



Queens Community Board 13

219-41 Jamaica Avenue
Queens Village, NY 11428
718.464.9700
Fax: 718.254.2739
qcb13.org



Melinda Katz
Borough President

Vicky Morales-Casella
Director of
Community Boards

Clive Williams
Chair

Mark McMillan
District Manager

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2018

**Bellerose Assembly of God
240-15 Hillside Avenue
Bellerose, NY 11426**

Attendance

Present:

Angela Augugliaro; Isa Avery; Corey Bearak; Alain Berrouet; Bryan Block; Verdell Boncoeur; Jacqueline Campbell; Mizanur Choudhury; Barbara Clements; Delroy Dawkins; Bess DeBetham; James Delaney; Samuel Elliott; Charles Farruggia; Seymour Finkelstein; Lorraine Gittens-Bridges; Robert Glover; Felice Hannah; Richard Hellenbrecht; Fay Hill; Bonnie Huie; Mohamood Ishmael; Rhonda Kontner; Antony Kuncheria; Curlene Nelson; Marcia O'Brien; Tameka Pierre-Louis; Celeste Powers; Nagassar Ramgarib; Anup Ramnauth; Ashok Satkalmi; Sanu Thomas; Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick; Clive Williams; Nantasha Williams; Jackie Wilson; Jerry Wind

Absent:

Kyle Bragg; Tanya Cruz; Vernal Holder; Franck Joseph; Andy Laine; Jonathan Logan; Kangela Moore; Michael O'Keeffe; Peter Richards; Steven Taylor; Mathew Thomas; Pritpal Singh Walia

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by BM Alain Berrouet.

The Board Chair recognizes elected official representatives.

- Nathaniel Hezekiah representing Congress Member Gregory Meeks.
- Amber Yoor representing Assembly Member Edward Braunstein.
- Shurn Anderson representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz.
- Zaleika Johnson representing State Senator James Sanders.

- Anthony Lemma representing Assembly Member David Weprin.
- Susan Seinfeld representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik.

Board Chair Clive Williams speaks about bringing his grandson for civic experiences. There has been a degradation of standards on society, flagrant disregard of basic understanding.

Sees a total breakdown on understanding of civics. He will observe people behaving in a way he would not ordinarily see. See how many people are committed to change and their communities to do things.

Board Chair's Report

- 2nd Vice Chair Marcia O'Brien attended Borough Board meeting on his behalf because...
- Attended JFK Panel that is overseeing the \$15B project at JFK International Airport and its commitment to community benefits.
 - Thanks Board Members for attending and their tenor for doing things.
- Please become part of a committee.
- Attended walk for breast cancer last week. Promotes this in the magazine he owns.

District Manager's Report

- Spoke about "Sentinel" enclosures/ inserts.
- Maxine Brannon, Community Coordinator, reports on MTA/ Andy Byford meeting at Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center.
 - BM Bonnie Huie: When?
 - A: 5- year and 10- year plan. Different times on different phases.
 - BM Alain Berrouet: Did MTA President apologize for the earlier meeting with 48-hour notice?
 - BM Natasha Williams: Were their metal detectors at the meeting?
 - A: Yes.
 - BM Nantasha Williams: Did they have them at other meetings?

Minutes

Reviewed, motion to accept. Seconded. Unanimous vote.

Public Speaking

Bob Friedrich: Queens Civic Congress (BM Richard Hellenbrecht, a member) established to keep good quality in our neighborhoods. Vehemently opposed to the plan to close Rikers Island. Closing will only accommodate 5,500 prisoners. Currently 8,500 in Rikers. For the plan to succeed, 3,000 less have to be released back into our local

communities. They are supposedly non-violent... (lists various crimes committed).
Neighborhood detention centers could not accommodate any increase in crime.
Rikers Island is the ideal location as it is surrounded by water.

There has been no community involvement in this plan. The price to close this facility is enormous. He urges QCB13 to join the Queens Civic Congress in opposing this initiative.

BM Bonnie Huie: Where would they be?

A: The Queens House of Detention is to be torn down with 35 story building built to accommodate more prisoners.

BM Alain Berrouet: Is there a reason no prisons are planned for Staten Island?

Bob Friedrich: Only speaking for Queens, will not speculate.

Q: Two types of people in jail; waiting for trial or waiting for sentence. Other 3K overflow; how many cannot make bail and how many waiting to go upstate?

A: Average number of prior felony arrests are multiple felonies and misdemeanors.

Board Chair ends line of questioning.

