



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Louis Walker
Chairperson

Leroy Comrie
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

September 10, 2014

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: VFW POST #150
51-11 108 STREET
CORONA, NY

I. Chairperson Louis Walker opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Chairperson Louis Walker asked all to remain standing to observe a moment of silence to honor and remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and to remember Sgt. Paul Ferrara who passed away from lung cancer after working at Ground Zero. Sgt. Ferrara served at the 110th Precinct.

III. Executive Secretary Lucy Schilero took the roll call. A quorum was present.

IV. **Vote: Minutes June 10, 2014**

Board Member Alirio Orduna made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to **accept** the minutes of June 10, 2014.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

In lieu of the Chairperson's report, the floor was turned over to D. I. Ronald Leyson, Commanding Officer of the 110 Police Precinct.

D. I. Leyson reported a slight increase in crimes, which included a small increase in felony assaults and burglaries. Many of the felony assaults were alcohol related and added enforcement is performed on licensed premises. The Precinct works closely with the Community Board's Public Safety Committee on licensing violations and also coordinates with the State Liquor Authority on licensing and performing inspections. A dedicated team works at night going out to licensed premises to see they are not over serving and not serving underage and are properly licensed with proper security guards on staff. Businesses must provide a safe environment for the patrons in the establishment as well as the community it serves.

Next, he reported the 110 Precinct has an official Twitter account @NYPD110Pct. Where D. I. Leyson personally does all the tweeting on the account, which includes information on the community, with crime prevention tips, and information received from other government and community agencies pertinent to the 110 Precinct (communities of Elmhurst and Corona).

He also noted the upcoming 13th anniversary of September 11 and mentioned on August 28 the 110 Precinct lost Sgt. Paul Ferrera. He acknowledged the members of the 110 Precinct appreciated the moment of silence held by the Board to honor another fallen hero.

Next, he reported on Thursday, September 11, the 110 Precinct will hold its Annual Commemoration Ceremony in front of the 110 Precinct to honor those who died in the line of duty on 9/11. All are invited to join in the tribute starting at 8:30 a.m.

Next, he announced the meeting day change of the 110 Precinct Community Council's monthly meetings. The Council meets tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. and coincides with 9/11. Much time and effort went into this meeting, and he urged all to attend this special meeting. Keep in mind, the meeting is now the second Thursday.

Next, he reported on instances of sexual assaults and attacks. In particular, someone is creeping in the Queens Center Mall grabbing the buttocks of females. More details were given.

Also, he spoke about another male that had accosted three women in the community. Details were given.

He cautioned all to be mindful of your surroundings. If you feel someone coming up behind you, change your direction. Stay in a well-populated, well lit area. Walk with a friend or family member, if possible. Trust your instinct. Knock on someone's door and say someone is following you. Do not act as investigators. Let the police do the investigation, and do not get involved or engage people. Let the police do their job. If there is a suspicion, call 911.

Next, he spoke about a 7 year old child being attempted to be lured to a vehicle. Details followed. School is open. Talk to your children.

Next, he spoke about the green dot scams. Please remember no government agency or legitimate business or law enforcement or any utility company will call you and say you have an overdue bill and direct you to buy a Green Dot MoneyPak and give them the serial number from the card. Con Edison does not accept payment from such cards.

Next, he reported on deception burglaries. People knock on your door and say they need to check your water pressure. Do not let them in. Check ID. Call the agency they claim to represent. Once they are in the door, their partner burglarizes your house. Do not become a victim.

School's open. Drive carefully. Vision Zero's policy is a summons costing over \$400 and is five points on your license for passing a school bus with flashing red lights (a 20-month initiative is going on). When picking up and dropping off children, follow the school's policy. Do not double and triple park. Do not let your child run between double parked cars that might pull away. It is very dangerous and also backs up traffic.

Next, he reported on a serial stabber in the community. Details were given. Due to expert police work, the perp. was found and arrested.

Subsequently, he reported on the many complaints received on O'Connor's Tail Park (Broadway, corner of 78th Street, Elmhurst, NY). Namely, a homeless condition exists in the Park. The Precinct works diligently with the Parks Department, the Homeless Outreach Unit, and the day tour business conditions team and has done several sweeps in the park. People were arrested and provided the services they need. However, the police cannot force the homeless to go to a shelter. Unless they are a danger to themselves or others, the police cannot remove them from the streets. When a cold weather emergency is declared by the mayor, they can be removed from the streets for their own safety if they do not have adequate shelter, but if they are in the park and they are not doing anything illegal and the park does not have designated signs posted that state you must be in the park with a child 12 years old or younger, nothing can be done.

