



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Damian Vargas
Chairperson

Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

September 17, 2018

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Board Members Attending:

Damian Vargas
Karen Abreu
Judith D'Andrea
Marialena Giampino
Ingrid Gomez
James Lisa
Salvatore Lombardo
Peter Manganaro
Matthew McElroy
Rovenia McGowan
Ruby Muhammad
Gurdip Singh Narula
Georgina Oliver

Alexandra Owens
Albert Perna
Alexa Ponce
Ashley Reed
Cristian Romero
Clara Salas
Gigi Salvador
Lucy Schilero
Malikah Shabazz
Gregory Spock
Dewan Tarek
Marcello Testa
Louis Walker
Rose Wong

Board Members Absent:

Priscilla Carrow
Giancarlo Castano
Lucy Cerezo-Scully
Chaio-Chung Chen
Lynda Coral
Erica Cruz
Kristin Gonzalez
Jennifer Gutierrez
Patricia Martin

Edgar Moya
Sandra Munoz
Oscar Rios
Neil Roman
A. Redd Sevilla
Alton Derrick Smith
Minwen Yang
Lester Youngblood

ATTENDING:

Hon. Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President
Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Christina Long, CB4 Community Assistant
Barbara Jackson, U. S. Rep. Joseph Crowley's Office
Mark Papish, Assembly Member Brian Barnwell's Office
Jacqueline Rozado, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Carolyn Tran, Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office
Larry Gallegos, Congressman Joseph Crowley's Office
William Giron, NYC Comptroller's Office
Stacy Eliuk, NYC Public Advocate's Office
Patricia Chou, Queens Neighborhood United
Debra Hargrove
Preeti Josui, New York Public Interest Research Group
John Wang, Queens Night Market
Jorge Rodriguez
Mike Liquori, Commander Post #150
Michelle Dunston, Lefrak Tenant Association
Mike Ganeron, Queens Chronicle
Sandra Navarro, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs
Angelica Carchi, Queensboro Council for Social Welfare
Luis Carchi (Operation Christmas Child)
Andy Collado
Karen Ortiz
Estefani Rodriguez
Miriam Roman, PS 28 Parent Coordinator
Roberto Quintana, Principal PS 28
Jimmy Apostolatos

PUBLIC SPEAKERS LIST

John Wang, Queens Night Market
Patricia Chou, Queens Neighborhood United
Carina Kaufman-Gutierrez, Queens Neighborhood United

September 17, 2018

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

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

I. Chairperson Damian Vargas opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. Executive Secretary Marialena Giampino took the roll call. A quorum was present.

IV. VOTE ON THE MINUTES – June 12, 2018

Board Member Clara Salas made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to **approve** the minutes.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 27 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

**V. Guest Speaker: Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
Address to the Community**

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz thanked Chair Damian Vargas and the Board members for their work on the Board. Throughout the City of New York, Community Boards have done much on many projects such as the revamping of LaGuardia Airport, the air train, and Flushing Meadow-Corona Park, to name a few. The Borough President also thanked District Manager Christian Cassagnol for his hard work in dealing with the many ongoing issues on a daily basis.

At this point, the Borough President updated the Board on activities throughout the Borough:

Queens is such an amazing Borough. People want to come here, play here, and spend their money here and it is one of the most diverse areas on the planet. There are people from all over the world here and want to bring their families here and educate their children in our public school system. Equally important is making sure parents age gracefully in the borough of Queens. It's not just about New York City, but also about our borough of Queens.

Community Boards, elected officials and community activists are an important part of our borough. Forty eight percent of our borough's population, according to the census data, was born outside of the United States meaning half of our Borough's residents have chosen to live here. This is the greatest strength that we can give to the rest of the United States. Whether people arrived here yesterday from another country or whether they are

fourth generation living in Queens. From the 190 countries that we represent and 200 languages spoken, we all want the same for our families. We know we can find a better life in Queens, which is our common core. The Borough President is excited about the work done in the last five years during her term as Borough President while working with Community Boards and its leadership.

Queens Borough President Katz reported there is funding for a new Corona Library. \$25.51 million has been allocated for construction of a new Corona library. She thanked all for their fight for a new library stating this was a long time in coming.

Next, she reported on the renovation of the 110 Police Precinct. All elected officials have made it clear this is a necessity and she thanked the Board for its advocacy on this project, which was ongoing over the years.

