative of creating safe charging stations for electric batteries.

Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Council Member.

Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melida Katz, stated that Queens District Attorney Melida Katz was sworn in for a second term. Ms. Akhtar gave stats for 2023 and spoke about happenings that took place.

Viola Isufaj, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar, spoke about the bills that were introduced in 2023 and the upcoming events.

Norris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, spoke about the bills that were introduced recently and the upcoming events.

8. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report/Public Hearing (Letters of Intent Received) – Rabbi Daniel Pollack, Chair

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

Arber Alban Corp., D/b/a La Rondine Pizza & Restaurant
120-38 Queens Boulevard
Kew Gardens, NY 11424

There is no adverse information from NYPD. The committee is awaiting the CB9 Questionnaire.

9. Cannabis Licenses – Discussion & Recommendations From CB9

A & P Dispensary Corp.
81-37 Lefferts Boulevard
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Regina Santoro stated that a vote will be taken after all the paperwork is received.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Regina Santoro stated that there should be a better push to promote The City of Yes initiative to the public.

Cristal Rivera asked for the status of the cannabis licenses that the board voted on at the last month board meeting.

Chair Algreto stated that February and March board meetings will resume in person.

Ms. Algreto announced a special meeting that will be held on Thursday, March 28th to recognize Ms. Sylvia Hack's 50 years serving on the board.

Chair Algreto wished a happy birthday to her son Joseph who turned 20 years old.

Victor Starsky voiced his complaint regarding the way the Department of City Planning handled their public hearings regarding The City of Yes initiative.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

Pablo Rubio, Executive Director of Formativas Barcelona SC, NYC, spoke about the noise argument at Victory Field soccer field.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:07 PM.