



Vincent Arcuri, Jr.  
*Chairperson*

## Community Board No. 5

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

### Minutes of Community Board 5 Public Meeting February 7, 2018

#### Board Members Present

Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Deborah Cox; Brian Dooley; Jerome Drake; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Sarah Feldman; Steven Fiedler; Patricia Grayson; Mohan Gyawali-Chhetri ; Fred T. Haller, III; Fred Hoefflerle; Maryann Lattanzio; Edward Lettau; Michael LoCascio; John Maier; Katherine Masi; Margaret O’Kane; Michael O’Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Theodore M. Renz; Kelvin Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; David Sands; Carmen Santana; Connie Santos; Christopher Sperrazza;; Barbara Toscano; Patrick J. Trinchese; Maryanna Zero

#### Board Members Absent

Tobias Sheppard Bloch; Robert Cermeli; Peter Comber; Henry Cross; Patricia Crowley; Angela Giovanniello; Paul A. Kerzner; John J. Killcommons; Kathleen Knight; Lydia Martinez; Eileen Moloney; Luis Rodriguez; Walter H. Sanchez; Catherine Sumsy

#### Elected Officials

Don Capalbi – US Representative Grace Meng, 6th C.D.  
Julio Salazar – US Representative Nydia Velazquez, 7<sup>th</sup> C.D.  
Angel Diaz – NYS Senator Michael Gianaris, 12<sup>th</sup> SD  
Anthony Giudice - NYS Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr, 15<sup>th</sup> SD  
Alison Cummings – NYS Assembly Member Catherine Nolan, 37<sup>th</sup> AD  
Rick Rodriguez - NYS Assembly Member Michael Miller, 38<sup>th</sup> AD  
Anthony Nunziato - NYC Council Member Robert Holden, 30<sup>th</sup> CD

#### Staff Present

Gary Giordano, District Manager, CB5 Queens  
Catherine O’Leary, Community Associate - CB5Q Staff  
Joseph Nocerino – Queens Borough President Melinda Katz

#### GUESTS

Leanne Spaulding, Organics Outreach Specialist, NYC Dept. of Sanitation, 44 Beaver Street, NY, NY 10004  
Matt Malina and Jonathan Turer, NYC H2O, PO Box 20773, New York, NY 10009  
Kelit Brown, Pre-K for All Program, NYC Dept. of Education  
Rev. Daniel Klaus and Jeff Vasquez – Calvary Bible Church, 74-15 Myrtle Avenue, in Glendale  
Jraida Martinez and Marte Pirdy, Nursing students at Medgar Evers Community College of CUNY

Board Chairman Vincent Arcuri called the monthly Board Meeting to order at 7:48pm, following the Salute to the Flag. He announced the first item on the Board Agenda as:

**PUBLIC HEARING Re: The Fiscal Year 2018 Preliminary Budget of the City of New York**

District Manager Gary Giordano gave a brief outline of the testimony that he gave at the Queens Borough President's Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2019 Capital and Expense Budget Hearing in Queens Borough Hall that was conducted on Monday, February 5th. He said that written comments on the proposed budget will be accepted at the Board 5 office until February 23rd, 2018. He pointed out that the comment period regarding the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for FY 2018 ends on Monday, March 5th, 2018.

The District Manager commented on the Board's top 10 Capital Budget items for FY 2019, as follows:

