

Helen Marshall Borough President

**Barry Grodenchik**Deputy Borough President
Director of Community Boards

# **COMMUNITY BOARD #4Q**

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, and Elmhurst

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Louis Walker Chairperson

Richard Italiano District Manager

February 2, 2010

#### **COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING**

DATE: TUEDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010

TIME: 8:00 P.M.

PLACE: FLANDERS FIELD VFW POST #150 51-11 108<sup>TH</sup> STREET CORONA, NEW YORK 11368

I. The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

The Chair introduced Mr. Barry Grodenchik, the new Deputy Borough President. On the subject of schools, Mr. Grodenchik stated although several thousand new school seats are becoming available, Queens County is still desperately short of seats. Mr. Grodenchik will relay to Queens Borough President Helen Marshall the concerns voiced by the Board about the proposal presented by the School Construction Authority (SCA) tonight and will ask the Borough President if she would like to meet with the community. Moreover, since representatives of elected officials are in the audience, those concerns should be taken back to the respective legislators and addressed.

So as not to disrupt the meeting, Mr. Grodenchik invited comments about this proposal after the meeting. He also stated we do have a desperate need for schools, especially in this part of Queens County and questioned why our children should not have new schools. We want the best possible locations for our children. However if there are problems with site selection, another look is needed.

Mr. Grodenchik had been appointed by Queens Borough President Helen Marshall to serve as Deputy Borough President. In addition to acting as Deputy Borough President, Mr. Grodenchik will serve as the Director of the 14 Community Boards in Queens. As a Queens native, he is excited to serve the borough he grew up in.

Next, Mr. Grodenchik reported for those Board members who are up for re-appointment to the Community Board, applications are missing. For those whose terms expire at the end of March, please submit your notarized application form.

Secondly, Deputy Borough President Grodenchik spoke about Charter Revision. The Borough President had asked Mr. Grodenchik to coordinate the Charter Revision response. A major concern exists with borough governance, and stressed the importance of how Charter Revision will affect the Community Boards. Ideas are needed whether it's as a Board as a whole, or as individual members, or made by civic, fraternal, or religious organizations.

In Queens County, strong borough governance exists with over 100 civic groups such as the Queens Civic Congress that is very active. We do not want to see a diminution of powers with the City of New York Community Boards. Members of Community Boards know their neighborhoods better than any others. He spoke about the knowledge and experience Board members give to their communities and mentioned the dedication of a long time volunteer who was serving before there were Community Boards. This is our government and Queens Borough President Marshall talks all the time about perfecting our democracy, stated Mr. Grodenchik.

Before concluding his presentation, Deputy Borough President Grodenchik provided his e-mail address, bgrodenchik@queensbp.org or call Cathy Moore, with any issues or matters of concern and he will share them with the Borough President. More discussion is planned with the Borough President about the site selection for the school.

After Deputy Borough President Grodenchik concluded his presentation, the Board followed the order of its agenda.

- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
- III. The District Manager Richard Italiano took the attendance. A quorum was present.

Before the vote on the minutes was taken, the District Manager announced Mrs. Patricia Terranova was hospitalized for a week and a half with a severe foot infection, which had traveled up her leg. The District Manager brought up sending a get well gift from the Sunshine Fund, which will be discussed after the meeting.

IV. Vote on the Minutes (January 5, 2010)

Before the vote was taken, the following corrections were noted:

<u>Correction</u> by Ms. Lucy Schilero, Page 10, regarding the representative 's statement from Puerto Escondido Food Corp., the Public Safety Chair had responded proof was needed of the official time the owner had acquired the business.

<u>Correction</u> by Mr. Luis Enrique Lugo: Certain statements made by Mr. Lugo at the January 5, 2010, CB meeting were not included in the minutes.

At this point, Ms. Laraine Donohue made a motion, seconded by Ms. Myrna Littlewort, to <u>accept</u> the minutes with the noted corrections.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

#### IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Chair Louis Walker commented on the expiration of his term as Chair. Serving the Board in the capacity as Chairperson for the last five years had been a rich and rewarding experience.

