



Vincent Arcuri, Jr.
Chairperson

Community Board No. 5

Borough of Queens
Ridgewood, Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale
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Gary Giordano
District Manager

Minutes of Community Board 5 Public Meeting JANUARY 13, 2016

Board Members Present

Vincent Arcuri, Jr.; Tobias Sheppard Bloch; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Peter Comber; Daniel Creighton; Henry Cross; Patricia Crowley; Karamjit Dhaliwal; Brian Dooley; Jerome Drake; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Sarah Feldman; Steven Fiedler; Dorie Figliola; Patricia Grayson; Fred T. Haller, III; Fred Hoefflerle; Robert Holden; Paul A. Kerzner; John J. Killcommons; Kathleen Knight; Michael LoCascio; John Maier; Lydia Martinez; Katherine Masi; Michael O'Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Theodore M. Renz; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; David Sands; Connie Santos; Lorraine Sciulli; Catherine Sumsky; Jean Tanler; Barbara Toscano; Mercy Wong; Maryanna Zero

Board Members Absent

Thomas C. Dowd; Caroline Fuchs; Angela Giovannillo; Alexander Maureau; Eileen Moloney; Raquel Namuche; Margaret O'Kane; Carmen Santana

Elected Officials

Don Capalbi – US Representative Grace Meng, 6th C.D.
Neil Giannelli - NYS Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., 15th S.D.
Lauren Capozzi – NYS Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi, 28th AD
Mike Armstrong - NYS Assemblywoman Margaret Markey, 30th AD
Anne Krzyzanowski – NYS Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, 37th AD
Diana Santana - NYS Assemblyman Michael Miller, 38th AD
Nick Gulotta – NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio's Office, Community Assistance Unit
Deirdre Feerick - NYC Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, 30th CD
Kevin Worthington – NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso, 34th CD

Staff Present

Gary Giordano, District Manager, CB5 Queens
Catherine O'Leary - CB5Q Staff
Catherine Moore – Queens Borough President Melinda Katz

GUESTS

Gregory Glover, Community Outreach Worker for the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board, 100 Church Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10007
Demetria Clark, Public Affairs Specialist, US Small Business Administration, Office of Disaster Assistance, Field Operations Center – East, 101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303-2725

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Board Chairman Vincent Arcuri called the monthly Board Meeting to order at 7:35pm, following the Salute to the Flag. He announced the first item on the Board agenda as:

Presentation re: Civilian Complaint Review Board

By Gregory Glover, Community Outreach Worker - Civilian Complaint Review Board

Gregory Glover said that the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) was created in 1993 to investigate and mediate complaints from the public about alleged misconduct by NYPD officers. He said the CCRB is an independent and impartial agency, that it is not a part of the NYPD. He also pointed out that the CCRB is completely separate from the criminal, civil and traffic court systems, and advised anyone wishing to dispute a summons, resolve a criminal case, or file a lawsuit against the City, to call 3-1-1 for more information.

Mr. Glover said that their agency is staffed by civilians, including attorneys, who work at agency headquarters, located on the 10th Floor of 100 Church Street, New York, NY 10007. He explained that the CCRB handles four types of complaints:

- 1) Excessive or unnecessary force;
- 2) Abuse of authority, for example, an improper search of a person, including: stop, question and frisk, strip search, or vehicle stop and search, and refusal to provide name and shield number;
- 3) Discourtesy, for example, cursing at someone or using foul language; and
- 4) Offensive language, such as, slurs about a person's race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or physical disability.

Mr. Glover pointed out that the majority of the 6,000 complaints filed against NYPD officers last year involved use of abusive language, such as, ethnic or racial slurs, and cursing.

He informed everyone that complaints may be filed by anyone who has experienced or witnessed police misconduct, by calling the hotline: 1-800-341-2272, or 3-1-1; by filling out a complaint form on-line at www.nyc.gov/ccrb; by travelling in person to the CCRB's office anytime between 8 AM and 5PM on weekdays, or to the nearest Police station house where you may either file a complaint, or request a complaint form to fill out and mail into CCRB headquarters. He said that all complainants must provide a current phone number, email address or regular mail address, so that investigators can schedule an in-person interview and take a statement. In closing, Mr. Glover said that there are 17 open positions on staff, including investigators, at the present time. He encouraged anyone interested in applying for a job with their agency to visit their website at: www.nyc.gov/ccrb for more information. Pamphlets and informational literature were distributed.

