



COMMUNITY BOARD No. 3, Q.
82-11 37th Avenue, Suite 606
Jackson Heights, New York 11372
Telephone: (718) 458-2707 Fax: (718) 458-3316
Website: www.CB3QN.NYC.GOV
Email: Communityboard3@nyc.rr.com

October 22, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Ann Brown
Elba Buendia
Mark Buhrmester
Muquith Choudhury
Haiko Cornelissen
Vivian Dock
Margaret Dozier
Renetta English
Vasantrai Gandhi
Ulrick Gedeon
Pastor Peter Herron
Larinda Hooks
Abdur Rahim Howlader
Kevin Hughes-Noboa
Edward Kiernan
Stephen Kulhanek
Marta Lebreton
Lisa Mesulam
Richard Mullings
Laverne Nimmons
Veronica Ng
Nuala O'Doherty
Philip Papas
Dorothy Phelan
Megan Rockwell
Leoncio Romero
Tammy Rose
Edmund Rosenbaum
David Rosero
Lobsang Salaka
Marlene Tapper
Frank Taylor
Arthur Teiler
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Hamlett Wallace
Edwin Westley

ABSENT

Kham Bhatta
Shiv Dass
Sonya Davis Roberts
Joyce Julian
Carlos Andres Lopez
Ralph Moreno
Esteban Peralta
Ladislá Pérez
Fausto Rodriguez
Jairo Rodriguez
Jimmy Smith
Pat Thorpe
Toi Washington-Simon

Guest

Chief Ignazio Azzara, DOS
Anna Shats, DOHMH
Veronica Sarmiento
James Mongeluzo, Rep., NYC Comptroller
Michele Hernandez, Rep., Congresswoman
Ocasio-Cortez
Jacqueline Cosme, Rep., CM Dromm Office
Lili Pioche, Rep., Assy. Aubry's Office
Taquoia Jones Rep., CM Moya's Office

Please Note: The next Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Teleconference.

October 22, 2020 Community Board 3 Full Board Meeting

Renetta English, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken at that time.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Chief Ignazio Azzara, DSNY Queens North

Chief Ignazio Azzara introduced himself as the new Chief of the Department of Sanitation New York Queens North and a lifelong resident of Queens. He had different titles in his 21 years with Sanitation. Chief Azzara warns that there will be delays in garbage pickups because of the budget crisis. But he is going to do whatever it takes to work to keep the Community clean.

Margaret Flanagan, resident, experienced concern about the litter along 69th Street and the BQE corridor.

Chief Azzara said he is aware of the condition. Sanitation is working with DHS for homeless cleanups in that area. He encouraged residents to call the Community Board or 311.

Board Member Muquith Choudhury requested two litter baskets at the corners of the Supermarket and Deli on 37th Avenue and 73rd Street.

Chief Azzara said as soon as they get a delivery of new litter baskets they will be placed at the locations.

Board Member Frank Taylor said that there is an uptick of garbage on Ditmars Blvd. and 31st Drive between 114th and 100th Streets. Garbage bags sits there for a while. Mr. Taylor said that there are also dirty conditions by the homeless shelter on 100th Street.

Chief Azzara said he will add the locations to hotspots that will be checked every night.

Board Member Nuala O'Doherty said that no one picks up the garbage from 37th to 34th Avenue along the west side streets under the overpass areas.

Chief Azzara asked Ms. O'Doherty for a few minutes of her time to meet so he can see the location for himself.

Chief Azzara said sanitation wants as much community involvement as possible and encourages residents to get together to do clean-ups, which sanitation will provide the tools for such clean-ups. Chief Azzara said he knows Community Board 3 well and doesn't anticipate there being any issues moving forward on his watch.

Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene – Anna Shats, Representative

Anna Shats, representative for Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, reported that in Queens there were 74,630 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Out of those cases, 24% had been hospitalized. There have been 600,057 confirmed deaths and 1,232 probable deaths in Queens. To check out the recent uptick cases and COVID-19 zones go to www.nyc.gov/covidzones.

