



Queens Community Board 13

219-41 Jamaica Ave.

Queens Village, NY 11428

Telephone: (718) 464-9700

Fax: (718) 264-2739

www.cb13q.org

Melinda Katz
Borough President

Leroy Comrie
Deputy Borough President

Bryan J. Block
Chairman

Lawrence T. McClean
District Manager

Board Meeting

June 23, 2014

Bellerose Assembly of God Church

240-15 Hillside Avenue

Bellerose New York 11424

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Angela Augugliaro, Terence A. Banks, Alain Berrouet, Bryan Block, Verdell Boncoeur, Kyle Bragg, Jackie Campbell, Daisy Carew, Tanya Cruz, Delroy Dawkins, Bess DeBetham, James Delaney, Terryl Ebony DeMendonca, Charles Farruggia, Seymour Finkelstein, Robert Glover, Edward Harap, Lloyd Hicks, Fay Hill, Vernal Holder, Mohamood Ishmael, Rhonda Kontner, Antony Kuncheris, Kangela Moore, Marcia O'Brien, Nagassar Ramgarib, Anup Ramnauth, Peters Richards, Ashok Satkalmi, Sanu Thomas, Mathew Thomas, Pritpal Singh Walia, Derrick Warmington, Clive Williams, Jerry Wind.

Absent: Isa Avery, Bruno DeFranceschi, Samuel Elliott, Andrea Foy, Jack Friedman, Anthony Greene, Richard Hellenbrecht, Bonnie Huie,

Excused: Corey Bearak, Jackie L. Wilson.

Staff: Lawrence T. McClean, District Manager, Stephanie Rainkie, Community Coordinator, Maxine Brannon, Community Associate.

Elected Officials/Representatives of Elected Officials:

Helen Ho representing Mayor Bill DeBlasio, Jacqueline Boyce, District Leader, Jerry LaMura, representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Jahneille Edwards representing Councilman Donovan Richards, Earnert Flowers representing Assemblyman William Scarborough, Norman Jones representing Assemblywoman Michele Titus, Sara Abiboutros representing Councilman Mark Weprin, Anthony Lemma representing Assemblyman David Weprin, Maylene Thurton representing Assemblywoman Barbara Clark, Jeong-ah Choi representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Bryan Block.

Lloyd Hicks made a motion to accept the May 2014 minutes, seconded by Eddie Harap. The minutes were accepted by all with no abstentions.

Mr. Block stated that Jackie Wilson's wife passed away. Bess DeBetham lost her brother last month, and Eddie Harap lost his step-father. Mr. Block asked for a moment of silence.

Mr. Block called the roll, a quorum was present.

Chairman's Report

On May 26 Mr. Block attended the Memorial Day Parades of both Laurelton and Rosedale.

On May 27, he attended the Rosedale Civic Meeting.

On May 28, Mr Block attended the 105 Precinct Community Council Meeting.

On May 31 there was a tour of the Board's parks which was attended by Mr. Block as well as several of the Board members.

On June 1, 2014 Mr Block attended the National Council of Negro Women's event at Antuns.

On June 8th there was a Men's Health Day at St. Benedict D'Moor whihch Mr. Block attended.

Also on June 8th Mr. Block attended a small business reception sponsored by Clive Williams at "PaNosh" in Rosedale.

On June 21 Mr. Block attended a street co-naming for Dora Young.

Motion was made to accept Mr. Block's report by Daisy Carew and seconded by Verdell Boncoeur.

OEM – Hurricane Preparedness

Every year at this time the Board has a presentation on Hurricane Preparedness. The Board was told to listen to the radio/and or the television for school closings, also what schools will be open as Safe Areas in case of flooding. A pamphlet was given out "Ready New York, Hurricanes and New York City. This emergency plan can be used anywhere in the United States.

The Board was advised that to find Cooling Centers they could check the OEM website.

Mr. McClean asked when hurricane season officially starts. The season is from June 1 to November 30th.

Any civic association or group of 10-30 wanting a presentation from OEM can leave their contact information and someone will get back to them.

Alain Berrouet asked if these presentations are given in high schools, as there are youths that are taking care of parents or grand-parents. The response was that they do go to high schools and grammar schools. Ready NY is published for children all the way up to senior citizens.

Clive Dawkins: CERT Team

You can get brochures from the website nyc.gov/knowyourzone . The map will show if you are in a flood area. Mr. Dawkins asked for volunteers for the CERT team.

Mr. Dawkins explained the importance of having a GO-BAG ready in case of a storm.

Mr. McClean- District Manager's Report

The District Managers report was mailed out with the agenda. There were no questions on Mr. McCleans report.

Mr. McClean thanked Anup Ramnauth, the Board Treasurer for opening and locking the office after night meetings, he also represents the Board at different meetings and events.

