



# COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

**Queens Borough Hall**  
**120-55 Queens Boulevard, Room 310-A**  
**Kew Gardens, NY 11424**

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

## **FEBRUARY 11, 2025, MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**

**QUEENS BOROUGH HALL, ROOM 200, 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD, KEW GARDENS, NY 11424**

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2024-MARCH 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> # Represents Absences as of January-December 2024 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(1)(1)	Marilyn Custodio	(2)(2)	Jonathan Rodriguez	(4)(4)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Faiuze Ali	(2)(2)	Warlito DeLeon	(1)(1)	Himmat Singh	(2)(2)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(1)	Stephen Esposito	(2)(2)	Jarnail Singh	(4)(4)
Kirpal Billing	(2)(2)	Albert Gamarra	(1)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(4)(7)
Visnoonand Bisram	(2)(2)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(1)	Raghbir Singh	(2)(3)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	J. Richard Smith	(2)(2)
John Carter	(2)(2)	Alicia Hassin	(2)(2)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delva	(2)(2)
Swapn Chakraborty	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(1)(2)	Esta-Joy Sydel	(3)(3)
Rick Chetram	(1)(1)	Carmela Isabella	(2)(2)	Andrew Taranto	(2)(2)
Daniel Chu	(1)(1)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Andrea Crawford	(3)(3)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(2)(3)	Stacey Yearwood	(0)(0)
Ruben Cruz	(2)(3)	Cristal Rivera	(3)(3)		

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Stephen Forte	(2)(2)	Sassy Ramoutar	(7)(8)	Matthew Singh	(5)(6)
Nina Kulkarni	(4)(4)	Mohamed Safie	(8)(9)		

### **ALSO PRESENT**

James McClelland, District Manager  
Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

### **LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

Max Leonardo, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman  
Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo  
Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz  
Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola  
Kevin Morris, Rep. Mayor's Office  
Anna Sargeant, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar  
Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards  
Johnathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nydia Velazquez  
Nathaniel Hezekiah, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks

## 1. Opening of Meeting and Reading of Minutes

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, minutes and motions. There were none. Steven Esposito motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Rabbi Pollack seconded the motion.

**Motion # 1:** To adopt minutes as presented

**Vote # 1:** 30 in favor and 8 abstentions

## 2. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec. Report–Sherry Algreto, District Manager's Report–James McClelland

District Manager McClelland's report:

- Wished happy birthday to Faiuze Ali, Kirpal Billing, Stephen Forte, Rabbi Daniel Pollack and Andrew Taranto.
- Since the Community Board Applications are due on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, emails were sent to those board members who are up for re-appointment.
- Queens Budget Hearings were held on January 27<sup>th</sup> where DM McClelland emphasized the need for elected officials to fight for funding for critical city services and highlighted many of Queens CB9 capital and expense priorities.
- The District Manager, along with the Chair, will meet with each of CB9's Council Members to discuss the Capital and Expense Budget Priorities.
- Mr. McClelland stated that the city Comptroller's Audit findings were issued last week. This audit reviewed all fourteen Queens Community Boards' control over payroll, personnel and purchasing operations. As per that report, Queens Community Boards 5, 8 and 9 had the best results with no reportable issues.
- DM McClelland thanked Deputy Inspector Kivlin for his exemplary service to the community and wished him great success in his future endeavors. He also congratulated Captain Maldonado, the new Commanding Officer of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Precinct. Mr. McClelland stated that Capt. Maldonado did an outstanding job at the recent screening and showed why she was the clear choice for the position. He said that Capt. Maldonado will do a great job and offered her his continued support in resolving community issues.

Chair Algreto gave a brief overview of what was discussed on February 10<sup>th</sup> Borough Board meeting:

- The Mayor's FY2026 Preliminary Budget.
- Chair Algreto voiced her concerns about proposed budget cuts to the NYPD, Beacon Program, social services, etc.

Chair Algreto recognized February as a Black History Month.

She congratulated Mr. Stephen Esposito on becoming the grandfather of a little baby boy.

The gravestone for Marie Turley, a former fellow board member, was installed at the Maple Grove cemetery.

Congratulated Captain Maldonado, the new Commanding Officer of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Precinct.

