



**Queens Community Board 13**  
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**Melinda Katz**  
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**Clive Williams**  
Chair

**Mark McMillan**  
District Manager

## **GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 26, 2018**

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

### **Attendance**

#### **Present:**

Corey Bearak; Alain Berrouet; Bryan Block; Mizanur Choudhury; Barbara Clements; Delroy Dawkins; Charles Farruggia; Seymour Finkelstein; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Bonnie Huie; Mohamood Ishmael; Franck Joseph; Rhonda Kontner; Antony Kuncheria; Jonathan Logan; Kangela Moore; Curlene Nelson; Michael O'Keefe; Tameka Pierre-Louis; Celeste Powers; Nagassar Ramgarib; Peter Richards; Steven Taylor; Mathew Thomas; Sanu Thomas; Pritpal Singh Walia; Clive Williams; Jackie Wilson; Jerry Wind

#### **Absent:**

Angela Augugliaro; Isa Avery; Terence Banks; Verdell Boncoeur; Kyle Bragg; Jacqueline Campbell; Tanya Cruz; Bess DeBetham; James Delaney; Terryl Ebony DeMendonca; Samuel Elliott; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Robert Glover; Felice Hannah; Vernal Holder; Marcia O'Brien; Anup Ramnauth; Ashok Satkalmi; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; The Board Chair Clive Williams called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

The meeting is called to order at 7:37 pm.

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

The Board Chair opens floor for Public Speaking.

## Public Speaking

### **Public Advocate (Adrian Felton - Southeast Queens Representative)**

- Expand childcare for CUNY students:
  - Many students do not know of this option.
  - Large number of single parents are students.
- Restore heating in NYCHA:
  - Three developments in Southeast Queens
- Leaves Newsletter.
- Contact information:
  - Office: 212.669.7683
  - Mobile: 646.942.1663

### **Curtis Bourne**

- Currently working on his Master's Degree.
  - *Caringkind (Not-for-profit organization)*: speaks about who they are and their mission on Alzheimer's/ Dementia.
- Speaks about services offered.
- Black people are two times more likely than white people to get afflicted.
- Interning with the AA Outreach Coordinator at *Caringkind*.

BM Kangela Moore: Invites Mr. Bourne to attend SSSSN Committee meeting.

BM Bonnie Huie: Is the office on Lexington Avenue?

A: Yes, they have changed their name.

Chair: Are there any treatment options involve games?

A: One program uses music, trivia and crossword puzzles.

Chair: Teaching hospitals are increasingly using interactive games. What studies indicate blacks are two times as likely? I think these are generalizations. Please drill down with some hard evidence. We all have some family members that have to deal with this.

### **Luke Georgeou**

- IBEW Local 3
  - Speaking on behalf of 1800 members out on strike for months on Spectrum.
  - Out-of-town workers are working in unsafe conditions.
  - Spectrum's lawyer recently said, "A promise on my mother's grace that he would never give back money for retirement on a medical plan."
  - [The union] is pressing for a public cable option to get rid of monopoly.

- o The public can help by canceling their Spectrum subscription.
- o Asks elected officials to provide a public cable option.
- o He Leave petitions and letter to take to the Public Service Commission.

Chair: I have been looking to drop Spectrum. How many - by a show of hands - have Spectrum? (1/2 room raise their hands.) By dropping service, how does that help your negotiations?

A: Spectrum loses money. [He is] Morally down. A trying time. We need help and cannot do anything without the help of the public.

Chair: Go to Civics to get info out.

BM Alain Berrouet: I understand the CEO is telling union members they are going to take away money and benefits and there is nothing you can do about it. When is this franchise up for renewal?

A: 2020. The mayor is [presently] legally bound by the contract.

BM Peter Richards: Any literature to catch us up with the issues?

A: I can get it.

BM: Steven Taylor: What is your lawsuit about?

A: Our medical and pension plans. They came to the table with a final offer. (80% of previous contract).

BM Bryan Block: Get schedule of when civics meet. More than 50% of union workers live in QCB13. This is union busting!

BM Steven Taylor: A Supreme Court decision came out today with one side financed by the Koch brothers.

