



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
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Louis Walker
Chairperson

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Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

June 10, 2014

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 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 May 13, 2014**

Board Member Alirio Orduna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to **accept** the minutes of May 13, 2014.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 37 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Walker explained to the Board since he was called out of town the last minute, he could not attend the May 13 Board meeting.

Further, he announced at the end of the meeting, the Board will convene into closed session.

Also, Chairperson Walker reported the Queens Botanical Garden will have an electronic waste recycling event on Sunday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will take place in the QBG Parking Garden, located at 42-80 Crommelin Street.

At this point, the floor was turned over to D. I. Ronald Leyson, Commanding Officer of the 110 Precinct.

D. I. Leyson reported on the following crime statistics:

13% in crime reduction for the 29 day cycle and 7 ½% for the year. Burglaries have shown an increase of 31%. Down 18 crimes for the 28 day period.

The men and women of the 110 Police Precinct works very diligently with the community to address not only crime concerns but also quality of life issues.

D. I. Leyson also informed the Board of an upcoming 110 Precinct Community Council meeting on Monday, June 16. After this meeting the Community Council meetings will be held on a different day. The new meeting day will be the second Thursday of the month, starting in September. He urged all to attend the June 16 meeting.

D. I. Leyson advised all to pay close attention to their surroundings. Be smart with your smart phones. Crime is down about 50% in cell phone snatches. So far this year, the 110 has been successful in combating this type of crime.

Regarding burglaries, the 110 Police Precinct offers free surveys of home, business, or an apartment building. Officers will come in and do complete crime prevention survey for free. Contact Community Affairs Officers, P. O. Dave Saponeri or P. O. Jeanine Rivera, at 718-476-9310. Or call P.O. Tom Wen, who will perform a free survey of the entire building.

Remember do not leave your windows open when you are not at home. Properly secure windows and air conditioners. Air conditioners should be screwed in. Do not just close the window on the unit because perps. can push the air conditioner in to gain access. Proper lighting on the outside of the house is also very important in securing your home.

Next, he reported on car break-ins. He urged all to be good neighbors by reporting any suspicious persons/activity outside. For example, if you see anyone climbing over fences or trying door handles, call 911. Do not get personally involved. Call the police who will respond and investigate any suspicious persons. Do not go outside to confront the perp.

With the summer comes much night life. The 110 Precinct has done a very good job working with the night life establishments—working with present and new owners, and working with the Board's Public Safety Committee on liquor licenses new and renewals. Some establishments were shut down by the 110 Precinct—some permanently and/or temporarily with stipulations when they do open for business very strict rules must be followed. Follow-up is done by the Precinct to ensure proprietors are adhering to the law.

Night life community includes the licensed premises, not just the clubs and bars. This community has one of the most per capita licensed premises in the whole city. Establishments must have proper security guards and are not serving minors. Follow up visits are conducted and violations issued.

The 110 Precinct works in conjunction with other city agencies and performs a march operation, which is a multi-agency response to community hot spots. Locations are identified because of history. The Police Department coordinates with other city agencies such as Fire, Health and Buildings Departments including the Dept. of Environmental Protection. Each agency looks at its own expertise and issues violations accordingly.

Next, he spoke about Flushing Meadows-Corona Park and an event scheduled for Saturday, June 21. It is the first time in ten years this event is held and a large police presence will be on hand. With this event, there may be some traffic issues on 111 Street. Although visitors may walk or take public transportation, officers will be present to direct traffic and alleviate any problems that may arise.

Next, he reported on the U. S. Open coming up in August/September.

Next, he spoke about the school safety division of the NYPD and its responsibilities.

At this point, D. I. Leyson took questions from the Board members.

Board Member Clara Salas asked about the recent nationwide school shootings.

D. I. Leyson provided a detailed explanation on how the Police Department works with the schools, mentioning active shooter training to ensure children's safety in schools. He spoke about crisis management and violence intervention strategies. It is a very serious and sensitive issue and the safety of our children is paramount. Everything is done to ensure the safety of our children.

More questions were asked by the Board Members and answered by D. I. Leyson.

