



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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Sherry Algreto, Chairperson * James S. McClelland, District Manager * Donovan Richards Jr., Borough President

JUNE 11, 2024 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

QUEENS BOROUGH HALL, 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD, ROOM 213, KEW GARDENS, NY 11424

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENCES AS OF APRIL 2024-MARCH 2025

2nd # Represents Absences as of January-December 2024 (Borough President's Attendance)

Inderpaul Ahluwalia	(0)(0)	Ruben Cruz	(2)(3)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Marilyn Custodio	(1)(1)	Cristal Rivera	(1)(1)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Juan Batista II	(2)(2)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Himmat Singh	(0)(0)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(1)(3)	Stephen Esposito	(1)(1)	Jarnail Singh	(2)(2)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(1)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Mohinder Singh	(2)(5)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(1)(1)	Victor Starsky	(0)(1)
Visnoonand Bisram	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(0)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Alicia Hassin	(1)(1)	Andrew Taranto	(0)(0)
Swapam Chakraborty	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(1)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Rick Chetram	(0)(0)	Carmela Isabella	(0)(0)	Stacey Yearwood	(0)(0)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(0)(0)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrea Crawford	(1)(1)	Sassy Ramoutar	(3)(4)	Ragbir Singh	(1)(2)
Christian Orellana	(3)(3)	Jonathan Rodriguez	(1)(1)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(1)(1)
Tiffanie Placeres	(3)(4)	Mohamed Safie	(2)(3)	Marie Turley	(3)(5)
Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(1)(2)	Matthew Singh	(1)(2)		

ALSO PRESENT

James McClelland, District Manager
 Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Melinda Katz, Queens District Attorney
 Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melida Katz
 Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola
 Ariella Davidov, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
 Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
 Daiquan Llewellyn, Rep. Senator Leroy Comrie
 Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin
 Narris Johns, Rep. Public Advocate Letitia James
 Tanbar Chowdhury, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
 Jonathan Betancourt, Rep. Congress Member Nidia Velazquez
 Deputy Inspector Jeremy Kivlin, Commanding Officer, 102nd Pct.
 PO Nick Salamone, 102nd Pct.

1. OPENING OF MEETING AND READING OF MINUTES

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to May 14th, 2024 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Steve Forte motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Joan DeCamp seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented
Vote # 1: 32 in favor and 6 abstentions

2. Chairperson's Remarks & Exec. Report–Sherry Algreto, District Manager's Report- James McClelland

Chair Algreto reported on the items that were discussed at the June 10th, 2024 Borough Board meeting, She also made an announcement regarding the resignation of CB9 member, Mr. Reaz Khan.

Chair Algreto wished all a happy and safe summer.

DM McClelland wished Happy Birthday to Inderpaul Ahluwalia, Visnoonand Bisram, and Christian Orellana. He also reported on the following:

- Met with the other District Managers to discuss budget consultations for various city agencies.
- Stated that they are in the process of formulating a line of questions for about 14 different agencies regarding budgeting, staffing, programs, and services for our future budget meetings.
- DM McClelland stated that the office will continue to operate during the summer assisting board members and resolving constituent complaints. He wished everyone a happy and healthy summer.

3. Guest Speaker – Melinda Katz, Queens District Attorney

DA Katz addressed the board and gave a brief report on various crimes/incidents that recently occurred in Queens.

She spoke on the following topics:

- Unlawful occupancy/squatter situation
- Crackdown on illegal scooters
- Hate crimes
- Illegal cannabis shops
- Deadly Driving Bill
- Multiple various scams
- ACRIS Guide to register for alerts to guard against deed fraud.

Question and answer period followed.

4. NYPD 102nd Pct. Briefing

Deputy Inspector Jeremy Kivlin, 102nd Pct. Commanding Officer, stated that crime is down 4% year to date and 14% for the last 28 days in the Community Board 9 area. DI Kivlin reported on the following:

- Sixteen illegal smoke shops in the CB9 area have been shut down.
- A special enforcement team was formed to address various quality of life issues i.e., robberies, drinking on the street, noise, etc., on Jamaica Avenue.
- A murder suicide, domestic violence related, occurred this past week on 111th Street, south of Atlantic Avenue.
- PO Salamone stated that The National Night Out Against Crime annual event will take place on Tuesday, August 6th, 2024 at the Victory Field.

