



## COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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**Helen Marshall**  
Borough President

**Louis Walker**  
Chairperson

**Barry Grodenchik**  
Director of Community Boards

**Christian Cassagnol**  
District Manager

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### COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

**DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013**

TIME: 7:55 P.M.

PLACE: VFW POST #150  
51-11 108 STREET  
CORONA, NY 11368

**I.** Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

**II.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**III.** District Manager Christian Cassagnol took the roll call. 24 Board Members were in attendance. A quorum was not present.

Since this does not constitute a quorum, Chairperson Louis Walker made a motion that because several board members were out sick that we needed to make the 24 board members present a quorum for this meeting only. Motion seconded by Board Member Tony Moreno.

By a voice vote, the Board voted unanimously to **approve** this motion. Motion passed.  
The Board now has a quorum to conduct Board business.

**IV.** Vote: Minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Myrna Littlewort, to **approve** the minutes.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**V.** Transportation Committee

Vote: SCA PS 315

Vote: Elmhurst Slow Zone

Vote: Charter School Parking Extension

Chairperson Louis Walker asked the Chair of the Transportation Committee since the full Committee could not meet in December, how did those members who did meet vote on the aforementioned three issues.

Transportation Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino reported the Committee accepted all three items. He also mentioned the school construction was voted down last year by the Board, but it was approved anyway.

Chairperson Walker informed the Board three separate motions are needed for each issue.

1. SCA PS 315

Board Member Nicholas Pennachio made a motion, seconded by Board Member Judy D'Andrea, to deny both requests by the SCA for PS 315.

The motion on the floor was to deny. Chairperson Walker asked if there was any further discussion. Since there was none, he explained if you vote yes, it means to deny the motion; if you vote no, it means to accept it.

A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 14 yes (to deny), 10 no (to accept) with 0 abstentions. Motion passed to deny.

2. Elmhurst Slow Zone

Board Member Tony Moreno made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to approve the proposal.

Chairperson Walker asked if further discussion was needed. Do we need a roll call vote? The general consensus of the Board was no.

By a voice vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposal. (24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.) Motion passed.

3. Charter School Extension of Parking

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to approve the request.

Chairperson Walker asked if a roll call vote was needed. The general consensus of the Board was no.

By a voice vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request. (24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

## **VI. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Walker reported Mr. Anthony Caminiti's family had requested 108<sup>th</sup> Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue is co-named for Mr. Caminiti.

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Joseph DiMartino, to approve the request.

The Chair asked if any further discussion was needed. The general consensus of the Board was no.

By a voice vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request. (24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions). Motion passed.

Discussion ensued about placing Mr. Caminiti's name on the Josephine Caminiti Park located at 102<sup>nd</sup> Street & Corona Avenue Park.

Additionally, Chairperson Walker reminded the Board the February 12 Community Board 4 meeting will be held at Elmhurst Hospital, Rm. A-122 (Auditorium).

The Borough President will monitor attendance as the Board members re-appointments will be coming up soon.

## **VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER**

District Manager Cassagnol reported on the Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Collection is scheduled from January 2 to January 12. Flyers were on the back table.

The City of New York will be installing two benches at 87-09 Grand Avenue and 83-07 Grand Avenue to alleviate people standing waiting for the Q58 bus.

Next, the District Manager reported on the Department of Homeless Services' Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) survey to find a point in time estimate of the number of unsheltered homeless individuals in New York City. This year HOPE will take place on Monday, January 28, 2013 and volunteers are needed. Volunteers commit to assist Homeless Services overnight on Monday, January 28, 2013 from 10:30 p.m. until 4:00 a.m.

Registration for HOPE can be found on the DHS homepage at [www.nyc.gov/dhs](http://www.nyc.gov/dhs), or City Share. Call the HOPE Team at 212-607-5366 for more information.

Next, in conjunction with CERT, a blood drive will be held on Sunday, January 20, 2013 at St. Leo's Roman Catholic Church from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call the church office to sign up to donate blood. For more information on donating blood, visit the New York Blood Center at [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).

The State of the Borough address is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 10:00 a.m., at Colden Auditorium at Queens College.

The District Manager reported two awards, presented by Board Member George Onuorah, were given to the District Manager and staff member Margaret Silletti--a Certificate of Congressional Recognition for outstanding and invaluable work to the community.

Board Member Stephen Castro was also a recipient of this award.

District Manager Cassagnol commended Public Safety Committee Chair, Lucy Schilero, and the entire committee for their dedication and hard work. Additionally, not only does Ms. Schilero conduct on-site visits to the local restaurants, but she pays out of pocket using a livery cab. A special Thank You was extended to her.

