



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Louis Walker
Chairperson

Leroy Comrie
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

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

I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. District Manager Christian Cassagnol took the roll call. A quorum was present.

IV. Vote: Minutes of February 11, 2014 Meeting

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **accept** the minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting with any necessary corrections.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 28 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson Louis Walker turned the floor over to Council Member Julissa Ferreras.

Council Member Ferreras thanked the Board for its service and was excited to see many Board members had submitted their applications for re-appointment, which helps keep the continuity in our community. Next, she thanked her staff who has worked so diligently in relaying appropriate messages from the Council Member's office to the Board.

Subsequently, the Council Member reported on the USTA. A deal was negotiated where they must give back to the community the equivalent of \$10.5 million plus youth programs and a host of community programs including bringing back Queens Day.

In order to shape the new Queens Day, she enlisted the Board's support to help the USTA remember and be a part of the conversation.

Packets were distributed to the Board which included USTA events. Council Member Ferreras urged all to participate in those events. To negotiate those events is essential however; if there is no public participation they will not be sponsored again. Some of the programs include:

- Annual Queens Day: In summer 2014, USTA will conduct a festival of games, music, and other entertainment to highlight the borough.
- Hosting Opportunities for School Graduations: Starting in 2014, USTA will work with local schools to offer the NTC for commencement activities at cost. (subject to space availability).
- Community Tennis Programs: USTA will provide program for family tennis coaching (nominal fee).
- Summer Movie Screening Series: Working with other parks partners, USTA will provide movie screenings open to public for free once new Grandstand Stadium is built.

Next, Council Member Ferreras provided an update on the Willets Point Development Plan.

The original Willets Point Plan was voted on in 2008, which was called Willets Point West. When the RFP's went out for proposals, the responses were not significant and they did not meet the approval of the Economic Development Corporation. Shortly after, a portion of the deal had to be reopened. Sterling Equities, which is Citifield/ New York Mets, in partnership with Related Companies, a major developer in New York City, responded to a proposal, which had all provisions, originally voted for in 2008 and also included the mall proposal. This project has gone through many years of negotiations and many years of conversations including a relocation plan for the workers. With many layers of people involved, the Council Member worked with different groups with different interests such as housing, to the labor unions to encourage union hiring, to providing relocation services to the workers already there, and to other advocates concerned that the hotel to be built was union, to name a few issues among the many.

In total, the investment this project would give back to our community is just under \$200 million of resources. Please refer to the list distributed earlier for more details.

Affordable Housing

- Right now: 235 units of affordable housing at two sites in Corona and Flushing
- Preference will be given to CBs 3, 4 and 7 residents.
- Future: 35% of units built at Willets Point will be affordable—872 units.
- Eligible residents of CBs 3, 4, and 7 will receive preference for 50% of the affordable units.

Affordable housing and jobs are the two important issues the Council Member hears about from constituents. Immediately, to provide affordable housing right now there are two different development sites moving forward.

One site is the Municipal Lot in Flushing and the other is at 54-16 101 Street, Corona, NY. 35 to 70 units will be built depending on the apartments. A briefing was already given to the Community Board concerning this development.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow inquired what is considered "affordable".

Council Member Ferreras responded Affordable meaning that it is affordable to the entire Community Board district, based on Federal guidelines and poverty levels. Specifically, on the Willets Point Plan a chart was included on the fact sheet which delineated Area Median Income and Income Amount and Approximate Number of Units. She reviewed the numbers concluding there is a wide range of affordability.

On the other hand, people in a higher income bracket, although not making a lot of money such as a teacher or police officer, it would allow them to apply for this type of housing.

Local Jobs

- Number of local jobs created: over 19,000 jobs—including 7,200 permanent positions.
- HireNYC Program goal of filling half of the permanent jobs with the lowest income members of the community.
- Job readiness training for the local workforce to develop basic skills such as completing job applications, interviewing skills and job preparedness skills

Among the first jobs to be filled are construction jobs as Willets Points needs to be cleaned up, explained Council Member Ferreras. It is specifically detailed in the deal that unless Willets Point is cleaned up there can be no other building on the other site. A day care center and a school plus a whole host of other services are planned. The cleanup must be done before the Mall site is built on.

