



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Donovan Richards
Queens Borough President

Marialena Giampino
Chairperson

Ebony Young
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

March 21, 2023

COMMUNITY BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Members Attending:

Marialena Giampino
Rownoka Ashakhan
Michelle Calderon
Lynda Coral
Michelle Dunston
Leeanne G-Bowley
Sylvia Martin
Matthew McElroy

Mac Ryan Merchan
Ruby Muhammad
G. Oliver
Georgina Oliver
Ashley Reed
Cristian Romero
Clara Salas
Marcello Testa
Louis Walker

Board Members Absent:

Valery Calderon
Jaime Cho
Tsering Dechen
Aridia Espinal
Lara Gregory
Ramakrishna Kadukuntla
Deependra Lama
Vincent Laucella
James Lisa
Salvatore Lombardo
Carol Machulski
Abu Zafar Mahmood
Rovenia McGowan
Jose Morillo
Edgar Moya

Sandra Munoz
Alexandra Owens
Shrima Pandey
Purushottam Panthee
Alexa Ponce
Brian Ramirez
A. Redd Sevilla
Urgen Sherpa
Alton Derrick Smith
Dewan Tarek
Charlie Tetiyevsky
Minwen Yang
May Yu

ATTENDING:

Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Kyle Salcido, Congresswoman Grace Meng's Office
Brenda Barrera, Assembly Member Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas Office
Representative Assembly Member Catalina Cruz's Office
Representative Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
John Bahia, Assembly Member Steven Raga's Office
Anna Killion, Dept. of Design & Construction
Stella Betts, Levenbetts Architects
David Leven, Levenbetts Architects
Anthony Sama, Administrator, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park
Helen Artega-Landaverde, Elmhurst Hospital
Thomas Auringer
Margarita Avila
Malikah Shabazz
Karen Cortez
Rose Marquez
Alyssa G., Dept. of Design & Construction

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Elmhurst Hospital
C6-11A Auditorium
79-01 Broadway
Elmhurst, NY

- I. Board Chair Marialena Giampino opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.
- II. Executive Secretary Louis Walker took the roll call. A quorum was not present.

III. Vote:

Minutes February 14, 2023 CB Meeting

Since a quorum was not present, a vote was not taken on the minutes.

IV. Chairperson's Report

Board Chair Marialena Giampino reported she had attended the Borough Board meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023 and a vote was taken on a resolution supporting carbon free and healthy NYC school buildings. A copy of the resolution is available if needed. All present in the audience at the Borough Board were in favor of supporting this resolution.

Upcoming CB4 events were mentioned.

Also, new Board Members will be coming on to the Board. Likewise, some Board Members did not renew their membership or were not re-appointed, noting nineteen Board Members were removed.

Board Chair Marialena Giampino was optimistic the new Board Members would regularly attend Board meetings as it has been problematic for some time that the Board cannot attain a quorum at its meetings.

V. District Manager's Report

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported Board vacancies were equal to the same number of applicants who had applied. In all likelihood, the Board will have 50 members.

Next, the District Manager spoke on the confusion on tonight's meeting room. Elmhurst Hospital had overbooked the Auditorium and it was not discovered until staff had arrived to set-up.

Subsequently, District Manager Cassagnol reported on the recent Fire Safety Workshop at the Elmhurst Library, which was well attended. Guests were the NYC Fire Department who spoke on the dangers of lithium ion batteries. Thanks were extended to all who helped make the event a success.

Next, the District Manager announced on April 1, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., the Queens United Lions Club is partnering with CB4Q to do an Easter Egg Hunt at Louis Simeone Park. Sponsors are Guida's Funeral Home, the Explorers, and Betty's Catering, adding volunteers will be needed at this event so please attend with tabling.

Additionally, the District Manager had met with the Corona Arts & Science Academy which has a robust gardening program. A field trip is planned to one of the Board's community gardens on Monday, April 3 where the children will learn about composting, and enjoy an arts and crafts event. Perhaps, a representative from Green Thumb can speak to the children.

