



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
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Louis Walker
Chairperson

Melva Miller
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Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

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

I. Second Vice Chairperson Alton Derrick Smith opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.
Chairperson Louis Walker was out of town on vacation.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Before the roll call was taken, Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith asked all to remain standing for a moment of silence for the shooting victims in Orlando, Florida.

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

IV. VOTE: Minutes May 10 Meeting

Board Member Clara Salas made a motion, seconded by Board Member Alirio Orduna, to **accept** the minutes.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Since Chairperson Louis Walker was away, no report was presented.

VI. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Christian Cassagnol announced for those who wished to speak during the Public Forum session of the meeting, please sign the Sign-In sheet.

Next, he spoke about the Committee choices form and explained all members are now required to serve on a minimum of two committees. Please submit your committee assignment form to the Board office as soon as possible. You are choosing three choices. Do not use an "x". Instead, put numbers and Chairperson Walker will finalize the committee assignments.

Some members may have received committee meeting notices to other committees even though the member does not belong to that committee. It was decided that many community board members are not fully aware of matters discussed in committee. Therefore, from this point forward, all community board members will receive all notices for all committees.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol announced the Board's Annual Meet & Greet will not be held this year. Timewise it was not possible to schedule the event.

VII. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Daniel Coates, Chief of Staff, to Council Member Julissa Ferreras Copeland reported on the following:

The City Council passed New York City's budget today for fiscal year 2017. Budget provisions include:

- 60,000 summer youth employment jobs will be baseline in perpetuity acquiring over \$34 million for the program.
- Additional baselining for libraries. From this point forward, all libraries will have six day service.
- Additional funding for adult literacy such as GED and ESL classes.
- \$250 million was allocated to health care savings and an additional \$311 million was added to overall savings, increasing the overall savings in the city's reserves.

Reach out to Mr. Coates if you would like more details on the budget for New York City.

Changes were made to the staff at Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland office. To get to know everyone in the neighborhood, A *Community Open House* is planned for June 17, 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., at the Council Member's office, 32-33A Junction Blvd. All were urged to attend. Flyer was included in Board Member packets.

Saturday, June 18, a free bike helmet giveaway is planned, courtesy of Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and the Department of Transportation, on 111 Street & 46 Avenue from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Adult and children's helmets will be given away.

One of the Council Member's largest priorities is safety and improvements for pedestrians and the entire neighborhood along 111 Street. She wholeheartedly supports the project and would like comments/suggestions. He will be reaching out to enlist feedback.

Board Member Lucy Schilero asked about the street memorial for Sgt. Paul Ferrara who died from cancer after working at Ground Zero.

Next, Michael Mallon, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, thanked all who attended the vigil for the victims of the Orlando, Florida, tragedy and the effort to stand united to combat all types of violence.

There is no reason why weapons of war can be legally obtained in 2016 and Council Member Dromm remains committed to asking for passage of a law that expired in 2004 that has yet to be renewed by Congress.

The New York City fiscal budget has been passed for 2016-2017. Some of the items included in the budget were:

- Allocate \$890,000 for new equipment for Elmhurst Hospital
- Double the amount of money for elementary and after-school programs—from \$8 million to \$16 million
- Joining forces with Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland to secure \$868 million in School Construction Authority funds for new school seats in our area
- Able to maintain six day library services
- Able to ensure every school in our district receives a CASA grant for special projects within those respective schools
- Able to allocate a large amount of money for legal services for immigrants who are not able to afford legal representation

Before concluding his presentation, Qibin Ye, who is a new staff member in the Council Member's office, was introduced.

Next, Alexander Bennett, representing U. S. Rep. Grace Meng's office reported, on common sense for gun control. Updates from Washington:

New and innovative ways are being looked at to reduce airplane noise over Queens. Congresswoman Meng recently met with NASA (National Aeronautics Space Administration) to discuss technology that reduces noise. Although technology is years away, it involves the changing the engineering of aircrafts.

