



**Community Board 12**  
**The City of New York**  
**Borough of Queens**

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

90-28 161<sup>st</sup> Street  
 Jamaica, New York 11432  
[qn12@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:qn12@cb.nyc.gov)  
[www.nyc.gov/qcb12](http://www.nyc.gov/qcb12)

(718) 658-3308  
 Fax (718) 739-6997

**Melinda Katz**  
 BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**Rene Hill**  
 CHAIRPERSON

**Vicky Morales Casella**  
 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

**Yvonne Reddick**  
 DISTRICT MANAGER

**COMMUNITY BOARD 12, QUEENS**  
**March 20, 2019**

**MINUTES**

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

- **PRESIDING:** Rene Hill, Chairperson
- **PRESENT:** Amir Abbady  
 Maxine Allen, Treasurer  
 Melvin Artis  
 Yasinul Ashraf  
 Jacqueline Boyce  
 Manuel Caughman  
 Brittany Chambers  
 Clifton Stanley Diaz  
 Barbara Duncan  
 Mabel Everett  
 Marcia Francis  
 Nadi Ghaness  
 Glenn Greenidge  
 Dora Griszell  
 Ian Harris  
 Nurul Haque  
 Rene Hill, Chairperson  
 Richard Hogan  
 Khondokar Tarikul Islam  
 Audrey Lee Jacobs  
 Celeste James  
 Clementine James  
 Bilal Karriem  
 Michele Keller  
 Michelle Kirkland  
 Gregory Mays

Rev. Edward McKay  
Jean Phelps  
Rodney Pride  
Florence Simmons, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairperson  
Yvette Sledge  
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson  
Toni Totten  
Bryan White  
Benjamin Wright, Jr.  
Geraldine Taylor-Brown  
Kenneth Carter  
Daniel Englander  
Joan Flowers, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson  
Thomas Greenaway  
James Heyliger  
Derek Irby  
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson  
Tunisia Morrison  
Kemar Newman  
Kamal Saleem

ABSENT:

I. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Chairperson Hill

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

- Welcomed everyone to the March 20, 2019 meeting; CB 12 did not meet in February due to the snow storm.
- CB 12 needs a Sanitation Chairperson; anyone interested please see the Chairperson after the meeting or call her at the district office. We also need more area Chairs.
- Please attend the Van Wyck Expressway meeting on Monday at the Radisson Hotel at JFK; parking is available.
- JFK Council meeting tomorrow in Far Rockaway at the Challenge Charter Middle School.

III. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

- National Grid Capital Construction: On 169<sup>th</sup> Street between Liberty Avenue and 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Duration approximately 30 days.
- Capital Projects: Sewer When and Where Contract Project #: SEQNS001. On 143<sup>rd</sup> Street Between 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 119<sup>th</sup> Road Storm Sewer installation. On 143<sup>rd</sup> Street between 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 119<sup>th</sup> Road Storm Sewer installation. This project is 90% complete
- Infrastructure upgrades in the Baisley Boulevard Area Project # SE848. On 140<sup>th</sup> Street to 156<sup>th</sup> Street installing sanitary sewer to South of 132<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 156<sup>th</sup> Street installing sanitary sewer south of 132<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. This is a large project it's only 15% complete, it is scheduled to be completed August of 2020.
- HWS201701\_Sidewalks: Construction of Sidewalks and curbs where homeowners have received a violation

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

***Elected Officials and their Representatives were acknowledged by the Chairperson.***

Assemblyman Rory Lancman, 24th A.D.

- Almost everything City Council does in March is about the budget. Most of you know that he Chairs the Justice System Committee; he oversees the Mayor's office of Criminal Justice, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the courts; it is a little over a billion dollars of the City's budget. There was a joint hearing yesterday with Donovan Richards; Councilman Richards Chairs the Public Safety Committee.
- He and Councilman Richards have been trying to do something about the mass disparities that exist in terms of how marijuana is policed and prosecuted in this City. It still remains that 90% of the people who were arrested for summoned for marijuana possession or smoking were either Black or Latino; for years the 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct has been the number 1 Precinct in the City of New York for marijuana summonses and arrests. Last year both of the Councilmen, through hearings held were able to get the police to implement a new marijuana policing strategy, which drastically reduce the number of marijuana arrests in the City. The disparities increased, so we wanted to make sure that the Police Commissioner and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice heard our views on why we think that disparity continues to persist.

Councilmen I. Daneek Miller, 27<sup>th</sup> C.D.

