



Community Board No. 5

Borough of Queens
Ridgewood, Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale
61-23 Myrtle Avenue • Glendale, NY 11385
(718) 366-1834
E-mail: qnscb5@nyc.rr.com



Vincent Arcuri, Jr.
Chairperson

Gary Giordano
District Manager

Minutes of Community Board 5 Public Meeting October 19, 2016

Board Members Present

Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Tobias Sheppard Bloch; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Peter Comber; Patricia Crowley; Karamjit Dhaliwal; Jerome Drake; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Sarah Feldman; Steven Fiedler; Angela Giovanniello; Patricia Grayson; Fred T. Haller, III; Fred Hoefflerle; Robert Holden; Paul A. Kerzner; John J. Killcommons; Kathleen Knight; Michael LoCascio; John Maier; Lydia Martinez; Alexander Maureau; Eileen Moloney; Margaret O'Kane; Michael O'Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Theodore M. Renz; Kelvin Rodriguez; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; David Sands; Carmen Santana; Connie Santos; Lorraine Sciulli; Catherine Sumsky; Jean Tanler; Barbara Toscano; Maryanna Zero

Board Members Absent

Henry Cross; Brian Dooley; Thomas C. Dowd; Caroline Fuchs; Katherine Masi

Elected Officials

Don Capalbi – US Representative Grace Meng, 6th C.D.
Neil Giannelli -NYS Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr, 15th S.D.
Maggie Hayes - NYC Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, 30th CD
Alexa Arecchi – NYS Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi, 28th AD
Carmela Isabella - NYS Assemblyman Michael Miller, 38th AD

Staff Present

Gary Giordano, District Manager, CB5 Queens
Catherine O'Leary and Laura Mulvihill, Community Associates - CB5Q Staff
Catherine Moore – Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
Thomas Smith – Associate Planner, NYC Dept. of City Planning

GUESTS

Ana-Maria Campos, Director of Computer Resource Centers – NYC Parks, in Queens
Robert Weisberg, Architect and Director of Space Planning, NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene
and Christine Abril, Warehouse Director, NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene
and Jonathan Carey, Louis Berger Group, Planning Consultant for NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene
Anthony G. Mango, Esq., Mango & Iacoviello, LLP, 14 Penn Plaza, Suite 1919, New York, NY 10122
and Andrew Haner, R.A. , Sun-tect Architects, 176 Seeley St, #3F, Brooklyn, NY 11218
Gavin Kendall, Outreach Staff, NYC Conflicts of Interest Board, 2 Lafayette St, Suite 1010, NY, NY 10007

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

Board Chairman Vincent Arcuri called the monthly Board Meeting to order at 7:32pm, following the Salute to the Flag. He explained that, in observance of the high holy day of Yom Kippur on October 12th, this month's Board Meeting was re-scheduled from last Wednesday night to tonight at 7:30pm, October 19th. He said introduced the first item on the Agenda as:

PUBLIC HEARING I Re: ULURP Application # C 170079 PCQ

IN THE MATTER OF an Application to the NYC Planning Commission by the NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Section 197-c of the NYC Charter, for the site selection and acquisition of property located at 72-42 60 Lane, (B: 3590; L: 42), in Glendale, NY, for storage use and related program uses.

Jonathan Carey, a planning consultant from the Louis Berger Group, gave a power point presentation regarding the proposed lease acquisition of a 2-story warehouse by the NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and the Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), in compliance with the NYC Uniformed Land Use Review Process (ULURP). He said that DOHMH proposes to enter into a long-term lease and complete necessary renovations and improvements to an existing 45,600 sq. ft. warehouse and two parking lots at 72-42 60 Lane, in Glendale. As Mr. Carey displayed slides of the proposed site, he said that the property abuts the LIRR tracks on the west side of the property, and the front façade faces onto 60 Lane between Myrtle Avenue and 75 Avenue, in an M1-4D Zoning District. He said that the proposed occupancy of this site is permitted as-of-right in industrial areas.

