



**COMMUNITY BOARD #14
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
MARCH 15, 2023**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
333 BEACH 90 STREET
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY 11693**

COMMUNITY
BOARD # 14

PRESENT

Mark Anaya, Lailah Boyd, Natasha Carter, John Cori, Rose Marie Duggan-Gulston, Jack Epter, Menashe Friedman, Yitzchok Goldstone, Felicia Johnson, Paul King, Betty Leon, Nancy Martinez, Rosalyn Mason, John McCambridge,, Sonia Moise, Helen Montero, Dolores Orr, Dr. Harold Paez, Vernell Robinson, David Rood-Ojalvo, David Shelborne, Karen Sloan-Payne
Chris Tedesco, Jose Velez

ABSENT

COMMUNITY BOARD #14
City of New York
Borough of Queens

Audrey Amsterdam-Handy, Giselle Carter, Louis Caucig, Dr. Gerald David, Eric Diaz, Eugenia Gibson, Avionne Gumbs-Cummings, Randy Hall, D. Brian Heffernan, Brian Kelly, Maggie Larkins, Caren Lee, Luquan Lloyd, Denise Lopresti, Annette Lord-Cohen, Isa Mitchell, Wanda Warren,

DOLORES ORR
Chairperson

GUESTS

JONATHAN GASKA
District Manager

Jason Greenberg – Rep. Assembly Member Stacey Pheffer-Amato, Porcher Summers – Rep. Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson, Renee Taylor – Rep. City Council Member Selvena Brooks- Powers, Margaret Powers - Rep. City Council Member Joanne Ariola

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. The meeting was opened With the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDANCE WAS READ AS FOLLOWS:

Email dated March 13, 2023 from Samuel Clarke of NYC Dept. of Social Services to CB#14, informing CB#14 that an emergency/sanctuary shelter has been sited within CB#14 which will be located at 1021 & 1025 Beach 21 Street Far Rockaway, NY 11691. The provider for the shelter is Hogar Queens Adult Sanctuary – Wyndham JFK Airport/JFK Rockaways Inn for single adult men. Wyndham will have 150 beds and JFK Rockaways will have 104 beds.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

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Far Rockaway, NY 11691
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www.nyc.gov/queenscb14
FACEBOOK: cb14rockaway

The Chair advised that she attended a virtual meeting with DDC and Queens Public Library which was to discuss updates and improvements to the libraries in the Queens and as far as the Far Rockaway Library; the construction is 100% complete, already have elevator and boiler approval, waiting for fire and electrical inspection. After the inspections DDC will turn the library over to QPL. It will take 6 months to furnish the library. As far as the Arverne library which involves adding a building onto the current building which will be raised up to make it flood resistant and will include solar panels and is in the bid process and construction could start in October /November of this year.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

Jonathan Gaska, District Manager reported we finally received updated stats from HPD regarding how many Rockaway residents have moved into the new affordable housing units as in the required 50% which is as follows: since March 2022, 280 CB#14 residents have been approved for a lottery unit which represents 73% of the total applicants approved for a unit in CB#14. CB#14 reached out to HPD to get more clarification of the figures as it relates to median income for an area.

As a follow up regarding the complaints on Beach 80 Street issue; north of Rockaway Freeway. Sanitation went out to the location and issued several summons. Business owner on the east side of beach 80 Street has blocked off the dead end of the street for storage of business equipment and supplies.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & GUESTS REPORT

100ST POLICE PRECINCT

- Captain Hyland, Executive Officer of the 100th Police Precinct introduced himself and informed all the he started a few weeks ago and gave the following brief report: in the last 28 days there were 0 murders, 0 rapes, 3 robberies, 5 felony assaults and 3 burglaries.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER SELVENA BROOKS-POWERS

Council member Powers gave the following update:

- reached out to HPD regarding vacant units, RADROC building located on Cornaga Avenue is full. Beach 21 Street building is 73% occupied,
- attended meeting regarding Downtown Far Rockaway which was fast forwarded for funding reasons and there are at 200 more units set for Downtown Far Rockaway.
- March 16, 2023 at 6:30 pm the Far Rockaway Trauma/Health Care Task Force will be having an in person meeting and the public is also welcome to attend. An agenda item for the meeting is to present some of the preliminary data from the survey that was conducted which was to get input from at least 500 people as to what they would like the trauma center to consist of.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER KHALEEL ANDERSON