The Board Chairman opened the floor to questions and comments.

Robert Cermeli asked if the Civilian Complaint Review Board interacts with police officers, as part of their training. Mr. Glover replied that their on-the-job training includes enrollment in the Police Academy where they receive the same classroom instruction as probationary officers and are issued the NYPD Patrol Guide, and at the end of their 16 weeks training period, they ride along with police officers in patrol cars on routine patrol. The Board Chairman asked what the qualifications are for the position of investigator. Mr. Glover replied that applicants must be residents of the City of New York, with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college, and successfully pass the test for this position, that is administered by the NYC Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services.

The Board Chairman thanked Mr. Glover for his informative presentation.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Demetria Clark, Public Affairs Specialist, in the Office of Disaster Assistance at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), said that the SBA partners with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in offering financial assistance to those trying to rebuild their homes and businesses in the wake of a disaster.

Ms. Clark said that SBA Customer Service Representatives are available to answer questions from businesses and residents affected by Superstorm Sandy, about the disaster loan program, and to help survivors complete their applications at two local field offices in Queens: one is located in York College of the City University of NY, in Jamaica; and the other field office is located in the Rockaway Development and Revitalization Corporation, in Far Rockaway.

Ms. Clark said that large and small businesses and non-profit organizations that were impacted by Superstorm Sandy in 2012 are eligible to apply for disaster assistance. She advised that structural property damage is not necessarily required in order to qualify for a low-interest loan. Disaster loans are available for qualified homeowners, renters and businesses. However, only primary residences are considered eligible for this program, she said.

Ms. Clark said that anyone who is unable to visit a Center may apply online, using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. The deadline to apply for disaster assistance loans has been extended until December 1, 2016, she said. Eligible businesses can apply for low-interest loans of up to \$2 Million for economic injury, to meet working capital needs, for real estate, machinery, inventory and other business assets. She said that the SBA offers loan repayment terms of up to 30 years, with interest rates as low as 3% for non-profit organizations, and 4% for businesses of any size. Their Queens field office approved \$5 Million in loans recently, she said. Flyers were distributed.

Lisa Horner, a Middle Village resident and founder of the Carly Rose Foundation, announced plans to hold a Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Registry, in cooperation with the New York Blood Center, on Saturday, January 30th, between 9AM and 3PM, in the Cafeteria of Christ the King High School. She said that her daughter Carly Rose is a two-time cancer survivor, who was first diagnosed in 2003, at the age of 7, with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, which went into remission only to return a few years later when her daughter had to undergo another two years of chemotherapy treatments. She said that she is happy to say that her daughter is alive and well today, having graduated from Christ the King High School with honors last year and currently enrolled in her freshman year at LaGuardia Community College. Based on her family's experience with her daughter's life-threatening illness, Ms. Horner said that she founded the Carly Rose Foundation in 2012, in order to raise funds and organize blood drives for transfusions that are needed by young children who are undergoing chemotherapy treatments. She said that their goal for this Blood Drive is to donate 100 pints of blood, which could then be used to save 300 lives. Flyers and informational pamphlets were distributed.

Hanif Yazdi, Neighborhood Organizer with the Outreach Team of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, informed everyone that 700,000 New Yorkers have already registered for the city's official IDNYC photo identification card over the past year. He said that this card is broadly accepted as an official form of identification by local city agencies, including the NYPD and Dept. of Education. In addition, banks, credit unions and libraries accept an IDNYC card as proof of identification. He said that the IDNYC card also offers a wide variety of benefits that make it more than just an ID card. For example, museums and cultural institutions throughout the city offer one-year free membership to card holders, and many fitness programs offer discounts to new enrollees.

