



Community Board No. 5

Borough of Queens
Ridgewood, Maspeth, Middle Village and Glendale
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Vincent Arcuri, Jr.
Chairperson

Gary Giordano
District Manager

Minutes of Remote Community Board 5 Public Meeting

November 10, 2021

Board Members Present

Bhubaneshor Adhikari; Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Antonetta Binanti; Jessica Boiardi; Alyssa Bonilla; Eric Butkiewicz; Rachel Caracci; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Maria de la Cruz; Derek Evers; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Steven Fiedler; Dr. Sukh Gurung; Fred Hoefflerle; Richard Huber; Paul A. Kerzner; Kinga Kurzyna; Maryann Lattanzio; Edward Lettau; Patricia Maltezos; Edgar Mantel; Katherine Masi; Marcin Nadgorski; April Narsasian; Margaret O’Kane; Michael O’Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Kenneth Rehberger; Theodore Renz; Kelvin Rodriguez; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; Dennis Stephan; Catherine Sumsky; Katarzyna Syta; Gyanal Thapa; Barbara Toscano; Patrick J. Trinchese; Michaeline Von Drathen; and Maryanna Zero

Board Members Absent

Toby Sheppard Bloch; Patricia Crowley; Brian Dooley; Fred T. Haller; Diego Leclery; Eileen Moloney

STAFF

Gary Giordano, District Manager-CB5Q
John Maier – Community Associate-CB5Q

GUESTS

Joseph Nocerino – Office of the Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
P. O. Michael Berish, Community Affairs Officer – 104th Police Precinct

Before proceeding, the Board Chairperson stated that due to concerns about community spread of the COVID19 virus, this meeting will be conducted remotely and electronically via **Zoom**. Members of the public can view this meeting in progress, via livestream on **YouTube**, by clicking on this link: <https://youtu.be/LM1iu1ROix4> or by clicking on the link to our Community Board’s online Home Page at www.nyc.gov/qnscb5.

Following the Salute to the Flag led by Donald Passantino, the Board Chairperson announced the first item on the Board Agenda as:

PUBLIC FORUM

The District Manager read aloud the following statement from Board Member Jessica Boiardi: “My name is Jessica Boiardi and I am a proud new member of this community board, as well as a mom of a 5 year old and 7 month old. I am here today to share a struggle so many working parents have - childcare, particularly summer camp. Here is some information:

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Of the most popular neighborhood camp options, none of them ran up until school started. This has left every working parent scrambling for options.

- Sensational Kids was cancelled this year due to Covid, but it would have only run until the 3rd week of August.
- Learning Tree is only for 3-5 year olds this year and ran until August 27th.
- The Ridgewood YMCA also ran until August 27th but had limited capacity and filled up immediately.
- Summer Rising ran until August 13th, and while seats were guaranteed, children were turned away.
- Kids Play World ran until August 9th with only half-day options.
- Our Savior ran until August 20th.
- The most popular camp in the neighborhood, on the school campus of Christ the King High School, only ran until August 13th, and costs close to \$2500 for the summer.

There aren't enough options for the working families in our neighborhoods over the summer. I am here to ask for assistance as we think about 2022 - to ask the community board, particularly the education and youth services committees, to assist with this, to work with the local organizations, businesses, and the city to expand the options available and the timing that these camps run. Parents should not be this stressed out to find a place for their child to have fun over the summer. Thank you so much!"

The Board Chairperson referred the matter to the Youth Services Planning Committee.

The District Manager read aloud the following statement from Maroua Righi, at the NYC CCRB: "Hope all is well. This is Maroua Righi, Outreach Coordinator at the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB). As you may know, the CCRB is a city government agency that is independent from the New York Police Department, that investigates and mediates complaints against NYPD officers in a neutral and unbiased manner. The CCRB investigates allegations of excessive force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and offensive language. If you experience or witness police misconduct and would like to file a complaint, you can do so on our website at www.nyc.gov/ccrb.

