



Queens Community Board 13

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District Manager

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2017

**BELLEROSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
240-15 HILLSIDE AVENUE
BELLEROSE, NY**

Attendance

Present:

Angela Augugliaro; Isa Avery; Corey Bearak; Alain Berrouet; Bryan Block; Verdell Boncoeur; Kyle Bragg; Jacqueline Campbell; Mizanur Choudhury; Barbara Clements; Bess DeBetham; James Delaney; Seymour Finkelstein; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Felice Hannah; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Mohamood Ishmael; Rhonda Kontner; Antony Kuncheria; Curlene Nelson; Marcia O'Brien; Michael O'Keeffe; Celeste Powers; Nagassar Ramgarib; Anup Ramnauth; Peter Richards; Ashok Satkalmi; Sanu Thomas; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; Clive Williams; Jerry Wind

Absent:

Terence Banks; Tanya Cruz; Delroy Dawkins; Terryl Ebony DeMendonca; Samuel Elliott; Charles Farruggia; Robert Glover; Vernal Holder; Bonnie Huie; Franck Joseph; Jonathan Logan; Kangela Moore; Tameka Pierre-Louis; Steven Taylor; Mathew Thomas; Pritpal Singh Walia; Jackie Wilson

The Board Chairman Clive Williams called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by BM Jonathan Logan and recited by all in attendance.

The Board Chairman welcomes elected officials. Representatives announce themselves.

The Board Chair opens floor for Public Speaking.

Public Speaking

Leona Fowler:

- Phi Delta Kappa Inc.
- Sorority of educators serving Queens and Long Island.
- Both from Rosedale.
- Focus on community service.
 - Mentor students 9-12 years of age.
 - Education majors have programming.
- Can provide services for educators.
- Office across the street from Roy Wilkins Park on Merrick Boulevard.
- Contact Information: 404.931.3849; miz.esquire@gmail.com

BM Mohamood Ishmael: How are you funded?

A: It comes through contributions, fundraising, grants.

Chairman: Do you offer grant writing training?

A: Yes. Sisters in the sorority do grant writing.

Claud Astom, KD Astom Realty:

- Homelessness is an issue...
- Suggestion: make all basements in NYC legal as apartments.
- Calls on elected officials to make this happen.

Chairman: What is your suggestion/proposal?

A: For the body to make this suggestion to the Mayor or Governor, whomever is responsible.

BM Anthony Kuncheria: I don't think this is a good idea. The basement has the heating system; it is more dangerous... I do real estate.

A: Do you have any studies?

BM Anthony Kuncheria: A few years ago some people died.

A: How often does this happen?

BM Anthony Kuncheria: Someone was sleeping. A gas leak.

A: The City has inspectors charging people up to \$17K.

Chairman: Rich, this seems to be in your bailiwick...can you elaborate...

BM Richard Hellenbrecht: Distinguishes between basements and cellars. More cellars in Queens. Cellars are not eligible for habitation. Large portion of Queens zoned R1 & R2, single family. The community has fought to keep it that way. Suggestions by Mayor to legalize basements and garages, these proposals have been dropped.

- He lists issues/ problems with this proposal: egress, size of windows, carbon monoxide, etc.
- Conversion would cost between \$20 - \$40K to make it truly habitable and safe.
- Would want significant laws for safety.

BM Nagassar Ramgarib: Get your facts together first before being the voice of the real estate industry.

- Has lost 2 family members in family who died in the basement.
- Takes offense.

BM Seymour Finkelstein:

- Distinguishes between basement (in a brownstone building) vs. cellar.
- The law makes it difficult for Department of Buildings [to deal with illegal conversions] by not requiring someone to open their door.
- The City will not be the complainant; the neighbor has to be the complainant which could put someone personal danger.

BM Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick:

- I am a real estate broker.
- Shows a lot of homes that do not have adequate space.
 - Quality of life issues.
 - It bothers her when other brokers say these spaces [basements] may be converted into an apartment.
- Understands the housing industry is saturated with high rents because of lack of affordable housing. Not talking about low-income affordable housing.

Elvis Jackson, former NYC Firefighter:

- He is appalled; people die and get critically injured when living in a basement or cellar
 - The windows are too small.

Bobby Sher:

- I care about the safety of my community.
- I appreciate your concern about the homeless community.

- What are you doing for the homeless community?

A: It is this idea.

Bobby Sher: Gives examples of other areas where this has caused problems

- Cottage industry in real estate... would you know anyone like this?

BM: Mohamood Ishmael: Why are we spending so much time on this?

Chair: It seems from the audience they want to ventilate on this issue.

BM Celeste Powers: Link-up this gentleman with some organizations that work with the homeless.

The Chairman's Report

- Lists events attended.
- Speaks about Board Member participation on committees.
- Speaks about event at Young Israel, Jamaica Estates.
 - They had a featured speaker from Jerusalem.

BM Jackie Campbell:

- Not pruning trees, removing trees.

Meeting Minutes

A motion to accept September General Board Meeting Minutes, motion seconded.

District Manager's Report

- Community Coordinator Maxine Allen, announces the date of the Holiday Party.
- The District Manager stresses to the audience the importance of checking their emails every day.