Local Business Support

- 18,000 sf of retail space set aside for local businesses, including a business incubator in Willets West Mall for local merchants in CBs 3, 4, and 7
- \$165,000 for outreach and support of local businesses
- \$500,000 in direct financial support through Queens Economic Development Corporation and the Queens Chamber of Commerce for the Roosevelt Ave. commercial business corridor

Local and W/MBE Contracts

- Goal of 25% of construction contract values will go to M/WBEs and 25% to be Queens based companies
- QDC will contribute \$930,000 to strengthen the ability of M/WBE's to compete for Willets Point contracts

Flushing Meadows Corona Park Alliance Contribution and Health Community Initiatives

- QDC and the City will contribute a total of \$15.5 million to the FMCP Alliance
- QDG will pay \$1.34 million to construct a Rooftop Farm/Greenhouse on top of Willets West

The contribution to Flushing Meadow-Corona Park, which the Council Member had created, is an alliance that would support FM-CP Park. There are huge institutions within the Park. We should be able to regenerate monies for this Park, and she was extremely optimistic it can be a first class Park once again very quickly.

Council Member Ferreras expressed her hopes that a structure will be established for contributions, either time or money, and a proper venue is in place to do so.

Van Wyck Expressway Ramps and Traffic Improvements

- \$66 million in the city's budget for design and construction of the ramps
- QDC will contribute \$7.37 for traffic improvements, mitigation, and monitoring

Quarterly update meetings on traffic mitigation measures for representatives of CBs 3, 4, and 7 and the opportunity to review and comment on the traffic monitoring program after the opening of each phase of the project.

Council Member Ferreras reported one of the challenges to building the affordable housing and why it would be delayed is that ramps needed to be built. Once people are brought in to live in the community there must be egress and to move people in a timely manner. Originally, in the 2008 plan there were no monies available for the ramps. Speaking with the administration, the Council Member asked for an estimation of the cost for the ramps, and comparable ramp costs were looked at a cost of \$60 million. \$80 million was determined. After difficult negotiations, the administration agreed to fund \$60 million for the ramps and \$6 million for its design.

Currently, the ramp design is in process and Federal approval must be obtained. Nevertheless, money has been designated to fund the ramps. If additional money is needed, negotiations with the City will be held. Also, negotiations on the Federal level will be held.

Environmental Measures

QDG will contribute \$55 million for the pre-remediation of Willets Point and will give CBs 3, 4, and 7 the opportunity to review and comment on the remediation plans.

- All construction will be LEED silver certification.

LEED certification means how green the project will be. Also, developers will report quarterly for an update.

Willets Point Business Relocation

- City will pay \$15.5 million for the relocation, moving expenses and technical support for Willets Point businesses, including those businesses that want to move together.
- City will contribute \$300,000 to assist relocated businesses with technical support, marketing
- City will continue job skills training for Willets Point workers

This was a very large part in the negotiations, which include the landowners. Willets Point is 97% owned by the City and the tenants, which are the business owners on the land. There are many challenges, many groups, and many interests. Throughout the last five years outreach was done. In the beginning relocation funds set aside were not enough. Originally funds set aside for relocations were \$3 million for the entire acreage of Willets Point—60 acres. In the new deal negotiated by Council Member Ferreras she was able to get \$15.5 million for 22 acres to relocate. In this package, they are able to gain a subsidy. Furthermore, many of the tenants had requested to move together. What works for Willets Point is that all the shops are together. She pointed out businesses can move individually, if they so choose.

The Sunrise Cooperative got the keys to their new location on Saturday. The new location is a very large site located in the Bronx, which is being retrofitted and divided. At Willets Point, there was very little electricity or running water, and everyone should have access to basic services.

Community Space

- QDG will work with SCA to construct a 1,000 seat K-8 school at a cost of \$36.75 million
- Phase 1B 25,000 Community facility space for community groups, a library, and a daycare
- Willets west-2000 sf of community space
- A public plaza in front of Willets Mall

Council Member Ferreras explained the developer will pay the \$36.75 million to build the school, noting it is not tax dollars used for construction. Included in the deal at Willets Point, no casino will be built. Previously, there had been much interest in building a casino in our community.