Other parks that do have those signs posted enforcement action can be taken if the homeless refuse to leave.

In O'Connor's Tail Park, the police have done clean-ups of abandoned property, arrested disorderly persons, and quality of life summonses issued for urinating and drinking alcohol. He noted several homeless people who were removed had received services from the homeless outreach unit. The 110 Precinct continues coordinated efforts with different units within the Dept. of Homeless Services to help the people in the Park. Because the Park is located across from the hospital, it is difficult to keep the homeless out.

A community member had volunteered to lock the gate at night, but the gate is only 3 ft. tall, not providing much protection. It is very easy for people to climb over the gate.

Although it is a quality of life issue, the exact number of how much enforcement was done was not available, However, several operations with homeless outreach was done . D. I. Leyson had personally met with the Sgt. from the Homeless Outreach. It is a recurring issue because of the location of the park; however, much resource is being put into this problem. Complaints have been received from not only elected officials and the Community Board but also the Parks Dept. and 311. D. I. Leyson understands, is well aware of the situation, and the 110 Precinct is doing something about it.

VI. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry welcomed everyone back from summer recess, and spoke about the concerns residents have about the Pan Am Hotel. He pointed out we, as a state, have a commitment to take care of those in need. The residents of the hotel are people that have fallen on hard times and there is a legal and moral obligation to provide shelter. Hard times can befall anyone. Sheltering homeless families and individuals is a shared effort, and there are shelters all over the borough. Construction and the price of housing are increasing all across the borough.

Senator Aubry commented protocol was not followed with regard to notification to the community, elected officials, and the Community Board, Meetings were held with the elected officials and the DHS administration to ensure that it should not happen again. People must have the opportunity to comment. It is certainly your right.

However, both state and city laws require shelter must be provided to every homeless family who apply for shelter. This responsibility is in the law and the constitution, which governs us all. The majority of clients have experienced a terrible hardship in their lives and have no place to live.

We will try to see those individuals are residing in the hotel for the shortest time possible so that they can recover their lives and an apartment of their own.

Next, Assembly Member Francisco Moya thanked D. I. Leyson for his assistance with the For Sale cars with no license plates parked all over the neighborhood taking valuable parking away from area residents. Some of the owners of those cars are dealers. Working with the 110 and 115 Precincts with specific locations, Assembly Member Moya reported multiple cars were towed by the Precincts that did a great job. We also want to send a message we are very active in the community on issues that impact quality of life all of us.

Simultaneously, in Albany now that the school year has started, in the budget \$436 million was passed for school aid to New York City, which will help public schools that have been suffering throughout the years. We are the most overcrowded school district in the City of New York.

He urged all to vote on the Safe School Bond Act coming up in November. The Assembly had allocated \$2 billion in the budget to rid public schools of trailers children are being taught in. There should be no reason twenty years into the program children are still being taught in those trailers in deplorable conditions. If the Bond Act is passed, it will alleviate the problem and will bring funding in for the construction of new schools and for pre-K in the community. He stressed the Bond Act's importance and to vote for it.

Next, he spoke about Vision Zero and his support for legislation in the Assembly that would lower the city's speed limit to 25 mph. More money will be brought in to install speed cameras to the local schools to prevent further tragedies in the community caused by reckless drivers.

More relief was brought to the homeowners in the area through the Homeowners Bill of Rights. Insurers will now have to tell the insured what their coverage is against catastrophic loss caused by natural disasters. Also reducing the amount of money through a circuit breaker for both condo and coop. owners. Focus will also be given to rent regulations so that rents are not increased.

More is being worked on with other elected officials. Assembly Member Moya is in town until January then he will be in Albany, but will update the Board periodically on city issues while he is here.

Next, Ms. Alba Pico, First Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, reported on the duties and responsibilities of the Department.