Porsha Summers, Constituent Liaison invited all to Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson's Across Generations: Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon on March 25, 2023. For more information to RSVP contact Porcha Summers at summersp@nyassembly.gov or 718-322-4958.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER STACEY PHEFFER-AMATO

Jason Greenberg reported that the Assembly Member is sponsoring a bill that will provide funding of \$280 Million to provide school lunches to all

students in New York State and also sponsoring a bill to help prevent child drownings through education in all schools. Introduced a bill to require life sentence without parole for murder of police officers.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The Chair opened the floor for public speaking. 8 people signed up to speak. They all were recognized and heard. Public speaking was closed.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

NATIONAL GRID – Re: Gas main replacement/upgrade – Augustina Street from Minton Street - Beach 12 Street

The station was originally built in 1956 and currently serves 2,166 customers. National Grid plans to refurbish, update and add a third layer of over pressure protection.

Refurbishment Details: • Replace and update aging infrastructure • Install a new overpressure protection (OPP) system • Improve system safety and reliability • Address reliability concerns

Project Scope & Impact

5 Project Scope & Impacts Project Schedule: • Project start: April 2023 • Estimated completion: Fall 2023 Impacts: • during work hours Augustina Ave. will remain open for local residents and closed for vehicular thru-traffic. Once work is complete for the day, excavations will be plated for regular traffic to resume • Limited street parking on Augustina Ave • Temporary materials storage on Augustina Avenue and Beach 12th Street

Scope:

• Excavate old infrastructure on Augustina Ave • Install new infrastructure, equipment, and concrete vaults • Backfill and restore/update any disturbed street or sidewalk in kind • Full curb to curb road restoration of Augustina Avenue

Project Benefits

Augustina Street Upgrade Project | March 2023 • A safer, more reliable and resilient natural gas system • Restoration and re-evaluation of underground vaults constructed. • Updated regulation equipment and safety systems • Project will improve the safety and reliability of the system in the area while also supporting any potential growth needs. • Full curb to curb street restoration • ROW restoration on Augustina Avenue

Project Schedule:

• Project start: April 2023 • estimated completion: Fall 2023

COMMITTEE REPORT

Land Use and Housing Committee

In the absence of both committee co-chairs, Dolores Orr, Chair of CB#14 reported that a meeting was held via WebEx on Monday, March 6, 2023. The agenda item for discussion was regarding a presentation & discussion for the proposed 29-32 BCD – ULURP# N30041ZMQ/N2300427RQ – Block# 15744 Lots# 01, 07 & part of 18, up-zoning request: 1. Map Amendment, 2. Text Amendment, 3. WRP Certification.

All board members prior to tonight's meeting received both the committee minutes and developers presentation.

Zoning map amendment from a R4-1 to R6A to build an 8-story project with 106 new housing units, 100% affordable. Included is the 27 required residential parking spaces & access to 25 additional spaces on an adjacent property.

After the presentation from the architect & development team the following additional information was provided to the committee during Q&A:

- Intention to hire locally (35%), discounted broadband available (HPD requested) with expansion to additional buildings through the service provider
- Concerns expressed that area is very congested, parking still not adequate
- No playground, grassy areas except for two greenspace terraces
- Generator sized only for emergency service and is not large enough to include one outlet in each unit.
- Inadequate community outreach should have included local one/two family residents. Bayswater Civic Association opposes the up zoning of this property.

Land –Use Committee's motion was made and seconded to deny the up-zoning from R4-1 to R6A. Motion carried by a vote of 6 YES and 1 ABSTENTION.

As a reminder at the June 2022 Board meeting called for a moratorium for up-zoning applications for R6 or higher.

The applicant's attorney gave a full presentation to the board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Chair opened the floor for public participation. 2 Signed in to speak. They all were recognized and heard. The Chair closed public participation.

Land-Use Committee's motion to deny the request for 29-32 Beach Channel Drive for up zoning request from R4-1 to R6A was accepted by the board and the motion carried by a roll call vote of the board members of 19 YES, 2 NO and 2 ABSTAINED. Meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: M. Dunning