1. **Build new, expand or repair storm sewers in the CB5Q Area.** He said that after heavy rains, the Board has received complaints of extensive street flooding and sewer backups in basements in many parts of our communities. Aged sewer lines likely need to be replaced, enlarged or realigned to reduce flooding and resulting property damage. He said that this year, we look forward to completion of funded sewer projects in the Penelope Avenue area, in Middle Village, and along parts of 69 Street and Calamus Avenue, on the Woodside/Maspeth border. Our primary need now is to find solutions to reported sewer backups and street flooding in the Cooper Avenue area and in the 77 Avenue and 78 Avenue areas of Glendale.
2. **Reconstruct deteriorated catch basins and provide new catch basins in the CB5Q Area.** He said that there is an increasing need to replace deteriorated brick catch basins with pre-cast concrete structures. We have had many catch basins that have adjacent cave-in conditions, and/or where the structure is sunken. There is an on-going need for new catch basins to reduce street flooding during rainstorms. For example, there is a real need for basins to be installed in Edsall Avenue, from 71 Place to 73 Place.
3. **Provide new street tree plantings and provide funding for the removal of dead trees and stumps,** and for the planting of replacement trees, especially considering the loss of hundreds of mature trees during the Macroburst in 2010, and Hurricanes Irene and Sandy in 2011 and 2012. He said that Paul Kerzner, with help from civic leaders, surveyed and submitted thousands of locations where street tree plantings have been planted in our Board area over the past few decades.
4. **Improve traffic and pedestrian safety, through traffic calming measures and installation of physical barriers,** particularly in the vicinity of Grand Avenue at 69 Street, at the Grand Ave/LIE Eastbound Service Road, and at the 69 Street/LIE Service Road Intersection in Maspeth. More funding is required to implement this project, he said.
5. **Evaluate the structural condition of the elevated "M" Train Line in the Board 5 Area, perform repairs, abate lead and paint the structure from Wyckoff Avenue to Metropolitan Avenue.** The elevated "M" Train structure is unsightly in our Community Board 5 area, from Wyckoff Avenue to Fresh Pond Road. The structure itself needs to be evaluated for necessary repairs and must be painted, to prevent physical deterioration and to reduce the appearance of decay. The "M" train is our backbone in the NYC public transit system, he said.
6. **Rehabilitate Ridgewood Reservoir - Phase 2 - and Surrounding Area, including parts of Highland Park.** He said that this request is for the rehabilitation of the old pump house, or construction of a new building to serve as an Environmental Center with public facilities at the Ridgewood Reservoir site. He said that this reservoir is the closest place to a nature preserve anywhere near the Board 5 Queens area. Funding is also requested to reconstruct ball fields in Highland Park, as Board 5 Queens has opposed development of the 3 basins in the Reservoir into ball fields or other active recreational uses. He said that under the Phase 1 Project, new lighting, 4 foot fencing, pathways around the Reservoir and a new handicapped access ramp from Vermont Place were completed in 2015. He said the Reservoir site includes 3 basins surrounded by 55 acres of parkland and encouraged everyone to visit the Reservoir to enjoy nature.
7. **Repower polluting LIRR freight train engines used by NY & Atlantic Railway in the Glendale Rail Yard.** He explained that the Fresh Pond Rail Yard, in Glendale, is the location where all freight entering or leaving Long Island has to travel through and be sorted out. He said that the polluting locomotives used for this purpose are leased by NY & Atlantic Railway from the Long Island Rail Road. The NYC Sanitation Department is a main freight rail customer. He said that last year, 2 old locomotive engines were replaced, and funds were allocated to repower 2 additional engines this year. He said that there are at least 8 additional locomotives

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that NY & Atlantic leases from LIRR, which should all be replaced with new Tier 4 Switcher Locomotives in order to greatly reduce air pollution in our Board area.

**8. Reconstruct Edsall Avenue from 71 Place to 73 Place, in Glendale.** He said that this capital project is needed to alleviate severe street flooding conditions along these three blocks.

**9. Rehabilitate the Glendale Branch Library, located at 73-15 Myrtle Avenue.** This local library project includes the need for an elevator or other means of handicapped access; new windows, new boiler and air conditioning system, new doors, facade restoration including pointing of bricks, reconfiguration of the adult and teen reading rooms on the first floor and mezzanine, and restoration of the Tuscan garden and outdoor reading room. A Phase I project is funded to install an elevator, provide some other upgrades to the front entry area on 73 Place, and for renovating the main floor section of the library. And, a Phase II project is requested to point the brick building and for other needed improvements that are not included in Phase I. He said that Phase I of this project is slated to begin soon. Additional funding is needed to complete Phase II of this project, he said.

**10. Provide Replacement of the Synthetic Turf Soccer/Football Field, and the Running Track, at the West End of Juniper Valley Park in Middle Village, which are both past their 10 year useful life.** He said that the turf field is more deteriorated than the running track, and both the field and the running track get extensive use by residents from numerous communities. Soccer has become extremely popular with children, teens and young adults, and local soccer teams need a new playing surface for safer play.

Regarding the emergency bridge deck replacement project on Metropolitan Avenue at Fresh Pond Road, over the LIRR tracks, the District Manager said that Mugrose, the contractor, has been found in default on this project, due to a series of long delays in completing this project. He said that funding is available to complete this project, once a new competent contractor has been selected.

The District Manager also pointed out that construction of new school space, where needed in the Board 5 area, remains one of the Board's capital budget requests.

