



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst, and Newtown

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Melinda Katz
Borough President

Damian Vargas
Chairperson

Melva Miller
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

June 12, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Attending:

Damian Vargas	Sandra Munoz
Priscilla Carrow	Gurdip Singh Narula
Giancarlo Castano	Georgina Oliver
Lucy Cerezo-Scully	Alexa Ponce
Chaio-Chung Chen	Ashley Reed
Lynda Coral	Oscar Rios
Erica Cruz	Cristian Romero
Judith D'Andrea	Clara Salas
Marialena Giampino	Gigi Salvador
Ingrid Gomez	Lucy Schilero
Kristin Gonzalez	Malikah Shabazz
Jennifer Gutierrez	Gregory Spock
James Lisa	Dewan Tarek
Salvatore Lombardo	Marcello Testa
Peter Manganaro	Louis Walker
Patricia Martin	Rosa Wong
Matthew McElroy	
Rovenia McGowan	

ATTENDING:

Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Christina Long, CB4 Community Assistant
Council Member Francisco Moya
Lisette Barcia, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Jacqueline A. Rozado, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Joe Nocerino, Queens Borough Pres. Office
Julian Fox Spector, Assembly Member Ari Espinal's Office

Stacy Eliuk, Public Advocate Letitia James' Office
William Giron, NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office
Larry Gallegos, Congressman Joseph Crowley's Office
Kathi Ko, Dept. of City Planning
Phil Wong, School District 24 Community Education Council
Charles Simic, NYC Community School District 24-PLF
Melanie LaRocca, NYC School Construction Authority
Kelly Murphy, NYC School Construction Authority
Lt. Konoski, 110 Police Precinct
Izaida Velcarcel, Noah's Ark Preparatory School
Ernestine McKayle
Sumaiya Mumu, LaGuardia Community College
Stephanie Baez, Child Center of NY
D. Hargrove
Larry DeLuca
Terran Osbourne, CP of NYS
Jimmy Apostolates, Elmhurst, NY
Andrew Sokdot
Jeremy Chon-Ksaushar, New Visions Democratic Club
Carina Kaufman-Gutierrez, Queens Neighborhood United
Jorge C. Rodriguez
Patricia Chou
Gerald Burroughs X, 53 Avenue Rep.
Michelle Dunston, Lefrak Tenant Assn. Pres. Elect

Public Speaker's List

Joann Berger, CEC 24 Member

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

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

Subject Matter: Pursuant to S1731 of the New York City School Construction Authority Act, notice has been filed for the proposed site selection of a portion of Block 2108, portion of Lot 1, located in the Borough of Queens, for the construction of a new, approximately 306-seat Universal Pre-Kindergarten facility of Community School District 24. The proposed site is located within Flushing Meadows-Corona Park and contains approximately 43,515 square feet (.999 acres) of lot area. It is located just northwest of the New York Hall of Science building at 46-01 111 Street in the Corona section of Queens.

I. Chairperson Damian Vargas opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

II. Executive Secretary Marialena Giampino took the attendance. A quorum was present.

Any members of the public who wish to speak on the issues being presented, which are the proposed plans for a new pre-K, please sign the sign in sheet located up front, announced Chair Damian Vargas. Another sign-in sheet for the Public Forum segment is located in the back.

Kelly Murphy, Director of Real Estate, New York City School Construction Authority, Vice President of Operations, reported on a site plan for a new pre-K center in Queens located on Block 2108, portion of Lot 1. This facility will hold 306 students from the adjacent community. Not only will it provide the facility for the pre-K but also a brand new publicly accessible play area. Meaning when school is not open, weekends/summer months and holidays, it will still be accessible to the community.

This new facility provides permanent space for children, who are currently housed in temporary trailers at P.S. 28, P.S. 16, and P.S. 7 while providing additional capacity to serve pre-K needs throughout the community.

The site selection process and the design will be continued through ongoing presentations, progress reports, final approvals, and start of construction.

The question was brought up, Are you pursuing Alienation Legislation for the property? What is the status and was it passed and signed?

The response was alienation legislation is being pursued by the City and the steps will be adhered to in the approval process. Legislation was passed in Albany and signed by the Governor.

Another question was asked will the proposed school take up parking spaces by the Hall of Science. Is the Hall of Science part of this proposal?

Kelly Murphy responded there are some parking spaces that would be interfered with, but whatever parking was displaced would be re-introduced so that there will be no loss to parking. More parking spaces would be located somewhere else.

Since many schools visit the Hall of Science and it is overcrowded, how often will the children enter the Hall of Science Board Member Erica Cruz asked?

As part of the enabling legislation, School Construction Authority is required to do a public process but it is about the physical site. It is understood the Department of Education has been in long-standing conversations with the Hall of Science about ways to create a partnership. There will be a partnership between the Hall of Science and the Department of Education on the pre-K center. Programmatic questions no details yet. The Department of Education can come back and present to the Community Board and other interested stakeholders the programmatic element.

Board Chair Damian Vargas said a meeting was held last month at the Queens Borough President's office where a proposed plan was presented of the changes. He commented he thought those changes would be discussed tonight so that the Community Board could see what those plans were, referencing the landscape design.