Mr. Yazdi said that any New York resident, who is at least 14 years old, is eligible to register on-line for an appointment to apply for an IDNYC card at one of 29 Enrollment Centers that are located in all five boroughs. He explained that when you visit an enrollment center, you will be asked to submit your application and documents proving identity and residency. Your photo will be taken, and will be included on the card. All of your original documents will be returned to you immediately when the enrollment process is complete, and your IDNYC card

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will be mailed to your home in 10-14 business days, he said. Application forms were distributed. For more information about the IDNYC card, he encouraged everyone to visit their website at: www.nyc.gov/immigrants.

John Maier read aloud the following prepared statement on behalf of Mary Parisen, co-founder of Citizens United for Railroad Environmental Solutions (CURES). "We have been waiting two years for a new locomotive to arrive from the first State budget allocation, two years spent breathing the emissions of the Tier 0 train engines presently in use.

Governor Andrew Cuomo had intended this new locomotive, along with the subsequent State allocations for additional engines, to be Tier 4 technology. Instead, New York & Atlantic Railway was allowed to spend these State funds on a locomotive that barely meets Tier 3 qualifications, and will require additional modifications to address particulates at Tier 4 levels. It is important to note that addressing particulates with a filter does not address all the pollution issues emitted by a Tier 3 engine. Tier 4 exists, and could have been purchased, but New York & Atlantic Railway chose to pay a quarter of a million dollars more to get less and disregard the public's health.

CURES thanks State Senator Addabbo, State Assemblywoman Nolan, and State Assemblyman Miller for bringing this issue to Governor Cuomo's attention, and asking: Why was New York & Atlantic Railway entrusted with spending State funds? Why is this public money being spent by a private company for locomotives owned by the Long Island Railroad (LIRR)?

The foremost criteria is selecting engines should have been pollution reduction, with noise reduction an important secondary consideration. These are public health issues in communities around rail operations, and public health improvements were the sole reason the funds were given by the State Legislature. New York & Atlantic Railway would never have received a penny of State funds were it not for the efforts of local citizens over the last 15 years, who called for new engines to reduce air pollution and noise in communities.

We also thank our local elected officials for requesting that the Governor have the LIRR and the New York State Dept. of Transportation take over and conduct a transparent procurement process for any future engine purchases in order to ensure Tier 4 standards at a competitive price.

On a happier note, back in 2011, the New York City Economic Development Corporation applied for a grant from the US Dept. of Environmental Protection, for a Tier 4 locomotive. Waste Management matched the funds and has been given control to make the purchase. We are counting on Waste Management to do their own homework with manufacturers and purchase a Tier 4 locomotive. We expect that it will be accomplished in 2016."

Paul Kerzner said that New York and Atlantic Railway should have to pay out of their own pocket for any engines that do not have Tier 4 technology.

Nancy Cooperman, a Registered Nurse with Northwell Health (formerly known as Long Island Jewish - North Shore Hospital), asked the Board to support a resolution to promote Smoke Free Multiple Dwelling Housing in New York City. She said that last year, she had discussed the proposed legislation with members of the Health Services Committee. Since then, a majority of Queens Community Boards have passed resolutions that request the owners of multiple dwellings to advise prospective tenants whether or not they have adopted smoke-free housing policies. She said that many co-op and condominium development boards in Queens have adopted smoke-free housing resolutions in their by-laws.

Ms. Cooperman spoke about her experience as a nurse, treating more and more children suffering from asthma attacks that had been triggered by exposure to cigarette smoke. In closing, she offered to meet with the committee again, in order to answer any questions or concerns that they may have regarding this issue.

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vincent Arcuri, Jr.

MINUTES

Board Chairman Arcuri asked Board members to review the minutes of the December 9th, 2015 Board Meeting. John Maier made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Walter Clayton. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.

Chairman Arcuri recognized the press corps in attendance at the meeting, and thanked them for reporting on Community Board matters and events.

The Board Chairman announced that Queens Borough President Melinda Katz will deliver the annual State of the Borough address at 10 am on Thursday, January 21st, 2016 in the Colden Auditorium at Queens College. He said that everyone is welcome to attend. He advised anyone wishing to attend, to RSVP by contacting the Borough President's office at (718) 286-2661.

Chairman Arcuri welcomed representatives of local elected officials to address the Board.

