



Community Board No. 5

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



Vincent Arcuri, Jr.
Chairperson

Gary Giordano
District Manager

Minutes of Community Board 5 Public Meeting October 8, 2014

Board Members Present

Vincent Arcuri, Jr; Robert Cermeli; Walter E. Clayton, Jr.; Peter Comber; Daniel Creighton; Henry Cross; Patricia Crowley; Venera Lucy Dolce; Brian Dooley; Jerome Drake; Dmytro Fedkowskyj; Steven Fiedler; Dorie Figliola; Caroline Fuchs; Angela Giovanniello; Patricia Grayson; Fred T. Haller, III; Fred Hoefflerle; Robert Holden; Richard Huber; Paul A. Kerzner; John J. Killcommons; Michael LoCascio; John Maier; Lydia Martinez; Katherine Masi; Eileen Moloney; Margaret A. O’Kane; Michael O’Kane; Donald Passantino; Michael Porcelli; Luis Rodriguez; Lee S. Rottenberg; Walter H. Sanchez; John F. Schell; Catherine Sumsy; Jean Tanler; Barbara Toscano; Maryanna Zero

Board Members Absent

Theodore M. Renz; Connie Santos; Lorraine Sciulli; Mercy Wong

Elected Officials

U.S. Representative Grace Meng, 6th C.D. and Chief of Staff Jordan Goldes
Alex Maureau - NYS Senator Joseph Addabbo, 15th SD
Lauren Capozzi - NYS Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi, 28th AD
Anne Krzyzanowski – NYS Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, 37th AD
Angel Vazquez - NYS Assemblyman Michael Miller, 38th AD
Helen Ho – NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio
Kevin Worthington - NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso, 34th CD
Amanda Farias - NYC Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, 30th CD

Staff Present

Gary Giordano, District Manager, CB5 Queens
Laura Mulvihill and Catherine O’Leary - CB5Q Staff

Guests

John S. Cnapich – Director, Paternity and Outreach Services, HRA Office of Child Support Enforcement
Ariel Salazar – NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs, 42 Broadway, New York, NY 10004

Board Chairman Vincent Arcuri called the monthly Board Meeting to order at 7:40pm, following the Salute to the Flag. He introduced the first item on the Board Agenda as:

PRESENTATION - **Child Support Enforcement Division**
by John S. Cnapich, Director of Paternity and Outreach Services
HRA Office of Child Support Enforcement

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

John Cnapich explained that child support is a critically important aspect of healthy child development and responsible parenting, and a meaningful tool in keeping children and families out of poverty. The Office of Child Support Enforcement currently has over 400,000 cases in the City of New York, he said. Their staff works to ensure that every child receives financial support from both parents. He said that all too often, parents do not understand how to properly engage the child support system or the benefits the system provides to custodial and noncustodial parents, and children. As a result, we're currently embarking on a comprehensive public awareness and education campaign.

Mr. Cnapich explained the purpose of the child support program is to provide custodial parents with assistance in obtaining financial support and medical insurance coverage for their children by locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing support orders, and collecting and distributing child support payments. Under NY State law, any parent or nonparent caregiver acting as guardian of at least one child under the age of 21 is eligible to apply for child support services, and the noncustodial parent will be chargeable by the court to pay support until the child is 21 years of age.

Mr. Cnapich explained that in each case, clients are required to sign agreements with his unit to assign their support rights and cooperate with the Child Support Enforcement Unit to locate noncustodial parents and putative fathers, including biological parents or stepparents in order to establish paternity for each child born out-of-wedlock for whom they are applying for, or receiving Temporary Assistance, Medicaid, or Title IV-E Foster Care; to establish, modify, or adjust orders of support; and collect and enforce orders of support through the Support Collection Unit. He explained that all clients are required to assign support rights, unless there is a claim of domestic violence or a show of good cause is established for not doing so.