For the purpose of this meeting, the SCA representatives were present tonight to talk about the site and moving it forward through the site selection process responded Melanie LaRocca, the SCA representative. It was explained the SCA's work is limited to the footprint of the school building and its surroundings. The school building and the footprint of the school is under the purview of the SCA. The building will be set back from 111 Street. The school yard/ playground will be fronting 111 Street set back from 111 Street but facing 111 Street.

At this point, Chair Vargas commented on the plans he had seen at the meeting held at the Borough President's Office last month. Many concerns were brought up and particularly one of the reasons was to bring it to the Board at this time because the Board recesses for two months during the summer. It is important the Community Board is made aware of the plans.

In response to a question from the school crossing guard from the 110 Precinct whose post is on 111 Street & 48 Avenue, the School Construction Authority would not be handling any landscaping design of the Park, replied Melanie La Rocca, SCA representative. Their role is limited to the footprint of the building, construction of the building, and the space associated with the building i.e. the schoolyard.

She continued any work that occurs in the Park would be done by the NYC Parks Department through their formal process which includes consultation with the stakeholders. This is separate from the actual construction of the building.

Furthermore, the site would bring about 306 seats, noting the SCA works with the local police precinct and engages the Department of Education to ensure their division for safety and security is on board (understands the location, the needs of the location). As part of the routine process for all new projects, to engage with the NYC Department of Transportation and the SCA's colleagues to ensure whatever needs the site may have as a result of the school those needs are in place for the safety of the students. Part of the legislation proposed is a brand new pre-K center. The anticipated occupancy date of this pre-K center is September 2020. As a result, there is a window of time to address concerns and have ongoing conversations on a regular basis.

Board Member Sandra Munoz said members of the community enter the Park to gain access to the Grand Central Parkway through the Hall of Science entrance. Will this be affected by the placement of the school?

Ms. LaRocca reiterated the SCA's scope of work is limited to the building footprint and the schoolyard. Landscaping and other work in the Park or adjacent to the Park is outside of the SCA's scope. Therefore, the SCA would not be making the alterations suggested.

As a follow up question, Board Member Sandra Munoz inquired would any buses related to the school stop in front of the school on 111 Street or would another entrance be opened?

Ms. LaRocca responded for universal pre-K, the Department of Education does not provide busing for students. The students arrive at the site by walking, by public transportation, or by car. Access points to the school site would be off 111 Street—the main way, part of that is coordination with colleagues at the NYC Department of Transportation and other city agencies. As a matter of course, the SCA will continue to engage NYC DOT and other city colleagues on necessary improvements that may be needed to enhance the school.

Board Member James Lisa commented any time parkland is removed from a park, land should go back to a park. Where is land going back to a park in the City of New York, he asked.

Ms. LaRocca answered there are two ways to do this with alienation. Either a replacement or improvement--capital improvements can be made to the Park.

The floor was turned over to Janice Melnick, NYC Department of Parks, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park Administrator, who said as part of the alienation process there is \$28 million allocated to Park improvements. Some of those improvements would go to the immediate area. Much of the funding would go to improvements inside the Park, she explained.

Board Member Ingrid Gomez asked what talks were held with the NYC Department of Transportation regarding the space and other concerns such as how the children would be transported, safety, crosswalks and traffic lights.

The response was the NYC Department of Transportation was engaged throughout the process and an interest in finding additional seats for pre-K. There is a tremendous need for school seats. The NYC DOT is very well aware of this site, the number of students, and to continue conversations for potential enhancements that would be of benefit.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea stated the site's parking lot is parkland. As a Community Board member and community resident, she is very cognizant of the fact enterprises, whether they are city or public, have been usurping parkland consistently over the years. Our Park is becoming smaller and smaller because of the USTA, schools, the Hall of Science expanding its facility to amusements, farmers markets, etc. She opposes the proposed plans for the site. However she does agree pre-K seats are desperately needed in this community. However, the City of New York needs to look elsewhere instead of parkland. Whenever this is a need, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park is always mentioned to fill the need.

Another issue spoken about was the entrance to the Grand Central Parkway because community people use it to gain access to the parkways. It is so needed because of traffic congestion. What will happen to the entrance/exit she inquired?

She said NYCDOT has not been responsive to our community or any of the Board's requests. There have been many issues on 111 Street, noting the exit out of the Park onto 111 Street from the Hall of Science is deadly.

To bring young children onto 111 Street, there will be accidents and someone will be severely injured, she stated.

Ms. LaRocca responded there is a tremendous need in School District 24, particularly in Corona, for school seats. Trailers are being used for teaching in school yards such as P. S. 28 because of a lack of space. The SCA believes this is an appropriate site for a school and will continue to engage with NYCDOT for positive enhancements and improvements and believes that positive changes will be made which will benefit the students and the community.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea said it was stated children will be walking. What about special needs children?

Ms. LaRocca reiterated according to her understanding, the Department of Education does not provide busing for pre-K. She would be happy to follow up to ensure correct information was given.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea stated it does not preclude parents to hire private buses to bring the children to school, which does happen. Buses will be loading and unloading students onto 111 Street to get to the school.

Ms. LaRocca responded they anticipate a number of different ways guardians will be arriving to the site, by foot, mass transit, or by vehicle.

More discussion ensued about children being loaded and unloaded at the curb and about double parking, which would be impossible on 111 Street.

At this point, Chair Damian Vargas called on the members of the Public who signed up to speak.