Before presenting his report, District Manager Richard Italiano thanked Chairperson Louis Walker for his untiring efforts and dedication as Chairperson of the Board, which included attending many meetings and for his outstanding efforts to fulfill the responsibility as Chairperson of the Board.

Ms. Laraine Donohue commended Mr. Walker's exemplary performance, and a round of applause was given to Mr. Walker for the many years he had served in this capacity.

# V. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

The District Manager reported on the devastation the earthquake caused in Haiti. The Mayor's Office and the Borough President's Office had compiled a listing of known reputable organizations if you wish to donate. Those lists were available on the back table.

Next, Census 2010 is kicking off next month and more information will be forthcoming. As a result, the District Manager will try to schedule a presentation at next month's Board meeting. Mass hiring is in progress at the Census Bureau. Even though it is temporary employment, all types of workers are needed. Contact the Census Bureau for more information. Cards were available on the back table with details. The District Manager continued not only is he a member of the Queens Complete Count Committee established by the Borough President for the census, but also he is the Chair for the Community Boards. Everyone in the district must be counted so that we get the services we are entitled to and not be undercounted as in the past.

Subsequently, The District Manager reported the Board office Conference Room was offered as a training center, for about a week to week and a half, for new Census workers. Also, the Board office will serve as a Census center whereby people can come in and receive help filling out the Census form. Forms will be available at the Board office. The District Manager stressed it is imperative all are counted to ensure we get our fair share.

# VI. PRESENTATION: Hour Children – Sr. Teresa "Tesa" Fitzgerald, CSJ Overview of Corona Facility Located at 51-02 103 Street

As part of a founding group of sisters who opened a home for children in St. Rita's convent in Long Island City in 1986, Sr. Tesa has been located in Long Island City for the past 24 years living with the sisters and others who have become part of the Hour Children staff. Hour Children is a non-profit organization that Sr. Tesa founded which continues to grow that offers homes to mothers coming out of the prison system with babies. Based in Long Island City, the organization operates three communal homes, two apartment houses and offers a host of other services. A hand-out was distributed to the Board.

Part of the property they were located on was owned by the church, and they were able to purchase the property with the plan to renovate and build permanent housing. On the property, sits one of their communal homes. The home must be demolished and another site obtained to relocate the nine families living there.

Although the organization was looking in the Long Island City area, it was priced out. As a result, another site in Corona was obtained. Working with the Good Sheppard Sisters who owned a home at 51-02 103 Street, which is actually comprised of two homes, formerly used to house juveniles. The property had been vacant for the past two years. In negotiations with Good Sheppard Services, Hour Children was able to purchase the property at an affordable price. The property was purchased in May, 2009 and will start renovations next week. The renovation will be expensive, which includes repairs to the facade, garden and yard resulting in a beautiful home.

Twelve families will reside in the Corona sites that are presently living in the Long Island City house. These families are already working in a job training program and their children are either in day care or school. Two apartments are situated on the first floor. One apartment for the custodial staff involved in operating and supervising the house and the other to be occupied by one family. A van service will be provided to take

families from Corona to Long Island City, where the hub of services is located such as a working women's program, a licensed day care, and after school programs to name a few.

Long term the goal is for many families to establish a home in Corona. Many realize the mistake they made, and they do not want their children to repeat it. Women receive a firm foundation, including many life skills, which they nurture in their children. Probably in June when renovations are scheduled for completion, an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony will be held for fourteen of the children's families who will call Corona home.

At this point, Sr. Tesa took questions from the Board.

Mr. Alirio Orduna said the organization does a wonderful job. What can we do to help? What do you need?

Sr. Tesa responded the Hour Children village in Long Island City has a thrift shop which serves as an outlet service to the community as well as to the organization. Donations are accepted. A van and a truck go out into the community to pick up clothing and furniture. All donations are used in the homes and when the families are ready to move into independent living, the furniture is supplied to them by Hour Children. What they do not use is sold to the community at large.

Volunteer opportunities are available and the organization offers two mentoring programs. Corona children participate in the mentoring programs. Hour Children works with children whose mothers or fathers are in prison all over the five boroughs. An adult mentor is provided who is trained to be like a big brother/sister to a child. The goal is to give a child a role model so that he/she will feel good about himself and make the right choices in life.

