



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING ROOM 200, 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD, KEW GARDENS, NY 11424

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2025-MARCH 2026

2nd # Represents Absences as of January-December 2025 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Philip Ross	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Hilary Dvorkin	(1)(1)	Regina Santoro	(2)(2)
Faiuze Ali	(2)(2)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Himmat Singh	(0)(0)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(0)	Vanessa Fuentes	(0)(0)	Matthew Singh	(0)(0)
Visnoonand Bisram	(1)(1)	Daniel Grieve	(0)(0)	Mohinder Singh	(1)(1)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Raghbir Singh	(0)(0)
Maricela Cano	(0)(0)	Alicia Hassin	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydel	(0)(0)
Rick Chetram	(0)(0)	Carmela Isabella	(1)(1)	Andrew Taranto	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Fahovi Noman	(3)(3)	Harpreet Toor	(1)(1)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(2)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Alyssa Velez	(1)(1)
Rev. Ruben Cruz	(1)(1)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(0)(0)	Keith Villanueva	(0)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(1)	Ijazz Rahim	(1)(1)	Seth Welins	(1)(1)
Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Cristal Rivera	(0)(0)	Stacey Yearwood	(0)(0)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Kirpal Billing	(1)(1)	Stephen Esposito	(2)(2)	Jarnail Singh	(2)(2)
Swapan Chakraborty	(2)(2)	Albert Gamarra	(1)(1)		

ALSO PRESENT

James McClelland, District Manager
Irina Barayeva, Community Coordinator

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Max Leonardo, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman
Kevin Visniewski, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi
Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
Frederice Latchman, Senator Leroy Comrie
Max Rose, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks
Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
Clare Collins, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
Rokeya Akhter, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz
Phyllis Inserillo, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola

Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez
Ehtashan Khan, XO 102nd Precinct
Sgt. Stacey Zaun-Alequin, 102nd Precinct
PO Andrew Berberich, 102nd Precinct
PO Darrel Glenn, 102nd Precinct
PO Edgar Godinez, 102nd Precinct

The board took a minute of silence to remember the victims of the September 11th attack.

1. Opening of Meeting and Reading of Minutes

Chair Algreto read the corrections to June 10th, 2025, minutes:

Under the Parks, Environment and Recreation Committee Report, within item #2 "Forest Park Safety Discussion," the minutes should reflect that Council Member Ariola's team is expected to discuss the issue further with the Department of Transportation (DOT) instead of Department of Correction (DOC).

EJ Sydell motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Regina Santoro seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as amended

Vote # 1: 33 in favor, 7 abstentions and 2 not present

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

Chair Algreto reported on the following:

CB 9 participated in various summer events: Backpacks Giveaway at PS 56 and at the Buddy Monument in Forest Park as well as National Night Out Against Crime, which was a great success. Chair Algreto thanked everyone who came out, helped, and spread the word.

Yesterday, at the borough board meeting, a presentation was given by the Civic Engagement Commission (CEC).

In the beginning of 2027, all members who were appointed before 2019 will become subject to the term limits law passed in 2017. The members, some of whom have served 35 to 50 years and have a tremendous wealth of knowledge, will be termed out. The Borough President's office is already working on next steps, and eventually will be sharing more information about how the transition will take place.

DM McClelland wished happy birthday to: Rick Chetram, Warlito DeLeon and E-J Sydell.

Mr. McClelland stated that the agency budget consultation season is about to begin, with the first session scheduled for September 17th. An email will be sent to board members requesting Capital and Expense project suggestions for advocacy in the FY27 budget. Local civic groups and schools will also be invited to provide input. The deadline for submissions is November 14th, and the board will vote on the list at the November 12th meeting.

Over the summer, there was an increase in incidents of anti-Semitic graffiti. Rabbi Pollack will address this further. The District Manager thanked the NYPD, DOT, and Councilmember Shulman's office for their responsiveness in removing the graffiti. Unfortunately, in some cases, graffiti reappeared shortly after removal. He also thanked Kristen Gugliermo, a reporter who highlighted this issue in the newspaper.

