



ELIZABETH BRATON
Chairperson

COMMUNITY BOARD 10

CITY OF NEW YORK ♦ BOROUGH OF QUEENS
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KARYN PETERSEN
District Manager

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

MARCH 2, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Braton, M. Amin, L. Amorim, N. Bissoon, J. Calcagnile, J. Caruso, E. Cheng, M. Cherenfant, R. Ciulla-Frisone, F. Dardani, A. Dhanpat, I. Dimoh, B. Escobar, E. Fraylon, A. Gellineau, R. Gendron, P. Granickas, A. Hill, P. Kishun, A. Maharaj, D. Mitchell, F. Mohamed, S. Mohammed, R. Narine, A. Nocerino, S. Pace, A. Rajnauth, B. Ramsundar, N. Santiago, J. Stahl, S. Uddin, I. Van Putten, M. Vecchio, L. Walker

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: M. Adams, P. Baumann, A. Cosentino, J. Coulverson, A. Deebrah, J. Fazio, A. Garcia, R. Graziano, R. Hitlall, E. Holland, M. Logan, R. Martinez, J. Quijano, G. Russo, V. Singh,

COMMUNITY BOARD STAFF PRESENT: K. Petersen, D.M.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hon. J. Addabbo; Hon. J. Ariola; J. Betancourt rep., Hon. N. Velazquez; J. Viechweg-Horsford, rep., Hon. R. Persaud; C. Moore, rep., Hon. J. Addabbo; W. Bao, rep., Hon. K. Anderson; S. Verstandig, rep., Hon. D. Weprin; K. Bourgie rep., Hon. S. Pheffer-Amato, J. Gross rep., Hon. J. Rajkumar; L. Fogal, rep., Hon. J. Ariola; B. Jackson rep., Hon. A. Adams; Capt. J. Bacchi, CO 106 Precinct; L. Williams, FDNY; A. Dobrzynski, DSNY

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7pm.

The Chair introduced Senator Addabbo and invited him to speak.

Senator Addabbo greeted everyone and said that in Albany the legislature is deep into budget negotiations, and they are trying to develop a balanced budget. He asked constituents to please weigh in on any issues. He announced that he will be having a grand opening of his new office at 84-16 Jamaica Avenue from 12 pm to 2 pm on March 11th and that everyone is welcome to stop by. He also stated that he is working on a bill in Albany to have public schools allowed to lock their front doors. He continued that private schools and Catholic schools have their front doors locked and visitors have to be buzzed in and there is now a movement with a \$43 million dollar contract, to start the process of locking doors in public schools which is very important. He thanked his staff member Carl Moore for always attending these meetings and stated that Carl would mention any upcoming events that he will be holding.

The Chair asked if there were any questions for Sen. Addabbo. There were none.

The Chair introduced Councilmember Ariola and invited her to speak.

CM Ariola stated that it was good to see everyone and that she agrees with Senator Addabbo that nothing is more important than the safety of our children. She also spoke about the illegal smoke shops that are opening and how the NYPD is doing a good job of confiscating illegal merchandise and that everything right now is about public safety and quality of life. She announced that the Community Board Application process is now closed and that she looks forward to working with the Board's new and reappointed members. She continued that her staff member Linda Fogal will speak of upcoming events that she will be holding.

The Chair asked if there were any questions for CM Ariola. There were none.

Sen. Addabbo also announced that March is Women's History month and acknowledged various women that have been serving the community such as the Councilmember and Community Board Chairperson and District Manager.

The Chair opened the Informational Public Hearing and introduced Lorraine Chambers Lewis, CEO Long Island Jewish Forest-Hills-Northwell Health Hospital Forest Hills, who will share updates about the hospital and its system.