Mr. Nick Pennachio asked what constitutes a family. Sr. Tesa responded a mother /child or two children. Sr. Tesa provided more information on the living arrangements. The second and third floor of the house will be communal living because women learn that way. Six families with an aide will be on one floor so that daily routines such as cooking and cleaning are learned launching the women into independent living.

Mrs. Judy D'Andrea asked since the children currently attend school in Long Island City, will they remain in Long Island City or transferred to Corona schools. Sr. Tesa responded depending on the timeframe of the transfer to Corona, children will be kept in the Long Island City location. Eventually, the children may remain in Corona for a longer period of time; however, it is still uncertain about schooling since there are no time limits on the length of stay, which varies from six months to two years. Others may stay much longer because permanent housing is offered. Most of the children are under the age of 3. Also, the Long Island City location offers a licensed day care program so that mothers can work.

In response to a Board member's inquiry about the donations, Sr. Tesa provided more information about the clothing and furniture pick ups, which are scheduled six days a week. Call the Hour Children office to schedule an appointment for a pick up.

Mr. Jim Lisa asked about the boyfriends of the mothers. Who monitors the situation when the men come by in cars?

Sr. Tesa explained very few mothers have boyfriends with cars or boyfriends. However, Hour Children does encourage the fathers of the children to become part of their life. Too few of these children have fathers. As part of the women's training, they are taught to get into better relationships and to move on with their lives. Rules are already in place when boyfriends/ fathers visit. No visits occur during the week and weekend visits are monitored by the 24 hour live in staff.

Sr. Tesa concluded this is a home for the women, not just a program. It is their own home, and they are not forced to be in this program, they choose to do so.

Mrs. Judy D'Andrea asked what the average age of the women is. Sr. Tesa responded it varies. Ages can range from the teens to the seventies. Women of all ages make poor choices.

Ms. Ann Coyne asked if families contribute toward the rent. Sr. Tesa responded yes, it is mandated that once a participant is working to contribute as it is a very important part of their learning to pay a part of their earnings for rent, child care and transportation. Budgeting is an important part of their learning. These are real life choices in learning—to learn skills they were not taught by their families and initially got them into trouble.

Before concluding, Sr. Tesa thanked the Board for its support.

At this point, the Chair asked the Board for its decision on the School Construction Authority's proposal heard earlier in the meeting.

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Mrs. Judy D'Andrea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Edgar Moya, to <u>reject</u> the proposed site and recommended the SCA work with community leaders and elected officials to find suitable alternate sites also referencing local community residents neighboring the site had voiced opposition as well as objections made by the NYPD 110 Precinct and the NYC Fire Department. Engine 289, Ladder 138 is located adjacent to the proposed site at 97-28 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

Do you want to continue to discuss the motion, asked the Chair? The general consensus was no. By a voice vote, the Board voted 31 in favor, 0 opposed with 2 abstentions. Motion passed.

Moreover, Mr. Jim Lisa suggested the Community Board write a letter to the SCA to seriously review the properties surrounding I. S. 61 as possible sites which offers tremendous vision for a school complex to house a grammar as well as intermediate school necessary to relieve the severe overcrowding in the area. The District Manager agreed.

Mrs. Judy D'Andrea was also in agreement and added besides the Community Board, to enlist the help of the elected officials in this matter.

More discussion ensued about locations submitted to the SCA for the last 15 years including the parking lot of the New York Hall of Science and other locations near I. S. 61.

# VII. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**Vote: SLA License Application** 

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero presented the Committee's report. The Committee held a meeting on February 1 on the following applications:

# **NEW APPLCIANTS**

ESTABLISHMENT'S NAME	ADDRESS	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
79-15 Restaurant Corp.	79-15 Queens Blvd.	Denied. Under 200' Rule. Church
D/B/A Crazy Horse Queens	Elmhurst, NY 11373	around the corner at 80-25 Cornish Ave.
On Premises Liquor	,	
-		
LaFlaca Coffee Shop, Inc.	42-17 102 Street	Denied. Application not sufficiently
Restaurant Wine	Corona, NY 11368	filled out.