Mr. Carey said that minor upgrades to the property are planned, including installation of interior partitions to create additional office space and storage space for supplies, as well as the installation of an ADA accessible elevator and bathroom facilities for employees. He showed the layout of the plans, as he spoke. He introduced Robert Weisberg, the Facilities Director of DOHMH, to explain his department's purpose in acquiring this site. Mr. Weisberg explained that the proposed use of this storage facility will replace DOHMH's Materials Management and Records Unit existing warehouse space at 520 Kingsland Avenue in Brooklyn, which sustained substantial damages during Superstorm Sandy in 2012. He said that DOHMH decided to vacate the premises because being located in a flood zone, it would likely deteriorate further during future storms.

Mr. Weisberg said that the proposed use is considered Use Group 10 and Use Group 16, which is permitted as-of-right in a manufacturing zone. However, he said that, pursuant to the NY City Charter's Section 204, a ULURP action for site selection is required for public facilities and acquisition of real property, which includes completing a Fair Share Analysis and obtaining public input during tonight's public hearing. Informational material about the application was distributed.

Mr. Weisberg said that DOHMH plans to use the proposed location as a storage facility for records, the vector control unit's trucks, chemicals, janitorial supplies, and emergency medical supplies. He pointed out that they plan to consolidate their Brooklyn and Queens facilities into a single site, with 50 employees working at this site in 8 hour shifts on weekdays, delivering and picking up supplies for use in the field. He said that they project an average of 47 daily truck trips per day, to and from this site. He said that the vast majority of trucks in operation at this site would be mid-sized vans.

Mr. Weisberg said that there is approximately 9,600 sq. ft. of outdoor parking space on either side of the existing warehouse. He estimated that one of the lots on the property would accommodate 9 vector control trucks, which are about the size of a bread truck. And, he said 27 off-street parking spaces would be provided for employee vehicles in the other lot on this site.

In response to questions from the floor, Mr. Weisberg introduced Christine Abril, the Warehouse Director of the proposed facility. He pointed out that as a local resident of Queens Community Board 5, she has first-hand knowledge of the problems experienced by block residents and homeowners on 60 Lane, who objected to the traffic congestion and air pollution caused by large tractor trailers making deliveries to this warehouse. He reassured everyone that DOHMH will use their own mid-sized fleet of trucks to pick up and dispense supplies, to

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

conduct their aerial spraying operations for mosquito control and/or vector control operations. In addition, he said that no trucks would be parked on the street at any time, especially not overnight.

Mr. Weisberg also said that all of the supplies and materials stored at this site would be self-contained, and stored in metal storage cabinets inside the facility, while not in use. He said that the supplies will include paper, emergency medical supplies, as well as chemicals that are used during aerial spraying operations. He reassured everyone that a new sprinkler-system will be installed throughout the building, prior to occupancy. He said that the chemicals that will be stored on-site are in such low concentrations, that they would not be lethal or volatile compounds if they catch fire.

In closing, he said that they plan to install surveillance cameras when they move into this site. He pointed out that the current commercial tenant of the warehouse will vacate the premises this year by mutual agreement with the property owner.

David Sands, a Board member, suggested that 60 Lane be converted into a One-Way street in order ensure safe and efficient traffic flow along this block. The Board Chairman referred the request to the Transportation Services Committee.

The Board Chairman thanked them for their presentation and referred the matter to the Zoning and Land Use Review Committee for consideration at their next meeting at 7:30pm on Monday, November 7th, in the Board 5 office on Myrtle Avenue in Glendale.

PUBLIC HEARING II Re: BSA Cal. No. 2016-4222 BZ - 57-40 Mazeau Street, in Maspeth

IN THE MATTER OF an Application to the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals by Mango and Iacoviello, LLP, Attorneys at Law, on behalf of Omar A. Alabed, the owner of record, for a variance, under Sections 72-21 and 23-461 (b) and (c) of the NYC Zoning Resolution, to permit the proposed construction of a zero lot line, residential two-family home, contrary to side yard requirements, in an R4-1 Zoning District, at 57-40 Mazeau Street (Block: 2798; Lot: 138) in Maspeth, Queens, NY.

On behalf of the owner of record, Omar A. Alabed, Anthony G. Mango, Esq., of Mango and Iacoviello, LLP, explained that his client seeks a zoning variance to permit the construction a two-story, 2-family house with a one-car garage in the cellar, on a vacant lot that is located on the west side of Mazeau Street about 150 feet north of 57 Drive, between Grand Avenue and the Queens Midtown Expressway Service Road, in Maspeth. He displayed a set of architectural drawings of the proposed residential development of this site. He said that there are two-story homes on both sides of the street on this block.

