



## 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 18, 2020

#### Board Members Present

Bhubaneshor Adhikari; Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Eric Butkiewicz; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Patricia Crowley; Brian Dooley; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Steven Fiedler; Dr. Sukh Gurung; Fred Hoefflerle; Richard Huber; Paul A. Kerzner; Kinga Kurzyna; John Maier; Patricia Maltezos; Edgar Mantel; Katherine Masi; Eileen Moloney; Margaret O’Kane; Michael O’Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Kenneth Rehberger; Theodore Renz; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; Dennis Stephan; Gyanal Thapa; Barbara Toscano; Patrick J. Trinchese; Maryanna Zero

#### Board Members Absent

Antonetta Binanti; Jerome Drake; Fred T. Haller; Maryann Lattanzio; Edward Lettau; Mike Liendo; Kelvin Rodriguez; Carmen Santana; Catherine Sumsky; Megan Tadio; Michaeline Von Drathen; Nan Zhang

#### GUESTS

Joseph Nocerino – Acting Queens Borough President Sharon Lee  
Joy Chen, Associate Planner, Queens Office – NYC Dept. of City Planning

#### STAFF

Gary Giordano, District Manager-CB5Q  
Laura Mulvihill, Community Associate-CB5Q

Before proceeding, the Board Chairperson stated that due to the current health emergency, our Public Hearing and Monthly Meeting are being conducted remotely on the Zoom platform. Board members, staff and guests have been provided a link to participate. Members of the public are welcome to view the livestream of this hearing and Board Meeting on YouTube, which will be posted on our CB5Q Website Homepage at [www.nyc.gov/qnscb5](http://www.nyc.gov/qnscb5) tomorrow.

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

**Public Hearing Re: Proposed Citywide Zoning Text Amendment for Coastal Flood Resiliency (N 210095 ZRY)** – This is an Application from the N.Y. City Dept. of City Planning

Joy Chen, Queens Planner in the Dept. of City Planning, gave a power point presentation on this topic, that included many colorful illustrations of the provisions in the proposed zoning text amendment.

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

She welcomed everyone to attend a public virtual workshop on this topic tomorrow afternoon from 4pm to 5:30pm. She encouraged all those interested in learning more details about the proposed zoning text amendment to register for it by visiting their website at: [www.waterfrontplan.nyc](http://www.waterfrontplan.nyc) to RSVP.

Ms. Chen began her presentation by stating that close to a million New Yorkers live in the floodplain today, a risk that became evident during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. She said that this risk is expected to increase over time, with sea levels rising, which will be exacerbated by more frequent and powerful coastal storms. For this reason, the City has been working to develop an overall resiliency strategy with a multi-tiered, complementary approach, that has four main components: Coastal strategies to strengthen the coastline as a first line of defense against flooding and sea level rise; Buildings that are designed to withstand and recover from flooding; Infrastructure improvements that provide protection from anticipated climate change; and Better preparation by residents and businesses in advance of a storm.

Ms. Chen said that Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency (ZCFR) is a central tool in encouraging resilient buildings. She said that a more resilient City is one where neighborhoods, buildings and infrastructure can withstand and recover quickly from flooding and climate events. In keeping with this strategy, she said that the proposed ZCFR would make permanent the temporary zoning rules that were adopted post-Hurricane Sandy to help buildings meet the flood-resistant construction requirements in Appendix G of the NYC Building Code, the section that prescribes standards for construction in the floodplain. She said that the proposed ZCFR would also improve upon such rules, based on lessons learned during this ongoing outreach process. She pointed out that as part of this process, the Dept. of City Planning's 2019 Preliminary ZCFR Recommendations were released on May of 2019.

Ms. Chen said that the proposed ZCFR would also set a framework for emergency situations—whether they be like Hurricane Sandy, or COVID-19, providing property owners with the option to design or otherwise retrofit buildings in order to reduce damage from future coastal flood events; be resilient in the long-term by accounting for climate change; and potentially save on long-term flood insurance costs.

In addition, Ms. Chen said that the proposed ZCFR would provide permanent relief to floodplain properties, focusing on long-term resiliency by removing impediments for buildings to exceed minimum flood-resistant construction requirements, and by allowing neighborhoods to be adapted over time.

Ms. Chen cited the four main goals of the proposed ZCFR as:

**1) Encourage resiliency throughout the current and future floodplains.** As she spoke, she pointed to that area of the Maspeth Industrial Area on the map, where the risk of major flooding occurring before 2050 is estimated to be 0.2%. She said that this area is proposed to be included in the future floodplain.

