



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, JUNE 21, 2017

MINUTES

General meeting of Community Board 12 was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

- I. PRESIDING: Adrienne E. Adams, Chairperson
- II. PRESENT: Adrienne E. Adams
Melvin Artis
Nigel Barker
Jacqueline Boyce
Geraldine Taylor-Brown
David Bucknor
Kenneth Carter
Manuel Caughman
Brittany Chambers
Barbara Duncan
Patrick Evans
Joan Flowers
Nadi Ghaness
Thomas Greenaway
Glenn Greenidge
Dora Griszal
Ian Harris
Calvin Hewitt
James Heyliger
Rene Cheatham-Hill
Khondokar Tarikul Islam
Audrey Lee Jacobs
Celeste James
Clementine James
Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson

Bilal Karriem
Michele Keller
Michelle Kirkland
Gregory Mays
Rodney Pride
Kamal Saleem
Florence Simmons, 3rd Vice Chairperson
Toni Totten
Bryan White
Benjamin Wright, Jr., Treasurer

ABSENT:

Maxine Allen
Mary A. Childs
Alexandra Dyer
Daniel Englander
Mabel Everett
Richard Hogan
Margaret Kirkland
J Edward McKay, 1st Vice Chairperson
Tunisia Morrison
Maurice Muir
Yvette Sledge
C. Princess Thorbs McGee, 2nd Vice Chairperson

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements were read by Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

In January, we began our year yet again with conscious goals and a determination to move forward. In an effort to keep us all motivated in spite of the recent changes in Washington D.C., I presented Community Board 12's theme for the year: **TRIUMPH** (in the era of Trump). **TRIUMPH** – (T)enacious, (R)estored, (I)nvolved, (U)nmovable, (M)otivated, (P)ersistent and (H)earty. Here are some examples of how the committees of Community Board 12 have moved forward in our theme for the year thus far:

The efforts of our **Transportation Committee**, Chaired by Michele Keller, are among the most demanding work of all of our committees. By overseeing issues in the largest transportation hub in the borough, like commuter vans, traffic signals, street signage, street maintenance and speed bumps, the Transportation Committee always has a full plate and continues to work diligently with DOT to fight for what is in the best interest of the community.

The tenacity of Area 1 and Area 3 Chairpersons, Thomas Greenaway and Yvette Sledge, have provided a voice for residents who can't seem to get answers to questions from agencies whose responsibility it is to ensure their good and welfare. Their relationships with community based organizations keep the flow of information to help resolve on-going issues of concern.

Our **Public Safety Committee**, Chaired by Patrick Evans, our **Senior Citizens and Health Committee** Chaired by Maxine Allen and the **By-Laws Committee**, Chaired by Audrey Lee-Jacobs, illustrate that where no committee existed or where there was a change in leadership, the work of the committee was needed and the membership was revitalized. We appreciate the hard work of these committees and are assured that under new leadership; Community Board 12 is in good hands.

Community members, thank you for attending our monthly Board meetings. Please check our Facebook page over the summer months to keep up with local activities and items of interest.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said: "If you can't fly then walk, if you can't walk then run, if you can't run then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward."

With that, I wish you a safe and happy summer!

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

V. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

The New York State Division of Human Rights only handles matter related to unlawful discrimination. If you feel you have been subjected to discrimination in housing, employment, credit, places of public accommodation, volunteer firefighting, or private non-sectarian educational institutions based on age, creed, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, pregnancy-related conditions, domestic violence victim status, marital status, military status, arrest record, conviction record, predisposing genetic characteristics or familial status you can file a discrimination complaint with the Division of Human Rights. Complaints with the Division must be filed within one year of the most recent incident of discrimination or you may be able to file directly in State Court within three years of the incident. Filing with the Division is free of charge. File a complaint in person by visiting one of the Division's 12 offices in New York State. You can visit their website at www.dhr.ny.gov or call toll-free at 1-888-392-3644 for more information. You can visit the website and download a complaint form complete and sign it before a notary public and return it by mail or in person to one of the Division Offices.

