



**Queens Community Board 13**

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**Melinda Katz**  
Borough President

**Vicky Morales-Casella**  
Director of  
Community Boards

**Clive Williams**  
Chairman

**Mark McMillan**  
District Manager

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**December 11, 2017**

**BELLEROSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
240-15 HILLSIDE AVENUE  
BELLEROSE, NY**

**Attendance**

**Present:**

Angela Augugliaro; Isa Avery; Corey Bearak; Alain Berrouet; Bryan Block; Verdell Boncoeur; Mizanur Choudhury; Barbara Clements; Tanya Cruz; Delroy Dawkins; Bess DeBetham; James Delaney; Robert Glover; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Bonnie Huie; Mohamood Ishmael; Rhonda Kontner; Celeste Powers; Anup Ramnauth; Peter Richards; Ashok Satkalmi; Steven Taylor; Sanu Thomas; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; Clive Williams; Jackie Wilson; Jerry Wind

**Absent:**

Terence Banks; Kyle Bragg; Jacqueline Campbell; Terryl Ebony DeMendonca; Samuel Elliott; Charles Farruggia; Seymour Finkelstein; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Felice Hannah; Vernal Holder; Franck Joseph; Antony Kuncheria; Jonathan Logan; Kangela Moore; Curlene Nelson; Marcia O'Brien; Michael O'Keeffe; Tameka Pierre-Louis; Nagassar Ramgarib; Mathew Thomas; Pritpal Singh Walia;

The Board Chairman Clive Williams called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by BM Jonathan Logan and recited by all in attendance.

The Board Chairman welcomes elected officials. Representatives announce themselves.

The Board Chair opens floor for Public Speaking.

## **Public Speaking**

### **Citizen's Committee**

- Neighborhood Grants Program.

BM Richard Hellenbrecht: To receive a grant, is it required to be a 501(c)(3)?

A: No.

BM Fay Hill: Received grant, easy process, wants a workshop.

### **Captain Chain – XO 105 Precinct**

- Inspector Schiff worked 28 hours straight.
- Times Square update:
  - Person exploded himself
  - Explosive made out of...
  - Only 3 persons were hurt.
  - If you see something, say something.
- 105 Precinct Crime stats:
  - Lists some incidents.
  - Put holiday shopping bags in trunk (out of sight).
  - Unmarked cars doing "car stops":
    - Lights and sirens are in the vehicle.
    - If you are unsure, pull over to a well-lit area with your blinkers on.
    - The officers will have a shield around their neck.
    - Wearing a vest.
    - Wearing "color of the day."

BM Ashok Satkalmi: Do they have lights or sirens?

A: They will have both lights and sirens.

### **Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman**

- Congratulates new Chairman.
- She met many people at the Queens Civic Congress Luncheon.
- Passes four pieces of legislation.
- Thursday is the final day to donate toys to her office for children of families in need.
- Governor Andrew Cuomo's State of the State Address is on January 3, 2018 in Albany.

### **Rene Hill – New Chair of CB12**

- As President of Addisleigh Park – fought for no new development at St. Albans VA Hospital site.
- Landmarked Addisleigh Park.
- Vice President of Queens Civic Congress.
- Works on the CERT Team in conjunction with Board Member Rhonda Kontner.
- A member of the St. Albans Chamber of Commerce.
- Worked to get new sewage systems in her community.
- Got the LIRR St. Albans parking lot paved.
- Took SQPA (Southern Queens Park Association) from deficit of \$180K to profit of \$80K.

BM Bess Debetham: Springfield Boulevard is the dividing line. There are some negative things...you can reach out to me directly through Chairs and District Managers.

Board Chairman: We have to work together.

### **Civic Association Year End Reports**

#### **Rhonda Kontner – President, Royal Ranch Civic Association**

- President since inception.
- Located between Glen Oaks Village and North Shore Towers.
- Recent sewer project overseen by DDC:
  - Completed, awaiting restoration of streets and curbs.
  - Smoothing over streets.

#### **Frank Toner – Vice President, Rocky Hill Civic Association**

- Gives location (boundaries).
- 1000 homes/ 300 paying members.
- 8 membership meetings with bulletins per year.
- Email blasts.
- Various speakers of interest.
- Participated in Healthy Community Day.
- Volunteers beautify Union Turnpike.
- Park space on Winchester Boulevard and Seward Avenue (via Council Member Barry Grodenchik)
- Welcome committee for new homeowners.
- Awards to schools for civic leadership partially with Martin Van Buren High School.
- Meet with Creedmoor.
- 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party tomorrow.

### **Lourdes Villanueva – Hartrick – President, Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association**

- New President sworn in January by State Senator Tony Avella.
- Former President given a plaque.
- Put together a website and newsletters.
- No February meeting, mostly seniors attend.
- June – Block Captain Appreciation Month.
- No July/ August meetings.
- October membership drive, 1200 homes of which 25% pay dues.
- Assemblyman Clyde Vanel attended October meeting.
- Working to assure her neighborhood gets the attention it needs.
- September – combined meeting with other Civics over the issues with residents of Creedmoor.
- Commonwealth Boulevard – BM Angela Augugliaro attended a meeting.
- Chairman Clive Williams attended December meeting and spoke about tolerance through accepting our neighbors who have cultural differences.
- Awards given to students at St. Gregory and P.S. 133 (organized by BM Richard Hellenbrecht who also writes the newsletter).

