



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

Adrienne Adams
CHAIRPERSON

Vicky Morales Casella
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, QUEENS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2017

MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

- I. PRESIDING: Adrienne E. Adams, Chairperson
- II. PRESENT: Adrienne E. Adams
Melvin Artis
Geraldine Taylor-Brown
David Bucknor
Kenneth Carter
Manuel Caughman
Barbara Duncan
Daniel Englander
Mabel Everett
Thomas Greenaway
Ian Harris
Calvin Hewitt
Rene Cheatham-Hill
Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson
Celeste James
Bilal Karriem
Gregory Mays
John McRae
Maurice Muir
Rodney Pride
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
Constance Robinson-Turner

ABSENT: Jacqueline Boyce
Maxine Brannon
Ruth Campbell
Mary A. Childs
Patrick Evans
Joan Flowers
Nadi Ghaness
Glenn Greenidge
James Heyliger
Richard Hogan
Michele Keller
Margaret Kirkland
Edward McKay, 1st Vice Chairperson
Kamal Saleem
Yvette Sledge
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson
Toni Totten
Bryan White
Benjamin Wright, Jr., Treasurer

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

In the news of late, we are witnessing antics and behavior that we've never seen before. From "alternative facts" to spies and lies, we've got it all and we are in for a bumpy ride. Last month, I introduced the theme: **TRIUMPH** for Community Board 12 for the year 2017 and it looks like we will have to re-inforce it month after month to reassure ourselves and our community that we've been here before. **TRIUMPH**: A significant success or noteworthy achievement; instance or occasion of victory. (T)enacious, (R)estored, (I)nvolved, (U)nmovable, (M)otivated, (P)ersistent, (H)earty. Here in Community Board 12, we are addressing issues of economic development and literal "growing pains." in our area. Traffic jams in the downtown Jamaica corridor due to construction and an influx of huge Select buses that often appear to be empty are of concern to this Board. We are for the enforcement of the removal of 18-wheelers brazenly parking in residential districts seemingly with no penalty or meaningful consequence. We grapple with unsightly dumping and litter throughout our neighborhoods after offering the idea to have a city-wide initiative to educate the public on the health detriments and quality of life consequences due to avoidable littering and dumping. Additionally, we continue to fight the onslaught of shelter hotels and halfway houses within our borders - borders that have been saturated for decades with problems that other area of Queens do not want or get. Through the hard work of our committees, this Board will continue to make our voices heard in behalf of our community, whether it looks like they are falling on deaf ears or not. We will persist in asking for **increase** in enforcement of laws pertaining to illegal truck parking on our streets, **increase** in sanitation pickup and penalties for those who litter and dump on us, **increase** in sanitation clean up and removal of signs that pepper utility poles with offers to buy our homes. Our quality of life issues must be addressed.

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

V. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

Snow and Ice Removal - Every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant, or other person having charge of a lot or building must clean snow and/or ice from the sidewalk within 4 hours after the snow has stopped falling or by 11:00 a.m. if the snow has stopped falling after 9:00 p.m. the previous evening. Snow may not be thrown into the street. If snow or ice becomes frozen so hard that it cannot be removed, the sidewalk may be strewn with ashes, sand, sawdust of similar suitable material within the same time limits. The sidewalk must be thoroughly cleaned as soon as the weather permits. No garbage, recycling, organic collection, or street cleaning on President's Day, February 20, 2017. Residents who normally receive Monday collection should place material at curbside after 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 20th including recyclables. Sanitation usually collects recyclables the week following the holiday; this is a departure from their normal holiday service.

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

Motion to open the Business Session was made by Calvin Hewitt, seconded by Bishop Melvin Artis, the motion passed.

Acknowledgements of Elected Officials and their Representatives was made by the Chairperson; Councilman Donovan Richards provided updates from the City Council

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

Application #2016-4232-A submitted by Eric Palatnik, P.C., 139-12,139-16, 139-18 and 139-22 Atlantic Avenue; A/K/A 95th Avenue (property is situated between 95th Avenue and Brisbin Street), Block # 10006, Lot #5,7,8,9. Application is for the proposed construction of 4, 3- story and cellar buildings in the bed of a mapped street; it is contrary to General City Law 35, R5 Zoning District.