**2) Support long-term resilient design of all building types.** Modification to zoning regulations would allow building owners throughout the floodplain to proactively incorporate resiliency improvements in their buildings by expanding the applicability of the optional rules. She explained that optional zoning regulations would allow building owners to physically elevate habitable spaces and other building support features above expected flood elevations.

In addition, Ms. Chen said that ground-floor regulations would incentivize the floodproofing of ground floors, encourage active uses to be kept at the street level and promote internal building access. She explained that when these allowances are used, buildings would have to comply with “flood-resistant construction standards” and a new set of streetscape requirements. She pointed out that many of the buildings that were built on the west side of Newtown Creek in Maspeth were constructed before 1946, before floodplain regulations went into effect. She said that additional flexibility would be available to special conditions common in older neighborhoods such as Maspeth, so that those buildings can also become resilient. Furthermore, she said that discretionary options would be available to address unique

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

situations to ensure that all buildings and neighborhoods can be resilient, such as, permitting the construction of ramps for accessibility to ground floor elevations.

**3) Allow for adaptation over time through incremental retrofits, such as, raised yards and flood panels, and elevated mechanical equipment.** Ms. Chen said that key spaces that are often located within basements or cellars, especially those that help support businesses such as offices or storage rooms, would be able to be located above flood levels.

**4) Facilitate future recovery by reducing regulatory obstacles.** Ms. Chen said that more options to locate power systems on lots throughout the city would make it easier for properties to provide back-up energy, especially in the event of a disaster. She pointed out that Hurricane Sandy showed that areas affected by the storm went beyond the existing floodplain, and that the regulations which would facilitate recovery would be useful for other types of disasters. In addition, she said that Hurricane Sandy demonstrated that a lengthy process to update zoning regulations can present obstacles to the necessarily fast-paced disaster response. She explained that with a simplified documentation process, damaged buildings can be rebuilt faster.

In closing, Ms. Chen said that this citywide text amendment is being proposed to follow the Uniform Land Use Review Process (ULURP) clock, in parallel with the three local actions to simplify the review process, namely, the proposed rezoning of Gerritsen Beach and Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn, and Old Howard Beach in Queens. She pointed out that Community Boards have 60 days from the date of certification to review and comment on the proposed Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency. She said that the deadline for Community Boards to vote on this matter is December 28, 2020.

For more background information on the proposed zoning text amendment, she recommended reading the full report that was prepared by the Dept. of City Planning, titled Resilient Industry, Mitigation and Preparedness in the City's Industrial Floodplain.

The Board Chairperson thanked her for her presentation and opened the floor to questions and comments. He pointed out that several large industrial facilities are located on both sides of Newtown Creek, and asked how those buildings could be elevated. Ms. Chen replied that the proposed guidelines would only be applicable to new construction or building expansions. She said that their goal is to encourage property owners to be more proactive in adapting their buildings to reduce the risk of flooding their basements and ground floors, even if they're not required to do so.

Bob Cermeli, a Board member, pointed out that many property owners are still paying to repair the damage that was done to their homes during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. He asked if they would be required to elevate the ground floor of their homes now. Ms. Chen replied that existing homeowners would ordinarily be grandfathered in, unless they want to rebuild or expand their buildings.

Ken Rehberger, a Board member, asked if there is a set time for this proposed zoning text amendment to take effect. Ms. Chen replied that it would go into effect shortly after the City Council's likely approval next year.

Sukh Gurung, a Board member, said that he was under the impression that since existing factories and manufacturing facilities cannot be raised, the City planned to protect them from flooding by building a barrier wall along the coast. Ms. Chen said that option is still under discussion, but it's probably cost prohibitive.

Paul Kerzner, a Board member, requested a link to the Dept. of City Planning's website where the proposed zoning text amendment is posted.

John Maier, a Board member, requested the link to the report entitled: Resilient Industry, Mitigation and Preparedness in the City's Industrial Floodplain. Ms. Chen replied that she would email the Board office with links to both sites tomorrow.