Mr. Mango said that the proposed residential development would occupy less than half of the total 2,245 square ft. lot area, with a 4 foot setback on one side, a 16 foot front yard, and 30 foot rear yard, on a 20 foot wide lot.

Mr. Mango pointed out that the existing house on the adjoining lot abuts the lot line on the north side of his client's property. He displayed plot plans, as he explained that because the neighbor's house was built prior to the adoption of the City's current zoning restrictions, it is considered to be a pre-existing non-conforming use. He said that if the house next-door was not originally built in the rear yard, which is contrary to current side yard requirements, his client's proposed construction plans would have been approved as-of-right by the Department of Buildings.

He introduced his client's architect, Andrew Haner, R.A. , of Sun-TECT Architects, who displayed the architectural drawings of the proposed residential development on this site.

In response to questions from the floor, Mr. Mango said that when the owner purchased this site in 2012, he planned to build it for his own family's use. He said that the proposed plans include a 4 foot setback along the remaining lot line, which would result in an 8 foot areaway between their houses.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

As there were no further questions from the floor, the Board Chairman referred the matter to the Zoning and Land Use Review Committee for further deliberations on this matter.

PRESENTATION Re: Conflicts of Interest Law

by Gavin Kendall of the Conflicts of Interest Board's Training Unit

Gavin Kendall gave a brief description of the Plain Language Guide to NYC's Conflicts of Interest Law, Chapter 68 of the City Charter. He said that copies of the Guide are distributed to Board members during the annual training sessions for new and reappointed Board members that are conducted in Queens Borough Hall in the Spring. He said that the Conflicts of Interest Board (COIB) is comprised of three units: the Training and Education Unit, the Advice Unit, and the Enforcement Unit.

For answers to specific questions about how the Conflicts of Interest Law might apply to your own personal circumstances, he advised everyone to contact the Advice Unit and ask for the Lawyer of the Day in his office by calling (212) 442-1400, between the hours of 9am and 5pm, from Monday to Friday. He suggested that anyone interested in obtaining Advisory Opinions on personal matters should submit their request in writing, either by email or letter, because it would generate a written response. All requests for information are confidential, he said.

With respect to how the Conflicts of Interest Law applies to Community Board members, he said that it is generally a question of who is entitled to vote on a particular matter to come before the Board. He said that, in any event, Board members are required to disclose their financial interest in an entity, organization, or agency that appears before the Board, seeking approval. He also explained that a Board member should not vote on any matter that could result in economic gain to a Board member or one of their relatives or associates. In addition, he said that Board members should not vote on any matter that would benefit a not-for-profit organization with which that Board member is associated.

Fred Haller, a Board member, asked for further clarification regarding whether or not Board members who serve as volunteers in fraternal organizations are permitted to vote on matters that come before the Board, provided they are not the president or chairman of the organization. Mr. Kendall said that he would request an Advisory Opinion on that question.

Robert Cermeli asked if a Board member is restricted from contributing to the campaign of a candidate for office or volunteering on their campaign. Mr. Kendall said that he would request an Advisory Opinion on that question, as well.

Mr. Kendall gave the following examples of possibly compromising situations involving a Committee Chair who continually has to disclose his interest in any matter that comes before the Board, or a Board member who is employed by a City agency should not Chair a Committee that regularly deals with matters related to that City agency. He said that in these instances, it is preferable to request a Waiver from the Conflicts of Interest Board, while awaiting a definitive ruling on the matter from the Advice Unit.

When asked how many Board members constitute a quorum for a meeting, Mr. Kendall replied that at least 50% plus one of the members must be in attendance at the meeting. He said that once the quorum is achieved, it cannot be defeated when members leave.

For more information, he said to visit the COIB agency's website address, at www.nyc.gov/coib.