Joann Berger, CEC24 member, spoke in favor of the pre-K school and reported there are currently 3,950 students enrolled in the UPK's (Universal Pre-Kindergarten) throughout the district. One thousand seven hundred seventy six are within this zip code.

Anticipation for the coming year is 1,273 children that will be eligible for UPK in September, and there is a shortage of about 500 seats. Trailers are not temporary: they have been used for 25+ years. More details were given about the field trips mentioned earlier and the safety in our schools. All were invited to attend the CEC meetings. This school can tremendously benefit the children of this community, she said.

Board Member Jennifer Gutierrez asked about the height of the building. She mentioned Council Member Moya's proposal to downzone Corona and the amount of development in the area. Park space should not be reduced she concluded, but she does support the proposal because of the need in our district.

Board Member James Lisa spoke about safety of the children.

The NYC Department of Transportation had spoken about safety issues on 111 Street, but he noted there are more accidents on 111 Street than ever since implementation of the new project. Talking about the current location, there is a bike lane in front of the school where the children would be dropped off, is in an area you cannot double park, a park is across the street, and a light is on the corner. On the opposite corner, there is another school.

He emphasized no one has ever talked about the safety of the community and its residents.

Board Member Lisa said the configuration of the street, the response time for ambulances, the response time for the Police Department, and the Fire Department, coupled with the location of the Rego Park Nursing Home, is horrendous. He suggested fix the safety issues first and then come back to talk about the proposed school. The only way in and out of the school is the same way it was before. It's more dangerous now than before because there is no visibility going in or coming out. Traffic is ten-fold now and everyone is using the entrance to get to

the parkway. Revisit the area, redo the project, and have it go back to the way it was said Board Member James Lisa.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea asked what will happen to all the school buses that go to the Hall of Science?

Ms. LaRocco responded any parking spaces that are disrupted because of the school will be returned in the parking lot. The site will not reduce the number of parking spaces.

Continuing with her question, Board Member Judy D'Andrea asked why a library can't be incorporated into the plans since the Board has been requesting one since 1989. The Borough President or the District Manager should look into it. This would be the perfect site for a library, she stated.

Chair Damian Vargas recognized the concerns of the Board and said the NYC Parks Department and the appropriate agencies would be invited to address the Board regarding those concerns. Please let the Board office or the District Manager know so that it will be placed on the agenda at an upcoming meeting.

Since there were no other questions or comments, Chairperson Damian Vargas closed the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m. The regularly scheduled meeting of Community Board 4 immediately followed.

June 12, 2018

COMMUNITY BOARD ATTENDANCE

Board Member Attending:

Damian Vargas	Rovenia McGowan
Priscilla Carrow	Sandra Munoz
Giancarlo Castano	Gurdip Singh Narula
Lucy Cerezo-Scully	Georgina Oliver
Chaio-Chung Chen	Alexa Ponce
Lynda Coral	Ashley Reed
Erica Cruz	Oscar Rios
Judith D'Andrea	Cristian Romero
Marialena Giampino	Clara Salas
Ingrid Gomez	Gigi Salvador
Kristin Gonzalez	Lucy Schilero
Jennifer Gutierrez	Malikah Shabazz
James Lisa	Gregory Spock
Salvatore Lombardo	Dewan Tarek
Peter Manganaro	Marcello Testa
Patricia Martin	Louis Walker
Matthew McElroy	Rosa Wong

Board Members Absent:

Karen Abreu	A. Redd Sevilla
Edgar Moya	Alton Derrick Smith
Ruby Muhammad	Minwen Yang
Alexandra Owens	Lester Youngblood
Albert Perna	
Neil Roman	

ATTENDING:

Christian Cassagnol, CB4 District Manager
Christina Long, CB4 Community Assistant
Council Member Francisco Moya
Lissette Barcia, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Jacqueline A. Rozado, Council Member Francisco Moya's Office
Joe Nocerino, Queens Borough Pres. Office
Julian Fox Spector, Assembly Member Ari Espinal's Office
Stacy Eliuk, Public Advocate Letitia James' Office
William Giron, NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office
Larry Gallegos, Congressman Joseph Crowley's Office
Kathi Ko, Dept. of City Planning
Phil Wong, School District 24 Community Education Council
Charles Simic, NYC Community School District 24-PLF
Melanie LaRocca, NYC School Construction Authority

Kelly Murphy, NYC School Construction Authority
Lt. Konoski, 110 Police Precinct
Izaida Velcarcel, Noah's Ark Preparatory School
Ernestine McKayle
Sumaiya Mumu, LaGuardia Community College
Stephanie Baez, Child Center of NY
D. Hargrove
Larry DeLuca
Terran Osbourne, CP of NYS
Jimmy Apostolates, Elmhurst, NY
Andrew Sokdot
Jeremy Chon-Ksaushar, New Visions Democratic Club
Carina Kaufman-Gutierrez, Queens Neighborhood United
Jorge C. Rodriguez
Patricia Chou
Gerald Burroughs X, 53 Avenue Rep.
Michelle Dunston, Lefrak Tenant Assn. Pres. Elect

Public Speaker's List

Joann Berger, CEC 24 Member

COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

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

I. Chairperson Damian Vargas opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

III. Executive Secretary Marialena Giampino took the roll call. A quorum was present.

IV. VOTE ON THE MINUTES—MAY 8, 2018

Board Member Priscilla Carrow made a motion, seconded by Board Member Clara Salas, to **approve** the minutes.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 34 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

V. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Board Chair Damian Vargas reported Council Member Fernando Cabrera, Bronx CD 14 had requested an increase to the Community Boards budgets. There has been no increase in the Boards' budgets for many years. Since the city budget was passed yesterday and included in that budget additional funds for each Community Board was secured. Each Community Board will receive an additional \$42,000 for the new fiscal year. Details are unclear, but a conference call is scheduled for Thursday, June 14, to clarify those details.