Art Russell: Concerned about the status of his community. Lived there 35 years. Previously, police would help the elderly. Exception was crime and disruption. Now this is reversed. Presently, new neighbors have different values. Community has houses oversaturated with cars. No longer available street parking. Cones put in the street. Requests that for elderly, disabled special parking allocated.

BM Bryan Block: What community?

Art Russell: Laurelton.

Deputy Inspector Netis Gilbert, Commanding Officer of the 105 Precinct

- Overview:
 - 28-day down 17 crimes
 - 122 crimes, 222 arrest
 - Crime driven by grand larceny
 - Folks leave valuables visible in car
 - Cars are not locked (Secure your vehicle!)
 - 13 domestic violence calls
 - Grand Larceny auto – Honda a favorite
 - People leave keys and fobs in the car
 - Be careful with autostart
 - Down 13 robberies
 - Down 15 felony assaults
- Needs help from the community for proper development.

- Sector Report:
 - Adam (Rosedale and Springfield Gardens) up 1
 - Boy (Laurelton) down 4
 - Charlie (Cambria Heights) Flat
 - David (Queens Village) down 16
 - Eddie (Bellerose, Glen Oaks and Floral Park) down 1
- Arrest in Laurelton who were surveilled during burglary.
- Thanks Rosedale Civic for invitation to dinner dance. Helps Police Department see you in your own light.
- Safe Communities Projects:
 - Abandoned unkempt homes
 - Drugs
 - Squatters
 - Clean up outside
- Influx of residents in community. Very conscious of number of cars. Wants to meet with Mr. Russell.
- Camera registration:
 - Helps in criminal investigations
 - Community partner
- Commercial trucks:
 - 452 illegal overnight summonses
 - 32 booted
 - Utilize NCOs
 - Towed 200 derelict vehicles
 - Change plates
 - Cannot park more than 7 straight days
- Ride-Along Program:
 - Ride in sector car
 - With a vest and go on radio calls with patrols
- November 28, 2018, Community Council meeting at LIJ, 7:00 pm.
- Citizens Police Academy:
 - Fire arms simulation
 - React with tools on tool belt: verbal, mace, firearms
- Build-A-Block at Holy Trinity
- If you see something, say something. Do not wait for a meeting.

BM Fay Hill: Commends precinct in trucks on Springfield Boulevard (by Springfield Park) are disappearing.

CM Curleñe Nelson: Trucks that were parked around Springfield Park have moved to Farmers Boulevard.

BM Corey Bearak: Limos in Bellerose taking up spots.

A: Let's sit down and talk. Bring highway safety unit.

BM Jerry Wind: Praise to Sector Eddie as trucks on Hillside Avenue disappearing.

Sean Williams: How to get rookies into the meetings?

A: She has them attending these meetings. Introduces Sergeant Sophia Clarke. Both were community affairs officers.

Q: A count?

A: 12 rookies arrived in May. Work in rotation in different shifts and units.

Bob Friedrich: Thanks Deputy Inspector Gilbert for bringing the mounted unit. Great.

Melissa Hubbard: Age minimum for Ride-Along Program?

A: 18 and older. A youth forum can be organized.

BM Richard Hellenbrecht: Repeat the name of Community Affairs Officer and is Detective Jovoda Cooper still with us?

A: Sgt. Sophia Clarke, and Detective Cooper is now back.

Board Chair: Thanks Commanding Officer. 13 is a lucky number.

Art Russell: Part of committee challenging tax assessments.

Board Chair pays respect to Mr. Russell as a veteran.

Roll Call

Committee Reports

Fay Hill, Chair of Parks and Environment Committee

- Parks Manager did not show because of an emergency.
- Issue with upkeep of parks and playground:
 - Trees and branches down
- CM Donovan Richards provided funding – no delay in construction.
- Do people love green spaces and parks? No one comes out...
- Bellerose Playground had ground breaking:
 - Completion date 2019
- Eastern Queens Alliance using space at the park house (new building being constructed)
 - Problems with kids, so they need park patrol around 2:30 pm schooldays:
 - They smoke marijuana, urinate – a problem
- Wants to hear from other communities.
- Chair contact information: fay23@yahoo.com

