



Community Board 12

The City of New York

Borough of Queens

Jamaica, Hollis, St. Albans, South Ozone Park, and Springfield Gardens

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Melinda Katz
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Adrienne Adams
CHAIRPERSON

Vicky Morales Casella
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, QUEENS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017

MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

- I. PRESIDING: Adrienne E. Adams, Chairperson
- II. PRESENT: Adrienne E. Adams
Melvin Artis
Nigel Barker
Jacqueline Boyce
Maxine Brannon
Geraldine Taylor-Brown
Kenneth Carter
Manuel Caughman
Barbara Duncan
D. Alexandra Dyer
Daniel Englander
Patrick Evans
Mabel Everett
Nadi Ghaness
Thomas Greenaway
Dora Griszell
Ian Harris
Calvin Hewitt
Rene Cheatham-Hill
Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs
Celeste James
Clementine James
Michele Keller

Margaret Kirkland
Michelle Kirkland
Gregory Mays
Tunisia Morrison
Maurice Muir
Kemar Newman
Rodney Pride
Kamal Saleem
Luc El-Art Severe
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
Toni Totten
Bryan White
ABSENT: David Bucknor
Mary A. Childs
Joan Flowers
Glenn Greenidge
James Heyliger
Richard Hogan
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson
Bilal Karriem
Edward McKay, 1st Vice Chairperson
Yvette Sledge
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Benjamin Wright, Jr., Treasurer

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

As we move into warmer months, we gratefully welcome the milder temperatures and we pray for mild temperaments. As the mercury rises during June, July and August, and in the face of sheer randomness, I sincerely hope that cool heads prevail in our community. As I've said in the past, as a community, we must take responsibility for our share of neglect, fear and understanding when it comes to our youth. Some of us still believe that there are more Black males in prison than in college – this is simply not true. Summer is coming. Our youngsters are already restless. Where is the increase of recreational centers so desperately needed and the necessary after care programs for working parents? We have watched the decline of resources for our youth over the years contribute to their disobedience, depression and disorder. It's time for all of us to do our part for the youth in our community-from mentoring to reading programs to brotherhood and sisterhood organizations. Our youth need us now more than ever, and we must not let them down.

In the words of Frederick Douglass, *"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."*

*The Chair's full report was provided to all members and is on file at CB 12's District Office

V. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

For the month of April, 2017, 424 (311) calls were made regarding sewer back up, 128 service line leaks. April 27, 2017 Emergency Sewer Repair, Project SEC-200045 – Rockaway Blvd and

140th St. May 5, 2017 Emergency Sewer Repair, Project SEQ-201-B58 – 201 St between 115th and 116th Ave

Proposed Reconstruction of Water Main, the following are (DEP) Department of Environmental Protection projects in the following areas:

- 168th Street between Jamaica and Liberty Avenue
- Douglas Ave between Merrick Boulevard and 170th Street
- Merrick Boulevard between Jamaica Avenue and Archer Avenue
- 165th Street between Jamaica and Archer Avenue

The contractor will be in the area for one month.

*The DM's full report was provided to all members and is on file at CB 12's District Office

Motion to open the Business Session was made by Calvin Hewitt, seconded by Florence Simmons, the motion passed.

Acknowledgements of Elected Officials and their Representatives was made by the Chairperson

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

John Rothman, LLC states that Dallas Barbecues seeks a favorable recommendation from the Board to operate an unenclosed side walk café at 89-14 Parsons Boulevard, which is located on the southwest corner of Parsons Blvd. and 89th Ave. The proposed café will be located only on the 89th Ave side. The sidewalk on 89th Ave is extremely wide already, it is around 25 ft.; they propose to place tables and chairs at the site. Dallas Barbecue operates other sidewalk cafes in the city which has been very successful.

Alan J. Sigman, LLC states the applicant, Thomasina's Catering Hall located at 205-35 Linden Boulevard, has filed for an extension of the term of the variance, which expired on 12/10/16. The previous BSA approval, adopted 12/11/17, granted an amendment to the variance to permit an enlargement of the banquet hall (previously approved) and a 10-year extension of the variance.

VII. BUSINESS SESSION

Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary, pronounced quorum with 37 members present.

- ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Motion to adopt the April 19, 2017 minutes was made by Bishop Melvin Artis, seconded by Kenny Carter, the motion passed.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Committee: Represented by Nigel Barker, Member

The Committee covered construction going on in the community. The Crossing at Jamaica Station had their ground breaking celebration on April 25th which was well attended by local stakeholders. The apartment count was increased to 669 units; commercial space has been reduced to 35,000 sq. ft. with 15,000 sq. ft. of community space. The Artimus Development Corporation, residential construction project on Sutphin Blvd & 94th Ave is built up to the 20th floor, out of 25 floors; there will be 380 affordable units.

