



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown
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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Louis Walker
Chairperson

Sharon Lee
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

This meeting was streamed live.

November 12, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE

Board Members Attending:

Louis Walker
Chaio-Chung Chen
David Chong
Lynda Coral
Michelle Dunston
Marialena Giampino
Kristen Gonzalez
Vincent Laucella
Salvatore Lombardo
Sylvia Martin

Matthew McElroy
Ruby Muhammad
Alexandra Owens
Ashley Reed
Clara Salas
Lucy Schilero
A. Redd Sevilla
Alton Derrick Smith
Dewan Tarek
Marcello Testa
Rosa Wong

ATTENDING:

Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Christina Long, CB4 Community Assistant
Council Member Francisco Moya
Phiveline Solano, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Lissette Barcia, Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry's Office
Kelly Wu, Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office
Jennifer Diaz, Assembly Member Catalina Cruz's Office
Marcus Bedinger, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Office
Daniel, Assembly Member Brian Barnwell's Office
Jessica Schabowski, Mayor's Office
Crystal Wolfe, Catering For The Homeless
Mike Liquori, Commander VFW Post #150
Marta Lebreton, CB3Q/Community Resident
Jimmy Apostolatos
Kyla Dayer, CUNY School of Public Health
Saul Reyes, Baruch College
Giselle Burgess, Girl Scouts of Greater NY
Allie Gumas, NYC Department of Sanitation
Syed Hossan, Math Matters
Juliane Williams, Niiqua B. Faith Foundation
Patrick Jenkins, Resorts World Casino
Gianina Enrique, Queens Museum

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, November 12, 2019

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

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

Subject: FY 2021 Capital And Expense Priorities For Consideration and Approval By The Board For The FY21 Budget Adoption Process

1. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker announced to the Board Members read through the Budget Priorities and Requests.

The Capital priorities will be discussed first, which ends on Page 27. Following will be discussion on the Expense priorities.

Accordingly, Second Vice Chair Ashley Reed took attendance for the Public Hearing. A quorum was present.

Chair Walker called on the two people who signed up to speak at the hearing.

Marta Lebreton addressed the Board to discuss lighting. She wanted the Board to consider the request in the Capital and Expense budget.

Marta Lebreton explained there is a lack of lighting on Roosevelt Avenue on the Board 4 side. DOT completed Phase 1 where they installed the T-Formation, the arms extending onto the sidewalk and the lights under the train. The entire stretch that covers Board 4 is needed because it is still very dark there.

Also consider changing the lights under the #7 train because they give off glare to bicyclists, cars, and pedestrians. The Queens DOT Commissioner is aware of the problem. Support of the Board is needed for changing lights under the train, the bulbs, and for additional lighting for the sidewalks on the Board 4 side.

Next, Board Member Clara Salas addressed the Board. Looking through the Capital & Expense Priorities, something is lacking. First, no mention is made to a return of an opening of the Elmhurst Long Island Railroad. The money allocated for the Elmhurst Long Island Railroad should be included as per State Senator Stavisky's office. The request needs to be considered because residents that live in Elmhurst and Corona suffer daily going and returning from work on overcrowded subway platforms. The Long Island Railroad is needed to give another option to the residents of Elmhurst and Corona for transportation to Manhattan and other areas.

Accordingly, the Elmhurst Station at Queens Boulevard has not been accomplished. Mr. Nocerino had informed Ms. Salas the Borough President's Office is working on the matter. Board Member Clara Salas was optimistic we can see the effects by having those trees removed and whatever project has to be done to place it as a priority. Those items are very important and should be included in the report.

Staff Member Christina Long pointed out *Repair Or Upgrade Subway Stations Or Other Transit Infrastructure* is #40 on the Capital Budget Priorities.

Next, Board Member Lucy Schilero reported on Engine Company 289 located on 43 Avenue and 97 Street. For two years, the Board has been trying to get them an in-ground generator. The request has been placed in the Board's Capital Budget Priorities, and it still has not come to fruition. It was brought to the Borough President and still nothing has happened. It is urgent the Engine Company receives this generator and she would like to make it a priority. Also to be added to the priorities, which is not in the Capital Budget, the renovation of Engine Company 289. Many of the Engine companies are as old as the fire houses as well as many of the stations and other offices in the community. We are being ignored. Please add it to the Capital Budget as an upgrade is greatly needed.