Ms. Shats said that COVID-19 continues to spread in New York City with concerning increases and Governor Andrew Cuomo is taking action by implementing restrictions. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is doing their part by continuing to inform the public to:

- Wear face coverings
- Stay six feet apart from each other
- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer
- Stay home if you are feeling sick

NYC Health + Hospitals provides free COVID-19 tests and no one will be asked immigration status. Ms. Shats said if there is a private organization offering testing it's best to call ahead to find out if there is a cost.

NYC Health + Hospitals can provide isolation, resources and food for anyone who tested positive. Testing sites can be found at www.nyc.gov/covidtest.

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Free antibody testing is currently available on a walk-in basis at 11 acute care facilities. Some results can be false positive results. It could be possible that someone did not have COVID-19 and the antibodies that are detected are from a different Coronavirus. It's not known that if someone had the virus that they could get it again. It is critical to maintain precautions to try to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Anyone who was in contact with someone who tested positive should be tested. If someone has symptoms or has been in a large crowd it is recommended to get tested to protect those who are most vulnerable.

Nuala O'Doherty said that the schools sent out an email stating that high school students must get a meningitis vaccine by November 6th. She asked if the City is offering the vaccine.

Ms. Shats she would have to get back to the Community Board with that information.

Margaret Flanagan, resident, said her complaint to 311 about pigeon droppings between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue under the BQE was directed to DOH. She asked if there was going to be a cleanup soon.

Ms. Shats asked the Chairperson, Ms. English, to send her the complaint number so she could follow up.

Board Member Megan Rockwell asked where to get information about COVID-19 testing for children under 2 years old.

Ms. Shats said that Test and Trace would know about testing for children under two years old.

Board Member Lobsang Salaka asked what is causing the uptick in positive cases of COVID-19.

Ms. Shats said that COVID-19 is still present and that is why New York has not fully opened. Everyone still must follow the guidelines to be safe.

Board Member Larinda Hooks asked if DOH is offering free pneumonia vaccine to the community.

Ms. Shats said that DOH does not offer a free pneumonia vaccine.

Board Member Elba Buendia said that the pharmacy was out of stock for flu shots for people over 65. She asked when it will be available and if it's a different shot because of COVID-19.

Ms. Shats said that there is a demand for the flu vaccine but there is no shortage. This year, the flu vaccine contains three new virus strains because of Coronavirus. She encouraged everyone to get their flu shots.

Veronica Sarmiento, representative for Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, announced that on Friday, October 23rd there will be a flu vaccine clinic. She sent flyers with information to the Community Board. No insurance needed and immigration status won't be asked.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

FY2022 Capital & Expense Budget – (Elba Buendia & Rev. Peter Herron, Co-Chairs)

FY 2022 Capital Budget Priorities

Rev. Peter Herron, Capital & Expense Budget Co-Chair, reported new items to the Capital Budget.

- Upgrade the 90th Street playground
- Repair and replace the decorative pavement at the Flushing Bay Promenade
- Reinststate bathrooms located at the Flushing Bay Promenade

Rev. Herron stated that providing funding for bus pads was removed from the list because DOT said it was not high priority.

Rev. Herron called upon the public for recommendations, concerns or suggestions to add to the Capital & Expense Budget for 2022.

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Margaret Flanagan, resident, referred to number 7 on the list: *Construct Library in Northwest Sector of CB3. The Lexington School for the Deaf should be considered for a possible site.* Ms. Flanagan suggested, for future reference, to also add the south west sector.

FY2022 Expense Budget Priorities

Elba Buendia, Co-Chair of Capital Expense Committee, reported that an item was added to the Expense Budget Priorities list.

Added: Increase funding for illegal posting personnel

Removed: Retrofit apartments for seniors because it doesn't concern the City.