Ms. Lewis thanked the Chairperson, District Manager, and the Board for having her on the agenda. She announced that they are celebrating 70 years of serving the community in Queens. They were formerly known as North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System in 2000 and they turned into Northwell Health in 2022. They are a huge organization that benefits folks in Queens, and they have up to 21 hospitals and are located right in the center of Queens. She stated that Queens has multi-generational homes and that a lot of folks that live and work here are essential workers and there is also a migrant population. She spoke about patient load balancing and that when responding to COVID-19, patient load balancing enables a hospital and health system leadership to facilitate patient transfers in coordination with the health system's Centralized Transfer Center according to pre-defined capacity and surge triggers. They were able to continue to provide care to the community by leveraging the Northwell Network. Their Emergency Department had to handle the accelerated rate of volume, and this wouldn't have been possible without this system. Their hospital system has great depth to be able to serve our community. If they had to low balance their patients, they could always transfer them to a sister hospital. She stated that all access to health care has to be local, and it means a lot that they are bringing good health care to Queens. She continued that they made a huge investment in Queens for ambulatory service, and they have multi-specialty clinics that are in the process of opening and their vision is to provide high quality care and to be culturally sensitive. They have over 1,531 employees working, 392 nurses, 92 full time physicians, 312 licensed hospital beds, 2,028 births, 13,514 ambulatory visits, 58,310 Emergency Room Presentations, 2,112 inpatient surgeries, 15,061 hospital discharges and 5,985 ambulatory surgeries. She continued that over the past 70 years, the hospital had different names. In 1953 it was called Forest Hills General Hospital and in 1964 it was called LaGuardia Hospital which unfortunately did not have a good reputation however, it is not LaGuardia Hospital anymore. They have joined North Shore and are now known as Long Island Jewish Forest Hills-Northwell Health Hospital Forest Hills and the hospital is not like it was in the old days. Their Center of Excellence provides minimally invasive surgery which speeds healing and decreases infection, specific needs for those over age 65, they are also baby friendly where they promote the bonding of the mother and child with breast feeding to help keep the child healthy since there is less disease in the community when a child is breast fed. They have also had many awards and accreditations in 2022 and they offer many programs and services such as Bariatric Surgery, Urology, General Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Medical and Surgical Cancer Services, Imaging services, Women's Health including Obstetrics and Gynecology, Electrophysiology, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology and Emergency Medicine. They serve the world's Borough with a newsletter in different languages, and they have video assisted interpreters to help the community with patients in their native language in real time. They have 40 languages for live interpretation, 2 for sign language and over 60 other languages for audio only. They are meeting the diverse needs by providing kosher and halal meals, TV channels in Spanish, Korean and Chinese, and a Bloodless Program for Jehovah's Witnesses. She added that if the Community Board has a recommendation for them to consider they would be open to that. They also have provided a community connection where leaders from Long Island Jewish Forest Hills gathered at the Queens Museum on Tuesday night for an inaugural Community Connection event to discuss the healthcare system's efforts to expand its footprint in the neighborhood, what it is doing in Queens and give updates on what is happening inside the hospital. They also have had a lot of press to share and be more connected with the community. They have held Physician Lecture Series where clinical providers share expertise and educate the community keeping the goal of promoting LIJFH's services in mind with virtual webinars and in person seminars and they have increased community awareness about LIJFH through outreach events and initiatives such as the Veterans outreach and cancer screenings campaign, Food Insecurity outreach, the Little Guyana campaign and a Community Baby Shower to promote the NLC and Women's Health Services and they are looking to do more. It was stated that most of their workforce, (approximately 60%), live in Queens, 77% of team members self-identify as Black, Indigenous and people of color and there are over 35 languages spoken at LIJFH.

Ms. Lewis said that she would be happy to answer any questions.

A question was raised by a Board Member about if LIJFH works together with Jamaica Hospital since many area residents frequent Jamaica Hospital.

The response given was that they are all serving this county of Queens and if Jamaica Hospital needs something, they reach out to LIJFH and vice versa. They are all colleagues, and they are both the nearest hospitals to reach out to.

The Chair stated that the questions were open to the public, not to the Board Members at this time and asked if there was anyone from the public on the phone line that had a question for Ms. Lewis. Hearing none.

The Chair asked if there was anyone from the public on the zoom link that had a question for Ms. Lewis. Hearing none.

The Chair stated that those viewing the YouTube link with any questions or comments for Ms. Lewis can reach out to the Community Board 10 office by phone at 718-843-4488 or by e-mail at qn10@cb.nyc.gov before the end of business tomorrow and we will be sure to get the answer from her.

The Chair asked if there were any other Board members with any questions for Ms. Lewis.

A question was raised by a Board Member as to what she feels are the biggest health concerns to be aware of?

The response given was high blood pressure and diabetes because they are both silent killers that can go on for years before they progress; however, there are many things people can do for themselves to control this such as diet and exercise.

The Chair again asked if there were any other Board Members with any questions for Ms. Lewis. Hearing none.

The Chair thanked Ms. Lewis for the presentation and stated that we look forward to working with them in the future.

The Chair announced that the Public Hearing was now closed.

The Chair introduced Adam Dobrzynski from DSNY who was standing in for Joe Ottomanelli this evening and invited him to speak.

Adam thanked the Chair and announced that many people have seen the ads on YouTube that the new set out rule changes roll out on April 1st. Garbage is be put out for collection in a 55-gallon container with a secure lid after 6 pm and after 8 pm it can be put out in garbage bags; however, all garbage must be set out for collection by midnight. He stated that containers with a secure lid must be used and that businesses must place their garbage out for collection by the curb when closing after 8 pm. These efforts can help reduce waste and reduce the rat population.