Next, Chaio-Chung Chen spoke on #4 *Renovate Or Upgrade Existing Precinct Houses* stating six years have passed and nothing has been done. This is a very important budget request and essential to everyone for better police service. Additionally, he mentioned #7 *Provide A New Or Expanded Health Care Facility* – Elmhurst Hospital is very crowded and a new medical facility would benefit the area and accommodate more patients.

At this point, Chair Louis Walker called out for any other public speakers. Since there were none, the Public Hearing was closed. The Chair stated the Capital and Expense Budget Priorities would be voted on at the regular monthly meeting.

Community Board 4's monthly meeting immediately followed.

November 12, 2019

COMMUNITY BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Attending:

Louis Walker
Lucy Cerezo Scully
Chaio-Chung Chen
David Chong
Lynda Coral
Michelle Dunston
Kristen Gonzalez
Vincent Laucella
Salvatore Lombardo
Sylvia Martin
Matthew McElroy

Ruby Muhammad
Georgina Oliver
Alexandra Owens
Ashley Reed
Neil Roman
Clara Salas
Lucy Schilero
A. Redd Sevilla
Alton Derrick Smith
Dewan Tarek
Marcello Testa
Rosa Wong

Board Member Absent:

Karin Abreu
Priscilla Carrow
Erica Cruz
Aridia Espinal
Marialena Giampino
Jennifer Gutierrez
James Lisa
Patricia Martin
Rovenia McGowan
Edgar Moya
Sandra Munoz
Gurdip Singh Narula

Alexa Ponce
Rupinder Raj
Oscar Rios
Cristian Romero
Fernando Ruiz
Gregory Spock
Izaida Valcarcel
Damian Vargas
Minwen Yang

ATTENDING:

Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Christina Long, CB4 Community Assistant
Council Member Francisco Moya
Phiveline Solano, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Lissette Barcia, Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry's Office
Kelly Wu, Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office
Jennifer Diaz, Assembly Member Catalina Cruz's Office
Marcus Bedinger, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Office
Daniel, Assembly Member Brian Barnwell's Office
Jessica Schabowski, Mayor's Office
Crystal Wolfe, Catering For The Homeless
Mike Liquori, Commander VFW Post #150
Marta Lebreton, CB3Q/Community Resident
Jimmy Apostolatos
Kyla Dayer, CUNY School of Public Health
Saul Reyes, Baruch College
Giselle Burgess, Girl Scouts of Greater NY
Allie Gumas, NYC Department of Sanitation
Syed Hossan, Math Matters
Juliane Williams, Niiqua B. Faith Foundation
Patrick Jenkins, Resorts World Casino

Gianina Enrique, Queens Museum

Public Speaker's List

Giselle Burgess, 40 Wall Street, Girl Scouts of Greater New York, Troop 6000

Allie Gumas, 44 Beaver Street, NYC Department of Sanitation

Kyla Doyer, 45-23 45 Street, Student - CUNY School of Public Health

Gianina Enrique, Queens Museum

Chaio Chung-Chen, CB4 Board Member

Syed Hossan, Math Matters

Juliane. Williams, Niiqua B. Faith Foundation

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, November 12, 2019

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: VFW Post #150
51-11 108 Street
Corona, NY

- I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
- III. Second Vice Chairperson Ashley Reed took the attendance. A quorum was not present.
- IV. **VOTE:** Minutes October 7, 2019
Since a quorum was not present, no vote can be taken unless a quorum is present stated Chair Louis Walker.

V. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Louis Walker moved on to the Public Forum segment of the meeting.

VI. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Giselle Burgess, Program Manager, Troop 6000, Girl Scouts of Greater New York, which is solely for girls and women living in a New York City shelter system. In 2015 when she and her children became homeless, she began the troop and saw there was a great need for these girls, especially at that time in their lives. Just recently, a new troop has been opened at the Boulevard Family also known as Pan Am Hotel. She wanted all to know their presence is in the community and the first holiday meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 21. Eighty five girls will be joining the program and will go out to the community to give back.

If there is a need such as a park cleanup or other civic engagement they would like to be a part of the event. Information was left in the back. Volunteers are also being recruited. She noted they had started off in one shelter in Long Island City and now are in twenty shelters in the five boroughs.