Post-ULURP Oversight

QDG will meet quarterly with representatives of CBs 3, 4, and 7 to review the project or face a monetary penalty of \$100,000 to the Infrastructure and Traffic Mitigation Fund for any meeting missed

How the traffic is moved is very important as well as how the traffic lights are timed, commented the Council Member.

A Board Member asked where in the Bronx the businesses are. Council Member Ferreras responded the article in the *Wall Street Journal* had listed their address, which is 1080 Leggett Avenue.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla thanked Council Member Ferreras for fighting for the community during those tough negotiations. Furthermore, he stated he was excited about the Park Alliance and asked about the process for joining the Park Alliance.

Council Member Ferreras responded the Alliance was recently incorporated and there will be a Board of the Alliance and a Community Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB is where the programming, the ideas, and everything about the future of the Park will be decided/discussed. The Board will be smaller, but will have CAB and community representation. Their priority will be to raise money, and the Alliance will start with \$25 million.

Although it sounds like a great deal of money, there is so much needed to be done.

See Yoselin if you are interested in joining the Community Advisory Board of the Flushing Alliance. Your voice is needed!

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla asked if the selection to the Board is an open process. Council Member Ferreras responded it is open to the community and the selection is now on-going. If you have recommendations, please submit them. A strong structure to oversee the CAB is also essential.

Board Member Lucy Schilero asked is the Council Member prepared in case agreements are not met.

Council Member Ferreras replied yes and continued she is meeting with the new Deputy Mayor Alicia Glen to review the point by point commitments, including penalties. The Council Member said she would provide the Board with a copy of the deal.

Board Member Alirio Orduna asked what the approximate job percentage is for the communities.

Council Member Ferreras responded it varies because some of the jobs are union. The union jobs will go first local such as bricklayers in the area. Hire NYC has the priority. Council Member Ferreras was unclear about the percentage of the hiring. Information will be forwarded to the Board. Some of the jobs are union and some are not, the Council Member added. More details were given, including opening apprenticeship opportunities.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla asked about affordable housing. In some situations, it climbs to market rate after a certain time period. Is that the case here?

Council Member Ferreras answered no, this is permanent affordable housing.

At this point, Council Member Ferreras announced:

The 3rd Annual Women's Heart Health & Fashion Event
Thursday, March 27
6:00 P.M. Health Expo
7:00 P.M. Program
At:
Elmcor Youth and Activities Center
107-20 Northern Blvd.
Corona, NY

Next, Council Member Ferreras announced:

Housing Expo 2014
Saturday, March 15, 2014
At 10:30 a.m.
At; LaGuardia Marriott Hotel
102-Ditmars Boulevard
E. Elmhurst, NY

This event will include the following: First Time Homebuyers class, Refinance, Loan modification, Legal Services. Home Improvement Loans, Real Estate, Home and Health Insurance and more.
Grants up to \$15,000 for first time homebuyers
Grants for Home Repairs up to \$5,000

For non-profit organizations applying for discretionary funds, the deadline for applications is March 21.

On April 25, the Anthony "Tony" Caminiti street co-naming will be held. Additionally, the Council Member had allocated \$1.25 million to refurbish Louis Simeone Park. For the 111th Street malls, the Council Member had earmarked \$2.7 million for reconstruction.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker introduced Council Member Daniel Dromm. Council Member Dromm reported the Lunar New Year Celebration held at the Elmhurst Memorial Hall was highly successful. Over 150 people attended. He talked about how his district had changed according to redistricting. Now, he represents all of Jackson Heights and almost all of Elmhurst. Elmhurst has grown so large because of the increase in the Asian community. To give some visibility and pride to the growing Asian population about their heritage and culture, Council Member Dromm started the Elmhurst event. The Lunar New Year is the most important holiday in several Asian cultures.

Council Member Dromm announced his appointment as Chair of the Education Committee in the City Council. He also noted Council Member Julissa Ferreras' appointment as the Chair of the Finance Committee, noting she is the first Latina and first woman of color to chair that committee.

