



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Helen Marshall
Borough President

Louis Walker
Chairperson

Barry Grodenchik
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Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2013

TIME: 8:50 P.M.

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

I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. First Vice Chairperson Patricia Terranova took the attendance. A quorum was present.

IV. Vote: Minutes of February 12, 2013 Meeting

Board Member Miriam Levenson made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **accept** the minutes of the February 12, 2013 meeting.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson Louis Walker reported the following four Board Members had resigned:

Thomas McKenzie

Victoria Lee

Nick Pennetti

Nancy King Wang

Chairperson Walker noted Mr. Thomas McKenzie had served the Board for 40 years, and a card was sent to him thanking him for his many years of service and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

Regarding the Board's internal operating budget, for FY 2013 the proposed cut \$11,172 was fully restored. However, for FY 2014 the proposed cut is \$15,658.

VI. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Board Treasurer Joseph DiMartino was called upon to report on the Sunshine Fund. Mr. DiMartino said to see him after the meeting to contribute. He explained the Sunshine Fund pays for the Holiday party and covers other Board member amenities.

VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Cassagnol did not make a report.

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Mr. Sebastian McGuire, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, reported on agenda item #10, Vote: Literacy Empowerment Academy Charter School, the Council Member is fundamentally opposed to charter schools and the incorporation of our public education. Resources should be directed to public education and not for big corporations. The Board was asked to consider whether this Charter School will be unionized and also to get salaries of the executives who operate this corporation. From past experience, executives make tremendous salaries. What this is about is the incorporation of our education at the expense of public schools.

Next, Ari Espinal, representing Assembly Member Francisco Moya's office, reported Ms. Emely Paez could not be present tonight. She reported on a Women's Month Celebration scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2013.

Next, Ms. Yoselin Genao and Joel Trinidad-Santos, representing Council Member Julissa Ferreras' office, invited all to a women's event celebration planned for Tuesday, March 19, at Elmcors honoring Board Member Patricia Terranova.

Subsequently, she reported Corona Plaza will be entering the second phase. Partnering with the Queens Museum, a community outreach meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2013, from 12 Noon to 4:00 p.m. Community input is needed and all were urged to attend. Let's envision what we need! Additionally, a DOT Public Input meeting for Corona Plaza will be held on March 27, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The goal is to represent our community's voice at this meeting. She urged all to attend. Moreover, March 29 is the deadline for applications for discretionary funds for non-profit groups and organizations.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker informed the Board a joint meeting of CB 4's ULURP & Zoning and Parks Committees was held On March 6 to discuss the USTA proposal. From that meeting a listing of recommendations was devised. Each Board Member was now given a copy to review.

Before discussing the listing, Deputy Inspector Ronald Leyson, Commander of the 110th Precinct, reported the area is experiencing a dramatic crime reduction. Crime is measured on a 7 day/28 day basis. The following statistics were given:

Robberies down 48.5%
Felony assaults down 21%
House break-ins down 36%
Grand larcenies down 26%

Overall seven major crime categories down 31% for a total of 46 index crimes for the 28 day period. The men and women at the 110 Precinct continue to work very hard to make this area much safer, and to address the quality of life conditions within the command.

Please see him at the end of the meeting with specific issues. He urged residents to attend all community meetings to have input into your community, not only when there is a "hot" topic. It is vital to participate in all

community meetings. D.I. Leyson has an open door policy at the Precinct. Call the Community Affairs officer to make an appointment, and he will address any concern the community has.

Subsequently, he spoke about grand larcenies. He urged all to pay attention to your surroundings and spoke about phones getting snatched out of people's hands. Also, he urged not to leave property unattended in cars.

A serious assault in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park over this past weekend was mentioned. Details were given about the assault. Further investigation is on-going, but community help is needed. If you hear anything about this assault, please call the Crime Stoppers Tip Line 1-800-577-TIPS, or 212-TIPS, or the Detective Squad at the 110th Precinct.

At this time, Chairperson Walker introduced Mr. Eugene Kelty, Chairperson of Community Board 7Q, to speak about the USTA's expansion proposal.