Next, Allie Gumas, Outreach Coordinator, Dept. of Sanitation updated the Board on the seasonal fall leaf collection. The two collection dates to put leaves out in brown paper bags are November 23 and December 7 after 4 p.m. in unlined trash cans. This is a special collection for leaves and yard waste. All the material is taken to Staten Island which is a large compost facility where it is turned into compost. Dozens of free leaf bags were on hand for giveaway.

Next, Kyla Dayer, a student at CUNY School of Public Health advocated for Resolution 1024 asks for the SNAP program (Food Stamps) to be expanded to low income and CUNY and SUNY students regardless of how many hours worked outside of school. Current regulations are at least 20 hours per week must be worked in addition to attending school at least half time, which is not feasible. This would not give students enough time to get their work done. A recent survey found nearly half of CUNY students had expressed food insecurity within the past 30 days. Food insecurity means not having access to nutritious food or having to skip meals completely.

Next, Gianina Enrique, representative of the temporary committee of the Queens Museum invited all to their last event. Since they are very close with the library, she is an Early Learning Specialist at the library, concerns were brought up about Corona Plaza. In the plaza there are homeless and drunkards. The children are not safe. Many problems occur with the businesses too as the plaza is very dirty. Community input is needed.

Additionally, she reported on a program for mothers with babies which provides the opportunity for English classes. Next week 25 mothers will complete a 10-week course. This is an important program which the community can support.

She is also vice president of the Friends of Corona Library and is trying to talk with Council Member Moya but it is hard. More is needed to help the homeless. Police presence is absent, noting Corona Plaza is very unsafe.

Board Member Chaio Chung Chen surveyed the Board on city trees, including park and roadside trees. Are they healthy or not healthy? One response was healthy; another was not healthy. Mr. Chen's response was not healthy. Take a look at roadside trees where green mold is evident. The trees are infected. Set aside, acid rain, air pollution and chemicals as causes. As an example, he spoke about a tree in his yard. Trees need large spaces to grow to make them healthy. City agencies need to pay more attention to space for trees to raise enough oxygen to grow and be well.

Next, Daniel Suarez representing NYS Assembly Member Brian Barnwell's office will present his report under Report of the Legislators.

Next, Syed Hossan, an educator and entrepreneur who is head of an organization called Math Matters working with young students tutoring and mentoring. Children have different strengths and weaknesses and how to channel those qualities to become tech savvy. Programs have been initiated such as app, web and game development to become a robotics builder, which was just initiated. He is seeking an intellectual body or intern or any other comments to create a community based entrepreneurial hub in the district. Before he was an adjunct college professor and has now become an advocate for teen entrepreneurs to teach children and teenagers to divert their mission and visions not only on an academic focus but also on how to become an entrepreneur. All suggestions are welcomed.

Next, Marcus Bedinger will present his report under Report of the Legislators.

Next, Mrs. Williams, representative from the Niiqua B. Faith Foundation, which was established to honor the memory of Doniquecca Cooke a 21 year old college student who resided in the community and was killed by a reckless driver in a Porsche. The foundation learned about Community Board 4's drive to collect items for the homeless. Advocates for the homeless in New York City and internationally, she was present to donate boxes of canned items, toiletry, Depends, boxed soap, Pampers etc. in the memory of Doniquecca "Niqua" W. C. Cooke.

VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported on the FY2021 Needs Statement. He thanked the Community Board Members who helped out and whose assistance was invaluable. Those who worked on the Need Statement know how difficult and important the process is. The Community Board 4 staff was also thanked for their help to write the narratives in one day. Margaret and Christina wrote at least 1/3 of the narratives at a moment's notice.

Next, he spoke about staffing for Community Boards, which is #1 on the Expense Priorities. The Needs Statement, which is the most important documents we could produce, could not have been produced without the staff of Community Board 4.

Thank You to the City Council was given for the stipend to the Board's budget. The stipends worked out really great. However, the need is for staff. Now that we have the ability to create more: put more newsletters out, get more swag out, we need the staff. For that reason, Community Board staffing is one of the top items on the list this year.