Next, Council Member Dromm reported on pre-K funding. There may have been an agreement with Assembly speaker Sheldon Silver to provide an extra \$500 million in the budget to allow pre-K to move forward. Now, we must wait to see what the Senate will do.

Council Member Dromm, who was a teacher for 25 years, before being elected to the City Council, knows first-hand how important early childhood education is. “You make a difference in children’s lives when you can get to them early and you can give them the skills they need for success later on in life,” said the Council Member. He did support the Mayor’s proposal to tax those residents who earn over \$500,000 annually.

Ultimately, getting UPK (Universal Prekindergarten) is most important. How the funding comes about is of lesser importance. Wealthy residents should be asked to pay their fair share to pay for the prekindergarten expansion.

Next, he spoke about charter schools. Council Member Dromm has issues with Eva Moskowitz and some of the larger charter networks. In the Council Member’s district is The Renaissance Charter School which is a great school, community based and it works with community members. The problem with the larger charter schools is the salaries it pays its operators. Ms. Moskowitz’s salary is \$500,000 per year and her husband earns \$200,000 or more as a legal consultant to the network of schools she runs.

When she shuts down the school and buses the children to Albany, where is the money coming from, and who is paying for that? Much of the funding comes from Walmart and the Walton Foundation. It gives the Council Member concern what is happening, and he will require with oversight powers an explanation from Ms. Moskowitz and other charter schools that pay their executives half a million dollar salaries.

The budget for the Department of Education is \$25 billion, which is larger than many countries around the world. It has risen from \$24.3 billion to about \$25.5 billion, which is an increase of \$1.2 billion over the next year. Capital and Expense budget hearings will be held next week. Most of the money is for normal cost of living increases. Not figured into this amount is the issue of union contracts. Every union is still without a contract, except for one.

Council Member Dromm reported he had sponsored municipal identification card legislation which will be for all city residents, not only for undocumented immigrants. It will help undocumented immigrants get ID’s. You cannot gain access to a public school to pick you up your child unless you have a photo id. This is a way to provide everyone in the city with photo ID cards.

The bill the Council Member is sponsoring is still being written, but concerns are being addressed.

Next, Council Member Dromm reported he had allocated \$1.2 million for the reconstruction of Veterans Grove. A sprinkler for children will be secured for the children for Veterans Grove, at an additional cost of \$300,000. He was optimistic to secure funding for other area parks that are in need of repair.

Next, he spoke about the three new restaurants (Mattone property) behind the Queens Center Mall. He was not taking a position per se, but he does believe in community notification. The Community Board deserved proper notification of what the plans were for the site before any changes were made. Community consultation is vitally important to our communities. We will not be ignored. A meeting is scheduled with the property owners who will be notified they must work with the elected officials and the Community Board.

Discussion ensued about vacant properties in the area and their use for development as community based facilities, including St. John’s Queens Hospital property.

At this point, D. I Ronald Leyson, CO of the 110th Police Precinct, reported on a community reach outreach meeting at St. Paul's Church concerning youth issues in the areas of Sherwood Village, Lefrak City and the surrounding areas, what has been done, and success stories. Community leaders and clergy will be present too. Troubled youth and their families were invited to attend. This meeting is by invitation only for an open dialogue.

Next, he spoke about the crime statistics in the 110 Precinct. In 2014, the city is showing, for the first two months of the year, an all-time low in homicides since records were kept. This achievement had to do with the policies of the Police Department as well as working with the community, community groups, as well as the local elected officials. In the 110 Precinct homicides this year was 0 versus 2 last year. The Patrol Borough Queens North is struggling this year with crime. However, the 110 Precinct is showing the largest decrease in crime out of the eight commands. A 7% decrease in overall crime for 2014. The 110 Precinct is down for every category across the board with the exception of burglaries. A sharp increase in burglaries for 2014 was reported across the board. Several patterns were cited such as apartment buildings where the perps. are entering through fire escapes. Problems with private residences and multiple dwelling houses were also mentioned. Burglary safety tips were handed out to community residents. A free of charge crime prevention survey will be done for anyone who requests one. The Police Department will come to you and give you tips on lighting, check your doors, and inform you how to improve on safety, and much more. More details were provided.