BM Mohammed Ishmael: Don't you think it would be better to call the company?

A: We've done that. The company doesn't care.

Samantha: Wants petitions...

Dwayne Morris: [nyccable.blogspot.com](http://nyccable.blogspot.com); Facebook; Spectrum Strike

Bobby Sherr: What is the other side of the story? Surprised that at Community Board meeting you make this case without hearing the other side...

A: This is a way to just get the word out. I work for a company that makes \$1B per year.

**Chair recognizes Elected Officials.**

**District Manages Report: In the Sentinel.**

## **Chair's Report:**

- Attended the Creedmoor Civic on February 12; had a very nice time.
- Attended State of the Borough Address.
- Attended Summit with Police Commissioner – powerful outreach with the top brass:
  - A change at the top that augers well for the future.
  - Efforts being made by the top brass is powerful and welcome.
  - Applauds NYPD.

## **DSNY Recycling Presentation by Andrew Hoyles**

- PowerPoint on "Organics Collection Program":
  - Units 1-9.
  - Bins will be delivered in April.
  - Organics Pickup begins in May.

BM Mohammed Ishmael: Is this program voluntary?

A: Currently, yes. NYC is working on making it mandatory.

BM Bonnie Huie: [Are there] Fines?

A: Not until City makes it mandatory. Two bins: kitchen caddy and outside container.

Q: Where do you keep this in the house (1x per week in summer?)

A: Best practices: latch on kitchen caddy. Store in fridge or freezer.

BM Jerry Wind: Are bins insect proof? (rodent proof)

A: Flies will come. If it is lined, it keeps the smell down. The bins are also raccoon proof.

John Christy: Who is responsible to replace bins when damaged?

A: There is a bin replacement program... missing stolen or broken.

BM Charlie Faruggia: Does that mean three trucks coming around?

A: Depends upon where you are in the city? Possibly.

Bob Friedrich: This program will be a nightmare! Are there provisions for horizontal coops who use dumpsters?

A: Enrollment program required. Bins made available in a drop-off action.

BM Peter Richards: Start date for this program?

A: Week of April 29.

Mark Peterson: Timetable to make mandatory? Are you really advocating to put garbage in the freezer?

A: Freezer is used in composting. A commitment for DSNY to ultimately make it mandatory.

## **DOHMH Flu Awareness Presentation by Chae No**

- What is it?
  - It can make healthy people ill.
  - 94% of deaths of people 65+.
  - Stats on vaccination by demographics.
- Centers of Disease Control (CDC) goal 70%...NYC way below.
- Handout in back of room.
- Advantages of getting vaccine.
- Number of deaths related to the flu this year compared to past years.
  - Media coverage has people going to their doctors.

Chair: At his church people fist bump.

BM Mohamed Ishmael: Percentage of vaccine effectiveness? 10%.

A: it will not be finished until after the season. So far it is approximately 30%. With vaccination you won't get as sick.

BM Bonnie Huie: The best way to sneeze and cough...At hospital fever so high

A: Sneeze pushes spittle 6 feet out. Sneeze into a handkerchief or your sleeve. If into your hands, please wash.

BM Mike O'Keeffe: If local drug store out, where can you get vaccination?

A: No shortage in NYC area.

BM Alain Berrouet: What is the research? Flu and quality of food.

A: Will send the research to District Manager. Better foods keep up your immune system.

- Paid sick leave law in NYC. If you are sick with the flu, please stay home. Sick leave is required by law. If employer's in violation, call 311. Today, in conjunction with Mayor's Office 1,000 vouchers for the vaccine. First come, first served.
- Walgreens at 159-34 Jamaica Avenue.
- No insurance – visit HHC where it is billed on a sliding scale.

## **NYPD Monthly Report by Inspector Schiff**

- Received "Dog Lover Award" [on behalf of the 105 Pct.].
- Brookville Park incident last year.
- NCO's coming – 105 Precinct has made selection of officers:
  - Training begins next week
  - 4/30/18 7 pm meeting to meet the NCO's.
- Year to date, crime down 20%.
- Up 100% in robberies (16 vs 8 last year).
  - Commercial robberies – a Queens South and citywide problem going into Brooklyn.