Items moved to the top of the list due to order of importance:

- Increase sanitation residential collections to three times a week
- Increase funding to provide additional cleaning services to Roosevelt Ave. from 69th to 114th Streets
- Increase funding for sanitation MLP services

Elba Buendia, Co-Chair of Capital Expense Committee called upon the public for recommendations, concerns or suggestions to add to the Capital & Expense Budget for 2022.

Joint Committees: Land Use – (Hamlett Wallace, Chair) Parks Committee – (Marta Lebreton, Chair)

BSA CAL. No. 2019-182A – 1 Marina Road

Marta Lebreton, Parks Committee Chair, reported that the Parks and Land Use Committee met at a joint meeting with the applicant.

Hamlett Wallace, Land Use Chair, reported that the applicant is seeking a variance for construction at 1 Marina Road. Mr. Wallace called upon the representative from the Parks Department.

Aret Akbork, NYC Parks Project Manager for the Reconstruction of the World's Fair Marina, gave a presentation and reported on the project goals:

- Reconstruct piers and floating docks
- Create a pier for public access with concession stands, site furnishings, restrooms, kayak rental and boat refueling
- Provide secure pier and dock areas with amenities for fishing, event charter boats and permittee boaters

The Parks Department received \$8.2 million from FEMA and \$36 million from the City for a total of \$44.2 million.

They are asking for variance application for Flood Resistant Construction.

- Section G304.2 Item 6 – No new construction is to be located seaward of the reach of the Mean High Tide in the V-Zone
- Section G304.2 Item 2 – The lowest portion of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor shall be at or above the design flood elevation

Pat Beckles, resident, asked if the construction has to do with the Port Authority's promise of an upgrade to the Marina when the AirTrain is constructed.

Mr. Arbork said the project is city-funded and has nothing to do with the Port Authority.

Margaret Flanagan, resident, said that Parks Department should consider expanding the canoe area. Ms. Flanagan encouraged the Community Board to support whatever the Parks Department and Marina needs to move forward.

Arthur Teiler, Board Member, asked if the restrooms and concession stands will be for the public or only boaters.

Mr. Akbork said all facilities are for the public.

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Mark Buhrmester, Board Member, asked what the present capacity of boats in the Marina is.

Mr. Akbork said the new design is reducing the capacity a little.

Nate Grove, NYC Parks Department, noted that they don't see a negative impact with the reconstruction.

Mr. Buhrmester asked if the upgrade is to attract more people to go boating.

Mr. Grove said that is what they hope for in the future.

Andrew Sokolof Diaz, resident, asked how the project will impact the proposed AirTrain.

Mr. Akbork said they are coordinating with the Port Authority to avoid conflicts.

Haiko Cornelissen, Board Member, asked why the variance is only for the concession stand and in the event there is flooding, how the damage would be repaired.

Mr. Akbork said that they only need a variance for concession structure and that they are trying to mitigate any damages that were experienced during Hurricane Sandy. If any damage occurs, FEMA will fund them but it will take some time to repair.

Business Economic Development. – (Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)

S.L.A. New Wine/Beer & Liquor License Applications:

Café y Algo Mas – 98-13 Astoria Blvd., East Elmhurst (New – Wine/Beer)

Chair Edmund Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Wine/Beer license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Café y Algo Mas.

The representative for the owner said that the restaurant has been at the location for 16 years and has been well received by the community. The owner feels that adding wine and beer would help bring in more business.

Parrilladas Sunrise Bar Corp. d/b/a Mexican Rest. Bar- 83-11 Northern Blvd. (Corporate Change)

Chair Edmund Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Corporate Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Parrilladas Sunrise Bar Corp.

The owner said the restaurant was passed down to her after her father's death. The restaurant is going to be 100% changed.

La Hueca Restaurant Inc. – 93-21 37th Ave, Jackson Heights (New – Full Liquor)

Chair Edmund Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Full Liquor license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of La Hueca Restaurant Inc.

The owner said that he is struggling to survive during the COVID-19 pandemic. He needs a liquor license to compete with other restaurants.