The District Manager explained the Board area consists of two community gardens and one in progress. Equally important, he announced the Borough President is interested in pouring substantial money into our community gardens.

Although April 22 is Earth Day and the District Manager's birthday, he may not be available on that day for an event but perhaps an event can be held later on.

Furthermore, the Sunshine Fund is very low on funding. Since the Board does not meet in person on a regular basis, please donate to the Sunshine Fund. The recommendation is \$15 cash only. The Sunshine Fund covers floral arrangements at funerals and the Board's annual holiday party.

Before concluding, the District Manager announced major repairs will be done on the No. 7 train soon. A meeting hosted by the MTA was held which Transportation Chair Matt McElroy had attended. He will present a report later in the evening. Secondly, invite DOT to attend the April Community Board meeting to present more information.

At this point, the Board observed a moment of silence for Board Member Alexandra Owens' father who had passed away.

VI. Public Forum – Good & Welfare of the District

Board Member Clara Salas spoke about 1 Claremont Terrace. A housing crisis exists in New York City which this building can help alleviate and could be a NYCHA building. In 1840, Samuel Lord of Lord & Taylor purchased the site to construct homes for his four daughters. Twelve years ago, the home was demolished and an eight story building was started. Work was stopped when the frame was completed. This is an eight story unfinished apartment building on Claremont Terrace that has the support of the Council Members for a call for action. It has become a place for homeless tents and graffiti and garbage. It is an eyesore in the community. Equally important, the owner has been paying the taxes on the building.

Board Member Clara Salas said Chris Barca of the *Queens Chronicle* had written an article on Claremont Terrace which was distributed to the Board.

Suggested is a Section 8 for senior citizens or for low income people in need. She spoke about a website where facilities are built for people in need and those facilities are supervised where social workers are on staff for assistance. The Daniel J. Gilmartin and Alberta Alston senior citizens buildings on 99th Street were mentioned.

Board Member Clara Salas spoke about a website where the organization builds facilities for community needs

Board Member Clara Salas wants to start the community process to enlist support from the legislators to support this endeavor. Write to the elected officials for assistance to support this undertaking.

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino explained according to Council Member Dromm the owner built the building on an illegal portion of land owned by DCAS, therefore, clearance could not be obtained. The owner was at fault in that he was able to build a portion of that building on city property. The city would have to intervene.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol said Claremont Terrace was an unmapped street and the Department of Sanitation would not clean the block because the block was not on its route. The street needs to be officially on the map to acquire city services.

Also, what portion of the building is built on city property comes into question.

Next, Board Member Clara Salas brought up Willets Point. The government declared eminent domain on those businesses which were all closed. We need places where people can live decent lives.

Work needs to be done so that Claremont Terrace can be made accessible and viable to the community.

At this point in regard to Willets Point, District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported he and First Vice Chair Ashley Reed met with the Mets with the intent to determine what would be developed on Willets Point. No details were given and he further explained the Mets has not done anything for CB4. Children of CB4 have not been invited to any baseball camps. There are many issues now connected with the Willets Point proposal such as housing, casinos, etc. A second meeting with the Mets had been planned which was lobbied by former Council Member Julissa Ferreras. More details were given emphasizing CB4 will not be at the forefront of this proposal.

At this point, a representative from the NYC Department of Sanitation reported on the upcoming waste set out time change effective April 1. The current set out time for trash/recycling/compost across the city is after 4:00 p.m. As of April 1, changes will be made to both residential and commercial establishments. For residential properties, place trash/recycling/compost collection in 55 gallon containers or less with lids, after 6:00 p.m.

Place trash/recycling/compost out in bags curbside, after 8:00 p.m.

For commercial establishments for trash/recyclables/composting in containers, do so within an hour of closing. Any businesses, like residential establishments, that place trash/recyclables/compost out in bags, do so after 8:00 p.m. The reasoning behind the time change is to reduce the amount of time the trash sits on the curb and to deter rodent infestation the trash attracts.