Mr. Cnapich outlined all of the services that the Enforcement Unit provides clients in child support cases:

- Establishment of a case record.
 - Location of the noncustodial parent or putative father, including obtaining information about addresses, employment, other sources of income and assets, and health care coverage.
 - Assistance to establish paternity (legal fatherhood) for a child born to unmarried parents by voluntary acknowledgment of paternity or by filing a petition with the court.
 - Assistance with filing court petitions to establish and modify an order of support according to the New York State child support guidelines, including obtaining health insurance benefits, if available, from either parent.
 - Assistance in making an order of support payable to the Support Collection Unit.
 - Collection and distribution of support payments. This may include collection and distribution of child support; child and spousal support; educational expenses; child care expenses; and cash medical support, if any of these are included in the order of support made payable through the Support Collection Unit. He said that SSI and Public Assistance Cash Allowance payments are exempt from collection proceedings.
 - Enforcement of support obligations using all available administrative remedies including, but not limited to: income withholding from employment, benefits, or other income; interception of federal and New York State tax refunds; seizure of assets; credit reporting of support debt; suspension of the noncustodial parent's New York State driving privileges; and referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection. Court ordered health insurance benefits are also enforced by the Child Support Enforcement Unit.
 - Filing and prosecuting violation petitions to enforce an order of support through court when administrative remedies are unsuccessful.
 - Legal services (optional to the applicant) upon signing a *Right to Recovery Agreement for Legal Services* (LDSS-4920) for court proceedings. Costs will be recovered for legal services.
- Child support services listed above where parents live in other counties, states, or countries.
 - Continuation of child support services listed above when a family is no longer eligible for Temporary Assistance, Medicaid, or foster care.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

In closing, for more information about this subject, Mr. Cnapich said to visit the New York State Child Support Website: www.childsupport.ny.gov, or call New York State Child Support Customer Service Helpline at **888-208-4485**. Flyers and pamphlets were distributed to those present.

The Board Chairman recognized all of the local elected officials and their representatives who were present, and invited them to address the Board.

Congresswoman Grace Meng informed everyone that this year, she succeeded in sponsoring and passing legislation that increases both criminal and civil penalties for desecrating cemetery property. She said that she is currently working with a bipartisan coalition of members in Congress to pass legislation that would prohibit "spoofing" whereby callers who may claim to represent government agencies, such as, Social Security, or the Internal Revenue Service, threaten to take action against local homeowners and residents, unless they disclose personal financial information over the phone. She said that these calls are fraudulent, and advised everyone to disregard the calls.

The Congresswoman said since 2012, when she first took office, she has been serving on two committees in the House of Representatives: the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Small Business Services Committee. She joined with other Congressional representatives in forming the Quiet Skies Caucus in Queens in order to bring the increasing number of complaints about airport noise in residential districts to the attention of the Federal Aviation Administration. She said that she also serves as Chair of the Child Safety Caucus in the House. In closing, the Congresswoman reminded everyone that she remains opposed to the proposed homeless shelter at 78-16 Cooper Avenue and supports the recommendation to build a public school on this site, instead. She welcomed constituents to contact staff in the district office, located at 118-35 Queens Boulevard in Forest Hills, by calling (718) 445-7861.

On behalf of State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Alex Maureau informed everyone that during their semi-annual Electronic Recycling Event in the Band Shell Parking Lot in Forest Park on Sunday, September 28th, 2014, they collected over 45,000 pounds of waste to be recycled. He thanked everyone who participated, especially State Assembly Member Mike Miller and his staff for co-sponsoring this event. He said that their next recycling event would be held next Spring.

On behalf of State Assemblyman Mike Miller, Angel Vazquez announced that the American Italian Foundation's Mammogram Mobile will be stationed in front of their office at 83-91 Woodhaven Boulevard in Woodhaven, from 9am to 4pm on Sunday, October 19th, 2014. He also announced the upcoming Free V.I.N. Etching and Bike Etching event to be held on Saturday, October 25th from 10am to 12 Noon in the Glendale Community Garden, located at 74-10 88 Street. This event is being sponsored by both Assembly Members Mike Miller and Andrew Hevesi. For more information, he welcomed calls to their office at (718) 805-0950. Flyers were distributed to those present.