Next, the Borough President reported the Emergency Room at Elmhurst Hospital is undergoing major renovations. The Borough President's office has spent over \$4 million as well as the City of New York had provided \$ 11 million for the renovation. Elmhurst Hospital will become a modern, well established, tech savvy Emergency Room. Many people from around the Borough utilize Elmhurst Hospital's Emergency Room.

Next, the Borough President reported on P. S. 19. There are over 800 new seats at the school. Children have been taught in trailers for too long. Because of the hard work of the elected officials, community groups, and the parents association from PS 19 who fought every year to get rid of the trailers. She noted the trailers were supposed to be temporary but remained in use for many years.

Queens Borough President Katz commented on the lowest unemployment rate in the City of New York. The number was at 3.8% of unemployment in the borough, which is the lowest city-wide.

Next, she reported the Borough President's office on a regular basis conducts job fairs at Borough Hall. In the last year, people have been placed in over 900 jobs. All were urged to become involved in those job fairs.

Next, the Queens Borough President reported when applying for a job, the interviewer will ask if the applicant has been convicted of a crime. Some people have been convicted of a crime in their lifetime. The Governor had signed a law, which says if a person has two misdemeanor convictions that are over ten years old, or a non-violent felony over ten years old; they can have convictions sealed by the State of New York. Only 364 people in the state of New York had taken advantage of the new law, and noted there were only 24 people in Queens.

The Borough President's Office works very closely with immigration lawyers and Queens Legal Aid in the last few years such as conducting immigration resource fairs to provide attorneys. Attorneys would provide information on not only immigration issues but also domestic violence issues. Those were the most sought after services. Know Your Rights Week was started first with immigration followed by Seal Your Convictions. In Queens, in one week over 100 applications were filed. October 25 - October 26 an event will be held whereby you can get your convictions sealed. More details will follow.

October 9 – 12 Domestic Violence Workshops will be held. More details will follow. Please disseminate the information on both events to the community.

Subsequently, the Queens Borough President reported Queens is doing well. Its population is increasing. Borough President Katz stated she has been in public service for 25 years. She has seen the borough grow in an amazing way. As a legislator, both as an Assemblywoman and Councilwoman, budget times were problematic. She talked about budget cuts to the agencies and why some institution budgets were kept intact, while other agency budgets were cut. The answer was because those institutions not cut were bringing the tourists in. People were spending money to go to Manhattan, to go to cultural groups, shop on 5th Avenue, and go to

Broadway. Queens was not bringing in that same percentage of revenue. Now that tourism has grown in the borough, people are coming in to Long Island City, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park (the Hall of Science, the Queens Museum), the USTA, and visiting Jamaica for its cultural events. In Corona, the Lemon Ice King is a trademark.

The same amount of funding is needed to pave our streets as well as Manhattan streets. We are part of the city's budget and need our fair share.

Our schools are at 113% capacity. We are the only borough in the City of New York that is above capacity. Pre-K sites, which are under-represented, are needed. If you know of any sites, please let her or the elected officials know.

Lastly, she pointed out the City Charter Commission is meeting on Thursday at Borough Hall. On the agenda is a discussion about term limits for community boards. Three hundred sixty community board members have been serving less than five years in the borough of Queens. On Board 4, in the last five years twenty-two members are new. There has been a shift in Community Board representation. New membership with new ideas and new visions is great. And, the knowledge of long-term members who have served for years with information of their neighborhoods is essential. Long term Board members can recollect decisions which were made on issues in prior years.

It is critical when people come to the Community Board for help, we can provide it. It is essential to the future of the borough.

Community involvement is the only way to have constituency and change. We have both.

At this point, over ten year Community Board Service Citations were awarded to Board Members Gurdip Singh Narula and Albert Perna.

For all public schools in the entire borough of Queens (elementary, junior high, and high school) technology has been upgraded. \$35,000 was given for smart boards or computers (elementary schools). For every high school, \$110,000 was given for new technology. Upgrades to schools totaled over \$12 million.

For parks such as CC Moore Playground, \$2.4 million was given (with Council Member Dromm).

Lastly, the Borough President provided over \$2 million for a sub-station in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. This will be a separate unit. Staffing will not be taken from other precincts.

Regarding 111 Street redesign, the Queens Borough President had written letters, called, texted, put up signs etc. because she believes the street is dangerous. Personally, she has had issues entering and exiting the Hall of Science, Terrace on the Park, and the Queens Museum. To have crosswalks with no lights is highly unsafe and was aware the Board was extremely active on the safety issue. Given the feeling of safety without it actually being safe, is important the plans are looked at again. The Board was thanked for its leadership regarding 111 Street.