The Department of Consumer Affairs enforces the Consumer Protection Law, City and State weights and measures statutes, and licenses various types of businesses and activities as part of its responsibility to protect consumers. The Department also conducts research on and educates the public about consumer issues and resolves consumer complaints. Ms. Julie Menin is the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

The Department of Consumer Affairs issues more than 56,000 licenses in 55 categories of businesses, enforces license regulations, weights and measures and the Consumer Protection Law through inspections. Businesses licensed by the DCA include laundries, home improvement contractors, tow truck companies, debt collection agencies, and electronic dealers to name a few. Inspections are done on about 8,000 businesses a year from gas stations to supermarkets to ensure the consumer is getting what they are paying for and the price is fair. Scale weights are checked, gas pumps are inspected, and the DCA also ensures cigarettes are not sold to minors.

Next, Ms. Pico about an initiative released in July where fines for small businesses will be reduced and ensures the consumer is protected and not being taken advantage of.

Businesses are getting reduced fines and are given the opportunity to cure violations. It pays for the business to do right by the consumer so that they do not receive those fines. Details were provided.

Next, she said the Office of Financial Empowerment is the first program to fight poverty in New York City. Thirty centers are centrally located throughout the area. This agency works with government agencies, community based organizations and the private sector to increase financial literacy, improve access to financial products and protect against fraudulent practices. For example, the OFE assists with opening bank accounts to immigrants and during income tax season provides assistance.

Next, she discussed the Paid Sick Leave Law and provided details. Go to the DCA website for more information.

At this point, Chairperson Louis Walker informed the Board the NYS Dept. of Public Service has a Lifeline Awareness Week. For more information, see the flyers on the back table.

Moving forward, at next month's CB meeting Chairperson Walker will appoint a Bylaws Committee because articles in our bylaws conflict with other provisions such as appointment of members. For example, every other year half of the Board is reappointed or not. The Board's elections are held before those appointments. The problem is an Executive Board may be elected, but if any of those newly elected members are not reappointed by the Borough President, those slots will be subject to immediate vacancies.

Moreover, elections will be moved to the fall.

Additionally, other areas of the bylaws need to be reviewed and addressed.

VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Christian Cassagnol congratulated the Committee Chairs on their appointments and re-appointments

The following are key points from the District Manager's report:

- Pan American Hotel, known as the Boulevard Family Center. Members of the Community Advisory Board (CAB) are District Manager Cassagnol, Louis Walker, Queens Center Mall and Members of Newtown Civic to name a few. Eyes are on the everyday operation of the facility, and noted the facility is here to stay.
- Visit the Board's website at www.nyc.gov/queenscb4 to view answers to the questions posed at the Public Meeting held on June 30.
- Budget consultations dedicated to bringing in funds to CB 4.
- The Board's District Needs Statement is also available on the Board's website. He urged all to read the District Needs Statement.
- Construction at the Rego Park Mall (located is in Community Board 6), but we are impacted by traffic, pedestrians, traffic laws, especially along Junction Blvd. CB 4 should be involved in the process.

- The Executive Director, Seth Taylor, of the 82nd Street Partnership had resigned. The position is now open. Anyone interested in the position, the job description is available.
- Mary Ann Carey, District Manager of Community Board 9, is retiring after many years of service. Job offerings will be forthcoming.
- Sparrows Nest Community Garden, located near Louis Simeone Park, will be relocated. Built on city property, the city wants its land back because HPD will construct senior housing on the land. It was suggested the Garden be moved into Louis Simeone Park. However in order to save green space, the District Manager suggested it be moved to MAC playground, which is a small playground directly off to the side of Louis Simeone Park. Council Member Julissa Ferreras allocated funding to both Louis Simeone Park and MAC Playground.
- Board Members need to register a functioning e-mail with the Board office. Last minute issues come up and this would help out immensely.
- Municipal Identification cards. A public hearing will be held soon.
- O’Connors Tail Park – The Green Team had held a cleanup in the Park over the summer. It was not known about the extent of the homeless kitchen. The Board is working with the 110 Precinct on a solution.

VIII. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Georgina Oliver reported the Committee met on June 23 and four candidates were selected.

Chairperson Louis Walker said although four candidates were selected by the Committee, additional nominations may be made from the floor. The floor was opened to nominations.