The next District Service Cabinet meeting will take place on Thursday, September 18th via Zoom.

3. 102nd Precinct Briefing

Capt. Ehtashan Khan, 102nd Precinct Executive Officer, introduced NYPD's new Q-Team. The officers spoke about community safety and enforcement updates:

- A new program has been launched combining the officers' previous duties with Traffic Enforcement. These groups now have separate responsibilities but are working together to ensure coordination within the precinct.
- The goal is to make the program a success by working closely with the community. Night shift officers may not see or hear all issues, so community input is essential.
- Residents are encouraged to:
 - File 311 complaints regarding illegally parked trucks and send details to the Office.
 - Continue submitting noise complaints; repeated issues (same house, same weekends) will be handled differently.
- Community complaints are a focus. Patrol may handle them one way, while the Q-Team may take a different, more long-term approach, such as removing illegally parked commercial vehicles permanently rather than temporarily.
- The offices are documenting all cases. Example: "ghost trucks" are tracked through license plate checks and license plate reader hits (photos, dates, and times) for follow-up.
- The Q-Team is committed to addressing each community complaint but emphasizes the importance of community cooperation to ensure success.

Question and answer period followed.

4. Public Forum

Neil Gianelli, Woodhaven Mural Project – provided an update on Woodhaven & Richmond Hill Mural Project:

- Last spring, the project team announced plans to beautify Woodhaven and Richmond Hill through murals.
- In May, the first two murals were completed with the participation of community members and students.
- These murals are located on Park Lane South, just east of 98th Street, on the border of Woodhaven and Richmond Hill.

New Projects:

1. Jamaica Avenue Underpass
 - A grant secured by the Woodhaven BID will fund the painting of the North Wall beneath the Long Island Railroad tracks above Jamaica Avenue between 98th and 101st Streets.
2. Myrtle Avenue/Forest Park
 - Will be painted in partnership with Richmond Hill artist Heather Dunn and St. John's University Art students.
3. McDonald Park
 - Supporting a project led by Debra Camp (Woodhaven Art Circle) and Friends of McDonald Park.
 - Six low concrete walls around the park's sitting area will be painted.

Sol McCants, Richmond Hill Resident – spoke about September 11 attack, etc., (testimony submitted).

Alan Stein – Queens Resident – spoke on behalf of the New York City Organization of Public Service Retirees that was founded in 2021 by Marianne Pizzitola, a retired FDNY EMT. The organization advocates for Intro 1096: a local law to preserve retirees' vested health care coverage, traditional Medicare plus a supplement at little to no cost.

Mr. Stein urged CB 9 to pass a resolution or letter of support for Intro 1096.

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar addressed the board and reported on the following Legislative & Policy Updates:

1. Public Safety and Quality of Life
 - Smoke Out Act (2024): Gave the city authority to close illegal smoke shops. Shops are now being shut down.
 - Ghost Buster Act: Introduced to combat “ghost vehicles” with obscured or fake license plates. It would expand NYPD powers to boot vehicles immediately to increase accountability and improve street safety.
2. Animal Welfare
 - Penny’s Law: Popular bill in Albany to hold owners of aggressive dogs accountable when pets repeatedly attack other dogs.
3. Community & Constituent Services
 - Veterans Support: Partnering with NYC Veterans Affairs to host a care coordinator in the district office to assist with employment, housing, and other services.
 - Flu Shots: Free flu shots available at the district office in partnership with Walgreens.
 - Homeowner Assistance: Services available through the office to help prevent foreclosure and support homeowners.

Camille Dee, Retired City Employee – gave additional details on Intro 1096. She reiterated the call for Community Board 9 to support Intro 1096 through a resolution or letter. Encouraged members to let their elected officials know of their support.

Jonathan Rinaldi – Queens Resident - spoke regarding concerns about artificial intelligence (AI), surveillance, and public transportation.

Erick Molina – Richmond Hill Resident –introduced himself and shared his background in the soccer business. He stated that for the past eight years he has organized youth programs, after-school programs, adult leagues, and tournaments. For the last three years, he and his cousin have operated a youth soccer program at Victory Field.