D. I. Leyson spoke open windows when you are not home. This is a very dangerous practice as it is an invitation to burglarize your premises. Secure windows when going out.

If you see something suspicious, he urged all to call 911. Don't go to investigate or yell out the window. Do not get involved in the matter. Call 911 for the police to come out and investigate. If you see something suspicious, say something. One of the most important precautions to take is to call the police and they will respond and arrest the perp. One good arrest changes it all. Very good arrests are made through information gained from the community.

Next, do not leave property unattended in the car. He spoke about a case he handled last week involving the theft of a Gucci bag and a \$3,000 MacBook Pro left in the back seat of a vehicle.

Next, Deputy Inspector Leyson spoke about the distribution of NYPD Community Affairs contact cards to learn more about programs and safety tips. You will only receive information you request. Check off the particular information you wish to receive and how often.

Another scam people are being victimized over is the money pack scams. People call you saying they are from the Internal Revenue Service, tell you that you owe money, instruct you to purchase a green pack money card, and give the perp. the serial number. The perps. can also identify them as calling from Con Edison or by saying your family has been in an accident and they need money. No legitimate business or government agency will call you and ask you for a cash card serial number to immediately pay for any outstanding debt. Examples of people who fell for this scam were given. He stressed this is a city-wide problem and said do not become a victim. Alert family, friends and civic organizations about this scam or the police can schedule a seminar with crime prevention materials.

Next, a Board Member brought up a chase on 57th Avenue and 99th Street. D. I. Leyson responded there was a stabbing on Junction Blvd. (115th Precinct). It believed to be gang related. Two males were spotted, a very short pursuit ensued, an accident occurred, several people were injured, and arrests made.

At this point, Board Member Alirio Orduna asked about the chica chica cards. D. I. Leyson explained Chica Chica cards basically promote prostitution. Solicitors walk Roosevelt Avenue and other areas handing out these

cards to passersby. If the Police observe the solicitor approach a certain amount of people, arrests can be made. Several operations were done throughout the year and arrests were made. Since the law was changed with added enforcement, a significantly lower number of complaints were received. Working with the Roosevelt Avenue Taskforce, the Police Department is putting an emphasis on this issue.

A Board Member inquired about the increase in out of state cars. Can anything be done about that? D. I. Leyson responded nothing can be done. State law maintains a person must re-register his car if they live here after 30 days. As far as enforcement, it's not readily enforced. If someone lives here, and gives an address here, and they are living here over thirty days and have not transferred their license, they can get a summons. If the car is legally registered in the other state, it is up to the other state to do the enforcement. More details were provided.

Call 1110 Precinct's Community Affairs office for any assistance you may need at 718-476-9310.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, Board Member Lucy Schilero complimented D. I. Leyson for his attendance at the Community Board 4 meetings. He has attended more meetings than any other Deputy Inspector before him.

Following this report, Chairperson Louis Walker reported on reports concerning that Queens Center Mall will bring in a library into the area. The floor was turned over to District Manager Cassagnol for more information.

VI. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Cassagnol reported the proposed library space would be located adjacent to the food court. Speaking with Mr. Jeff Owens, the property manager, who stated this deal is at the early conception stages. Proposed about a year and a half ago, the space would have books and reading material or people can borrow and take books home. The library space would be Wi-Fi enabled. However, as of yet, nothing has been finalized.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol reported on the FY'15 Capital and Expense budget. For many years, the same items were carried forward from year to year, but now for the first time, our Board has had four items in the top ten removed. Special thank you was extended to Council Members Julissa Ferreras and Daniel Dromm for their help.

Subsequently, he congratulated the new CB 4 Officers for the term March 1, 2014 – February 29, 2016:

Louis Walker – Chairperson
Albert Perna – First Vice Chair
Alton Derrick Smith – Second Vice Chair
Giancarlo Castano – Treasurer
Lucy Schilero – Executive Secretary

At Large Directors
Debra Clayton
Roseann Geiger
Gurdip Singh Narula
Lucy Cerezo-Scully

As a recent graduate of the Citizens Police Academy, District Manager Cassagnol announced two members in the audience will be attending an upcoming class: Board Member Giancarlo Castano and Mr. Mike Liquori, Commander of the VFW.