- There was a 14 year old stopped twice, on Linden Blvd. for driving a dollar van. Inspector O'Sullivan and his team has done a great job on commuter van enforcement. We are working to ensure that the vans are legal, registered, safe, and accessible.
- As a Committee, we have submitted two Bills, and we will vote as a general body next Thursday to LS1010 and LS1011; these two Bills are related to Commercial trucks. One of the Bills is eliminating the time that they can sit and park and do business to 90 minutes. The other Bill is creating a civil penalty of \$400 for the first offense of parking on the street, and \$800 for the second.
- Participatory Budgeting is coming up; this is where the Councilmen put up \$1,000,000,000 of their Capital Budget from the 27<sup>th</sup> District to give to the Community. The Community decides how they would like to spend the funds on various projects. Some individuals from the Community are part of the Committee that help to formulate the projects and build the projects. The last time the number 6 vote was special needs playground for school children; this was inputted into the budget as well.

Inspector Sullivan, 113<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct

- Had a significant decrease last year in shootings, this year there was an increase. There is a number of incidents that occurred on Rockaway Blvd. and Sutphin Blvd. concerning shots fired. We treat each of the shots fired as if it was a shooting, we investigate it thoroughly, and send resources to the location. Patrol Borough has increase their man power because of the shootings.
- Anti-crime officers have made gun arrests throughout the 113<sup>th</sup> Precinct; they made and arrest last night person on life parole for murder.
- The hotels have been working well with the precinct in contributing to the kids in the shelters; have not had any problems with the shelters in the 113<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Not aware of any additional shelters coming into the 113<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

Officer Jones, Community Affairs 103<sup>rd</sup> Precinct

- There has only been one homicide in the last 28 day period, year to date there has only been 1 homicide. Down 80% in rapes for the 28 day period, 55% for the year; robberies are also down. Felony assaults are up 52%, burglaries are up 333%, last year at this time for the 28 day period they had 3 incidents, whereas now they have 13 incidents. These 13 incidents are more commercial. Grand larcenies down 23% and GLA down 25%.
- Please try to use the legal dollar vans with TLC plates with the DOT number in the back.
- There are 17 or more shelters in the 103<sup>rd</sup> precinct we do not have an issue with most of the Shelters. There are 3 shelters that they work very closely with, sectors visit often. NCO also pay visits to the shelters. The most chronic complains areas littering, smoking and drinking in or around the area of that shelter. These issues are constantly being addressed.

### **PRESENTATION**

Stephen Everett, NYC Department of City Planning (DCP)

- Presenting a proposal for a text change to the zoning resolution. The zoning resolution is the document that allows the development to happen for usage and bulk regulations throughout the city, and it allows mechanical voids text currently to be excluded from calculations. In recent years some developers have utilized excessively tall mechanical spaces so that there upper story residential units are located well above surrounded context. These spaces are known as mechanical voids.
- The Mayor asked the Department of City Planning to examine this issue of excessive mechanical void spaces and provide a recommendation. Conducted a citywide analysis of reconstruction to better understand the mechanical needs or residential and commercial buildings and to access where and when excessive mechanical spaces are being used.
- DCP is proposing modification to R9 and R10 and equivalent zoning districts throughout the city. The proposed regulations for residential buildings will discourage mechanical void space taller than 25 feet, discourage the clustering of void spaces in a way that unduly pads building heights, and address mixed-use buildings.

Joslyn Carter, Administrator, Department of Homeless services (DHS)

- DHS is in charge of homeless shelters. They run 2 family shelters, 12 single adult children, they contact private providers to work with them at most of the shelters. The rents in NYC has risen out of control, but income only 4.8%; the more we work the more we cannot afford to pay rent. Shelters are temporary situations.
- There are over 8,000 individuals from Queens in their system, there are 398 families with children from the district who are currently in their system. Shelters have been opened in CB 2, there were 2 shelters opened in the Rockaways, 1 in Ozone Park, 1 in College Point, 2 sited for Staten Island, and 1 in Park Slope.
- Core Services Group has been established in 2005 and are a Brooklyn based company, partner locally with Queens Workforce as well as Far Rockaway Workforce to employ. We are particularly excited about this site; they have a significant experience in service in families with children. This site will house 133 families, about 400 clients, will staff a little under 100 members, of which will partner with local Queens Workforce as well as local elected officials to hire locally. They operate from a model of honesty and integrity and follow a good neighbor policy to make sure that they keep a supportive, healthy relationship with the community that they operate in.

#### **IV. BUSINESS SESSION**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chairperson Hill, 35 members present at roll call; quorum pronounced. Motion to accept roll call was made by Bishop Melvin Artis, seconded by Rev. C. Princess Thorbs-McGee; the motion passed.

Motion made by Amir Abbady to approve the Vote on the Residential Tower Mechanical Voids Text Amendment, motion seconded by Glenn Greenidge.

V. **Vote on the Residential Tower Mechanical Voids Text Amendment**

Voting Results: 35 Approval 0 Opposition 0 Abstentions

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.