Shambhala Veg. Rest. d/b/a Phayul Shambhala Rest. – 72-19 Roosevelt Ave, JHS (New-Wine/Beer)

Chair Edmund Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Wine/Beer license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Shambhala Vegetarian Restaurant.

The representative said the restaurant's occupancy is 74. The owner has experience with restaurants and owns two more restaurants in Jackson Heights.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Renetta English, Chair, opened Executive Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion # 50 - Adoption of the Agenda

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Edmund Rosenbaum, to adopt the Agenda, was passed unanimously.

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Motions By Committees:

FY2022 Capital & Expense Budget – (Elba Buendia & Rev. Peter Herron, Co-Chairs)

Capital Budget Priorities FY 2022

Rev. Peter Herron, Capital & Expense Budget Co-Chair, asked for any suggestions or concerns from the Board Members.

Board Member Ed Westley referred to number 24 “Construct a performing arts center above the Jackson Heights Post Office.” Mr. Westley said he liked to add, “Or any space that becomes available in Jackson Heights.”

Board Member David Rosero said that a lot of maintenance is needed at Gorman Park, including a gate at the handball court.

Board Member Megan Rockwell said that the 90th Playground needs to be more colorful.

FY2021 CAPITAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

Priority

Description

1. Construct new School facilities in CB3, especially Early Childhood Centers and a High School at Willits Point and the former DiBlasi Ford site.
2. Dredge Flushing Bay to reduce odor and improve water flow.
3. Construct a new building and expand the capacity of the Jackson Heights Regional Library.
4. Construct Affordable Housing for middle and low income seniors.
5. Construct Affordable Housing for middle and low income families.
6. Resurface Northern Blvd. from Junction Blvd. to 114th street. Junction Blvd. between Northern and Roosevelt Avenues, 37th Ave from Junction Blvd. to 114th Street, 82nd Street from Roosevelt Ave to the BQE, Roosevelt Ave from 114th to 69th Streets and Astoria Blvd. from 69th to 114th Streets. (*Continued Support*)
7. Construct Library in Northwest Sector of CB3. The Lexington School for the Deaf should be considered for a possible site.
8. Traffic Study of the Grand Central Parkway exit located at 114th Street and Northern Blvd.
9. Fund a traffic study at the entrance of 114th Street and Astoria Blvd.
10. Beautify the center mall on Astoria Blvd. Plant shrubs and trees to increase greenery.
11. Beautify the center mall on 34th Avenue from 112th – 114th Streets. Plant shrubs and trees to expand greenery.
12. Develop unused property located near the 94th Street entrance to the GCP for a dog park/sitting area.
13. Redesign Step Street at Butler/Ditmars Blvd. and 25th Ave.
14. Provide funding for curb only repair.
15. Provide funding for bus pads
16. Expand Corona Library. (*Continued support*)
17. Install additional lights along Roosevelt Ave from 69th to 114th Streets.
18. Employ interim measures to control floatable waste going into the Flushing Bay and restore the wetlands.
19. Upgrade and Expand Veterans Memorial park (32nd Ave & 94th Street) sitting area to a recreational space for children and adults.
20. FDNY Station 307/154 - Upgrade kitchen
21. Add streetlights for Junction Blvd. to Roosevelt Ave
22. FDNY – Purchase a back-up generator for 307.
23. District Wide Traffic Study
24. Re-evaluate traffic conditions along 75th to 78th Streets and 31st Ave.
25. Construct a performing arts center above the Jackson Heights Post Office (seating for 300).
26. Upgrade Gorman Playground, Phase 2 (Multiple purpose area, basketball and volleyball courts).
27. Rehab ramp and railings underneath Marina.
28. Upgrade Northern Playground (Including play equipment, restrooms, sitting area)
29. MTA – Ensure system wide ADA compliant.

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Motion # 51 - Capital Budget Priorities FY 2022

Upon motion duly made by Rev. Peter Herron, seconded by Ed Westley, to **approve** the application was passed unanimously.