- Bodegas a favorite [for robberies].
  - Patterns
- Assistant Chief Barrere put out a special task force unit to stake out this type of location.
- In the past 28 days 2 hotels were robbed on the same day.
- Gas station on Hillside Avenue.
- The club "Off the Hookah" is closed. Property owner refused to renew lease because of the three people killed on the corner. This club attracted the wrong audience.
- Pegasus Lounge: problematic clientele.
- Shooting on 2/8/18 in Rosedale (1/2 block from Secrets)
  - Looking to shut them down.
  - Recommendation: turn down liquor license.
- 2017 nighttime commercial parking summonses up 20%.
  - In total up 37%.
  - Cambria Heights, Laurelton, Rosedale summons all up year-to-date up 21%.
  - Commercial up 56%.

BM Johnathan Logan: NYPD sued and city settled \$75M because of quotas. The Police Commissioner mandated to take training on department-issued phones. Are you in compliance?

A: Not 100% now; by the time of the next meeting will be 100%. There is no quota requirement in the 105 Precinct. There are performance standards! Over 7,000 accidents in this command! Number 1 or 2 in the city.

BM Pritpal Singh-Walia: Motel on 220 Street and Jamaica Avenue, marijuana use, quality of life issue.

BM Seymour Finkelstein: 250-260 Street on Hillside. Trucks block the outside lane when parking lane empty?

A: Yes, they can double-park to expeditiously deliver.

BM Peter Richards: How many NCO's live in the 105 Precinct?

A: No officer may live in the precinct in which they work (except in Staten Island).  
- identifies qualities wanted in NCO.

### **Zip Codes and Delivery Issues Presentation by Paul J. Stremel, Jamaica Postmaster**

- Here to open up lines of communication between USPS and the community.
- Customer Appreciation Days in the Jamaica Post Offices:
  - Station Managers
  - Front line people
- Meet with various Congress members:

- Monthly breakfasts
- Identifying injured letter carriers and redeploying them to answer phones.
- Identity Theft – partner with NYPD where they “fish” into collection boxes.
  - Put glue on bottle and pull out whatever comes.
  - Put rakes in boxes.
  - Some thieves have keys.
  - New boxes with handle and only a slot.
- Best Practice: Use collection boxes in front of Post Offices.
- Zip codes and boundaries
  - Name of town irrelevant, it's all about zip code.
  - Will show carrier route.

BM Franck Joseph: Wants contact number. Are Post Office Boxes available?

A: Available at all postal locations, no mailing lists.

BM Jonathan Logan: Mail previously received at 11:30 am; now 12:30 pm on a good day. When packages put on the stoop, they don't ring the doorbell?

A: It is an issue. Leadership of local unions to have letter carriers make an honest attempt. He is working to resolve that.

Q: Get incorrect mail? Missing mail?

A: They [postal workers] are not doing their job. Jamaica is 60 short throughout (add injured, sick, call outs, etc.) Overtime in an unfamiliar route, starting to get dark. Now overtime is done first.

BM Bonnie Huie: Maximum weight of package to carry?

A: 70 pounds

Q: Cambria Heights – issue of where mail is sorted. Mail is late. Mail sorted in Brooklyn. Systemic problem.

BM Barbara Clements: As of 1/23/18, received mail addressed to Staten Island. How is this possible?

A: Incompetence. That is why he meets with the Congressman. There is a Consumer Advisory Council in Jamaica.

Due to collective bargaining, it takes a few bites at the apple.

## Land Use

- BSA 217-87 BZ, 113-11 Springfield Boulevard.
  - Met 2/5/18
  - Physical culture establishment, “Under the rules need a ‘special permit’.”
  - Part of “Silver Sneakers.”
- Representative from Eric Palatnik's Office:
  - Plans shown on screen.

- No Public Hearing motion.

BM Bryan Block: What are the hours?

- Motion to approve.

**Roll Call/ Vote (simultaneously):** 26 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BM Richard Hellenbrecht: Upcoming Land Use issues:

- De-mapping a street area on North Conduit Avenue and 144 Avenue to make it part of redesigned parking for the strip mall.
- Discussion on Mayor's basement initiative.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McMillan

District Manager

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