The Chair asked if there were any Board members that had any questions. Hearing none.

The Chairperson resumed the regular order of business and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 2023 minutes. Hearing none, the minutes will stand.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Chair reviewed incoming correspondence for the month of February, which included:

- Letter received from DOT regarding the feasibility of installing a speed reducer on Shore Parkway bet. 80 Street & 156 Avenue. It was stated that the location meets the criteria and that 2 speed reducers will be installed. Installation will take place when the resources become available.
- Letter received from DOT regarding the feasibility of installing a speed reducer on 100 street bet. Rockaway Blvd. & 133 Avenue. It was stated that the location meets the criteria and that 1 speed reducer will be installed. Installation will take place when the resources become available.
- Letter from DOT regarding the Car Share Program stating they have selected 4 sites in CB 10 and each site will utilize 4 parking spaces for the Car Share and they have already installed the signage.
The proposed site at 79 Street & Pitkin Ave. was relocated to 105-06 89 Street (closer to Liberty Ave.) and the site at 104-43 104 Street was relocated to 107-36 104 Street (closer to Rockaway Blvd.) It was stated that we had asked them to relocate this site further away from Rockaway Blvd. because many teachers at John Adams High School need the parking. The 4 Car Share site locations are as follows:

125 Street bet. Sutter Ave. & Rockaway Blvd. near 125-01 Sutter Ave.
104 Street bet. Liberty Ave. & Rkwy. Blvd near 107-36 104 Street
89 Street bet. 107 Ave. & Liberty Ave. near 105-06 89 Street
133 Street bet. Linden Blvd. & 111th Ave. near 133-01 Linden Blvd.

The Chair stated that we will continue to monitor and forward any complaints on to DOT.

- Letter from DOT announcing that DOT will be putting a protective coating on various bridges in Queens and that 1 of the 6 bridges listed included the Cross Bay Blvd. Bridge. The work will begin on March 5th and will include paint removal and abrasive blasting.
- Notice from NYSDOT advising motorists of a change in the traffic pattern on the west ramp on the Van Wyck Expwy to south bound Conduit. The ramp will reduce 2 travel lanes to 1 lane.
- Demolition notice: 115-42 128 Street
- Demolition notice: 122-01 150 Avenue
- Notification of upcoming 500 ft. rule hearing from SLA for the premises at 119-15 Liberty Ave.
- Notice from OMB regarding the Home Pick Program at 116-45 120 Street
- Notice of Comment Period for Transportation Improvement Amendments from February 2nd to February 3rd
- Parks Dept. Request for Bids for Mobile Food Units at various parks (Byrne Park in CB 10)
- Notice of the March 9, 2023 Contract Award Hearing Agenda
- Notice from the Office of the Comptroller regarding an Internal Control and Accountability Directive that doesn't affect Community Boards
- Comment from CB 10 was sent to the State regarding cannabis regulation
- A letter of comment was sent to OMB regarding issues with the budget statement
- Comment from CB 10 was sent to the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the HATS survey.

The Chair announced that if there is anything on the mail list that the Board Members are interested in to let her know and she can forward them a copy of it.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Chair read the report of expenditures for the month of February.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LIAISON REPORT: The Chair announced that Maricela Cano was not with us this evening and that she is working on the reappointment process. New appointed members and those that are up for reappointment should hear from the Office of the Borough President by the end of the month.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: The District Manager reported that notification was received that in the coming weeks National Grid has planned construction work to install a new gas main at the following locations: 115 Street bet. 107 Ave & Liberty Ave., Liberty Ave. bet. 110 Street & 111 Street, 110 Street bet. 103 Ave. & Liberty Ave., 110 Street & Liberty Ave. The new gas main will be installed in the street or sidewalk and the excavation required will be backfilled each day. The entire work area will be kept clean and orderly, and attempts will be made to keep noise, dust, and debris to a minimum. All or part of the gas service may have to be replaced. To complete this work, National Grid may need to gain access to the homes at the point where the service enters the building. If this is the case, the homeowner will be contacted by a National Grid Representative to make an appointment. All street and sidewalk surfaces affected by the construction will be repaved to ensure a smooth surface. Temporary asphalt pavement will be used until all National Grid work is complete and permanent restoration can be performed.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: The Chairperson reported/commented that information on the following was in members' folder material:

- The Chair announced that Board member Raimondo Graziano is taking a job as Chief of Staff at Senator Addabbo's Office and that he will be resigning as a Board Member at the end of the month.
- The Chair reported that at the February Borough Board meeting, they voted to approve the Queens Capital & Expense Budget Response.
- The Chair reported that we received from the NYC Dept. of Information and Technology, the Link 5G Design Proposal.
- The Chair reported that we received price gauging information from the Attorney General of the State of NY.