Secondly, he reported on legislation that Congresswoman introduced and was signed into law by President Obama on May 20 entitled the Oriental Bill. The bipartisan bill eliminated all reference to "Oriental"-which still appear in title 42 of the U. S. code-and replace the word with "Asian Americans". Many Americans may not be aware that the word "Oriental" is derogatory. It was a term that needed to be removed from the books, and Congresswoman Meng's legislation is now the law of the land. Title 42 of the U. S. code consists of federal laws that deal with public health, social welfare, and civil rights. Its references to "Oriental", which were written in the 1970s, are the last two places of U.S. law where the term is used to refer to a person.

Lastly, Congresswoman Meng is hosting a Father's Day event in downtown Flushing on Monday, June 20, 5:30 p.m., at the Latimer Gardens Community Center. It is about responsible fathers supporting our children. More details on the event were given. Please encourage fathers you may know to attend, he urged.

VIII. GUEST SPEAKER:

Edward Choy – United States Postal Service
Mail Delivery Issues/Services Q&A

Before the presentation Second Vice Chairperson Alton Derrick Smith explained to the Board Members only one question allowed, no follow up questions. Presentation first followed by a Q&A session.

Mr. Choy who is with Customer Services Operation at the Flushing Post Office was accompanied by George Cancel, Manager of the Corona-Elmhurst Post Office.

Mr. Choy spoke about postal issues such as customers calling the Post Office and not being able to get through. Locally, a sit-down was recently held with Community Board 7 and Congresswoman Grace Meng's office to help solve problems. When issues are presented at the federal level, it usually takes about a month before it reaches the local level. Therefore, it was decided that Congresswoman Meng and postal officials would try to resolve problems locally and bypass Washington. He recommended complaints be passed through the Community Board and Congresswoman Meng's office to work together to resolve issues.

He reported the Corona "A" Post Office is too small and no plans for expansion are planned. This is the U. S. Postal Service's decision to save money.

But if there are problems with mail delivery or package delivery, please feel free to contact Mr. Choy and every effort will be made to resolve the problem.

At this point, Mr. Choy took questions from the Board members.

Board Member Lucy Schilero brought up the closed postal facility in College Point. This facility is Queens' only mail sorting facility. The mail is sent to Brooklyn and then comes back to Queens, which takes up much time and problems occur with lost mail. The Queens Division needs to re-open for Queens. First class mail deliveries are slow and late. With the addition of the SRO problem, the problem is exacerbated and more postal employees are needed.

She noted the Flushing Post Office needs more workers too. The wait time on line is lengthy. Our mail should not have to be sent to Brooklyn then back to Queens. The College Point facility needs to be reopened.

Mr. George Cancel responded the only people that can do that are the people in Washington. Their motto is, "Do more with less".

Being with the volume of mail declining, mail is now a parcel business, he stated.

Board Member Lucy Schilero stressed the importance of receiving mail on time such as for bill payments etc.

Why should mail recipients receive late charges because mail is slow?

She urged both representatives to bring back the importance of this request to the postal officials. Not to blame the post office, but the system needs to be fixed.

Board Member Schilero questioned the turnaround time. There is no way to get mail out to the residents in one to two days if the mail is sent to Brooklyn for processing and then back to Queens, she stated.

Mr. Choy agreed the mail processing system is not beneficial to the public.

Next, CB4 Postal Committee Chair Gigi Salvador relayed where a resident sent letters to the legislators and the letters were returned to the sender. The addressees are prominent and known people. She questioned why? The return message on the envelope was "address unknown".

Mr. Choy stated more information was needed. However, there are many reasons mail is returned such as mail sent to an address no longer in use or it may be a generic address such as "President of the United States, Washington D.C." Even though the address should be known when it goes through the mail system, it is not recognizable. The machines are automated and if they are not programmed to recognize a specific format, the mail will be kicked back. Details were given on the encoding operation.