On behalf of Council Member Elizabeth Crowley, Amanda Farias announced that there are four sapplings left from the Free Tree Giveaway that their office sponsored on Saturday, October 4th in the Maspeth Federal Savings Bank parking lot on Grand Avenue at 69 Street. She asked for a show of hands of anyone interested in planting them. Dorie Figliola volunteered to plant the trees in the Glendale Community Garden on 88 Street at 74 Avenue. Ms. Farias also announced that Free Immigration Services will be provided in their district office on the first and third Wednesday of the month, beginning this month. Flyers were distributed to those present.

The Board Chairman announced the next Item on the Board Agenda as:

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

PUBLIC FORUM

Joanne Delisi, a long-time Ridgewood homeowner, spoke about a drone flying over her property on the evening of September 30th. She said that she reported the incident to the 104th Precinct and the Federal Aviation Administration. She said that according to the Federal Aviation Administration, drones are not permitted to fly within 5 miles of an airport. She sought the Board's advice on what measures might be taken to safeguard the personal privacy of local residents in this type of situation.

Justin Carter, a partner in 56-06 Cooper Avenue, LLC, in Ridgewood, described his plans to open an entertainment venue at this vacant factory site. He introduced his two business partners, Mark Connell and Eamon Harkin, and requested that the Board approve their plans to provide food and entertainment to the public in the parking lot outside the vacant warehouse located at 56-06 Cooper Avenue. He said that they plan to accommodate hundreds of patrons, with dancing, live and recorded music, and a café bar on weekend afternoons and evenings, between April and October. He submitted several letters in support of their proposed plans. Information packages were distributed to all Board members.

After a general discussion of the matter, the Board Chairman referred the matter to the Zoning and Land Use Review Committee for further review.

Ariel Salazar, a representative of the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, described three new initiatives that Mayor De Blasio's administration is adopting to foster the growth and development of small businesses in the local economy, including: the Small Business Relief Package, the Office of Financial Empowerment and the Paid Sick Leave Law. He said that his office is working with the Mayor's Office of Operations and the NYC Department of Small Businesses Services on a new business friendly program known as Small Business First in order to simplify the City's regulatory climate and make it easier for businesses to interact with government on all levels. Building upon previous reforms, this initiative seeks to make changes that will assist businesses by: 1) providing better information about government requirements and how to comply; 2) simplifying rules and compliance processes to reduce violations; 3) ensuring enforcement focuses on promoting compliance through education and flexibility; 4) easing the process for correction and adjudication of violations; and 5) engaging underserved communities to better deliver services. He reminded everyone that the new Paid Sick Leave Law took effect this Summer.

For more information, he said to contact 3-1-1, or visit the City's website at www.nyc.gov to find out where to find free financial counseling services in your community.

Dawn Scala, a Glendale resident, thanked everyone who attended the first public meeting of the Glendale-Middle Village Coalition that was held on Wednesday, October 1st, regarding the status of the proposed homeless shelter at 78-16 Cooper Avenue in Glendale. She said that over 400 local residents joined the Coalition of local civic associations, businesses and local residents, to fight against the plan to warehouse homeless families in 78-16 Cooper Avenue in Glendale. She said that the Coalition plans to hire a lawyer to represent local homeowners and businesses in opposing the proposed plan to warehouse homeless families at this site. She called the proposal to convert this vacant factory into a housing facility, an ineffective and inefficient use of taxpayers' money. Ms. Scala said that instead, she supports a proposal to build a new public school on this site, considering the problem of school overcrowding in Community School District 24. She distributed flyers, and asked everyone to show their support by signing their on-line petition, located on www.Change.org. Flyers were distributed.

Henry Cross, a Board member, encouraged the Board to create an official Community Board website. He said that most Community Boards in the city have set up their own official website. The Board Chairman replied that the Board staff is currently working with the Department of Information Telecommunications and Technology to set up a webpage on the city's official website at www.nyc.gov. He estimated that the website would be up and running by early next year.