Curlene Nelson, Chair of Economic Development Committee

- Completed and submitted statement to Board Chair and District Manager
- Area in Springfield Gardens at corner of Guy R Brewer Boulevard and Farmers Boulevard to 147 Avenue as pilot program:
 - CM Richards, his Chief of Staff and DOT Representative walk-thru
 - A second walk-thru with District Manager
 - Immediate items that can be addressed:
 - Merchants are not cleaning in front of their stores
 - Personal garbage near wire trash bins; want larger trash bins – got 2 from CM Richards
- Reach out to Volunteers of Springfield Park
 - Trying to get funding
- Letter sent to Dollar Tree to put up a Christmas Tree in their parking lot.
- Most important is getting the vacated supermarket up and running again.
- Scott Grimm, Executive Director of Gate JFK IBID, visited to identify areas that Gateway JFK covers:
 - She participated via dial in
 - Committee Chair lives within catchment area
- Hard hat tour of TWA Flight Center Hotel.
- Tri-County Community meeting met with DSNY, Wildcat and services in these communities.
- Springfield Park cleanup and planting of spring bulbs.
- Guest speaker next meeting.

Rhonda Kontner, Chair of Youth, Education and Libraries Committee

- Disheartened with meeting attendance:
 - Police invited, but people who reported the problem did not attend.
 - It is terrible to invite speakers and 3 people show up.
 - Thinking about holding meetings every other month.

Mr. Williams: I will be attending, newly elected PTA President.

BM Felice Hannah: Commends Rhonda's commitment.

Felice Hannah, Chair of Transportation Committee

- Constituent issues.
- Next meeting December 4, 2018 with MTA Representative.
- October 31, 2018 – Debate forum at North Shore Towers (NST) at 7:30 pm in the Towers Movie Theater.
- October 24, 2018 – Deputy Inspector Netis Gilbert at NST at 7:30 pm in Towers on the Green.

Dr. Ashok Satkalmi, Vice Chair of Health Committee

- Issues with attendance.
- Smoking, alcohol, legalizing marijuana and opioids topics discussed at last meeting.
- Presentation on opioids on November 15, 2018.

Jerry Wind, Vice Chair of Seniors, Social Services and Special Needs Committee

- Presentation of DFTA by Darnley Jones.
- NYC provides the greatest amount of senior services of any major city.
- Group Home complaint about not maintaining their property. District Manager calls to follow-up.
- Need names of centurions.
- Wants names of someone worthy of being honored.
- Need better turnout at meetings.

BM Seymour Finkelstein: What is the Chair doing about non-attendance?

Board Chair: It's up to the Committee Chairs.

BM Bonnie Huie: They do not have a choice. Community people do not come.

DM: We can get Borough Hall involved; not inclined to do so.

Richard Hellenbrecht, Chair of Land Use Committee

- Letter in support of DIVAs for Social Justice - Prospect Court and 224 Street sent:
 - Property privately owned; therefore, alternative at 179-24 145 Drive
 - Revise letter and resubmit.
- October 1, 2018 Land Use meeting
 - Detailed discussion of building located at Jericho Turnpike and Little Neck Parkway:
 - 3 special permits requested
 - Significant problems

Voting Items

- No objections from local community members on these two BSA items:
 - BSA# 115-53-BZ – 10-year variance extension:
 - Not a nuisance.
 - No graffiti.
 - Roll call vote: 35 yes, 0 no
 - BSA# 215-58-BZ – Gas station with convenience store:
 - No community complaints.
 - Land Use Committee approved unanimously.

- Roll call vote: 36 yes, 0 no
- ULURP #1900004 MMQ (De-mapping street for 116 Precinct construction)
 - Land Use Committee fully in support.
 - Roll call vote: 36 yes, 0 no

Evette Strong: Does this affect any public parking?

A: No. Part of the present landscaping.

District Needs

District Manager presents priorities (handout to all Board Members).

Changes made to Expense Priorities:

#2 – Deleted (Sewer plan for Meadowmere and Warnerville). This area is at sea level according to DEP. New paving more appropriate.

#8 – Deleted (More frequent hazardous waste disposal events). Duplicative of Expense #4.

#9 – Deleted (Enforcement of illegally parked 18-wheelers on Springfield Boulevard). This issue is presently already being aggressively addressed.

#10 – Deleted (Improve maintenance of Rockaway Boulevard, western edge, between Farmers and Brookville Boulevards). This is not Department of Parks & Recreation property; it belongs to the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.

Added: Double-yellow lines painted on the ground on the Grand Central Parkway Service Road between Little Neck Park way and Marcus Avenue.

Changes made to Capital Priorities:

#11 – Deleted (A STOP sign was installed near PS 195Q).

#13 – Deleted (Breininger Playground already has a priority #2).

#15 – Deleted (New restrooms at Idlewild Park will not be constructed in the near future as a new building just broke ground at Idlewild Park).

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMillan

District Manager
Queens Community Board 13