Parliamentarian Louis Walker asked if fines will be issued if rules are not followed.

The DSNY response was the first month warnings will be issued; May 1 summonses will be issued for those in violation by Sanitation's Enforcement team.

Board Member Clara Salas asked if signs will be posted to pick up after your dog.

The response was it is under review, but more information is still needed.

Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Michelle Dunston inquired if the Dept. of Sanitation will monitor the vendors.

DSNY responded a meeting was held about this concern. It is still preliminary and they are working toward getting more details and coordinating with other agencies such as Dept. of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) and NYPD. However, more still needs to be worked out.

A Board Member inquired for commercial buildings if trash is in bags, the earliest to put out the bags is 8:00 p.m.

The DSNY response was yes 8:00 p.m. is the earliest.

The Board Member continued if a business closes at 5:00 p.m., the problem exists no one is there to put out the trash.

The DSNY response was there is the option to use containers, if feasible, for establishments that close early.

VII. Report from Elected Officials **House of Representatives**

Grace Meng

Kyle Salcido reported the beginning of March Representative Grace Meng returned to Washington D. C. to begin work on the Appropriations Committee. She was elected by her colleagues on the committee as the vice ranking member which is second highest on the committee because of the current House makeup. Democrats are on the majority of committees as well the House. For the third year in a row, Representative Meng is excited to accept community funding requests although requests have since closed as of end of last week. However, work is being done on earmarks to get funding for projects in the district according to rules made by the majority in the House.

In addition as part of the newly formed Regional Leadership Council, Representative Meng met with the OMB Director to stress the importance that New York congressional districts receive their fair share of infrastructure projects amidst the implementation of the bipartisan infrastructure frame work that passed through Congress last year.

Furthermore, the Congresswoman's office is partnering with the U. S. Postal Service to post passport events at post offices in the district. When a passport application is submitted via mail, under certain circumstances, it needs to be reviewed and accepted by a passport agent at one of the acceptance facilities which are mainly post offices.

Congresswoman Meng held an event at the Flushing Post Office on February 5 and at the Jackson Heights Post Office March 19 to get the word out and help people to be more proactive about sending in applications well before any upcoming trips. A further event is scheduled for April. More details to follow.

If planning to travel this summer, please get applications in as soon as possible since the volume has been exceptionally high. Be proactive with passports.

NYS Assembly

Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas

Brenda Barrera reported the electronic recycling program is still in effect Mondays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Paper shredding events are also being planned. When more information is available, it will be shared.

Catalina Cruz

A representative recapped prior events the Assembly Member's office held during the past month. In conjunction with the Department of Finance for homeowners in the district, a property value event was held. Also, a customer service event with Con Edison was held to help constituents with utility bills.

Saturday, March 17, a cleanup was organized with the Jackson Heights Beautification Group. Likewise, the Assemblywoman's office helps with public assistance with utility bills. Medicaid, Dept. of Labor forms to name a few services offered. Call the office for assistance at 718-457-0384.

NYC Council
Francisco Moya

A representative reported two weeks ago Council Member Moya held a cabinet meeting with NYC agencies regarding concerns in the district. Constituent concerns were brought up and Council Member Moya looks forward to continue working with city agencies to make improvements in the district. Additionally, the Council Member co-signed Law 807 requiring commercial building owners to provide face coverings and Local Law 919 requiring the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene to maintain the Covid-19 risk alert system. April 8, a free helmet giveaway is planned in partnership with the Department of Transportation at the Park of the Americas. For anyone under age 18, a waiver signed by the parent is needed. Urban Upbound is located at the district office where free tax services are available. Make an appointment to file your taxes. Further, CUNY Citizenship Now is located at the Council Member's district office. Ten summer events are being planned by the Council Member. When dates are finalized, they will be shared.