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

Acknowledgements of Elected Officials and their Representatives was made by the Chairperson

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Eric Palatnik, LLC spoke on behalf of Application #C170336 ZMQ submitted by Northeastern Towers Annex LP in behalf of Northeastern Conference of SDA (Seventh Day Adventists); a senior housing development on Guy R. Brewer Blvd. and the corner of 132nd Ave. The singular building as it stands now: 12 stories tall with 111 senior units. The Pastor and members of the church are dedicated to providing affordable senior housing. The application requests permission for a rezoning; it would change the current R3X District to an R6 District property.
2. Kenneth Robertson re: Application #150380PQQ submitted by Administration for Children Services. Request that the Board approve the release of the site at 117-16 Sutphin Boulevard, (Block 12022, Lot 20) for continued use as a child day care center. This has been a child care center since 1973; ACS and DCAS (Divisions of Citywide Administration Services) are in the process of negotiating a new lease, the lease will run for 10 years - lease expired on October 31, 2015; there is a termination option after 5 years. The childcare provider is ALL My Children number 6; the space is 14,475 sq. ft.
3. Application #N170425 ZRY submitted by the Department of City Planning: proposed self-service storage facility text amendment. The proposed zoning text amendment would introduce a special permit under the jurisdiction of the City Planning Commission for all new self-service storage facilities in newly established designated areas within manufacturing districts, which largely coincide with industrial business zones, in order to ensure that the

development of self-service storage facilities does not unduly limit future sitting opportunities for more job intensive, industrial uses.

VII. PRESENTATION

Councilman I. Daneek Miller: The Council has been fighting for relief on Realty Property Tax services. Councilman Miller was disappointed that they were unable to facilitate the bill in the manner in it was produced it, but the settlement entailed a property exemption available to veterans. Veterans should see somewhere between a \$700 and \$1000 reduction.

Ban on the Universoul Circus introduced. The Universoul Circus has served the community and provided jobs; the only minority owned circus touring throughout the world. The Circus has been a revenue generator for Roy Wilkins Park. In a recent meeting the Councilman attended it was stated that there was a compromise going on and that they were going to negotiate implementation of that ban in allowing the Circus to exist for another year and a half.

VIII. BUSINESS SESSION

Rene Cheatham-Hill, Secretary, 35 members present at roll call; quorum pronounced

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion to adopt the May 17, 2017 minutes was made by Bishop Artis, seconded by Bilal Karriem, the motion passed.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senior Citizens and Health Committee: Represented by Maxine Allen, Chairperson
Report read by Dr. Cheryl James: The committee welcomed Nicole Johnson to the meeting; Ms. Johnson is from THRIVENYC. THRIVENYC is an initiative of Mayor De Blasio and First Lady McCray. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the initiative and the purpose of THRIVENYC; it is a connection to mental health support and services. If 25 or more Board Members commit to a training session; Ms. Johnson will set it up.

Transportation Committee: Represented by Michele Keller, Chairperson
Erin Maciel led the presentation with the Parsons Blvd. & 153rd Street Public Space project by describing street characters and conditions. Parsons Boulevard's character and condition: strong pedestrian and greening connections with JPAC, King Manor Museum and Rufus King Park, general lack of seating. Underutilized subway entrance, Queens Family Courthouse and street parking yield minimal street activation, opportunity to activate block for weekend use as festival street and access to King Manor Museum and Rufus King Park provides a respite from the noise and access to open space. It is a Vision Zero priority corridor as is Archer Avenue. The proposed changes will include: installation of a 20-25' wide painted sidewalk extension along the eastern curb, activate sidewalk extension with street seating, partnership with Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, maintain moving lanes and shift all lanes to the western curb, 3 lanes (2 southbound, 1 northbound), remove island on Jamaica Avenue to facilitate bus turns, and relocate commuter vans to 153rd Street.

Economic Development Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson
The Crossings at Jamaica Station: Sutphin Blvd and Archer Ave, 669 apartments with two towers; 45,000 sf commercial/community space. The Artimus Development Corporation is a residential construction project, with 380 affordable units at 147th Ave and 94th Ave. The Marriot Courtyard and Fairfield Inn at 149th & Archer Ave. Springhill Suites on Queens Blvd behind Wendy's. The Hillside Hotel has a grand opening sign on Queens Blvd next to the Mobile Station on Hillside Ave, north of the Springhill Suites.

There is an affordable housing unit planned for 148-31 90th Ave with 100 apartments, which includes residential parking for 45 vehicles and 45 bicycles.

The upcoming Economic Development Summit is planned for Thursday, September 14th, at York College. Topics will be new market tax credits, purpose CDFIs, community investment tools, and 4-5 CDFIs will be there to meet with businesses.

Education Committee: Represented by Joan Flowers, Chairperson

The Committee is moving ahead with plans for a Parent Forum; scheduled for August 26, 2017. The forum will take place at Eagle Academy from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Some of the issues are school applications (from pre-k thru high school), immigration as it relates to undocumented students, homelessness students, incarcerated parents, managing stress, community engagement and targeting afterschool programs. Education Committee meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Roy Wilkins Park. The next committee meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2017. Assigning each committee member to each school; there are 26 schools in Community Board 12.