Taqueria El Gallo Giro, Inc. Beer Only

41-06 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY 11368 Approved.

### RENEWAL APPLICANTS

ESTABLISHMENT'S NAME	ADDRESS	COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
Chila City Escape Corp.	89-56 Elmhurst Avenue	Denied. History of problemsnot only
On Premises Liquor	Elmhurst, NY 11373	from 110 Precinct, but also from SLA
		Inspectors. Investigation of narcotics,
		assaults, prostitution and forged
		instruments—non-authorized documents.
Mirtiel Restaurant, Inc.	83-03 Grand Avenue	Approved.
•		Apploved.
D/B/A Hilltap Tavern	Elmhurst, NY 11373	
On Premises Liquor		

Ms. Georgina Oliver made a motion, seconded by Mr. Enrique Lugo, to **accept** the Committee's report as presented.

Any other questions regarding the motion? asked the Chair. Since there was nothing further, the Board voted.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

At this point, Ms. Laraine Donohue brought up the Board's no vote on the Brenmac Tavern, Inc. Grandstand at last month's Community Board meeting. The vote was based on a 2008 noise complaint and a grand larceny complaint regarding a patron's stolen purse which was hanging on the back of a chair. This is not the owner's responsibility but rather the responsibility of the customer.

Ms. Donohue added the SLA does not have any complaints against this establishment and the Police Department has not issued any warrants.

Ms. Donohue asked the Board to consider rescinding the negative vote taken at the January meeting. Since the Board agreed, Ms. Donohue made a motion, seconded by Mr. Enrique Lugo, to vote again on this establishment's application and approve it.

Mr. Enrique Lugo reiterated the business owner cannot be held accountable for the purse snatching.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero explained that if the Committee denies the application, the establishment will not lose its license. The Board's decision is only a recommendation. The Committee denies the application based on the 110<sup>th</sup> Precinct's report. A letter is sent to the applicant to attend a Committee meeting to hear their account. Nine out of ten times the application is approved by the Committee. The applicant in question should have attended the meeting called by the Public Safety Committee, stated Ms. Schilero.

Discussion ensued about the Committee's procedure with the applicants and how its decision is made and how it impacts on the applicant. Ms. Schilero also pointed out for years, the Board had voted in the same way for the same kind of complaints in other locations. Everyone is treated the same.

Ms. Donohue provided more information on the establishment and added the 110 Precinct had no complaints since 2008. Public Safety Committee Chair responded information is received very late coming in from mostly the Special Operations Operator. The Committee had made it very clear reports are needed as soon as possible since there is a very short time to comment.

The District Manager added the only people invited to the meeting are the applicants. None of the applicants listed on tonight's agenda had attended the Public Safety Committee meeting held on February 1. Committee Chair Schilero stated in the letter that is sent out, an applicant has the option to come back for reevaluation, emphasizing time is made for everyone.

Ms. Laraine Donohue suggested placing a phone call the day of the meeting to remind applicants. Ms. Schilero responded it could not be done.

After more discussion ensued, the Board voted on the motion. By a roll call vote, the Board voted 31 in favor, 2 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

#### VIII. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Diego Freire reported the Nominating Committee met on January 14, 2010. After careful deliberation and review of nominees, key points considered were availability and absolute desire to serve in the position. Equally importantly, the candidate must be committed to attending other meetings. Board attendance was another factor taken into consideration by the Committee.

The Nomination Committee recommended the following slate of officers:

Chairperson of the Board Mr. Anthony Moreno
First Vice Chairperson Mr. Louis Walker
Second Vice Chairperson Mr. Stephen Castro
Executive Secretary Ms. Priscilla Carrow
Treasurer Mr. Joseph DiMartino

At Large Directors:

Ms. Patricia Terranova

Ms. Clara Salas

Mr. Thomas McKenzie

Mr. Diego Freire

At this point, the Committee Chair asked each candidate if they accepted the nomination. All candidates present accepted the nomination. Since Mrs. Terranova and Mr. McKenzie could not be present at tonight's meeting to accept their respective nominations, discussion ensued on how to proceed.