## **VII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS**

Mr. Joel Santos, representing Council member Julissa Ferreras' office, reported on the successful Three Kings Event held on January 5, 2013. Upcoming events include the Council Member's State of the District tentatively to be held February 8 at Langston Huges Library. Further details will be forthcoming.

Next, Emely Paez, representing Senator Jose Peralta's office, reported the Senator's office will be working with Food Banks for New York City offering free tax preparation for constituents. There are specific requirements that must be met. Details were given.

The service will be provided at the Transfiguration of Christ Greek Orthodox Church, 38-05 98<sup>th</sup> Street, Corona, NY. Monday – Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. Beginning January 17 – April 15, 2013. In March, offices will be closed Mondays and Fridays.

If you are interested in being included in the Senator’s e-mail blast for information, please see Emely Paez at the end of the meeting.

Next, Carolyn Tran, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm’s office, reported the Lunar New Year event which will occur next month. The Council Member is preparing for this event on Saturday, February 9. Details were given. She added a small gathering will be at CC Moore Park with the lion dancers, the drummers, and the Community Board was invited to attend a walk along Broadway to St. James Church, starting at 11:30 a.m. Flyers were on hand.

Lastly, the Council Member put funding into a free graffiti removal hotline. If you notice graffiti in the district, call Council Member Dromm’s office. The number of the hotline is 718-803-6373, press 6. Flyers were also available with this information.

At this point, Board Member Tony Moreno asked Ms. Tran the next time she attends the Board meeting to bring an update on the re-opening of the LIRR’s Elmhurst station.

Next, Ms. Emely Paez reported Ari Espinal from Council Member Francisco Moya’s office was not feeling well and could not attend tonight’s meeting.

Next, Ms. Sabine Bernards, Citizens Committee of NYC, reported this organization awards grants of \$500-\$3,000 to resident led groups to work on community and school improvement projects addressing issues that they identify as important to them. Such as community garden, after school program or an arts program, whatever is considered community improvement project. Applications are due January 31 and can be found on the website citizensnyc.org. Easy to fill out; just provide information about your group.

Two workshops are coming up for budget workshops, organizing, navigating city government and grassroots fund raising in the winter both in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

## **VIII. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **Vote: SLA Applications**

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on January 7 and provided the following information:

### **NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES**

**JANUARY 2013**

#### **NEW APPLICANTS**

<b><u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u></b>	<b><u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u></b>	<b><u>COMM. RECOMMENDATION</u></b>
Evelyn Gerardia “El Tucan Inc.” Wine and Beer Only	43-24 91 <sup>st</sup> Place Elmhurst, NY	Approved

**NEW APPLICANTS (cont'd)**

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>COMM. RECOMMENDATION</u>
12 Corazones Rest. Bar Corp. Wine and Beer Only	86-22 Roosevelt Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
La Morenita Ecuatoriana Rest. Wine and Beer Only	109-06 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Denied. No show. No CofO No Corp. Papers. Comm. Complaints
Tacos y Jugos Genesis Corp. Wine and Beer Only.	78-04 Woodside Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Denied. No Cof O.
Note: if customer's consumer beer or wine inside location, they need to submit a C of O.		
Cavico Corp. <i>Sabor Deportivo Restaurant</i> Wine and Beer Only	40-32 National Street Corona, NY	Denied. No Cof O. No Corp. Papers NYPD report 12/12/12 failure to check ID, 7/26/12 failure to check ID
Loma Restaurant Wine and Beer Only	58-28 99 <sup>th</sup> Street Corona, NY	Denied. Past few years noise noise complaints have escalated.
Page II Corporation Liquor, Wine and Beer	107-01 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
Mexican Junction Restaurant Beer Only	96-06 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied. No Cof O. Customers consume beer on premises.
Los Tres Hermanos Potrillos Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	111-16 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
Tropicoso Bar-Grill No. 11 Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	111-10 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Denied. History of problems. from 5/2011 to 1/1/2013 1/113-Sale to Intox. Failure to check ID, Unreasonable noise Submission for closure

**RECONSIDERATIONS**

Pico de Gallo Inc. Wine and Beer Only	82-12 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Rancho Tipico Corp.	98-53 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approved

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported further on Loma Restaurant and the reason for the denial, which was repeated noise complaints. Over the years, businesses have been informed to obtain a beer/wine/liquor license; noise complaints are taken into consideration. Petitions have been received from many people on this location. We, as well as the community have been ignored, and complaints have escalated. After receiving numerous

complaint letters, the Committee decided to vote no, although the SLA may grant the application. Discussion ensued on this establishment as well as other businesses.