As an outreach coordinator, I provide workshops and presentations to community organizations, educational institutions, religious institutions, government agencies and elected officials offices. I provide the following information: Structure and authority of the CCRB, Civilian rights and responsibilities during police encounters such as "Stop & Frisk", our processes of investigation and mediation, and the Right to Know Act.

If you are interested in a workshop, reach out to me at MRighi@ccrb.nyc.gov, or call (212) 912-3487.

I look forward to hearing from you in order to bring this important information to the community!

I greatly appreciate CB 5 sharing this information with the community. Thank you! Best, Maroua Righi, Outreach Coordinator, NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), 100 Church Street 10 FL, NY, NY"

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vincent Arcuri

The Board Chairperson requested that the District Manager take attendance of Board members who were present at the meeting. He recognized the staff of Community Board 5 who were present: District Manager Gary Giordano and former Board member John Maier, who was recently hired to fill Laura Mulvihill's position on staff. He welcomed John to his new job on the Board's staff.

MINUTES

The Board Chairperson asked Board members to review the minutes of last month's Board Meeting which was conducted on October 13, 2021. The minutes were adopted by acclamation on a motion by Walter Clayton that was seconded by Lee Rottenberg.

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LIQUOR, WINE and BEER LICENSE APPLICATIONS and RENEWALS

The District Manager read aloud the following Liquor License notifications that the Board has received since last month's Board Meeting:

New Liquor Licenses

- 1) **Mon Cheri Inc.** 64-14 Fresh Pond Rd., Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) **Velma 584 Ridgewood, LLC d/b/a Velma 584 Seneca Ave,** Ridgewood, NY 11385

Liquor License Renewals

- 1) **Inbing Inc. d/b/a Chasers 60-63 & 60-65 Flushing Ave.,** Maspeth, NY 11378
- 2) ***5103 Building Corp d/b/a **Knights of Columbus 79-03 Myrtle Ave,** Glendale, NY 11385
- 3) **The Corner Venture LTD d/b/a The Live Oak 59-93 Fresh Pond Rd,** Maspeth, NY 11378

New Wine, Beer and Cider License

- 1) **Royal Pizzeria of Myrtle 55-06 Myrtle Ave,** Ridgewood, NY 11385

Wine, Beer and Cider License Renewals

- 1) **Maca Restaurant Corp 62-12 Woodhaven Blvd.,** Rego Park, NY 11374
- 2) **Jin Noodle Inc;** 66-41 Fresh Pond Rd., Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 3) **Angel Fire Buffet Inc. d/b/a K & K Super Buffet 341 - 345 St. Nicholas Ave.,** Ridgewood, NY 11385

Other Notifications

- 1) *Grove Productions LLC d/b/a **Nowadays, 56-06 Cooper Ave, Ridgewood,** NY 11385 will be submitting an application for an All-Night Permit on New Year's Eve for the hours of 10pm-8am.
- 2) ** Poppers Locarno LLC d/b/a **HOLO, 15-63 Decatur Street, Ridgewood,** NY 11385 will be submitting an application for an All-Night Permit on New Year's Eve to remain open until 8am.

*Indicates Outdoor Area

**Indicates Basement Establishment

***Also received a Corporate Change Notification this month

Demolitions and Construction Notices

The District Manager announced that over the past 30 days, the Board Office received demolition and/or construction notices about the following locations:

- 1) Excavation at **58-61 56 Street, in Maspeth,** in connection with the new construction of a 2-story warehouse;
- 2) Demolition of a small chapel in St. John's Cemetery, at **66-01 80 Street, in Middle Village;** and
- 3) Demolition of a 2-family house at **18-63 Starr Street, in Ridgewood,** in conjunction with plans to construct a new four story, 7-unit multiple dwelling on this site.

The Board Chairperson commented that the small chapel in St. John's Cemetery that's now scheduled for demolition is the original chapel, just inside the front gate of the cemetery.

Next, the Board Chairperson recognized Joe Nocerino, Community Coordinator for the Queens Borough President Donovan Richards and gave him the floor to give his report.