Mrs. Catherine Moore clarified that according to the bylaws, a verbal confirmation over the phone is acceptable. Before attempting to reach Mrs. Terranova and Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Freire said nominations can be taken from the floor.

While attempting to phone Mrs. Terranova, Mr. Nick Pennachio pointed out since this was the first of a two year term for Mr. McKenzie, he is already officially serving in the position and no acceptance is necessary. The District Manager agreed and said both Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Salas are in the first year of a two year term.

The Chair announced the phone call was successful to Mrs. Terranova who accepted the nomination.

At this point, Mr. Freire announced a ballot vote will be taken for any nominations from the floor.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for Chairperson? There were none.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for First Vice Chairperson?

Ms. Schilero and Mr. Diego Freire both were nominated for Chairperson of the Board. Each had declined the nomination.

At this point, Mr. Peter Vekiarelis nominated Mr. Alirio Orduna for First Vice Chairperson. Nomination was seconded Mr. Enrique Lugo.

Mr. Orduna inquired to the duties of the First Vice Chairperson. Mr. Freire responded to assume the duties of the Chairperson in the event the Chair is unable to perform his duties. Mr. Orduna accepted the nomination.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for Second Vice Chairperson? There were none.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for Executive Secretary? There were none.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for Treasurer? There were none.

Next, Mr. Freire called out, any nomination for At-Large Directors? There were none.

Ballots to vote for the office of <u>First Vice Chairperson</u> were distributed. Mr. Freire instructed the Board to write in Mr. Alirio Orduna's name and check the box next to his name if voting for Mr. Orduna. Print and sign your name on the ballot for it to be counted. Ballots already contain Mr. Louis Walker's name. Please check the box next to your choice of candidate—Mr. Walker or Mr. Orduna. Ballots without a Board member's printed name or signature are invalid and will not be counted.

Since the votes were tallied, Mr. Freire announced the results for the office of First Vice Chairperson.

- Mr. Louis Walker
   Mr. Alirio Orduna
   5 votes
- Invalid Ballots 3

The following is a count of the votes cast for Mr. Louis Walker:

- 1. Anthony Caminiti
- 2. Priscilla Carrow
- 3. Ashley Cooper
- 4. Judith D'Andrea
- 5. Joseph DiMartino
- 6. Laraine Donohue
- 7. Beth Moon Ray Ferguson
- 8. Diego Freire
- 9. Audrey Galligen
- 10. Maria Lourdes Garcia
- 11. Helen Landaverde
- 12. Miriam Levenson
- 13. James Lisa
- 14. Myrna Littlewort

- 15. Enrique Lugo
- 16. Rovenia McGowan
- 17. Anthony Moreno
- 18. Melvin Morgan
- 19. Edgar Moya
- 20. Nicholas Pennachio
- 21. Nicholas Pennetti
- 22. Robert Rothschild
- 23. Clara Salas
- 24. Lucy Schilero
- 25. Louis Walker

The following is a count of the votes cast for Mr. Alirio Orduna:

- 1. Ann Coyne
- 2. . Carmen Enrique Luciano
- 3. Georgina Oliver
- 4. Alirio Orduna
- 5. Peter Vekiarelis

Mr. Freire announced Mr. Louis Walker will serve in the capacity as First Vice Chairperson.

Subsequently, Mr. Enrique Lugo made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Judy D'Andrea, to vote on the new slate of officers as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board vote 33 in favor, 0 opposed with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

### IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**ULURP & Zoning** 

No Report. Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported the Committee did not meet.

#### Health

No Report. Committee Chair Priscilla Carrow reported the Committee did not meet.

#### Postal

Committee Chair Stephen Castro reported the Committee met on January 20. Two items were on the agendathe modification of the post office's hours of operation and the mobile post office/stamp van was discussed. Within the next two months, the post office's new hours of operation will be in effect. Current hours of operation 9:00 am to 7:00 p.m. will be changed to 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The mobile postal stamp van will be available sometime this month stationed at 108<sup>th</sup> Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue. If it is underutilized and no income is generated, it will not remain.