Peter Comber, a Board member, reported that the roof on the Onderdonk House has finally been replaced. He encouraged everyone to visit this historic site, that is located at 1820 Flushing Avenue, on the northwest corner of

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

Flushing Avenue and Onderdonk Avenue in Ridgewood. He welcomed everyone to attend their annual Harvest

Festival, on Sunday, October 12th, from 12 Noon to 4pm. He said that the Onderdonk House can accommodate a variety of local civic events, in addition to wedding ceremonies and receptions. For more information, he said to contact their office by calling (718) 456-1776.

Richard Huber, a Board member, spoke against the proposed homeless shelter at 78-16 Cooper Avenue in Glendale. He said that this proposal has been called a done deal by some. He objected to the unaccountable bureaucracy in this case, that local elected officials do not seem to be able to rein in. He encouraged everyone to vote on Election Day.

Jean Tanler, a Board member, spoke against the proposal to establish an entertainment venue at 56-06 Cooper Avenue, in the Industrial Business Zone area of Ridgewood. She said that there is a shortage of industrial space throughout the city, especially in Queens. She said that bars and restaurants should be located along local commercial corridors, instead of competing for space with local industry. She said that recently, she met with several local businessmen who said that they are getting squeezed out of New York City by other competing uses, such as this. She asked Board members not to approve this proposal.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vincent Arcuri, Jr.

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

Chairman Arcuri informed everyone that on September 23rd, Community Board 5 Queens hosted a National Voter Registration Day at the Board 5 office, located at 61-23 Myrtle Avenue, in Glendale. He thanked Pat Grayson for volunteering to register new voters during the event.

The Board Chairman announced that the Middle Village Veterans Day Parade Committee will sponsor the fifth annual Queens Veterans Day Parade on Sunday, November 9th, 2014, beginning at 12 Noon, at 80 Street and Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village. The parade will proceed along Metropolitan Avenue, ending at Christ the King High School, located at 68-02 Metropolitan Avenue.

MINUTES

Board Chairman Arcuri asked Board members to review the minutes of the September 10, 2014 Board Meeting. Dorie Figliola made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by John Maier. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.

LIQUOR, WINE and BEER LICENSE APPLICATIONS and RENEWALS

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

New Liquor Licenses

- 1) Kathleen Hanrahan Pyle, or Entity to be formed, d/b/a **O'Neill's** 64-15/23 53 Drive, Maspeth, NY 11378

Liquor License Renewals

- 1) **Krolewski Jadlow** 66-21 Fresh Pond Road, Ridgewood, NY 11385
- 2) O'Reilly's Daughters Inc. d/b/a **Yer Man's Irish Pub** 70-26 88 Street, Glendale, NY 11385
- 3) **Lugo Lounge & Restaurant Corp.** 1089 Cypress Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

Catering Establishment License Renewal**

- 1) **Ogle Front Hall** Inc. 16-16 George Street, Ridgewood, NY 11385

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

** A catering establishment license allows providers of food for banquet halls, dining halls, etc. to provide liquor, wine and beer for consumption for an assemblage for a particular function (i.e. retirement dinner, wedding reception, private party) to which the general public is not admitted. This license is for this type of function only).

Regarding the Capital and Expense Budget Priorities of Community Board 5, Queens for Fiscal Year 2016, the Board Chairman reported that the Executive Committee met this month, to review the budget survey results and recommend budget priorities for the coming fiscal year. He gave the floor to District Manager Gary Giordano to read the list of the proposed FY 2016 Capital Budget Priorities of Community Board 5, Queens, as follows:

