

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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



NOVEMBER 12, 2024 MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
QUEENS BOROUGH HALL, 120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD, ROOM 200, 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)	Andrea Crawford	(2)(2)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Ruben Cruz	(2)(3)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(2)(3)
Faiuze Ali	(1)(1)	Marilyn Custodio	(1)(1)	Cristal Rivera	(2)(2)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(1)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Kirpal Billing	(1)(1)	Warlito DeLeon	(1)(1)	Matthew Singh	(3)(4)
Visnoonand Bisram	(0)(0)	Stephen Forte	(1)(1)	Raghibir Singh	(1)(2)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(1)(1)	Andrew Taranto	(1)(1)
John Carter	(1)(1)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(1)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Swapan Chakraborty	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Stacey Yearwood	(0)(0)
Rick Chetram	(0)(0)	Alicia Hassin	(2)(2)		
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Nina Kulkarni	(1)(1)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Kamal Bhuiyan	(4)(6)	Sassy Ramoutar	(5)(6)	Mohinder Singh	(4)(7)
Stephen Esposito	(2)(2)	Jonathan Rodriguez	(3)(3)	Victor Starsky	(2)(3)
Joseph Iaboni	(1)(2)	Mohamed Safie	(5)(6)	J. Richard Smith	(2)(2)
Carmela Isabella	(2)(2)	Himmat Singh	(2)(2)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(1)(1)
Christian Orellana	(5)(5)	Jarnail Singh	(4)(4)	Esta-Joy Sydell	(2)(2)

ALSO PRESENT

James McClelland, District Manager
Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Ann Marie Costella, Rep. Senator Joe Addabbo
Ariella Davidoff, Rep. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
Anna Sargeant, Rep. Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar
Rokeya Akhtar, Rep. Queens District Attorney Melida Katz
Linda Fogal, Rep. Council Member Joan Ariola
DI Jeromy Kivlin, 102nd Pct.
PO Scott Adelman, 102nd Pct.
Joe Ottomanelli, DSNY
Anthony Lemma, Rep. Assembly Member David Weprin

1. Opening of Meeting and Reading of Minutes

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to October 8th, 2024, meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Ruben Cruz motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Andrea Crawford seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented

Vote # 1: 22 in favor and 9 abstentions

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

Chair Algreto held a special ceremony to salute the Veterans with the help of Scout Troop 177.

DM McClelland wished Happy Birthday to Marilyn Custodio, Albert Gamarra, Mohamed Safie and Raghbir Singh.

➤ **FY2026 Capital & Expense Budget Priorities**

Andrea Crawford made a motion to accept FY26 Capital & Expense Budget Priorities; Joan DeCamp seconded the motion.

Motion # 2: To accept CB9Q Capital & Expense Budget Priorities FY26

Vote # 2: Unanimous

DM McClelland stated that it will be submitted to the Department of City Planning by Friday.

3. Public Forum – speakers will voice their opinions and concerns during the Land Use & Housing Committee report.

4. Education & Youth Services Committee Report, Alexandria Sumpter-Deles & Seth Welins, Co-Chairs

- Mr. Welins attended the meeting at Queens BP's office where Queens Public Library representatives gave a presentation regarding some of their current projects.
- The education committee will wait until the new year to see if the Richmond Hill Library renovation project will be approved by the DDC, as promised by officials of QPL. If it is not approved, then we can send a second request to the Comptroller's office for an audit of this project.
- Spoke about eligibility requirements for student OMNY cards.
- Daniel Chu spoke about the possibility of leasing a building adjacent to PS 99 annex for school expansion.

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

➤ **ULURP No. C250047MMQ**

Sylvia Hack stated that on November 6th, 2024, CB9 held a public hearing for the proposed Metropolitan Park ULURP Application C250047MMQ, a city map amendment and a zoning map amendment on city-owned property. The proposal is to facilitate a new 3.7 million square foot mixed-use development including a gaming facility, music hall, hotel, convention space, parking and other amenities in Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

Approximately 100 people attended the hearing and those who testified were in support of the Application. Therefore, the Land Use & Housing Committee is recommending that CB9 votes in support of the proposed Metro Park ULURP Application

Co-Chair Hack pointed out that the proposal requires one of three state casino licenses expected to be awarded downstate by the end of 2025.

Chair Algreto gave the floor to those who signed up to speak at Public Forum regarding this issue.