He expressed interest in starting a conversation about opportunities to build community connections through soccer initiatives.

Juliet Ganpat, Richmond Hill Resident - thanked Community Board 9 for its representation and involvement in South Richmond Hill. She then addressed concerns regarding a former board member being recognized for contributions to the Guyanese community despite being associated with prior issues.

5. Economic & Community Development Committee Report – Rick Chetram, Chair

- The Economic Development Committee held its last meeting on August 19. In the Committee Chair’s absence, District Manager and Chair Alfredo, along with Warlito DeLeon, facilitated the meeting. The speaker thanked Mr. DeLeon for his work and noted it was well done.
- The Committee hosted restaurant visits, which were well attended. Another is planned for October. Going forward, to avoid conflicts of interest regarding liquor licenses, the Committee will not choose venues. Suggestions will be accepted, and the final decision will rest with the Chair.
- Plans for a business corridor walk-through were discussed. Due to challenges in gathering all businesses at once, this year’s event will not take place in its prior format. Instead, the Committee will work with the District Manager and SBS to guide businesses as needed.

6. Education & Youth Services Committee Report – Cristal Rivera, Chair

Chair Alfredo stated that Mr. Jonathan Rodriguez, Education & Youth Services Co-Chair, had to resign from the board due to work commitments, but he will remain a non-board member of this committee.

Committee Chair Rivera reported on the following:

- The Education Committee met on August 20th.
- Extended a warm welcome back to all educators. Parents deeply appreciate the dedication, love, and care teachers give to the children.
- A new citywide (and possibly statewide) cell phone policy has gone into effect this school year. Phones are banned during school hours. Schools have been given funding to manage phone storage, though each school will implement this differently.
- The committee is compiling a comprehensive contact list for all schools in the district to improve communication. Discussions are underway about having schools appoint representatives to the committee, fostering stronger involvement, information-sharing, and collaboration on issues affecting schools, libraries, and related institutions.
- The committee is preparing a survey for schools to identify capital needs and projects. This will help to determine where assistance and funding applications are most needed.
- Richmond Hill Library: No updates have been provided. The Committee has reached out to Council Member Shulman's office and are working on holding a press conference in front of the library to raise public awareness. A date will be announced once confirmed.
- Federal Education Funding Cuts (FY26 Proposal): a proposed education bill would cut \$12.1 million (15%) in K–12 funding for public education while increasing charter school startup expansion funding to \$500 million. Concerns raised include:
 - Charter Schools: New York provides startup funds (about \$500,000 over four years) for curriculum planning, leasing, and furniture. However, oversight is limited, and funds may go unaccounted for if schools never open.
 - Program Cuts:
 - Title I: 27% cut (impacts remedial reading and services for urban and rural students).
 - English Language Acquisition Grants: eliminated.
 - Title IIA Teacher Training & Support: eliminated.

These cuts threaten vital programs that keep public schools running, with no clear indication of how the city will make up the funding gap. The committee urges members to stay in close communication with schools to track local impacts and advocate against these cuts.

7. Health & Social Services Committee Report – Carmela Isabella, Chair, stated that materials were included in members' folders to avoid lengthy readings. She reported on the following:

- At the last committee meeting, Allison Alexis, Founder and CEO of We Fight Cancer Together (organizers of the Queens Cancer Walk), attended. This year's Walk will take place this Saturday at Smoky Park. The Board will have a table at the event. Members are welcome to attend and show support. A \$20 donation is requested for those who wish to participate in the walk and receive a T-shirt. Attendance without walking is free. Flyers are included in folders.
- Awareness Campaigns:
 - September – Prostate Cancer Awareness: flyers with symptoms and screening reminders were provided.
 - Cholesterol Awareness: educational materials distributed.
 - October – Breast Cancer Awareness Month: informational flyers provided. Additional materials are available on the back table.
- Past Activities:
 - In May, the committee partnered with Near's Tavern for Mental Health Awareness Month.
 - Flyers from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and the New Horizon Council are available on the back table.