If you live in an apartment building or are sending mail to a recipient in an apartment building, please include the apartment number. Although it seems like a small matter to the mailman and the post office, it is essential. On a daily basis 500 to 1,000 pieces of mail is processed. If the regular mailman is delivering the mail, he knows the recipients on the route. But if there are part-time mail carriers that particular day delivering mail to buildings with hundreds of residents, it is very daunting to get the job done when the apartment number is omitted.

Discussion ensued about using the dash in addresses and the zip code system.

Board Member James Lisa reiterated sending the mail to Brooklyn and then back to Queens is the problem. He would think if the dash is already in the computer system, it would be recognizable as Queens.

Board Member Damian Vargas brought up when people are waiting in line at the post office, because there is only person at the window servicing the customers, the door is locked and those people are locked in. He felt this practice is a safety hazard and a violation of the fire codes. He emphasized patrons cannot get out, which he has seen and during the holidays it is more prevalent.

Mr. Choy said it would be looked at.

Postal Committee Chair Gigi Salvador stated the 11373 zip code is designated for Elmhurst, but most of the time it being used as Flushing.

At times, she has not received many important documents. When she had reported the problem, she was informed the system brings up Flushing instead of Elmhurst.

Mr. Choy responded there are many providers for mailing houses which many companies rely up to get out the information. Unfortunately, the post office cannot control what version is used. What they will do is get a mailing list from their computers and print the mailing list. This is the mailing houses not the post office.

Board Member Giancarlo Castano asked how you choose a mailbox as mail is thrown on the floor.

Mr. Choy responded you can buy a mailbox at Home Depot or Loew's. A resident must have a receptacle for mail either a mailbox or door slot. Mail should not be thrown on the floor. If there is no safe place to leave the mail, the mail carrier should bring it back to the post office. Notice will be given that you have to get a mailbox.

Board Member Chaio-Chung Chen commented at the Broadway, Elmhurst Post Office only one window is open. Meanwhile, 20 people are on line.

Mr. Choy said it should not be a situation because that station has five full time employees. There should be a minimum of four people on those windows. The Board disagreed and Mr. Choy said it would be looked at.

Board Member Alirio Orduna added the employees there have a very negative attitude. He also added he lives by Elmhurst Hospital but when he receives packages he must pick them up at the Junction Blvd. postal site.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Choy said he would look into it.

Mr. Choy said in the United States, the Postal Service consolidated facilities. It only happened in two places in the U. S. – The Queens plant and the Brooklyn plant. The other plant was in Texas.

Mr. Choy explained new places had to be built, renovations performed, and new equipment purchased. Currently, the Queens plant is not closed but was made into a parcel hub with new machinery. New people had to be hired and others fired and rehired because of union regulations, which put a delay in operations.

The Brooklyn plant has been pushing and processing mail overnight and sent out to us. Mail is coming in too heavy and the postal service must pay.

First Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith brought up at the Junction Blvd. Post Office the lines are longer after work (from 4:00 p.m. on). At 5:00 p.m., however, the lines are extremely long.

Mr. George Cancel said this is one of three post offices open late until 7:00 p.m. Late hours are provided as a community service to accommodate residents.

Board Member Sandra Munoz asked about the Archer Avenue post office in Jamaica.

Mr. Choy responded the post office was consolidated. It was unclear if it would open again.

At this point, Board Member Lucy Schilero made a motion, seconded by Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula, to support the post office and write a letter to Congresswoman Grace Meng and Congressman Joseph Crowley. We are shortchanged and should get our main postal distributor back to College Point.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

Board Member James Lisa reported U. S. representatives Grace Meng and Joseph Crowley fought very hard to keep the post office in College Point.

Board Member Lucy Schilero responded we should keep up the momentum because now we have proof of how bad it has gotten.

IX. REPORT AND VOTE: ULURP/Zoning Committee

1. 888 Queens Inc. who is contemplating a development at 74-21 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY. The proposal is for a 9-story mixed use building which will include 35% of units to be classified as "Affordable Housing".