#### Youth

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported a Youth Committee meeting was held on January 11 at Elmhurst Hospital Center. Guests included representatives from the School Construction Authority/Queens, the Assistant Principal at Newtown High School, CEC24, and Board Member Beth Anna Moon Ray Ferguson.

15,000 new school seats were added from K to junior high school city wide. One new addition was a new high school focused on the arts.

Committee meetings are very informative and enlightening, said Ms. Salas. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for April. She urged all to attend, and minutes from the January 11 meeting were available. Please call the Board office for a copy.

Mrs. Judy D'Andrea pointed out even though about 15,000 new school seats were added, our district is still overcrowded, emphasizing we do need schools. Schools must benefit the whole community.

#### **Environmental**

No Report. Committee Chair Tom McKenzie not present. However, Ms. Lucy Schilero made the following environmental complaints to bring to the attention of Mr. McKenzie:

- 1. On 90<sup>th</sup> Street and Roosevelt Avenue, the baskets are overfilled. Neighborhood homeowners are also dumping in that site. Extra help is needed.
- 2. The same condition exists on 91 Place and Corona Avenue. Please have the garbage removed at both locations.

#### **Parks**

No Report. Committee Chair Tony Caminiti reported the Committee did not meet.

### Consumer Affairs

Committee Chair Helen Landaverde reported no meeting was held in January, however, a meeting is scheduled for February 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Silver Spoon.

# **Transportation**

Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino reported the Committee did not meet. Serving also as Board Treasurer, Mr. DiMartino took this opportunity to report the Sunshine Fund had \$179.00.

Before proceeding to the next agenda item, Mrs. D'Andrea brought up the serious issue of illegal conversions mentioning the terrible fire in Bensonhurst. A multiple dwelling was over-occupied with as many as 20 people living the building which did not have smoke detectors. Tragically, five immigrants died. The landlord, along with the arsonist, should be held accountable. This is what's happening in our community and getting worse. Mrs. D'Andrea pointed out if landlords do not provide smoke detectors, tenants will not buy them.

At this point, Mr. Enrique Lugo provided photos of people who perished in suspicious fires. He emphasized a fire safety education program is vital and should be implemented in the Board area. Discussion ensued.

#### X. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

No Report

# XI. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. George Onuorah introduced a community activist who spoke about the devastation in Haiti caused by the recent earthquake and the relief efforts underway to help the people of Haiti. Representing the non-profit organization Haitian American-Care based in Boston, "PJ" reported five doctors and five doctors are presently in Haiti tending to the needs of the people of Port-au-Prince. Any support the Board could give would be greatly appreciated. Contact "PJ" or log on to hatianamericancare.org for more information. Even before the earthquake, this country was struggling for survival.

At this point, the Chair asked if anyone else from the Public would like to speak. Since there were no speakers, the Chair asked if Board members would like to speak.

First, Ms. Rovenia McGowan mentioned the following items of interest:

- 1. Roosevelt Avenue & 103 Street Door on public toilet is wide open. It is an eyesore.
- 2. Mentioned the "Angel of Corona" A bus driver in Jackson Heights.

# 3. Grandson produced a short film entitled, "El Nuevo" on HBO. Be sure to watch it!

Second, Mr. Enrique Lugo reported on a shipping/cargo company at 91-30 Corona Avenue whose proprietor stole money from over 300/400 customers promising to ship their packages to their countries and did not. Packages still remain in the store. Details were provided. Moreover, the son of this individual is the Mayor of Long Hill Township, New Jersey.

The Board's support is needed to track down the principal and Board members and any others to stop this kind of business in our community because these businesses open again under new names.

Next, Mr. Gurdip Singh Narula reported his organization had already donated \$20,000 to the Haiti Relief Fund. More details were provided on a \$5,000 donation given to the people of Haiti every day by an affiliate organization.

Next, Mr. Alirio Orduna reported the New York Military Youth Cadets is looking for a few good cadets. Boys and girls from 12 to 18 years old are needed to be the future strength of and stability of our Armed Forces and our country. Help is needed with recruitment.

There being no further business, Mrs. Judy D'Andrea made a motion, seconded by Ms. Laraine Donohue, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.