On behalf of Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Joe Nocerino said that the Queens Borough President sends his best wishes to all Board members and their families. He announced that the Borough President will host Borough Hall's annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Wednesday, December 8th at 6:45 pm, outside Queens Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Boulevard, in Kew Gardens. This event will include caroling by the Garden Players of Young People, cookies, and a special visit from Santa. He welcomed everyone to join this holiday event and advised that an RSVP is required by going online to: www.queensbp.org/rsvp.

Mr. Nocerino also announced that the annual Menorah Lighting Ceremony will be held in front of Queens Borough Hall at 4:30pm on Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 and welcomed all to participate.

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Lastly, he welcomed everyone to attend the 1st Annual Family Christmas Movie Special, "JINGLE JANGLE, a Christmas Journey," sponsored by the Queens Borough President, at 6pm on Friday, December 17th in the Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Queens Borough Hall. He said that hot cocoa and donuts will be served with light refreshments. He advised that proof of vaccination and identification will be required for entry and said that anyone interested in attending must RSVP at www.queensbp.org/rsvp.

The Board Chairperson reminded everyone that tomorrow is Veterans Day and welcomed them to attend a Veterans Memorial Ceremony that will be held at 11am at the Glendale Memorial Triangle, located at the intersection of Myrtle and Cooper Avenues. He said that afterward, some participants may proceed along Myrtle Avenue and place wreaths at the Ridgewood Memorial Plaza on the corner of Cypress Avenue. Theodore Renz, Executive Director of the Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District, said that, to his knowledge, no ceremonies are planned for tomorrow at the Ridgewood Memorial Plaza. Rich Huber, a Board member, said that following a brief ceremony at the Glendale Memorial Triangle, a contingent of Veterans plans to lay wreaths at the Sgt. Edward I. Miller Memorial Triangle, at the intersection of 73 Street, Cooper Avenue and Central Avenue, in Glendale.

The District Manager read aloud the following statements from local elected officials:

Statement from State Senator Joseph Addabbo submitted by John D'Angelo, Community Liaison.

"Some recent legislation introduced and co-sponsored by NYS Senator Addabbo that became state law this month:

1. Bill sponsored by the Senator prohibiting the sale of Whipped Cream Chargers (whippits) to persons under the age of 21 becomes law.
2. Legislation co-sponsored by the Senator aimed at silencing illegally modified motor vehicles and motorcycles signed into law by Governor Hochul.
3. Bill sponsored by the Senator allowing family members to care for a sibling under Paid Family Leave

The Senator will be hosting a Meet & Greet and Hand Sanitizer Giveaway on Saturday, November 20th, from 10:30 AM to 12 PM at the Stop & Shop Supermarket located at 74-17 Grand Avenue, Maspeth.

In honor of our Veterans and Veterans Day, our Middle Village office will be a drop-off location for Holiday cards and toiletries to be sent to our service men and women overseas.

Our office continues to assist constituents with a variety of issues, such as, National Grid/Precision Pipeline Solutions scheduling and fees, damages caused by Hurricane Ida, and noise complaints. Our Middle Village office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 AM to 5 PM. Our office number is (718) 497-1630. Calls received after the office is closed are taken by a service and relayed to our office the next day unless it is an emergency call. Thank you and have a good evening."

Statement from Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi, 28th AD submitted by Kevin Wisniewski

"Hope everyone is safe and well.

First, as we reach the end of Assemblyman Hevesi's 2021 park cleanup series, we want to thank all of the civic partners and volunteers who came to events across the district. We planted hundreds of daffodils that will bloom in spring and removed dozens of bags of trash. Our final cleanup in the series will be this Sunday at Painter's Playground in Rego Park. While the official series is stopping, you can let us know areas that need attention, and we will gladly work with Parks, Sanitation, and volunteers to

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address any issues.

Also locally, we are receiving an influx of cases related to National Grid, in which constituents have been fined \$100 for not arranging a time to let a technician into their homes to inspect gas equipment, when the agency has either not been responsive to calls to schedule an appointment or has sent representatives at times when the homeowner is unavailable. We have resolved individual cases brought to our office but are currently surveying to see the full extent of the issue and are contacting National Grid. If you have been affected or know someone else who has been, you can contact our office for assistance.