*2. BSA Application No. 2016-4185-BZ
108-18 Roosevelt Avenue—application for special permit to allow physical culture establishment in portion of new commercial building.*

*3. Application for 421-a (condo) – 45-16 83 Street
Application is for one 8-story building with a total of 138 residential class A dwelling units.*

Before the attorney Kevin McGrath for 888 Queens Inc. addressed the Board, Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith explained this is a proposal to build 115 units. The Board had taken a vote on the Zoning for Quality and Affordability (ZQA) and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) proposals and this will be the first application to the Board on affordable housing. This proposal was also presented at the ULURP/Zoning Committee on June 7, 2016.

Mr. McGrath distributed supporting documentation regarding the property. He explained it is located on Queens Boulevard between 74th and 76th Streets. A meeting was already held with Council Member Daniel

Dromm regarding the property. This presentation is an introduction to a development in a commercial district and adjacent to an R-district. In order to develop the structure, the developer will be required to file an application with the NYC Board of Standards & Appeals to change the current zoning.

The building is 9-stories with three stories of affordable housing including community facilities on the first and second floors. There is one entrance above the affordable housing and fair market value. The first three floors will be affordable housing which will be rentals. Since the City Council has changed the law, the applicant came to the Board to provide an explanation and also he noted the developer is Queens based. Requirements for affordable housing need to be determined. Since the affordable housing legislation is still unclear, the applicant will submit the development very shortly to the NYC Department of Buildings for its approval and will coordinate with the Community Board as work progresses.

Support community services will be located within the building. Parking also to be located within the building as well as an open area in the rear of the building—a garden will be accessible to both affordable and market rate rentals. The market rate rentals are designated as condominiums.

Second Vice Chairperson Alton Derrick Smith explained no vote will be taken tonight. The presentation was for informational purposes only.

Subsequently, Mr. McGrath informed the Board there are 115 market rate units: eighty-eight 2-bedrooms, twenty-seven 1-bedrooms, 35 affordable housing units (the same size as the market rent). In the affordable housing units, there are twenty-eight 2-bedrooms and seven 1-bedrooms. Since affordable housing is on the third floor and market rate is above it, it is the same floor plan. One entrance will be used for both the affordable and market rate units. The outside recreational space will be integrated with both units. There are eighty-seven parking spaces (61 for market rate and 26 for affordable housing units).

A Board member inquired how is it integrated if the first three floors are affordable housing, it seems it is more allotted to low income units.

Mr. McGrath responded because of the requirements for affordable housing rental units, which above those units are condominiums that pay a maintenance fee, the affordable housing is not included because they are rentals and certain requirements by the City of New York for security purposes and other services must be met for affordable housing, which will be in the base of the bill. If not designated in this way, needed services would not be able to be provided to affordable housing. Condominiums will be sold, he noted.

Board Member Sandra Munoz asked will anything distinguish the three floors of affordable housing from the other floors such as carpeting, walls, etc.

Mr. McGrath said everything will be the same. The 2-bedrooms on the sixth floor will be the same size as the 2-bedrooms on the first and second floors. Public areas will be all the same.

A Board member inquired about room size and cost.

Affordable housing units are not smaller than the market rate units, Mr. McGrath emphasized. See the floor plan for room size. As far as cost, it has not yet been determined. He noted rents are not set by the developer; the City sets the rents.

Board Member Chaio-Chung Chen inquired will parking be provided. If so, how many?

Mr. McGrath replied 87 spaces—61 market rate and 26 are designated for affordable housing.

2. *BSA Application No. 2016-4185-BZ*

108-18 Roosevelt Avenue—application for special permit to allow physical culture establishment in portion of new commercial building. (Blink Fitness Gym)

Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith informed the Board, the ULURP/Zoning Committee met on June 7, 2016 to discuss the application. Although the Committee did not have a quorum, the three attending members felt satisfied and felt the Board could endorse the application. He noted it is a three floor typical gym.

Subsequently, Second Vice Chairperson Alton Derrick Smith made a motion based on recommendations from the ULURP/Zoning Committee to **approve** the application. Motion seconded by Board Member Giancarlo Castano.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

3. *Application for 421-a (condo) – 45-16 83 Street*

Application is for one 8-story building with a total of 138 residential class A dwelling units.

