



Queens Community Board 13

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Melinda Katz
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Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Bryan J. Block
Chairman

Lawrence T. McClean
District Manager

**BOARD MEETING
MARCH 23, 2015
DELIVERANCE BAPTIST CHURCH
227-11 LINDEN BOULEVARD
CAMBRIA HEIGHTS NY 11411**

ATTENDANCE;

Present: Angela Augugliaro, Terence Banks, Corey Bearak, Alain Berrouet, Bryan Block, Verdell Boncoeur, Kyle Bragg, Jackie Campbell, Daisy Carew, Tanya Cruz, Bess DeBetham, James Delaney, Samuel Elliott, Charles Farruggia, Seymour Finkelstein, Robert Glover, Anthony Greene, Edward Harap, Richard Hellenbrecht, Lloyd Hicks, Fay, Hill, Vernal Holder, Mohamood Ishmael, Rhonda Kontner, Marcia O'Brien, Nagassar Ramgarib, Anup Ramnauth, Peter Richards, Ashok Satkalmi, Sanu Thomas, Mathew Thomas, Derrick Warmington, Clive Williams, Jackie Wilson, Jerry Wind.

Absent: Isa Avery, Delroy Dawkins, Terry-Ebony DeMendonca, Jack Friedman, Bonnie Huie, Kangela Moore, pritpal Singh Walia.

Elected Officials/ Representatives of Elected Officials: J. Douglas representing Councilman I. Daneek Miller, Jhanelle Edwards representing Councilman Donovan Richards, Maylene Thurton representing Assemblywoman Barbara Clark, Shurn Anderson representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Lynette Shelburne Barfield representing Senator Leroy Comrie.

The Minutes from February were approved by a quorum of Board members.

**Bryan Block, Chairman:
Chair's report:**

**On February 2th Mr. Block attended the 10 Precinct Community Council Meeting
March 9th, Mr. Block attended Borough Board at Queens Borough Hall
March 9th Mr. Block also attended a meeting of the Queens Parks, Tennis Court
Committee at the Board office**

March 11th, Mr Block attended a Magnet Program at North Shore LIJ.
On March 19th Mr Block attended a meeting with the Borough President and Deputy Borough President about Green Acres Shopping Center, they have plans for new stores.

Bess DeBetham moved to accept Mr. Block's report, seconded by Clive Williams.

Mr McClean gave a brief report, it was approved by Kyle Williams and seconded by Edward Harap.

Mr. Block introduced representatives of our elected officials.

Jessica Douglas from Councilman Daneek Miller's office spoke on Participatory Budgeting. The Kick-Off will be April 11, 2015

Virgina Salow spoke on Participatory Budgeting also, she is from Councilman Mark Weprin's Office. Alley Pond Park was one of the area of concern.

Mr. William Howard spoke on Women's History Month, Shirley Chisholm.

Mr. Howard stated that Ms. Chisholm was born in 1924, and he worked for her for 45 years as her finance chair when she was in the NY State Assembly.

Ms. Chisholm ran for President in 1972, she worked on many important committees, such as Title 9, for women to get the same scholarships as men in college. She worked with Billie Jean King, and NOW with Bella Abzug.

When she was 80 years old she developed diabetes and died in 2005.

It took Mr. Howard nine years of hard work to get a postage stamp for Ms. Chisholm.

Mr. Howard would like to commission a painting of Shirley Chisholm to be hung in the Smithsonian.

David Banks, President and CEO of the Eagle Academy Foundation was the next speaker.

Mr. Banks gave a brief history of his family and upbringing.

Eagle Academy for Young Men is a public school. It is the first school of its kind in the Bronx, starts with 6th grade and continues until graduation (7 years). There are 2000 students attending these Academies. They are located in Brownsville, SouthEast Queens (Allen Christian School), Newark, New Jersey, Central Harlem and Staten Island.

A question and answer period followed, mainly on curriculum, waiting lists, DOE selects the students for this school.

Land Use Committee:

BSA 77-99 BZ, 255-39 Jericho Turnpike

Oversized sign needed a variance according to the Department of Buildings.

The Committee checked with local residents and there was no objection to the sign.

Motion made to approve signage, seconded by Edward Harap. Vote was 3 Yes, 0-No, 0 abstentions.

BSA 826-86 BZ (269-10 Grand Central Parkway,) BSA 827-86 BZ (270-10 Grand Central Parkway) 828-86 BZ (271-10 Grand Central Parkway).

Eric Palatinik gave the presentation.

Mr. Hellenbrecht asked about the notice of this hearing and how the tenants were notified.

Diane Stromfield stated that the notices were posted last Thursday. She would like the variance to be for only five years. North Shore Towers is 3 buildings of 33 stories each. There are 2800 people residing in The Towers, comprised of mostly senior citizens and upper middle class tenants. With the current variance they are allowed up to 7 antennae on each building.

The company in charge of the installation of antennas is Continental Communications, Mr. Palatinik represents both the management and the Continental Communications Co. The Dept of Buildings inspects the roof. The antennas are mostly government agencies, but according to Ms. Stromfield there was never an impact study conducted, there is a high rate of cancer in these buildings. There is also some kind of antenna next to the children's pool.

According to Mr. Palatinik the antenna by the pool does not belong to Continental Communications. He stated that the rooftop is governed by the FCC, and federal regulations and safety standards must be followed.

They are asking for a 10 year variance because it takes time to secure a C of O.

Clive Williams moved that a vote be taken: Contingent on inspection, no more than a five year variance, this was seconded by Bess DeBetham. There were 35 Yes votes, 0 No votes, 0 abstentions.

Stephen Everett City Planning

Mr. Everett spoke on affordable living units (200,000) across the city. Among the issues it identifies is the need to modernize zoning regulations that are outdated and often impede the production of new affordable housing.

Many of the City's zoning regulations are outdated and don't reflect today's housing needs or construction practices. The unintentionally force tradeoffs between housing creation and the quality retail and community facility spaces. By removing obsolete provisions and modernizing others, zoning can foster diverse and livable neighborhoods with the development of new high quality, mixed income housing.

The changes that are proposed are Senior Housing, Modernize Rules that Shape Buildings, and Reduce Parking Requirements.

The proposed changes to the Zoning Regulations will go through the City's environmental and land use review processes. During the process, there will be public hearings and opportunities for recommendations from all Community Boards, Borough Presidents, and Borough Boards, after which the proposed changes will go to the City Planning Commission and City Council for public hearing and votes.

Mr. Hellenbrecht reported that EDCJFK North which is adjacent to the FAA Building, the property is available, private developers can buy this.

There will be a meeting with Empire State Development in April at Creedmoor, 4 acres are being considered for different usage.

Delroy Dawkins made a motion to accept Mr. Hellenbrecht's report, seconded by Nagassar Ramgarib.

Mr. Block stated that due to some bad weather we have had, some of the committee meetings were cancelled this month, so committee reports will be rolled over.

Mr. Delaney stated that Off the Hookah's liquor license was approved and the Board only had a short time to object.

Mr. Clive Williams, Chair of the Public Safety Committee replied to Mr. Delaney. Mr. Williams stated that the committee met on Off the Hookah and that they were going to submit a strong objection. According to the NYPD , there was no problem with this application. Mr. Williams reminded Mr. Delaney that we are only advisory and respond to area residents and civics.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

Respectfully submitted

**Stephanie Rainkie
Community Coordinator**