1. Redesign and Reconstruct Sewer System in Portions of CB5Q Area Having Worst Flooding
2. Reconstruction of Metropolitan Avenue Bridge Over LIRR Montauk Line at Fresh Pond Road
3. Provide New Catch Basins and Reconstruct Deteriorated basins in CB5Q Area
4. Make Capital Improvements to Improve Pedestrian and Vehicle Safety on Grand Avenue at 69th Street, at Grand Avenue/LIE Eastbound Service Road, and at the 69 Street/LIE Service Road Intersections in Maspeth
5. Construct New School Space, Where Needed, in the CB5Q Area
6. Evaluate the Structural Condition of the Elevated "M" Train Line in the CB5Q Area, Perform Repairs and Paint the Structure
7. Rehabilitate Glendale Branch Library
8. Reconstruct South Middle Village Streets
9. Rehabilitate Ridgewood Reservoir – Phase 2 and the Surrounding Area, including Portions of Highland Park
10. Provide New Street Tree Plantings, and Provide Funding for Street Tree Removals, Stump Removals, Planting of Replacement Street Trees and Increased Pruning, Especially Considering the September 2010 Macrobust, 2011 Hurricane Irene and 2012 Hurricane Sandy
11. Provide Replacement of the Synthetic Turf Ballfield and the Running Track at the West End of Juniper Valley Park
12. Improve Myrtle Ave Commercial Strip from Fresh Pond Road to 82nd Street in Glendale
13. Repower Polluting Stage Zero Freight Engines Hauling NYC Municipal Waste Through CB5Q
14. Continue Comprehensive Study of the Sewer System, in CB5Q and Throughout Queens County, Considering Flooding Problems and Anticipated Future Growth
15. Reconstruct Soft Surface Ball Fields, Jogging Path and Add Security Lighting at Francis J. Principe Park (formerly Maurice Park)
16. Reconstruct Dry Harbor Playground - Phase II to Also Include Nearby Tunnel and Pathways
17. Extend Street/Roadway Widening along the south side of Metropolitan Avenue, from Woodhaven Blvd to Aubrey Avenue in Glendale
18. Reconstruct Edsall Avenue from 71st Place to 73rd Place in Glendale
19. Provide Funding for Restoration and Renovation of the Onderdonk House in Ridgewood
20. Replace Existing Bridge at Grand Avenue, over Newtown Creek in Maspeth
21. Establish a Community/Recreational Center at a Site in Maspeth
22. Provide Traffic Facilitation Improvements & Rehabilitation of Fresh Pond Rd - Metropolitan Avenue to Myrtle Avenue in Ridgewood
23. Reconstruct DeKalb Avenue, Halsey Street & Jefferson Street BMT-L Train Stations
24. Reconstruct Softball Field Area at Rosemary's Playground, Ridgewood
25. Reconstruct LIRR and 71st Avenue Bridge Abutments above Cooper Avenue Underpass; Paint the Bridge; and Construct a New Pedestrian Crosswalk Bridge at the Cooper Avenue Underpass Location
26. Reconstruct Sidewalks, Curbs and Pedestrian Ramps along Myrtle Avenue, from Fresh Pond Road to Wyckoff Avenue, in Ridgewood
27. Provide a New Elevator for the I.S. 93 Main School Building
28. Reconstruct 75th Street from Eliot Avenue to Juniper Boulevard North in Middle Village
29. Reconstruct Palmetto Street between St. Nicholas Ave and Seneca Ave in Ridgewood
30. Reconstruct and Widen the East Sidewalk along the 80th Street Bridge, over the LIRR
31. Rehabilitate 104th Police Precinct Interior
32. Reconstruct Wyckoff Avenue from Flushing Avenue to Cooper Avenue in Ridgewood
33. Provide funding for Historic Restoration of St. Saviour's Church
34. Rehabilitate Evergreen Park Playground

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

35. Provide Decorative Lighting and Restore Deteriorated Curbing Along Fred Haller's Union Turnpike Mall between Myrtle Avenue and Woodhaven Boulevard in Glendale
36. Provide Funding for the Establishment of a Dog Run in CB5Q

Copies of the list of the proposed FY 2016 Capital Budget Priorities were distributed to all Board members.

District Manager Giordano explained that the highest priority on the budget survey results is the item with the lowest number in the left hand column, and so on.