PUBLIC FORUM

Sierra Goerg, a Community Outreach Coordinator of NYC Parks, announced that the NYC Parks Department's Computer Resource Center Program is offering free programs this Fall for teenagers, aged 14 to 17 years old, known as RecYouth Teen Digital Media, in the AI Oerter Recreation Center in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, and the Lost Battalion Hall on Queens Boulevard in Rego Park. She said that over 2,000 youth participate in weekly programs in the NYC Parks Department's Computer Resource Centers, learning coding, graphic design, digital photography, video production, animation, and game design. Flyers about the program were distributed.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

David Sands, a Board member, spoke on behalf of his sister Marie Koestler, who lives on Edsall Avenue in Glendale. He spoke about the dirty street conditions and pools of standing water that collect on Edsall Avenue between 70 Street and 71 Place, in Glendale all year long. He pointed out that there are many cars parked for weeks at a time on the side streets that are adjacent to Edsall Avenue, which makes it difficult for homeowners to clean the street in front of their homes. He requested that Alternate Side of the Street parking regulations be extended to this section of Glendale, between Central Avenue and Edsall Avenue in Glendale. The Board Chairman replied that the Board has requested a major reconstruction project along Edsall Avenue, as one of their Capital Improvement requests each year, because there are no sewers on that stretch of Edsall Avenue. Regarding his request to extend Street Cleaning Regulations to that area, he asked Mr. Sands to submit a request in writing to the Board with a more definitive description of the blocks in question.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vincent Arcuri, Jr.

MINUTES

The Board Chairman asked Board members to review the minutes of the September 14th, 2016 Board Meeting. Patricia Grayson made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Toby Sheppard Bloch. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.

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

On behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Catherine Moore welcomed everyone to attend the Veterans Memorial Ceremony in front of Queens Borough Hall at 120-55 Queens Boulevard, in Kew Gardens from 11AM to 12 Noon on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. She asked that anyone who plans to attend the service to RSVP by calling (718) 286-2661. All are welcome to attend. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of NYC Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, Maggie Hayes announced that their office is hosting a Domestic Violence Prevention event from 5:30pm to 7:30pm on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 in the Peter Cardella Senior Center, located at 68-52 Fresh Pond Road, in Ridgewood. She welcomed everyone to attend. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of Congresswoman Grace Meng, Don Capalbi said that the Congresswoman is sponsoring two Emergency Preparedness Workshops in Queens, the first one beginning at 7:30pm on Thursday, October 27th in the Queens College, and another one, beginning at 6:30pm on Tuesday, November 1st in the American Legion Hall, located at 68-01 Cooper Avenue in Glendale. He welcomed everyone to attend.

On behalf of State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Neil Giannelli welcomed everyone to meet with the Senator during one of his mobile office events in a local public library, from 6pm to 8pm on Thursday nights this month. He said to call their district office at (718) 497-1630 for the locations. He also announced that their office is conducting a year-round food drive for the food pantry at Sacred Heart Church in Glendale. He welcomed everyone to drop off donations of canned food, or non-perishable food items, to their office at 66-85 73 Place, in Middle Village.

On behalf of State Assemblyman Mike Miller, Carmela Isabella announced that their office is hosting a free Health Event tomorrow, from 11am to 2pm, in their district office located at 83-91 Woodhaven Blvd. She said that medical personnel from Jamaica Hospital will be on hand to provide flu shots, blood pressure screening, blood oxygen screening, oral cancer screening, eye exams and hearing tests. She welcomed everyone to participate. Flyers were distributed.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

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

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 the last monthly Board Meeting on July 13, 2016. Each Board member received a copy of the list.

New Liquor Licenses

- 1) **Lugo Lounge & Restaurant Corp.** 1089 Cypress Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) O'Reilly's Daughters, Inc. d/b/a **Yer Man's Pub**, 70-26 88 Street. Glendale, NY 11385
- 3) Ridgewood Coffee & Liquor Co, Inc. d/b/a **Onderdonk & Sons** 566 Onderdonk Ave, Ridgewood, NY 11385

New Wine and/or Beer Licenses

- 1) 1 New Farm Deli, Inc. d/b/a **NYC The Bull Restaurant & Rotisserie** 67-12 Fresh Pond Rd, Ridgewood, NY

Corporate Changes

San Cecilio Restaurant Inc. 853 Wyckoff Avenue, Ridgewood is selling the business "as is" and the new president will be Marvin Carvajal.