NYS Assembly
Steven Raga

John Bahia reported the Assembly Member recently passed two Bills. One which allows for federal funding to provide care for eligible residents of adult care facilities who receive hospice and assisted living services. The Bill now ensures Medicaid recipients will be financially supported to receive much needed services should they need it. The other Bill related to the ability of government agencies in New York, with some exceptions, to claim copyright protection which is part of the Sunshine package for a greater transparency and accessibility to state government. Constituent services and Events – the office will be hosting giveaways, info sessions for resources available to homeowners and shredding truck services. The office is hosting the first-ever Assembly district Women of Distinction Awards in commemoration of Women's History Month, Saturday, March 25, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Queens Public Library, Elmhurst, NY. All were urged to come out and join. RSVP to the link: bit.ly/wod8030. Reach out to the Assembly Member's office with any questions or concerns.

VIII. Presentation & Vote: Levenbetts Architect Firm
Queens Museum of Art Renovation

Stella Betts and David Leven the architects for the project reported on the Queens Museum of Art Renovation. Design was started March 2022 and planning completion in September 2023. Construction is anticipated to start June 2024 and anticipated construction completed June 2026. Some renovation is being done to the interior, but the most significant portion is the south facade. Images were shown where other renovations have been performed in the past, emphasizing the south facade is in much needed restoration.

As part of the project, a children's museum is being designed incorporated into the overall Queens Museum. Additionally, offices will be added for staff with more display and case work. The Museum will be brought up to ADA compliance for universal access. HVAC mechanical, electrical, and plumbing upgrades as well as other miscellaneous scope work to the project.

A map with scope of the work was shown to the Board including references. With the aid of photos, the site was explained to the Board in detail.

Regarding the east facade in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, it is not in the scope other than a couple of door replacements because the Phase I project was completed where that portion was already done.

At south facade, significant work will be done such as removing and replacing exterior doors, the loading dock roll-up gate, and the glass block and all glass repairing, and much of the glass facade work.

For the north facade, very little work is needed except for some entrance doors that will be replaced.

All of the facades will have added safety rails on the roof as well as removing and replacing exterior doors.

Similarly in the north facade, doors and safety rail under the roof will be replaced.

For the south facade, the safety rail and glass block and frame will be replaced. She noted historic preservationists are working with them and much of the work is being done to restore the facade.

New operable windows and children's workshops will be included. After COVID-19 it was important that rooms be ventilated as part of the renovation.

Looking at the existing facade, removal of the glass block, removing soffit, removing coping, sealant, + fluid applied flashing, repairing limestone panels, and removing exterior doors. The existing green terracotta will be refurbished.

New loading dock and person doors with frosted glass block as well as transparent glass block was shown.

Subsequently, a palette of materials to be used was shown such as the terracotta tiles, Seves insulated glass blocks and metal door finish to match the existing ones to name a few.

To recap the renovation includes:

- Replacing and repairing the stucco
- Concrete slab
- All new windows – operable as well as glass block
- New doors
- Roll up gate – bi-fold gate
- Replace coping and limestone
- Safety railing
- All new lighting for the building

At this point, questions were taken from the Board.

A Board Member inquired when the work will begin.

The response was construction anticipated is summer 2024 (June). Construction completion about two years later. (2026).

Will the work be done in phases and will the Museum be closed, asked a Board Member.

The response was the work is not anticipated to be in phases and much of the work to be performed is not in the area currently occupied. The ambition is to have the Museum closed as little as possible and construction is able to happen while it is open. If the Museum has to be closed, it will be closed for a short period of time, however, DDC and the Museum will have to verify. The area where the children's museum will be constructed is not currently occupied. Currently, it's already closed off from the rest of the museum.

Consumer Affairs Chair Michelle Dunston explained the parking lot for the Queens Theater is located there. Will there be any interference in parking, she asked.

The response was no as there is parking on the north and south sides. It will not affect the parking because there is an area near the loading dock which is blocked off and will be for use by the contractors.

Next, a Board Member asked if the safety rail gives more useable space.

The response was no. It is to maintain safety.

Regarding the Environmental impact is there anything being done to make the museum more green the Board Member continued.