Mr. Kelty reported Board 7 voted last night to approve, with conditions, the USTA's expansion. Joint meetings of the Board's committees involved were held on the proposal. At the Board meeting, many people spoke about their concerns and the pros and cons of the expansion. However, the full Board voted 30 in favor, 6 opposed, with conditions. At the time, Mr. Kelty had explained to Board 7 there is three ways of voting: yes/with conditions, yes w/conditions if the conditions are not met then it becomes a no vote, or a no vote, which does not do anything. If it's a no vote, it's over and done with. If the vote is yes with conditions and the conditions are not met, then the vote is no, however, the question arises if 12 conditions are attached and only some of the conditions are met, it becomes a no vote. Therefore, Board 7 voted yes with conditions.

Mr. Kelty explained the Board's vote is advisory. Subsequently, the proposal goes to the next level: Queens Borough President and the Council Members for a vote. He spoke about the 0.68 acres and giving away the roadway. The footprint was already set, and that area was already in their original footprint.

Community Board 7 felt the USTA should give back to us and benefit Queens. The motion was approved with various conditions including discount access to USTA facilities for seniors and children. People directly around the area should be compensated, he said.

At this point, the recommendations of CB 4's ULURP & Parks Committees were distributed and read into the record by District Manager Cassagnol.

**USTA EXPANSION
C130155PPQ**

NO VOTE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

CB4Q's ULURP Committee Recommends A No Vote Unless All The Following Stipulations Are Met In Writing:

---\$15 million in a trust fund to be used exclusively for Flushing Meadow-Corona Park (FM-CP) with an additional \$500k/year maintenance fund to be overseen by an advisory board composed of members from all affected Community Boards.

---Replacement of park land to be exclusively within the FM-CP through the giving back of any alienated land (equal to or exceeding 0.68 acres.)

---Overall better safety within the park including but not limited to better lighting and security cameras at key locations.

---Better community outreach with reference to community related events, special programs, discounts and the distribution of tickets to local organizations on Arthur Ashe Day.

---The bringing back of “Queens Day”: (to be sponsored by the USTA).

---The reimplemention of the park trolley.

---Develop the South end of the park for more exposure to the natural waterway. Renewal of the model airplanes field, and kite flying fields, and possibility of bringing back canoeing and kayaking to Willow Lake at FMCP.

---Police from all 5 Community Boards to take part in a special FMCP Task Force.

---Section near the blue box trailer at the SW Corner of Meadow Lake would be prime location for a multipurpose center. (Police units, Park Rangers, staging area for various venues including bird walks, nature trail walks, and Boy and Girl Scouts).

If all conditions are met with a Timeline in writing, the application would be approved.

Chairperson Walker opened the floor for discussion.

Board Member Nick Pennachio said only the people who live surrounding this Park should have a say as to whether they want to live with an expanded Park. Queens has been a service borough for the rest of the city since its origination. We service both Nassau and Suffolk counties. Yet, we have to service 20,000 more people. The people who live surrounding the Park should have the final determination, not the people who work there and live in New York City or other boroughs. Although it is their livelihood, it is the people who live there who must put up with it every day. And the flyover provisions for the Arthur Ashe Stadium were mentioned. Details were given. Mr. Pennachio recommended denying the application.

Next, Board member Alirio Orduna stated the USTA wants to acquire this piece of land. He suggested calling upon the state to conduct an environmental impact study because the Grand Central Parkway and Long Island Expressway are in close proximity, including the removal of the trees.

At this point, Chairperson Walker clarified the ULURP process allows the Board 60 days to respond. Those 60 days will expire in about 3 days. We will not have time to request an environmental impact study. The vote must be taken tonight said Chairperson Walker.

Next, Board Member James Lisa stated he has lived in this neighborhood for many, many years and according to this proposal parking, air quality, pride and prestige is all lost.

USTA does not help the youth or senior groups, and no one in the community is helped. The children will not lose their programs if the proposal is rejected. Our community has the largest population of asthmatic children in the City of New York. Grand Central Parkway, the Long Island Expressway, the Cross Island and Whitestone Parkways would bring 20,000 more people into the community. Why can't the old stadium be fixed and leave it the way it is, he questioned. Taking parkland away (trees, helping our community breathe) is not doing anything to help our community, but rather it is a way toward lining one's pockets. Additionally, Board Member James Lisa brought up the fact there is no place to park now, and bringing more cars in is undesirable. 111 Street will be used for their people and truck traffic. People coming in from Manhattan will not use the Grand Central Parkway, but rather use the Hall of Science roadway going to the back. It's a line of cars and buses go that way too. We have no control over conditions. Board Member James Lisa said vote No.