Next, D. I. Leyson said he has an open door policy to the community, his phone number is public, and tries to be as responsive as possible and is committed to be as aggressive as possible in fighting crime. The working relationship with the community is great.

Before concluding, he introduced the new Special Operations Lieutenant Lou LeBlanc.

VI. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Cassagnol reported on June 12 and June 20, the FDNY, along with the military (National Guard), will conduct practice exercises in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, from 4:00 p.m. to Midnight. This will be held in the field adjacent to the USTA.

Next, the Q88 bus route will be re-routed. The Board was presented with two preliminary plans, but none have been finalized yet. The change will take place in the fall. One bus route with two different options was presented. The Board's Transportation Committee will review the proposed routes before it takes effect in September.

Next, he reported on the Elmhurst Avenue station (south side). From June 16 to February 10, much construction will be done. Vents will be replaced. No specific times or dates were given for the construction.

Next, he reported the Board Committee Chairs must present to the Community Board meeting dates for their respective Committees. In this way, meetings will remain consistent every month. Committee Chairs please let us know what dates work best for the meetings.

Subsequently, he reported the Pan American Hotel has officially been taken over by Samaritan Village. The letter that arrived four days ago from them explained they would like to meet with the Community Board (Chair and District Manager) within 30 days to discuss their programs, which appeared they were willing to work with us. However, another letter received today stated DHS will occupy the site immediately and there are currently 28 families staying there. COMET is staging a protest on June 17 at the hotel.

A meeting will be set up with the Board Chair, the Board Committee Chairs and Executive Committee and elected officials to meet with representatives from Samaritan Village.

District Manager Cassagnol said if the Board Members had any particular questions for the Public Meeting to give them to him and they will be brought up.

More details were presented by the District Manager and a discussion ensued.

VII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Mr. Michael Mallon, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, reported on Samaritan Village. Council Member Dromm was just made aware of using the Pan Am Hotel for a homeless shelter on Friday, June 6. Mr. Mallon read the following statement issued by Council Member Dromm:

"I am deeply concerned the Department of Homeless Services plans to use the old Pan Am Hotel on Queens Blvd. as a homeless shelter. Elmhurst has already had to bear a huge burden of services for the less fortunate. A block away is the Metro Motel, another homeless shelter. I am upset that I was only informed that 36 homeless families would be given shelter at the Pan Am Hotel as it was actually happening at 4:45 p.m., last Friday night, June 6.

My office and our community were given no advance notice. The hotel has 216 rooms. I believe it is bad policy to bring that many needy people into one place. While I recognize and support the need to house our homeless, I believe this number is way too large. While DHS has promised my office added security and additional social services at this site, I still believe Elmhurst is overburdened."

COMET is staging a protest in front of the hotel on Tuesday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Dromm will attend and voice his concerns. He agreed with the District Manager's statement that the shelter was slipped in unannounced with so many people into a small space.

Subsequently, he reported the budget looks very well. Council Member Dromm, along with the City Council, was able to secure \$20 million for arts in the New York City public schools.

Additionally, Council Member Dromm has made it a priority to meet with some city agencies to ensure 311 complaints that concern pedestrian footbridges are reported properly. Of particular concern was the footbridge at 55 Avenue and Haspel Street. A capital project was set up and more attention is paid in the winter months when the snow is heavy.

Before concluding, he reported on illegal dumping. Working with the LIRR, they are optimistic to take care of it early before it becomes a major issue.

Next, Jacqueline Hsieh, representing Congresswoman Grace Meng, announced Congresswoman Meng with Assembly Member Franciso Moya is hosting a Community Town Hall Meeting, June 30, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Elmhurst Hospital. Federal and city agencies will be in attendance. As of yet, there is no confirmed list of representatives, but the Depts. Of Immigration, Transportation, and NYCHA among others will be present.

Programs, new agendas, changes in policy will be discussed. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Next, Joel Trinidad Santos, representing Council Member Julissa Ferreras' office, reported:

June 22 -Bike Helmet and Fitting Event at the Northern Blvd. Playground between 93 and 94 Streets, Corona, NY, between 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Additionally, Mr. Trinidad Santos reviewed all the services offered at the Council Member's office.