The response was yes. The portions being replaced are all high efficiency. In terms of directives from the Museum and their own practice, and first and foremost with the children's museum, in all areas as possible timber will be used as timber has the ability to sequester carbon which prevents carbon going into the atmosphere.

Transportation Committee Chair Matt McElroy inquired when the paint is cleaned from the green terracotta will any type of coating be done to make removal easier.

The response was they will be working with a company that is a specialist and also working with installers who are experts in restoration matching, refurbishing, and protecting.

Will the Panorama be affected was asked

The response was no.

Board Member Lynda Coral inquired if there will be additional phases since this is the second phase.

The response was there is no phase 3.

Regarding a letter of resolution for this proposal, District Manager Christian Cassagnol explained the letter will state while the Community Board did not have a quorum, the members present had concerns mentioned which should suffice in that the Community Board had heard the proposal.

IX. Discussion & Vote NYC Parks Dept.

FMCP Wayfinding/Exterior Sign Program Design

Anthony Sama, Administrator for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, reported the Wayfinding project has been in process for about two years. The design elements will be presented tonight with upgrades for all Flushing Meadows-Corona Park signage and the installation of new Wayfinding strategy signage throughout the entirety of the park.

Some of the strategy behind this project was to help the arrival experience of people visiting the park. Entrances and locations are not always the most easy to find as a result of the park's vastness, especially in transitioning from one area of the park to another. Strategic goals are to inform the park-goers of the history and features of the park, increase the connection to the community, make the park easier to use by ensuring information is provided when and where people need it, and create a sense of place of informed uses of all the park offerings by a variety of directional signage.

With the aid of diagrams, existing signage was shown indicating much of which has been in the park for a number of years, some signage dating back to the early 1990's.

In the fall 2021, a stakeholder engagement meeting was held where a number of online surveys in a number of languages were performed including two interactive workshops as well as a virtual community session. Because of the park's size and scale, navigating the park can be very difficult. Directions to maps to key destinations and resources are hard to find.

Currently, information is lacking and poorly organized. Due to the park's location, surrounding roadways, entrances, and transitions are unwelcoming and unclear.

Pedestrian and vehicular paths are not clearly identified, which can lead to certain safety concerns when it involves public recreation within the park. Solutions were sought to encapsulate all these concerns by providing competent exploration, prioritizing information in the hierarchy structure, and promoting discovery. Whether visiting the park for one purpose or another, people should feel safe and confident to discover new areas of the park. Walk the park confidently and know which direction you are going and that you are headed the right way.

Much of the parks signage as included in the project is part of standard signage protocol. This was developed about ten years ago and from that project, it created much of the park updated with the signage standards.

Signage design elements were explained--the park's primary and secondary color palate are iconic parks markers along with the other signage icons used for signs. The new signage seen in most of the parks today was explained.

Mr. Sama explained why Flushing Meadows-Corona Parks was not upgraded until now. Much of the smaller neighborhood parks were upgraded first as they were easier to upgrade and get done as quickly as possible. Whereas, the larger parks were upgraded on an as needed basis. If a sign was vandalized or needed replacement, it was replaced with an upgraded sign. Today, in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, this signage will be seen and will not be replaced as long as they are in good condition, which are now existing signage, however, signs that have not been replaced to date, will be replaced.

Altogether this project will include about 1,000 new signs.

In addition to the standard signage, new expanded park signage was incorporated into the renovation. This signage is very unique specific to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park because of its rich history, the uniqueness of its location, and the variety of venues within it.

A quick summary of the extended sign family was shown and explained which included the Passerelle gateway banners with logo markers.

More information was presented on the remaining diagrams and renderings.

Because of the size of the project, it was determined to break the park up into districts: Flushing Bay/Citifield district, the World's Fair Historic Core (north), World's Fair West, and Meadow Lake (south) and color coded as such.

More on the expanded superdirectionals. All installation methods are based on parks standards.

