



# 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

---

**MARCH 12, 2024 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

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

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Sandra Datnarain	(3)(1)	Tiffanie Placeres	(2)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(3)(0)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Sassy Ramoutar	(5)(0)
Juan Batista II	(1)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(2)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(3)(0)
Dilraj Batchu	(2)(0)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(0)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(0)(0)	Jarnail Singh	(3)(0)
Zoila Bofill	(1)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(7)(1)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(2)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(1)(1)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(1)(0)
Daniel Coffaro Hill	(3)(0)	Carmela Isabella	(2)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydel	(1)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(0)(0)	Andrew Taranto	(1)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(1)(0)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Marla Abarca	(8)(2)	Reaz Khan	(3)(1)	Victor Starsky	(2)(1)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(2)(1)	Mohamed Safie	(3)(1)	Marie Turley	(6)(2)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(3)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(5)(2)		
Ruben Cruz	(1)(1)	Raghibir Singh	(2)(1)		

**ALSO PRESENT**

James McClelland, District Manager  
 Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

**LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards  
 Khaleel Bragg, Director of Queens Community Boards  
 Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola  
 Max Leonardo, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman  
 Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin  
 Carlos Plaza, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar  
 Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez  
 Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melida Katz  
 Nathaniel Hezekiah III, rep. Congress Members Gregory Meeks  
 Norris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams  
 Jared Hunter, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks  
 Kevin Morris, Rep. Mayor Eric Adams  
 PO Nick Salamone, 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct.

- Chair Algreto started the meeting by recognizing International Women’s History Month and congratulated those who celebrate Ramadan.
- Made an announcement regarding a special meeting which is being rescheduled to Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, commemorating Sylvia Hack’s 50 years serving on the board.
- Announced the resignation of a fellow board member, Mr. Bernard Robert, who is no longer able to fully commit his time due to him working full time and being a law school student.
- Offered condolences to Rabbi Daniel Pollack who recently lost his mother.

**1. OPENING OF MEETING AND READING OF MINUTES**

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting minutes and motions.

Stephen Forte stated that the 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Deputy Inspector Jerome Kivlin’s name should be added to city agencies representatives’ attendees.

Stephen Esposito motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Andrea Crawford seconded the motion.

**Motion # 1:** To adopt minutes as amended  
**Vote # 1:** 34 in favor and 2 abstentions

**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. She also read the notes from Queens Solid Waste Advisory Board (QSWAB) meeting and Borough President Donovan Richards’s report:

Community Board Applications - 592 new community board applications were submitted for 2024.

Borough Hall on Your Block events, hosted by both community boards 6 and 9, were a success.

DM McClelland wished happy birthday to Sherry Algreto, Sylvia Hack, Sassy Ramoutar, J. Richard Smith, and Vic Starsky.

Thanked Borough President Richards for visiting Van Wyck/Jamaica Ave/Metropolitan Avenue Triangle where the following issues needed to be addressed: lighting improvement, old benches removal, rat abatement, the need to provide services to homeless individuals suffering from mental illness and drug addiction.

DM McClelland and Chair Algreto met with Council Member Joan Ariola to discuss Capital Budget priorities. Still seeking a date to meet with Council Member Lynn Schulman.

The next district service cabinet meeting is Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Wished good luck to all board members running for election this evening.

Chair Algreto introduced and welcomed Mr. Khaleel Brag, Director of Queens Community Boards.

**3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Khaleel Brag oversaw the elections.

Kevin O’Leary nominated Sherry Algreto for Chairperson; Andrea Crawford seconded it.

Dilraj Batchu nominated Faiuze Ali; no one seconded it.

Sherry Algreto ran unopposed.

Vote: unanimous.

Sherry Algreto is re-elected Chairperson.

Andrea Crawford nominated Esta Joy Sydell for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair; Seth Welins seconded it.

Kirpal Billing nominated Faiuze Ali for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair; Steve Forte seconded it.

Vote: 21 for Esta Joy Sydell and 13 for Faiuze Ali, and 2 not present for a vote.

Esta Joy Sydell is elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson.

Seth Welins nominated Alexandria Sumpter-Delves for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair; Albert Gamarra seconded it.

Tiffanie Placeres nominated Sandra Datnarain for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair; Regina Santoro seconded it.

Vote: 30 for Alexandria Sumpter-Delves, 5 for Sandra Datnarain, and 1 not present.

Alexandria Sumpter-Delves is elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson.

Sylia Hack nominated John Carter for Treasurer; he declined the nomination.

Chair Algreto nominated Kirpal Billing for Treasurer, Inderpaul Ahluwalia seconded it.

Rabbi Pollack nominated Joe laboni for treasurer, Steve Esposito seconded it.

Vote: 24 for Kirpal Billing, 11 for Joe laboni, and 1 not present.

Kirpal Billing is elected Treasurer.

Mr. Khaleel Bragg addressed the board, congratulated the newly appointed officers, and answered board members' questions.

#### **4. GREETINGS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS *none present***

#### **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

David Kupferberg, VP Bus Advocacy, Passengers United, spoke against Queens Bus Redesign Project. He stated, "there must be a moratorium on the elimination of bus stops until fair and unbiased boroughwide studies are complete."

Adam Dobrzynski, DSNY, stated that starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, all businesses in NYC must use bins with secure lids when setting out trash for collection. This rule applies to any business in New York City, regardless of what is sold. Any perishable material (trash or organic) must be in a bin with a secure lid when set out on the curb for collection. This requirement does not apply to businesses that have waste collected from a loading dock.

Educational webinars will be held throughout the month of March online.

Mr. Dobrzynski shared his contact information with the board: 212-291-1361.