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

As there was no further discussion on the matter, the Board Chairperson announced the next item on the Board Agenda as:

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The District Manager Gary Giordano read the following statement about the proposed Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency submitted by Walter Dodson, CEO of EConcrete:

“Waterfronts link our cities to our oceans. To increase sustainability and resilience in an era of rising seas and stronger hurricanes, we need to reimagine this interface. The Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency amendment takes distance and elevation into account for high risk flood zones. However, flood-mitigating construction on and in public waterfronts and waterways should also utilize approaches and technologies that minimize impact on resilience-building ecosystems, like oyster reefs, and reduce conflict with pre-existing environmental goals (like the Restore New York Shellfish program). Environmentally sensitive approaches and technologies that integrate natural and nature-based features into waterfront development and coastal protection should be an integral part of any waterfront project. Natural and nature-based features fulfill engineering functions relevant to flood risk management, while producing additional economic, environmental, and/or social benefits. Shoreline-based restoration is one tool in fighting coastal erosion and flooding. In-water barriers, like Houston’s Ike-Dike, are also effective solutions for maintaining waterfronts, and the public’s ability to access them. Shoreline based solutions, like beach nourishment, and in water technologies, like breakwaters, should take environmental services into account at all levels – from their materials to their form and placement.

With the goal of reconstructing and retrofitting NY waterfront and waterway infrastructure, like seawalls and piers in mind, new resiliency standards should include best practices and eco-engineering principles. By doing so, marine habitats are enabled to restore themselves, allowing for true sustainable development and greater hurricane resiliency. We urge this Board to take ecological engineering principles into account and ensure New York’s waterfronts and waterways are built not only to generic strength standards, but also to provide environmental risk reduction and ecological uplift.”

Staff member Laura Mulvihill read the following statement from Evelyn Chassagne, Exec. Asst. to CEO of Wyckoff Heights Medical Center:

1. Wyckoff Heights Medical Center (WHMC), in conjunction with the State of NY, opened a COVID-19 testing center that is now performing up to 200 tests daily.
2. WHMC has opened a Visitor’s Center for Ambulatory patients and friends/relatives waiting for their loved ones after a clinical procedure. The Visitor’s Center is located at 1610 DeKalb Avenue.
3. WHMC has taken steps to create a safer hospital plant by heat testing and questioning every employee, every day, before they enter the floors of the hospital, in an effort to create an NBA-type bubble.
4. On 10/27/20, WHMC was the victim of a Russian ransomware cyberattack that is ongoing to this day. No patient information or financial information has been compromised. WHMC has successfully transitioned to manual documentation mode and our quality health care has not been impacted. The hospital continues to work closely with Federal, State, and NYC authorities to contain and defeat this virus, restore our technical capabilities, and transition back to normal operations. WHMC was, as many other U.S. hospitals have been, targeted and subjected to this ransomware cyberattack.

Board Chairperson Arcuri said that there was a major Russian cyberattack on government facilities that has affected all affiliated healthcare facilities.

Staff member Laura Mulvihill took attendance of Board members and staff who were present.

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

On behalf of Queens Borough President Sharon Lee, Joe Nocerino wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He announced that tomorrow at 6pm, their office will host a Virtual Parent Advisory Board Meeting, and the link to participate in the meeting is posted on the Queens Borough President's website at [www.queensbp.org](http://www.queensbp.org). He also announced that at 4:30pm on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Borough President will host an in-person Tree Lighting Ceremony in front of Queens Borough Hall at 120-55 Queens Blvd, in Kew Gardens. He welcomed everyone to attend but cautioned that social distancing rules will be observed.

Staff member Laura Mulvihill read the following statement from P.O. Michael Berish, 104<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Affairs Unit:

"Currently the 104th Precinct is seeing an uptick in Burglaries. This is a mix of residential and commercial burglaries. In efforts to combat this crime we have adjusted some schedules and added additional resources to the late night and early morning hours of the day, since this is when majority of the burglaries are occurring. Grand Larceny as well as Grand Larceny Auto are crimes that continue to take place in the 104. Some tips to prevent these crimes from occurring are not leaving your keys/key fobs in the vehicle, not leaving any valuables in the vehicle, locking your vehicles, ensuring you have working cameras at your business or residence, try to use lights to brighten up the location, ensure that all entries and exits are properly secured, if you are a business owner or worker do not leave any cash in the register at the end of the business day. With the holiday season approaching so is online shopping. Be sure to leave specific instructions on delivery methods and always track your purchases in efforts to prevent package thefts. Be sure to not leave a package unattended for long periods of time. The use of security cameras at your location helps greatly to deter these crimes. As always, if anyone has questions or concerns please feel free to call or write. Look forward to hopefully seeing everyone soon."