Nick Gulotta, Queens Borough Director in the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit, said that he was happy to report that this year, 68,000 children are enrolled in the City's free full-day pre-kindergarten programs, as compared to last year's enrollment of 17,000 pre-K children. And, he said that, according to the most recent crime statistics available, New York City is now considered to be the safest large city in the United States, with the lowest number of violent crimes reported in 20 years. In addition, the City experienced the lowest number of traffic fatalities since 1910, he said.

Regarding the Mayor's new initiatives in the coming year, Mr. Gulotta announced that Mayor De Blasio plans to raise the minimum wage of 50,000 city employees to \$15 per hour. He also said that the Mayor plans to offer city employees in Managerial and Original Jurisdiction titles, the option of taking paid parental leave for up to 30 business days per year. In addition, he said that the Mayor has pledged to create 40,000 units of affordable housing over the next 5 years. In closing, he said that the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council has offered space in their community center, located at 59-03 Summerfield Street, to serve as a POP-UP site for residents to obtain an IDNYC photo-ID card.

On behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Catherine Moore announced that the public hearing on the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2017 Preliminary Expense and Capital Budget, will begin at 10:30am on Monday, January 25th, 2016 in Queens Borough Hall, at 120-55 Queens Boulevard in Kew Gardens. She said that Queens Borough Board members will be in attendance, sitting at the dais along with the Borough President. She explained that the purpose of this public hearing is to obtain the views and recommendations of Queens Community Boards, local residents and stakeholders on the proposals contained in the Mayor's FY 2017 Preliminary Budget. She said this input will be used to develop the Borough Board's budget priorities for FY 2017. She advised anyone wishing to deliver verbal testimony during the hearing to pre-register online at www.queensbp.org/budget to secure a speaking time slot which is limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Anyone who is unable to attend the hearing may submit their written testimony via email at budget@queensbp.org until January 25th, 2016 at 5:00PM.

Ms. Moore informed everyone that the Queens Borough President provides capital funding that can be used to fund large-scale projects, including but not limited to infrastructure improvements and affordable housing developments, and to purchase smaller-scale fixed assets, such as, computers, Smart-Boards for schools, and meals-on wheels delivery vehicles. She said that the deadline for non-profit organizations to apply via NYC Cap Grants web portal at www.nyc.gov/html/capgrants/capgrants.html is 5 PM, on February 12th, 2016. And, the deadline for non-profit cultural organizations to apply via the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs web portal at www.nyc.gov/html/dcla/html/funding/capital.shtml is the same time and date, at 5 PM on February 12th, 2016.

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All applicants for capital project funding for public schools are advised to apply for funding online at www.queensbp.org/budget on or before the application deadline at 5 PM, on February 26th, 2016.

Ms. Moore also stated that the Queens Borough President provides expense budget funding to support a wide range of programs provided by community based organizations throughout Queens, including but not limited to senior programs, youth programs, social service and community events. Applications must be submitted online at www.queensbp.org/budget on or before the deadline at 5 PM on March 18th, 2016.

Ms. Moore also reported that the Borough President and several local Community Boards have expressed strong opposition to the proposed music festivals in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park this summer. She read the following statement regarding the City's denial of these applications this week: "Mayor de Blasio's decision is both fair to all applicants and allows the City to establish an official policy as to whether and how we shut down and rent out public parks to for-profit companies. Events of any scale that enhance our borough are encouraged. The use of our public parks, however, need to be publicly vetted and coordinated under an official city policy, because the absence of one renders the entire process unfair. The merits – or lack thereof – of any existing or future individual application cannot be fairly considered in the absence of policy and public participation, which are paramount. I look forward to reviewing the subsequent policies crafted on a selection criteria and a process for community input that will be used to consider future proposals."

On behalf of Congresswoman Grace Meng, Don Capalbi said that he was happy to report that legislation to authorize the extension of benefit coverage for first responders at the World Trade Center disaster site, known as the Zadroga Bill, was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. He said that, as part of the same Omnibus legislation, Congress also passed a number of permanent tax credits for middle income families. He also reported that the Congresswoman sponsored new legislation which was passed by the House on Monday that prohibits the sexual harassment of federal interns.