Rebecca Pryor, Executive Director of The Guardians of Flushing Bay, stated that as representatives of the communities directly impacted by this massive public land giveaway, they are calling on the Community Board to vote No, or No, unless modified to include the following modifications in their vote:

1. Stop a 78-acre, likely tax-free public parkland giveaway.
2. Prohibit a casino on the parkland adjacent to Citi Field
3. Invest in public parkland, in alignment with the Phoenix Meadows Vision Plan.
4. Protect Communities from displacement.
5. Demand a transparent and robust community benefits agreement (testimony submitted)

Costa Constantinides, Variety Boys & Girls Club, spoke in favor of the Metro Park proposal application stating that it will benefit the economy of the Borough of Queens in many ways.

Tom Grech, Queens Chamber of Commerce, spoke in favor of the Metro Park proposal application stating that this project will create twenty thousand new jobs and many other benefits for Queens residents.

Ashley Lin, Korean American Family Service Center, stated that she represents a not-for-profit organization that is committed to prevent and end domestic violence, sexual assault, and relationship abuse, overall to create a violence-free society. Her organization supports the Metro Park proposal.

Robert Dorsky, Flushing Business Owner, spoke in favor of the Metro Park proposal.

Erica Ford, Queens Resident, encouraged all to believe in expansion and to see the vision of why we need to grow as a community.

Co-Chair Andrew Taranto made a motion to approve, Stacey Yearwood seconded the motion.

Motion #3: To support the proposed Metropolitan Park ULURP Application No. C250047MMQ

Vote #3: 27 in favor, 3 opposed and 1 abstention

6. Transportation & Traffic Committee Updates – Faiuze Ali, Chair

- ***Resolution Endorsing the Co-Naming of 117th Street & Myrtle Avenue as Alfie’s Way in honor of Alfie’s Pizzeria owner Alfio Muto***

Faiuze Ali made a motion to support committee’s resolution, Regina Santoro seconded it.

Motion #4: To support resolution endorsing the co-naming of 117th Street & Myrtle Ave as Alfie’s Way in honor of Alfie’s Pizzeria owner Alfio Muto

Vote #4: Unanimous

- ***Resolution Endorsing the Co-Naming of 114th Street & 101st Avenue as Guru Tegh Bahadur Marg Ji***

Ruben Cruz made a motion to support committee’s resolution, Inderpaul Ahluwalia seconded it.

Motion #5: To support resolution endorsing the co-naming of 114th Street & 101st Ave as Guru Tegh Bahadur Marg Ji

Vote #5: Unanimous

7. NYPD 102nd Pct. Briefing

Deputy Inspector Jeromy Kivlin, 102nd Pct. reported on the crime stats stating that overall crime is down by 32.5% in every category for the last 28 days and 8.5% year to date. There was 5% increase in grand larceny.

Officers continue to work very hard to resolve quality of life issues.

DI Kivlin stated that documenting Level 1 encounters, which are stops where they request information from civilians, as part of the How Many Stops Act, does not affect their responses to assignments and overall policing. It is a very short form which is being processed during their overtime hours.

DI Kivlin stated that the harassment complaint submitted by Chair Algreto will be addressed.

Question and answer period followed.

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

a. On-Prémisses Liquor License Application - Renewal

La Negra Restaurant Corp., d/b/a La Cocina de Alex Café Bar & Lounge
102-03 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

No speakers

A letter of no opposition to liquor license renewal will be sent out.

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee Zoom meeting is on Tuesday, November 26th at 6:30 PM.

Chair Algreto acknowledged the legislative representatives who gave their updates.

Joe Ottomanelli, DSNY spoke about residential containerization and increase in commercial fines.

- Beginning November 12, 2024, all properties with 1-9 residential units will be required to use bins (55 gallons or less), with secure lids to set out trash.
- A compliant bin can be used (55 gallons or less with a secure lid) that is already in possession, but starting June 2026, an Official NYC Bin must be used.
- NYC Bins are available to order for recycling and composting, although they are not required. Compost must be set out in bins (55 gallons or less) with secure lids.

9. Board Member Attendance

Chair Algreto reported on Executive Committee's decision to remove board member Christian Orellana from the board for non- attendance.

Motion #6: To support Executive Committee's decision to remove Christian Orellana from the board for no attendance

Vote #6: Unanimous

10. Old/New Business

Kevin O'Leary liked the idea of name plates with Board Members names.

Joan DeCamp thanked Chair Algreto for providing chocolate covered strawberries.

Cristal Rivera thanked CB9 for providing candies for one of the PS 66 events and spoke about Treat or Street initiative.

Chair Algreto added that CB9 also sponsored events at PS64 and PS56.

John Carter commented on tallying Board Members attendance and the enforcement of turning on cameras during Zoom meetings.

Ruben Cruz expressed his appreciation to CB9 for organizing Fire Safety Forum.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers.

Cristal Rivera made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Andrea Crawford seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 9:04 PM.