The Hotel on Queens Blvd is rapidly progressing; the construction crew from the Marriott Courtyard/Fairfield Inn on Archer Ave has been temporarily relocated to the Queens Blvd hotel. There is an affordable housing unit planned for 148-31 90th Ave with 90 apartments, which includes residential parking for 45 vehicles and 45 bicycles.

The Committee discussed the upcoming Economic Development Summit planned for May at York College. We have not been able to meet with the elected officials. If we are unable to make a date for June we will plan for the fall.

Land Use Committee: Represented by Calvin Hewitt, Member

In the matter of Application # 4580-2017-ASWC submitted by Neil Weisbard, P.C. 89-14 Parsons Boulevard, Block # 9755, Lot # 7501. Application is for proposed construction of Jamaica BBQ LLC Sidewalk Café.

Recommendation: Land Use Committee approves with an amended reduction to 42 tables for the sidewalk café on 89th Ave.

In the matter of Application # 175-95BZ submitted by Alan J. Sigman, 205-35 Linden Boulevard, Block # 11078, Lot # 1. Application is filed for an extension of the term of the variance, which expired on 12-10-2016. The previous BSA approval, adopted 12-11-2007 granted an amendment to the variance to permit an enlargement of the banquet hall (Thomasina's) and a 10 year term extension to the variance. Additional request that the previously approved clause be added to the Certificate of Occupancy, requesting operating hours be extended from 9:00 am - 1:30 am to 8:30 am - 1:30 am.

Recommendation: Land Use Committee approves the extension of the variance for 10 additional years and the previously approved clause to be recorded as part of the C of O.

Sanitation and Environmental Committee: Represented by Nadia Ghaness, Chairperson
The committee does not have a report at this time, but Ms. Ghaness welcomed all the new members to board 12. Her call this evening is to encourage board members to join the Sanitation Committee; there is much work to be done. The next Sanitation Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at the Roy Wilkins Park.

Transportation Committee: Represented by Michele Keller, Chairperson

Commissioner Garcia began the meeting with an overview of Vision Zero Pedestrian Action Plan's commitment to provide safety. 111th Ave from Van Wyck Expressway to Guy R Brewer Blvd is one of the corridors and intersections identified where pedestrians have been killed or severely injured. According to NYC DOT statistics, within the years 2010 - 2014: there were 14 pedestrian injuries, 3 severe injuries, 1 fatality, 4 injured bicyclists and 80 motor vehicle occupant injuries. DOT proposes to improve the 44 - 50 ft. 2- way lane residential street with visual lightening of the roadway to reduce speeding.

By Laws Committee: Represented by Audrey Lee Jacobs, Chairperson

The By-Laws Committee review segments of the by-laws for the purpose of future amendment. The next meeting of the By-Laws Committee will be on June 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Roy Wilkins Park.

VIII. VOTE ON BSA APPLICATIONS

Re: Application 4580-2017-ASWC:

Voting Results: 33 Approvals; 1 Opposition; 3 Abstentions

Re: Application #175-95BZ:

Voting Results: 36 Approvals; 1 Abstention

Motion to close the Business Session was made by Kenny Carter, seconded by Bishop Melvin Artis, the motion passed.

IX. PRESENTATION

Landscape Architect with NYC Parks presented a proposal for a new stage in Roy Wilkins Park. The project is northeast of the recreational center and pool. The goals are to add an additional area to the stage and refurbish; additional access to the existing elevated stage, and to add a path from the stage to the recreational center and parking lot. The budget for the project is \$450,000 via participatory budget funding from Council Member Miller's district.

X. PUBLIC FORUM

Adjoa Gzifa, CERT Team Deputy Chief, for Community Boards 12 and 13. CERT is looking for new members. The next class will start in the fall and will be held at York College. CERT members help educate the community about safety, and disaster preparation. If anyone would like the CERT Team to do a presentation, please contact Ms. Gzifa at (516) 778-6258 or email at qcert12.13@gmail.com.

Emma Dawson, Executive Director, Hollis Local Development Corp. HLDC is an economic development corporation with an established tax-exempt 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization that aims to strengthen, enhance and promote community and economic revitalization throughout the Hollis, Queens neighborhood and its corridors. Ms. Dawson gave excerpts from the group's meeting held on April 25th. Particular insight was given regarding concerns surrounding the Hollis Gardens Apartments. Complaints by the residents are constant and HLDC would like a greater police presence in the community. The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2017 at 7 p.m. at I.S. 192 to specifically address the Hollis Gardens Apartments.

Monica Pringle, regarding the problems the community is having on Montauk Avenue, Baisley Blvd, Riverton St, and 118th Rd. Ms. Pringle spoke with schools in the area; there is a lot across the street from 118th Street, the community is working with sanitation and the 113 precinct to clean it. Ms. Pringle has collected 169 signatures in favor of converting the lot into a parking area for school buses. She also collected 55 signatures requesting a four way stop sign at Baisley and Montauk.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