Before nominations from the floor were presented, Committee Chair Georgina Oliver read the nominations chosen by the Committee:

Jennifer Chu
 Salvatore Lombardo
 A. Redd Sevilla
 Damian Vargas

Chairperson Walker called for additional nominations from the floor. There were none. However before the vote was taken, Board Member A. Redd Sevilla inquired about the duties of the At-Large Director.

Chairperson Walker read the following excerpt from the Board’s bylaws:

“At Large Directors shall serve as members of the Executive Committee with full voting power.”

At this point, Chairperson Walker asked the nominated candidates to please stand.

Before the vote, Chairperson Walker called again for nominations from the floor. Since there were none, the voting process began.

Ballots were distributed and each Board Member was asked to make his/her selections. Afterward, the ballots would be collected and tallied.

While the ballots were being marked, Board Chairperson Walker explained the Executive Committee meets at various times during the year. There is no set number of meetings. Meetings may consist of discussions on the Board's internal operating budget, personnel changes or changes in staff salary, and follow up of the Board's requests regarding the Capital and Expense Budget Requests.

District Manager Cassagnol reported three of the four candidates were selected by the Nominating Committee, but only one requested the position. Board Member Sal Lombardo requested the slot.

District Manager Cassagnol took this opportunity to inform the Board he is taking community statements/complaints regarding Samaritan Village. The Community advisory Board (CAB) meets once a month and findings will be presented at that time. Furthermore, he reported D. I. Leyson said crime has not risen near the Pan Am Hotel since it was converted to a homeless shelter. Furthermore, the majority of children at the residing there are using home school.

While the ballots were being counted, Chairperson Louis Walker continued with the:

IX. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS (cont'd)

Ms. Emely Paez, representing Senator Jose Peralta's office, reported he is holding a Town Hall meeting at Lefrak City Library, on Thursday, September 25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The following three topics will be discussed:

Unclaimed Funds.
Elderly Pharmaceutical Coverage Program (EPIC)
Senior Citizen Rent Exemption Program (SCRIE)

City and state representatives will be attending to discuss each topic. Flyers will be sent via an upcoming e-mail blast or call the Senator's office.

Next, Ms. Barbara Jackson, representing U. S Representative Joseph Crowley's office, reported as of January 1, 2015, you will no longer be allowed to dispose of electronics in the trash.

U. S. Representative Crowley will hold a free e-recycling event on Sunday, September 21, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Rain or Shine), in front of Silver Spoon Diner on Junction Blvd. Bring your working and non-working computer, TVs, cellphones, cameras, and batteries etc. for safe and responsible disposal. Flyers were on the back table.

Since the tally for the ballots were still being finalized, the Board Chairperson moved to the next agenda item.

X. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Vote: SLA Applications

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported the Committee met on September 3, 2014 to discuss the following liquor license applications.

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES SEPTEMBER 2014

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Establishment's Address</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Que Kche Rest. Corp. Wine and Beer Only	89-10/12 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Polleria Riva Rest. Corp. Wine and Beer Only	40-32 National Street Corona, NY	Approved
El Tipico Dominicano Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	107-02 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approved
Q-4 Lounge Corp. Liquor, Wine and Beer No show. No Paperwork submitted.	40-06 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Denied
Ayada Thai Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	77-08 Woodside Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
El Rincon Criollo Corp. Wine and Beer Only The owner stated that they were not ready to go forward and would come back to the Board once they were ready to proceed.	40-09 Junction Blvd. Corona, NY	Denied
Corona Fiesta Latina Inc. Liquor, Wine and Beer	102-30 43 Avenue Corona, NY	Approved

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

Queens Center Apple, LLC Liquor, Wine and Beer	90-15 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved
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At this point, Board Member Georgina Oliver made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to **approve** the Committee's report as presented.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with no abstentions. Motion passed.

XI. VOTE: STREET ACTIVITY PERMITS

Sept. 21. 2014 Woodside Thai Cultural Fair Woodside Avenue between Broadway and 75 Street

Chairperson Louis Walker informed the Board the event was cancelled.