VIII. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Vote: SLA Applications

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on June 3, 2014 to discuss the following liquor license applications. Before the full report was given, however, Committee Chair Schilero said a separate vote on Club Glazz, 79-51 Albion Avenue, was needed. This was a carry-over from last month’s meeting. Although she is skeptical about the operation, they have submitted all their paperwork. An explanation was provided by the District Manager about the need for the vote this evening. He did note the documents were received one week after the requested date.

At this point, Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gigi Salvador, to **approve** the application.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion passed.

**NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES
JUNE 2014
NEW APPLICANTS**

<u>Establishment’s Name</u>	<u>Establishment’s Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
El Toro Bravo #1 Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer	88-12 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Amerivents Catering LLC Liquor, Wine and Beer	Queens Museum of Art Corona, NY	Approved
He Lin Restaurant Inc. Wine and Beer Only	83-11 Broadway	Approved
Angels Club “NY Chevillotte” Liquor, Wine and Beer	78-14 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Denied.
While they submitted their paperwork, a representative did not meet with the Public Safety Committee. The Committee had concerns regarding this location and would prefer to meet with the owners of the establishment to discuss those concerns. This location has been a source of numerous problems in the community for the last few years. The owner of Angels Club dba NY Chevillotte owns the current establishment, and has made no effort to improve the myriad of problems that surround his current establishment.		
Rung Chareon Sub Inc. “8 Paet Rio” Liquor, Wine and Beer Business is not ready to open yet.	81-10 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Denied
Yin Yang China Bistro Inc, “NuNoodle” Wine and Beer Only	89-10 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved

Pi Nong Inc. Wine and Beer Only	85-32 Grand Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Tropicana Restaurant Inc. Wine and Beer Only No Show. No paperwork submitted.	40-42 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Denied

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Sabay LLC Liquor, Wine and Beer	75-19 Broadway, 1 st Fl. Elmhurst, NY	Approved
81-22 Baxter Ave. Lounge, Inc. "Ilda's Place II"	81-22 Baxter Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
BPOE Elks Lodge #878 Liquor, Wine and Beer	82-20 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved

Board Member Patricia Terranova made a motion, seconded by Board Member Georgina Oliver, to **approve** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 37 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Next, Committee Chair Schilero gave an overview of the hurricane guide, "Ready New York-Hurricanes and New York City", Know Your Zone. Do you live in one of NYC's six hurricane evacuation zones?

It is very important. Learn what you can do to prepare for hurricanes in NYC. She highlighted many of the key points in the guide, and provided an explanation of the specifics. Be ready for any kind of storm and have your go bag ready. Every household should have one. A checklist was read of items to include in the Go Bag.

Next, Chris from the USTA explained the summer programs. Upcoming events are:

Ballperson Tryouts

Date: June 19, 2014

Time: Registration begins at 3 pm. Tryouts begin at 4 pm.

Where: USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center

Registrants must be 14 years or old. Flyers were on hand.

Kids Casting Call

Date: Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Time: 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: Queens Theatre, 14 United National Avenue South

Flushing Meadows Corona Park

You will be asked to sing a cappella (without music) all or portion of America The Beautiful.

Flyers were available.

U. S. Open Job Fair

Open Only to Queens Residents

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

All Queens residents invited to join in. Many positions are available. This job fair is great for seasonal opportunities for students, college graduates, and people who love sports.

Board Member Sandra Munoz asked if there was an age limit for jobs.

Chris replied no age limit. Seniors are also being considered. For the younger employee, working papers are needed.

VIII. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Formation of Nominating Committee

Chairperson Louis Walker reported At Large Director Roseann Geiger had resigned. In order to fill the slot, a nominating committee must be formed.

According to the Board's bylaws, two members can be appointed by the Chairperson and three members shall be nominated from the floor and elected by a majority of the members.

By a show of hands, who is interested in serving on the Nominating Committee asked Chairperson Walker?

Before the selection, Chairperson Walker explained the role of the Nominating Committee is to suggest who will be a good candidate to fill the vacant slot. It does not mean you cannot choose someone from the floor at the September 9 meeting to be voted on for that position.

The Committee will be meeting at the Board office before the end of the month.