Regarding the Board's Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2019, the District Manager said that the district's needs include:

- An additional 20 police officers at the 104<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct. He said that since 1995, there's been a 25% reduction in the number of Police Officers assigned to the precinct. There have been too many tours when precincts are in alert status, and patrol officers are holding several jobs in backlog status. He pointed out that 10 years ago, 210 Police Officers were assigned to patrol duties in the 104<sup>th</sup> Precinct, as compared to 140 Police Officers this year.
- NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) Field Workers in sufficient numbers to decrease the backlog for sewer system and water system repairs. He said that for the better part of a decade, until the last 2 years, DEP repairs backlog numbered at least 5,000 citywide, and more than 2,000 of this repair backlog was in Queens. Our sewer system in many areas is more than 80 years old, and repairs and replacements will be more and more necessary, he said.
- Dept. of Building Inspectors and Plan Examiners, in sufficient numbers, to reduce illegal property uses and questionable construction.
- Additional Sanitation Dept. Cleaning Personnel to clean illegal dump sites and to make additional weekly litter basket collections. He said that there are ongoing problems with illegal dumping and overflowing litter baskets, making many neighborhoods appear unsightly and inviting rodent infestation.
- Funding for essential Fire Dept. Services, including keeping all Engine and Ladder Companies open and reducing EMS response times.
- Funding for Youth Education and Recreation Programs After-School and on Weekends, especially those that are funded through the NYC Dept. of Youth and Community Development.
- Funding for programs that provide needed services for senior citizens, especially the frail elderly.

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- Funding for sufficient personnel to conduct NYC Dept. of Transportation traffic safety studies, and for the installation of pedestrian and traffic safety improvements.
- Increased funding for the NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development and other litigation services, to reduce the problem of tenants being harassed by property owners who want to evict tenants so that they can lease their apartments for much higher rent.
- Provide school garbage and recycling collections 5 days a week.

The District Manager also expressed serious concern about projected budget cuts to several agencies, including:

- Proposed cuts of more than \$29 Million to the Dept. for the Aging;
- Proposed cuts of more than \$155 Million to the Dept. of Youth and Community Development;
- Proposed cuts of almost \$457 Million to the Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development;
- Proposed cuts of \$189 Million to the Dept. of Environmental Protection;
- Proposed cuts of \$57 Million to the Dept. of Parks and Recreation;
- Proposed cuts of \$584 Million to the Administration of Children's Services;
- Proposed cuts of almost \$369 Million to the Dept. of Design and Construction.

The Chairman thanked the District Manager for his testimony and opened the floor to comments and questions. Edward Lettau asked if more 4-Way Stop signs could be installed at intersections along local traffic corridors in Ridgewood, in order to deter speeding. The Board Chairman replied that the Dept. of Transportation is currently investigating the feasibility of adjusting the timing of existing traffic signals at local intersections in order to slow down the traffic flow through our community. He said that the proposed signal timing at busy intersections would permit pedestrians an additional 15 seconds to cross the street, before the traffic light changes from red to green for motor vehicles. He asked that requests for additional traffic safety measures be submitted to the Board office during normal business hours, preferably in writing.

As there were no further comments or questions on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for FY2019, the Board Chairman closed the public hearing and announced the next item on the Board agenda as:

### **PRESENTATION re: Organics Collection Changes Planned**

By Leanne Spaulding, Organics Outreach Specialist - DSNY Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability

Ms. Spaulding announced that beginning on Monday of this week, February 5th, the Dept. of Sanitation will collect your organics once per week on your recycling day. In addition, residents must make an appointment to get convenient collection of large bulk items by the Dept. of Sanitation, by going online to [www.nyc.gov/bulk](http://www.nyc.gov/bulk) or by calling 3-1-1, to request a pick-up on the second collection day of the week.

She said that large postcards with more information about the Service Update have been mailed to every household in the city. Literature was made available at the meeting.

Ms. Spaulding explained that since 2005, the Organics Recycling program of the Dept. of Sanitation has been working with Big Reuse, a community based composting network that provides New Yorkers with the knowledge, skills and opportunities they need to produce and use compost locally. Their main mission is to divert materials from landfills, minimize carbon emissions, and provide the community with quality low-cost building materials and home furnishings.

She pointed out that local residents can help to improve the environment by donating used items to local charities, including Big Reuse, or by joining the NYC Compost Project that is hosted by Big Reuse, to improve the quality of the city's soil and either drop off food scraps to be turned into compost material, or pick up finished compost for their gardens or front lawns. She said that last year, they were able to divert over 1 million pounds of organic material from landfills through this program. She welcomed volunteers to help out at the Big Reuse Center located in Red Hook, Brooklyn, or at local compost drop-off sites, or at one of their compost processing

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sites. For more information about composting organic materials, she said to visit their website at: [www.nyc.gov/organics](http://www.nyc.gov/organics).