XII. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Kristin Sainato, Volunteer-Co-Chair

Alzheimer's Association

--Queens Walk to End Alzheimer's

B. Adam Schroeder, Senior Program Manager

Big Brothers, Big Sisters of NYC

One to one Mentoring Program for Girls

The first guest speaker, Ms. Kristin Sainato addressed the Board on the programs and services of the Alzheimer's Association. Most importantly, she stressed the *Walk to End Alzheimer's* on Sunday, September 28, at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

Key facts presented were:

- Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, killing more people than prostate and breast cancers combined.
- Research dollars for breast and prostate cancer dwarf the funds allocated for Alzheimer's, but the number of people with Alzheimer's far exceeds these two diseases combined.
- It is the only cause of death in the United States without a way to prevent it, cure it, or to slow its progression.
- In 2014, the direct cause of caring for those with Alzheimer's to Americans will be an estimated \$214 billion, up from \$203 billion in 2013 and by 2050 costs could rise to \$12 trillion.

Next, she spoke about the tolls it can place on the person with the person afflicted with the disease as well as family and friends. It is a slow progressing disease that lasts for many years. Caregivers cannot do anything else but be caregivers. The stress is extreme and the range of emotion is from anger, sadness, and fear of the future, exhaustion, guilt and depression, which could just cover the day.

The Alzheimer's Association a non-profit dedicated to education, support and advocacy for people with the disease as well as their caregivers and families. The New York City Chapter serves about 500,000 people in all five boroughs, all neighborhoods. Some of the services offered are free of charge, including a 24 hour help line, with translation services available in 180 languages. There are over 120 support groups for caregivers as well as for people in the early stage of the disease. Also, there is education and training for care givers and professionals and care consultation by social workers.

One of the most vital services offered is the medic alert plus the Alzheimer's Safe Return Program for people with memory impairments who may wander from their home. Id bracelets, clothing tags, and wallet cards are provided for the person with dementia as well as caregivers. If a person is reported as lost, an immediate notification is coordinated to local law enforcement, emergency services personnel and medical facilities.

Next, she spoke about funding. Each year the NYC Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association has a number of fund raisers and, most importantly, the *Walk to End Alzheimer's*. Background information was given on how the Walk was started.

This will be the fourth year for the Queens Walk. Participation and funds raised have increased every year.

As Co-Chair of this year's Walk, Ms. Sainato reported she is very proud of what has been accomplished and how the Alzheimer's Association has grown its presence in Queens.

She urged all to get involved and support the Queens Walk to End Alzheimer on Sunday, September 28. Start a team or join an existing team or register as an individual. Flyers were on the back table. Log on to the website www.alz.org/nyc for more information.

The next speaker on the agenda Ms. Jean Marie Catlett, Social Worker, from the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of New York City who reported a sign in sheet was left at the front table if you know of a child who would like to utilize the services of this organization.

The BBBS is a non-profit organization that will be celebrating its 110th anniversary this year. Since 1904 the organization has been providing mentoring services for children of New York City, starting out as Big Brothers and expanding to Big Sisters. More female Littles are needed. There is plenty of space for female Littles. "Littles" are girls and boys served, ages 7 -17, who are matched with male and female mentors. Girls are matched with female Bigs; boys with male Bigs. " Bigs" are trained adult volunteers.

Families are interviewed beforehand to ensure they are suitable for the program. After they are accepted into the program, they are placed on a waiting list to be matched with a volunteer mentor who has been screened, background checked, and interviewed. Outings are twice a month, every other Saturday or Sunday for about four to five hours. Outings might include going to a park, community events, or the movies. It's all about connecting them to opportunities they may not get in their day to day life. For example, if they came from a family with a lot of kids or limited resources. The goal is for them to go out one on one to help clients develop and grow and become more socially connected. Self-esteem is evident in the Littles enrolled over a short period of time.

Recently, the BBBS office has been located to Rector Street in Manhattan. Excited to be starting a new chapter as an organization and want to continue to serve the children of New York City. There is a great need for this program.

Pamphlets and cards were distributed with more information. Before concluding, Ms. Catlett asked all to spread the word about Big Brothers Big Sisters.

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Health

Committee Chair Clara Salas reported on Thursday, July 17, 2014 District Manager Christian Cassagnol, Intern Christian Romero and the Committee Chair attended a presentation and tour of the Elmhurst Medical Office, Advantage Care Physician's Facility at 86-15 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst, NY (former HIP Clinic).

This facility is open seven days a week, including holidays. It is a multi-specialty medical practice facility, accepting most health insurance. It is affiliated with North Shore LIJ Hospital. The Community Relations Director will be making a presentation to CB 4 in the near future.