VII. BUSINESS SESSION

Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary, pronounced quorum; roll call: 24 members present

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion to adopt the January 18, 2017 minutes was made by Bishop Melvin Artis, seconded by Calvin Hewitt, the motion passed.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson Report read by committee member Geri Taylor-Brown in Mr. Greenidge's absence. The committee discussed the upcoming Economic Development Summit planned for the March/April time frame at York College. We reviewed/discussed the proposed deliverable outcomes of the Economic Development Summit:

Proposed Deliverables:

- Presentation on leveraging power of CDFIs for Southeast Queens MWBEs
- MWBEs using alternative financing options to access capital
- Introduction of NMTC as a financing option for local development & MWBEs
- Panel Discussion focused on:
 - MWBE resources
 - Successful MWBE working models
 - MWBE support in acquiring contracts

Blocks United Subcommittee: Represented by Reverend Edward McKay, Chairperson
Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and state the organization represented.

- Reading of the Mission Statement for “Sub Committee - Blocks United”
- An invitation was given to attendees to get involved in Community Board 12 by attending CB12 general meetings and joining a committee at Community Board 12
- Community Board 12 meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center at 172-17 Linden Blvd; 7:00pm
- Blocks United meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Roy Wilkins Family Center; 177-01 Baisley Blvd, Jamaica, NY; 7:00pm.

Education Committee: Represented by Joan Flowers, Chairperson
Report read by committee member Geri Taylor-Brown in Ms. Flowers’ absence
The Education Committee meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Roy Wilkins Park
The committee has reached out to the Superintendents of each district to inquire about their goals. The committee is looking at the following 3 goals for 2017:

- Would like to be a parental advocacy group, help parents learn how to advocate for their children
- Would like to be an entity that encourages solidity and involvement; they would like to bring community based organizations and other private entities into schools
- Develop some sort of educational resource center; the committee is discussing how resources can be located in a central area for parents, children, educators, and community members

Land Use Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson
Report read by committee member Rene Cheatham-Hill in Mr. Greenidge’s absence
Application # 2016-4232-A submitted by Eric Palatnik, P.C. 139-12, 139-16, 139-18, and 139-22 Atlantic Avenue; A/K/A 95th Avenue, Block # 10006, Lot # 5,7,8,9.
Application is for proposed construction of four (4), three (3) story and cellar buildings in the bed of a mapped street is contrary to General City Law 35, R5 Zoning District.

Recommendation: The Land Use Committee does not approve the 4 structures; the committee recommends building 3 units instead of 4 units, using the 4th building space to provide parking, considering the area is already very congested.

III. VOTE ON BSA APPLICATIONS

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Land Use Committee Re: application #2016-4232A was made by Calvin Hewitt, seconded by Bishop Melvin Artis, the motion passed. Voting Results: 18 Approve; 5 Opposed; 1 Abstain

Motion to end the Business Session was made by Calvin Hewitt, seconded by Bilal Karriem, the motion passed.

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

Keisha Keith, Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD)

DYCD is a citywide summer youth program for individuals 14 - 24. Summer youth can work in retail, summer camp, offices, hospital, community centers, etc. Students can fill out the applications on line or application forms can be printed and submitted.

Eshwarie Mahodeo, Outreach Coordinator, Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB)

The CCRB investigates and mediates complaints from the public about misconduct by NYPD officers. Individuals can call 1-800-341-2272 to file a complaint about police misconduct. Other ways to file a complaint: write to CCRB, 100 Church Street, 10th Floor, NY, NY 10007; or www.nyc.gov/ccrb; in person between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., call 311 anytime or go to any police station and file the complaint or pick up a complaint form and fill out at home and mail it. The four types of complaints are: excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or offensive language. On March 8, 2017, the CCRB will have its monthly board meeting at the Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center at 6:30 p.m.; it is open to the public.

Kathy Hazzard, Executive Director, Women of Faith

Women of Faith has a building at 109-37 Sutphin Blvd, Jamaica, NY with tenants in residence. The organization is preparing to open a new building next door to the existing residence. The new building will be a two-story residential with 45 units. Women of Faith would like to know what the community would like to occupy the space, whether it be veterans, senior, etc. The building will have underground parking.

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