Also mentioned, he and Ms. Cathy Moore will be honored by the Corona Lions on Sunday, March 16.

Following, District Manager Cassagnol announced guest speakers will be in attendance at the April 8 Board meeting to discuss the Flushing Meadow Corona Park Pavilion.

Lastly, crossing guard applications were on hand. See the District Manager after the meeting, if interested.

VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Board Treasurer Giancarlo Castano reported he would be collecting for the Sunshine Fund tonight. The Board's internal operating budget is operating within its parameters and no budget cuts are projected.

At this point, Chairperson Walker announced an Executive Committee meeting will be held shortly.

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Ari Espinal, representing Assembly Member Franciso Moya's office, reported the Assembly Member is in Albany working on the budget. He will be at the district office on Fridays only from now until April. She was optimistic the budget will pass early.

March 22, 2014
FREE TAX PREPARATION
91-08 Roosevelt Avenue

If interested, stop by between 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Wellcare office.

Come to the District office, Thursday from 10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m, if you are interested in signing up for the Affordable Care Act.

Next, she spoke about the Chica Chica Bill. Chica chica cards are small cards with scantily clad or sometimes naked women on them. In the Assembly, Assembly Member Moya sponsored it and in the Senate, NY Senator Jose Peralta was the sponsor. The Bill did pass and the Governor did sign it.

The 110 and the 115 Precincts have been great and also in closing down prostitution houses.

Before concluding, Ms. Espinal gave the guidelines for free tax preparation.

Additionally, the Corona Lions Legislative Award will be presented to the honorable Francisco Moya by the Corona Lions Club on Sunday, March 16.

IX. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Vote: SLA Applications

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on fire alarm boxes. Fire alarm boxes are land lines. There are 16,000 active fire alarm boxes in the City of New York. During Hurricane Sandy, cellphones were not working, and for devastated areas such as the Rockaways, Broad Channel, and Long Beach, residents were able to pull their boxes for help. Their origins for the Fire Department started as far back as the 1600's. They became the Fire Department's jurisdiction in the 1800's.

If your phone does not work, go to the street and look at the street pole. On the top of the street pole is an amber colored light. Across the street is a fire alarm box. If you are going outside your door, look two or three city blocks north, south, east or west, you will find at the intersection of a street or an avenue a fire alarm box.

The Committee Chair cited three fire alarm box locations in the area: 108 Street & 46 Avenue, 108 Street & 48 Avenue, and 108 Street & 52 Avenue. Or, call 311 to find out if your box is active. The fire engine companies do check them regularly, and are doing well. Keep the old boxes because they do better as opposed to having them replaced by new ones.

Remember, a landline is what saved the City during 9/11. Fight for your fire alarm box!
To test the box, call 311 to have someone come out. Do not pull on it as it is a legal offense.

Next, she reported on the 9V batteries. When you buy them, they are separated in the pack. If the two nine volt batteries in the pack ever meet, there will be a fire. We are being asked to take electrical or duct tape, cover the ends, and then discard it. Do not use scotch tape as it comes off. Keep 9V batteries away from anything that can create a spark such as steel wool.

Next, the liquor license denials were given:

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES

MARCH 2014

New Applicants

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Pollerica Riva Restaurant Corp. Wine and Beer Only New owner has not officially taken ownership yet. Considering long history of location (noise complaints, chronic overcrowding, overconsumption of alcohol), we would like to see if new owner can control establishment.	40-32 National Street Corona, NY	Denied
Mi Otra Rest. Bar Corp. Wine and Beer Only	91-06 43 Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
NSM Restaurant Inc. "Marten's Table" Wine and Beer Only	108-40 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
Rung Charoen Sub Inc. "8 Paet Rio" Liquor, Wine and Beer Failure to show. No paperwork was submitted to committee.	81-10 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Denied

Renewal Applicants

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Zacapoaxtla Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	86-22 Whitney Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Denied
No paperwork was submitted to committee, (C of O proof of ownership, corporation papers etc.) 2/23/14 C Summonses; disorderly premises, contaminated ice, no posting of Workers Comp. sign, No Cert. of Qual. Permit.		