Ms. Spaulding also encouraged residents who live in buildings with fewer than 10 apartments to obtain brown recycling bins where they can store organic materials for their weekly curbside collection by the Dept. of Sanitation. She said requests for the brown bins may be called into 3-1-1, or by registering online at the Dept. of Sanitation's website address: [www.nyc.gov/organics](http://www.nyc.gov/organics).

The Board Chairman opened the floor to questions and comments.

Lee Rottenberg asked if residents could request one of the larger sized brown bins for their personal residence. Ms. Spaulding said that the large size brown bins are only provided to large apartment buildings once they're filled with organic materials, they weight so much that they cannot be lifted by hand and dumped into the back of a Sanitation truck by a Sanitation worker.

Maryann Lattanzio asked if residents are required to participate in the organics collection program. Ms. Spaulding replied that local businesses will be required to participate in the organics collection program this year, but it is not mandatory for residential households to participate in this program now.

Sarah Feldman asked if local organizations could request a speaker from the Dept. of Sanitation to attend their next monthly meeting in order to answer questions about the Organics Composting Program, as a follow up to tonight's presentation. Ms. Spaulding said that she is already scheduled to speak at eight other local events in the Board 5 area this month. She welcomed requests for speakers at their website: [www.nyc.gov/organics](http://www.nyc.gov/organics).

Carmen Santana complained that the Dept. of Sanitation has not picked up recycling materials on her block for weeks. Ms. Spaulding said that any complaints about missed collections must be reported to 3-1-1 whenever they occur.

Ms. Santana also asked why the Dept. of Sanitation does not pick up old electronic equipment. Ms. Spaulding said that households are welcome to discard their electronic equipment at local recycling events that are held a few times a year in each Community Board. She said that this year, in the neighborhoods of North Brooklyn and on Staten Island, the Dept. of Sanitation is planning to adopt a pilot program that would collect discarded electronic items from local households on a regular schedule.

Walter Clayton pointed out that there is an Electronics Recycling Event in the parking lot adjacent to the Forest Park Band Shell twice a year, where many residents drop off their used electronic equipment.

The Board Chairman thanked her for the informative presentation and announced the next item on the Board Agenda as:

### **PRESENTATION re: The Ridgewood Reservoir**

By Matt Malina, Founder and Director of NYC H2O

and Jonathan Turer, Director of Programs for NYC H2O

Matt Malina began by thanking Community Board 5 for their advocacy and support for the addition of the Ridgewood Reservoir site to the National Register of Historic Places. He thanked the Board Chairman, District Manager and Parks Committee Chair Steven Fielder for all of their efforts to protect this nature preserve.

There was a general round of applause.

Mr. Malina introduced Jonathan Turer, who gave a power point presentation about the educational programs and tours that their organization has been sponsoring in the Ridgewood Reservoir since 2014.

Mr. Turer said that NYC H2O wrapped up the fall season of free outdoor field trips for New York students on December 1, 2017. This fall, NYC H2O provided 64 free Water Ecology & Engineering Field Trips reaching over 1,600 students from underserved Title I and III schools. In total, in 2017, 4,780 students participated in 173 field trips. Since starting the program in 2014, he said that NYC H2O has taken over 12,000 students on free field trips, made possible by expanding the educator network and by increasing individual, corporate, foundation and governmental support by 50%.

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He said that their STEM education programs provide a scientific and historical understanding of New York City's water system and infrastructure, engaging students of all abilities in grades 2 through 12 in eight different natural parks, water infrastructure sites and wetlands within the boundaries of the City's five boroughs.

Mr. Turer pointed out in the past year, NYC H2O wrote and submitted the successful Historic Register application for NY State that was just approved for inclusion in the National Register yesterday. He said that Matt Malina presented testimony on December 7, 2017, at the NY State Historic Review Board in Albany in support of listing the Ridgewood Reservoir on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. He said that, in addition, NYC H2O successfully advocated for the long overdue designation of the Ridgewood Reservoir as a Class 1 - Freshwater Wetland to protect the ecology of its basins for future generations. A Public Hearing will be held by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation in March of 2018.

Once the Ridgewood Reservoir was made fully handicapped accessible, Mr. Turer said that NYC H2O began advocating for the installation of a permanent pedestrian-activated signal on Vermont Place in order to make crossing Vermont Place much safer for students and families who want to visit the Ridgewood Reservoir. He said that work on the installation of a new traffic signal there began on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017. He said that on April 23, 2017, NYC H2O organized a volunteer landscaping event at the Reservoir, and removed invasive species, namely mugwort, and planted native shoots like white pines, red oaks, milkweed, goldenrod, black-eyed susans and fleeting boneset at the Ridgewood Reservoir.

