

The City of New York

Queens Community Board 11

Serving the Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston, Hollis Hills Little Neck and Oakland Gardens

Michael Budabin Chairperson / Joseph Marziliano District Manager

To: All Board Members

From: Michael Budabin

Date: January 19, 2022

Re: Community Service Awards and community engagement

On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the CB11 Public Relations met to discuss the awarding of the inaugural Community Service Awards and new business.

Present

Committee Members
Michael Budabin, Chair, ex. off.
Henry Euler, 3rd Vice Chair, ex. off.
Lourdes December
Fleur Martino

Community Board Members
Rosemarie Guidice
Allan Palzer
Stepan Popa
Stephen Pivawer

CB11 Staff
Joseph Marziliano, District Manager
Jane Bentivenga, Community Coordinator

The meeting commenced with Mr. Budabin stating he is acting Chair of this Committee for the time being. He introduced the bestowing of the inaugural CB11 Student Community Service Awards.

Mr. Budabin announced the names of two potential winners who were nominated. If eligibility and facts are confirmed, each child will be invited to join CB11's March meeting and be presented with a plaque and a letter in recognition of their efforts. Mr. Budabin made a motion, if eligibility and facts are confirmed, to present these two nominees with Student Community Service Awards. Mr. Popa seconded the motion. Mr. Euler and Mrs. Guidice feel this is a great idea. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Further discussion ensued with Ms. Martino suggesting that photographs be taken at different activities the Board participates in and a slide show be prepared and posted on social media to show the work of the Board in addition to these children. Mr. Budabin stated that another meeting will be scheduled to discuss engaging with the public and getting CB11's name out. Mr. Budabin said this Committee should be the engine to achieve that. He said that CB11 now has 374 Twitter followers which is a 25% increase from when we first joined. He recommended "liking" CB11's posts on Twitter, if a person is so inclined, as this can assist in gaining more followers.

Mr. Budabin also discussed getting more involved with community/public service projects. He mentioned that the NYPD/111th Precinct usually conducts graffiti clean-ups in the Spring. He would like to coordinate with them and assist in any way we can. He also suggested the idea of collecting funds to give a grant to a charitable organization. This would be completely voluntary. A textbook grant for a Queensborough Community College (QCC) student in need was suggested. Transportation costs can also be prohibitive for some students. Ms. December will provide a contact at QCC that the Board can get further information from. She also mentioned that QCC operates a food pantry that also provides toiletries. Ms. Martino suggested some sort of fundraiser; details to be discussed at another meeting. Mr. Budabin stated all ideas are welcome and asked that they be emailed to the CB11 office. The office staff cannot be involved in processing any outside funds.

Mr. Budabin would also like to establish a sunshine fund, which he plans on discussing at the February Board Meeting. These funds would allow the Board to purchase congratulatory or compassionate cards and/or gifts (such as flowers or a gift basket) for Board Members. Mr. Marziliano added that this will create an atmosphere of camaraderie. Mrs. Guidice said spending parameters could be set depending on the event. Again, the office staff cannot handle any outside funds. Mr. Budabin will collect the money, track contributions and spending and advise the Members accordingly.

Mr. Budabin asked everyone to keep suggesting and submitting community/public service ideas to himself or the office. These ideas will be discussed at the next meeting of this Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted 1/19/2022