DM McClelland presented Certificates to Community Affairs Officers Scott Adelman and Nick Salamone for their Service to the community.

Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to Adam Maraj and Gayatri Bekaroo for their community events support.

## 3. Public Hearing

- **Woodhaven BID - "Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival" Oct. 5, 2025,** No Speakers

Chair Algreto stated that an application was received by the Mayor's Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO) for Woodhaven BID "Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival" to be held on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

A petition was received by the board office.

Steven Esposito made a motion to send a letter of support to SAPO. Joan DeCamp seconded the motion.

**Motion # 2:** To send a letter of support for the WBID October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Woodhaven Street Festival

**Vote # 2:** Unanimous

#### 4. Public Forum

David Kupferberg, Manhattan Resident, voiced his critique of the Queens Bus Network Redesign Proposed Final Plan (testimony submitted).

Sol McCants III, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about the United States Postal Service.

Paul Trust, Richmond Hill Block Association, stated that RHBA is concerned about a permit being filed for a shelter at 118-08 Jamaica Avenue.

Max Leonardo, a representative for CM Schulman, stated that the Mayor's Office informed the Council Member that they are required to send a notice to the Elected Officials about the proposed shelters in the district, but the office did not receive any.

#### 5. 102<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Briefing

Captain Maldonado, the new commanding officer of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Pct., addressed the board. She thanked DI Kivlin, former commanding officer of the Precinct for his leadership and the relationship he built with the community.

Question and answer period followed.

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

The committee met with Jamaica Hospital representatives who gave an update on their two current projects: a new ER building and a new Cancer Center. The projects will be completed by 2026.

February is American Heart Month and Cancer Prevention Month. Committee Chair Isabella encouraged all to be up to date with their checkups.

#### 7. Parks, Recreation & Environment Committee Report – J. Richard Smith, Chair

- Mr. Smith spoke about the new Vital Parks for All website that contains an abundance of information regarding all NYC parks.
- Regina Santoro reported about the issue with Freedom Drive closure stating that DOT does not recommend the re-opening of Freedom Drive between Myrtle Avenue and Park Lane South (copies of the letters attached).
- The Baby Carriage Lane in Forest Park has been worked on; the new concrete will be installed during warmer weather.

#### 8. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report/Public Hearing (Letters of Intent Received) Albert Gamarra, Chair

##### a. On Premises Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License Application – New

O Grove Tavern Corp.  
88-09 Jamaica Avenue  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

*The applicants withdrew their application*

La Obeja Negra II Corp.  
115-15 Jamaica Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

*The applicants withdrew their application*

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

Nabhya Banquet Hall & Restaurant Inc., d/b/a Nabhya Restaurant & Bar  
120-35 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

*No speakers*

**Motion # 3:** Not to oppose new on premises wine, beer & cider license application

**Vote # 3:** Unanimous

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

La Belvedere LLC  
77-02 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

M & F Restaurant Corp., d/b/a Spolini's  
116-24 Metropolitan Avenue  
Kew Gardens, NY 11418

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

Dani Pizza & Rest. Corp.  
81-28 Lefferts Boulevard  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

**e. Method of Operation/Class Change Application**

BJ's Deli & Grocery Corp., d/b/a BJ's Deli & Grocery  
86-02 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Harbor Breeze Restaurant & Lounge Inc.  
107-12 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

*The Committee is waiting for the representatives to confirm the type of Method Change.*

**f. NY Taxi & Limousine Commission Base License Application - Renewal**

Global Car Service Inc.  
112-06 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Letters of **no opposition** to these renewal applications will be sent to the SLA and TLC.

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Zoom meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Chair Algreto acknowledged the legislative representatives who gave their updates.**

**9. Old/New Business**

Chair Algreto gave a clarification on CB9 nominations and election procedures.

Regina Santoro stated that on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, a memorial mass will be held for late Detective Simonsen at Holy Child Jesus Church located at 111-11 86<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Richmond Hill.

Cristal Rivera asked for clarification on permits that were filed for a shelter in Richmond Hill.

**10. PUBLIC FORUM** *no speakers*

Rabbi Pollack made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Stephen Esposito seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:48 PM.