Legislatively, Assemblyman Hevesi is preparing for his 2nd year as Assembly Children & Families Committee Chairperson and he will have an agenda focused on mitigating childhood trauma and increasing access to state supports for parents, kids, and providers. We are working out our top priorities and will keep the board apprised as we move towards the legislative session.

Finally, as part of our ongoing Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) distributions, we will be at the Fresh Pond Road Station of the M Train line next Thursday at 8am, providing masks and hand sanitizer. Feel free to stop by if you need PPE or would like to say hello. We can also arrange pickups/drop-offs of equipment.

Thanks again to the board and those attending tonight's meeting for your continued leadership, and as always, feel free to reach out to us at (718) 263-5595 if we can be of assistance."

Statement from NYS Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar, 38th AD

"Dear Community Board 5,

Thank you so much for your labor of love for our community. As CB5 members you have a valued place with me and my office. Tomorrow is Veterans Day. I'd like to begin by thanking our veterans for their service to our country. I am a proud member of the Assembly's Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Coming from a family of doctors, I am especially focused on veteran's health issues, including mental health issues like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI). I was proud to co-sponsor a bill in Albany to coordinate state resources to assist veterans struggling with PTSD and TBI, and I'm glad to report that the bill was signed into law by the Governor just last month.

Yesterday, I joined Governor Kathy Hochul to honor our women Veterans. I also had the honor of speaking at the Queens American Legion Breakfast and bringing two of our Veteran leaders to a special Albany Veterans Committee Meeting. Tomorrow, on Veterans Day, I will be attending Veterans events throughout the district, including the VFW Auxiliary Event and the American Legion Post 104 Veterans Event at the Glendale Veterans Triangle.

We've had a few busy months in the district. It was a pleasure marching in the Glendale Halloween Parade and helping to judge the winning costumes was indeed a highlight!

I was also proud to join Vinny Arcuri, Queens Public Library President Dennis Walcott, and others to re-open the Glendale Public Library, an invaluable community resource.

I am hosting several upcoming events at my office. This Sunday, I am hosting a Health Fair at my office from 1 to 3 pm. Doctors will offer free health services like blood sugar testing, blood pressure screening, and general physician counseling. On Tuesday, November 30th, I am partnering with Mt. Sinai Health to host a breast cancer mammogram van at my office. Please call my office to make an appointment for a potentially life-saving screening. On Tuesday, November 23rd, I will be hosting a holiday give-away for the community together with ICNA Relief volunteers in Queens.

Please also remember that my office is even open on weekends, on Saturdays from 11am to 2pm! My office is also open Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. You can always reach me at 718-805-0950 or by email at rajkumarj@nyassembly.gov. It is an honor to serve you."

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The Board Chairperson said he was happy to report that he attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony and reopening celebration of the Glendale Public Library at 78-60 73 Place, on the corner of Myrtle Avenue, on Monday, November 1st, at the invitation of Dennis Walcott, President and CEO of the Queens Public Library. He said that Mr. Walcott just underwent surgery to implant a new pacemaker to maintain a steady heartbeat. He wished him well.

Next, the Board Chairperson recognized Police Officer Michael Berish from the Community Affairs Unit of the 104th Police Precinct and gave him the floor. Officer Berish began by thanking the Veterans in attendance for their service and wishing them a Happy Veterans Day tomorrow.

Officer Berish reported that there were two successful Halloween parades in the precinct last week. He said that there was a great turnout for the traditional parade along Myrtle Avenue in Glendale on Halloween Day. He said that everyone in Maspeth enjoyed the parade on Grand Avenue, as well. He thanked all the volunteers who made it all possible.

Regarding crime statistics in the 104th Precinct, Officer Berish reported that the incidence of Robberies has declined 30% over the past 28-day period, while the number of Felonious Assaults has risen by 20% during the same period. Most of these cases are related to domestic violence disputes, he said.