### **LIQUOR, WINE and BEER LICENSE APPLICATIONS and RENEWALS**

Staff member Laura Mulvihill 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 and/or renewals since last month's Board Meeting on October 14, 2020.

#### **New Liquor License**

- 1) Yisroel Cherns d/b/a **Sweet Jane's Bar** 64-02 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

#### **Liquor License Renewals**

- 1) **Fajitas Sunrise Restaurant Corp.** 59-24 Myrtle Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) **MIFRA Corp.** 779 Wyckoff Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 3) **Ltauha Restaurant** 55-50 Myrtle Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 4) Juventus Sport Caffe Inc. d/b/a **Amici Café** 73-11 88 Street, Glendale, NY 11385

#### **New Wine and/or Beer Licenses**

- 1) NIJ Inc. d/b/a **Cachapas y Mas** 678 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) **GAV Restaurant Corp.** 69-32 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378
- 3) Olivares Mex LLC d/b/a **Ridgewood Taco Factory** 66-89 Forest Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 4) **Royal Pizzeria of Myrtle Corp.** 55-06 Myrtle Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

#### **Wine and/or Beer License Renewals**

- 1) Z&Y NYC Inc. d/b/a **My Sushi** 79-20 Eliot Avenue, Middle Village, NY 11379
- 2) **La Cocina de Mama Inc.** 56-23 Metropolitan Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 3) **Banatul Folklore and Soccer Club** 18-80 Menahan Street, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 4) **Wakamatsu Queens Japanese Rest. Inc.** 70-18 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378
- 5) CBC Pizza Corp. d/b/a **Glendale Pizza** 68-27 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

### ***Other Notifications***

\*Wyckoff Weirfield Corp. d/b/a **Trans-Pecos, 915 Wyckoff Avenue/16-11 Weirfield Street**, will be submitting an Alteration Application to make the following changes:

1) Refocus of business direction to a Vietnamese Restaurant from previous principally music venue focus; 2) Relocation and change of dimensions to customer bar; 3) Relocation and change of dimensions to existing (seasonal) service bar on patio; 4) Service bar to allow drink preparation within "café" seating area; 5) Change to alcohol storage area locations; 6) Activation of entrance/exit at Weirfield Street frontage; 7) Minor change to partition walls, not affecting egress; and 8) Seasonal sidewalk seating, and seasonal temporary freestanding covered structures, in accordance with NYC "Open Restaurants Program," and all other regulations.

\*Licensed Outdoor Area

### **Demolition Notices**

Staff member Laura Mulvihill reported that the Board received the following demolition notices since last month's Board Meeting on October 14, 2020: Full demolition of **63-02 Fresh Pond Road**, on the southwest corner of Bleecker Street; and Full demolition of **16-37 Woodbine Street**, on the south side of St. Nicholas Avenue, **in Ridgewood**.

### **MINUTES**

The Board Chairperson asked Board members to review the minutes of last month's Board Meeting which was conducted on October 14, 2020. The minutes were adopted by acclamation on a motion by Walter Clayton, seconded by Peggy O'Kane.

The District Manager Gary Giordano read the following statement from the Mayor's Office:

"The Open Storefronts program began October 30th and will run until December 31st. This program permits storefront businesses to use a portion of their sidewalk to display merchandise, sell goods, complete transactions, and provide queuing areas. We encourage New Yorkers to shop locally this holiday season and support our small businesses.

As part of the Vision Zero initiative, the City has launched the fifth annual Dusk and Darkness campaign, reminding motorists how dangerous fall and winter evenings are for pedestrians and cyclists, especially after clocks "fall back" for the end of Daylight Savings Time. There is also a similar education and enforcement effort taking place around new state laws which require all motor vehicle passengers to wear seat belts.

The City is concerned about rising COVID-19 case numbers but we can still fight back a second wave. Please continue to wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance, and get a test often. Please see the attached flyer for testing sites in Queens.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving,"

Jessica Schabowski, Queens Borough Director, Mayor's Community Affairs Unit

The District Manager Gary Giordano read the following statement from Assemblyman Brian Barnwell:

"Our office hopes everyone and their families are safe, healthy, and well. Assemblyman Barnwell and our team thanks the community for the honor to continue to serve the District, and it is a privilege that we do not take for granted.