FY2021 EXPENSE BUDGET PRIORITIES Adopted 10/2019

Priority

Description

1. Install permanent air monitors in the neighborhoods of Jackson Heights and East Elmhurst located near LaGuardia Airport.
2. Keep Queens Libraries Open 7 Days a week with one late night closing at 10:00pm.
3. Restore litter basket collections to three times per day in our commercial strips – 37th Ave; Junction Blvd; Roosevelt Ave; Northern Blvd; 103rd Street; and 74th Street; Astoria Blvd., 73rd and 72nd Streets in Jackson Heights. Hire additional personnel for 11am- 7pm shift in order to increase litter basket patrol truck service particularly during weekends.
4. Restore and Increase funding for youth, adult and senior programming in Jackson Heights, North Corona and East Elmhurst.
5. Increase parks maintenance personnel. Hire a parks associate for PS 127 and Junction Blvd. assistant gardener.
6. Hire additional uniform personnel – NCO officers, administrative aides, custodial personnel and school safety guards.
7. Increase Graffiti removal programs.
8. Restore Day Care slots and After-School programs.
9. Improve access to government services and information by sharing 311 data with Community Boards.
10. Re-establish Neighborhood Business Development programs.
11. Hire additional DOT personnel to install, replace traffic/street signs, repair pot holes, striping and studies.
12. Increase staffing levels for DOB Compliance Unit.
13. Increase inspectorial staffing levels for HPD (Housing Preservation and Development).
14. Purchase a wenger wagon
15. Install free Wi-Fi in CB3 parks and plazas.
16. Hire additional Consumer Affairs agents to conduct night and weekend street vending inspections.
18. Hire additional Department of Health inspectors to perform night inspections.
19. Provide funding to increase NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) programming in CB3.
20. Retrofit apartments for seniors. (Incentive Tax Abatement for Owners)
21. Install cameras at the overpasses located at 27th and 31st Drive on Ditmars Blvd.
22. Increase sanitation residential collections to 3 times per week.
23. Increase funding for to provide additional cleaning services to Roosevelt Ave. from 69th to 114th Streets.
24. Provide and increase funding for the STEAM program within CB3.
25. Increase DEP sewer and water unit personnel (*New*)
26. Purchase a Medical Services Vehicle – FDNY/EMS for the Borough of Queen (for 10 patients at a time can be attended to on this mobile vehicle) Existing vehicle is over 29 years old. (*New*)
27. Purchase for FDNY - Mutual aide Rapid Response Vehicle – For city wide use state of the art vehicle that will transport equipment and supplies in emergency situations. (*New*)
28. Increase funding for sanitation MLP services (*New*)

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Motion # 52 - FY2022 Expense Budget Priorities – (Elba Buendia & Rev. Peter Herron, Co-Chairs)

Upon motion duly made by Elba Buendia, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed unanimously.

Land Use – (Hamlett Wallace, Chair)

BSA CAL. No. 2019-18A – 1 Marina Road

Marta Lebreton, Parks Committee Chair, reported that, after the October 13th, 2020 joint committee meeting of the Land Use and Parks committees, additional information was acquired from the Parks Department. On October 21st, 2020 the Joint Committee of Land Use and Parks reconvened to review the new information. After the review, the committees unanimously concurred to submit the following recommendation:

Hamlett Wallace, Land Use Chair, reported that, in the matter of an application regarding World's Fair Marina Reconstruction, 1 Marina Road, Corona, New York, McLaren Engineering Group on behalf of NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, the owner is seeking a variance from certain requirements of Appendix G - Flood-Resistant Construction of the 2014 New York City Building Code, to comply with the determinations made by the New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) regarding the proposed reconstruction. There are "Notices of Objection" letters issued by SBS from which the Parks Department and McLaren Engineering Group are requesting variances. The proposed waterfront reconstruction cannot meet the requirements in Objections 1 for Application No. 20193730 and Objection 1 for Application No. 20193733, and therefore a variance is requested from the following sections of the building code:

- Appendix G Section G304.2, Item 6, ASCE 24, Section 4.3 and 44 CFE Section 60.3 – No new construction is to be located seaward of the reach of Mean High Tide in the V-Zone
- Appendix G Section G304.2, Item 2, and ASCE 1.5.2 – The lowest portion of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor shall be at or above the design flood elevation specified in ASCE 24, Table 4-1.