The CB4 office does need the funding for much needed things. A Board letter of support was written to Council Member Cabrera.

Next for new members, *the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy* packet is on hand. Each new member must sign they have received it. Read and sign the receipt if you agree with the policy.

Subsequently, he spoke about the Committee assignments. Via e-mail the Board office had sent the Board members the choice form to select Committees the Board members wished to serve on to choose their top 3 committees to start in September. So far, four responses were received. Paper ballots were being distributed, please fill out now and return it. If the ballot is not returned, you will be placed on a Committee you may not want because a ballot was not returned. We will try our best to place everyone on their top choice committee.

Staff Member Christina Long announced if your name is called, she does not have a committee choice form from you:

*Giancarlo Castano
Lucy Cerezo Scully
Lynda Coral
Judy D'Andrea
Kristin Gonzalez
Jennifer Gutierrez
Salvatore Lombardo
Peter Manganaro
Edgar Moya
Gurdip Singh Narula
Al Perna
Alexa Ponce
Oscar Rios
Gigi Salvador
Alton Derrick Smith
Marcello Testa
Minwen Yang
Lester Youngblood*

VII. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Christian Cassagnol reported the Departmental of Environmental Presentation on the reconstruction of pump station at 108-01 Horace Harding Expressway was cancelled. The project is not taking place just yet. A report will be given in September. In the meantime, minor work will be done on Martense Avenue in advance of this project.

Subsequently he spoke about the upcoming CB4 Youth Fair planned for October 6, 2018. The *Save the Date* flyer was sent out. If you are a school, organization, a not for profit or agency that provides any type of youth services, please follow the link on the flyer to be considered to participate in CB4Q's "Youth 101" Year 3 Fair. June 30 is the deadline so please spread the word.

Next, he spoke about Corona Plaza which is very close to completion, probably end of of June. A full grand opening will be held in July.

Next, he said as you know Board Member and Commander Alirio Orduna passed away last year. Senator Peralta has been working with the Board office, noting although we were not a part of it, the Senator had inducted Alirio Orduna into the Veterans Hall of Fame. The NYC Veterans Hall of Fame was created to honor and recognize upstanding veterans from the entire state. Their important service deserves a special recognition that only the Hall of Fame can provide as a fitting expression of our gratitude and admiration. There is a You Tube link you can log onto to see more.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol spoke about outstanding service of deceased Board Member Alirio Orduna who over the past twenty five years had operated his youth cadets program out of P. S. 19. The District Manager commented the Board may wish to consider the new school extension at P. S. 19 be co-named for long time Board Member Alirio Orduna.

At this point, Board Member Judy D'Andrea made a motion, seconded by Board Member Priscilla Carrow, to co-name the new school extension at P.S. 19 in honor of Alirio Orduna.

By a voice vote, the Board voted 34 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.

Next, District Manager Cassagnol reported on the 100th Anniversary of William F. Moore. On June 2, along with Queens Borough President Melinda Katz's Office, a community park clean-up was held at William F. Moore Park, 51 Avenue and 108 Street. On June 7 an official ceremony at the Park was held to mark the 100 Year Anniversary celebration of the death of Pfc. William F. Moore.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea commented the vagrants need to be removed from the Park.

Subsequently, District Manager Cassagnol reported on Louis Simeone Park. This Park has been years in the making and CB4 has been instrumental in ongoing conversations and continued support with its renovation. The Park is now in excellent condition and the groundbreaking will be held on June 19 at 2 p.m., 101 Street and Radcliffe Avenue. All were urged to attend.

At this point, Lt. Konoski of the 110 Precinct presented crime statistics this year compared to last year (around the same time).

This year:

- Down in robberies, burglaries and grand larceny autos.
- Up slightly Grand Larcenies from personal belonging such as book bags and purses. However there is an issue in the Queens Mall with the majority of crimes coming from that area. He mentioned the many stores in the Mall.
- Up in Felony Assaults, much of those crimes located around Roosevelt Avenue

Summer is coming! Reach out to the Precinct, your community affairs officers, and NCO officers and let them know what issues need to be addressed. Let them help you in any way they can, not just with crime but with community issues as well, he said.

A Board Member reported the NCO Program was unresponsive mentioning Sector A. He had called, e-mailed, sent a text, and no response. Afterward, he was notified the NCO Officer was on vacation. The communication between the officers and the community is abysmal. There was an issue on Petit Avenue in Elmhurst. When the NCO officer was called, there was no response.

Other Board members agreed they had experienced the same issue regarding no response.

Lt. Konoski offered to take the information and put the Board members in contact with the respective NCO officers.