Second Vice Chairperson Alton Derrick Smith reported the applicant did not appear at the ULURP/Zoning meeting scheduled for June 7. Therefore, after the applicant was contacted several times, Mr. Smith made a motion to **deny** the application. Motion seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 32 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 abstention. Motion to *deny* passed.

X. REPORT AND VOTE: CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Cabaret License: Club Amadeus – 79-51 Albion Avenue

Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Erica Cruz reported the application is for a cabaret license for Club Amadeus. She and one of her committee members met at the Club. No quorum was present. Staff members from the club met with the Committee onsite.

Before she explained the highlights of the report, she defined the meaning of a cabaret license. Unless an establishment has a cabaret license, the business cannot have live music and dancing. The establishment does have a C of O and operates on Friday and Saturday nights. Club Amadeus has been completely renovated and well done. Much time, effort, and money has gone into the establishment. The hours of operation are Friday nights 11:00 p.m. to 3/4 a.m. Club Amadeus is looking to acquire its cabaret license to expand to live music and entertainment. Looking forward, Club Amadeus plans to expand into the restaurant business. Even a film crew came to scout out the location for a possible TV show.

Committee Chair Erica Cruz also reported the clientele must be age 21 and over. Proper identification is required and the Club scans ID with special software. A strict dress code is also in effect. The owner has additional restaurants too and has much experience in operating restaurants and nightclubs.

Staff from Club Amadeus was present to answer questions.

The owner of Club Amadeus said he would be before the Board in September to renew his liquor license. He had applied two years ago for the liquor license. Although they were still under construction and there was much construction, modifications needed to be made. Changes were made to the venue.

Discussion ensued between the Club's owner and Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero about the club's liquor license.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero brought up the complaint of the overcrowding of parking spilling out onto neighboring areas.

At this point, Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Erica Cruz reported the committee's recommendation was to **approve** the application for a cabaret license. The motion was seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow.

Before the vote, questions were taken from the Board members.

Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith notified the Board one question only; no follow up questions.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla commented as a lifelong neighborhood resident, expressed concern owners of clubs do not live in the neighborhood and do not know the surrounding community such as principals in the schools or non-profits. Since running a business is very important, proprietors do not have the time to get to know the people in the neighborhood.

Committee Chair Erica Cruz commented the owners of Club Amadeus invited community organizations to utilize their club such as to hold meetings etc.

Board Member A. Redd Sevilla requested club owners to get involved with the community. He asked the Club's owners would they be willing to do so.

The Club's manager responded staff is here to answer any and all questions, noting they did not have to attend. But, they wanted to take the first step and meet the community, starting with the Community Board.

Additionally, he reported the cabaret license is so that patrons can dance without the Club getting fined. Club Amadeus is in no way, shape, or form a strip club. It is an event space. Bar mitzvahs, weddings, and all other events are held there.

It is not just a night club and Club Amadeus does want to get involved with the community, he stated.

Next, Board Member Alexa Ponce asked about crime incidents related to the business.

Committee Chair Eric Cruz responded no.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero said there were problems with previous owners. Patrons that use neighboring driveways were a big issue. Club owners must take responsibility for their clientele, she stated.

The club owner responded that's why there is technology of everyone that frequents Club Amadeus. Regarding noise, owners made a big investment in directional speaker system. Details were given. He noted there is no patio in the back; it is a place where people smoke. Also, there is a sound curtain in front of the door. He noted the catering hall next to Club Amadeus is a shared parking lot.

At this point, the vote was taken. By a voice vote, the Board voted 31 in favor, 0 opposed, with 2 abstentions to **approve** the cabaret license for Club Amadeus. Motion to approve passed.