Subsequently, he reported budget consultations ended the first week of October and the Needs Statement was due almost three weeks later, which did not give enough time. For many years, the city has been telling us they would give us full access to the document. Unfortunately, that is still not the case. Hopefully, by next year we will have access to the document all year round. As a result, at any given point if we see something, enter it into the system, and leave it instead of a frantic effort during the final weeks.

Following he spoke about the trees for Mr. Chen. #16 on the Expense Priority: *Provide Better Park Maintenance*
The large amount of parks within the district combined with the lack of proper personnel to maintain them continues to be a problem throughout the district. Requesting additional parks maintenance personnel. Parks Enforcement (PEP), foresters to meet current and future needs. Police barricades throughout the Park as well as the closure of the Queens Museum of Art during key events is a deterrent, and not a welcome to park goers.

He mentioned the pruning cycle which is now every five years instead of seven years. We are also trying to reduce that number even further. This item is listed on both the Capital and Expense budgets.

Next, District Manager Christian Cassagnol spoke about Catering for the Homeless. A guest speaker is present tonight with more information. To help out, Board 4 was collecting donations for the last month. Although the turnout was not too great, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) clears out many items from their supply, which this year happened to be toiletries. The number of toiletries given away is in the tens of thousands.

Reaching out to OEM, the District Manager has acted as a conduit for Catering for the Homeless. Confirming so far, there are 96,000 boxes of toothpaste, 40,000 hand sanitizers, baby wipes and more to be given away.

Next, he spoke about Corona Plaza. Community Board 4 has been working with Corona Plaza for some time now. Previously for several years, Corona Plaza was an actual street thoroughfare. The Community Board did have jurisdiction because there was no actual street closure involved. This means that any time an event was planned for the plaza, the approval process was no longer dealt with. In fact, jurisdiction is not the 110 Precinct but the 115 Precinct. He has met with the merchants and is still involved with the Plaza.

Corona Plaza is a complicated item because the city's jurisdiction of the Plaza is somewhat limited. DOT plays a big role as does QEDC.

Lastly, he reported interns will be working at the Board office as of January, 2020. We have reached out to LaGuardia Community College for help with staffing.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla complimented the format of the current Needs Statement.

VIII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Senate

Charles E. Schumer

No Report. No representative present.

Kristen Gilibrand

No Report. No representative present.

House of Representatives

Grace Meng

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Marcus Bedinger, Field Representative, gave a legislative update. Currently, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is in D.C, mentioning she was in town last week.

The Congresswoman has been in support of upholding the Oversight Committee, which is one of the committees that was tasked with investigating some of the allegations that were set forth in the whistle blower report. But after this vote, you will see that committee take more of a backseat and the Investigative Committee will take more of the public role going forward.

Last week, the Congresswoman was in the Pelham Bay area of the Bronx. A town hall meeting was held and the Congresswoman spoke about her package of legislation, A Just Society. The month before, the Congresswoman was in Lefrak City at a town hall to present her Bills.

Next, he spoke about the Green New Deal to establish a bold program moving forward around climate change and protecting the most vulnerable communities which are those representative of CB4 and around New York in District 14. Going forward, more actual Bills will be introduced with more on the Green New Deal.

Also, a Public Housing Bill will be introduced. More details will follow.

Newsletters were left in the back. If you wish to sign up for the Newsletter, he has a signup sheet available. Newsletters are printed quarterly, and you will also receive event updates. When the Congresswoman is hosting a Town Hall or mobile office hours, you will be notified through e-mail.

Lastly, in addition to his role as a field representative, he is a caseworker who handles issues with federal government agencies: such as Social Security, immigration, or federal student loans, etc. Please reach out to one of the community offices, he will be happy to assist you.

At this point, Board Chair Louis Walker called on Council Member Francisco Moya to address the Board.

Speaking about Corona Plaza, Council Member Moya reported he did an entire cleanup of the plaza with the ACE Program, Dept. of Sanitation, and business owners. The entire street and plaza was power washed; he personally power washed the street. It took about six hours to complete the job but more help is needed. Since those events are promoted to the community, the community's help is needed at those events, but there are no participants. Then it is heard no one is doing anything.