As there were no questions or comments on the matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the Committee's recommendation which then carried unanimously by a vote of – 38 - in favor ; - 0 – opposed; - 0 – abstentions; and – 0 – not voting.

Regarding the Executive Committee's recommendations for CB5Q's FY 2016 Expense Budget Priorities, the District Manager said that the Board's top priorities include: services for the elderly, building inspection, child protective services, police protection, emergency medical services, fire protection, garbage collection, public school building construction and maintenance, school safety, sewer and water pollution control, parks maintenance, and after-school and evening programs for youth. Copies of the Executive Committee's Service Program Priority recommendations for FY 2016 were distributed to Board members.

As there were no questions or comments on the matter, the Board Chairman requested a Roll Call vote on the Committee's recommendation which then carried unanimously by a vote of – 38 - in favor ; - 0 – opposed; - 0 – abstentions; and – 0 – not voting.

Demolition Notices

The Board Chairman reported that the Board did not receive any demolition notices this month. He asked Board members to remain vigilant and to advise the Board 5 staff about any questionable construction work in the area, so they can investigate further.

The Board Chairman reported that the City's Department of Citywide Administrative Services plans to renew the existing lease for Board office space at 61-23 Myrtle Avenue in Glendale for another 15 years, which will likely include installation of a new HVAC air conditioning system.

STAFF REPORT

District Manager Gary Giordano

The District Manager announced that Community Board 5 hopes to participate in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer March in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park on Sunday, October 19th, 2014. He welcomed everyone to join the March which begins at 10am in front of the Unisphere. For more information, he said to contact Laura Mulvihill in the Board office, at (718) 366-1834. Flyers were distributed to all.

The District Manager informed everyone that the deadline to submit the Board's FY 2016 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities to the Mayor's Office of Management and Budget is October 31st. The District Manager said that, due to resignations, deaths, and non-reappointments of some Board members, there are currently 43 active Board members. The Board Staff consists of the District Manager, one full-time and two part-time employees. The officers of the Board are elected each June by the full Board membership and serve for one year. He said that the Board functions through committees such as Zoning and Land Use Review, Parks Services, etc.

Regarding current capital improvement projects in the Board 5 area, the District Manager said that this Fall, work is expected to begin on a \$20+ Million project to replace the combined sewer and water mains along Calamus Avenue, between 69 Street and 74 Street, and in 69 Street, between Calamus Avenue and 47th Avenue.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

Regarding the Penelope Avenue Sewer Replacement Project, the District Manager said that work is expected to begin next Spring, replacing existing sewer lines with new sewer mains with increased capacity along Penelope Avenue and Juniper Valley Road, and adjoining streets, between 71 Street and 77 Street in Middle Village. He said that this project should alleviate the severe street and basement flooding that has occurred after heavy rainfall in this section of Middle Village. This project will also include water mains installation.

District Manager Giordano reported that the Glendale Library renovation project, including the installation of an elevator to provide ADA-handicapped accessibility, is slated to begin in Calendar Year 2015.

The District Manager announced that the Department of Transportation began milling local streets in Middle Village and Maspeth this week, in preparation for resurfacing work that is scheduled for completion this Fall.

Regarding the status of the proposed transitional housing facility at 78-16 Cooper Avenue in Glendale, the District Manager said that over 400 local residents attended the public meeting that was sponsored by the Glendale Middle Village Coalition on October 1st in Christ the King High School. He said that the Board plans to continue working with Council Member Elizabeth Crowley to obtain reliable information about the possible contamination of the property located at 78-16 Cooper Avenue in Glendale.

The District Manager reported that he wrote a letter to Lorraine Grillo, the President and CEO of the School Construction Authority, expressing the Board's support to build a new school in and around the site of 78-16 Cooper Avenue, based on the vote to recommend this site to the School Construction Authority for consideration as a possible site to construct a new school campus. He said that, in any case, Community Board 5 remains opposed to siting a transitional housing facility at 78-16 Cooper Avenue.