In conclusion, he stated further the conditions that were read are nice, but meaningless. They will not help the community. If the Board votes No, with conditions, USTA could care less about the conditions and the

community. All they care about is taking the land, acquiring more land, and ignoring the community, children, and quality of life issues.

Next, Board Member A. Redd Sevilla stated there is a positive impact by the USTA: benefiting the children and a positive economic impact, however, the concern is a disproportionate impact to the local areas of Corona and Elmhurst and CB4. There is a lack of intentional effort in investing in the local community. Looking at their presentation, there was a list of USTA facts and how it benefits New York City. Where is the intentional effort in CB 4/Corona, he questioned. Another point, the conditions the Board proposes are great. But dates/timeline must be added. By when? There must be dates for milestones. If the stipulations are not met by that date, the Board can say they are failing on this. Board Member Sevilla recommended a No vote with stipulations. Why does the U. S. Open just show the Unisphere and not the neighborhood, he questioned.

Next, Board Member Judy D'Andrea stated she and her family have lived in this neighborhood their entire lives.

Hearing the presentation twice now, we heard about the great deal of money that the USTA brings into New York City. But that money does not benefit Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, not a dime of that money comes into a fund specifically designed for the Park. There have been no improvements in FM-CP, no safety, no management. For over 30 years, the Park has been mismanaged. Without having direct control over the money that comes into the city via the USTA plus profits what good is it, she questioned. It does not do anything for FM-CP by them being in the Park.

She also pointed out from the presentation tonight looking at the slide of USTA's original footprint how big it had grown. Think about what's the next footprint? Every year the footprint is getting bigger.

Next, Parks Committee Chair Al Perna reported he has been a Corona resident for 51 years and played all kinds of games in the Park since he was a kid. In the 1990's USTA put \$8 million into a trust fund, where the interest was going to other parks in the area, not to FM-CP. The \$15 million in a trust fund (\$500,000 a year) should go to our Park for the children in our park, FM-CP. The six community board chairs should follow that money and put it where it is needed for our parks and children. Board Member Perna detailed all the programs that he personally hosts in the Park. He wants to see Queens Day brought back for all the kids. Our Park needs it.

Mr. Perna will vote No, unless the conditions are met with dates and times in writing. Mr. Perna made the motion to this effect, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna.

Next, Board Member Roseann Geiger to get our voice heard the Park needs funds, maintenance, and security. Before the U. S. Open is set to open, the Park looks so great. As a local resident, she and her family uses the Park all the time. She urged the USTA representatives to help us and meet the conditions so it could be worked out.

Next, Ms. Janice Melnick, Administrator, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, clarified the \$8 million endowment that was put in trust in 1993 for the expansion. The principal sum cannot be used; however, the interest can only be spent in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Not one penny of the interest went to any place other than FMCP. As a matter of fact, the interest went to maintain the pool and ice rink.

Next, Ms. Ann Pfoser Darby agreed an environmental study should be included in the Board's recommendations. All stipulations should be in place before accepting the proposal. Also, trees and greenery help children with asthma. Removing trees will impact children.

Next, Helen Artega-Landaverde recommended using other types of fuel such as solar energy or other alternative energy instead of diesel and this should be added to the Board's recommendations.

Next, Mr. Joshua Laird, Asst. Commissioner for Planning, Dept. of Parks & Recreation explained an environmental study is underway. A draft of that document has been issued publicly. A copy was available at tonight's meeting, the Community Board has a copy, it is listed on DPR's website, and hard copies can be found in all the local libraries and available at the offices of local elected officials. There is a set process for conducting environmental reviews. Input is being reviewed from Community Boards and other sources and there will be a public hearing on the environmental impact study when the ULURP moves to the City Planning Commission. More details followed about the process.

The motion Board Member Al Perna made earlier was stated again:

Vote No Unless The Conditions Set Forth By Community Board 4Q Are Met With A Timeline In Writing. The motion had been seconded by Mr. Alirio Orduna.

Discussion followed on the motion.

Chairperson Louis Walker explained ULURP devised that motion, which was not adopted just now. No motion was adopted with conditions right now. It is open for discussion. He explained the Board can vote no. It does not have to follow ULURP's recommendations. The Board can vote against ULURP's recommendations.

Board Member Gurdip Narula suggested the hiring of women and, how many, should be added to the recommendation.

Chairperson Walker said a second is needed to Board Member Narula's motion to hire women. No second.

