



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

February 21, 2018

MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- PRESIDING: Rene Hill, Chairperson
- PRESENT: Maxine Allen, Treasurer
Melvin Artis
Nigel Barker
Jacqueline Boyce
Manuel Caughman
Brittany Chambers
Barbara Duncan
Alexandra Dyer
Daniel Englander
Mabel Everett
Joan Flowers, 1st Vice Chair
Nadi Ghaness
Thomas Greenaway
Glenn Greenidge
Dora Grizel
Ian Harris
Rene Hill, Chairperson
Richard Hogan
Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs
Celeste James
Clementine James
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson
Bilal Karriem
Michele Keller, Secretary

Michelle Kirkland
Gregory Mays
Rev. Edward McKay
Rodney Pride
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Toni Totten
Bryan White
Benjamin Wright, Jr.
Geraldine Taylor-Brown
David Bucknor
Kenneth Carter
Mary A. Childs
Patrick Evans
James Heyliger

ABSENT:

Margaret Kirkland
Tunisia Morrison
Kemar Newman
Kamal Saleem
Luc Art Severe
Yvette Sledge

I. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Michele Keller, Secretary

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

I attended a couple of meetings: Legal Hands, JFK Community Agreement Town Hall, CB12 District Service monthly meeting, Blocks Unite, Guy R. Brewer Democratic Club meeting with Councilman Lancman (the Councilman wanted to find out what the Board needed), rode around CB12 area with Michelle Keller to check Car Sharing sites, Queens Borough Hall preliminary budget priorities, Breakfast with Queens Borough Cabinet and Queens Chamber of Commerce, South Jamaica Houses Civic Meeting, rode around CB12 area with M. Keller and Samantha (DOT) to check out Car Sharing sites.

A Representative from the Veteran’s Administration will be our guest at the March 21, 2018 General Meeting to discuss the St. Albans VA/Columbarium site.

If you write DOT letters, you will receive responses. If you do not receive a response please see Michele Keller, Transportation Chairperson so that she can work on it.

III. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

New York City School of Construction Authority (SCA) the exterior modernization of P.S. 37 is about to begin. The project includes exterior masonry work, flood elimination and parapet replacement. Project’s duration is until the summer of 2019.

On school days construction work will take place after normal school hours. Noisy work will ease at 10:00pm. Work may also take place on weekends and holidays as needed, and on days when school is not in session. The SCA will strive to minimize the disruption to the neighbors who live around 179-37 137th Avenue.

Project: SEQNS001 – Contractor working on sanitary sewer on 200th Street between Murdock Avenue and 115th Avenue, 113th Avenue between Springfield and 219th Street sanitary and house installation is being done. This project is 40% complete.

HWQ 1214B4 – Lakeview Blvd. East no work is being done contractor will be returning in March to do the punch list work one (1) block Lakeview Blvd. East and tree planting.

SE-854 – Lucas Street Project the contractor will be returning in April for paving of the streets. There is a crew of five (5) working on the preliminary punch list. The project is 98% complete.

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

Elected Officials and their Representatives were acknowledged by the Chairperson.

IV. PRESENTATION

James Mitrons, New York City Parks & Recreation, Capital Projects Division

Looking for the Board to approve two projects: 1. Norelli-Hargreaves Park Playground scheduled for renovations to the multi-purpose play area, 2. Haggerty Park, installing physical equipment in the park.

Lisa Sabella, New York City Parks & Recreation - Norelli-Hargreaves multi-purpose field is located on 142 Street and 106 Ave (Van Wyck Expressway). The goals for the project are to improve sight conditions with new pavement, drainage, update the fencing, increase accessibility with a new entrance to the sight and create fitness areas for adults and seniors. (Screen Presentation)

Their goal is to bring adult fitness equipment into the parks. In the package from Councilman Miller Cambria Playground was included, but Parks already received approval from Board 13 for the playground. (Screen Presentation)