Regarding the incidence of Burglaries and Grand Larceny Auto Thefts, he said that those figures remain flat, while the number of Grand Larceny cases has decreased by 8% year-to-date. He said that there's been an overall 3% decrease in the incidence of crimes reported in the past 28-day period, as compared to the same period last year, and 13.6% decrease in crimes reported year-to-date in the 104th Police Precinct.

He pointed out that in a citywide comparison of the year-to-date crime statistics reported per Precinct, the 104th Precinct ranks 66th out of a total of 77 Precincts in the city. With the Holidays approaching, he cautioned everyone that they should arrange for package deliveries to be made when someone's home to bring them inside as soon as possible. Packages that are left on doorsteps are at high risk of being stolen, he said. He also recommended that everyone make sure that their home security system is in good working order at this time of year. He said that the audio-visual tapes on alarm systems assist police in apprehending thieves who try to steal packages from in front of your home. He said that home security systems are very often a deterrent to burglars, as well.

The Board Chairperson asked if there's been a reduction in patrol strength in the 104th Precinct recently. Officer Berish said that there hasn't been too much of a disruption since last week, when all first responders were mandated to get vaccinated to protect them and the public from further spread of the Covid19 virus. He said that the precinct is short personnel now, but no more than usual.

Maryann Lattanzio, a Board member, asked Officer Berish if he had any information about a recent shooting incident in the vicinity of Juniper Valley Park. He replied that the incident that occurred last night, in the vicinity of Lutheran Avenue and Juniper Boulevard South, was a robbery at gun point. He said that cash was stolen from someone who was walking out of the park. He said this crime fits the pattern of crimes that have increased in all the precincts in Queens North and Brooklyn North, recently. Ken Rehberger, a Board member, thanked Officer Berish for his service, and asked him what actions have been taken in response to the brawl that occurred outside the new party place that's located on the corner of 73 Place and Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village. Officer Berish replied that police have been closely monitoring this location, in addition to several other locations where fights between patrons have spilled out into the street and surrounding area. He said that it's been very quiet in the precinct over the past few weekends.

Lee Rottenberg, a Board member, asked for an update on a robbery that occurred inside Atlas Park at 6pm on Halloween. Officer Berish replied that police were stationed at Atlas Park during the day when there was a great crowd of children and adults who enjoyed the events that had been planned for them there. He said after the crowd dissipated, a group of older teenagers robbed younger teens of their

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personal belongings. He said that ever since then, there have been additional patrols assigned to that area during the day.

Mr. Rottenberg said that, reportedly, homeless people have been frequenting the stores in Atlas Park and there's a problem with shoplifting there. Officer Berish replied that shoplifting is a problem that occurs in every chain store in the city now. He said a lot of chain stores, including drug stores, hire their own security to deter shoplifters.

Cathie Sumsky, a Board member, asked about the status of a new venue located at 75-12 Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village. Officer Berish replied that this site is on their list of locations to monitor regularly. He said that Police Officers in the 104th Precinct have contacted the owners to inform them of all the guidelines to follow. He said that it's been quiet so far.

Patrick Trinchese, a Board member, asked Officer Berish if there have been any arrests made in connection with recent assaults that have occurred in Atlas Park. He said that over the past 43 years that he's lived in Middle Village, he had always heard reports about the number of Grand Theft Auto crimes and Grand Larceny going up. But, over the past year, he said that there seems to be an increasing number of violent crimes that have occurred in this precinct.

Regarding the robbery that occurred in Atlas Park, Officer Berish said that the investigation is still ongoing. He said that while detectives are still working on that case, he has no further comment on it. Officer Berish said that, in general, most violent crimes that occur in the 104th Precinct have taken place in Ridgewood for the past 20 years or so. For the past 2 years, he said that there's been a 1.6% uptick in the number of violent crimes that have been committed throughout the precinct. Over the past 5-year period, he said that there's been a 1.6% decline in the number of violent crimes reported in the 104th Precinct. Overall, he said that there has not been a measurable increase in the incidence of violent crimes in the precinct.

Jessica Boiardi, a Board member, asked if the 104th Precinct is planning any events for kids at Christmas. Officer Berish replied that there will certainly be festivities for the holidays. He said that they'll get the word out as soon as their plans have been finalized.