At this point, the five members who will serve on the Nominating Committee were announced:

Jennifer Chu

Hector Hernandez

Georgina Oliver

Alirio Orduna

John Peters

IX. VOTE: STREET ACTIVITY PERMITS

1, *July 19, 2014* *Woodside Thai Cultural Fair* *Woodside Avenue between Broadway & 75 Street*

District Manager Cassagnol reported the application was received at the Board office in due time, however, there was an issue because instead of having a street activity permit, they had requested a street fair. It was denied even before it came to the Board office because street activities, although they must be submitted 90 days before the date requested, street fairs (meaning multiple block closures) must be submitted in December of the year before. (In this case December 2013). The group is aware of the regulation.

The NYPD as well as SAPO had already denied the application. Even if the Board approved the application, it would still be denied.

Discussion ensued about scaling back the event.

2. *July 19, 2014* *theRAYmovement*

46th Avenue between Junction Blvd. and 94 Street

District Manager Cassagnol reported the applicant's son was rushed to the Emergency Room and could not attend tonight's meeting. Their paperwork is in order, but their petition is on for review tonight, and no one is present to represent the group. The option is available if the applicant submits the petition within the next couple of days, it can be submitted as an approval, if the Board so chooses.

The District Manager provided details of the event.

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion if the applicant brings in the petition in within the next few days, to approve the application. Motion seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 37 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

X. PRESENTATIONS

**Janine Johnson – Outreach Specialist
The Office of Child Support Enforcement**

NYC DOT – Dalila Hall, Queens Borough Commissioner

Chairperson Louis Walker announced since the scheduled guest speaker was not available; DOT would present a slide presentation on the Roosevelt Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation for the acquisition of temporary easements generally located along Roosevelt Avenue between 126th Street and College Point Boulevard to facilitate rehabilitation of a bridge.

Queens Borough Commissioner Hall reported a rehabilitation project was planned for the Roosevelt Avenue Bridge from 126th Street to College Point Blvd. Detailed information would be presented on what is being planned for the rehabilitation work. More discussion will be presented over the next year. The final design is about one year away. Team members from the bridge division were also in attendance.

Currently, temporary easements are needed before the construction of the bridge to have space to work on the bridge. This triggers the ULURP process. More details were given.

This is not permanently taking anything; it is just asking for space next to the Bridge in certain key areas while the work is being done. Negotiations will be done separately with the adjoining property owners where space is needed for the Bridge work.

Slide presentation presented by Mr. Tom Elsroth, AELOM, included the following information:

Temporary Construction Easements For Rehabilitation of Roosevelt Avenue Bridge

- Roosevelt Avenue Certified Roosevelt Avenue #7 Train
- Roosevelt Avenue Viaduct
- Need For The Project
- Existing Viaduct Cross Section
- Bridge Cross Section After Rehabilitation
- Typical Sidewalk/Bikeway

- Existing/Proposed Typical Sidewalk Bikeway
- Construction Staging
 - A. Construction Zone
 - B. Traffic Lane

Construction Duration 45 Months.

- Roosevelt Avenue Bridge – ULURP

Why Do We Need This Application?

- Need For Temporary Easements
 - Temporary Construction Easement Property Privately Owned
 - Via NYC Streets And A Temporary Easement

Block 1833, Lots 1 and 101; Block 2018, lots 75, 83, and 300; Block 5066, lot 1, and Block 4963, lots 1 and 7

At this point, the Board Members asked questions about the final design, schedules and contractor.

Subsequently, Board Member Miriam Levenson made a motion, seconded by Board Member Lucy Schilero, to **approve** the Roosevelt Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation.

By a roll call vote, the Board voted 36 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion passed.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental

Committee Chair Giancarlo Castano reported on the Green Team Park Clean-up on May 31 at William F. Moore Park. The Committee has set the third Wednesday of the month as its meeting day. Another Green Team Park Clean-up is planned for June 28 for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Flyers will be mailed. A sign-in sheet was passed out to sign up for the Green Team.

