



Community Board 12

The City of New York

Borough of Queens

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

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Melinda Katz
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Rene Hill
CHAIRPERSON

Vicky Morales Casella
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, QUEENS

December 12, 2018
MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- PRESIDING: Rene Hill, Chairperson
- PRESENT: Amir Abbady
Maxine Allen, Treasurer
Melvin Artis
Yasinul Ashraf
Nigel Barker
Jacqueline Boyce
Geraldine Taylor-Brown
Kenneth Carter
Manuel Caughman
Brittany Chambers
Clifton Stanley Diaz
Barbara Duncan
Daniel Englander
Mabel Everett
Joan Flowers, 1st Vice Chair
Marcia Francis
Nadi Ghaness
Thomas Greenaway
Glenn Greenidge
Dora Griszell
Ian Harris
Nurul Haque
James Heyliger
Rene Hill, Chairperson
Derek Irby
Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs

Celeste James
Clementine James
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson
Bilal Karriem
Michele Keller
Gregory Mays
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Rev. Edward McKay
Kemar Newman
Jean Phelps
Rodney Pride
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
Yvette Sledge
Toni Totten
Bryan White
Richard Hogan
Michelle Kirkland
Tunisia Morrison
Kamal Saleem
Benjamin Wright, Jr.

ABSENT:

I. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Aiysha Jaggassar, Executive Secretary

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

- The Community Board office sent out a link on Charter Revision 2019; please visit Charter 2019.nyc. You can give your opinion and/or suggestions, the Charter controls how the City spends our tax dollars, how decisions are made about changes in the Community, and the power of our elected officials.
- Thanked all of the Community Board Vice Presidents, Committee and Area Chairs, Board Members, Elected Officials, and the Community. The Chairperson appreciates all of the input that she receives.

Elected Officials and their Representatives were acknowledged by the Chairperson.

Inspector Peter Fortune, Commanding Officer at the 103rd Precinct

- The community experienced about a 6% increase from November 12 through December 9, 2018 - 111 crimes versus 104; however we continue to do well overall for the year down about 3 1/2% in crime. There has been a 14% increase in robberies, felony assaults and stolen cars. The precinct has seen 0 murders, 0 rapes, down in burglaries, down in grand larcenies, and 0 shootings for a 28 day period. For the year, there has been a 11% reduction in shootings.
- Crime Prevention Tips – this being the holiday season, watch your unattended property and the property left in your vehicles. There is an increase in unattended crimes between Parsons Blvd. and 165 Street. Please do not leave any presents in your car; thieves jiggle car handles until they come upon a care that is unlocked. There are teams on the street who will bump you and steal items from you. Men should carry wallets in your front pocket – it is much harder to remove a wallet from your front pocket than it is your back pocket. Women please put your purse strap across your chest. Stay alert on buses and trains. Be aware of your surrounding while texting and on the telephone. Package deliveries – try to have someone at home to sign for the packages. We have caught many thieves trying to swipe packages from individual's property.

- November 7, 2018 – Narcotics had a year long investigation that came to a conclusion at 107-35 Sutphin Blvd.; throughout that year long investigation 14 subjects were arrested. We seized over 400 grams of crack/cocaine through dozens and dozens of undercover buys. That location was plagued for quite some time with the threat of force through violence over the drug trade. Happy to report they believe they have dismantled the crack/cocaine ring; received many compliments of how much safer people feel walking down that stretch of Sutphin Blvd.
- Having a special event on December 23, 2018 from 4:00 pm. To 7:00 p.m., at Haggerty Park, “Queens Lit Holiday Fest “the 103rd Precinct is sponsoring this with partnership through State Senator Leroy Comrie and Councilman Miller. There will be a tree lighting, roller skating, dance competition, hot chocolate bar, live performances, pictures with Santa, presents, and a lot more surprises. We ask that you RSVP your child for a toy at Queenslitlegacy@gmail.com.

III. DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

Demolition

1. 172-02 Hillside Avenue (1 Story Garage)
Block: 9829, Lot: 37
2. 157-18 115th Road
Block: 12197, Lot: 7
3. 109-29 142nd Street (Garage), Queens, NY
4. 87-83 168th Street (Garage)
Block: 9821, Lot: 1
5. 109-02 172nd Street, Queens, NY
6. 190-24 111th Avenue (Partial Demolition/Renovation)
Block: 10950, Lot: 91

- There are a number of houses and buildings in the district that are being demolished, and some of the construction is because of partial renovations. Vacate orders is when a tenant has someone living in the cellar (there are 16 cases from July through December)

*The District Manager’s full report was provided to all members and is on file at CB 12’s District Office

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Clive Williams, Chairperson, CB 13Q congratulated the board for the incredible turnout.

- Having been at Community Board 13Q I realize the importance of participation. The Chair, invited Chairperson Williams, to the meeting. This Board is fortunate to have this kind of leadership; there comes a time when that leadership is challenged. I trust that everyone will participate in the kind spirit of Christmas; we know that is more beneficial than anything else.

Kenny Carter, Founder & President, Fathers Alive in the Hood (FAITH)

- Fathers in the Hood (FAITH) is a non-profit organization operating in Queens, Brooklyn, Harlem, and various parts of the city since 2011. They are a group of men that do mentorship and engage the community. F.A.I.T.H participates in many community initiatives, such as the “Jegna” program, employment initiative programs, gang intervention and anti-gun violence Peace Walks. F.A.I.T.H collaborates with other organizations that support developing a positive community environment.
- They are currently operating in 4 or 5 locations throughout the week, Mondays they will be in East New York, the pink Houses in Brooklyn, Tuesday, beginning January 8, 2019 thy will be in the Baisley Houses (PAL Center), Thursdays, the 40 Projects and Hamels Housing in Far Rockaway, Friday Edgemere Housing in Far Rockaway.