The project is now at 90% completion; and in about a month, 100% completion where it will go to DDC for final approval. The stakeholders within the park have been contacted for their feedback on the directional signage. Once the 100% completion is done, it goes to procurement for the project to secure an installer. When completed, installation will begin summer 2024.

At this point, questions were taken from the Board Members.

A Board Member inquired if there will be signs in other languages/with the park's history.

Mr. Sama responded superdirectionals signs will be in multiple languages. For the interpretative signage which includes the nature elements will be in English only because there is not enough room on the sign to translate into multiple languages. Because of the amount of text, some signs will be in English only.

Board Chair Marialena Giampino inquired if a bar code can be installed to scan the language needed.

The response was digital signage was considered, however, the budget did not accommodate this aspect to support it. Digital assets are not part of this project.

Next, a Board Member asked about Braille signage.

The response was Braille was not included in the plan, however, audio is being considered as part of the digital process. The goal is to roll out the signage and to ensure installation is done properly and locations are established before pursuing additional projects. With entro, the cost was questioned so that it can be pursued for funding winter 2025.

To clarify, a digital sign would require a new sign that could be printed in-house.

Discussion on total cost involved for additional signage ensued.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol inquired if a hard copy sign with a QR code would require much digital effort.

The response was it could potentially be done, but not done with stickers; and it would have to be included in the design of the overall sign.

Next, Transportation Committee Chair Matt McElroy asked about graffiti cleanup.

The response was any type of graffiti or vandalism, Parks attempts to address immediately and requests are submitted for new ones. Signs are generated and delivered to the park. Installation is done within two/three weeks depending on the amount of signage needed, noting the sign shop supports the entire city, not just Queens.

Board Member Clara Salas asked about security and drone surveillance for the park, noting the homelessness in the park.

Mr. Sama responded he was not aware of drone surveillance.

Board Member Clara Salas suggested to investigate further, and that a Flushing Meadows-Corona Park (FM-CP) conservancy, which is a strong organization, be developed as other parks have like Central Park. In this way, the FM-CP can get what it would need from the city.

Mr. Sama replied serving as the administrator of FM-CP and serving as the executive director for the Alliance for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park who are working to advocate for the park to help raise funding that would go back into the park. All were urged to follow FM-CP on Instagram and social media and to donate to the park. The Central Park Conservancy is 50 years old while the Alliance for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park is six years old. Everyone is needed to advocate for Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Flushing Meadows-Corona Park should receive the same attention as Prospect Park and Central Park, Madison Square Park, Union Square Park etc. receives. There is no reason why FM-CP cannot equal or exceed those parks. Advocacy is needed from the community, elected officials, and business leaders in the borough.

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino stated a vote cannot be taken on the Queens Museum of Art Renovation or for Flushing Meadow-Corona Park Wayfinding Project, but letters of recommendation can be sent on the Board's discussion.

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino called on CB4's Parks Chair Ashley Reed for the committee's recommendation. Parks Chair Ashley Reed reported the committee heard both presentations and whatever the Board's recommendation is tonight, the committee is in agreement.

First, Board Chair Marialena Giampino brought up the Queens Museum of Art Renovation for discussion.

A Board Member brought up the general consensus of the Board it is that it is supportive of both projects.

Board Chair Marialena Giampino explained in the letter of recommendation it will state the Board is in favor of both projects, but if anyone has any suggestions, they will be included.

A Board Member brought up Flushing Meadows-Corona Park is not solely in Community Board 4's district.

District Manager Cassagnol stated he spoke to the other Community Boards bordering Flushing Meadows-Corona Park on the project and they did not have much to say because they felt the Queens Museum is in our district and, in their opinion, it is ours (but it is not).

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino called out if Board Members had any suggestions/recommendations for the Queens Museum of Art in the outgoing letter of support.

No suggestions/recommendations were presented.

Secondly, the Wayfinding project was brought up for suggestions/recommendations recapping the Board will advocate for some type of digital bar code scanning in different languages.

Board Member Lynda Coral suggested contacting the elected officials to provide funding for signage in multiple languages and commented by not having signs in multiple languages, it alienates many people.