Health

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported on How to Survive Spring Allergy Season. Spring is in the air. From weeds to spores to grass and tree pollens, the warm weather is here, driving airborne allergen levels through the roof. That means your allergy symptoms—sniffing, sneezing and itchy eyes are in overdrive and apt to stay that way for months. Suggestions for helping with much-needed relief were available on flyers.

Save the date!

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

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Elmhurst Hospital Center (Parking Facility) 79-01 Broadway, Elmhurst, Queens. General Admission at door \$50.00.

Saturday, June 14, 2014

Community Board 3Q presents the Health Care Expo 2014.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Corona Health Center

34-33 Junction Blvd.

Corona, NY

Thursday, June 19, 2014

2nd Annual Pediatric Health Fair

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Elmhurst Hospital Center/Community Medical Center (H-Building)

41 Avenue between 80 And 81 Streets.

For information, please call 718-334-5208.

Youth

Committee Chair Lucy Cerezo-Scully reported the Committee met on May 20 and discussed having a Family Fun Day on August 2. She reported on ideas/activities mentioned at the meeting. The event will be held at Crowley Park.

The next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for June 16, 7:00 p.m., at the Board office. All were urged to attend.

Before concluding, she also reported she had attended a meeting, just prior to coming to Board 4's meeting, with Schools Chancellor Carmen Farina. \$20 million was allocated for arts programs for our schools, also working with the middle schools allocating funds for after school activities and involving family and the community.

We are also stakeholders because we live in the community. Whether or not you have children in schools, we all want what is best for our community and building our schools is part of that vision.

Also brought up was ESL and expanding CTE (Career Technology and Engineering) schools. Details were provided.

Consumer Affairs

Committee Chair Pat Martin reported a joint meeting was held with the 82 Street Partnership. It was a very open meeting and both sides of the issue were presented.

The floor was turned over to Board Member Lucy Schilero who provided more information. As time goes on, more specifics will be given.

At this point, Board Member Lucy Schilero requested a representative from the Dept. of City Planning to discuss the zoning change on Roosevelt Avenue and also a representative from the NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection to discuss the bioswales, water pressure, and hurricanes.

Subsequently, District Manager Cassagnol clarified the Environmental Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month. The Green Team events are planned for the last weekend of every month. 2 weeks after the Committee meeting (usually the last Saturday).

ULURP/Zoning

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

Postal

Committee Chair Gigi Salvador reported her committee members are not yet finalized.

On this note, Chairperson Walker said the committee assignments form had been received and will be ready in September when Board members will receive their new/current assignments.

Parks

Committee Chair Al Perna also gave a report on the clean-up at William F. Moore Park on May 31. Eight yards of mulch was put down, and the Team had painted the fence around the Park. The Parks Dept. power washed the benches and pavement. Also, he had attended a meeting with Matt Symons and Janice Melnick, Administrator of Flushing Meadows-Corona Park regarding the Park including PEPs, garbage, and illegal vendors etc.

Next, he spoke about upcoming events in the Park. Flyers were on hand.

Before concluding, he mentioned the Feast of St. Anthony from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at William F. Moore Park. on Saturday, June 14.

Discussion on area parks and funding ensued.

Transportation

Committee Chair Joseph DiMartino reported the Committee did not meet. He mentioned the assignment of a crossing guard at Junction Blvd.

Board Member Rovenia McGowan mentioned problems with the Q88 bus route.

District Manager Cassagnol responded he had a meeting with DOT the next morning regarding this issue.

Board Member Pat Martin commended Senator Peralta for his efforts in obtaining the crossing guard previously mentioned by Board Member DiMartino.

XII PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Jose Pelaez, Corona Community Ambulance Corp., reported Board Member Al Perna had helped the organization considerably and many positive aspects have occurred since the last report to the Board. He spoke about community events the corps. had attended. Call him if you need assistance. Moving forward, they are here for the community.

Next, he invited all to the Corona EMS 1st Annual Summer BBQ on Saturday, August 23, 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Corona Community Ambulance Corps., 104-38 47th Avenue, Corona, NY.

Before adjourning Board Member Georgina Oliver announced St. James Church at 84-07 Broadway, Elmhurst, will hold an informational/screening meeting for the Public on Hepatitis C, June 28, at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m., the Board went into closed session and all guests were asked to leave.