At this point, Queens Borough President took questions from the Board members.

Clara Salas asked about the dead trees on the center islands on Queens Blvd. There are about 300 dead trees, which have never been pruned. The center islands are also full of weeds and garbage on Queens Blvd. from Long Island City to Jamaica. Are you aware of this problem and plan to do anything about it? Also, she inquired about the graffiti at Willets Point.

Borough President Katz responded the medians have always been a problem since 1994. When there is a particularly bad segment, problems are reported to the Parks Department. They collaborate together on how to

clean up certain areas. Since the Parks Department is on a schedule for cleaning, the Queens Borough President's office works to send out a parks crew to correct the problem. As far as new trees, there is money in the budget for new trees. She noted if there are particular areas or places for new plantings, please let the Borough President know.

Board Member Clara Salas commented in the past she had made reports to the Board on dead trees, which were taken care of by the Board staff, but now there are too many of them.

Since pruning is an Expense item, the Borough President commented it is somewhat more difficult. But the Borough President's Office will work to move it along.

Next, Board Member Lucy Schilero thanked the Queens Borough President on behalf of CURSC, the organization she represents, for her help in the renovation of the 110 Precinct, especially for the mobile unit in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

Board Member Schilero brought up the cast iron fire boxes that have not been upgraded in years. Other communities have had their boxes upgraded, but our community has not. New boxes have input to the Police and Fire Departments. She noted we do want to keep the cast iron part, but the heads are broken off.

Borough President Melinda Katz responded she did not know if the Fire Department is replacing them and explained the theory is everyone has a cell phone for emergencies, which is part of the issue.

The Borough President asked for a list of locations. Board Member Schilero said she would provide a listing. Subsequently, Board Member Lucy Schilero provided more information on the cast iron fire boxes.

Board Member Malukah Shabazz asked up to what age a person can have their prison records sealed.

The Borough President responded it is not about age, but about time when it happened. Its ten years. For example if you have two misdemeanor convictions and its ten years and a day later you can apply to have the convictions sealed. Juvenile records are already sealed, she added. This new laws allows for records to be sealed as an adult.

Also, there is an issue about how employers ask the question. Ostensibly employers should not ask about convictions.

Were you convicted of a crime that was not sealed is asked. The dilemma is someone gets their convictions sealed and an employer will ask if they were convicted of a crime. You are allowed to say no, but prefer not to. The State legislature is looking for ways to change the question. Say, for example, do you have a conviction on record? However, details are still being worked on.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea thanked Queens Borough President Melinda Katz for the new Corona library. It has been long overdue and it is a project Board Member D'Andrea has been working on since 1989. She mentioned several sites for the library and looks forward to its implementation.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea asked for a brief update on the Willet's Point project including an update for the pre-K slated for Flushing Meadow-Corona Park.

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz stated regarding Willets Point, 61 acres of property was rezoned in 2008, which was an urban renewal plan for the entire area. RFP's were sent out. What came back was 84 acres, 61 acres plus the 21 acre Met site, which was the parking lot. The Court of Appeals deemed the parking lot could not be used. It could only be used for Mets accessory parking. Out of the 61 acres, \$400 million was put into the budget in 2008 to purchase the properties at Willets Point. Only 23 acres are now in City

possession. A few months ago, the City said it's too big and will be narrowed down to six acres for affordable housing and a school.

A task force will be formed to decide what should be on the other seventeen acres which they now control and to move forward. Many ideas have been gathered and the task force is still meeting with the community, Community Boards, civic groups and elected officials. They are trying to come up with a plan for the seventeen acres to recommend to the City. To recap, the six acres is being premeditated for affordable housing. Unlike the original plan which was 61 acres, the entire six acres will be all affordable rate (not market rate and affordable rate). The original plan was 33 ½% affordable and the rest market rate. This plan is all affordable housing plus a school from kindergarten to eighth grade. She and Council Member Francisco Moya chair this task force.

Regarding the Hall of Science pre-k site, an alienation of the property was done, which was the parking lot for the pre-K. Since then, she has not received a status update. Queens Borough President Melinda Katz explained the meaning of alienated use.

At this point, the Queens Borough President answered more questions from the Board members regarding the new law on convictions and provided more information on the application process.

Next, Board Member James Lisa brought up 111 Street is not the right location for the Maker's Faire. Due to this event, parking is taken away from people in the community. Traffic on 111 Street is horrendous and suggested alternate locations for the event.