5 Time Champs Inc. d/b/a **Courtside Lounge**, 69-08 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale has a new principal operator, Eileen Frazier.

Demolition and Construction Notices

The Board Chairman reported that the Board received several building construction notices, as well as demolition notices since the last monthly Board Meeting, including: **79-36 and 79-40 Cooper Avenue**, full demolition of one-story industrial buildings, in Glendale; **56-20 Grand Avenue**, full demolition of garage, in Maspeth; **71-08 60 Avenue**, partial demolition, and addition of 2nd floor and attic onto 1-family house, in Maspeth.

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.

The Board Chairman welcomed everyone to participate in this year's Queens County Veterans Parade along Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village, starting at 80 Street and ending at Christ the King High School, on Sunday, November 6th, from 12 Noon to 2pm.

He also welcomed everyone to join in the Halloween Day Parade on Myrtle Avenue in Glendale, starting at 5pm on 65 Street and proceeding along Myrtle Avenue to St. Pancras School Yard at 68 Street.

Regarding the proposed conversion of the Holiday Inn Express, located at 59-40 55 Road in Maspeth, the Board Chairman reported that Dmytro Fedkowskyj has been appointed Chair of the Special Committee for Homeless Issues. He gave the floor to Mr. Fedkowskyj to address the Board.

Dmytro Fedkowskyj reported that the Executive Committee met in the Board 5 office on Monday, October 17th and decided to re-activate the Board's ad hoc committee regarding homeless issues. He said that as committee chair, he will convene a meeting of the Homeless Issues Committee in early November to discuss the following: 1) how to capitalize on this opportunity to help fix a broken system that attempts to help members being serviced by the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) within the CB5Q area and NYC; 2) Work with all elected officials to mediate the current situation in hopes of reaching real solutions; 3) Better understand the process of what homeless people have to go through to obtain lodging and services and what options are offered to

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

homeless people seeking shelter; 4) Better understand the mandated services provided by the Dept. of Homeless Services, and the time-line on when they are provided, so they can get the help and support that they need; and 5) Better understand the community impact, based on homeless enrollments within a shelter facility. Mr. Fedkowskyj said that one main focus of the committee is to better understand the needs of homeless people and families, besides the fact that they need lodging. He said that it is important to understand that not all homeless people are drug addicts, ex-cons and violent people. Many of them have run into some bad luck, or have been subjected to domestic violence.

He also announced that at tonight's Queens Borough Board Meeting, the Commissioner of the Department of Homeless Service Steven Banks announced that his department is initiating a new process for community notification for the siting of homeless shelters. He said that DHS recently opened 9 new shelters throughout the City.

Regarding the Board's Capital and Expense Budget priorities for FY 2018, the Board Chairman gave the floor to the District Manager Gary Giordano to deliver the Executive Committee's recommendations for adoption by the full Board.

The District Manager reported that the Committee's Capital Budget recommendations were derived from the Budget survey results compiled by the Board staff this month, and copies were distributed to each Board member. He read aloud the top ten capital budget project recommendations, as follows:

- 1 Redesign and Reconstruct Sewer System in Portions of CB5Q Area Having Worst Flooding Problems
- 2 Provide New Catch Basins and Reconstruct Deteriorated Catch Basins in the CB5Q Area
- 3 Provide New Street Tree Plantings, and Provide Funding for Street Tree Removals, Stump Removals, Planting of Replacement Trees and Increased Pruning, Especially Considering the September 2010 Macrobust, 2011 Hurricane Irene and 2012 Hurricane Sandy
- 4 Make Capital Improvements to Improve Pedestrian and Vehicle Safety on Grand Avenue at 69th Street, at Grand Avenue/LIE East Bound Service Road, and at the 69 Street/LIE Service Road Intersections
- 5 Evaluate the Structural Condition of the Elevated MTA "M" Train Line in the CB5Q Area, Perform Repairs and Paint the Structure
- 6 Rehabilitate Ridgewood Reservoir - Phase II and the Surrounding Area, Including Portions of Highland Park
- 7 Repower Polluting Stage Zero Freight Engines Hauling NYC Municipal Waste Through District 5, Queens
- 8 Rehabilitate Glendale Branch Library
- 9 Construct an Athletic Field at the DEP Newtown Creek Aeration Facility Property
- 10 Provide Replacement of the Synthetic Turf Ballfield and the Running Track at the West End of Juniper Valley Park

As there was no further discussion, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the committee's recommendation which then carried unanimously by a vote of - 35 - in favor, - 0 – opposed; - 0 – not voting; and – 0 – abstentions.

