

**COMMUNITY BOARD #14
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2017**

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

PRESENT

Glenn Collins, Annette Lord-Cohen, John Cori, Dr. Gerald David, Ahmed Edwards, Noreen Ellis, Patricia Gillespie, D. Brian Heffernan, Martin Ingram, Henry Iori, Felicia Johnson, Peter Larkin, Betty Leon, John Cambridge, Sonia Muise, Laden Moore, Daniel Mundy, Ellen O'Reilly, Dolores Orr, Edward Pasture Sr., Karen Sloan-Payne, Sender Schwartz, Dr. Eli Shapiro, Chris Tedesco, Thomas Tobin, Jose Velez, Edwin Williams, Rachel Williams

ABSENT

Khalil Anderson, Shalom Becker, Edward Benson, Courtney Brown, Louis Cauca, Stephen Cooper, Mordechai Dicker, Temin Feldman, Joel Kaplan, Desiree Maple, Milan Taylor, Denise Lopresti-Neibel, Isaac Parsee, Eugene Pasternak, Harvey Rudnick, Daniel Ruscillo Jr., Michael Tubridy, Carole Trachtenberg

GUESTS

Dan Brown – Rep. Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Ciara Donley- Rep. City Councilman Eric Ulrich, Emmanuel Silva-Rep. City Councilman Donovan Richards

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:29 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE WAS READ AS FOLLOWS:

Letter dated November 17, 2017 was sent to Dorothy Lewandowski, Queens Borough Commissioner of NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation. Letter requested for the Parks Dept. install signs along and on the esplanade at Beach Channel Drive and Beach 108 Street area stating "No Barbecuing Allowed" and signs reminding fishermen to clean up their garbage.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair summarized Mayor De Blasio's comments at his Town Hall meeting. He reviewed the resiliency plans for our parks in the district. He advised that he will be traveling to Washington D.C. in January 2018 to meet with the Army Corp of Engineers to discuss the pending projects, timelines and funding. He committed to advising of the outcome of this meeting. He acknowledged that The Rockaways, for decades, have been neglected by New York City, and he wants to change that. The Chair wished all a happy and healthy New Year.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager, Jonathan Gaska wished everyone Happy Holidays.

GUEST SPEAKER

State Senator Joseph Addabbo Jr. thanked all the board members for their dedicated community service and wished all Happy Holidays.

MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2017

The Chair went to the board for questions regarding the minutes. The Chair made the following correction:

Report of the Chair- Add that the Nominating Committee will at the December 2017 meeting present a slate of officers for the January 2018 election. Add that nominations for positions on the executive board will be accepted from the floor at the December 2017 meeting.

Annette Lord-Cohn made the motion for the board to accept the minutes with the stated correction. The motion was seconded by Martin Ingram. The motion carried with a hand vote in favor of the motion. 1 abstained.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Chair opened the floor for public speaking at 7:47pm. 3 people signed up to speak. They all were recognized and heard. The Chair closed public speaking.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development-Re: Zombie Housing Program

Brianna and Lizabeth representing HPD's Zombie Homes Initiative explained to the board that focus is to address homes that would reduce public health risks, stabilize property values and maintain affordable homeownership opportunities. Zombie Homes are abandoned and neglected small homes that could be a result of the foreclosure crisis and hurricane Sandy, which forced homeowners to move and leave behind these vacant homes.

The NYS Legislature in 2016 passed a new law to address the problem of foreclosures and zombie homes. The new law requires lenders statewide to inspect, secure, maintain and report zombie homes to the state.

HPD surveyed zip codes 11691 and 11692 in Rockaway and identified 41 homes that could be classified as Zombie homes. The agency will outreach to offer assistance such as foreclosure and financial services. Any resident can assist by completing a Zombic Home Information Form on the internet to help HPD find out where the "Zombie Homes" are located. Residents can file a complaint to the NYS Dept. of Financial Services at 1- 800-342-3736.

Annette Lord-Cohen made the motion for the board to request that HPD give Rockaway residents first priority for purchase if they live in the zip code where the property is located. The motion was seconded by Noreen Ellis. The motion carried by a hand vote of and carried by a hand vote 15 YES, 0 NO and 2 ABSTAINED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Sonia Moise, Co-Chair of the committee reported that a meeting was held on November 20, 2017. Representatives of St. Johns Hospital and State Assemblywoman Stacey Amato-Pheffer were present at the meeting. The agenda item for discussion was St. John's Hospital emergency room update.

Sonia Moise reported that Renee Hastick-Montes, Senior Director of Government & External Affairs at St. Johns advised everyone that the hospital received a grant from Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program that would help improve policies and procedures at the hospital.

Renee Hastick-Montes explained that the emergency room would be expanded to 22,000 square feet and include the following improvements:

- 9 private treatment rooms
- 21 results waiting positions, 6 rapid evaluation beds
- 14 private areas that would be separate from treatment rooms designated for psychiatric Emergency care.
- The BOCES Center would be used as a primary care medical facility.

Gwen Pinckney, CNO for St. Johns Hospital explained the seven important issues of major concerns to the community. Teams will be implemented to address the issues which are the following:

- Patient Experience Team would be responsible for the entire ER experience.

- Clinical Experience Team will be assessed and trained to provide the best care.
- Frontend Registration Team would be responsible for the registration.
- Support Services Team will assist with nutrition and referrals services.
- Community Outreach Team
- Supply Chain Team will be responsible for hospital supplies.
- IT Team would be responsible for the flow of data throughout the hospital system.

Tom Farzetti, AVP Facilities for St. Johns Hospital advised that the construction started in June 2017. During Phase 1 he decided to keep the emergency room operating with 1 CT room and 2 RAD rooms.

The Teaching Center; is Phase 3 of the construction and would take up to 12 months to complete. Ross University funded the Teaching Center.

2. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Betty Leon, Chair of the committee advised that according to Article VI Nomination and Election of Officers states that the Nominating Committee is appointed by the Chair no later than the November meeting of the prior year. The Nominating Committee presents the slate of officers at the December meeting and nominations may also be made from the floor by any member. Nominations will be closed at the December meeting and an election would take place at the January meeting. Officers have a term 2 years.

Betty Leon contacted each member of the current executive board to inquire if they wanted to remain in the position and they all wanted to continue to serve.

Each committee member was contacted by email and was informed that the current officers would like to continue to serve in their current positions. Each committee member was also asked to email their approval/disapproval, recommendations/suggestions for another candidate or to challenge an existing officer. Each committee member emailed their approval to nominate the current officers and a meeting was not necessary.

Ms. Leon reminded the board members that nominations for positions can be made from the floor at the December meeting. If there are no challenge for any position the Chair will ask the secretary, at the January meeting, to cast one ballot for the current slate of officers. If there is a challenge the board will vote by open signed ballot.

The Slate of Officers being presented by the Nominating Committee is as follows:

Chair	Dolores Orr
1 st Vice Chair	Aldean Moore
2 nd Vice Chair	Dan Mundy
3 rd Vice Chair	Martin Ingram
4 th Vice Chair	Felicia Johnson
Secty/Treasurer	Isaac Parsee

Ms. Leon asked for nominations from the floor for each of the six officer positions. There being no nominees, nominations were closed.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted By: Mary Dunning