Motion to open business section made by Joan Flowers, Esq., seconded by Celeste James.

Hon. Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President

- Queens is a very large borough and a lot of the Community Boards have their holiday party tonight, and I am trying to get to as many districts as I can. See so many of you in the Civics that you are in, or as a tenant association, I see Renee at my office almost every other week representing the Community Board. It is good to see the District Manager, Yvonne Reddick up and about.
- We have done such great things together for example, the Jamaica NOW Plan, \$153,000,000 investment in Jamaica. This is one of the first neighborhoods to get WI-FI on the streets in the City of New York we are redoing Norelli-Hargreaves Park; a \$4.5 million project; Roy Wilkins Park, St. Alban's Library, Hollis Library.
- There were 11 individuals killed in a synagogue across the Country, 2 African American men were killed by white supremacist, bombings in the schools; we have had to overcome a lot of hate.
- Our diversity is challenged every signal time you turn on the television; we have 190 Countries and 200 languages here in this borough; our diversity is what makes us stronger than any other place in the United States of America. There are 23 ethnic events that the Boro President's office does from African American awards and history month to Ramadan, Bangladesh Independence Day and all of the other events.
- From my family to yours, I wish everyone a healthy and happy year ahead. Ms. Katz thanked Celeste James for the invitation to the holiday party.
- Acknowledged Councilmember Adrienne Adams, 28th C.D. and the new Acting Director of Economic Development, Shurn Anderson.

Hon. Adrienne Adams, 28th C.D.

- When I walk into City Hall on a daily basis, I take all of you with me, I take your smiles. I love my job, it is not an easy job but I was born to do this work and thanked everyone for their support.
- The first Amazon hearing was held today; I believe that most New Yorkers want this for Economic growth over 25,000 jobs coming into New York City, the problem that Council had was the clandestine way that this deal was handled; it was very dirty and very dark. City Council' responsibility is to maintain transparency for all of the residents for the City of New York. The Council has insisted that Amazon explain what went on between the Mayor and the Governor behind closed doors for months. With them getting these wonderful millions of dollars in subsidies.
- Amazon bypassed the ULURP process for the city of New York, there were two properties that were destined to be schools; so they folded in other pieces of property into a non-existent ULURP process that they bought to the state level under GPP Rule.
- I do not think that Amazon coming to NYC is a bad thing because jobs will be created, but whenever we see multi-billionaires coming in; the first thing that we should be asking is "What can you do for me"; that will be the continuing saga for NYC Council holding Amazon's feet to the fire month after month.
- The Jasmine Headley case that everyone across the world witnessed; this 23 year old was sitting on the floor at HRA with her baby; after standing 4 hours with a 1 year old in her arms. This is a working 23 year old who had to take a day off from work; and what ended up happening to her was deplorable.

PRESENTATION

IV. BUSINESS SESSION

Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson, Secretary, 42 members present at roll call; quorum pronounced

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion to accept November 21, 2018 minutes was made made by Rev. Princess Thorbs-McGee, seconded by Bishop Artis; the motion passed.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Blocks United Committee: Represented by Rev. Edward McKay, Chairperson

- Blocks United is a sub-committee of Community Board 12, where we reach out to help and assist those blocks that are no longer functionable. The Committee encourages and teaches them the proper way of creating a block association and maintaining the membership.
- The Committee recently has gone out to assist three associations with setting up and maintaining their block association. Pleased to announce the Boro President has been assisting me and the Community in pulling down the illegal posted signs. We encourage the community to pull down illegal posted signs when they see them.

Nomination Committee: Represented by Yvette Sledge, Chairperson

- The interview process for the candidates was completed last month, on schedule. There are currently two positions that are open, and will be voted on at the January 16, 2019 General Board meeting – Treasurer and Parliamentarian.
- Was tasked by the Board to explain the position of Parliamentarian: A Parliamentarian shall advise the Chairperson on questions of Parliamentarian procedures and the By-Laws. They will interpret the Robert Rules of Order, call attention of the Chairperson to any error in the proceedings that may affect the substantial rights of any member and they will maintain a position of impartiality.
- For Chairperson there are two candidates running, Rene Hill and Maxine Allen; everyone else is running unopposed. Each person will be given 4 minutes.

*The full Committee reports were provided to all members and is on file at CB 12's District Office

II. ELECTION/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Yvette Sledge, Nominating Chairperson and committee members, Bilal Karriem and Amir Abbady.

The Slate:

- Chairperson: Rene Hill (35 votes) Maxine Allen (6 votes)
- 2nd Vice Chairperson: Reverend C. Princess Thorbs-McGee (39 votes)
- Secretary: Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson (41 votes)
- Parliamentarian: Nominated – Bishop Artis
- Treasurer: Nominations tabled until the January 16, 2019 meeting – The candidates nominated for the office did not qualify, due to time of service.

The 2018 – 2020 Term Officers were sworn in by Councilmember Adrienne Adams, 28th C.D.

Rene Hill – Chairperson

Reverend C. Princess Thorbs-McGee – 2nd Vice Chairperson

Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson – Secretary

Motion was made to close business section, by Amir Abbady, seconded by Kenny Carter.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.