Mr. McClean said that there are also other members of the Board to thank, Rhonda Kontner, Bess DeBetham, and Fay will who have represented the Board when asked.

Mr. McClean said that at the District Cabinet they discussed trucks in the Springfield Gardens being ticketed. The truckers came to the District Cabinet meeting to say that they think they are being targeted. One company has paid \$50,000 in fines, this company packed up and moved to Long Island. Mr. McClean said that the Mayor will be receiving a letter about this.

Mr. McClean spoke on the rehabilitation of the Laurelton West Playground. Mr. McClean stated that the Borough President said that all the playgrounds in our Board should look like that one.

Helen Ho from the Mayor's Office said that they are working with the truckers in Springfield Gardens and will keep us updated.

There were complaints lodged about the condition of "snake road" as far as dumping. Mr. McClean said that he would reach out to Supt Artese at Sanitation on this matter.

Motion was made by Nagassar Ramgarib to accept Mr. McCleans report, it was seconded by Bess DeBetham.

Mr. Block stated that the BSA item for the cell tower (229 Street and Merrick Blvd) an adjournment was requested. BSA had no problem with that, as well as the community and the Board. This item may be heard in September.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety – Clive Williams, Committee Chair, stated that Upper Deck at 234 Street and Merrick Boulevard, the Committee challenged the C. of O. (was the liquor license for the upstairs of downstairs. At the Committee’s last meeting they received proof of the C.of O. and clarified the license uses. The Committee was satisfied.

Youth & Education Committee – Rhonda Kontner, Committee Chair, said that the Committee met on June 18th. There were some sub-committees formed, they will be looking at Education and Youth separately. Ms. Kontner attended meetings and heard the new Chancellor speak and was impressed.

Nominating Committee –

Mr. Richards stated several things that should not be done. Mr. Block stated that when the Committee called him Mr. Richards should have had this discussion or recommendations to give them. Mr. Richards said that nobody called him. A discussion followed among the Board members as to who was called and who wasn’t, and the fact that they were asked if they wanted to run, not any other discussion was initiated.

Mr. Block asked if the Committee had their list of current Board members, they did. All members were contacted according to the committee.

If you were newly appointed to the Board you were not eligible to run for office, but could vote in the election.

Mr. Banks asked why the new Board members weren’t called. Even if they weren’t eligible to run for office, they might have had other questions pertaining to the process, as they were eligible to vote in the election.

Mr. Wiliams stated that Mr. Richards knows the process and had an opportunity to ask a question, he did not do this.

Bess DeBetham stated that this issue regarding Board members and who can vote and who cannot should be brought up at a different time. If you have an argument with the process, this has never come up before, but can be addressed at a different time as we are ready to vote at this meeting.

Mr. Richards wanted his objection registered, that he was only asked if he wanted to run for office, and no other question was entertained.

Mr. Wind stated that the Nominating Committee’s job, which is in the By-Laws, is to canvas those eligible members to see if they want to run for office, which was done. If you have an objection as to how the election is run, that would mean that these By-Laws have to be amended. It’s not the Nominating Committee’s job to do this, the fulfilled their job.

Mr. Block turned the meeting over to the Nominating Committee.

Kyle Bragg was placed on the Nominating Committee, and was elected as the Chair of that Committee on May 23, 2014. Verdell Boncoeur who was nominated and accepted to run for office for the Board, recused herself.

The members of the Nominating Committee were Verdell Boncoeur, Bess DeBetham, Clive Williams, Kyle Bragg, Dr. Ashok Satkalmi, Robert Glover and Fay Hill.

Mr. Williams read off the names of members who were absent and did not receive their ballots, Sam Elliott, Andrea Foy, Isa Avery, Jack Friedman, Anthony Greene, Bonnie Huie,

Antony Kuncheria, and Bruno DeFranceschi. Antony Kuncheria was present and received his ballots.

After polling the members eligible to vote, the slate is as follows:

Chairman: Bryan Block

1st Vice Chair: Angela Augugliaro

2nd Vice Chair: Verdell Boncoeur

Treasurer: Anup Ramnauth

Executive Secretary: Jerry Wind

Elections were then conducted on each individual position. Terryll Ebony DeMendonca Stated that being as she is a new Board Member, she wanted to know if there was an opportunity for each nominee to present a few minutes on who they are.

Mr. Bragg said that this surely can be done.

Mr. Bragg asked the members to go over their ballots to ensure everyone had the same information.

Seymour Finkelstein asked why the Members names were on the ballot, he thought it was a secret ballot. Mr. Block stated that the Members names have always been on the ballots.

Mr. Ramgarib explained that these are open elections and it's a way of ensuring that everyone who was present and eligible to vote, did vote.