At this point, District Manager Cassagnol reported a local pre-K on 104 Street and 42 Avenue were on strike. Teachers were standing outside the school, and later that same day the teachers came by the office to talk about the issues. The Department of Education is not paying the school. As a result, teachers are going months without getting paid. Since then, the District Manager has been working with members of the Youth Committee and the Queens Borough President's Office. The parties reached out to Council Member Dromm for help, although it is not his district, as he is a former Education Chair. Representatives from the school are present tonight and will make a full report. Whether or not a motion is made tonight by the Board, it has been recorded as an official constituent complaint at the Board office.

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

Stephanie Buez, representing Child Center of New York, was advocating for children ages 2 and 3 years old for schools. There are pre-K schools but none for two and three year olds. A parent from the community addressed the Board. She said the need is there for extra schools for two and three year olds, mentioning play gyms are necessary. This is a highly important matter.

Next, Patricia Chou spoke about a recent incident on Roosevelt Avenue and 97 Street where ICE visited the building this past weekend. The building has a small business on the bottom floor and residential above it. After speaking with the business owners, it was learned the ICE agents were looking for Mexicans and Ecuadorians, pointing out not a specific person. This is an alarming development because ICE looks for specific people to arrest or to hand out a warrant. In this type of sweep, there is deep fear in the immigrant community regardless of status. Visiting tenants, they learned many of the families are undocumented and afraid, even those who have status. She mentioned it is probably the landlord who called ICE and they have been working with the immigrant community to provide legal services as well as safety planning. These are families with young children. Elected officials talk about how New York City is a sanctuary city. If you know of a small business owner who needs support, please see Ms. Chou after the meeting.

Next, Izaida Velcarcel and teachers from Noah's Ark Preparatory, a pre-K school reported the school has not been given a contract by the Department of Education. As a result, teachers have not gotten paid since May. The end of school is June 22 and it does not look like they will be paid throughout the summer. They have tried talking to the District who does not know what the problem is. This is not just going on throughout their school but also happening throughout many early education centers in the city. Since the centers are not DOE employees, they are not on the DOE payroll. The vendor is the one responsible for their pay. Why does the DOE allow vendors to open centers without doing a thorough background checks, i.e. check their financials, credibility, and determine if other centers in the past have closed, she questioned. Centers are opened and teachers are hired without the vendor's ability to pay them.

There are twelve teachers and 76 children enrolled at the center. A walk out was done with some of the teachers leaving and now they are short staffed. They went to the District where it was explained how the process works but the concern is still urgent.

Discussion ensued.

Subsequently, Council Member Francisco Moya offered his assistance on this problem.

Next, Larry DeLuca brought an incident to the Board's attention where two pit bulls came out of 98-20 Alstyn Avenue, and attacked his mother holding her small dog. His mother was bitten and the small dog killed by the pit bulls. May 28, three pit bulls came out of the same house, went to the front of his mother's house at 98-44 Alstyn Avenue, then went to another house one block away, attacking the dog and bit the owner. In both instances, the pit bulls had neither leashes nor collars. The owners of the pit bulls have been totally irresponsible to allow their pit bulls to get loose twice in five weeks. Both times the pit bulls were out they were in hunting mode looking for a small dog to attack. Both times people got in the way and were bitten.

Mr. DeLuca noted there is a school one block away and thankfully no children were hurt.

The response of the Police Department and Animal Control did not give them confidence they are safe. The pit bulls that killed his mother's dog were returned to the owners, and one of them was involved in the second attack. He did not know the proper Police procedure, but at the very least, the owners should have been summonsed for no collars or leashes. There should have been an immediate response to remove the dogs. In both instances, it took up to two to three hours before concerned people in the neighborhood stayed in front of the house until the Police did respond and removed the dogs. Animal Control never contacted his mother about

rabies shots. The Police said they had lost the original Police report. In the second incident, the owner of the dog was advised to get rabies shots.

A community should be safe. A person should be able to walk his dog and not feel threatened and there should be some laws enacted where pit bulls are not allowed in certain areas such as schools. Pit bulls should not be allowed in neighborhoods where there are small dogs and children, he said.

Chair Damian Vargas noted Mr. DeLuca had called the Board office where it will be brought to the attention of our local elected officials. Chair Vargas also expressed sympathy for Mr. DeLuca's loss.

Board Member Sandra Munoz commented not only pit bulls should be on a leash but all dogs as well.

Mr. DeLuca did some research and explained pit bulls comprise 6% of the dog population and are involved in 70% of attacks.

Similarly, he noted the owners were taking in rescue dogs living a block away from a school.

Discussion ensued.

Next, Carina Kaufman-Gutierrez, Queens Neighborhood United, invited all to a Town Hall Meeting on the 40-31 82 Street Rezoning on Monday, June 18, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at the Jewish Center Jackson Heights. Flyers were on hand with more details. This meeting is a community forum to share concerns about the proposed rezoning, including concerns about increased traffic, rent increases, housing concerns and school overcrowding. Following this segment, Know Your Rights training will follow for tenants experiencing tenant harassment and rent increases led by attorneys from the Urban Justice Center. Yesterday, she spoke to a small business owner located across from the proposed development noting their rent had been increased to \$10,500/month and told by their landlord it was because the neighborhood had become a luxury neighborhood. The invitation was extended to Council Member Moya who said he was unavailable to attend. She was optimistic he would attend. Please come and share your concerns and listen to other community members.