- The Chair reported that we received information from Con-Edison recognizing that the COVID-19 Pandemic caused financial difficulty during 2020-2022 and they have offered the gas bill relief program for those who did not receive their bill credit in 2022.
- The Chair reported that we sent in a letter of comment to the US Army Corps regarding the HATS Survey.
- The Chair stated that last week in the Howard Beach area a post went up on a social media page with a notice saying that according to a press release at the Mayor's Office, modular houses are to be built on US Dept. of Interior parkland which was untrue. It was someone's idea of a joke, and it was not funny. She added that the modular unit home that was being installed on a privately owned lot had all the proper permits issued and the process was entirely legal. She thanked CM Ariola's office for working on this issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – The Committee Chair stated that the information is in the folder.

EDUCATION – The Committee Chair thanked Sen. Addabbo, the City Council and Chancellor Banks for all they have done. She stated that she had the honor of attending a middle school science fair today with Principal Fitzgerald and she looked forward to attending more of these events.

JFK INTERNATIONAL – The Chair announced that last week Terminal 6, the Jet Blue Terminal, held their construction groundbreaking.

LIBRARIES – The Chair stated that the Committee Chair sent her library report over late today and that it will be distributed to the Board Members by e-mail tomorrow.

PARKS – The Chair stated that there is someone in the community that is interested in planting a community garden but the location that they have chosen is not a conducive site for gardening and that we will discuss the proposal with this individual.

PUBLIC SAFETY – The Committee Chair stated that the information is in the folder.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT – The Committee Chair announced that summer is soon approaching, and that Summer Youth Employment Program Applications are open from February 13, 2023 and they close on March 31, 2023. Employment begins on July 5, 2023 and those eligible must be 14 or 15 years old by July 3, 2023 and must be a NY resident. For more information go to www.nyc.gov/dycdservices where they also list internship positions, and you can also go to the DCAS website as well. She stated that there are also employment opportunities available for Lifeguards. The criteria needed is 40 hours of training, a CPR course, and a passing grade on the written exam. For more information go to www.nyc.govparks.org. She continued that the USTA has a program called Careers Beyond the Court where they are seeking coaches. For more information go to www.usta.com for the coaching guide. The Committee Chair stated that the rest of her employment report is in the folder.

The Chair introduced Captain Bacchi, Commanding Officer of the 106th Precinct and invited him to speak. Captain Bacchi stated that he had good news that crime is down 17% for the year however, we have seen an increase in domestic violence and there is a disturbing trend that is up in violent robbery. He stated that Domestic Prevention help is available at 718-845-2227 which is the number for his domestic violence officers or at 1-800-621-HOPE which is the NYC Help line that can refer you to services. He continued that we are seeing an increase in identity theft and for those who are still writing checks to seek an alternate means of payment. He stated that about 10 years ago mailbox fishing was very popular where an individual takes a device on a string and affixes it with glue and puts it in the mailbox to obtain checks. A chemical is then used to erase the amount on the check, and they then write a new amount to obtain the cash. At the end of the month when the victims' bank statement comes, they see that a large amount of money was withdrawn from their account. He suggests using electronic payment which is more secure. He continued that it is tax season which is also scam season. He stated that the IRS will not call you, they will instead mail you a letter and they will never ask for a prepaid card. He stated that on February 20, 2023, a vehicle was left running on Liberty Ave. & 120 Street and 3 perpetrators entered and took off in the vehicle. The owner climbed on top of the vehicle while it was traveling at a high speed when it collided and overturned. All 3 individuals were apprehended. Two of them were 15 years old and one of them was 17 years old. The owner of the vehicle is in critical condition.

He stated that four lives were ruined and reminded everyone to always secure your vehicles, turn off the engine, roll up the windows and lock the doors. He continued that 1 hour ago another vehicle was stolen at 128th Street & Liberty Ave. He stated that on February 15th there was a shooting at 114-02 Rockaway Blvd and that the individual was apprehended afterwards. It was not a random attack; he went in the store to target the individual. He is now in Rikers Island, and he is no longer a threat to the community.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. There were none.

The Board Chair acknowledged various representatives from elected officials.

Jason Betancourt rep. Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez introduced himself and stated that their office can be reached at 718-599-3658.

The Chair added that Congresswoman Velazquez now has a larger piece of Community Board 10 than she originally had.