8. Transportation & Traffic Committee Report – Stephen Forte, Chair, reported on the following:

- Bus Stop Relocations (Park Lane South and Myrtle Avenue):
 - Several bus stops were recently moved to more remote locations.
 - Concerns were raised regarding safety, particularly for elderly and disabled residents.
 - The MTA has not yet provided a rationale for the relocation.
 - The District Manager is submitting additional requests for clarification. Updates will be shared when available.
- LIRR Viaduct on Babbage Street between Hillside Ave and 84th Street in Richmond Hill:
 - Ongoing issues include illegal dumping, water ponding, toxic leakage from trains above, drug activity, and prostitution.
 - The NYPD has previously stated the location is under MTA jurisdiction.
 - The District Manager is working to organize a town hall meeting with the MTA, NYPD, elected officials, and other relevant parties to pursue a coordinated solution.
 - Board members will be notified once a date is scheduled.

Committee Chair Forte encouraged board members to email the office with any transportation concerns within the district for committee review.

**9. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report/Public Hearing (Letters of Intent Received)
Sherry Algreto, CB9 Chair**

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

Coco Canoa Restaurant Corp.
79-17 Atlantic Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

No Speakers

Motion # 2: Not to oppose the new On Premises Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License Application
Vote # 2: 41 in favor and 1 opposition

La Cocinita Mexican Restaurant
134-05 Liberty Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

No Speakers

Motion # 3: Not to oppose the new On Premises Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License Application
Vote # 3: 41 in favor and 1 opposition

Nawab Hospitality Management Corp.
118-02-12 Atlantic Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Establishment's representative and the owner introduced themselves.

Motion # 4: Not to oppose the new On Premises Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider License Application
Vote # 4: Unanimous

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

55 Tandoori Pizza Inc.
110-11 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No Speakers*

Motion # 5: Not to oppose the new On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application
Vote # 5: 41 in favor and 1 opposition

La Gran Esquina Restaurant Corp.
D/b/a La Dulce Bakery
106-06 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Establishment's owners introduced themselves.

Motion # 6: Not to oppose the new On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application
Vote # 6: 41 in favor and 1 opposition

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

Deliciosso Restaurant & Bar Inc.
D/b/a Pollos Donna Maria
93-03 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

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

74 39 Meat Corp.
D/b/a C-Town Supermarket
74-39 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

e. Class Change Application

Richi Rich Palace NY Inc.
D/b/a Richi Rich Palace
110-17-19 Atlantic Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No Speakers*

9019 LLC
D/b/a Caridad Restaurant
90-19 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

Letters regarding the above-mentioned renewal applications will be sent to the SLA.

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Zoom meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 23rd.

Max Leonardo, Rep. Council Member Lynn Schulman, reported that over 500 backpacks were distributed to the community, including Richmond Hill and Forest Hills, over the summer. The Councilwoman also brought the Sanitation Commissioner to tour the district and identify areas that required attention. Sanitation subsequently addressed and cleaned those locations. Community members are encouraged to contact the Councilwoman's office with any additional areas of concern so that they may be referred to Sanitation.

The representative also noted that the Councilwoman is currently working on two pieces of legislation:

- Intro 95, requiring a study on the feasibility of installing speed-reduction infrastructure (such as speed bumps) around the perimeter of all schools in the city to improve pedestrian safety.
- Intro 1369, requiring employers to provide paid time off for employees to undergo medical screenings for cancer and other illnesses such as diabetes.

Kevin Visniewski, Rep. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi, extended condolences to all those affected by 9/11 on its 24th anniversary and expressed gratitude to veterans and first responders.