Updates:

1. Flu-Vaccine

NYC Dept. of Health Advisory-Coming Flu season will be severe. Advised who can to vaccinate.

2. Ebola Virus Disease

Ebola virus (EVD), Ebola hemorrhagic fever (EHF) or simply Ebola is a disease of humans and other primates caused by Ebola virus. Symptoms start two days to three weeks after contracting the virus, with a fever, sore throat, muscle pain and headaches. Typically, vomiting, diarrhea and rash follow, along with decreased functioning of the liver and kidneys. Around this time, affected people may begin to bleed both within the body and externally.

A fact sheet with more detailed information was submitted with the Committee Chair's report on this deadly disease).

3. CB4 Health Committee will be held on Monday, September 29, 2014 at the CB4 office, at 6:00 p.m.

Speaker to be announced.

Youth

Committee Chair Lucy Cerezo-Scully reported from the NY Hall of Science a free, after school program is being offered. She did not have a flyer available, but suggested to call the Hall of Science and ask for Ms. Tamara Valasquez, Administrative Coordinator. They are looking for children to work on design and inventions.

Ms. Velasquez will be present at I. S. 61 with a table for Parent Night in October.

ULURP/ZONING

Committee Chair Miriam Levenson reported the Committee did not meet over the summer; however, a meeting is scheduled for September 16 about a 421-a (tax abatement) for apartments on Corona Avenue.

Parks

No report from Committee Chair Al Perna.

Transportation

Committee Chair Joseph Martino reported a food drive is being held for St. Leo's School. Leave food at the Queens County Savings bank next door.

At this point, Board Member James Lisa asked the Postal Committee to look into the late, none at all mail and wrong mail deliveries. Postal routes were combined and there are many different mail carriers not accurately delivering the mail, frustrating residents. This problem has become horrendous to residents. His mail was sent back, stamped no address exists, said Mr. Lisa. He requested the Post Office be contacted.

Subsequently, Ms. Barbara Jackson asked about the re-routing the Q88 bud route. District Manager Cassagnol replied the MTA was not ready to present yet. He added two plans were presented, but those plans were very tentative. The route is still the same, and will not be changed. Plans will come before the Board. Possibly, at the November CB meeting.

District Manager Cassagnol commented he had conferred with Gigi Salvador, Chair of the Postal Committee, and is working on inviting a guest from the Post Office to an upcoming committee meeting to address the problem of mail deliveries.

A local mail carrier is aware of the problems; and is trying to get the approval from his supervisors to address the Postal Committee.

He noted Board members are free to attend any Committee meeting and the Board's Newsletter will list meeting dates of committees. Note when the Postal Committee meets and feel free to attend to voice your concerns.

Board Member Lester Youngblood said the Post Office is looking for a new manager. Postal carriers are coming from other areas to be trained. Junction Blvd. Post Office is the training center.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol announced the following event:

It's My Park Day

At: Clement Moore Homestead Park

MeetUp Site: Park Entrance On Broadway By Comfort Stations

DATE: Sunday, October 19, 2014

TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

Planting of daffodil bulbs all along fence on Broadway side of the park. Weeding, raking and sweeping may be involved.

Contact: Benny Wong: 917-396-1310

Subsequently, discussion ensued on the USTA as a result of an inquiry made by Board Member A. Redd Sevilla. Traffic and congestion was brought up as well as a Board Member appointed to the Advisory Council.

More discussion followed.

As a result, District Manager Cassagnol said a representative from the USTA will be invited to the next Community Board meeting for a follow-up report.

At this point, Board Chairperson Walker announced there was tie in the vote for the At Large Director. The Board will cast a vote for either of the two names that are tied. Voting will be done by a show of hands. He asked the Board if there was any objection to this method of voting.

Since there was none, he announced the candidates tied for the vacancy:

Damian Vargas and Salvatore Lombardo

The first candidate to be voted on was Board Member Damian Vargas. Board Chairperson Louis Walker asked the Board to raise their hands if they are voting for Damian Vargas.

A count was taken. The result of the vote was **17 votes** cast for Board Member Damian Vargas.

Next, the vote count was taken for Board Member Salvatore Lombardo. **13** Board Members had voted for Board Member Salvatore Lombardo.

The new At Large Director is Board Member Damian Vargas.