Board Member Georgina Oliver made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow to accept the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 28 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental

Committee Chair Giancarlo Castano reported the Committee had not met yet, but asked for the committee members to see him after the Board meeting.

Health

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported:

1. Corona Health Clinic Will Remain Open

Thanks to elected officials (Council Members Daniel Dromm and Julissa Ferreras and State Senator Jose Peralta) and DC 37, who stood behind the community by pressuring the City to keep the clinic open.

According to Mayor Bill de Blasio, the clinic will remain open because the new budget restores \$4.1 million in FY 2015 funding cut in the previous administration's November modification plan.

A DOH spokesperson confirmed immunization services at the Corona Health Center will not be ending at the end of the month, which provides free and low-cost vaccinations for children over four years old, teens and adults, including Flu, Meningitis, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella and more.

The clinic administered nearly 33,000 vaccines last year to close to 16,000 clients (mostly from CB4Q), though it was open only twice a week (queenstribune.com)

2. Elmhurst Hospital Center will hold the following events:

Friday, March 14, 2014 – Legislative lunch 718-334-5825

Friday, March 28, 2014 – Ribbon Cutting Women's Pavilion

Wednesday, June 11, 2014 – "A Healthy Taste of Queens"

Thursday, June 19, 2014/2nd Annual Pediatric Health Fair

3. CB 4 Health Committee meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, April 9 or 16 at 7 pm at the CB 4 Office. We will discuss planning of activities that will benefit the community.

Summer Youth Employment Program – To apply call 1-800-24604646 or go to www.nyc.gov/dycd.

A Health Committee is scheduled for April, 2014.

Youth

Committee Chair Lucy Cerezo-Scully reported a meeting is planned for March 18.

Transportation

Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino reported a meeting is scheduled for March 13, 10 a.m., at the Board office.

Consumer Affairs

Committee Chair Pat Martin reported a meeting is planned.

Postal

Chairperson Louis Walker announced beginning next month Gigi Salvador will chair the committee.

Parks

Committee Chair Al Perna reported a meeting is being planned to discuss the Green Team. April 12 is the targeted date for the O'Connor's "Tail" Park cleanup. (76th and Broadway, Elmhurst, NY).

ULURP/Zoning

Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported on the proposed senior housing at 54-16 101 Street, Corona, NY. The proposal is for affordable housing sponsored by HANAC. Mostly one bedroom apartments, few studio apartments, and a 2-bedroom for the superintendent.

Since the zoning is R6B, which is a low profile zoning, and it will be an eight story building a zoning change to an R6 is necessary. The project is still in the planning stages.

At this point, Chairperson Walker announced beginning April 1 the Board will probably be receiving new board members and other Board members may not be returning. No word on who those people are as yet. Once the membership is in place, the Board Committees will be re-shuffled to balance out the membership. Another survey will be sent out asking for your committee preference, which may or may not be granted depending on the committee's existing membership.

Subsequently, Board Member George Onuorah informed the Board he did not wish to be re-appointed to the Board and will not be back next month. His experience on the Board was invaluable and he got to work with nice people, he said. Although not a Board member, he will still continue to work for the community. He will keep on working with all those who share the same values as he does. A special thank you was extended to Council Member Daniel Dromm, who gave Mr. Onuorah the opportunity to serve on the Community Board, which Mr. Onuorah is very grateful. It was both a privilege and an honor to work with the Board concluded Mr. Onuorah.

Following this statement, Chairperson Louis Walker announced Mr. Onuorah was the only Board member who had perfect attendance.

Before introducing the next speaker, Board Member Clara Salas informed the Board she had passed out the Summer Jobs flyer.

XI. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Ben Haber addressed the Board on the Willets Point Project. He reported the plan approved by the City Council in 2008 was clear. The city would acquire 62 acres in Willets Point for voluntary sale by property owners. A private developer would construct on the site upscale retail, office buildings, convention center, school, and luxury housing with a portion set aside for affordable housing. The developer would be required to

remove whatever contamination existed on the 23 acre portion of the site. There was no mention of 1.4 million square foot shopping mall at Citi field.

