



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

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

SEPTEMBER 10, 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)	Joan DeCamp	(0)(0)	Jonathan Rodriguez	(1)(1)
Sherry Algreto	(0)(0)	Warlito DeLeon	(0)(0)	Regina Santoro	(1)(1)
Faiuze Ali	(0)(0)	Stephen Esposito	(1)(1)	Himmat Singh	(0)(0)
Dulal Bhattacharjee	(0)(1)	Stephen Forte	(0)(0)	Jarnail Singh	(2)(2)
Kirpal Billing	(0)(0)	Albert Gamarra	(1)(1)	Mohinder Singh	(2)(5)
Visnoonand Bisram	(0)(0)	Daniel Grieve	(1)(1)	Raghbir Singh	(1)(2)
Zoila Bofill	(0)(0)	Sylvia Hack	(0)(0)	Victor Starsky	(0)(1)
John Carter	(0)(0)	Alicia Hassin	(1)(1)	J. Richard Smith	(0)(0)
Swapan Chakraborty	(0)(0)	Joseph Iaboni	(0)(1)	Alexandria Sumpter-Delves	(0)(0)
Rick Chetram	(0)(0)	Carmela Isabella	(0)(0)	Esta-Joy Sydel	(1)(1)
Daniel Chu	(0)(0)	Kevin O'Leary	(0)(0)	Seth Welins	(0)(0)
Ruben Cruz	(2)(3)	Rabbi Daniel Pollack	(1)(2)	Stacey Yearwood	(0)(0)
Marilyn Custodio	(1)(1)	Sassy Ramoutar	(3)(4)		

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Juan Batista II	(3)(3)	Christian Orellana	(4)(4)	Matthew Singh	(2)(3)
Kamal Bhuiyan	(2)(4)	Tiffanie Placeres	(4)(5)	Andrew Taranto	(1)(1)
Andrea Crawford	(2)(2)	Cristal Rivera	(2)(2)		
Nina Kulkarni	(1)(1)	Mohamed Safie	(3)(4)		

ALSO PRESENT

James McClelland, District Manager
Irina Barayeva, Community Associate

LEGISLATORS/REPRESENTATIVES, CITY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

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

1. Tribute To Marie Turley, A Board Member Of 35 Years, Who Recently Passed Away

Chair Algreto started the meeting by reading a poem that she dedicated to Marie Turley, a fellow board member who recently passed away. She asked Ruben Cruz to sing two verses of 'Amazing Grace' to commemorate her memory and the memory of 102nd Pct. Police Officer Emilia Rennhack who lost her life while off duty.

The board took a minute of silence to remember the victims of the September 11th attack.

Chief Kevin Williams, Queens Borough South Commander, addressed the board stating the following:

- Since the beginning of summer, 140 index crimes were up for the Queens Borough South region. Currently, only 30 index crimes are up. He commended 102nd Pct. Deputy Inspector Kivlin and his officers for addressing quality of life concerns and bringing crimes down during the summer.
- Chief Williams addressed the issue of smoke shops, stating that the NYPD has teamed up with the Sheriff's Office and is taking a more aggressive approach. Over 150 shops were shut down as a result.

Council Member Schulman addressed the board reporting on the following:

- Richmond Hill High School will receive \$5M for a Culinary Kitchen Program. This will allow the students to work in the hospitality industry and to become culinary chefs. A number of other schools received money for different purposes, i.e., auditorium, gym and air conditioning system upgrades, etc. The info can be found at www.council.nyc.gov/budget.
- The following locations, 80th Rd & Park Lane and Park Lane & Park Lane South will be converted to handicap accessible this weekend.
- Made announcements about upcoming and past events in the district.

Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar spoke about various issues, including shutting down illegal smoke shops, plans to deal with problems with e-bikes, etc.

2. Opening of Meeting and Reading of Minutes

Chair Algreto asked if there were any corrections/additions to June 11th, 2024 meeting minutes and motions. There were none. Steve Esposito motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Rabbi Daniel Pollack seconded the motion.

Motion # 1: To adopt minutes as presented

Vote # 1: 33 in favor and 5 abstentions

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

Chair Algreto reported on the items that were discussed at the September 9th, 2024 Borough Board meeting. She also spoke about all the events that the board participated in over the summer.