The District Manager announced that the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission will give a power point presentation regarding their proposal to create a Central Ridgewood Historic District, at a public meeting at 7 PM on Thursday, October 17th, 2014, in the Peter Cardella Senior Center, located at 68-52 Fresh Pond Road in Ridgewood.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning and Land Use Review Committee

Walter Sanchez

Walter Sanchez, chairman of the Zoning and Land Use Review Committee, reported that on Monday, October 6th 2014, committee members met in the Board 5 office to review the BSA application, BSA Cal. # 973-57 BZ, for the extension of the term variance, for a period of 10 years, to permit the operation and maintenance of a gasoline service station and accessory uses thereto at 60-04 Metropolitan Avenue in Ridgewood, Queens, NY (Block 3492; Lot 45), in an R6B/C2-4 Zoning District.

Mr. Sanchez said that this property is an existing gasoline service station on the corner of 60 Street in Ridgewood. He said that the committee members visited the site and found that it was a clean and well-run operation. He said that there were no objections raised at last month's Board meeting to this request to renew the 10-year term variance for the existing gas station operation. Todd Dale, the applicant's representative, said that there are no plans to expand the operation, structure or use of this site in the future, and there are no current violations on this property. Mr. Sanchez said that the committee recommends approval of this variance.

Minutes of CB5Q Board Meeting on Oct. 8, 2014

As there was no further discussion on the committee recommendation, Board Chairman Arcuri requested a Roll Call vote on the committee's recommendation which carried by a vote of – 38 - in favor, -0 – opposed, - 0 – abstentions, and - 0 – not voting.

Transportation Services Committee

John Schell

John Schell said that the Board has received requests to relax parking restrictions between 9pm and 6am, around the perimeter of Juniper Valley Park, for the duration of the Penelope Avenue sewer main replacement project which is slated to begin this coming Spring.

Mr. Schell announced that the speed limit on local streets throughout New York City will be reduced to 25 MPH on Friday, November 7th, 2014.

Parks Services Committee

Steven Fiedler

Steven Fiedler gave an update on the status of upcoming capital projects in local parks in the Board 5 area where work is expected to begin in the coming year. He announced that \$3.06 Million in combined funding has been allocated to rehabilitate the ball fields and running track inside Principe Park, with \$500,000 in funding awarded by Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, and the remaining funds secured by Council Member Elizabeth Crowley.

He also announced that \$2.5 Million has been allocated to rehabilitate the Soccer Field and Running Track in Juniper Valley Park. He said that the project would be completed in two phases.

Mr. Fiedler reported that \$70,000 has been allocated to rehabilitate the handball court in Glendale Playground on Central Avenue at 70 Street, including restoration of the mural on the handball court wall.

Regarding Highland Park and the Ridgewood Reservoir, he said that the \$9 Million that was originally budgeted for the Ridgewood Reservoir dam decommission project in Highland Park can now be used to fund several other upgrades in Highland Park instead. He said that reconstruction of the asphalt pathways in Upper Highland Park is currently underway and should be completed this Fall, with \$500,000 in funding allocated by Queens Borough President Melinda Katz. The reconstruction of the ball fields in Highland Park is set to begin this Fall, with an allocation of \$3,240,000 in funding secured by Council Member Dilan. The reconstruction of the children's playground perimeter, that includes removal and replacement of fences and pavement, is scheduled to begin next Spring with an allocation of \$200,000 by Mayor Bill de Blasio.

Regarding Reiff Park Playground on Fresh Pond Road at 59 Drive, he said that the reconstruction of the basketball court, handball court, and spray shower, and realignment of the children's swings was completed this year, with an allocation of \$400,000 from Queens Borough President Melinda Katz. And, the reconstruction of the comfort station in the park is now pending to be rebid.

Mr. Fiedler also reported that the Rehabilitation of Frank Principe Park will include 2 new ball fields, a soccer field with a running track around the perimeter of the park, and holding tanks to store rainwater runoff from the fields.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Board Chairman Arcuri adjourned the public meeting of Community Board 5, Queens on a motion from the floor at 9:29pm.