Borough President Melinda Katz responded she has received feedback on this problem and would work with the Community Board for a resolution.

More discussion on possible locations for the Maker's Faire ensued.

Borough President Melinda Katz provided her e-mail Katz@queensbp.org. E-mails are sent directly to her phone with copy to other staff. She is delighted to hear from people and does answer her e-mails.

In conclusion, Queens Borough President Melinda Katz is honored to serve and thanked many of the Board members on a personal level.

She is excited about the future of the borough and added people do want to come here to live, work, and raise a family. Queens has become a place people have put their faith in and is privileged to serve as Borough President of this great borough and thanked the members for its vision and serving as volunteers.

At this point, Chris Barca, formerly of the *Queens Chronicle* staff, was congratulated for his appointment to the Borough President's staff.

VI. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Chair Damian Vargas welcomed the Board back after the summer hiatus. Chair Vargas reported all Board members should have received their committee assignments. In August/September committee assignments are given out. This year, there has been more movement than in previous years.

Chair Vargas read the 2018-2019 Committee Chairs listing as follows:

Consumer Affairs, - Georgina Oliver, Chair
Environmental – Oscar Rios, Chair
Health – Ashley Reed, Chair
Parks – Gregory Spock, Chair
Public Safety – Lucy Schilero, Chair

Transportation – Louis Walker, Chair
ULURP/Zoning – Alton Derrick Smith, Chair
Youth – Alexa Ponce, Chair

Chair Damian Vargas welcomed the new Chairs and thanked the former Chairs (Erica Cruz, Giancarlo Castano, Sal Lombardo, Al Perna, and Ingrid Gomez) for their hard work and they continue to advise and counsel the Board, help the Committees, and move forward.

Next, he reported there has been some talk about adding another Committee for social media to outreach and brand the Community Board. At this point, it was his feeling a temporary Taskforce should be formed to do more community outreach for meetings or events such as the upcoming Youth Fair. It will not be a standing committee. The purpose of the additional Committee is to let the community know of Board activities, and to have more Community Board members get more involved in events.

Board Member Cristian Romero is on the new social media Committee. Please see him if you are interested in joining. A sign in sheet is available if you would like to become a member.

Board Member Clara Salas suggested a committee representing senior citizens also be formed. Many seniors are isolated and are not receiving the services they should be obtaining.

Chair Vargas agreed services for the elderly are needed and there have been suggestions for other committees such as: veterans' affairs, immigrant affairs etc. He explained the reasoning is that since we are volunteers and we do have other commitments, we do not have the full capacity of the Board members. We total 44 Board members, not meeting our capacity of 50 Board members. If there were six more people on the Board, we could have another committee. At this point with the existing committees, we do not always have the 100% commitment.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea said some committees can be combined such as Health with Consumer Affairs Committee. Additionally, the Youth Committee could be Youth & Education.

Next, Chair Damian Vargas reported on livestreaming. As yet, we do not have livestreaming. There is funding from Council Member Daniel Dromm. Last time, Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and Daniel Dromm shared the cost. We do have a commitment from Council Member Dromm and money is available. He was optimistic livestreaming would be available at the October Board meeting.

Next, Chair Vargas reported on the additional money to the Board's budget from the City Council. \$42,000 was allocated but it is unclear if it is a onetime infusion. We are looking to spend this money to better serve the Community Board, which includes looking into providing translation services. There are many members of our community that are non-English speaking. Taking into consideration different scenarios that would be more cost effective such as hiring a service that come in with their equipment and translators or whether the Board buy the equipment and hire the translators. At this point, the feeling is to buy the equipment. Languages considered for translation are Spanish and Chinese. Although the Chair realizes there are many more languages spoken in our district, those two languages would be the beginning.

Chair Damian Vargas said more space is needed for our meetings. Under advisement also is considering other meeting locations within the district to make it easier for community members to attend Board meetings.

Board Member Ingrid Gomez asked if the additional funding can be used to purchase food.

Chair Damian Vargas said it could be, but he wants to concentrate on getting the things we need right now.

Many times we encounter the problem that even though we have the funding, we must utilize a city vendor to purchase. We cannot purchase from any vendor because they will not get paid.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol explained the policy of using city vendors and the procedure to determine if we can buy from them.

Next, Chair Vargas reported on Willets Point and stated the determination must be made what will be on that site. The need for schools was brought up on that site. A police precinct and fire department was also suggested. The first phase will be affordable housing. There are proposals for a new soccer stadium, also proposals for mixed use residential buildings with retail. The developers are not there to listen to our ideas. EDC is the partner to the developers and is spearheading the project. Developers are very much needed to get involved.