On behalf of NY State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Neil Giannelli wished everyone a Happy New Year. He said that he looks forward to working with Community Board members in the coming year.

On behalf of City Council Member Antonio Reynoso, Kevin Worthington wished everyone a Happy New Year. He reported that over a hundred residents attended the Ridgewood Housing Forum that was held on Thursday, December 17th at P.S. 305 on Seneca Avenue. He said that representatives from several local government agencies hosted workshops where they answered questions from the public, and distributed informational pamphlets. He said that another Housing Forum is planned in Ridgewood within the next two months. Mr. Worthington also encouraged everyone to participate in an E-Waste Recycling Event that is scheduled to take place from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, January 30th, 2016 in Rosemary's Playground, at Fairview Avenue between Woodbine Street and Madison Street in Ridgewood. He said that this event is co-sponsored by the Lower East Side Recycling Center. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi, Lauren Capozzi announced that the Assemblyman sponsored legislation that was passed by the State Assembly this year, which would authorize an enterprise approach to the detection and prevention of fraud, waste and abuse in state government, and the detection and prevention of improper payments of public money. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of Assemblyman Mike Miller, Diana Santana said that the Assemblyman introduced new legislation this year that would enable mass transit riders to re-fill their Metrocards on-line, and permit free commuter fares for firefighters on the MTA/LIRR rail lines. She said that the Assemblyman has also drafted legislation that would assist local law enforcement agencies to curtail the operation of illegal massage parlors in New York State.

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Board Chairman Arcuri reported that there are six Street Fair applications for events in the Board 5 area this year, that were submitted to the Mayor's Office. He said that the Executive Committee plans to meet with all of the Street Fair applicants at their next committee meeting, to review the applications and present their recommendations to the full Board for a vote at the next monthly Board Meeting on February 10th, 2016.

LIQUOR, WINE and BEER LICENSE APPLICATIONS and RENEWALS

The Board Chairman read aloud the list of establishments in the Community Board 5 area that are in the process of applying for liquor, wine and beer licenses since last month. Each Board member received a copy.

Liquor License Renewals

- 1) * **Rogner, LLC** 63-59 Forest Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) **London Lennie's, Inc.** 63-88/96 Woodhaven Blvd., Rego Park, NY 11374
- 3) 5103 Building Corp d/b/a **Knights of Columbus** 79-03 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385
- 4) **Spolem, LLC** 66-30 Fresh Pond Road, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 5) **Haspel Staab VFW Post 551** 84-02 60th Avenue, Middle Village, NY 11379
- 6) **Zum Stammtisch Inc.** 69-46 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385

New Wine and/or Beer Licenses

- 1) **Craft Culture NY, Inc.** 59-04 Myrtle Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) **Paraiso Zona VIP Corp.** 666 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 3) **Tokusan Ya, Inc.** 70-11 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378
- 4) **Palace of India, Inc.** 913 Wyckoff Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 5) **Angel Fire Buffet, Inc.** 341 St. Nicholas Avenue, Space 6, Ridgewood, NY 11385

Wine and/or Beer License Renewals

- 1) **Guadalajara de Dia No. 2 Corp.** 566 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

*Indicates Outdoor Area

Demolition Notices

The Board Chairman reported that the Board was notified about several building demolitions over the past month, including: **78-46 79 Place**, a vacant 3-story house, in Glendale; **53-11 70 Street**, rear garage of 2-family house in Maspeth; **462 Seneca Avenue**, a 1-family house in Ridgewood; **1873 Starr Street**, excavation, in Ridgewood.

The Chairman asked Board members to remain vigilant and to advise the Board 5 staff about any questionable construction work in the Board area, so they can investigate further.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Gary Giordano

The District Manager wished everyone a Healthy, Happy New Year. He announced that a public hearing on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for FY 2017 will be scheduled for next month's Board Meeting at 7:30pm on Wednesday, February 10th, in the cafeteria of Christ the King High School.

He reported that he is still waiting for confirmation of the start date of the major capital project in the vicinity of Penelope Avenue and 74 Street, in Middle Village. He said that this project will involve the replacement of water and sewer mains along Penelope Avenue and along 74 Street, and several local side streets.