### **Bobby Scher – Board President, Bellerose Co-op Manor Terrace**

- 5<sup>th</sup> largest co-op in Queens.
- 47 acres, 50 buildings.
- Civic/Community/ Activists.
- Involved with 105 Precinct.
- PCCC- Presidents Co-op Condo Council meeting:
  - Congressman Thomas Souzzi, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Senator Tony Avella, Assemblyman Edward Braunstein attended.
  - Co-ops are the last bastion of affordable housing
    - Most of the US does not have co-ops.
    - Unfairly taxed.
- Meetings with Creedmoor because of incidents occurring with patients:
  - Doing things on property affecting “quality of life.”
  - Small amount of people were present.

### **Robert Glover – President, Federated Blocks of Laurelton**

- “Operation Clean-up” with Deputy Borough President Melva Miller, Civic and residents:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday from Springfield Boulevard to Laurelton Parkway.

- Walked Merrick Boulevard with DSNY and District Manager in summer and citations were issued to stores that did not clean in front.
  - Flyers were created to educate businesses [on their cleaning responsibilities].
- Spoke to Senator Leroy Comrie for an elevator at the Laurelton LIRR station.
- Three \$1K scholarships to college-bound students given by the Civic:
  - Working to take it all the way back to elementary school.
- Along with Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, some members went to Laurelton Playground to do a planting.
- Assistance with help from the following: Assembly Member Alicia Hyndman, Councilman Donovan Richards, Senator Leroy Comrie, Inspector Jeffery Schiff, and DSNY.

#### **Ishmael Mohamood – Treasurer, Queens Village**

- Nine meetings per year at Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church.
- Had four elected officials at their [the most recent] Installation Dinner.
- Fought to prevent a co-location at P.S. 109:
  - History in that school.
  - Collaborating with the PTA.
  - Executive board member president of PTA.
- Worked hard to successfully get Jamaica Avenue repaved.
- Queens Village Library is not handicapped accessible; this needs to change.
- Work with Veterans for Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park.
- Alicia – I.S. 109 first Gifted and Talented Program.

#### **Angela Augugliaro – President, Queens Colony Civic Association**

- 600 homes.
- Reestablished in 1967.
- President for 33 years.
- Late last year successful in stopping housing of homeless in 2 hotels on Jericho Turnpike.
- Worked with 105 Precinct on closing prostitution on Jericho Turnpike.
- Part of the “*Joint Bellerose Business District*” trying to get some store owners to work collectively.
- Co-Sponsor of the May 9, 2017 Opioid Presentation/ Panel Discussion.
- Co-signed letter to the Mayor against short-term rentals - Air BnB.
- New sewer put in; subsequent black top put in at the intersection.
- Work closely with the other 7 sister civics.

#### **Richard Hellenbrecht – Executive Vice President, Queens Civic Congress**

- Annual Legislative Reception (formed in 1997)

- Congresswoman Grace Ming, Borough President Melinda Katz among attendees.
- Press conference in opposition to congestion pricing (tolls on East River bridges).
- 100 Civics in the borough of Queens.
- Major study on illegal conversions:
  - Looked at Nassau County success.
  - PowerPoint Presentation (74 slides).
- Meet with each of the Queens City Council members.
- Supportive of new Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) legislation [for more transparency].
- Reaching out to more civics in Southeast Queens to become members.
- Committee formed on taxation of condos and co-ops:
  - Second committee on taxing of private homes.
  - Zoning also focus.
- Biannual luncheon April 22, 2018 at Antun's.

Board Chairman: Is the QCC aggressively looking to engage civics as members?

A: Yes. Only those actively engaged.

#### **Jerry Wind – President, Bellerose – Hillside Civic Association**

- Cross Island Parkway and Hillside Avenue triangle dedicated to Frank Cicero.
- Curb issue: Councilmember Barry Grodenchik and Assembly Member David Weprin looking to introduce legislation for tax write-off for homeowner's fixing curbs along their property line.
- Creedmoor Campus plan is a big concern.
- Assemblyman Clyde Vanel is next guest speaker at their next meeting on December 21, 7:30 pm at Samuel Field YMCA.
- Factoid: On 249 Street a WWII plane crash landed.

#### **Steven Taylor – President, Cambria Heights Civic Association**

- 6<sup>th</sup> year and last as President.
- Proposed variance on Francis Lewis Boulevard on 4 story building:
  - Applicant let it die.
  - Rumor: other locations scouted are in Queens Village and Rosedale.
  - Hired an attorney versed in NY Land Use Law.
  - Previous attempts at fighting this were simply community testimony.
  - Buses lining up still an issue.
  - Driveways blocked
    - Situation has improved
  - Home used illegally when individuals stay in 1 – family homes:
    - Religious or educational use.

- Looking to work more closely with the elected officials:
  - Get more involved in the legislative process.
  - Have a template [for process].
  - For example, Council Member Donovan Richards' revamping of the BSA Bill [without civic participation].

**Executive Secretary Wind takes roll call.**

**The Chairman's Report**

District Manager and Chairman are working in tandem.

- Identify pools of talent within our community from an event sponsored by City Comptroller Scott String held at the Harvest Room.
- Senator James Sanders hosted an event on MWBE opportunities and participation at the JFK Airport rebuilding project.
- Mizanur Chowdry hosted an event for victorious elected officials in this district at his restaurant.
- Opening of new Music School in Queens Village [on Jamaica Avenue]:
  - Young woman is the proprietor
    - Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman, Senator Leroy Comrie, Council Member Adrienne Adams all attended the Grand Opening Celebration.

**BM Alain Berrouet:**

- Learned in 2 years being on the Board the power of community.
- Serious work in building this Music School:
  - Keiko's Studios address to be sent out.
- Attended Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association Meeting.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMillan  
District Manager  
Queens Community Board 13