Resolution: The Land Use and Parks Committees after review of this matter recommends the application for variances be **disapproved**. The provisos listed below benefit the community and are submitted as they are all reasonable requests for the upkeep and maintenance of the Marina and Promenade. The Parks Department did not confirm that the provisos listed below would be accommodated.

Provisos:

- New accessible public toilet rooms for men and women to be located along promenade
- Provide provisions for parks attendee enclosure for maintenance and security
- Make repairs required to fencing and damage pavers along route of promenade
- Enhance Pier 3 entrance area, landscaping and structural systems at areas of floating docks and Pier similar to Pier 1 scope of work
- Provide concession facilities at Pier 3 for convenience of boaters
- Provide additional clarification and coordination regarding construction activities between NYC Parks Department and Port Authority addressing LaGuardia AirTrain development
- Replace travel lift for Pier 3
- Delineation for bike lanes and pedestrian lanes are required at promenade
- Plans are required to prevent and control flooding and responsibility for flood
- Parking permits required at certain areas to the existing parking areas along promenade
- All Pier entrances will require locking devices to encourage security and safety

Board Member Mark Buhrmester asked for more clarification on the recommendation.

Ms. Lebreton said that the important items that the Committees asked for could be accommodated but the Parks Department was not willing to accommodate. Maybe with a disapproval motion they might want to look at the Community's suggestions.

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Motion # 53 - BSA CAL. No. 2019-182A – 1 Marina Road

Upon motion duly made by Hamlett Wallace, seconded by Marta Lebreton, to **disapprove** the application was passed with 26 in Favor, 2 Opposed and 1 Abstention.

Café y Algo Mas – 98-13 Astoria Blvd., East Elmhurst (New – Wine/Beer)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for an on-premises Wine & Beer license for this applicant provided that a stipulation was signed. The Stipulation was signed.

Motion# 54 - Café y Algo Mas – 98-13 Astoria Blvd., East Elmhurst (New – Wine/Beer)

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed with 25 in Favor, 5 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Parrilladas Sunrise Bar Corp. d/b/a Mexican Rest. Bar- 83-11 Northern Blvd. (Corporate Change)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for a Corporate Change of an existing an on-premises Full Liquor license for this applicant.

Motion # 55 - Parrilladas Sunrise Bar Corp. d/b/a Mexican Rest. Bar- 83-11 Northern Blvd. (Corporate Change)

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed unanimously.

La Hueca Restaurant Inc. – 93-21 37th Ave, Jackson Heights (New – Full Liquor)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for an on-premises Full Liquor license for this applicant provided that a stipulation was signed. The Stipulation was signed.

Motion # 56 - La Hueca Restaurant Inc. – 93-21 37th Ave, Jackson Heights (New – Full Liquor)

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed with 27 in Favor, 4 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Shambhala Veg. Rest. d/b/a Phayul Shambhala Rest. – 72-19 Roosevelt Ave, JHS (New-Wine/Beer)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported the committee recommends **approval** of an application for an on-premises Wine & Beer license for this applicant.

Motion # 57 - Shambhala Veg. Rest. d/b/a Phayul Shambhala Rest. – 72-19 Roosevelt Ave, JHS (New-Wine/Beer)

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed with 25 in Favor, 4 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Renetta English said it seems as if it was a lifetime ago, but in October 2019 Queens Community Board 3 was preparing to walk in the annual Halloween Parade, attend the annual Diwali Celebration sponsored by the Jackson Heights Merchants Association and planning strategies to Get Out the 2020 Census Count with the Queens Borough President Office.