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In addition, he said that contractors have replaced water mains on Calamus Avenue between 69 Street and 74 Street, in Maspeth. The contractor is waiting for additional underground testing to be done, before work can begin on the installation of a 5 ft. by 8 ft. reinforced concrete box sewer in Calamus Avenue and in 69 Street, as part of this \$29 Million water and sewer main replacement project.

The District Manager also announced that there will be no garbage and/or recycling collection by the Dept. of Sanitation, on Monday, January 18th, when local government offices will be closed, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday.

The Board Chairman congratulated the District Manager for his efforts in getting almost every street in the Board 5 area resurfaced by the Dept. of Transportation over the past 25 years. There was a general round of applause.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks Services Committee

Steven Fiedler

Steven Fiedler reported that the committee last night in Maspeth Town Hall, following the public hearing regarding the proposed plans to reconstruct the ballfields at Frank Principe Park (formerly known as Maurice Park) in Maspeth. He said that representatives of the NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation were on hand to give a power point presentation with three design options, followed by a question and answer period. Mr. Fiedler explained that several committee members reviewed the design options and decided in favor of eliminating a 90' baseball field that presently exists, and including a soccer field, and two Little league/softball fields on the same overall surface. He said that the proposed design plans include the installation of an artificial surface there, primarily because grass fields are known to deteriorate significantly when they are well utilized for sports, such as, soccer and football. He said that the Parks Department plans to revise the plans based on the feedback they received at the public hearing, and he plans to hold a committee meeting in the Board 5 office in the coming month to review the revised design plans for this project. He said that he will present the committee recommendation to the full Board for a vote at next month's Board Meeting.

Mr. Fiedler reported that work is progressing on the Evergreen Park Playground Rehabilitation Project, located between Seneca Avenue and Forest Avenue, adjacent to P.S. 68-Queens. He said that the contractor will pour a final coat of blacktop on the asphalt playing surface soon. The scheduled completion date for this project is in March of 2016.

Mr. Fiedler also reported that the Ridgewood Reservoir site is very well maintained, and recommended that everyone take the time to visit this section of Highland Park. He said that he plans to meet with representatives of local elected officials, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, and community residents at 11am on Sunday, January 17th, in the YMCA located at 570 Jamaica Avenue in Brooklyn, to discuss the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's classification of the Ridgewood Reservoir as a high hazard dam. He reminded everyone that our Community Board has requested that the State DEC conduct a study of the Reservoir, in order to change its current classification to a low hazard dam, and establish its wetlands status in two of the three basins in the Reservoir.

Transportation Services and Public Transit Services Combined Committee

Vincent Arcuri

The Board Chairman reported that he and the District Manager, and Roland Belay, a committee member, met last month with representatives of the NYC Dept. of Transportation's Division of Bridges to discuss the capital project plans to reconstruct the bridge at Fresh Pond Road and Metropolitan Avenue, over the LIRR tracks. He reminded everyone that the Board's position is to support the reactivation of the Montauk rail line for commuter rail service along the rail lines that run east and west, under this LIRR bridge. He said that at their meeting, DOT representatives were agreeable to only replacing the bridge deck, instead of a total bridge reconstruction project which would necessitate eliminating two of the existing rail tracks underneath the bridge. He said that he would seek the Queens Borough President's support for this option.

He also reported that the Department of Transportation has decided to go back to the drawing board on their proposed plans to implement Select Bus Service on Woodhaven Boulevard in Queens, due to the outpouring of objections from community residents and local elected officials.

Board Chairman Arcuri announced that the combined committees plan to hold their next meeting at 7:30pm on Tuesday, January 19th, in the Community Board 5 office, in Glendale.

New Business

Fred Haller announced that Sacred Heart School celebrate its 75th Anniversary this year. He said that they are planning to commemorate the event on Saturday, April 23rd by celebrating Mass in the morning, and holding a Dinner Dance that night in the school. Everyone is welcome to attend, he said.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Board Chairman Arcuri adjourned the public meeting of Community Board 5, Queens on a motion from the floor at 8:25pm.