Board Member James Lisa explained if the vote is no with conditions, one condition could be to establish a committee to get all of the Community Boards recommendations and come out with the conditions to give to USTA, which would take time. Vote No with conditions. If conditions are not specified tonight, but they will be sent in writing for USTA to get back to us.

Chairperson Walker stated conditions could total 10 or 100 or 1000, within reason, it is getting beyond what is legal. Simply vote No.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla suggested voting No and to have USTA return with a revised proposal including all, such as an addendum.

Chairperson Louis Walker responded to vote No with the USTA to return to us would only happen if the City of New York (elected officials) voted it down. If it doesn't, the proposal would pass and it would never come back.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea suggested adding the following stipulation to the motion:

The USTA look into and implement alternative energy and fuel sources and implement full recycling and composting.

The response by the USTA representative was composting had already been included.

Board Member Patricia Terranova asked a stipulation be added that all those employed with the USTA be union workers.

Board James Lisa said since all recommendations are not written out right now, they should be written out within a week's time for review.

Chairperson Walker responded we do not have a week's time.

At this point, Chairperson Walker reiterated the motion on the floor is a *No With Recommendations With A Timeline In Writing*.

Chairperson Walker called the question. He explained if you vote yes on the motion on the floor, *it means to vote no*, with the stipulations. But if you vote against it, you are voting No against the No motion on the floor.

More discussion followed before the vote.

By a roll call vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions. Motion to **deny** with recommendations with a timeline in writing passed.

IX. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Vote: SLA Applications

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES March 2013

RENEWAL APPLICANTS (APPROVALS)

Since Committee Chair Lucy Schilero was not in attendance, District Manager Cassagnol presented the report. He noted no quorum was present at the committee meeting held on March 5, therefore, no motion/vote was taken.

The Public Safety Committee recommends the following approvals:

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
El Sancho Restaurant Corp. Wine and Beer Only	71-30 Roosevelt Ave, #2 Fl. Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Dong Kee Restaurant, Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer Menacing with a knife inside location, this resulted in an arrest. The owners did explain that it was an unruly patron who never returned after the incident.	75-32 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Approved
La Fusta Restaurant, Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	80-32 Baxter Avenue (42—01 Layton Street) Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Mexport International Corp. "El Tenampa Restaurant" Wine and Beer only.	96-14 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	Approved

RENEWAL APPLICANTS (DENIED)

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Global Entertainment Group, LLC "Play"	77-17 Queens Blvd. 7/24/11 Grand larceny two purses inside location.	Denied.

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Global Entertainment Group (cont'd)		9/30/11 – Assault in front of location 9/30/11 – 2 Assaults in front of location. Arrests made. 3/18/12 – Shots fired IFO location 4/6/12 – Grand larceny from a purse inside location Additional complaints were read, as well as SLA Checks and summonses issued.

NEW APPLICANT

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Azogueita Bakery & Restaurant II, Inc. Wine and Beer Only	40-26 National Street Corona, NY	Denied No show. No C of O or relative docs. provided at meeting.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol reported on an establishment, not on the agenda, which was a revote from last month.

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Baxter Fellows Inc. <i>El Tequila</i>	82-16 Baxter Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Denied. Submitted for closure for unlicensed Security guards.

RECONSIDERATION

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Don Francisco Restaurant Wine and Beer Only	40-56 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Approved

Assault inside location. Owner would look further into this as she was not aware of the incident.

At this point, District Manager reported some Board Member had concerns the USTA had personal addresses based on letters that were sent out, however, those were self-addressed, stamped envelopes sent to the Board office by the USTA and Board staff addressed the envelopes that were mailed out.

Also, a new intern is now on staff at the Board office. Eileen will work five days week, 4 hours per day, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

At this point, Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion, seconded by Ms. Laraine Donohue, to **accept** the Committee’s report as presented.

By a voice voted, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

X. PRESENTATIONS

**A. Melissa Cole, Operations Manager
Central Queens Academy**

**--Request to extend existing “No Standing 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.” to
“No Standing 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.” for two parking spaces on 56th Avenue**

Ms. Melissa Cole reported Central Queens Academy is a public charter school in Elmhurst. Doors opened this fall. Currently enrolling 110 students in fifth grade and will continue to enroll 100-110 students per year, every year for the next four years.

Ms. Cole explained she is seeking approval for an extension of the No Standing regulation on 56th Avenue, which borders the school; Junction Boulevard is on the corner.