Council Member Moya reported \$180,000 has gone toward the ACE Program that is cleaning the streets, more garbage cans have been added to the area, noting a garbage can was placed in front of the plaza. Pickups are scheduled twice a day. But there is a lot of problems such as the agency responsible to manage the plaza. He has publicly asked them to give the Councilmember a list of who is registering to host events there, noting there are many event that are for profit, not free to the community, which is not the intent of the plaza.

Speaking about the drunkards and homeless, there is a homeless crises not only in the community but also in the City of New York. The Police cannot arrest them because it's no longer a part of what they can do and there is a human aspect to the problem. Largely immigrants who are away from their families, many have lost their jobs, and do not have anywhere to go so they turn to addiction or alcoholism. Breaking Ground is a program the Council Member has funded where on site staff go out into the community to talk to those individuals sleeping on the streets or in the parks. It's a problem because individuals cannot be forced into treatment. He spoke about holding the liquor stores and bars that are selling to those individuals accountable. If they do not have the ability to buy the liquor, it will change the way those individuals behave. Working with building a coalition of all city agencies that meet quarterly in the Council Member's office, such as Parks, DOT, NYPD, Consumer Affairs, and Health Dept. to eradicate the problem. Also if a liquor store's license is put in jeopardy it will be problematic for the owner and he will rethink selling alcohol to those individuals.

In this year's budget, close to \$40 million was added in park renovations and part of the funding included those individuals. Many complaints were received from the local schools and parents that children cannot be brought to the playgrounds because of this issue. Part of taking back our community is ensuring we have the right resources that come to the community. Crossing over the Horace Harding Expressway, you do not see the problems we have in our community such as garbage overflowing or flyers all over the utility poles. We deserve the same amount of resources that more affluent communities are receiving which is why agencies must be held accountable. Although Corona Plaza is a problem, he has done the cleanup and invested funding, but more community support is needed at cleanups and help is also needed from other people and to start talking about how that area can be cleaned up. The problem must be tackled together. When people see the community gathers together, it is seen as a deterrent.

Although it is much work it is because it is years of neglect. The problem cannot be turned around in a day. Also, it must be kept in mind those individuals have an addiction problems. So far, positive actions include renovating the parks, closing them at night, adding more park enforcement agents, and going after liquor and grocery stores selling alcohol to those individuals by fining those businesses. Also it was mentioned to hold agencies accountable to keep Corona Plaza clean and safe.

Next, Council Member Moya announced:

\$500,000 was given to the Lefrak Library in Capital Improvements. More programming will be brought in 3.5 to libraries all around In Queens. \$300,000 for a library mobile bus to go around the community as space is at a premium to expand our libraries. Let him know if you are interested in bringing the library bus to your area.

Council Member Moya's office has partnered with other groups to give away 1,000 turkeys on November 24 at Park of the Americas. Reaching out to churches that have needy families to distribute those turkeys. If you know of a group in partner with a food pantry, please let him know. Other Thanksgiving giveaways are planned throughout the district.

The STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) school is finally here which will house pre-k to third grade in the parking lot of the Hall of Science. The Pre-K Center is the first of its kind and will be very positive for our young children. STEAM is the jobs of the future and a \$2.4 billion industry, however, our children are not ready for it economically. Early education is vital and the goal was to get a Pre-K in our community and now it is here. A dedicated high school for STEAM is planned next. More announcements will be forthcoming.

Lastly, he announced the Immigration Clinic on November 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Immigration help will be offered at the clinic. Immigration lawyers are stationed in the Council Member's office twice a week if you cannot attend the clinic. Pick up the Council Member's Newsletter to see the accomplishments throughout the year for our district.

At this point, questions about the soccer team and Willets Point were presented to Council Member Moya by Board Member Clara Salas.

IX. VOTE: Minutes October 7, 2019

Board Member Clara Salas made a motion, seconded by Board Member Lucy Schilero, to **approve** the minutes.

Chair Walker called out if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 23 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

X. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS (continued)

NYS Assembly

Brian Barnwell

Daniel Suarez, Director of Special Projects, reported announced the following events for the month of November and early December:

Turkey Drive – Last day to donate only frozen turkeys is Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Mobile Pet Adoption – Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 12:00 Noon – 4:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Avenue & 61 Street.
Spread the word.

