

The City of New York
Brooklyn Community Board 15



ERIC ADAMS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

THERESA SCAVO
CHAIRPERSON

OFFICERS
RONALD TAWIL
FIRST VICE –CHAIRPERSON
RAISA CHERNINA
SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON
JACK ERDOS, ESQ
TREASURER
ALLEN POPPER, ESQ
SECRETARY



BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR

LAURA SINGER
DISTRICT MANAGER

Monthly Board Meeting - Minutes

May 19, 2020 Webex Conference

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm, by Chairperson Theresa Scavo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairperson Scavo, asked for a moment of silence to respect all those lives lost to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Chair Scavo opened the floor and invited the public to speak:

GENERAL BOARD MEETING:

PUBLIC SESSION:

Christopher Greif from the Transit Rider's Council stated the MTA spoke about now allowing Seniors and Disabled easier access to the enter through the front of the bus. If a driver refuses to make a bus accessible to please report it to the MTA New York City Transit bureau. No senior or disabled person should unnecessarily struggle to board a bus to be able to see their doctor or shop for medicine or household supplies.

Chair Scavo recognized Doug Luback, Past President of the Gerritsen Beach Property Owner's Association, who was pleased to announce that the Department of Transportation met with local leaders and officials and agreed to amend their plans to remove 40%-50% of the on-street parking in the reconstruction project taking place in the old section of Gerritsen Beach. They are awaiting the details of the revised plan.

Chair Scavo invited Elected Officials, their reps and Agencies reps to Speak:

Nancy Lulu from Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez's office sent condolences to anyone who may have lost someone to the Covid -19 virus.

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She stated the Brooklyn DA's office is open, though many like herself are working remotely. She stated there has been a spike in hate crimes during this crisis, so please report them to their Hate Crime Unit 718 250-4949 or hotline # 718 250-2340. She asked everyone to please stay safe until we can emerge from this difficult time.

Mariyah Markh from the Mayor's Office stated they were distributing masks to the community both the washable and the paper kind and if you would like one or are looking to distribute some through your organization please email her at mmarkh@cityhall.nyc.gov

Leonid Markh, representing Assemblyman Cymbrowitz's Office announced that the Assemblyman's Office has been putting out an email newsletter each day with information and helpful tips and to be placed on that list please email cymbros@nyassembly.gov He shared that the Assemblyman's office is currently assisting constituents with navigating issues in applying for unemployment benefits. He stated their office is working remotely and checking emails and voicemails each day. So please leave your name, address and phone number, so the unemployment office can reach you with any questions to complete your request.

Sam Chuprik representing Congressman Hakeem Jeffries office stated the Congressman recently worked on passing the Heroes Act, which is the latest round of proposed federal coronavirus relief legislation. It will now go to the Senate for a vote. The Congressman has worked with Governor Cuomo and Mayor DeBlasio to bring more Covid testing sites into the communities. Please call first to make an appointment. He stated that their district office is closed but that the staff is working remotely, so please call our office with any questions 718 373-0033.

Venus Galarza Mullins, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer's office stated their office has compiled a number of resources you can access on their website, whether it's family resources, food security, legal or financial issues. Please avail yourself to their website. Any questions or concerns please email her at VGalarza@comptroller.nyc.gov

Eileen O'Brien representing Councilman Alan Maisel stated although we are going through a difficult time wearing your mask and socially distancing when you must go out does make a difference. Their community office is closed but they are working remotely checking voicemails frequently so please call 718 241-9330 for any issues.

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Ian Thornell, Community Construction Liaison for the Department of Design and Construction's Avenue S watermain upgrade project stated he was present if the community had any concerns or issues, they would like to discuss concerning the project. Chair Scavo stated none at this time and thanked him.

Board Member Mitchell Shpelfogel spoke asking the Board to write a letter to the Mayor to address his concerns for Manhattan Beach being illegally utilized during the covid-19 mandatory shutdown and how the Mayor's Office plans to address any illegal barbecuing or beach access to large groups congregating. District Manager Laura Singer asked Mayor DeBlasio's representative Mariyah Markh to address those concerns directly. Mariyah Markh stated it was an enforcement issue. She went on to state that if you witness illegal use of the park or beach, you should immediately report it to 311, while it is occurring, and to email her directly if it's not being enforced. A discussion ensued on how the police do not want to engage for concerns of being villainized. They need Mayoral support and a clear objective on what is to be enforced. Chair Scavo asked Mitchell and Mariyah to exchange information to discuss this offline when the meeting is over, which they agreed. Board Member Judy Baron who is also President of Manhattan Beach Community Group stated Manhattan Beach is unique in that it is small in stature and could not handle large crowds in a socially distancing way and would also like to be part of the conversation with Mitchell and Mariyah offline to further discuss this issue. They agreed to include her in the conversation.

First Vice-Chairperson Ronald Tawil asked to address the Elected Representatives. He said he was hearing from many local small business owners' how they are suffering financially from being shuttered for so long. Unlike the big box stores they feel they are better equipped to socially distance consumers, allowing one in at a time. He asked the reps to please bring these concerns back to the elected officials so they can take action to address this matter. Eileen O'Brien from Councilman Maisel's office stated she is aware that Small Business Services is working to assist these businesses and certain non-contact essential businesses can open but she will bring these concerns back to Councilman Maisel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Roll Call Attendance was taken by Chair Scavo; with a Quorum present, Chair Scavo asked for the adoption of the Board Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2020, but with the amendment of adding Board Member Mark Cohen to the attendance roster, who was mistakenly marked absence last month.

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A motion to adopt the April 21, 2020 minutes with the inclusion of Mark Cohen to the attendance sheet was made by Debra Greif and seconded by Robert Gevertzman.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Chair Scavo announced the Liquor Licenses the Board received:

NEW APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR, WINE, BEER AND CIDER
LICENSE:

Hearthstone LLC
Buckley's Tavern
2926 Avenue S

NEW APPLICATION FOR WINE, BEER AND CIDER LICENSE:

FFG Services Corp.
DBA Pizza D'Amore
3001 Avenue U

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR WINE, BEER AND CIDER
LICENSE:

Asian King
2827 Coney Island Avenue
Lic# 1306223
Exp 06/30/2020

Chair Scavo stated if you know of any issues with any of these establishments please let the office know so that we can reach out to the State Liquor Authority.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Alan Ditchek and seconded by Al Smaldone. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39p.m.

This is not a verbatim account of the meeting but a synopsis of the main points.