The District Manager explained that the Board's Expense Budget recommendations were presented to the Board members in a different format this year. He said that Board members concurred with the Executive Committee's recommendations that were distributed along with the Capital Budget Survey forms this year. He read aloud the top 10 Expense Budget funding categories, as follows:

1. Assign Additional Personnel for the 104th Police Precinct Patrol Force
2. Provide Field Workers for Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations
3. Hire Inspectors and Plan Examiners, in sufficient numbers, to cope with illegal uses of property and

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

questionable construction

4. Provide Sanitation Department Cleaning Personnel to clean illegal dumping and for litter basket collections
5. Provide Funding for Educational and Recreational Programs for children and teens
6. Provide Funding for Fire Department Services
7. Provide Needed Services for Senior Citizens
8. Provide More Frequent Garbage and Recycling Pick-up for Schools and Institutions
9. Allocate Funds for the Operation and Enhancement of the Division of Forestry in Queens
10. Provide Sufficient Personnel for Traffic Safety inspections, sign Installations, pavement markings and sign manufacturing

As there was no further discussion on the matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the committee's recommendation which then carried unanimously by a vote of - 35 - in favor, - 0 – opposed; - 0 – not voting; and – 0 – abstentions.

The Board Chairman gave the floor to Theodore M. Renz to discuss the proposed changes in the rules and regulations that govern applications for Street Festivals in the City. Mr. Renz said that last week, he attended a public hearing on the proposed citywide changes in the rules for Street Festival applications which would take effect on January 1, 2017. He said that most people who attended the hearing voiced their opposition to the proposed changes, particularly the proposed restrictions on the number of Street Festivals throughout the City. Alex Maureau said that to his knowledge, the Mayor's Office is also proposing to limit the number of one-day block parties to no more than 20 per year in each Community Board. He said that setting an arbitrary number of 20 block parties per Community Board is questionable.

Mr. Renz said that since the deadline for community input is next week, he would prepare a statement for submission to the Mayor's Office on this matter on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the District Manager. There were no objections.

Committee Reports

Transportation Services Committee

Tobias Sheppard-Bloch

Toby Bloch said that committee members met on September 27 with the community construction liaison for the Emergency Bridge Deck Replacement project, over the LIRR tracks at the intersection of Fresh Pond Road and Metropolitan Avenue, in Ridgewood. He said that committee members reviewed a power point presentation on this project. He pointed out that work on this project has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. He said that new signage has been installed along the detour route, in preparation for the start of this long-awaited project. He said that for the time being, the new detour route signs have been draped with black mesh.

Mr. Bloch also reported that the committee recommended to expand the bicycle network in the Ridgewood and Middle Village areas to include Eliot Avenue from 69 Street to Woodhaven Boulevard, 80 Street from Juniper Boulevard North to 57th Avenue; 63 Avenue from Dry Harbor Road to Woodhaven Boulevard; and 69 Street from Metropolitan Avenue to Maurice Avenue. He said that implementation of the new bike routes is expected to begin this month.

Mr. Bloch also reported that the Dept. of Transportation has implemented a temporary plaza on Wyckoff Avenue between Gates Avenue and Palmetto Street. He said that it appears to be very successful at calming pedestrian traffic and relieving congestion in that area of Ridgewood.

New Business

Theodore Renz, Executive Director of the Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District, welcomed everyone to attend the Annual Ridgewood Stroll on Saturday afternoon, October 22, 2016 along Seneca Avenue from Catalpa

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on October 19, 2016

Avenue to Myrtle Avenue. He said that local vendors will host a wine and beer tasting event, along with a variety of food, and local entertainment.

Carmen Santana requested that in future, coffee be served at Board Meetings. The Board Chairman replied that he would take her request under advisement.

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 9:30pm.