Free Legal Service – Monday, December 9, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Bulova Gardens, Woodside, NY
Topics include: housing, immigration, health care, disability, divorce. An appointment is required.
Spread the word.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker announced since he had to leave the meeting a vote must be taken on the FY2021 Capital and Expense Priorities. This is necessary because once he leaves there will not be a quorum for voting.

Board Member Lynda Coral made a correction to #48 on the Capital items – Repair or Construct New Curbs or Pedestrian Ramps, however, District Manager Cassagnol responded that item is under Continuing Support.

District Manager Cassagnol explained if you look at Priority #41 starts Continuing Support. While it is not an actual Capital item, it is listed under Continuing Support he further explained. More information was provided by the District Manager on the numbering of the priorities.

Board Member Lucy Schilero brought up the in-ground generator for Engine Company 289 and is also requesting the renovation of the fire station.

District Manager Cassagnol responded one of the Expense Priorities #23 is the renovation of the firehouses including Engine Company 289.

He also brought up community resident Marta Lebreton requested to add lighting and light bulbs on Roosevelt Avenue as well.

Subsequently a motion was taken to vote on the FY 2021 Capital and Expense Priorities.

Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Sylvia Martin, to **approve** the FY2021 Capital and Expense Priorities as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 23 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

XI. REPORT AND VOTE: Public Safety Committee

SLA Applications

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on November 6 and a quorum was not present.

She explained quality of life issues were brought up such Corona Avenue where people sleeping the streets, Mudanza trucks along Case & 90 Streets. One of the concerns is to get tow trucks to remove those huge trucks. The Police Department has very little tow trucks and Council Member Moya is trying to get a truck for the Board area. Meanwhile, the truck stays there and DOT has been called on to enforce ticketing.

Next she spoke about the homeless with the cold weather approaching. Code Blue is where the homeless is ordered to go off the street. Many of homeless are going into underground transit hubs because they do not want to go to shelters.

Subsequently, she spoke about vendors. Vendors are being ticketed after 9:00 p.m. There is a law that states if you are a vendor and you require a commercial vehicle, parked after 9:00 p.m. you no longer can stay at the location. Vendor trucks are moved elsewhere, but their personal cars are put in the space. By the next morning, the vending trucks are back again. Neighbors and storekeepers are complaining.

Talking about graffiti, much graffiti was cleaned up on 44th and 45th Avenues, from 104 Street to 111 Street. On 97th and 44th Avenue please see the wall. It is beautiful.

Subsequently, a Task Force will be formed on bodegas and illegal intoxication. More details will follow.

At this point, Public Chair Lucy Schilero presented the liquor license applications.

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES – November 2019

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
82-63 Bakery Corp. dba Blue Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	82-63 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	
Momentos Grill Bar & Rest. Corp. Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	41-07 99 Street Corona, NY	
Michelada House of NY Inc. Wine, Beer & Cider	43-24 91 Place Elmhurst, NY	
Atancho Ent. Inc. dba Orale Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	89-56 Elmhurst Avenue Elmhurst, NY	

Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero explained the first three New Applicants 82-63 Bakery Corp. dba Blue; Momentos Grill Bar & Rest. Corp., and Michelada House of NY Inc. are new establishments. There is a history of crimes in the location, but those businesses are not involved. Usually new people are not held accountable on the prior owner's record. Owners had attended the committee meeting and said they would adhere to the rules and regulations of the liquor license. In such cases, the committees votes to approve the application.

#4 Atancho Ent. Inc. dba Orale on the New Applicants is not ready to open yet because they have not received the Dept. of Buildings or the Fire Department clearances; the establishment is waiting on those clearances. However, the Committee decided if they can bring the paperwork showing they have been cleared by the Dept. Of Buildings and the Fire Dept., they will not need to come back.

It is a no vote somewhat to stop the process; they need their paperwork.

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
El Mordisco Sports Bar Corp. Wine, Beer & Cider	85-14 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	
Dom Music Box dba Caja Musical Wine, Beer & Cider	40-08 74 Street Elmhurst, NY	
Mitad Del Mundo Bar Rest. Corp. Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	104-10 Roosevelt Avenue Corona, NY	
Pollo y Mas Corp. da Tropic Pollo Wine, Beer & Cider	90-59 Corona Avenue Elmhurst, NY	

Speaking about El Mordisco Sports Bar has fourteen SLA violations.