IX. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATORS

Council Member Francisco Moya reported the Budget was passed and explained Fair Fares and how the poorest New Yorkers will now be able to afford mass transit. This was inspired by the City Council and now money will be put in to have a good program to help those that are most vulnerable.

The City Council restored the summer youth program. Council Member Moya and other Council members on the budget negotiating team along with the Speaker were fighting to ensure that the money be restored and expanded. Many of the summer jobs will go to the youth in our community, it is important because that program was being cut.

There were major wins for seniors and immigration. He spoke about the children being separated from parents (unaccompanied minors) and explained the program was expanded to help those children that are here and how we can better service them and reconnect them with their families.

Next, he spoke about libraries. The City Council restores up to \$8 million for restorations for libraries. This money will be used to expand a lot of great programs. The Corona library is bursting at the seams and plans for expansion are being looked at including a new location. Recommendations will be taken from the Board members.

Next, he reported there is a hearing on Thursday on a program operated by the city called Fresh. This program looks on how we can bring in supermarkets or expand them and give them tax breaks to build or expand

existing ones that will have fresh produce. At least 60% of supermarket stock should be fresh produce. This district lacks that requirement. Our community has the highest rate of childhood obesity in the entire City of New York.

Speaking about the Town Hall meeting on the 82 Street Rezoning, Council Member Moya said he had invited Queens United to have a meeting with him on this issue, however, they had refused. Also, Queens United never reached out to have a meeting with the Council Member. However, his staffer did reach out to them to have a meeting, which did not happen. A flyer was put out Town Hall With Council Member Moya, but he was never consulted, and they knew he could not attend. He does not run away from public speaking or communicating with community residents. When you are dishonest about the way you are conducting business, it is also not the way we to be responsive by saying he refused to meet with us, which is not the case. Council Member Moya is happy to meet with Queens Neighborhood United. No one has ever called back to set up a meeting, it is either a Town Hall or nothing, he concluded.

Council Member Moya will continue to fight for what is the best for our community. To all of you, Council Member Moya is open to having conversations with anyone. This is not the way to get to a better place or conduct ourselves, he commented. He will be happy and is available to meet with Queens United.

Board Member Louis Walker asked how come New York City residents did not receive an income tax cut.

Council Member Moya responded what the City Council tried to do this year, and the Mayor, took it out. The City Council was pushing for a homeowners rebate. He spoke about how the assessments are done and City Planning look at the value of a home. He is working on it now at the City level looking at how the assessments are done for property owners.

A rebate was planned giving \$450 to homeowners this year, but the Mayor did not grant it so that it was removed from this year's budget. But it did raise more awareness within the City Council.

Next, Council Member Moya reported he and all the Council Members have been championing how to bring in more funding to Community Boards. The argument was this should be baseline. It should not have to take funding from the Council Member's discretionary funding because a local not for profit may need the money. Programs for Community Boards should be funded by the City because they have the money to do so. For example, city planners should be assigned to Community Boards and paid for by the City of New York not paid from the Council Member's discretionary funds. In this way, Community Boards will be able to fund community events.

The City will add \$42,500 to each Community Board budget, with additional funding added by Council Member Moya.

At this point, legislator's representatives were called on for reports.

Congressman Joseph Crowley

Larry Gallegos reported Congressman Crowley had a meeting with the Deputy Postmaster General in Washington D. C. on June 8 regarding issues constituents have been having with the post office. A plan was devised where people in the community reach out to his office weekly as there will be a weekly conference call with the Deputy Postmaster. He was optimistic knowledge gained will be passed on the local post offices in the community.

Board Member Lucy Schilero asked, "Will the College Point postal facility be opened for mail processing?"

Larry Gallegos replied it had not been discussed.
Discussion ensued.

He also reported the #7 Line repainting should begin late June/early July. No word yet on when the new, tamper proof mailboxes will be in place. However, he will follow up.

Board Member Judy D'Andrea asked what happened to opening the LIRR at Elmhurst. Originally, there was a stop there but it was closed many years ago. But now because there is so much development it is so crowded and one of the suggestions to alleviate the over crowdedness was to open that station.

District Manager Christian Cassagnol commented this has been added to the Board's Capital budget items.

Congresswoman Grace Meng

Cristian Romero reported the postal service has asked the Congresswoman's office to take in any feedback the community may have so that the postal service can receive it. Send in any issues you may have, said Cristian Romero. As far as installing the tamper proof mailboxes, they are starting to implement mailboxes closer to the post offices and working their way out. There is no concrete time frame, but approximately by the end of year they should be done.

State Senator Michael Gianaris

No Report

State Senator Jose Peralta

No Report

State Senator Tony Ann Stavisky

No Report

State Assembly Member Brian Barnwell

No Report

State Assembly Member Michael Den Dekker

No Report

State Assembly Member Ari Espinal

Julian Fox Spector, Chief of Staff to Assembly Member Ari Espinal, reported the Assembly Member has joined on to a Bill called Protect Our Courts Bill which would ban ICE from making arrests in our courthouses and arresting people to and from court. Also, the Assembly Member passed her first Bill this week, which would guarantee New Yorkers who are seeking unemployment insurance reasonable rates and fair representation. A debate on Carlos' Law, Carlos Moncayo a 22-year old Ecuadorian immigrant working in the construction industry who was killed in 2015, while on a site in Manhattan working in a 18' unsecured trench and as he went to exit it collapsed and buried him alive. For months, the workers on site complained it was dangerous and the developer put profit over the lives of New Yorkers. Carlos' Law would make it a felony murder and impose fines of up to \$1.5 million. Currently, the fine in workplace deaths is about \$20,000.