He showed slides of the Ridgewood Reservoir on the screen behind him as he spoke, including several photos that were taken of school children on one of the 65 Field Trips that were sponsored by NYCH2O last year.

Mr. Malina welcomed school principals and teachers to schedule a tour of the Ridgewood Reservoir by visiting their website at: [www.nych2o.org](http://www.nych2o.org). He said that the site is open from sun up to sun down. He described it as an ecologically rich environment, where they have been able to identify as many as 8 distinct ecosystems within the confines of the 3 separate basins in the Ridgewood Reservoir.

In response to a question from Steven Fiedler, the District Manager said that he would investigate what would be required in order to open the causeways in Basins 2 and 3 at the Reservoir where visitors might want to walk along the paths through the dense foliage in the center.

In response to a question from Brian Dooley, Mr. Malina said that letters of support from local community organizations and educational institutions would enhance their ability to obtain the additional funding that would be needed to open an environmental center at the Ridgewood Reservoir.

Margaret O'Kane asked who the letters of support should be addressed to. Mr. Malina replied that letters of support should be addressed to the NYC Commissioner of Parks Mitchell Silver. He requested that copies of their correspondence to be sent to his attention at NYCH2O, PO Box 20773, New York, NY 10009.

In closing, he thanked the local elected officials who advocated for the Ridgewood Reservoir, including Deputy Brooklyn Borough President Diana Reyna, NYC Council Members Elizabeth Crowley and Rafael Espinal, NYS Assembly Members Catherine Nolan and Mike Miller, NYS State Senators Addabbo and Gianaris, and U.S. Congressional Representatives Nydia M. Velázquez and Grace Meng.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Depak Borhara, a Community Organizer on the Outreach Team of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, encouraged everyone to obtain an IDNYC card. He said that anyone who is a resident of the City of New York and at least 14 years of age is eligible to apply. He said that IDNYC cardholders enjoy many benefits, such as, membership in the Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens public library systems, and free annual membership in various cultural institutions in the city. In addition, he said that emergency contact information may be

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registered onto your IDNYC card for your personal safety in the event of an accident, etc. For more information, he said to visit their website at: [www.nyc.gov/IDNYC](http://www.nyc.gov/IDNYC).

Dmytro Fedkowskyj, an Executive Committee member and parent of a child who attends PS/IS 128Q at 69-10 65 Drive in Middle Village, spoke in favor of recommending approval of an application submitted by the school principal, Camillo Turruciano, to close 65 Drive between 69 Place and 70 Street from 8am to 11am on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for their annual Dance Festival.

On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Turruciano, he explained that in the past, this event was always conducted in the school yard on the south side of the school. But this year, due to the construction of a new school addition there, the schoolyard is no longer available. He said that instead of cancelling this year's performance, the school principal decided to request the closure of one block of 65 Drive, between 69 Place and 70 Street, which is directly adjacent to the school. He said that the event is scheduled to take place from 9am to 11am and that it will be open to the public. He advised that anyone who wishes to attend this event should bring their own chairs.

John Maier, an Executive Committee member, spoke in opposition to the proposed 4-Day Fresh Pond Road Street Festival in September of this year. He said that Fresh Pond Road is a major north-south thoroughfare in Ridgewood, which serves as the Bus Route for the Q58 Bus, the most heavily utilized Bus route in Queens.

Maryann Lattanzio, a member of 104-GCOP, announced that their next general meeting is at 7pm tomorrow night in Pheiffer Hall at St. Pancras School on Myrtle Avenue at 68 Street, in Glendale. She welcomed volunteers to join their organization in order to assist the officers in the 104<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

She explained that the only qualifications for membership are: one must live within the confines of the 104<sup>th</sup> Precinct and pass a background check. She explained that volunteers may either drive their own vehicles, or accompany someone else who drives in their personal vehicle while on patrol duty.

MK Moore, president of the Friends of Forest Park, said that his organization currently has 450 volunteers who work to accomplish all sorts of projects year-round that improve the environment inside the Park. He pointed out that last year, they filled 120 bags with debris from around the Overlook, planted 1100 daffodil bulbs at various locations inside the Park, and worked with a local Boy Scout Troop to create the Buddy Memorial there. He welcomed anyone interested in joining their organization to contact him at: [FriendsofForestPark@yahoo.com](mailto:FriendsofForestPark@yahoo.com). Flyers were distributed.