Lastly, Board Member Clara Salas was congratulated for her win as the County and State Committee Member. Board Member Ashley Reed was also congratulated on her win.

VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported on the Clear Curb Initiative along Roosevelt Avenue approximately eight months ago. The initiative was geared toward moving traffic along Roosevelt Avenue. Partnering with the 82 Street BID, and local businesses to get rid of this pilot program which was to last six months. Community Board 4 fought hard to abolish the initiative. During the hours of 7 am- 10 am and 4 pm – 7 pm, there was No Standing allowed on Roosevelt Avenue, between 74 Street and 90th Street. This initiative eliminated the possibility of deliveries to local business along Roosevelt Avenue and late night Happy Hour was also affected. After protests by the Board and local officials with the help of Council Member Francisco Moya, at the 4 ½ month mark, DOT finally rescinded the initiative. However during that time, three to four businesses closed. Remaining businesses reported losses in revenue of 50%-60%.

Next, budget consultations are now in session. The intent of the budget consultations is submission of the Capital/Expense budgets. Every year the Needs Statement is written listing the top ten needs for our Board. October 31, the Needs Statement is discussed and Committees review the wish list. Although the due date is October 31, Board 4 does get somewhat of an extension whereby the Board must hold a public hearing, until after the deadline, on the Capital & Expense items. The deadline is November 13. The Committee Chairs should make it a point to meet with their committee in October to discuss capital and expense items.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol brought up the booklet, “A Guide to the Capital Budget—Understanding New York City’s Budget”. Copies were on hand explaining how the budget process works. District Manager Cassagnol every year the District Manager meets with different city agencies (NYPD, FDNY, Parks, HPD, to name a few). During this time, specific questions are asked what the agency’s needs are. The data is compiled and brought back to the full Board. From that data, the Board’s Capital & Expense lists are created. So far, he has met with some agencies. Friday, September 21, he will meeting with the Department of Buildings, HPD, NYPD, and the FDNY. Each consultation is an hour long but it provides the opportunity to speak to the agency heads.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol spoke about the excess funding in the Board’s budget. One of the biggest complaints we face is that no one knows what we do or who we are. The idea of CB4 polo shirts came up. Board members, please reach out to the Board office to state your size to order your polo shirt. The shirts are short-sleeve, navy blue and orange only. To brand Community Board 4’s identity, we are handing out CB4 pens, brochures, and banners.

Subsequently, he reported on CB4's upcoming Youth Fair Year 3. In the past, funding for the Youth Fair was secured by the Queens Borough President's office and other sources, however, this year the Board was able to pay the costs.

Also, in addition to the \$42,000 extra added to the Board's budget, Council Member Francisco Moya allocated \$20,000 to the Board's budget to be spent on youth related activities in the district. Additionally, Council Member Daniel Dromm added \$5,000 to the Board's budget, which was spent on expenses for CB4's Youth Fair. Council Member Moya's money funded in part a backpack giveaway. Thanks to Council Members Francisco Moya and Danny Dromm, Community Board 4 received more funding than other Community Boards. Furthermore, some of the money will be spent on new computer upgrades and equipment for the Board office and office furniture, which is badly needed.

District Manager Cassagnol reported many of the Boards are considering pooling money together for a big event for all Community Boards. The District Manager is not in agreement with this idea wanting to spend the money instead on Community Board 4's needs and wants. Polo shirts, brochures, and the media committee are part of our efforts to brand the Board to reach more constituents and offer more services.

At this point, Board Member Georgina Oliver thanked Senator Jose Peralta for his help in obtaining for her daughter \$50,000 for medical school.

As a follow-up to the District Manager's report, Chair Damian Vargas asked the Board if they have an idea how the excess money should be spent, please advise the Chair or District Manager. However, he did caution there is a process on how to spend the money.

Next, the District Manager reported Board members will receive a copy of the latest zoning handbook. Regarding graffiti cleanup, the 110 Precinct reached out to the Board to request paint and supplies. From a city vendor, we bought the paint and supplies for the Precinct.

At this point, Board members suggested ideas for branding Community Board 4.

Adding to his report, District Manager Cassagnol reported the excess money is a one-time stipend for this year. We must use the money within a year, therefore, before July 1, 2019. If we do not use the money, it will revert back to the city treasury. It is unclear if the City Council will look to make the increase permanent.