Updates included:

- Community Cleanup Series: The spring iteration engaged approximately 100 volunteers, including 50 students. The fall series will begin in Glendale (CB5), with additional cleanups planned in Kew Gardens and Forest Hills in October. Notices will be shared with the board.
- LIRR Lefferts Bridge Overpass Restoration: The office has been coordinating with the Kew Gardens Civic Association, Borough President Richards, Councilmember Schulman, and Senator Comrie. LIRR has indicated that a timeline and cost estimate should be available by the end of this year.
- Legislative Priorities: The office is preparing for the upcoming session and will follow up regarding any relevant legislation discussed.
- Backpack Distribution: In partnership with Councilmember Schulman's office, 30 backpacks remain available at the district office on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo

Chair Algreto extended a special thank you to Senator Addabbo and the office for efforts addressing illegal cannabis activity in the district. One shop was referred to the tax office and subsequently shut down on Friday, with five pounds of cannabis confiscated and a \$70,000 fine issued. Although the establishment reopened after breaking the padlock, further enforcement actions are anticipated.

Ms. Costella provided two updates:

- September 11th Remembrance Day: In 2019, Senator Addabbo sponsored legislation, now law, requiring a brief, non-religious moment of silence at the start of the school day on September 11th to encourage classroom discussion about the events and their significance.
- Veterans Initiatives: On Saturday, the Senator hosted his 16th Annual Veterans Barbecue, highlighting his commitment to honoring veterans year-round. During the past legislative session, Senator Addabbo's bill S1183, establishing a real property tax exemption for the primary residences of veterans with 100% service-connected disabilities, passed both houses and is awaiting the Governor's signature.

Frederice Latchman, Senator Leroy Comrie, provided the following updates for Senate District 14:

- Backpack Giveaways: The office conducted a pop-up backpack distribution in Kew Gardens at 125-04 84th Road, providing backpacks and medical bags to families in need. The event was deemed successful, and similar events are planned for next year.
- Senate Bill 50 – Paid Family Leave for Construction Workers: The office spotlighted Senate Bill 50, which would extend paid family leave benefits to temporary and multi-employer construction workers. Eligible

workers would need to have worked at least 26 of the last 39 weeks across any covered employer, with eligibility maintained through layoffs or return-to-work transitions.

- **Utility and Transit Costs:** The office emphasized ongoing reviews of essential services affecting Queens families. The Public Service Commission is reviewing a utility rate case involving Con Edison and other utilities, while the MTA is considering fare increases for subways, buses, and commuter rail. The Senator's office encourages community input to ensure affordability remains central in these decisions.

Max Rose, Rep. Congress Member Gregory Meeks, provided the following updates from federal agencies:

1. **TSA PreCheck Touchless ID:** Travelers enrolled in TSA PreCheck with a valid passport can use Touchless ID at select airports and security checkpoints. This system uses facial comparison technology to enhance security screening, allowing for faster and more efficient processing. Participating airline travelers can use dedicated lanes for a smoother airport experience.
2. **U.S. Department of the Treasury – End of Paper Checks:** The federal government will cease issuing paper checks for most federal payments as of September 30, 2025. Individuals still receiving federal benefit checks are advised to switch to electronic payment methods.
3. **Homeland Security – Security Screening Policy Update:** Effective July 8, 2025, passengers traveling through domestic airports may keep their shoes on during TSA security screenings, streamlining the process and reducing wait times.

Clare Collins, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, provided the following updates on upcoming community events:

- **Caribbean Heritage Celebration:** Tuesday, September 23rd at 6:00 PM, Queens Museum, Flushing Meadows Park.
- **Mexican Independence Celebration:** Thursday, September 25th at 6:00 PM, CB9 building atrium.
- **Queens Climate Expo:** Friday, September 27th from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, New York Hall of Science, Flushing Meadows Park.

Rokeya Akhter, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, provided updates on enforcement actions regarding illegal cannabis sales and property-related crimes:

- **Illegal Cannabis Enforcement:** In coordination with the NYPD and the NYC Sheriff's Cannabis Task Force, the office recently padlocked seven unlicensed marijuana businesses. Undercover investigations confirmed the sale of cannabis at these locations. Operations resulted in the seizure of over 300 pounds of cannabis products, and 170 pounds of illegal tobacco vapes. Since November 2022, 445 individuals have been prosecuted in Queens for felony charges related to cannabis or controlled substances. A total of 310 illegal cannabis shops has been padlocked in Queens County since July 2024.
- **Squatter Prosecution:** The office also highlighted efforts to remove squatters. A 41-year-old man, who illegally occupied a residence in Spring 2024 and maintained pit bulls in the basement, pleaded guilty to third-degree burglary in July and was sentenced to 2-4 years in prison. DA Katz continues to prioritize removing squatters and prosecuting fraudulent property claims.