XI. REPORT AND VOTE: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

NYC TLC Livery Base Renewals

- 1. Cibao Radio Dispath – 112-44 Roosevelt Avenue*
- 2. Coopertiva Radio Dispatch – 109-20 Corona Avenue*
- 3. Republica Car & Limo Corp. – 93-04 Corona Avenue*

Transportation Committee member James Lisa reported since there were no adverse community impacts known to Community Board 4, the recommendation was to **approve** the above three TLC Base Renewals. Motion seconded by Board Member Georgina Oliver.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

XII. REPORT AND VOTE: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
SLA Applications

Before presenting the Committee’s report, Committee Chair Lucy Schilero thanked all who attended the June 7 meeting.

Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on the following liquor license applications:

NYS LIQUOR AUTHORITY LICENSES

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>ESTABLISHMENT’S NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT’S ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Sake Bar by Zabb Wine, Beer & Cider	71-28 Roosevelt avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approve
El Patron Billar Grill Corp. Wine, Beer, & Cider Premise is still under renovation, needs DOB clearance	102-02 43 Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
BBQ Chicken Don Alex II Inc. Wine, Beer & Cider	106-26 Corona Avenue Corona, NY	Approve

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>ESTABLISHMENT’S NAME</u>	<u>ESTABLISHMENT’S ADDRESS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
Hornado Ecutoriano “Sal y Pimienta”	81-10 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	
81-22 Baxter Avenue Lounge Inc. “Ilda’s Place II” Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	81-22 Baxter Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approve
BPO Elks Lodge #78 Liquor, wine, Beer & Cider	82-20 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approve
Sabay LLC Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	75-19 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Approve
Diskal Inc. “Georgia Diner”	86-55 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approve

Las Orillas de Gualaceo Inc. 42-18A Junction Blvd. Denied
Beer & Cider Corona, NY

Numerous criminal complaints including sexual abuse, assault, grand larceny and harassment. SLA violation for sale to minor and unreasonable noise.

CORPORATE CHANGE

Luz de America restaurant Inc. 104-30 Roosevelt Avenue Denied
Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider Corona, NY

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 33 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

As a reminder, Committee Chair Schilero reminded the Board to call 311 on noise complaints. People are renting out their houses for parties. Many noise complaints are coming in. Please call complaints in to 311 as it is a legal documentation.

Since she is a new Board Member, Ingrid Gomez asked Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero about the role of public agencies such as Fire Department, NYPD etc. with the Committee since it is considered public safety.

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero responded it is brought up as well and reported on a murder on the corner of 45th Avenue and National Street. Details were given. If requested, she will provide reports on incidents concerning public safety. Upskirting, which is still going on, was also mentioned

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental/Parks

Environmental Committee Chair Giancarlo Castano reported the Committee met two months ago. DSNY Community Liaison was in attendance. Issues discussed were snow removal, dog waste, and e-waste. As of January 1, 2016, The Dept. of Sanitation no longer collects e-waste. Drop off televisions etc. at your local electronic store such as PC Richard, Staples, and Best Buy etc.

He also spoke about how graffiti is being handled and changes made.

Parks

Parks Committee Chair Al Perna reported Hoffman Park received \$1.2 million and Newtown Park received \$1.4 million dollars in funding. Borough President Melinda Katz contributed \$700,000 and Council Member Daniel Dromm also contributed \$700,000, which will greatly enhance the Park.

Flushing Meadows-Corona Park has summer events scheduled. Take advantage of the many events happening in the Park which are free, he advised.

June 26 *Only In Queens Summer Festival* is scheduled in the Park.

Board Member Sandra Munoz asked about the refurbishing of Veteran's Grove.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported it has already been funded and is in the final design phases.

At this point, District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported on Newtown Field.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow brought up the renovation of Frank D. O'Connor Park (across from Elmhurst Hospital). The target date was May 31, but it was not finished.

Youth

Committee Chair Cristian Romero reported the Committee has met in the last couple of months. A community event is being planned. Details will follow in upcoming meetings.

Health

Committee Chair Sal Lombardo reported a Committee meeting was held and a speaker is planned for the fall.

At this point, Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on fire alarm boxes. Those big, old boxes that saved us during Hurricane Sandy. Those boxes are being shut down and may be removed, and replaced with a smaller computerized version. She urged the Board to look out for the ones closer to them because we are trying to salvage them.