The District Manager reported on the co-naming of P. S. 19 for deceased Board Member Alirio Orduna. A letter of support from the Board was sent to the principal of P.S. 19, and we are awaiting a response.

VII. PUBLIC FORUM

Good And Welfare of the District

John Wang, representing Queens Night Market, reported the Market has not been open the last four weeks because of the U. S. Open and this weekend's Maker Faire. September 29 the Queens Night Market will reopen, and the last day for the year will be October 27, which is a big Halloween bash.

He is also Chair of the Community Advisory Board for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, and the next meeting is October 3.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea said the roadway entering the Queens Museum, which runs parallel with the Grand Central Parkway, is in terrible condition. It was resurfaced up to the USTA and forgot the rest of the Park. Can the roadway in front of the Queens Museum be paved, she asked.

John Wang suggested she attend the Community Advisory Board meeting for FM-CP.

Next, Patricia Chou, representing Queens Neighborhoods United, reported on the rezoning proposal at 40-31 82 Street.

She was pleased to report the developer pulled back the rezoning, which is a major victory for the community. To recap, the proposal would have brought units of unaffordable housing, including a Mall. The Mall would have displaced many of the small business owners who were already decimated by the Clear Curb Initiative. In August, Queens Neighborhoods United submitted a zoning challenge, which the Department of Buildings regulates. It allows the use of the site to be challenged. Based on the zoning for the site, Target Department Store, one of the leases, is a big corporation and is not allowed to be there since it is a big box store. The Department of Buildings confirmed it and issued a Stop Work Order meaning no construction is allowed on the site until the developer re-submits a plan, which has not been done yet. If you see or hear of any construction on the site, take pictures/video and call 311.

Working with the community on ideas they have been gathering for the site such as a community center, youth center, a school, health center, or green space, to name a few suggestions.

Next, Catalina Kaufman-Gutierrez, from Queens Neighborhoods United, reported on the property sale on Roosevelt Avenue between 108 Street and 111 Street. One owner owned both sides of the block and sold both sides at once, from the coffee shop to the lumber yard to Immigrant Movement International, which has found another space. Businesses in that location have been served eviction notices. Immigrant Movement International offers legal services, cultural programming, and activities for youth, and after school homework help. For families who lived at that location, a fundraiser is in progress to help them relocate.

Chair Damian Vargas added if the construction is built as of right, it does not have to come before the Board. How high is still unclear. Since there are applications filed to build or rezone in our Board area, it is important to know and understand the mechanics of the ULURP process on these complicated issues. A ULURP training session is planned for October 11 at 6 p.m. at Borough Hall. The Board office will send out further details. Since ULURP applications and details are complex, he urged all to attend the training session to gain a clearer understanding of the ULURP process.

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Congressman Joseph Crowley

Larry Gallegos reported the Congressman's office will remain until the end of the year. If you need assistance, please contact Congressman Crowley's office.

Congresswoman Grace Meng

No Report

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS (cont'd)

State Senator Michael Gianaris

No Report

State Senator Jose Peralta

No Report

State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky

No Report

State Assembly Brian Barnwell

Mark Papish - Call the Assembly Member Barnwell's office if you need assistance, which covers four square blocks of CB4. He reported on the Affordable housing issue and current rent laws. He spoke about Assembly Bill 11312, sponsored by State Assembly Member Brian Barnwell which eliminates the department of homes and community renewal's major capital improvement program; creates the guaranteed habitability protections program within the department of homes and community renewal; creates a guaranteed habitability protections tax credit; eliminates rent increases to pay for major capital improvements.

State Assembly Michael Den Dekker

No Report

State Assembly Ari Espinal

No Report

Council Member Daniel Dromm

Carolyn Tran, Council Member Daniel Dromm's Chief of Staff, reported an event on October 11 at St. James. Learn about ways to get of rats and rodents. The event is co-sponsored with the Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene. Garbage bins are also raffled off.

October 29 a Bike Helmet Giveaway, with the Department of Transportation, is planned at the Jackson Heights Shopping Center at 9:00 a.m. followed by a bike ride. Five hundred free helmets will be given away.

Notification was received from DOT and DDC that the Safe Routes for School at PS 89 is starting. Preliminary design is beginning so that they will be looking at Broadway, Woodside Avenue, 80th Street and Roosevelt Avenue and Britton Avenue. The project includes intersection improvement, curb/sidewalk extensions, installation of pedestrian ramps, pavement markings and other safety measures around PS 89.