In January 2013, the Board passed approval to extend the current No Standing from 7 am to 4 pm to No Standing 7 am to 6 pm on Junction Blvd. The reason being dismissal times are 4pm for the extended day for the charter school, and at 5:30 pm. 50% of the students attend the after-school program. At 4 pm, the location is very busy with vehicular and bus traffic. 30% to 40% of the students ride the public buses after school.

This request is about three to four already existing parking spaces where the No Standing regulation is 7 am to 4 pm. An extension is being sought from the 4 pm to 6 pm to accommodate a growing school population in years to come, and more general ridership on buses afterschool as well as private buses in afterschool programs.

What is needed to implement this request is: a letter from an elected official (which was acquired from Senator Peralta), a list of signatures of District 24 residents (presented to the Board at the January, 2013 meeting), and a vote from Community Board 4.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow brought up the list of signatures given to the Board were not of those of people who lived in the neighborhood. But rather of parents of the children attending the school.

Chairperson Walker reported the list was reviewed at the Board office, and the signatures were of people who lived in the area. District Manager Cassagnol added it was a legitimate list.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla made a motion, seconded by Board Member Laraine Donohue, to **approve** the extension of the No Standing from 7 am to 4 pm regulation to No Standing 7 am to 6 pm on 56th Avenue (3 to 4 parking spaces).

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 1 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion passed.

B. Dept. of Transportation

82nd Street Partnership

--Request for a Bike Corral along 82nd Street

On the South side of Roosevelt Avenue

Ms. Hilary Gietz, NYC Department of Transportation, turned the floor over to Mr. Nick Carey from NYC DOT Bike Program, who explained Mr. Seth Taylor the 82nd Street Partnership was also in attendance.

The bike corral proposal for 82nd Street is being presented tonight. A bike corral is a series of bike racks installed on the curbside side of the street. They are useful when there is a high demand for bicycle parking, when there is not enough space on the sidewalk to accommodate all bicycles. Twelve bike corrals have been installed citywide, including one in Queens. With the aid of a slide presentation, he reviewed the design and details of bike corrals.

The bike corral will be placed in front of 40-09 82 Street. The corral will take up approximately one parking space (28.5'). With planters on each side that will be maintained by the 82 Street Partnership, it can hold up to

12 bikes. However, the bike corral limits the access of street sweepers. The 82 Street Partnership will partner with DOT to maintain and monitor the corral as well as the planters.

With the congestion on 82nd Street, there is a large demand for bike parking. The proposal is for 7 bicycle racks, space for 14 bicycles.

An actual construction drawing was shown. Details followed.

Board Member Patricia Terranova asked would the bike racks be used for the purpose of delivery for the restaurants there or would it be strictly used for other people such as a resident or visitor.

Mr. Carey responded it was for both; it's for everyone's use. It's like a regular parking space.

Board Member Tony Moreno asked if there were time limits to park there, mentioning the lost revenue from a car that could be parked there.

Ms. Hilary Gietz responded the 82nd Street is an active partner with the bike rack. Mr. Seth Taylor would be aware and would report to the city any bikes left for an extended time for quick removal. Right now, there is demand for corrals because bikes are attached to trees and metal poles. The idea is to get bikes off the sidewalks where people walk.

Board Member Al Perna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow to **approve** the proposal for a bike rack.

Before the vote was taken, however, two questions were asked:

How much is DOT paying for it, and have bike owners said they would keep bikes where they currently have them or would they put bikes in the bike corral.

Ms. Geitz answered local business owners are in support of installing bike racks to alleviate sidewalks crowded by parked bicycles. In terms of cost, she could not provide an exact dollar figure.

At this point, Chairperson Walker called the question.

By a voice vote the Board voted 32 in favor, 2 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

XI. YOUTH COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported on Wednesday, February 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the office of CB 4, the Youth Committee met with representatives of the Literacy Empowerment Academy Charter School (LEACHS) to listen to a presentation of their proposed program and to answer questions from the Youth Committee.

The proposal is to open a K-5 charter school in Central Queens School Community District 24. The mission of the school is to teach K-5 students to be skillful and confident readers, writers, speakers and thinkers with a firm foundation in mathematics and broad knowledge of history and science. The Academic Program is based on the research driven curriculum developed by John Hopkins University. The school will have a Learning Library for families, an Intergenerational Literacy Class for adults, ESL/community Literacy program. The application to Charter the school has not been filed yet. The teachers will be union teachers. The hope is to house the school in a closed Catholic School within the area of Community School District 24.