Ed Lettau, a Board member, asked if there are any support groups in this precinct to help people who are depressed about something, such as, Covid19 or they may be getting divorced, and might possibly want to harm themselves. Officer Berish thanked him for raising the issue because, unfortunately, the incidence of suicides always goes up over the holidays. He recommended calling the person you're concerned about on the phone regularly as a good intervention.

Officer Berish also suggested that encouraging their participation in social events where they could meet friends or neighbors can be helpful, as well. And, finally, he said that the police or EMS will respond to calls for Wellness Checks if you say you're calling on behalf of someone you think may be suicidal. He said that the NYPD has initiated a new program in some local precincts that involves a Suicide Prevention Officer responding to calls for assistance in these types of cases.

Richard Huber, a Board member, urged everyone to report whatever illegal activities they witness in their neighborhoods because it could be a tip to the police that may lead to the apprehension and arrest of criminals who might otherwise go unnoticed. Officer Berish agreed.

In closing, Officer Berish announced that the 104th Precinct Community Council's next meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday, November 16th, in Sacred Heart School, in Glendale.

District Manager's Report

Gary Giordano

The District Manager welcomed everyone to join the Board Chairperson and him for the wreath-laying ceremony at 11am tomorrow at the Glendale Memorial Triangle to commemorate Veterans Day. He

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said that the ceremony celebrates the lives of all the servicemen and women who have fought for our freedom since World War I.

Mr. Giordano said that he was happy to report that, to his knowledge, 91% of the city's workforce has been vaccinated at least once, and the number of vaccinations of NYPD, FDNY and Sanitation workers is increasing daily. He said that people who have not been vaccinated are putting themselves and their family members, and anyone they may spend time with, at risk of being infected with the Covid19 virus, which has killed over 700,000 people in the United States alone. He encouraged everyone to get vaccinated if they haven't done so already.

The District Manager reported that many of the streetlamps that are located on the pathways between the upper and lower ball fields, inside Juniper Valley Park, are not working. He said that the Parks Department is working with Con Edison to restore the lighting in that area.

Mr. Giordano also reported that Toby Bloch is not in attendance at tonight's Board Meeting due to his father's passing after an extended illness. May God bless Toby, his family and his Dad, he said.

He also announced that the Department of Sanitation conducts seasonal collections for leaves and turns them into compost. He advised everyone to set out leaves and yard waste at curbside in paper lawn and leaf bags or unlined bins after 4 PM on Saturday, December 11, 2021 for collection on the following day, Sunday, December 12th. He cautioned everyone to put their leaves and yard waste in brown paper bags, not plastic ones.

Mr. Giordano announced that the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council will hold their 40th Anniversary Celebration starting at 12 Noon on Sunday, November 21st at Russo's on the Bay in Howard Beach. He said that the proceeds from this event will go to support all of the youth programs that they're operating throughout Queens.

The District Manager wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked them for all the good they do.

The Board Chairperson opened the floor to questions and comments.

Richard Huber, a Board member, suggested that the large brown bins that were used for compost materials, until the program was interrupted by the City, be used to collect leaves and put at curbside after 4pm on Saturday, December 11th.

Walter Clayton asked what's the status of the project to reconstruct the running track and turf field in Juniper Valley Park. The District Manager reported that, to his knowledge, there are two or three collapsed drainage pipes and one that's blocked with concrete under the surface of the soccer/football field. He said that the Parks Department has been in negotiations with the contractor.

Derek Evers asked when the Ridgewood Y will reopen their doors. The Board Chairperson replied that the Board staff will inquire about it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning and Land Use Review Committee

Walter Sanchez

Walter Sanchez reported that the Committee met remotely last night with the property owner and their representative for the development of two 2-family properties: 1) at 1718 Decatur Street, and 2) 1112 Wyckoff Avenue in Ridgewood. He said that they gave a power point presentation for each site.