Killet Brown, a representative of the Pre-K for All Program of the NYC Dept. of Education, announced that any child who was born in 2014 is eligible to apply for enrollment into the next school year's Free Pre-K for All Program. He said that the registration period opened yesterday, and ends on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. He said that a parent information session will be held at 1pm tomorrow afternoon at the Ridgewood Library, which is located at 20-12 Madison Street, between Forest and Fairview Avenues. He asked everyone to tell their friends and neighbors who have young children about this free educational program.

Keith and Nick, the managers of Sweet Jane's Bar, located at 64-02 68 Avenue in Ridgewood, said that they have been successfully operating at their present location for the past 2 years, without any complaints from neighboring residents. They welcomed everyone to stop in to see them.

Fred Haller, a Board member and Chairman of the Parents Association at the Sacred Heart Academy on 78 Avenue at 84 Street, in Glendale, said that he remembered years ago, when the Ridgewood Reservoir was actually a dangerous place to visit. He said that he was happy that it has turned into such a beautiful recreational area. Since St. Pancras School plans to close their doors this year, he said that the Sacred Heart

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Academy would gladly welcome all of the students who have been enrolled there. He pointed out that there are 3 classes of students who are enrolled in the Free All-Day Pre-K program at Sacred Heart School this year. For more information, he welcomed calls to (718) 821-5576, or emails at [hhattny@aol.com](mailto:hhattny@aol.com).

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vincent Arcuri, Jr.

#### MINUTES

The Board Chairman asked Board members to review the minutes of the January 10, 2018 Board Meeting. John Maier said that David Sands was either present or absent from last month's Board Meeting, but his name shouldn't appear in both sections on page 1. David Sands replied that he was absent last month. The minutes were approved by acclamation, on a motion to accept them as amended.

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

The Board Chairman announced that there is only one establishment in the Community Board 5 area that is in the process of applying for a new beer/wine/cider license since the last monthly Board Meeting on January 10, 2018. Each Board member received a copy of the list.

##### New Beer/Wine and/or Cider License

- 1) Andrea's Chicken Corp. 56-27 61 Street, Maspeth, NY 11378

##### Corporate Change

NY George's Catering Corp d/b/a *Mama Pio* 53-05 65<sup>th</sup> Place, in Maspeth, notified us that they intend to submit an application to the NYS Liquor Authority to change the class of their existing license #1281385 from "Grocery Beer" to "Restaurant Wine."

#### Demolition and Construction Notices

The Board Chairman reported that the Board had not received any demolition notices since last month's Board Meeting.

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

The Board Chairman reported that the Executive Committee met with applicants and their representatives in the Board 5 office on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> to review their applications to hold Street Fairs in the Board 5 area this year. He pointed out that all of the One-Day Street Fairs were approved without objection this year. He announced the first Street Fair application as follows:

- 1) **Ridgewood Local Development Corp. Myrtle Avenue Festival**  
**MYRTLE AVE btw Wyckoff Ave & Fresh Pond Road – Ridgewood** - 11 blocks  
**SUNDAY – APRIL 15th** - 12 Noon to 6pm (Street closing 10am to 7pm)  
**SPONSOR: RIDGEWOOD LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORP.**

Board Chairman Arcuri reported that the committee met with the applicant's representative, Board member Theodore Renz, and recommends in favor of granting this application. As there was no further discussion, he requested a vote by acclamation which carried by a vote of -29- in favor, -1- opposed, and -1- not voting as he is employed by the RLDC.

- 2) **Myrtle Avenue BID Myrtle Avenue Festival**  
**MYRTLE AVENUE btw Wyckoff Ave & Fresh Pond Rd – Ridgewood** - 11 blocks  
**SUNDAY – SEPT. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - 12 Noon to 6pm (Street closing 10am to 7pm)  
**SPONSOR: MYRTLE AVENUE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**



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Board Chairman Arcuri reported that the committee met with the applicant's representative, Theodore Renz, and recommends in favor of granting this application. As there was no further discussion, he requested a vote by acclamation which carried by a vote of -29- in favor; -1- opposed; -1- not voting as he is employed by the Myrtle Avenue BID.