Lauren McNeal, Project Manager, NYC Department of Transportation

The point of the car share program is we all experience congested streets, and there is a limited amount of capacity on the streets and DOT can expand streets only so much. DOT is working with many different types of programs and this is one of them. Car Sharing is not Uber or LIFT. Car Sharing can be used in the same manner as the ZIP or Enterprise car share. Round trip car share is when you pick up a car and drop it off. Car Sharing is different than a regular rental car because you rent it by the minute or by the hour and it includes insurance, maintenance, and gas. With a membership you have access to a car when you need it. City Council passed two laws last March requiring NYC DOT to test out whether or not Car Share or expanding access to Car Share or expanding access to Car Share would give NYC any of the benefits that other cities have seen.

The research shows that people up to 30% of individuals who join Car Share, drive less, or get rid of their car. If you become a member of Car Share you can delay buying your own vehicle or you can delay buying that second vehicle because you can head off the need for the car by using Car Share service instead.

One law says the city needs to allocate a certain amount of parking spaces in DOT garages and parking fields; two cars per company if they want to get a permit to use these spaces. DOT would need to have an on-street Car Share pilot program in the City. DOT wrote a new rule into the vehicle and traffic law allowing them to create permits for the program. DOT can revoke permits, set conditions on the permits, change locations for where the permits are in affect.

V. BUSINESS SESSION

Michele Keller, Secretary, 29 members present at roll call; quorum pronounced

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion to adopt the Bilal Karriem minutes was made by, seconded by Glenn Greenidge, the motion passed.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson

There is a continued conversation evolving around a Community Benefits Package for the \$10 Billion JFK Upgrade. There will be a JFK community Meeting called by the local elected officials, Thursday February 22 6-8 pm at August Martin High School. The Queens Connection will have the engagement meetings to begin in the six designated areas the week of February 26. Stay tuned for further information.

Proposed Southeast Queens Federal Credit Union is meeting every 2nd Saturday. The last 2 meeting have been held at African Center for Community Empower located at 111-20 Farmers Blvd St Albans. Meeting starts at 9:30 am – 12 noon.

There are two NYS loan programs Bridge to Success/ Startup Capital. Section 3: What is Section 3? Your contract is being funded by Federal HOME Program (HOME) funds that the City receives through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These funds are subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, which aims to foster local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement, and individual self-sufficiency. The provision requires that recipients of HUD funds, to the greatest extent feasible, provide job training, employment, and contracting opportunities for low- or moderate-income residents in connection with projects and activities in their neighborhoods.

Section 3 applies to HOME-funded contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000 that are for: housing construction and/or rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards); construction-related job training; public construction projects; professional and/or clerical services associated with HOME-funded construction and rehabilitation, such as architectural, engineering, administrative, and payroll services, etc.

Education Committee: Represented by Joan Flowers, Esq., Chairperson

Dr. Thomany presented regarding his program on preparing our children to take the Gifted and Talented test for those programs. His company is Fostering Thoroughness LLC. He currently has a program at Excelsior Preparatory School as well as a school in Brooklyn. He will be starting a program at Word Christian Academy. His belief is that students ought to start preparing for these tests sooner rather than later.

Reports: Vanessa Sparks reported on SD 28. She gave some statistics as to the

performance of the students in the middle schools in that district. According to her report, most of the middle schools there are performing below 50%.

Attended Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman's Education Taskforce meeting on February 9, 2018 and reported as follows:

1. The Queens Library has an after-school program for school-aged children, aged 6-14. The program is called STACKS. The program offers week long learning projects that allow the children to use and become familiar with all the resources the library has to offer. It also offers STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, as well as literacy-based activities that complement the child's school curriculum.
2. There is a gifted and Talented program that is coming into IS 109 this fall.
3. PS 176 currently has a Gifted and Talented program with an average class size of 28. This program is from Kindergarten to 5th Grade.
4. The Governor's Excelsior program for College tuition relief, requires that all benefits under the TAP and PELL programs to be exhausted before the Excelsior program would kick in.