Inspector Jeff Schiff, Commanding Officer, 105 Precinct:

- Overall crime down 10% for the month and down 4% for the year.
- Shootings 21 vs. 10 last year, up 110%.
 - Reasons robberies and gangs.
- Addresses the shooting in the car (on November 4, 2017)
 - Gives details of shooting at Rosedale residence.
 - Search Warrant executed, finds heroin and marijuana.
 - Perpetrator and homeowner known to sell drugs in the area.

- Triple shooting in Bellerose (same day):
 - 2 groups in "Off the Hookah"
 - One group rejected because of counterfeit money.
 - The other group left; something happened (outside of the club).
 - Many of those involved have criminal records, many associated with gangs.
 - Caught one perpetrator with a gun.
 - Attracting gang members.
- Island Taste: (November 9)
 - Called 105 because of a disorderly group.
 - Someone had a gun.
 - NYPD went inside to get this individual but were stopped by people outside.
 - Finally arrested the suspect.
- Prestige: (problem location)
 - Trying for "Nuisance Abatement"
 - November 18 at 4:30 AM:
 - 2 groups at a baby christening don't like each other.
 - Security throws them out.
 - Outside they begin shooting at each other; no one got hurt.
 - Arrested 2 of the individuals and recovered the gun.
 - RECOMMENDATION: do not renew liquor license, location is too problematic.
- November 18, 10 AM – Glen Oaks stabbing:
 - Baby mama drama.
 - Ex-boyfriend gets in altercation with mother.
 - New boyfriend stabs him.
 - Domestic incident where 3 people arrested (including the stabber).
- 227-14 111 Avenue (search warrant executed):
 - House uncharacteristic of the entire block.
 - Executed at 5:15 AM.
 - Arrested 8 individuals inside.
 - AR15 assault rifle.
 - Fraudulent credit card devices.
 - Marijuana.
 - 30 people at the location.
 - Filth inside.
 - Only 2 rooms have electricity, 1 room no heat.
 - Arrested father of 15 year old who lives there, opened up a child abuse case.

- November 19, 4:30 AM @ 149 Road and 262 Place:
 - Grabbed by 2 male black perpetrator stabbed 5 times with ice pick.
 - While driving around with the man, they broke into his home pistol whipped his wife for money and jewelry.
 - Tortured guy dumped at 88 Avenue and Liberty Avenue.
 - His cousin was a victim of the same type of incident.
 - 2 other home invasions in 103 Precinct where people delivering packages at 3 am (deliveries at this time are always suspicious).
 - Common factor: These individuals have cash businesses and coming from a bar in 102 Precinct.
 - Investigated by Queens Robbery Squad.

BM Mohamood Ishmael: lots of push-ins in Queens Village?

A: One home invasion in October at 10 am. Ransacked apartment. Reported 5 days later. Only other home invasion in 28-day period. Queens Village and Bellerose are suffering from car break-ins. Common factor: none of the car doors were locked.

BM Marcia O'Brien: Thanks Inspector Schiff on behalf of the Rosedale Civic Association and community "Thank You" for the work you are doing for the Rosedale community.

BM Angela Augugliaro: November 2 robberies:

- 81 Avenue and 249 Street
- 82 Avenue and 250 Street

A: A pattern of burglaries 248-249 Union Turnpike

- Broke into CVS and Covala Lounge:
 - A citywide pattern of burglaries in commercial establishments
 - A pattern with cell phone stores
 - Corner stores have windows smashed
- Pattern: 2 male blacks going into Bellerose backyards and breaking into homes
- Dormant pattern: Woman wearing perfume and hijab knocking on doors
 - Intel on these individuals going state-to-state
 - They have been captured in another state
- He moves his plain clothes officers where there is the most violence. They do a very good job.

Resident of Queens Village:

- Leave early and leave the car door open when warming up the car. Twice stuff missing in the car.
- Corner of 109 Avenue and 223 Street: a house with illegal activity
 - Have witness police in the area and finally shut down

- o Why did it take so long?

A: Unless someone is willing to step-up, a lengthy investigation is necessary. Some investigations go on from 6 months to a year. When there is a complaint, they follow through. It just takes time...

BM Richard Hellenbrecht: 251-252 86 Avenue: Rear break-in? Part of the pattern?

A: Yes. Looking for any videos and send out license plate reader cars. Northern part of the command – crews prey on victims in this area.

BM Peter Richards: Springfield Boulevard to Hempstead Avenue, excessive double-parking near the poultry place. They throw the debris of the chicken creating a stench. Tire place there are creating traffic condition with constant double-parking. This needs to be addressed.

A: NYPD can address the double-parking. The cleanliness issue can be addressed by DOHMH, DSNY, etc.

District Manager: Peter, please call the office.

BM Jim Delaney: Citywide unit with speed guns. Can they move south along some "Avenues?" They will not do "off" streets.

A: Marked cars are put where there are lots of accidents, like Hillside Avenue. Not a lot of accidents on 86 Avenue. He does know it's dangerous.

BM Jim Delaney: wants more attention around PS 133 and Bellerose Playground.

Elvis: They put pennies in your car handle at mall parking lots.

A: That's not the case here.

Executive Secretary Jerry Wind takes the Roll Call.

District Manager speaks about NYS DOT traffic advisories sent out each Friday.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McMillan

District Manager

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