**3) Maspeth Chamber Of Commerce-Lions-Kiwanis Grand Avenue Festival**

**GRAND AVENUE btw 65 Street to 72 Street - Maspeth - 7 blocks**

**SUNDAY - OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup> - 12 Noon to 6pm (Street closing 10am to 7pm)**

**SPONSOR: MASPETH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-LIONS-KIWANIS CLUB**

Board Chairman Arcuri reported that the committee met with the applicant's representative, Jim O'Kane, and recommends in favor of granting this application. As there was no further discussion, he requested a vote by acclamation which carried by a vote of -30- in favor; -1- opposed; -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

**4) Fresh Pond Road Street Festival**

**FRESH POND ROAD btw Woodbine Street & Menahan Street – Ridgewood – 5 blocks**

**THURSDAY - SEPT. 6<sup>th</sup> - 5:30pm to 10pm**

**FRIDAY - SEPT. 7<sup>th</sup> - 5pm to 12am**

**SATURDAY - SEPT. 8<sup>th</sup> - 2pm to 12am**

**SUNDAY - SEPT. 9<sup>th</sup> - 2pm to 10pm**

**SPONSOR: FEDERAZIONE ITALO-AMERICANA di BROOKLYN and QUEENS**

Board Chairman Arcuri reported that the committee met with the applicant's representative, Stefano Turricano, and recommends in favor of granting approval for a 3-Day Festival from Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 on Fresh Pond Road between Woodbine Street and Menahan Street in Ridgewood. After a general discussion of the matter, the Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the committee's recommendation, which failed to carry by a vote of -14- in favor; -17- opposed; -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

Upon further discussion, John Maier made a motion that was seconded by David Sands, to deny approval of the proposed 4-Day Street Festival on Fresh Pond Road from Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

The Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the motion to deny the application for a 4-Day Street Festival on Fresh Pond Road, which carried by a vote of -20- in favor; -11- opposed; -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

**5) Myrtle Avenue Festival in Ridgewood**

**MYRTLE AVENUE btw Fresh Pond Road & Forest Avenue in Ridgewood - 4 blocks**

**SUNDAY - JULY 22<sup>nd</sup> - 12 Noon to 6pm (Street closing 10am to 7pm)**

**SPONSOR: KIWANIS CLUB OF GLENDALE**

Board Chairman Arcuri reported that the committee met with the applicant's representative, Joe Aiello, and recommends in favor of granting this application. As there was no further discussion, he requested a vote by acclamation which carried by a vote of -30- in favor, with one Board member opposed, -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

**6) PS/IS 128 Dance Festival in Middle Village**

**- 1 block**

**65<sup>th</sup> DRIVE btw 69 Place & 70 Street**

**FRIDAY - JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> - 9am to 11am**

**SPONSOR: NYC DEPT. OF EDUCATION - PS/IS 128**

## Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on February 7, 2018

The Board Chairman asked the pleasure of the Board with regard to this application. As there were no objections, he requested a Roll Call vote on Dmytro Fedkowskyj's motion to approve this application, which carried unanimously by a vote of -31- in favor; -0- opposed; -0- abstentions and -0- not voting.

He introduced the District Manager Gary Giordano, and staff member Catherine O'Leary. He thanked Board member Donald Passantino for volunteering his technical expertise with the sound system at tonight's Board Meeting. He also recognized the members of the Press Corps who were present and thanked them for their accurate reporting on the Community Board's most important issues: Benjamin Fang of the Queens Ledger, Chris Barca of the Queens Chronicle, Ryan Kelley of the Ridgewood Times.

The Board Chairman invited local elected officials and their staff to address the Board.

On behalf of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Joe Nocerino reported that on Monday, February 5th, the Borough President presided over the annual public hearing regarding the Borough's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Priorities during which members of the public had an opportunity to present their oral and written testimony. He thanked everyone for their participation in this year's budget hearing, including all of the Queens District Managers, members of the Queens Borough Board and local elected officials. He said that the Community Board and Borough-Wide Capital and Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2019 will be presented to the Borough Board for a vote at their next meeting at 5:30pm, on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 in Queens Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Boulevard, in Kew Gardens.

He informed everyone that the Queens Borough President's State of the Borough Address is posted on their website at: [www.queensbp.org](http://www.queensbp.org). He also announced that representatives from the Dept. of Education will present their 5-Year Capital Construction Plans tomorrow from 3pm to 5pm, in Queens Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Blvd, in Kew Gardens, NY.

On behalf of U.S. Representative Nydia Velazquez, Julio Salazar said that the Congresswoman has introduced 3 bills in Congress this year, including the Superfund Enforcement Act; the Mobile Health Care Clinic Bill; and legislation to permit Small Business Services to allocate funding for eligible local businesses that suffered severe losses during several natural disasters that have occurred this past year. For more information, he welcomed calls to their office at 266 Broadway, in Brooklyn, (718) 599-3651. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of U.S. Representative Grace Meng, Don Capalbi reported that their staff has been fielding complaints about the poor mail delivery service for the past month. He apologized for the delays, and said that the backlog of mail delivery by the US Post Office is now being addressed. He also cautioned local residents that there is a growing problem with "phishing" for mail that has been deposited into corner mail boxes in residential areas. He said that identity thieves have been stealing mail from local mail boxes throughout Queens.