For Newtown Playground and Veterans Memorial, construction will start soon.

Regarding livestreaming, Council Member Dromm gave WNET \$20,000 to livestream Community Boards 3 and 4 meetings for six each community board meetings.

Council Member Dromm was able to bring the John Lennon bus at the Viva La Comida Festival Saturday, September 15.

Ms. Tran also gave information on other funding provided and legislative updates Council Member Dromm had introduced.

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS (cont'd)

Council Member Francisco Moya

Jacqueline Rozada reported Council Member Moya could not attend tonight's Board meeting because of a prior engagement. Special thank you was extended to Community Board 4 for its assistance in the Back To School Giveaway sponsored by Council Member Moya. Community Board 4 donated 50 backpacks along with other government agencies for students in the community. 400/500 students were serviced in the community.

Partnering with CUNY Citizenship Now, free immigration services are now offered at Council Member Moya's office. Call 212-652-2071 or Council Member Moya's office to make an appointment.

Council Member Moya is hosting a street co-naming ceremony for Lynda McDougal Way, outside ceremony, Corner of 25th Avenue & Curtis Street, East Elmhurst, NY, on Saturday, September 22, at 12 Noon seating will begin at 11:00 a.m.

NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

William Giron spoke about the initiatives at the Comptroller's Office. In particular is how to team up with the City Council to serve kosher foods in public schools. Meetings were held with different stakeholders across the city including moms and rabbis who have expertise on this issue. Two different roundtables were held and a policy report was created where proposals were made with some of the ways it can be initiated. The City Council has already allocated some funding to launch the pilot program, which will be in four different schools. Updates will be given to the Board periodically.

Working with Assembly Member Brian Barnwell regarding legislation for rent deposits. Landlords charge a ridiculous amount for security deposits. The Comptroller's office did a study on those effects and much of those deposits are over-bloated and the impact on the community.

An audit report was released on parks. The Parks Department was audited and different parks were examined throughout the city. Many of those parks remain under construction and work remains incomplete. A press conference was also held in southeast Queens about it. If there are parks in the Board area where construction has not been done or delays, call the Comptroller's office who will investigate.

Next, he announced Hispanic Heritage Month on Wednesday, September 26, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at Hunter College, Faculty Dining Room – 8th Floor, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY. Food and refreshments will be served.

At this point, he spoke about the Clear Curbs Initiative. The Comptroller's Office received many complaints about this Initiative. The Comptroller's Office had been following the issue and the Comptroller sent out a letter to DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg about residents' complaints on the Initiative. Also, he mentioned the work done by the constituency on the 82 Street Rezoning. He noted it was amazing to see the advocacy presented by the community on this proposal. Comptroller Scott Stringer has always advocated for community based planning and stood against re-zoning impacting the city.

wgiron@comptroller.nyc.gov is Mr. Giron's email address should you need assistance.

Public Advocate Letitia James

Stacy Eliuk reported Thursday, September 20, hearings will be held about the 2019 Charter Revisions. The Mayor's Office had created its own City Charter Commission. The recommendations of which will be voted on in November's election. Primarily, there are three issues being brought up:

- Decreasing the amount of money people can give to a single candidate
- Increasing the matching funds for city elections from 6 to 1 to 8 to 1
- Create a Civic Engagement Commission which includes term limits on Community Board members.

The Public Advocate's Commission is somewhat different. Taking a broader prospective to include people from the Mayor, Public Advocate and the Comptroller's Offices and include other issues such as where does tax dollars go and how much power does your elected officials have to bring your input into the process. She urged all to attend the hearings on Thursday and present testimony, at Queens Borough Hall, at 6:00 p.m. It is important to voice your opinion on how you feel as a community. We saw how turnout in this year's elections

and how people coming out make a real difference. At certain poll sites, there was presidential level of turn out. She thanked all for coming out to vote, support of the Public Advocate, and support of their communities.

IX. REPORT AND VOTE: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

SLA Applications

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on the legalization of marijuana and Public Hearings being held throughout the five boroughs. Some issues being looked at are: public health, public safety, and monetary gains (taxes). For Queens, September 24 at the Jamaica Center for Performing Arts, the hearing will be held.

Next, she reported there have been many complaints about people drinking and lying across the sidewalks, along Roosevelt Avenue. Also a major complaint is people hanging out by the kiosk so that you cannot charge your cell phone. NCO officers were very busy this summer handling other details, however, she suggested call 1-718-476-6725 or e-mail. They may not respond right away, but they will get back to you. Let her know because she is working with Captain Ventre on this issue.