Ms. Schilero noted this is the first license application to be rejected by the Public Safety Committee because of noise issues.

Update: Exotic's, 79-21 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst, NY  
Being targeted for closure by NYPD under a nuisance abatement proceeding.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol informed Committee Chair Lucy Schilero Mexican Junction Restaurant Corp. faxed us its documents before 5 p.m. today.

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero responded it was wrong and to throw a lot of things our way last minute is unacceptable.

Committee Chair Schilero reported DI Leyson of the 110 Precinct will meet with establishments who serve alcohol/beer etc. Will come down hard if they Sale to Intox.  
Special thanks were given to DI Leyson and Lt. Peter Calderon for their effort combatting this issue.

Committee Chair Schilero reported on the new SLA ruling: 3 years for full liquor license, 2 years for wine/beer. Also, she is requesting a letter be sent to the Parks Commissioner regarding Flushing Meadows-Corona Park parking lot at 111 Street between 54<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Streets, be closed after 9:00 p.m.

Before concluding here report, she extended a special thank you to her committee for putting in many hours and a full year of time and dedication.

At this point, Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lester Youngblood, to **accept** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted, 24 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### *Parks*

Committee Chair Al Perna was in attendance, but was excused to leave early. No Report.

### *Health*

Committee Chair Priscilla Carrow reported the Committee did not meet.

### *Youth*

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported a Community Education Council meeting was held in December. The Mayor's Office and the Dept. of Education have decided two schools will close—one in Brooklyn and the other in Manhattan. 15 other schools will be phased out because of their poor academic performance, for a total of 16,000 seats. Most of the schools are black and Latino population and have a higher percentage of English language learners and a high percentage of special education students in self-contained classes. Schools closings in Queens are P. S. 140 and the Law Government Community Service High School, maybe more. Other schools slated for closure are located in the Bronx and Manhattan and Brooklyn. When the schools are closed, new schools will open with new standards and with new teacher evaluation programs.

Committee Chair Salas announced an upcoming Anti-Bullying Fair and The Parent and Teacher Conference that was cancelled last year because of Hurricane Sandy will be held on April 27. More information will be forthcoming. Also, she reported on a study by the American Psychological Association, "Helping Your Children Manage Stress in the Aftermath of a Shooting" such as the Newtown Elementary School shooting. It discussed how to help children manage their anxiety and fear and confusion that arises from this event.

A Youth Committee is planned for February. She will speak to the Chairperson/District Manager to finalize arrangements. Notices will be mailed.

At this point, Chairperson Walker asked Committee Chair Salas for clarification on the term "closing". Is it a re-organization?

Committee Chair Salas responded the phasing out is the schools are closing and the teachers will not be fired, but biding their time until they are placed in another school and will be continued to be paid. However, the children will be assigned to other, new schools. We do not know the aftermath of the phasing out period, she explained. The schools will be re-opened as other schools.

#### *Consumer Affairs*

Committee Chair George Onuorah reported the December 18 Consumer Affairs meeting was held. The meeting went very well. District Manager Christian Cassagnol and Staff Margaret Silletti were acknowledged as recipients of awards, including Bob Grant and Stephen Castro who received awards too. He brought up issues at Corona Plaza such as vendors. The Committee plans to address it. Staffing issues at the Food Bazaar were mentioned. Details were given. Also, the issue of illegal For Sale cars parked all over our streets were brought up.

At this point, Chairperson Walker questioned if all the items the Committee Chair reported on were under the scope of the Consumer Affairs Committee, but the Chair allowed Mr. Onuorah to continue his report.

Next, he reported on the Annual Town Hall meeting to be held at the Queens Center this year. Arrangements are in the process for this meeting and details will be forthcoming at a later date.

#### *Environmental*

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

#### *ULURP & Zoning*

Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported a meeting is planned for January 15, at the Board office, to discuss the Roosevelt Avenue re-zoning.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol reported a joint meeting of the Parks and ULURP Committees is planned for January 22 regarding the USTA and their plans for the tennis stadium. This meeting will also be held at the Board office. Notices will be sent shortly.

#### *Postal*

No report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

## **X. PUBLIC FORUM**

### **Good and Welfare of the District**

Ms. Salma Akter, representing HIP, reported on two health events. Details were given.

There being no further business, Board Member Judy D'Andrea made a motion, seconded by Board Member Miriam Levenson, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.