Question and answer period followed.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Sol McCants III, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about African American Veterans and their role in the victory

of World War II. Mr. McCants named a few books that are about this part of American history.

Carol King, Kew Gardens Resident, spoke about the need for accessible ramps at Overlook Park. DM McClelland stated that the issue was brought up at this year's budget consultations.

Carmela Isabella, Woodhaven Resident, spoke about the City of Yes Housing Opportunity and stated that she hopes that Council Member Lynn Schulman will be addressing the board regarding this.

Martin Colberg, WRBA President, urged board members to oppose the City of Yes – Housing Opportunity initiative as it will impact the neighborhoods' quality of life.

6. Education & Youth Services Committee Report – Alexandria Sumpter-Delves & Seth Welins, Co-Chairs

Alexandria Sumpter-Delves reported on the topics that were discussed at the Committee meeting and thanked committee members for their involvement and help at several events at P.S. 97, 62 and 161.

She stated that a Family Enrichment Center will be opening this month at 111-20 Jamaica Avenue in Richmond Hill and introduced Mr. Herman Cortes, DEC Director of Martin De Porres Youth & Family Services.

Mr. Cortes and Ms. Williams gave a brief presentation regarding the goals of FECs and their role in the community. Ms. Williams stated that they identify strengths, co-design programs, and create a nurturing environment where families come together to connect, contribute, and find the support they need.

7. Land Use & Housing Committee Report – Sylvia Hack & Andrew Taranto, Co-Chairs

➤ CB9 Resolution on City of Yes – Housing Opportunity

Sylvia Hack made a motion to approve CB9 Land Use & Housing Committee's Resolution to oppose the City of Yes-Housing Opportunity initiative. Carmela Isabella seconded the motion.

Motion #2: To approve CB9 Land Use & Housing Committee's Resolution **to oppose** the City of Yes-Housing Opportunity initiative

Vote#2: 36 in favor and 2 abstentions

Chair Algreto asked legislative representatives to address the board and give brief updates.

8. Transportation & Traffic Committee – Faiuze Ali, Chair

Chair Algreto spoke about the Transportation & Traffic Committee letter of opposition to congestion pricing.

Joan DeCamp made a motion to approve the letter of opposition. Joe laboni seconded the motion.

Motion #3: To approve CB9 Transportation & Traffic Committee's letter **to oppose** congestion pricing

Vote #3: 33 in favor, 4 opposed and 1 abstention

9. Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Report/Public Hearing (Letters of Intent Received) Albert Gamarra, Chair

a. On-Prémisses Liquor License Application Renewal

8522 Jamaica Avenue Corp., d/b/a Pop's Restaurant
85-22 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

Rancho Tequila Inc., d/b/a Rancho
105-13 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

b. On Premises Wine, Beer & Cider License Application – Renewal

Tauros Bar & Restaurant Corp., d/b/a Tauros Bar & Restaurant
102-10 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

c. Method of Opération Change

Flor A. Garcia, d/b/a El Rinconcito De Nagua
76-20 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

No speakers

8522 Jamaica Avenue Corp., d/b/a Pop's Restaurant
85-22 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421

No speakers

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting is TBA.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

DM McClelland spoke about the DOT's Outdoor Dining Program and stated that it will allow restaurant owners to legalize their outdoor dining. The information is available at diningoutnyc.com.

Kirpal Billing urged board members to contribute to the Good and Welfare Fund.

Chair Algreto notified the board about fellow member Mohamed Safie's son poor health condition.

Seth Welins, on behalf of the board, thanked Chair Algreto, DM McClelland and the office staff for their hard work.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers.

Joe Iaboni made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ruben Cruz seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:07 PM.