Discussion ensued.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reiterated a letter will be written to the Council Member stating community engagement is needed with a letter also written to the park stating the Board's concerns. Both parties will receive copy of each letter. Also copied on the letters, will be other Community Boards to reach out to their respective Council Members.

X. Report & Vote: Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee
State Liquor Authority Applications

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES

March 2023

NEW/TEMPORARY PERMIT APPLICATIONS

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>LICENSE TYPE</u>	<u>NEW/Temp.</u>	<u>DATE REC.</u>
Nuevo Don Francisco Rest. Corp.	40-56 Junction Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Liq., Wine, Beer & Cider	New & Temp.	02/02/23
Kendo Sushi Inc. <i>DBA: Akino</i>	82-80 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Wine, Beer & Cider	New & Temp.	02/08/23
La Taberna Bar	85-14 Roosevelt Ave. Jackson Heights, NY	Liq., Wine, Beer & Cider	New	02/13/23
La Simpatia Grocery	105-13 Northern Blvd.	Beer & Cider	New & Temp.	02/15/23

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>ESTABLISHMENT NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>LICENSE TYPE</u>	<u>DATE REC.</u>	<u>LIC. EXPIR. DATE</u>
Spicy Tebet Inc.	75-04 Roosevelt Ave. Jackson Heights, NY	Wine, Beer & Cider	02/02/23	02/02/23
Afra Trading Inc.	89-54 Elmhurst Ave. Elmhurst, NY	Beer & Cider	02/14/23	02/28/23
LaFusta Restaurant	80-32 Baxter Ave. Elmhurst, NY	Liq., Wine, Beer & Cider	02/22/23	04/01/23
El Pasillo Corp.	37-69 103 St. Corona, NY	Liq., Wine, Beer & Cider	02/15/23	06/30/23

Since the Committee Chair was not in attendance, Committee Member Georgina Oliver presented the report on the applications for liquor licenses. The Public Safety Committee met March 7 to review the applications. The committee's recommendation was as follows:

New Applicants – Approved

Nuevo Don Francisco Restaurant Corp.

Kendo Sushi Inc. with the stipulation to keep their music down as there were complaints about the loud music.

Denied:

La Taberna Bar Restaurant Corp. that did receive a notice, however, no representation was at the committee meeting to address questions and concerns.

Renewal Applicants – Approved

Spicy Tebet Inc.

Afra Trading Inc.

La Fusta Restaurant

Next, Public Safety Committee Member Georgina Oliver reported on the Fire Safety Education Workshop held Saturday, March 18 with the FDNY. Much information was disseminated especially noting information on the lithium ion batteries used in e-bikes creating fires and lost lives. It was unfortunate fire safety giveaways were unavailable such as carbon monoxide detectors/smoke detectors, however, you can obtain them at the Salvation Army or Fire Department when those free gifts will be given out.

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino called out for recommendations or comments.

Since there were none, the next agenda item was discussed.

X. Committee Reports

Consumer Affairs

Committee Chair Michelle Dunston reported a meeting was not held this month, however, talks were underway with the Corona vendor's project although the committee did not meet on this. However, the District Manager did meet with the group and updated the Committee Chair on its findings. Consumer concerns were heard. Equally important, the Department of Sanitation was included and she is looking forward to new committee members to move forward.

Environmental

No report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Health & Human Services

No report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Transportation

Committee Chair Matthew McElroy reported starting May 13, Manhattan-bound 7 trains will no longer be stopping at 82 Street and 111 Street stations. If you use those stations to travel to Manhattan, options are from 82 Street walk to 74 Street/or 90 Street or from 82 Street go to Broadway and switch over and come back. Old platforms will be torn out and new platforms installed. Repair is sorely needed. Several stations in Community Board 2 will also have extensive repair work starting at 69 Street.

103 Street will also be refurbished in 2025. There will be five or six months with no Manhattan-bound service and then five or six months with no Flushing-bound service. Go the wrong way or walk to a different station are the options starting May 13.