DM McClelland wished Happy Birthday to Joan DeCamp, Alicia Hassin, Joe Iaboni, Nina Kulkarni, Kevin O'Leary, Alexandria Sumpter-Delves, Rich Chetram, Jonathan Rodriguez, Warlito DeLeon and EJ Sydell. He reported on the following:

- Budget consultations with city agencies will be starting shortly. An email will be sent requesting that board members submit Capital/Expense Budget project ideas for the next fiscal year. Local civic groups and schools will also be contacted for their suggestions. The deadline for submission is November 8th. The Board will take a vote on November 12th.
- The District Manager thanked NYPD, DSNY & and the Department of Homeless Services for completing three homeless outreach and cleanup today: at Hillside Ave & Bessemer Street, Van Wyc Triangle & Jamaica Ave and at the Stop & Shop Parking Lot.

4. Public Forum

Sol McCants, Richmond Hill Resident, spoke about public libraries and metro card fare collection machines (testimony submitted).

5. NYPD 102nd Pct. Briefing

Deputy Inspector Jeremy Kivlin, 102nd Pct. Commanding Officer, reported on the crime stats stating that overall crime is down 8.5% for the last 28 days and 22% year to date.

He also spoke about the YCO (Youth Coordination Officers) program. The YCOs focus on the challenges facing young New Yorkers as they mature into young adults.

6. Health & Social Services Committee Report – Carmela Isabella, Chair

Ms. Isabella stated that the Health and Social Services Committee did not meet due to technical difficulties. Therefore, she distributed some documents regarding suicide, recovery and domestic violence.

She stated that September is Suicide Awareness and Recovery Awareness month, and October is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

October is also Breast Cancer Awareness month and there will be several events going on within the confines of our community board that will also be shared with the board.

The new covid vaccine will be available soon and you can search NYC Vaccine Finder by clicking <https://vaccinfinder.nyc.gov/> or by contacting your provider.

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

Mr. Ali stated that the committee will meet at the end of the month.

He explained the difference between OMNI and Metro cards for students.

8. Parks & Recreation & Environment Committee Updates – J. Richard Smith, made an announcement about the Veteran Square Street Co-Naming that will take place on Saturday, September 21st at 11 AM at the corner of Rockaway Boulevard and Eldert Lane.

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

a. On-Prémisses Liquor License Application New

La Bestia Bar Corporation
111-15 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

Motion #2: To oppose the application due to proximity to four establishments
Vote#2: Unanimous

Homemade Taqueria Corp.
80-60 Lefferts Boulevard
Kew Gardens, NY 11415 *No speakers*

Motion #3: Not to oppose the new liquor license application
Vote#3: 37 in favor and 1 abstention

b. On Premises Liquor License Application – Renewal

Aristokrat Corp., d/b/a Oilgarchy
80-60 Lefferts Boulevard
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

La Cocinita Tex-Mex Corp.
112-10 Jamaica Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11418 *No speakers*

SAAK Imperio Corp., d/b/a El Rey IV Billiards Steak House & Restaurant
75-16 Rockaway Boulevard
Woodhaven, NY 11421 *No speakers*

The next Public Safety & Consumer Affairs Committee meeting is on Tuesday, September 24th at 6:30 PM.

DM McClelland stated that the Public Safety Committee is revising its policy requiring all restaurants to sign a stipulation to stop serving alcohol at 1 AM. This "standard" policy for restaurants was perceived by some as unfair to these establishments because the state law requires that alcohol cannot be served between the hours of 4 AM – 8 AM Monday through Friday and 4 AM – 10 AM on Sundays.

Moving forward the stipulation may be imposed on a case-by-case basis if the establishment is in close proximity to residences.

10. Updates from August 1st Public Safety Townhall

Albert Gamarra reported on the highlights from CB9's first Public Safety Townhall, i.e., safety around schools, etc.

He commended CB9 Chair's idea for members of this community to have a Forum with those who can address those issues.

Chair Algreto acknowledged the legislative representatives who gave their updates.

11. Old/New Business

Chair Algreto made an announcement regarding upcoming events in CB9.

Joan DeCamp reminded all regarding the Richmond Hill Block Association meeting taking place on 9/28/2024.

John Carter would like to hear public voices addressing the Borough Based Jails project and crisis in Rikers Island as well as potential new Casino sites in NYC.

Regina Santoro invited all to Alphie's Pizza 50th Anniversary Celebration that will take place on Sunday, September 15th, 3-6 PM.

EJ Sydell invited all to the event at the Overlook Barking Lot on 10/26/2024.

Victor Starsky expressed his concern regarding elected officials' support of the City of Yes despite the boards opposition.

12. PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers.

Joe Iaboni made a motion to adjourn the meeting, J. Richard Smith seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:20 PM.