Mr. Richard Dono, RHBA, thanked Chair Algreto for addressing an illegal school bus parking situation and many other concerns that he brought up at last month's board meeting.

Mr. Sam Esposito, OZPRBA, addressed the issue of commercial vehicles parking on the street stating that as per NYC DOT, the Zola zoning maps should be referred to in order to find out if a property is zoned commercial or manufacturing, not including overlays; then the trucks can park along those building lines as long as signs permit.

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

The following items were discussed at the committee meeting on Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>:

- The Department of Education Reduce Class Size initiative.

- NYS ELA exam schedules.
- The committee is looking for summer resources for parents in the district.

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

Committee Chair Isabella stated the following:

- February was American Heart Health Month and National Cancer Prevention Month.
- March is National Development Disability Month and National Social Worker Month.
- Will be doing a walk-through at Jamaica Hospital Medical center before submitting a letter in support of a New York State Health equity Impact Assessment for Jamaica Hospital Medical Center.

**8. ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT – Sassy Ramoutar & Matthew Singh, Co-Chairs**

The Committee is planning to host the Small Business Luncheonette event at the Helen Marshall Cultural Center on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 12-3 PM. QEDC Director Seth Bornstein will be invited.

Next Economic & Community Development Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, made an announcement regarding upcoming events. She also congratulated all board members who were elected.

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

Council Member Ariola is working on legislation that would require vape detectors in every school bathroom across NYC. She is also going to be introducing legislation that would allow for better housing for our veterans.

The Council Member is working on this year’s budget allocations. She has met with the Board Chair and district Manager to discuss priorities in CB9.

The Councilwoman is working with the Narcotics Division of the NYPD to shut down smoke shops for good through nuisance abatements. If there is a location that you would like to report for illegal activity and sales, please call the office.

Max Leonardo, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman stated that the new Local Law 107 had taken effect.

**9. NYPD 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. Briefing**

PO Nick Solomone read the crime stats in the Community Board 9 area:

- There is a spike in robberies, mostly in the Jamaica Avenue corridor, Sector B (Woodhaven and Ozone Park areas). 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. increased the foot patrol in those areas.
- Grand larceny numbers are up mostly due to mailboxes and phone scams.
- Out of 32 smoke shops in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct. area 19 were submitted for nuisance abatement, 13 out of 19 of those shops are pending.
- 146 illegally parked vehicles were removed from the streets, 70 of which were in Sector A (from Lefferts Blvd. to 103<sup>rd</sup> Ave and 108<sup>th</sup> Street).

Question and answer period followed.

Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin, stated that the in-house budget was passed today and congratulated newly appointed officers. He also stated that the Assembly Member is fighting against congestion pricing.

Carlos Plaza, Rep., Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Assembly Member.

Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez, announced the upcoming events sponsored by the Congress Member. He also stated that the Congress Member secured over \$11M for local projects in government funding package.

Mr. Betancourt encouraged all to forward any mailbox related issues to their office so it can be forwarded it to their liaison at the Postmaster General's Office.

Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, stated that in the past year, 109 trials with 1,856 grand jury indictments and just under 45,000 arrests were processed with over 37,000 criminal court arraignments.

Nathaniel Hezekiah III, rep. Congress Members Gregory Meeks, stated that starting this year, individuals can go to [www.directfile.irs.gov](http://www.directfile.irs.gov) to file tax returns.

He also spoke about The Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan that offers lower monthly loan payments.

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

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

EM. J's Bar & Grill Inc., d/b/a Chrome 101  
96-03 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416 *No speakers*

**Motion # 2:** To oppose the new on premises liquor license application.

**Vote # 2:** Unanimous

Motion passed.

La Nueva Barrica Corp.  
79-17 Atlantic Avenue  
Woodhaven NY 11421

Yankel Fernandes, business representative, spoke on behalf of the owner and answered board members' questions.

**Motion # 3:** Not to oppose the new on premises liquor license application.

**Vote # 3:** 15 in favor, 18 opposed, 1 abstention and 2 not present

Motion did not pass.

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

Little Town Coffee Shop Inc.  
90-17 130<sup>th</sup> Street  
Richmond Hill *No speakers*

**Motion # 4:** Not to oppose the new on premises wine, beer & cider license application.

**Vote # 4:** 33 in favor, 1 abstention and 2 not present

Rabbi Pollack reported on the following renewal applications:

**On Premises Liquor License Application-Renewal**

ACAT Inc., d/b/a Zest Lounge  
124-14 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Atlantic Bamboo Garden  
107-04 Atlantic Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

El Rinconcito De Nagua  
76-20 Jamaica Avenue  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

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

Q 102 Pool Hall & Lounge Inc.  
102-14 Jamaica Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Woodhaven Manor Caterers & Banquets Inc.  
96-01 Jamaica Avenue  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**Class Change Application**

Brisas Del Mar Sea Food Market 11 Corp.  
76-15 Jamaica Avenue  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

**Corporate Change Application**

Richi Rich Palace NY Inc.  
D/b/a Richi Rich Palace  
110-17/19 Atlantic Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Letters of no opposition will be mailed by the office.

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the district office.

**11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Algreto thanked Faiuze Ali, Sandra Datnarain and John Carter for their services.

Daniel Coffaro Hill announced his resignation from the board and thanked his fellow board members.

Albert Gamarra clarified the Public Safety's Committee decision on Ben's Roof Top application.

Kirpal Billing reported on CB9 budget, expenditures, and events sponsorship.

Cristal Rivera asked for clarification on the sponsorship process.

**12. PUBLIC FORUM *no speakers***

Joe laboni made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Andrea Crawford seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:18 PM.