“Are you aware that in regard to the 1.4 million square foot shopping mall that you had no say? It was never part of the ULURP and was snuck in through the back door,” reported Mr. Haber. “How many people think it is a good idea? You were deprived by your City Council member of any say in the matter.”

One Board member raised his hand.

ULURP is a very important procedure. Without the ULURP, people would not know what is going on.

Furthermore, Mr. Haber reported the plan approved did not require legislative park alienation approval or a ULURP review for the shopping mall.

The Citi Field parking lots are on Flushing Meadows-Corona Park property. There is litigation pending to stop this plan. He urged all to write to the Mayor to see how he feels about this land use procedure. This mall will destroy all small businesses here.

Next, a 20 year business owner in Willets Point explained the businesses there are suffering because of the negligence by the City. Willets Point is without many city services, which is because the City wants to give it to the developers. Willets Point is approximately 70% Hispanic, but there are people from Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, and from all countries over the world. To illustrate his point about the lack of city services, he displayed a photograph of how Willets Point was seven years ago.

The relocation plan is very important for the community. He also mentioned prices at the shops in Willets Point are much lower than other businesses.

The business owners want more help with relocation services.

Next, Mr. Robert LoScalzo addressed the Board. Since 2007, he is producing a documentary video about all aspects of the Willets Point development and shared a developer’s schematic plan for the Willets West mall on Parkland. Citi field is in the middle and across 126th Street is the Willets Point area. The Willets West mall is extremely larger than Citi field. It will have a profound effect on the surrounding area.

In 2004 the City created a Willets Point Advisory Committee chaired by the Borough President. Its members are city and state elected officials from this area and supposedly representatives from Community Boards 3, 4, and 7. The City promised in writing the Advisory Committee would participate in and help to guide the selection of a developer. Selection of a developer was also an opportunity to choose a proposal that would conform to the original plan for Willets Point, not a proposal that adds a gigantic mall on parkland.

When the City put out the RFP for Willets Point, four development teams submitted proposals. Three of them conformed to the Willets Point plan approved in 2008. The other one, Sterling Equities & Related Companies, expands the project onto 40+ acres of parkland property, which was never mentioned in the RFP. With four proposals to review, the Advisory Committee was supposed to participate in the developer’s selection. Instead, the Bloomberg administration completely circumvented the Advisory Committee and dictated the selection of Sterling Equities and Related Companies and their radical plan for the mall on our parkland, reported Mr. LoScalzo.

While their input was being circumvented, none of the members of the Advisory Committee complained they were being shutout from selecting the developer. We can only assume they were in on the trick. Had they

participated, they would have been on record as supporting the mall or objected to the mall at that stage, and perhaps steered the selection toward one of the other three proposals, continued Mr. LoScalzo.

Mr. LoScalzo further stated after excluding the Advisory Committee, the Bloomberg administration decided they could avoid the ULURP. Specifically, for the mall because they claimed the authorization to construct Shea Stadium in 1961 also allows this mall now.

If there would be a ULURP for the mall, it would need to be presented to all six Community Boards adjacent to the park, just as the USTA tennis expansion did last year. So now there is litigation pending, some of the plaintiffs are present tonight, asking the court to declare there needs to be a ULURP. There also needs to be state parkland alienation legislation to build a commercial mall here. Depending on the outcome of the lawsuit, this Board may still get some say in the matter. If the mall is defeated, nothing prevents the City from re-bidding the Willets Point development and taking proposals that actually achieve what was approved in 2008 without expanding onto parkland, added Mr. LoScalzo.

Next, Mr. Giovanni Mata, Community Relations Planner, Emblem Health, explained the deadline of March 31 for those who do not have health insurance. Please look at the informational package, *Health Care Reform Information Kit*, designed by Emblem Health, to answer questions about the health care reform. If enrollment is not done by March 31, next year a penalty by the IRS will be imposed of \$95 or 1% of your income, whichever is greater. Moreover, you will not be able to enroll up to October for 2015. Needless to say, you will not have insurance for the rest of the year and you will still have to pay the penalty by the next year.

There being no further business, Board Member Lester Youngblood made a motion, seconded by Board Member Al Perna, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.