Next, Dom Music Box dba Caia Musical has ten incidents with the 110 Precinct from 2018-2019.

Next, Mitad Del Mundo Bar have three incidences but they were handled very well by the proprietor. The precinct was asked what they thought about this location and responded there is nothing to worry about.

Next, Pollo y Mas Corp. da Tropic Pollo had no complaints.

CORPORATE CHANGE APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Playground Bar & Thai Rest. Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	71-30 Roosevelt Avenue	

From January 2018 to December 2018, there were many violations. However, they had changed their manager and system and for 2019, there were no incidents.

ALTERATION APPLICANTS

High Flying Birds dba Calibre 78 Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	78-14 Roosevelt Avenue #2 Jackson Heights, NY
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Although they requested a liquor license, they are out of the country and need to come back to the Committee.

Before the vote was taken, Board Member Georgina Oliver stated Code Blue is in force at Elmhurst Hospital; transients can walk into the hospital and receive food.

Since the committee did not have a quorum, it is very difficult to vote. Board Members are not attending committee meetings and it causes problems said Chair Lou Walker.

After discussion on the matter whether to take a vote or not, the consensus of the Board was to take the vote on the pending liquor licenses.

Once again, Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero reviewed the recommendations on each establishment before the vote was taken.

Subsequently, Board Member Georgina Oliver made a motion, seconded by Board Member Lucy Cerezo Scully, to **approve** the recommendation of the Public Safety Chair.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 23 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Since Board Member Lucy Schilero also serves as Board Treasurer, she provided the Board with an update on the Sunshine Fund. Collection for the fund will begin again in January 2020. A \$15 donation is requested. A printout will be given in January to see how the funds were spent for the year.

Since Board Chair Louis Walker left the meeting, Second Vice Chair Ashley Reed chaired the remainder of the meeting.

X. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS (continued)

NYS Assembly

Michael Den Dekker

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

Jeffrion Aubry

Lissette Barcia wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Catalina Cruz

Jennifer Diaz announced upcoming events:

Mobile Office Hours – Saturday November 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Corona Library
And Thursday, December 12 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Coat and Clothing Drive – Until December 16. Please bring items to the Assemblywoman's office at 41-40 Junction Blvd.

Partnering with Together We Can for a Youth event. Gingerbread Houses & Civics at the Assemblywoman's office on December 12, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Come to the event and spread the word.

NYS Senate

Michael Gianaris

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

Jessica Ramos

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

Toby Ann Stavisky

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

Office of the Mayor

Jessica Schabowski presented the following updates:

The new Pre-K school in Flushing Meadow-Corona Park is scheduled to open fall 2021. 300-seat with 17 pre-K classrooms which is part of the pre-K for all initiative. Once the school is constructed the transportable classroom units (TCU) seven trailers in use at PS 28, PS 16, and PS 7 will be eliminated resulting in more playground space for students.

Next with the recent time shift (Daylight Savings Time), DOT has started its fourth annual dusk and darkness campaign to promote wider awareness. Please be cautious of pedestrians and bicyclists while driving since it is now darker.

At this point, Board Member Matthew McElroy asked for more details on the pre-K school.

The school is pre-K with 300 seats and is a STEAM school (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) replied Jessica Schabowski.

NYC Council

Daniel Dromm

Kelly Wu reported announced the following upcoming events:

The Elmhurst Tree Lighting, December 5, 2019, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Veterans Grove. Flyers will be distributed.

Holiday Open House, Wednesday, December 8, 2019 – 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – at the Council Member’s District Office.

She also announced the holiday toy drive will commence soon. More details will follow.

Lastly, legal services are available at Council Member Dromm’s office twice per month and immigration issues once per month. Appointments are available. Please call the office to schedule an appointment at 718-803-6373.

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz

Joe Nocerino reported on the following:

Trees on Queens Boulevard – the Queens Borough President’s office is working on the issue. Parks Dept. doesn’t want to replace with trees. They are looking for an alternative whether it’s a plant etc., however, it is still being worked on. He will send an e-mail and get back to the District Manager.

Regarding the generator, Mr. Nocerino had sent a text to see if there was an update. Since there was none, he will follow-up.

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz in continuing her intern program for January announced college age students who want to intern as well as high school students during the school year for weekend events for community service hours will be accepted.

NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

No Report. Representative not in attendance.

XII. Guest Speaker: Crystal Wolfe - Catering For the Homeless Inc.

Crystal Wolfe, founder and president, of a nonprofit called Catering for the Homeless Inc. addressed the Board. The main mission of the organization is to utilize food excess from catering companies, restaurants, grocery stores and schools for the homeless and the poor.

Also, other services provided are toiletry drives partnering with legislators and civic associations. Community Board 4 had also contributed to the recent drive. She thanked all for participating in the current Toiletry Drive where 23 contributors were a part of this drive. Also, her organization provides clothing to the homeless by partnering with Good Will that has surpluses of clothes, and giving food to food pantries. There are about 100 partners in the network that she utilizes in many ways. The network includes churches, legislators, civic associations, and catering companies to serve the homeless population.

Additionally, she serves as an advocated to educate the community. To aid her in this capacity, she uses her comprehensive book on homelessness, *Our Invisible Neighbors: Accounts, Causes, and Solutions* to this epidemic. Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi was interviewed on his home stability support plan in addition to speaking with Assembly Member Brian Barnwell.

At this point a video on homelessness and the work her organization does was shown to the Board.

After the video presentation, Crystal Wolfe spoke about the homeless on the streets which is what we see. 70% of the homeless in New York are families; 40% are children. There are about 2.8 million children in this country which is the largest growing demographic of homelessness. One of the myths is that all homeless is addicts or mentally ill which is not the case. About 20% to 25% of the homeless are mentally ill. But also it is unfair to correlate mental illness with homeless. According to statistics from New York City, 41% of people housed in New York City are mentally ill. As a result, there are mentally ill that are homeless and mentally ill that have a home. It is not fair to correlate those two circumstances.

Another myth of homeless is those individuals are all criminals. Clearly, it is not true when most of homeless is children and families and the leading cause is domestic violence, poverty, and affordable housing. Referencing her book, Crystal Wolfe said there are hundreds of sources to help the homeless that she had researched to make the community aware that so many community fears are unfounded. All were invited to work on solutions together.

In fact, homeless is the result of problems that have been ignored for decades. Affordable housing and domestic violence is getting worse and worse. Laws are desperately needed to protect citizens at risk. Poverty, homeless, and domestic violence affect every person, demographic, age, and gender. Homelessness will get worse unless the problems are solved.

Following she mentioned Senator Joseph Addabbo passed a food law, which is on her website, from pre-k to the university level in New York City and State to donate food excess to non-profit organizations who can distribute and recycle what they cannot give out. In the last two years about 100 schools were contacted and it was discovered schools are not likely to comply with the new law. A petition to the DOE was on hand and she will also be speaking at education meetings.

Before concluding, Crystal Wolfe took questions from the Board.

Second Vice Chair Ashley Reed stated in the Board's Capital and Expense priorities, additional funding for the housing voucher program and more funding for street outreach was requested.

XIII. Committee Reports

Consumer Affairs

Chair Alexandra Owens reported the first meeting was held last month. Former Committee Chair Georgina Oliver was thanked for her past leadership on the committee. She had been meeting with the local cbo's and will continue to do so.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, going forward the committee will meet the third Thursday of the month.

Environmental

No Report.

Health

Committee Chair Ashley Reed thanked Crystal Wolfe for her presentation at tonight's meeting. Thank you was extended to all who donated and more supplies will come from OEM.

November is National Diabetes Awareness month. To bring attention to diabetes and emphasis on childhood diabetes, a forum is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, at 6:00 p.m., at the Lefrak City Library. The Health Committee is partnering with the Friends of the Lefrak City Library, the Corona Ambulance, and also the Lion's Club. All were invited to attend. Flyers in the back.

District Manager Cassagnol added CB4 will be tabling. If you would like to come out and help, please do so.

Parks

No Report.

Transportation

District Manager Cassagnol reported he had received a business card from a representative from Resorts World Casino explaining there is a minor issue with the Resorts Casino buses parking along Broadway directly in front of CC Moore Park.

ULURP/Zoning

Committee Chair Alton Derrick Smith reported a meeting is scheduled for next month.

Youth

No Report.

As there was no further business, Board Member Lucy Cerezo Scully made a motion, seconded by Board Member Clara Salas, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.