We are happy to announce two community drives that our office will be hosting. We will be hosting our annual Turkey Drive, in which we donate turkeys to those in need for Thanksgiving. If you would like to request a turkey for your family, or if you would like to donate a turkey, please call our office at 718-

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

651-3185 or email Assemblyman Barnwell at [barnwellb@nyassembly.gov](mailto:barnwellb@nyassembly.gov) Please note that the last day to donate will be November 23rd.

Our office will also be holding a Toy Drive for families in need. Since our office remains closed due to COVID, all donations can be set up by calling us at 718-651-3185 or emailing Assemblyman Barnwell at [barnwellb@nyassembly.gov](mailto:barnwellb@nyassembly.gov) Please note that the last day to donate will be December 21st.

As always, if you or anyone you know needs help with any issue, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.”

The District Manager Gary Giordano read the following statement from Council Member Robert Holden, 30<sup>th</sup> CD:

“Hello Neighbors, Community Board 5 members, and fellow elected officials. I hope you all enjoyed the month of October while staying safe and healthy, and I thank you for your continued work and volunteerism as we draw closer to the end of this incredibly challenging year. Our city continues to battle the Novel Coronavirus, and we must continue our collective efforts to practice social distancing, wear masks, and practice good hygiene.

The City Council continues to operate remotely, and our calendars have been filled with committee hearings and Stated Meetings as we continue to do work on behalf of nearly 8.6 million New Yorkers. Last Friday, as Chair of the Council’s Committee on Technology, I held a hearing on the ethical implications of artificial intelligence and automated decision systems. Both the public and private sectors utilize technologies that take the human element out of important decision-making, such as, hiring, deciding punishment in a court of law, and many others. We heard from the Chief Technology Officer of the City of New York along with other de Blasio Administration officials, and from industry officials, academia, advocates, and members of the public. I will also be holding a Technology Committee hearing on cloud computing, and how we could use advanced technologies to make city government more efficient and productive.

This past Sunday, together with Assembly Member Mike Miller, and State Senator Joe Addabbo, I held an electronic waste recycling event at the Forest Park Bandshell parking lot. Well over four hundred vehicles participated in the event, and dozens more folks walked over to recycle their electronic waste. This event showed us the need for e-waste recycling programs, and my office will work with the Administration and the Dept. of Sanitation to reinstate this city program. This Thursday, at 6 PM, along with the Landmarks Preservation Commission, I will be hosting an outreach event for property owners in the three designated Ridgewood Historic Districts. The goal is to help property owners understand LPC’s permitting process which ensures that the character of these neighborhoods is preserved and to share opportunities for grants and low-interest loans for owners who do work to maintain their properties. For those interested, please check my social media pages for more information.

As always, feel free to contact my office with any of your questions or concerns. Thank you again for your continued dedication to our communities, and I hope to see all of you soon.”

### **District Manager’s Report** **Gary Giordano**

The District Manager reported that work is proceeding on schedule on the sewer reconstruction project on 70 Street between Calamus Avenue and the Long Island Expressway, in Maspeth. He said that the contractor has just informed him that they’re planning to excavate a 30’ wide shaft to a depth of 60 feet on Grand Avenue very soon, which will only leave sufficient space for one driving lane in each direction on Grand Avenue, from 69 Lane to 72 Place. He said that the travel lane will be directly adjacent to the curb, and therefore will require elimination of parking along the curb. In addition, he said that the

Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

shared bike lane on Grand Avenue means that the 13' wide travel lane will be shared by motorists and cyclists.

He explained that, unfortunately, the size and scope of the shaft excavation make it impossible to accommodate parking on Grand Avenue while work is underway during this part of the project, so he's asked the contractor to start this part of the job after the holidays, if possible.

The District Manager also announced that as part of the Dept. of Sanitation's snow removal preparations, they've begun collecting household garbage and recycling overnight in parts of our district now. He advised everyone to put their household garbage and recyclables out at the curb for collection before Midnight on the night before their regular collection days.

He said that illegal dumping on several local roadways continues to be a problem. He asked everyone to report any illegal dumping conditions to the Board office so staff can relay the information to the proper authorities.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Zoning and Land Use Review Committee

#### Walter Sanchez

Walter Sanchez reported that the Committee met remotely on Monday, November 2, 2020 to review and discuss both zoning variance applications that were presented to the Board at last month's Board Meeting.