National Night Out for the 110 Precinct was a huge success, she reported. Even with the rain, the event was wonderful. They had the biggest crowd ever and all had a great time.

For very young children going back to school on the back of the tag on their clothes please put the child's initials or name and a phone number she informed the Board.

Subsequently, Board Member Schilero thanked the FDNY for providing a list on the cast iron fire alarm boxes. We have noticed on 53/54 Avenues, some of the cast irons were removed and replaced with small cast irons on telephone poles. She had asked them not to do that. As they are removing the sidewalks they are lifting it up. She was able to stop it, noting the Borough President said she would help.

Friday, September 21, the CERT team will have its National Preparedness at Target, between 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. All were invited to attend.

At this point, Committee Chair Lucy Schilero presented the liquor licenses:

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Los 4 Amores	93-10 Roosevelt Avenue	Denied
Wine, Beer, & Cider	Jackson Heights, NY	
Applicant unable to attend. Advised them to resubmit for next month.		

NEW APPLICANTS (cont'd)

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
ANFLO Inc.	40-09 82 Street	Denied
<i>Ingloo Rolls</i>	Elmhurst, NY	
Liquor, Wine, Beer, & Cider		
Applicant not ready at this time, advised them to resubmit next month.		

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Yin Yang China Bistrol Inc. Wine, Beer & Cider	89-10 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved

7951 Albion LLC Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider <i>Club Amadeus</i>	79-51 Albion Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Denied
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Committee is concerned about the long history of criminal complaints emanating from the establishments. The establishment is also being sued.

1/29/2017 – Felony Assault Complaint. Victim was slashed.

2/5/2017 – Assault 3 Complaint. Physical Force used only.

2/23/2017 – Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Arrest Made.

5/7/2018 – Robbery Complaint. Physical Force used only.

10-21-2017 – Assault Complaint. 3 Males assaulted one male. No weapons.

12/1/2017 – Assault Complaint and 2 Arrests made. Two males assaulted a wheelchair bound man.

Perpetrators did resist arrest and kick officers on scene while attempting to be placed in handcuffs.

12/17/2017 – Felony Assault. Victim was slashed.

12/17/2017 – SLA – Disorderly Premise Summons Issued, as well as underage drinking.

1/1/2018 – Assault Complaint. Arrest made. Physical force used only.

1/1/2018 – Robbery Arrest made. Physical force used only.

3/18/2018 – Assault Complaint. Physical force used only.

5/26/2018 – Assault 3 Complaint. Physical force used only.

At this point, Board Member Georgina Oliver made a motion, seconded by Board Member Judith D'Andrea, to **approve** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 27 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

At this point, Board Member Judy D'Andrea brought up the news story about police officers promoting prostitution on Roosevelt Avenue.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero explained for Queens it was the 109 Police Precinct in Flushing. Seven officers from the 109 Precinct were arrested last year for accepting bribes. Roosevelt Avenue runs into Main Street, Flushing. This issue was brought up at the last meeting, but they did not want to talk about it said Public Safety Chair Schilero. She is getting many complaints about the prostitutes plus other problems. Since the matter is under investigation, it was not open for discussion. The 110 and 115 Precincts have not had any problems surface.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Consumer Affairs

No Report stated Committee Chair Georgina Oliver.

Environmental

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Health

No report stated Committee Chair Ashley Reed.

Parks

Committee Chair Gregory Spock reported members of the public can join the Committee. If you have a passion for parks and want to see improvements, please consider joining the Committee. To Committee members, he looks forward to working with the Committee.

Transportation

Committee Chair Louis Walker reported a meeting is planned for October 16.

Since Mr. Walker also serves as Chair of the Bylaw Committee, he noted the Bylaws will be completed by the end of the year. Most of the bylaws have been changed, he explained.

Board Member Georgina Oliver asked are the Committees and their mission and function being updated.

Committee Chair Louis Walker replied yes, in cooperation with the Board Chair and District Manager.

ULURP/ ZONING

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

YOUTH

Committee Chair Alexa Ponce invited all to the Board's upcoming Youth Fair on Saturday, October 6. This is the third year for the Youth Fair hosted by the Board. It will be at Hoffman Park. Please spread the word. Much is planned and it will be a fun filled event.

Before adjourning, Board Member Lucy Schilero said on hand was an updated version of the Hurricane Guide. Please take a copy.

There being no further business, Board Member Judy D'Andrea made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gigi Salvador, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.