Phyllis Inzerillo, Chief of Staff to Council Member Joanne Arreola, provided updates and announcements:

- **Parks and Community Issues:** Residents experiencing issues at parks in Woodhaven or Ozone Park were encouraged to contact the office. The office has assisted with vendor issues at PS64 Playground and can coordinate with Park Enforcement Police. Messages left at 718-738-1083 are received by both the Chief of Staff and the Council Member.
- **Flight 587 Memorial:** The office noted the memorial in Rockaway honoring those lost on Flight 587, including Dominican Republic nationals, with an annual remembrance event each November. The memorial is open year-round for visitation.

- Upcoming Community Events:
 - Beatles Concert in the Park: September 28
 - Woodhaven Beach Street Fair: October 5
 - Fall Festival at Victory Field: October 25
 - PS60 School Opening Event: This Friday
- Veteran Services: Beginning October 15, the office will host veteran services every third Wednesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., helping with benefits and other resources.
- September 11th Remembrance Initiatives: In partnership with the Woodhaven BID, the office is participating in the “Remember the Sky” campaign. Students are encouraged to draw pictures of the sky on September 11th, which will be displayed along Jamaica Avenue to honor and educate about the events of 9/11.

Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez, provided the following updates and announcements:

- Greetings & Hispanic Heritage Month: The Congresswoman sends her greetings from Washington D.C. and extended early recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Q56 Bus Stop Changes: Residents, students, and small business owners raised concerns regarding the removal of several Q56 bus stops along Jamaica Avenue in Woodhaven, including 75th, 85th, 89th, 90th, and 96th Streets. The Congress Member wrote to the MTA highlighting the potential impact on transit accessibility and students attending Franklin K. Lane High School.
- Federal Legislation – “Big Beautiful Bill”: The office reported concerns over recent federal legislation, citing:
 - \$13.5 billion in cuts to the New York health care system.
 - \$2 billion per year in SNAP benefit reductions, potentially affecting over a million New Yorkers.
 - Rollbacks on clean energy tax credits and incentives, which could increase energy costs and worsen the climate crisis.
 - Over \$1 trillion in tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, with minimal benefit for working- and middle-class households.
- Informational packets summarizing these issues were made available for attendees.

10. Cannabis Committee Report – Regina Santoro, Chair

Even though the board voted against two cannabis shop proposals, they were approved and will be opening soon—two on Jamaica Avenue, one on 110th Street, and one in Woodhaven. Meanwhile, Ms. Santoro counted 21 illegal shops along the strip. For every one that closes, three more appear.

At a recent Zoom meeting with Senator Addabbo’s office and Community Board 9, little response was received - just claims that existing shops are “grandfathered in,” even when they are dangerously close to schools. For example, Cannabis Cowboy on 110th Street is right next to a Mommy and Me program and blocks from PS90 and Holy Child Jesus School.

Until clear regulations are in place, the committee will continue to vote “no” on new licenses. The current system leaves too many shops unregulated and the community unprotected.

As a result, the cannabis committee continues to vote “no” on all proposals, because they cannot support new licenses while so many unregulated shops remain. The board will need to write a letter requesting clearer guidelines, as current rules are inconsistent and often changed without notice.

11. Old/New Business

Maricela Cano stated that Council Member Schulman did not vote on Intro 1096.

Rabbi Daniel Pollack thanked the District Manager and the 102nd Pct. for removing antisemitic graffiti from a public property on a timely basis.

Chair Algreto invited all to participate in the upcoming Cancer Walk on Saturday, September 13th.

12. PUBLIC FORUM *no speakers*

Kevin O’Leary made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Joe laboni seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:33 PM.