He described the first item that they discussed as a Board of Standards and Appeals application, **No. 599-76BZ for 70-02 72 Place (B: 3664; L: 7) in Glendale, Queens, NY 11385**, in the matter of an application to the NY City Board of Standards and Appeals, by Eric Palatnik, P.C., to reopen and amend the term of the previously granted variance, which expired on December 21, 2016, for a term of 15 years. The variance permits an existing two-story Use Group 17 factory, for **FM Brush Co.**, with accessory storage, in an R4-1 Zoning District.

He said that at their meeting, Committee members agreed that this family-owned business has been a good neighbor to the surrounding community for decades. There are no complaints on record regarding their operation, he said. The Committee recommends approval of their 15-year term variance, as presented, he said.

The Board Chairperson Vincent Arcuri asked if the Committee considered recommending a variance for an indeterminate period. Mr. Sanchez replied that Committee members had reservations about that idea because if the business were to be sold, or there's a change in management, it may present problems.

As there was no further discussion of the Committee's recommendation, the Board Chairperson Vincent Arcuri requested a Roll Call vote on the matter, which then carried unanimously by a vote of -33- in favor; - 0 – opposed; - 0 – abstentions; and – 0 – not voting.

Mr. Sanchez said that the second zoning variance application that the Committee reviewed at their meeting was: **BSA Applic. No. 360-49BZ for 69-05 Eliot Avenue (B: 2838; L: 38) in Middle Village, Queens, NY 11379** in the Matter of an Application to the NY City Board of Standards and Appeals, by Eric Palatnik, P.C., for an Extension of Variance Term, which expired on Feb. 25, 2015, for the continued use of a gasoline service station (**British Petroleum**), with accessory uses, for a 10 year term, in an R4-1 Zoning District.

He reported that there are no complaints on record regarding the operation of this service station which has been there for decades. He said the Committee recommends in favor of granting a 10-year term variance for this business on this site.



Minutes of CB5Q Remote Board Meeting on Nov. 18, 2020

On a point of clarification, the Board Chairperson asked if this service station is located on the northeast or northwest corner of Eliot Avenue at 69 Street. The District Manager replied that it is located on the northeast corner of that intersection. He said PACE Tire Shop is located on the northwest corner. As there were no further questions or comments on this matter, the Board Chairperson requested a Roll Call vote on the Committee recommendation, which carried unanimously by a vote of – 33 – in favor; - 0 – opposed; - 0 – no abstentions; and – 0 – not voting.

## **Transportation Services Committee**

### **John Maier**

John Maier, Co-Chair of the Transportation Services Committee, reported that the Committee met remotely on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, to review the status of capital improvement projects in our Board area, in addition to traffic and pedestrian safety requests.

Mr. Maier reported that representatives of the NYC Dept. of Transportation recently announced that the replacement of the Grand Street Bridge over Newtown Creek between Queens and Brooklyn in Maspeth is currently in the design stage. He said that the bridge will be fully closed on Saturdays next month to perform repairs to the existing structure.

Regarding the status of plans for the Reconstruction of Wyckoff Avenue between Flushing Avenue and Cooper Avenue, Mr. Maier reported that there are ongoing questions about the extent of contamination at the nearby Wolff Alport Superfund Site and to what extent it may have migrated into the local sewer system. He said that the area is currently under study by the Dept. of Environmental Protection.

Regarding a request from Broadway Stages for designated parking spots on Cooper Avenue, btw 82 Street and 83 Street, in Glendale, Mr. Maier reported that the Committee is not in favor of granting as many 9 parking spaces, on both sides of Cooper Avenue, in the vicinity of their parking lot entrance. Board Chairperson Vincent Arcuri pointed out that Broadway Stages is building another sound stage on Cooper Avenue now. He said that their tractor trailers arrive at all hours of the day and night, and they may need additional clearance at curbside to pull into or out of their parking lot entrance. Kathy Masi, a Board member, commented that she saw a tractor trailer being driven into their parking lot today and they pulled in without a problem. Mr. Arcuri replied that some tractor trailers are longer than the standard 53 feet in length. Mike Porcelli, a Board member, said that it can be very difficult to maneuver a 53-foot tractor trailer with cars parked so close to the parking lot entrance.

### **New Business**

Peggy O’Kane, a Board member, reported that a streetlight pole was removed from in front of 87-47 Myrtle Avenue, in Glendale, and was never replaced. The Board Chairperson directed staff to follow up on this matter.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the Board Chairperson entertained a motion to adjourn at 9:16pm.