Saturday, June 16, the Assembly Member is honored to be giving the graduation speech at her alma mater, St. Leo's School.

Council Member Daniel Dromm

Jacqueline Rozada, representing Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, reported the budget passed was \$89 billion. All were invited to a free presentation and legal session for senior covering the following topics:

- Health Care Advanced Directives
- Power of Attorney
- Last Wills And Testaments
- Burial Planning
- Government Benefits

The session is planned for Thursday, June 21, from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., at the Queens Library, 86-07 Broadway, Elmhurst, NY. Please RSVP to the Council Member’s office. 718-803-6373 to RSVP.

Also, a fire safety and prevention workshop is scheduled Friday, June 15, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., at the Jewish Center.

The last free immigration legal services dates are June 13 and June 20. Please call the Council Member’s office to avail yourself of those free services.

Free smoke alarms will be given out at the FDNY Open House Saturday, June 16. This is a great family day. Get to know your firefighters. Free smoke alarms will be given out.

NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer

William Giron, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer’s office reported, Ramadan is concluding this week and gave details about upcoming events. All were invited to attend.

Public Advocate Letitia James

Stacy Eliuk, representing Public Advocate Letitia James’ office, invited all to march with them on June 24 at NYC Pride parade. See her after the meeting if you are interested in marching.

With the increased costs of living in New York City, it is difficult to live here. Just for child care alone it costs about \$16,000/year. People should not have to choose between their careers and raising their children.

Recently, the Public Advocate introduced a Bill in the City Council to create an exploratory committee to look at potential options for municipal childcare on a subsidized basis. Presently in New York City, there are about half of working parents miss days of work due to child care issues. This costs \$4.4 billion in productivity and \$8.3 billion in lost wages nationwide. The study would provide on-site subsidized child care for New York City’s municipal workers and would also include a pilot program that would have one or more city agencies to work directly with the program.

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz

Joe Nocerino, representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, reported “Know Your Rights” for immigrants – June 25 to June 29. Borough President Katz will hold “Know Your Rights”, a series of free, informational workshops and confidential legal clinics in various locations throughout the borough. The first series will run June 25 to June 29 and focus on immigrants who make up nearly half of the borough’s 2.3 million residents. Multi-lingual interpretation will be available throughout workshop topics and legal advice will range from DACA to seeking asylum to removal proceedings. Log on to the Borough President’s website for dates, times, and locations.

The Borough President’s new Newsletter was available on the back table. Queens Borough President Melinda Katz sponsors a free Kool and The Gang concert, Saturday, June 16, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

A Summer 2018 Katz Concert Series flyer was also available on the back table. Queens Borough President Melinda Katz presents annual free summer concert series in partnership with Kupferberg Center for the Arts and NYC Parks. See flyer for details.

X. REPORT AND VOTE: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

SLA Applications

Committee Chair Lucy Schilero had on hand the Hurricane Guides and pens for distribution.

In Elmhurst, there have been quite a few fires due to SRO's. Although the recent fire was electrical, it is surprising the number of families living in overcrowded buildings. She mentioned many people are putting their belongings on fire escapes blocking the way for exit in case of fire. The Police Department recommends lock your door when leaving the house because of the burglaries. People are walking up fire escapes and entering homes. Equally important, the Fire Department said fire escapes are still blocked. Keep entrances clear.

When a fire hydrant does not have a spray cap, 20-25 gallons of water are being expended, which affects the whole area. The Fire Department said to call 911, the Department of Environmental Protection said to call 311, Committee Chair Lucy Schilero calls both phone numbers. In case of a fire, there may not be enough water to fight the fires.

Subsequently, she reported on the FDNY Open House. The dates and times are as follows:

- Engine Company 289, Ladder Co. 138, Saturday, June 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 97-28 43 Avenue
- Engine Company 287, Ladder Company 136, 86-53 Grand Avenue, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Engine Company 324, 108-01 Horace Harding Expressway, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

You will enjoy those FDNY Open Houses, she added.

Next, Public Safety Committee Chair Lucy Schilero reported on a group soliciting any woman, any age, mainly high school age, for porn which is another way for human trafficking. A few years ago, the operation was on Junction Blvd. and Roosevelt Avenue. Now, it's back again. She had a flyer advertising solicitation, predominately in Spanish. Pretending to be a sixteen year old girl interested in porn, her constituent contacted the solicitors and was informed hotels in Jackson Heights will be used. Business is all cash and there is over 400 sites here and overseas involved. The problem is under investigation.

May 24 a major drug bust occurred from two major gangs and eight people were arrested. \$80,000, marijuana, crack and cocaine was confiscated in the raid. This was a joint operation called, "Operation Gang" by the NYPD Gang Unit and the Queens District Attorney Investigative Narcotics Unit. Details were given.