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Mr. Sanchez said that their plans call for the demolition of these existing structures that are located in an M1-4D Zoning District, in a mixed-use area with a combination of commercial, industrial and residential uses on the same block. He said that both properties are deteriorated and in disrepair. He said that according to their plans, the first property, located at 1718 Decatur Street, will be developed into a 3-story residential property, replacing a 2-family house on 25' x 171' lot. According to the proposed plans, the new structure will have a total of 6 one-bedroom residential units with two apartments each on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors. The basement will be occupied by accessory residential uses, and the site plans show a 30' setback in the rear yard, he said.

He described the existing character of this block as primarily residential, with some commercial businesses and a community facility located on the block.

Regarding the other site, located at 1112 Wyckoff Avenue, Mr. Sanchez said that the plans call for demolition of the existing two-family structure on a 53' x 100' lot, which would permit the construction of a three-story structure that is built lot line to lot line, with a 30' rear yard. The proposed occupancy of this site would be a total of 6 residential units, with one bedroom in each unit, and two units per floor, he said.

Mr. Sanchez said that the committee liked the drawings that were presented and had no objections to the proposed development of both properties.

In response to a question from the floor, Mr. Sanchez said that the existing structure at 1718 Decatur Street is a three-story building. The property that's located at 1112 Wyckoff Avenue is a two-story structure, he said.

On a point of clarification, the District Manager explained that because these properties are both located in an M1-4D Zoning District, the Zoning Resolution prohibits new residential construction except in certain instances, such as, when residential properties are destroyed by fire. The City Planning Commission may use their discretion to grant authorization, in cases where residential development in an M1-4D Zoning District would be considered preferable to further manufacturing development, he said.

Transportation and Public Transit Services Committee

Theodore M. Renz

Theodore Renz, Chair of the Public Transit Services Committee, reported that the Committee met on Tuesday, October 19th, to review two traffic safety presentations that were given by representatives of the NYC Dept. of Transportation. He said that their first presentation addressed several intersections in the vicinity of PS 71, PS 153, IS 93 and Grover Cleveland High School in Ridgewood. The improvements included a redesign of crosswalks at several intersections where students walk to and from school, to improve pedestrian safety.

He said that their second presentation addressed safety issues in the vicinity of PS/IS 128 in Middle Village. The Dept. of Transportation representatives said that they estimate their plans will be finalized this year and implemented in the Spring or Fall next year.

Rich Huber, a Transportation Committee member, emphasized that agency representatives were informed of the dangerous tree condition at the Highland Boulevard/Vermont Place intersection, yet sidewalk work has begun at this location.

Regarding the painting of the M train BMT-line structure in Ridgewood, Mr. Renz reported that work crews are expected to complete painting the section of the structure on the west side of the Seneca Avenue station before Winter. He said that next year, the work crews will return to finish working on the section of the M Train structure between the Seneca Avenue station and the Wyckoff Avenue station. Ken Rehberger, a Board member, stated that painting under the Fresh Pond Road train station should have been included in this project.

New Business

Theodore Renz, Executive Director of the Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District, gave a shout out to Antonetta Binanti, the owner/operator of Rudy's Bake Shop on Seneca Avenue in Ridgewood. He said that she recently received a citation from Queens Borough President Donovan Richards for contributing so much to the health and welfare of the community. He said that she remained open for business through the pandemic, providing a beacon of hope to the surrounding community.

The Board Chairperson reminded everyone that they are welcome to bring their compostable materials to the Glendale Community Garden at 74-10 88 Street anytime, day or night.

Mr. Renz announced that the Myrtle Avenue BID will celebrate Small Business Saturday, on November 27th, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, with free public entertainment and festivities for everyone from 12 Noon to 4pm in the 71 Avenue Plaza. He welcomed everyone to join the festivities.

The Board Chairperson invited everyone to attend the Christmas Tree lighting at 5pm on Friday, December 3rd at the Glendale Memorial Triangle on the corner of Myrtle Avenue at Cooper Avenue.

Edgar Mantel, a Board member, asked whether a Board member will be appointed or elected to replace John Maier, who served as a member of the Executive Committee until recently. The Board Chairperson replied that the Executive Committee will take the matter under advisement.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the Board Chairperson entertained a motion to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.