XIII. PUBLIC FORUM

First, Board Member James Lisa addressed the Board. He reported on a major issue regarding 111 Street, specifically the Maker's Faire held by the NY Hall of Science, scheduled for September 20 and September 21. No objection to the Maker's Faire, but opposed to the venue it is held in—the Hall of Science parking lot. No cars will be able to park because of the vendors inside the parking lot.

According to its promotional card, thousands of vendors will be coming in the parking lot. Last year, promoters said 50,000 vendors were present, but Board Member Lisa said the figure is closer to 90,000. 90,000 people came into the Corona Heights community on Saturday and Sunday. The two routes into Corona are 108 Street and Roosevelt Avenue. Parking was so bad that people had to park on Junction Blvd and walk over. 90,000 people do not fit in this community. This year, he expected 100,000 people entering the community, emphasizing the venue is wrong. Rates charged are \$25-\$35 per person to enter generating over \$3 million. He noted nothing is given back to the community.

He suggested taking the \$3 million to change the venue and rent the Citifield parking lot for the Maker Faire. Bringing in 90,000 people to an already overcrowded community is insensitive to the Corona community. The Citified parking lot is easily accessible to public transportation.

If you plan to go to family events or religious services or shopping you cannot attend, because there is no place to park when you return.

He mentioned the articles in the *Queens Times* on last year's Maker's Faire. Copies were passed around. Log onto the Queens Times website, www.queenstimes.com to view past articles on the Maker Faire.

At this point, Board Member James Lisa asked the Board to send a letter to the Hall of Science and ask them to not have this event in their parking lot and move it to Citifield or anywhere else, not in the Corona community because it is unfair to the community.

Also, the garbage that is generated from this event is not fair to the property owners. Vendors also park on the street. When asked why they use street parking instead of in the Hall of Science, their response was it takes an hour and a half to get to their car—taking away residents parking. Poor attitude on the part of the vendors.

At this point, Board Member James Lisa made a motion Community Board 4 write a letter to the NY Hall of Science stating that the Hall of Science not hold the Maker Faire in the venue it is being held (their parking lot) and move it to Citifield or anywhere else parking facilities are available to accommodate the large number of incoming visitors. Motion seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna.

Board Chairperson Louis Walker asked if there was any discussion on the motion. No discussion.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Before proceeding to the next speaker, Board Member Alirio Orduna asked that the Board be provided with a copy of the letter. Local elected officials would also receive a copy of the Board's letter.

Next, Ms. Corazon Gumban, representing the co-op residents at 41-50 78 Street, Elmhurst, NY addressed the Board. The building has 165 unit apartment conservatively averaged some 500 residents. They need help to take back O'Connor's Tail Park.

It is a small park, adjacent to their building. It is a trapezoid, about 100 feet on each three sides and 60 feet on its narrowest side. It has some trees which would be ideal for preschool children to play and senior citizens to sit and enjoy fresh air, safe and quiet within the confines of the Park.

This park is a major health issue. The homeless have taken over the Park. There is a danger of broken glass, unsightly paper plates/glasses on benches and bodies lying around sleeping on the grass or mattresses, luggage, or pushcart or plain black garbage bags containing their belongs. They were also seen barbecuing.

The residents of this co-op are requesting a key be given to the building superintendent to lock the Park gates at 9:00 p.m. and open at 7:00 a.m. according to park's regulation posted at the front gate of the park.

The Park needs to be locked because when open these campers can easily come and go. She cited an example when the Police Department came three times in one day and the campers were back the next day. It is too easily accessible.

She was informed the Parks Dept. must give out the key.

District Manager Cassagnol responded the Parks Dept. can give out the key, pointing out anyone can jump over the fence. Since budget consultations are beginning, the Capital/Expense items for FY 16 have not been made yet, therefore, putting higher fencing around the park can be included.

District Manager Cassagnol asked the Board Members if they agreed to include this item on its FY'16 Capital/Expense items. Lighting and safety would also be discussed. The Board agreed.

At this point, Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Lucy Schilero, to add higher fencing and lighting for this park to the Board's FY '16 Capital budget.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 30 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Before adjourning, Board Member Clara Salas announced Parent Education Conference on Saturday, November 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel, 135-20 39th Avenue, Flushing, NY . Save the date! More information to follow shortly. Flyers were on the back table.

There being no further business, Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.