The voting then proceeded with each nominee for office giving a brief history of their background.

Bryan Block – Chair – Mr. Block is on the Board of the Cambria Heights Civic Association, a Board Member of his Block Association.

A few other questions were asked in reference to the By-Laws, Parking passes for Board Members, and getting the mailing out earlier to Board Members.

There were no nominations for the position of Chairman from the floor, Mr. Bragg motioned to closed the nominations.

Vote was counted: 31 votes for Bryan Block, 2-abstentions- 1 blank.

Angela Augugliano- 1st Vice Chair- Ms. Augugliaro is currently the 2nd Vice Chair running for the position of 1st Vice Chair. She has been the President of the Queens Colony Civic Association for 28 years, a member of Community Board 13 for 16 years, and has been the 2nd Vice Chair since the year 2000.

There were no nominations from the floor, motion was made and seconded to close the nomination for this position.

Vote was counted: 23 votes for Angela Augugliaro, 6 abstentions, 3 blanks, 3 votes for Tanya Cruz.

Verdell Boncoeur- running for 2nd Chair- is a member of the Laurelton Federation of Block Associations, she is a member of Community Board 13 for 11 years, she is a member of the Public Safety Committee, she was the recording secretary for the Local Development Corporation of Laurelton, Rosedale and Springfield Gardens, and she volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. She is a retired Court Clerk. A few questions were asked by the

Board members, such as what Ms. Boncoeur thinks she will be able to add as a member of the Executive Board.

There were no nominations from the floor, motion was made and seconded to close the nominations for this position.

Vote was counted : 26 votes for Verdell Boncoeur, 5 abstentions, 1 vote for Tanya Cruz, 1 vote for Kangel Moore.

Jerry Wind running for the position of Executive Secretary: Mr. Wind worked for Con Edison for 37 years and is not retired. He is the President of the Bellerose Hillside Civic Association of 14 years, He sits on the Board of Health Care Choices which takes care of Veterans, Mr. Wind is on the Technology Committee and maintains the Community Board's website. He is on the Public Safety Committee, as well as, the Lane Use Committee. Mr. Alain Berrouet asked what other outreach Mr. Wind had planned for the future, Mr. Wind said that he would like to start a Facebook Page for the Community Board.

There were no nominations from the floor for Executive Secretary. Motion was made and seconded to close the nominations for this position.

Vote was counted : 30 votes for Jerry Wind, 3 abstentions, 1 blank and 1 for Clive Williams.

Anup Ramnauth- Treasurer: Anup is a member of the Bellaire/Bellville Civic Association, He officially opens and closes the office for all evening meetings, and attends the meeting. He is running for the office of Treasurer.

There were no nominations from the floor, motion was made and seconded to close the nominations for this position.

Votes were counted: Anup Ramnauth received 31 votes, 3 abstentions, and no write in votes.

Motion was made to close the elections by Charles Farruggia and seconded by James Delaney.

Congratulations to the elected officers:

Chairman: Bryan Block

1st Vice Chair: Angela Augugliaro

2nd Vice Chair: Verdell Boncouer

Executive Secretary: Jerry Wind

Treasurer: Anup Ramnauth

Special Assistant Leroy Comrie was the next speaker. Mr. Comrie made announcements Of special events taking place on June 24th at York College, at 8a.m. in the faculty dining room.

There will also be a Veterans Job Fair at the Borough Presidents Office also on June 24th. There are many issues on Quality of Life throughout the Borough, the Borough President has been doing multiple task force working with people trying to resolve those issues.

Parks Committee Chair, Peter Richards spoke on the Laurelton West Playground Ribbon Cutting. This park is State of the Art, much work was done here, if anyone has a chance they must go see it. The park is located on 120 Avenue and 238 Street.

Parks Tour did not have a very good turnout. Mr. Richards submitted a copy of the report. The next tour for the Parks is scheduled for September.

Bellerose Playground needs new doors on both the bathrooms, this should be a priority item, the park is in a deplorable state.

Wayanda Park was very well presented. Except for a few benches that needed to be done. The Parks Supervisor agreed that if the paint could be given to the people using the park , such as the Wayanda Civic,they can do the necessary work.

IS 233 has a beautiful parks and this model should be used for the Bellerose Playground.

Fay Hill said her Park needs workThe lake has had improvement, but the shrubs and trees have been vandalized. The Parks needs a "Park Officer".

James Delaney said that the ICCC is coming due on July 22nd. He was wondering who would be there to represent the Board. Jerry Wind said that he will be there.

Mr. Richards said that Board Members not on committees, please join a committee. Mr. Block said he will be assigning new members to committees.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm

Respecfully submitted,

**Stephanie Rainkie
Community Coordinator**