On behalf of NYC Council Member Robert Holden, Anthony Nunziato said that the Council Member is sponsoring a Town Hall in Atlas Park tonight regarding the proposed increases in the City's property tax rates. He said that he is actively seeking to move his district office out of Atlas Park, in Glendale, and find a storefront location in Middle Village. He said that he plans to retain the same phone number: (718) 366-3900.

On behalf of State Senator Joe Addabbo, Anthony Giudice announced that their office is participating the annual Valentines for Veterans Drive this year. Flyers were distributed.

On behalf of Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Alison Cummings announced that this month, the Assemblywoman will be available to meet with constituents in several local libraries in her district, including the

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Ridgewood Public Library on Madison Street at Forest Avenue. She welcomed calls to their office at (718) 784-3194. Flyers and Newsletters were distributed.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Zoning and Land Use Review Committee

Walter Sanchez

In Walter Sanchez's absence, Dmytro Fedkowskyj delivered the following committee report regarding He said that the committee met with the applicant in the Board office at 7:30pm on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> in order to review this application.

Regarding **BSA Cal No. 2017-294 BZ for 55-27 Myrtle Avenue, Ridgewood, (formerly Ridgewood Theatre)**

IN THE MATTER OF an Application to the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals by Rothkrug, Rothkrug & Spector LLP, Attorneys at Law, on behalf of Theatre Building Enterprises LLC, the owner of record, for a Special Permit, pursuant to Sections 73-36 and 32-10 of the NYC Zoning Resolution, to allow a physical culture establishment/gym in portions of the first floor and Cellar at **55-27 Myrtle Avenue**, BLOCK: 3451; LOT: 7, in Ridgewood, Queens, in a C4-3A Zoning District.

He explained that under Sections 73-36 and 32-10 of the Zoning Resolution, physical culture establishments are required to obtain a special permit in order to operate in New York City. A physical culture establishment permit is requested on portions of the first floor and cellar at 55-27 Myrtle Avenue, Block 3451, lot 7 in Ridgewood, which is located in a C4-3 zoning district. He reported that the committee has no objection to granting this special permit at the former site of the Ridgewood Theatre, provided that any and all of the provisions of the Landmarks Preservation Commission will be met by the applicant when it comes to adhering to the historical landmark requirements of the property, and the property of the proposed physical culture establishment is properly soundproofed.

As there was no further discussion on the matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the matter which carried unanimously by a vote of -28- in favor; -0- opposed; -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

Regarding **BSA Cal No. 2017-305 BZ for 66-26 Metropolitan Avenue, Middle Village**, Mr. Fedkowskyj delivered the following report: IN THE MATTER OF AN Application to the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals by Gerald J. Caliendo Architect PC, on behalf of Vertical Industrial Park Assoc., the owner of record, for a Special Permit, under Sect. 73-36, 42-31 and 42-10 of the NYC Zoning Resolution, for a proposed Physical Culture Establishment on a portion of the cellar level of an existing 2 story with mezzanine and cellar commercial building, located in an M1-2 Zoning District, at 66-26 Metropolitan Avenue (Block 3605, Lot 1), in Middle Village, Queens, NY.

He reported that under Sections 73-36 and 32-10 of the Zoning Resolution, physical culture establishments are required to obtain a special permit to operate in New York City, including the proposed physical culture establishment at 66-26 Metropolitan Avenue, which will be located inside the Metro Mall. He said that the entrance to the proposed facility will be from the rear parking lot area of the shopping mall. He said that there are 1,875 shared parking spaces in the rear area and the hours of operation will be 5am through 12 Midnight during the week, and from 7am through 10pm on weekends.

He reported that the committee recommends that the Board have no objection to this application for a special permit at the proposed site.

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As there was no further discussion on the matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the matter which carried unanimously by a vote of -28- in favor; -0- opposed; -0- abstentions; and -0- not voting.

Regarding the installation of new windows at 1879 Putnam Avenue, in Ridgewood, he said that the committee decided to take no action.

### **Old Business**

Sarah Feldman, Chairperson of the Library Services Committee, reported that a new electronic book drop was installed this week at the Maspeth Public Library on Grand Avenue.

Carmen Santana requested that the Board request a presentation by a representative of the Human Rights Commission regarding the provision of public access for people with disabilities at local businesses.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the Board Chairman adjourned the public meeting of Community Board 5, Queens on a motion from the floor at 9:50pm.