Jennifer Viechweg-Horsford rep. Sen. Roxanne Persaud relayed greetings from Sen. Persaud. She stated that the Senator is new to the district, and she looks forward to working with everyone. She announced that their office is located at 1222 E 96th Street between Flatlands Ave. & Ave. J and they have a weekly newsletter that gives a lot of information and anyone who would like to receive a copy can sign up at www.Persaud.nysenate.gov. She also announced that an International Women's Day celebration will be held on March 6th at 6:30 pm and they will be offering free mammograms for women over age 40 by their District office on Sunday March 19th from 9 am to 4:30 pm. They are also offering free legal services on March 30th and to call their office to make an appointment. They will also be holding an Easter Egg Hunt on April 1st from 11 am to 12 pm at Grammercy Park. She continued that they have held a Safety/Identity theft event with the 106th Precinct that was well received by the seniors.

Sam Verstandig rep. AM David Weprin introduced himself and stated that their office is always happy to assist anyone from their District or not.

The Chair informed William Bao rep. AM Anderson's office that we received a reply this afternoon from NYPD regarding the complaint he forwarded us and that the vehicles were all found to be legal.

William Bao, rep. AM Khaleel Anderson introduced himself and announced that they will be holding a Women's History month event and that they will be offering tax prep at the South Ozone Park office on Wednesday's and HEAP preparation on Mondays. They also have NYLAC available to discuss immigration services and housing issues. For more information or to make an appointment call their office at 718-322-4958. He added that the complainant who has the issues with the vehicles is in attendance this evening and that she may like to speak about her issue at the end of the meeting. The Chair stated that we were just passing the information that we received from the NYPD on.

Jacob Gross rep. AM Jennifer Rajkumar introduced himself and stated that Assembly season has begun, and the Assembly member is introducing bills helping Veterans, children's privacy online and bills to extend paid family leave for women who have experienced still birth. He explained that right now when a woman gives birth, she is entitled to paid family leave, but if the child dies, she loses her paid leave and that this bill will correct that. He continued that the Assembly member is also trying to make Diwali a holiday and she received support from UFT President Michael Mulgrave. He also added that if there is any organization that feels that they deserve funding, they welcome their input. He announced that they also held a Legal Aid Clinic and they have offered mammograms. The Assembly member also joined mayor Adams to address mental health in schools and to offer telehealth services. For more information contact their office.

Brendan Jackson rep. Council member Adrienne Adams introduced himself and stated that on Wednesday, the State of the City will be given by Speaker Adams in the Bronx at the Sonia Sotomayor Community Center.

Linda Fogal rep. Council member Joann Ariola announced that the Council member is holding a contest for middle school and high school students where they are to write an essay on a Veteran involved in their lives. The submission is due on May 15th and the winner will become a junior honorary Council member for the day and will have lunch with Council member Ariola and learn how government works. She also announced that they have rain barriers from

DEP available in their office. For any additional information call their office at 718-738-1083. She continued that they are working with Veterans to get them the proper housing they need and if anyone knows a Veteran who needs help, to let them know so that they can try to get them the best care they deserve.

Kathleen Burgie rep. Assembly member Stacey Pheffer-Amato relayed that the Assembly member gives her regards and that will be providing applications for the Women of Distinction Award. For more information call their office at 718-945-9550 or send an e-mail to GreenbergJ@nyassembly.gov. She continued that the Assembly member wants to provide universal free lunch at public and private schools and feels that no child should go hungry.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

The Chair asked if there is anyone from the public on the phone line that has a comment or a question to state their name. Hearing none.

The Chair asked if there is anyone from the public on the Zoom link that has a comment or a question to use the raise their hand feature. Hearing none.

The Chair stated for those viewing the YouTube video, that the record of the meeting will stay open until the close of business tomorrow and if there are any questions or comments to call the office at 718-843-4488 or send an e-mail to qn10@cb.nyc.gov

Ms. Tishana King introduced herself and thanked the Board for allowing her to speak at tonight's meeting and she thanked William Bao for trying to assist her with her complaint. She went on to speak further about the parking issue she was complaining about.

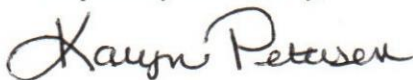
The Chair asked if there were any additional questions from the public. Hearing none.

The Chair announced that normally we would not change the date of our April Board meeting but this year there will be a calendar change for our April meeting due to a conflict with Passover and Holy Thursday. We are tentatively scheduled to hold our next meeting on Tuesday, April 4th hopefully, via Zoom.

The Chair thanked all those attending and wished a Happy Women's History month to all of the women who serve on the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



Karyn Petersen
Draft – Subject to Approval