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

The by-laws are the rule book on how the Board operates; everything you see at our Board meeting is based on the by-laws. The by-laws are based on the NYC Charter; which empowers NYC Community Boards. The Committee met last Monday, discussed the process of revising the by-laws and collaboration via the use of technology to revise them and the documents, which serve as the underpinnings of Community Board by-laws, specifically the NYC Charter amended in 2009, Robert's Rules of Order. Reviewed and discussed Article X; Responsibilities of Community Board Members with a focus on #3 (that authorization is required in order for a community board member to represent the Community Board publicly); discussion of the NYC Charter amended in 2009 and the section, which empowers the Community Board (Chapter 70 City Government in the Community Section 2800 and Section 2801).

Land Use Committee: Represented by Glenn Greenidge, Chairperson

In the matter of Application #C170336 ZMQ submitted by Northeastern Towers Annex LLP pursuant to Sections 197-c and 201 of the NYC Charter for an amendment of the Zoning Map, by a line perpendicular to the southwesterly street line of Guy R. Brewer Boulevard distant 350 feet northwesterly (as measured along the Street line) from the point of intersection of the northwesterly street line of 132nd Avenue and the southwesterly street line of Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, 132nd Avenue, 161st Street, a line 295 feet northwesterly of 132nd Avenue, and related Application #N170337 ZRQ pursuant to Section 201 of the New York City Charter, for an amendment of the Zoning Resolution of the City of New York, modifying Appendix F for the purpose of establishing a Mandatory Inclusionary Housing area.

Recommendation: Land Use committee has met with the developers and the architects of this project multiple times. We have found them to be responsive to the needs of the community by modifying the original plan based on our recommendations. We feel this project is needed in our community and therefore we approve the zoning change.

In the matter of Application #150380PQQ submitted by Administration for Children Services (ACS), the project involves the acquisition (terms to be determined) of the building located at 117-16 Sutphin Boulevard, Queens (Block 12022, Lot 20) for use by the Administration for Children's Services as a child day care center.

Land Use Note: The request is actually seeking the extension of the existing lease agreement with the current day care facility for 10 years.

Recommendation: Land Use committee approves the extension of the lease agreement with Administration for Children Services for 10 additional years.

In the matter of Application #N170425 ZRY submitted by the Department of City Planning regarding a Proposed Self-Storage Facility Text Amendment. On May 22, 2017, the Department of City Planning referred out the self-service storage facility text amendment (N170425 ZRY), beginning the public review process. The proposed zoning text amendment would introduce a special permit under the jurisdiction of the City Planning Commission for all new self-service storage in newly established designated areas within manufacturing districts, which largely coincide with Industrial Business Zones, in order to ensure that the development of self-service storage facilities do not unduly limit future sitting opportunities for more job intensive, industrial uses.

Land Use Note: The text amendment does not stop the new storage facilities but simply makes it a permit review process.

Recommendation: Land Use committee approves the text Amendment to restrict the establishment of new self-service storage and request this permit be utilized not only in the Industrial Zones but for the entire CB12 District.

VIII. VOTE ON ULURP/BSA APPLICATIONS

Re: Application C 170336 ZMQ:

Voting Results: 23 Approvals; 10 Opposition; 2 Abstentions

Re: Application #150380PQQ:

Voting Results: 35 Approvals; 1 Abstention

Re: Application # N170425 ZRY:

Voting Results: 35 Approvals; 0 Abstention

Unanimous consent was granted to conclude the Business Session.

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

Complete Girls, Inc.: Launched on January 28, 2017; end year celebration will be on Saturday, June 24, 2017 between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. The organization has already taken their girls on a tour to Yale and interviewed State Senator Comrie and Public Advocate Leticia James. Continuing summer programs for the girls where they will be mentoring, tutoring, and going on trips. Two locations, started at the South Jamaica library, now also located in Rochdale. Rochdale hours will be Saturdays between 2:00 and 3:30 p.m. South Jamaica location will start in October 2017. Courses will be held on Saturdays between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. The website is www.completegirlzinc.com. Recruiting additional girls; want to start a Complete Boys, now searching for male mentors and teachers.

Wayne Benn: This year he started his Block Association and would like to thank all the people helped him along the way. In October the group will have been in existence for one year. The purpose of forming the association was so that they could have a back to school giveaway on the block, but was told they could not because they did not have a block association. Mr. Benn is a member of an organization call FAITH (Fathers Alive in the Hood); the group is here as mentors for the young men in the community.

Loretta Humphrey, President, Greater Triangular Civic Association. Ms. Humphrey presented an issue with regards to large events in Roy Wilkins Park serving alcoholic beverages during events. The Civic Association is not in favor and has a petition stating such.

Debra Johnson, Board Member of the Thomas White, Jr. Foundation: all are invited to join them on July 8, 2017 for their health and wellness walk. The Walk is a walk for all for anyone dealing with health issues or have family member with health issues.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **9:05** p.m.