XIII. PUBLIC FORUM (Good & Welfare of the District)

Parks Committee Chair reported the Fire Department will be in Corona tomorrow night to teach the community CPR at 6:00 p.m. at Corona Community Ambulance base. The next session is scheduled for July 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the ambulance base. Spread the word, and he urged all to attend. A session is planned every month up to September.

Next, Mr. Gerald BurroughsX(Muhammed) reported a petition was submitted to Community Board 4 two years ago with petitions submitted to other city agencies regarding an illegal mechanic working on his block. The mechanic changes oil, fixes brakes, etc. and currently has 23 cars parked on the block. Residents cannot park their vehicles because of this illegal practice. Homeowners have been summonsed for littering, which was brought on by the mechanic's customers. Those cars for repair have displayed police shields, he noted.

Mr. BurroughsX(Muhammed) also noted mechanics working on cars are illegal immigrants. He asked what is being done for the residents of the 53 Avenue (between 108 and 111 Streets).

At this point, CB 4 staff member Christina Long explained lists were drawn up about some of the cars parked in the area. Those lists were forwarded to the Precinct, and the Precinct will tow the cars. Unfortunately, the Precinct gets the tow truck once a month, which is why it's taking some time. There is only one tow truck available. As soon as the Precinct's time is allotted, they will tow the cars out.

Secondly, she gave the Precinct all the information regarding the mechanics. The Community Affairs office has forwarded the information to their Conditions Unit, who will stop by the area and address the issue.

Subsequently, District Manager Cassagnol reported once every other month the District Service Cabinet meeting is held where city agencies are in attendance to discuss major community problems. June 29 is the next scheduled meeting. This item is at the top of the agenda. This matter will be heard by all city agencies present and is being taken very seriously, he concluded.

Next, Philip Rostoker reported on issues with the postal service. Zip codes were eliminated in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island and processing centers were eliminated around the whole country. This is affecting mail delivery in every part of the country. As a result, mail is delayed or not reaching its destination. Also,

every station in the country is understaffed. He suggested coordinating with the legislators because much reform needs to be done in Washington. He noted he is a retired letter carrier.

Next, John Wang, International Night Market, asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the event. He noted the season is halfway completed.

Board Member James Lisa brought up moving the venue of the event. Why does their profit make the community suffer, he inquired.

Mr. Wang responded it is not true, and there were other factors involved such as the venue may not be big enough, too expensive, and the process of acquiring permits.

Discussion ensued.

Have you worked with the Police Department in terms of the traffic asked Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith?

Mr. Wang replied since the first night the parking lot has not been filled once. Mr. Wang responded yes. There were 16 police officers on the streets.

Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith stated please be mindful some problems may be generated.

More discussion ensued about parking.

Next, Board Member A. Redd Sevilla commented we should applaud developments that include affordable housing, especially when a developer is seeking a variance that includes affordable housing. However, a stand should be made when apartments are separated. We should look for mixed apartments because when other floors are affordable housing and others are not it becomes us vs. them. As a Board, we should fight for mixed apartments.

Board Member Priscilla Carrow pointed out the attorney stated it is not the developer it is city regulations.

At this point, Second Vice Chair Alton Derrick Smith said other Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) applications will come before the Board like the one tonight. With that fact in mind. Representatives from the City Planning Commission and HPD and Dept. of Buildings will be invited to address the Board. There are regulations in place, and we are making plans for September or October to have agency representatives inform the Board about regulations. He urged all Board Members to attend those meetings.

Subsequently, District Manager Christian Cassagnol said the idea is for the agency representatives to address the *committee* first where speakers will be present for the full hour rather than a 15 minute presentation at the Board meeting. Those agencies will teach us the most basic zoning principles, which we must understand on the fundamental level. All Board Members will receive meeting notices when agency representatives are invited and are urged to attend.

Discussion ensued regarding condominiums vs. rental units.

Sine there was no further business, Board Member Lucy Cerezo-Scully made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.