Blocks United Committee: Represented by Rev. Edward McKay, Chairperson
Rev. McKay encouraged attendees to get involved in Community Board 12 by attending meetings and joining a Community Board Committee.

The Committee's illegal Sign Removal Coordinator, reported about removing illegal signs aka "bandit signs", on Thursday, January 18, 2018 in the area of Linden Blvd. between Sutphin Blvd. & Van Wyck. Ms. Riddick reported about the difficulty in removing some of the bandit signs because tar is being used to post the signs. The bolts being used are hard to remove and the signs are being posted higher up making it harder to reach and remove the signs. The sticker signs posted, for example, "Cash for Cars" are hard to peel, so they are going to use paint to cover the sticker signs in high traffic areas of aggressive bandit sign postings. Ms. Riddick informed the next target area for sign removal will be on Baisley Blvd. on the 3rd Thursday of the month in February.

There was discussion & questions regarding who is posting the signs & punishment for the offenders who are posting the bandit signs in the community. The suggestion was made to ask the Council Member office to help look into the telephone numbers listed on the bandit signs.

P.O. Rivera stated the Police follow-up with Sanitation to issue summonses/enforcement for posting advertising unlawfully.

By-Laws Committee: Represented by Audrey Lee Jacobs, Chairperson

During the meetings of the By-Laws Committee for the months of October 2017, November 2017, December 2017 and January 2018, the following sections of the By-Laws were reviewed, discussed and/or revised:

1. NOVEMBER 2017 - Review of Selected Sections of By-Laws Adopted January 20, 2010
 - a. Update on Sections Reviewed & Amended - Meetings of April 2017, May 2017 and June 2017
 - i. Article I. Purpose (Page 1)
 - ii. Article XI A. Appointment of Standing and Special Committees (Page 7)
 1. Community Board 12 Committees

- a. Standing
 - b. Senior Citizens and Health
 - c. Land Use
 - d. Economic Development
 - e. Education
 - f. Transportation
 - g. Sanitation
 - h. Youth Services
 - i. Public Safety
 - j. Communications
- iii. Article XI B. Standing Committee (Page 7)
 - iv. Article XIX. Amendments of The By-Laws (Page 12)

Transportation Committee: Represented by Michele Keller, Chairperson
 The Committee met via telephone conference call. The Guest speakers were Samantha Dolgoff NYC DOT Queens Project Manager and Nicole Garcia NYC DOT Queens Deputy Commissioner.

Ms. Dolgoff's synopsis outlined the following:

- Scheduled Implementation on Parsons Boulevard should begin within the next two weeks
- Relocating commuter vans from Parsons Blvd. & Archer Avenue to 153rd Street E/S between Jamaica Avenue & Archer Avenue
- Street markings on Parsons Blvd.
- Improve street (i.e. potholes)
- Install granite blocks and flowered planters
- In Spring/Summer 2018, pedestrian furniture will be set out on plaza
- Greater Jamaica Development Corporation will be responsible for furniture and maintaining street cleanup

Commissioner Garcia informed board/committee members that she will meet with van owners to notify them of decision to relocate the vans. We, the members, requested to be included in the meeting so that transparency, accuracy and integrity relating to information is upheld. In addition, we requested that a roundtable including NYPD, local elected officials, CB12 members, MTA representatives, TLC representatives and commuter vans representative be included.

The undersigned updated the committee on the Atlantic Avenue Extension Project. NYC Economic Development Corporation and NYC DOT will be converting 94th & 95th Streets to one-way. The change should occur in spring of 2018. In addition, a new park will be built by NYCEDC. The location begins at Van Wyck Expressway service road and 94th Street.

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

Eric Robertson, Executive Officer, 113th Police Precinct

The Precinct is down in crime for the 28 day period, and year to date. There are to major components to their success, the first is the men and women that he is lucky to work with in the precinct and the other half is the community. There is a slight increase in burglaries. The Precinct has detectives and NCOs (Neighborhood Coordination

Officers) that they send out into the community to work with the squad that handles burglaries.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.