There was a lengthy question and answer period and the Youth Committee unanimously voted to **approve** the concept of the Literacy Empowerment Academy Charter School is CD24.

A member from the audience expressed concern LEACHS would stop enrolling students after second grade, however their school would go to fifth grade. More information is needed on the impact.

Youth Committee Chair Clara Salas responded this is the structure for many schools in the area. Afterward, student enrollment would increase progressing to the fifth grade. Their educators are well trained.

Next, Committee Chair Salas announced the monthly meeting of Community Education Council 24 Queens will take place on Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at P.S. 12, 42-00 72 Street, Woodside, NY

Also, the panel for Educational Policy voted Monday March 11, 2013, 7 p.m. Brooklyn to close two New York City public schools and phase out 22 more, including two Queens high schools, The Law, Government and Community Service High School, both in Cambria Heights will be phased out. The phase out of another Queens school PS 140/Edward K. Ellington, was withdrawn last week.

On March 20, the panel will vote on the truncation of PS 156, Laurelton, which will eliminate its middle school.

At this point Committee Chair Clara Salas made a motion, seconded by Board member Patricia Martin, to **approve** the concept of charter school.

District Manager Cassagnol clarified the charter school is seeking to locate somewhere in School District 24, which encompasses both CB's 4 and 5. The first step is community approval, then moving forward to obtain an address. Right now, there is no legitimate address for them; it's permission being sought to come to our neighborhood. The question we must consider is whether we would like them in our Board area, or they will pursue a location in Community Board 5.

By a roll call vote, the Board voted 22 in favor, 10 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

At this point, Committee chair Clara Salas reported the annual parent conference will be held on Saturday, April 27, at the Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel in Flushing. Information will be available soon.

XII. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Vote: Cibao Radio Dispatch

112-44 Roosevelt Avenue

Corona, NY

Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino reported a two year extension is being sought on the base license. After an on-site inspection at the base, Committee Chair DiMartino informed the Base owner, they needed to improve their operation, and to speak to the drivers. There are reports from the Police Department drivers have been summonsed for violations such as failure to stop at red lights. In total, the 110 Precinct issued 35 summonses. The Committee Chair recommended a two month extension on the current base license to review upcoming Police reports for this base. The Board's intent is not to put anyone out of business. The Base employs 115 drivers. The Base owner promised to cooperate.

District Manager Cassagnol reported although the Base does employ 115 drivers, the Board randomly selected 15 drivers from its employee list and none of those drivers have less than five summonses each, which included Failure to Stop at Red Light, No Standing Bus Stop, No Parking Street Cleaning, and more. Fines ranged from \$150 to \$400 per driver.

Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino recommended to **table** the application and bring it back in two months for a vote.

At this point, the base owner was in attendance and addressed the Board. He said the chauffeurs are not part of the company. He is a separate company. The State of New York said they cannot control the chauffeurs, and these employees are independent drivers affiliated to the Base. The owner recommends drivers do the right thing. He cannot control the employees, he can only ask for their cooperation.

District Manager Cassagnol said a background check should be done on employees.

The base representative stated the majority of those cars are not from his Base. Basically, the drivers lease the Base for its name and pay the Base a fee to operate under its name. These drivers do not work for him and he is not the employer. Drivers are independent contractors. His responsibility is to ensure drivers' paperwork is in order and he provides a service.

Discussion followed.

At this point, Chairperson Walker called the question.

More discussion followed.

Chairperson Walker reiterated the motion on the floor is to extend the application for two more months. The Base's license expires in two weeks. Either vote yes to grant the license for two years or no to disapprove it.

District Manager Cassagnol said a copy of the TLC license is needed for the Board's review.

Board Member Al Perna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Jim Lisa, to **table** the application.

Chairperson Walker explained if the motion is tabled, we will not be able to vote on it and the applicant will probably get the license anyway.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 18 yes, 8 no, and 3 abstentions. Motion passed.

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Consumer Affairs

Committee Chairperson George Onuorah reported on the Committee's upcoming Consumer Affairs Committee Forum, scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., at the Queens Center Mall. Topics to be discussed include Street Vendor issues, Predatory Lending, among other consumer related issues.

Health

No Report

Environmental

No Report

Postal

No Report

XIII. PUBLIC FORUM

No Speakers.

There being no further business, Board Member James Lisa made a motion, seconded by Board Member Lester Youngblood, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.