There are structural problems as well as problems with stairways, roofs, canopies, and the back walls, which will be stripped down to the structure and replaced. Whatever is problematic with the structure, new material will be installed.

Similarly, escalator work is being done at 74 Street but one working escalator will be available between the two mezzanines.

A small number of weekends bus service will be offered between 74 Street and Queens Plaza and only on weekends.

Also, work will start on an ADA elevator for the Woodhaven Blvd. station on the R and N trains. Free buses will be available this spring and if they are available for the 7 train they may be available for the Woodhaven Blvd. station planning for September.

Additionally, the plan for the air train from Willets Point to LaGuardia has been cancelled instead looking at dedicated bus lanes from the N train and 74 Street.

The Department of Transportation is looking for locations for Citi bike locations in Community Boards 3 & 4 and expected to be coming to Board 4 to present the proposed locations and once those locations are revealed, there is a 30 day comment period.

Comments must be submitted before the deadline so that residents can give their feedback. At the Transportation Committee meeting

last week, DOT was in attendance it was reported the corner of Judge Street and Whitney Avenue where there was no traffic control, has been approved for a traffic light which is coming soon.

On National Street where speeding problems exist, a new signal will be installed at 44th Avenue and at 50th Avenue and 97th Street, an all-way stop will be added.

Next, the Department of Transportation (DOT) has refurbished/repainted the traffic lines around the 82 Street BID area and explained if in your neighborhood there is an outdoor restaurant that is dilapidated and not in use, DOT will remove it pointed out one was removed at 99-12 Alstyn Avenue.

At this point, Board Member Georgina Oliver inquired about installation of a left turn signal at Junction Blvd. and 57th Avenue.

The response was it was looked into if the change was made, traffic would be more disorganized on Junction Blvd. more than what it already is. A study of the intersection indicated it would complicate the flow of traffic coming in other directions. If five or six seconds are added from the left turn lane, it will bring in an additional traffic flow from the Horace Harding Expressway or from the north side adding to more congestion.

However, DOT did agree to look at other possibilities.

Discussion ensued which included to make Poyer Street a one way.

At this point, Board Chair Marialena Giampino asked if there are plans to repave Queens Blvd.

Transportation Chair Matt McElroy responded yes there is a major capital project and provided details.

More discussion on transportation needs in the Board area mentioning bike lanes and Poyer Street which was discussed in the past at the Board level years ago to either make it a one way or two way street.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol gave an explanation on the status of this request.

More discussion followed on Poyer Street citing the pros and cons of making it a one-way including the crucial need for crossing guards. Consumer Affairs Chair Michelle Dunston provided details on the position of Crossing Guard.

Youth Services

Committee Chair Sylvia Martin reported the committee met on February 28, 2023 with a quorum present with a representative from the Queens Borough President's Office. Discussion was on how to help the youth in our community. The Borough President's representative reported there is a job fair program and flyers will be distributed or access on line. One of the main issues was getting the Lefrak City library reopened for the seniors as well as the youth. It is highly used and crucial that it is accessible to all. Many of the children came to the library for programs or events or after school and homework programs, which kept them busy.

At I.S. 61, some of the gangs are recruiting those children. The 110 Precinct has been notified of this situation.

Committee Chair Sylvia Martin expressed the urgency and need and importance of reopening the Lefrak City Library.

Ideas for upcoming projects include hosting a history of our community event because many of the youths do not know anything about the history of the neighborhood they live in.

Also, a graffiti cleanup (Whitewash Day) is being considered as well as a walk through in Louis Simeone Park to see the community gardens. Also mentioned was an art and science day as well as the Board's Youth Fair planned for July or August, depending on the budget.

Committee Chair Sylvia Martin had discussed the Board's Youth Fair with Parks Chair Ashley Reed to work together on this endeavor.

Subsequently, suggestions were given for these upcoming events.

Since there was no other further business, Board Chair Marialena Giampino adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.