Next, she spoke about K2 and the tremendous amount of problems it causes. She turned the floor over to Board Member Alexa Ponce who explained Narcan is a nasal spray for emergency treatment to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Opioids are similar to heroin. Mixing other drugs with fentanyl makes it extremely dangerous to abuse or use recreationally and can have disastrous consequences. Board Member Alexa Ponce had information on hand for anyone interested in Narcan training. Narcan training can be given to all; you do not have to be a medical professional, to prevent death by overdose. The training is free and after you completed the training, you will receive a free Narcan kit and a certificate.

At this point, Public Safety Chair Lucy Schilero reported to register your bikes at the local Precinct. Bike theft is big. Additionally, she reported on the 500' rule, where there are too many liquor licenses in one area. Senator Peralta will try to get a representative from each Community Board to voice our concerns about how it is affecting our community. We would be zoned that only the residential area be without any liquor licenses. The goal is to try to get zoning where liquor cannot be served at all so that we can preserve some of our community.

At this point, Committee Chair Lucy Schilero presented the report on liquor licenses.

NEW APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Elmhurst BeerHouse Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider Applicant failed to appear before Committee.	92-55 59 Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Denied
Ginger Dollar Sushi Inc. Wine, Beer, & Cider	89-14 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Rakuzen Elmhurst, Inc. Wine, Beer & Cider Location still under construction, not ready to open. Advised them to come back when ready.	89-23 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Denied

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Albion Venue LLC Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	79-17 Albion Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
81-22 Baxter Ave Lounge Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	81-22 Baxter Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Malee & Santi Corp. <i>8 Paet Rio</i> Numerous 911 calls emanating from establishment: 911 call for a dispute between customer and worker. 5/11/2018 911 call for an intox. male at location. 11/7/2017. 911 call for male with a knife at location, resulting in a criminal complaint for harassment. 7/20/17	81-10 Broadway Elmhurst, NY	Denied
Sabay LLC Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	75-19 Broadway, 1 st Fl. Elmhurst, NY	Approved
Deum Inc. Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	71-26 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Approved
Catacocha & Deleg Rest. Corp. Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider Applicant failed to respond to our request to meet to discuss their application.	102-33A 44 Avenue Corona, NY	Denied
Mi Otra Casa Rest. Bar Corp. Wine, Beer & Cider	91-06 43 Avenue Elmhurst, NY	Approved
BPO Elks Lodge #878 Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider	82-20 Queens Blvd. Elmhurst, NY	Approved

CLASS CHANGE

<u>Establishment's Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
Sake Bar by Zabb Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider 500 foot rule. 4/16/18 – 911 call for Male harassing workers 10/29/17 – Assault arrest inside location	71-28 Roosevelt Avenue Jackson Heights, NY	Denied

At this point, Board Member Lynda Coral 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 34 in favor, 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions. Motion passed.

At this point, Board Member Chaio-Chung Chen inquired about the status of the Karina Vetrano murder case. She was the jogger who went for a run near her Howard Beach home and was killed and raped.

Discussion ensued.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Consumer Affairs

No report stated Committee Chair Erica Cruz.

Environmental

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Health

No report stated Committee Chair Sal Lombardo.

Parks

No Report. Committee Chair not in attendance.

Transportation

Committee Chair Louis Walker reported a meeting was held with NYCDOT who has an agenda and does not care what the community says. In September, we hope to have the transcript of their answers to each question regarding several issues such as 111 Street, the bike lanes on Queens Blvd., and other situations.

ULURP & Zoning

Since the Committee Chair was not in attendance, District Manager Cassagnol reported on the M1 Hotel Text Amendment. It was a committee item which did not have to come before the full Board, he stated. The ULURP Committee voted unanimously to approve the M1 Hotel Text Amendment.

The floor was turned over to Kathi Ko, Department of City Planning, for more details. Ms. Ko reported this zoning text amendment is going through the public process and was referred out April 23. She explained any hotel that will be developed in an M1 zone (light manufacturing zone) will have to apply for a special permit, which requires a site plan that outlines the use on that land including the building design.

The application would go to the Community Board, the Borough President, City Planning Commission, and the City Council for review.

District Manager Cassagnol stated a copy of the proposal was sent to all the Board members.

A Board Member added this proposal would protect many of the manufacturing jobs and ensure sites remain manufacturing, keeping and maintaining jobs.

Chair Damian Vargas explained with this proposal it would be more transparent for hotels in those M1 zones will have to go through a special permit process eliminating the ongoing building as of right. Although it is not as rigorous as the ULURP process, city review will be necessary. Why can't this be done citywide instead of just at the M1 level, Chair Damian Vargas questioned. Many times hotels open as hotels and then contract with DHS to house the homeless, which is a concern. There are some requirements but it is at a case by case basis, if they meet some of the requirements it passes, he continued. It seems more discretionary rather than a requirement, he commented.

At this point, the Youth Committee gave its report.

Committee Chair Ingrid Gomez gave an update on the Youth Fair. Currently, there are fourteen organizations registered. In comparison to last year, there were twenty one organizations. More organizations are still being accepted. The deadline to register is June 30.

She added CB4's Youth Fair was mentioned in the *Queens Chronicle*. June 14 a Youth Committee Meeting is scheduled and all were invited to attend.

There being no further business, Board Member Gurdip Singh Narula made a motion, seconded by Board Member Judy D'Andrea, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.