



**COMMUNITY BOARD #14
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2018**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
333 BEACH 90 STREETS
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY 11693**

COMMUNITY
BOARD #14

PRESENT

Khaleel Anderson, Audrey Amsterdam-Handy, Louis Caucig, Annette Lord-Cohen, John Cori, Ahmed Edwards, Noreen Ellis, D. Brian Heffernan, Martin Ingram, Tamara Jacobs, Felicia Johnson, Betty Leon, Rosalyn Mason, Ife Maijeh, John McCambridge, Helen Montero, Sonia Moise, Daniel Mundy, Denise Lopetri-Neibel, Dolores Orr, Harold Paez, Isaac Parsee, Edward Pasture Sr., Linda Plummer, Karen Sloan-Payne, Thomas Tobin, Jose Velez, Edwin Williams, Tyrone Worsley

ABSENT

COMMUNITY BOARD #14
City of New York
Borough of Queens

Shalom Becker, Edward Benson, Glenn Collins, Stephen Cooper, Dr. Gerald David, Mordechai Dicker, Temina Feldman, Patricia Gillespie, Joel Kaplan, Desiree Maple, Al Moore, Ellen O'Reilly, Eugene Pasternak, Harvey Rudnick Daniel Ruscillo Jr., Sender Schwartz, Dr. Eli Shapiro, Chris Tedesco, Carole Trachtenberg, Michael Tubridy, Rachel Williams

DOLORES ORR
Chairperson

GUESTS

JONATHAN GASKA
District Manager

Assemblywoman Stacey Amato-Pheffer, Nicolette Pete – Rep. Assemblywoman Stacey Amato-Pheffer, Dan Brown – Rep. Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Lisa George- Rep. State Senator James Sanders Jr., Manuel Silva – Rep. City Councilman Donovan Richards, Jessica Luina – Rep. City Councilman Donovan Richards, Democratic District Leader Lew Simon, Tavia Blakley – Rep. Assemblywoman Michele Titus, Ciaia Donley – Rep. City Councilman Eric Ulrich, Joseph Maur – Rep. NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation, Diane Dreier-Rep. NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation, James Mituza – Rep. NYC Parks & Recreation, Deputy Inspector Louron Hall - Rep. 100th Police Precinct, NYC Police Officer Therina - Rep. 100th Police Precinct, NYC Police Officer Gabbe – Rep. 100th Police Precinct

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:20p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

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The Chair expressed condolences on behalf of the Board to the family of Lamine Sarr, who was the young man that drowned at Beach 86 Street 2 weeks ago. He was a senior, straight "A", marching band student at Channel View High School. In addition, he was a Summer Youth Worker at the Community Board #14 office over the summer.



The Chair reminded everyone that three years ago Parks Commissioner, at the Beach Opening, committed to working with the Department of Education to



create a film on water safety to be shown to all students in the NYC Public Schools each June. To date this has not been done.

The Chair commented that the MTA kept to the schedule of construction of flood measure on the A line and the Far Rockaway A line resumed full service in time for the start of the new school year. However we continue to have problems with the MTA on the re-routing of the Q22 at Beach 116 St and termination of the Q35 on Newport Ave. These item is being referred to the Transportation Committee for further discussion and resolution.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Jonathan Gaska reported that the Board should receive the ULURP package for the old Peninsula Hospital site in February of 2019.

DM Gaska advised Board Members to check their email for a draft of the new committee member list.

GUEST SPEAKERS

1. ASSEMBLYWOMAN STACEY PHEFFER-AMATO announced that she has been working on the following bills/budget in Albany:

- Advocating for funding for a bill to increase the number of school crossing guards for middle school children. State Senator Joseph Addabbo Jr. is supporting her efforts by advocating for funding for a bill to increase the number of school crossing guards for high school students.

- Advocating for all EMS, Civil Service Worker and 1st Responders to medical similar to the medical coverage the responders received for getting sick After working clearing the World Trade Center debris.

2. CITY COUNCILMAN DONOVAN RICHARDS **Chief of Staff** Manuel Silva presented Porcha Drynforth, Parks Administrator for District #14, with a New York City Council Proclamation for her outstanding, dedicated, community service over the years as she moves to a new position at the Parks Department.

3.100th POLICE PRECINCT – Captain Louron Hall reported that he has been at the 100th for 2 ½ months. Captain Hall stated he has received a warm welcome from the officers there and he is appreciative for the assignment because he has not seen a more active community involved with the officers and precinct in his 16 years in law enforcement.

Captain Hall explained that NYPD continues its commitment to the Neighborhood Coordination School Initiative and will expand to include a partnership between local police and NYC Dept. of Education. The initiative will focus on at risk young males (9 to 11 years old) and try to engage them into positive activities. Females would also be included in the initiative starting in January 2019.

PUBLIC SPEAKING – The Chair opened the floor for public speaking at 7:55pm. 18 people signed in to speak. They all were recognized and heard. The Chair closed public speaking at 8:38pm.

