



COMMUNITY BOARD #14

COMMUNITY BOARD #14
City of New York
Borough of Queens

DOLORES ORR
Chairperson

JONATHAN GASKA
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD #14
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

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

PRESENT

Audrey Amsterdam-Handy, Ebony Beaty, Lailah Boyd, Kimberly Comes, John Cori, Gerald David, Rose Marie Duggan-Gulston, Jack Epter, Iona Folkes, Jeanette Garramone, Yitzchok Goldstone, Shanell Harper, D. Brian Heffernan, Samuel Jaroslawicz, Felicia Johnson Alison Kase, Paul King, Richard Knott, Damara Lee, , Betty Leon, Denise Lopresti, Nancy Martinez, John McCambridge, Sonia Moise, Nyjeri Norman, Isaac Parsee, Dolores Orr, David Rood-Ojalvo, David Shelborne, Colin Smith, Karen Sloan-Payne, Chris Tedesco, Jose Velez

ABSENT

Danielle Barker, Natasha Carter Louis Caucig, Menashe Friedman, Eugenia Gibson, Chamaine Gibbs, Avionne Gumbs-Cummings,, Caren Lee Luquan Lloyd, Annette Lord-Cohen, Linita Lyons, Jonathan Mack, Rosalyn Mason, Helen Montero, Harold Paez, Vernell Robinson,

GUESTS

QBP Donovan Richards, City Council Member Selvena Brooks- Powers, Dan Brown – Rep. Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, AM Stacey Pheffer Amato & Irene Doughty, Sonja Welber -Rep. State Senator James Sanders Jr., Jose Reina – Rep. Congressman Gregory Meeks,

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:22pm.

Report Of the Chair

After nearly 34 years of service to our community he will be retiring as of September 15, 2023. He has been here for the Board, residents of CB14Q. I really don't know how we will manager without him. NYC employment process has begun. As of Sept 6th job posting is on NYC Job Posting website, CB14Q website, in 9/7/233 issue of Rockaway Times and copies of posting in back of room. A Search Committee has been formed and Chair will keep board members updated on progress

Last Report of District Manager Jonathan Gaska

Thanked all the elected officials he has worked with over the years from Walter Ward, Audrey Pheffer, JoAnn Shapiro who guided him when he first started at CB14, to all the current elected officials. Also ABTS – Gerry Ronski. Thanked his wife Susan and his two daughters for their support and understanding of missing family events.

NYPD

101 POLICE PRECINCT

Captain Timmy Schultz Congratulated Jonathan on his retirement. Reported that 101 is down 70% YTD in violent crime. In Edgemere & Redfern there

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are extra resources working 6pm-2am and these extra resources have help significantly. Problem currently encountering is car smash & grab – taking belonging out of car. Captain urged everyone to lock their cars and remove personal items from car.

100 POLICE PRECINCT

EO Captain Daniels on behave of DI Fabara congratulated Jonathan on this retirement. She advised that crime for 28-day period is down by 23%

ELECTED OFFICIALSS

Congressman Meek's rep Jose advised that Congress recently was able to reduce cost of 10 medications and remind everyone that open enrollment for Medicare is open from October 15, 2023 – December 7, 2023

State Senator Sanders' rep Sonya advised that Parks Dept has increased work in the Edgemere parks and has provide some access to the beached.

Assemblymember Stacey Pheffer Amato - Congratulated Jonathan on his retirement and thanked him for his 33 years of commitment to our community and presented him with a proclamation. Advised that there will be a public hear at YMCA on 9/18 on LIPA/PSEG. Sue to additional Assembly obligations AM Khaleel Anderson has replaced her on the LIPA/PSEG Panel and there is a press conference at Floyd Bennett Field regarding housing migrants at our National Park.

QBP Donovan Richards congratulated Jonathan on his retirement and thanked him for all his guidance and mentoring in the QPB early days. QBP advised \$60M for Bayswater Park. 30 Supermarket operations looked at space for store in DTFR. \$30M allocated for science labs at FRHS/ BCHS campuses, MS53 has a green roof. Working with Governor on a Trama Center and Governor has committed \$5M. Arverne Library expansion is underway, Renovation of Arverne Playground, New K-8 School on beach 112 St/RBB at site of prior Stella Maris HS. JFK – 10,000 Jobs online – 6000 of those jobs are union. Community preference for jobs being challenged in court.

CM Selvena Brooks Powers – Thanked Jonathan for the 20 years she has know him and all work he has done for our community.

Dan Brown – office of DA Melinda Katz congratulated Jonathan on his retirement. Advised that there is a Dedicated Team to help Crime Victims

Public Speaking: The Chair opened the floor for public speaking. 28 people signed up to speak. They all were recognized and heard. Public speaking was closed.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

Circuit – alternative transportation

With a \$3.5M grant from NYSERDA Circuit will be providing a dedicated fleet of electric cars with dedicated stops on a route being finalized. Three of the 4 vans will be ADA. Vehicles will be stored and charged at lot on B 108 & BCD. Fare will be less than \$3.00 and drivers will be employees of Circuit. This service is intended for short trips with trip be an average of one mile. Service will run from Beach 116th Street along Rockaway Beach Blvd to some areas of Arverne, Edgemere, Far Rockaway (LIRR) to connect to Mass Transit. Bayswater and the back bay of Arverne is not included in the plan. Riders can notify request for pick up at the predetermined stops by Kiosks stops or cell phone will pay fare on the app.

They will be reviewing ridership monthly to look at ridership and route usage. Circuit has reached out to Community Board this late in the process because they must get a license to operate a new livery base station and requires a letter of no objection from the Community Board.

Motion made and seconded to provide a letter of no objection provided that Circuit commits to a monthly update to the Board and meets with our Transportation Committee quarterly as requested, Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Budget Committee – Gerald David - Chair

#1st Draft Budget FY2025

1st Draft – Board members were asked if they have any changes/additions to the FY2025 Budget.

Brian Heffernan requested that funding for the mosaic at Tribute Park be added to the budget. There being no objection item was added.

Public Hearing: The Chair opened the floor for public hearing on the Draft Budget FY2025. There being no one signed up to speak The Public Hearing was closed.

Meeting adjourned.