Some concerns raised by residents:

- *Continuous flooding, vacant un-kept lots and abandoned houses on the bayside of B 36 St – B 40 St.
- *Dollar Vans illegally parking on RBB & Beach 88 Street and not being ticketed
- *Sewer Project on RBB B 88 – B 86 St. No parking on either side of RBB – terrible negative impact on the businesses in this area. Customers stopping to pick up are being ticketed by not the Dollar Vans. Also project has stop and the accumulation of garbage and water in the trench is a health hazard.*Beach closings due to sand erosion - this year 10 blocks closed – expect next year additional beaches will be closed and there is no level of government willing to do anything – everyone is waiting for the Army Corp Project which is years away. Something must be done now.
- * Many lights on the Boardwalk are not working what Parks/DOT is doing about this problem.
- *Freeway @ 32 Street is 3 lanes should only be 2 lanes
- *Unleashed dogs on the beach and boardwalk

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. BUDGET COMMITTEE: E. Shapiro, Chair

Jonathan Gaska, District Manager gave report since Dr. Shapiro, Chair of the committee is not present. The Budget Committee had a meeting on August 27, 2018. The agenda item for discussion was regarding the Fiscal Year 2020 Draft Capital & Expense priority list. The committee reviewed/ discussed the list and unanimously agreed to the draft list that was mass emailed to the public and to board members.

Mr. Gaska explained to everyone that the NY City Charter mandates all community boards in the five boroughs develop a capital & expense list every

year and projects usually take more than 10 years to get funded.

In addition Mr. Gaska announced that #11 to fund the beach replenishment program for the closed beach from Beach 91 Street to Beach 101 Streets is a new item that was added to the list. More suggestions and ideas from the public are allowed tonight and at the Board's October meeting. The Board will vote on the list after public participation at the October meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING - Re: The Chair opened the floor for public hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2020 Draft Capital & Expense Priorities List. No one signed up to speak. The Chair closed the public hearing.

The Chair went to the Board for additional suggestions/ideas. Harold Paez made a motion for the Board to add the expense item of the need for the Peninsula to have additional gifted and talented seats. The motion was seconded by Noreen Ellis. The motion carried with a hand vote in favor of the motion.

PARKS & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Jose Velez Co-Chair of the committee reported that a meeting was held on June 11, 2018. The agenda for discussion were regarding nine Parks projects.

Mr. Velez reported that due to the number of projects being presented the committee used a different meeting format. All projects presented that evening had already had a scoping meeting with public participation. Diane Dreier, Design Director for Queens NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation started the presentation by showing all of the projects pending, in design and currently under construction along with a few recently completed projects. All projects in design must go to the DEC for permits and various other city agencies for review. All projects will have similar design elements such as benches, fencing and specific horticulture plantings. Each project was briefly presented by a project manager or designer of that specific project. Both the committee and the public were then given an opportunity to walk around to each project to comment or request changes, at the end of that period the projects were once again presented with the additional feedback from the committee and the public.

1) **Broad Channel Park & 17th Road** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval the project with the following conditions: eliminate benches in back area by library (safety issue at night), illuminate flagpole & change flagpole cable, specific plantings (that was agreed to with the BCCA), bike racks and improved lighting. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2) **Beach 24th & 25th streets ADA Ramps** - The Parks Committee motion is to approve the project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3) **Beach 59th Street Playground** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval the project with the following conditions: addition of two handicap swings, switch out some benches for backless seating at handball court, extent shade structure, require that current fence height (7 feet) not be lower but be maintained due to concerns of the community Parks requires letter be sent to Commissioner Silver). The motion passed unanimously.
- 4) **Shore Front Parkway Performance Space (B 94 St)** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: - colored lighting in the pillars or ground , define stairs (with stencil) near all railing as non-seating area, allowing people to walk up and down stairs. The motion passed unanimously.
- 5) **Shore Front Parkway Dog Park (B 90-St)** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: a longer shade canopy for both dogs and humans. The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion, 2 opposed.
- 6) **Shore Front Parkway Adventure Course (B 88 St)** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: additional seating. The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion.
7. **Shore Front Parkway Beach 98th St. Playground**- The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: additional lighting & and change bike rack types. (Park Dept. advised post committee meeting lighting was studied and a determination was made additional lighting was deemed necessary). The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion.
8. **Shore Front Parkway Labyrinth and seating area(B 93 St)** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: additional seating at eastern end, add bike racks and make labyrinth a light color and bands to it a different color. The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion. 2 opposed.
9. **Shore Front Parkway Multipurpose area (B 80 St)** - The Parks Committee motion is to approval project with the following conditions: add two ping pong tables, additional bike racks at the center of site, water cannons for water irrigation, adaptive fitness equipment for seniors, fencing to prevent children

from running out into the street. The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion.

10. **Bay Breeze Park at Beach 88th St.t & BCD**– The original design presented did not meet with the community's approval and required changes to the design. Create larger playground area, change salt marsh to natural plantings, request to make kayak/boathouse deeper and longer, eliminate picnic tables, add bike racks, add another shorten kayak launch/ramp. It also did not include a comfort station as requested by the community and in the original design Pre-Sandy.

The Park & Public Safety Committee made the motion for the Board to send a letter asking Queens Borough President Melinda Katz to begin the process of securing funds for the comfort station at Bay Breeze Park and to vote on the design for the park at the upcoming October board meeting. The motion carried by a hand vote in favor of the motion.

Mr. Velez raised additional concerns the committee members had:

- >underground irrigation for new parks,
- >new parks will require more maintenance staffing,
- > how do we as a community make the restrooms happen at Bay Breeze Park,
- excavation and planting of salt marsh at Bay Breeze Park,
- > 94th Street flagpole.

Old Business/New Business

John Cori inquired about the current status of the Court House and the unkept/unclean/unlit condition of the site

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By: M. Dunning