“Who would have ever imagined that in October 2020, everyone would be impacted by the COVID19 pandemic, residents would be experiencing food and financial insecurities, businesses struggling to keep their doors open and we would face a real risk of being undercounted in the 2020 Census. The Community is resilient and we are all doing our best to live with the ‘New Normal.’”

Ms. English encourages everyone to continue practicing social distancing and wear masks. COVID-19 is real and the infection numbers are rising again. Everyone must protect themselves and their families from this devastating virus.

Ms. English reported that despite the administration's decision to end the Census on October 15th, the enumeration percentages in East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights and North Corona are over 96%.

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On October 23rd from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., the Jackson Heights Merchant Association will be giving out over 500 bags of food at Diversity Plaza.

Ms. English reported that the Borough President's Office is collecting new coats from October 12th to November 13th. Toys are also being collected until October 30th.

Ms. English encouraged all Board Members to continue to be active participants in their Queens Community Board Committees. She said that Community Board 3 is a special board with members who want the very best for their communities.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Giovanna Reid reported that the Community Board has been working very hard convening with various agencies to help to develop a budget that will take us through next year. Because of the budget cuts, the Community Board prioritized by moving sanitation items in the Capital Expense Budget up on the list in order to keep the agencies funded.

Ms. Reid announced that on October 25th the NCO Sector C meeting will be held at 79th Street and 34th Avenue Farmers Market at 11:00 a.m.

Motion # 58 - Adoption of the September 17, 2020 Monthly Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Lobsang Salaka, to adopt the September 17th, 2020 Minutes, was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Health and Social Services Committee Report

Vivian Dock, Health and Social Services Committee Chair, reported that the Health & Social Services Committee met October 7th, 2020 by Teleconference. Representative from the Dept. of Homeless Shelters (DHS) Amanda Nasner and Director of the IBIS Hotel Shelter located at 100-33 Ditmars Blvd., East Elmhurst were invited to give Committee updates on:

- Headcount (172 male clients)
- Rooms (86)
- Security Guards (3shifts – 22 per shift on each floor)
- Programming

There was a discussion on Complaints to Community Board (3) concerning homeless individuals congregating in front of businesses in 82nd Street BID and area parks. CB3 will be making recommendations for IBIS Hotel Shelter Advisory Board. Proposed membership (10) to consist of Community Residents and Community Board 3 Members (3).

Borough's President Report

Lisa Atkins, representative for Borough President Office, reported that the Census response was amazing. The numbers from Community Board 3 were triple from the borough.

Ms. Atkins announced that a young man who is in remission from cancer is collecting toys at the Borough President's Office for other children who have cancer.

Saturday, October 24th, 2020 is early voting. The polling site is First Baptist Church, which is also the location of the drop-off box.

Legislators' Report

Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office

Jacqueline Cosme, representative for Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office, announced that although the office is closed, they are returning calls and have a Zoom account for anyone who prefers that instead.

Ms. Cosme said that Council Member Daniel Dromm encourages everyone to vote early, get their flu shots, continue to practice social distancing and wear your face mask.

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Office of the NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer

James Mongeluzo, representative for NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer Office, announced that NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer and the Labor Law Bureau has put out a database to search the names of people who are owed money. Companies that got City contracts did not pay their workers fairly. A lot of people on the database has last known addresses in Community Board 3.

The 21st edition of the Economic and Fiscal Outlook newsletter has a lot of information about what's going on in the City in terms of the recovery and of the Coronavirus on the economy.

Mr. Mongeluzo announced that the Comptroller Office put out a proposal for no tuition for community colleges within the CUNY system. In addition, an increase in workforce development and more opportunities to people who have been impacted by the pandemic with unemployment.

For more information, go to www.comptroller.nyc.gov.

Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry Office

Lili Pioche, representative for Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry's Office, announced that the office is open, but they are only taking constituents by appointment only. The office number is 718-457-3615.

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Michelle Hernandez, representative for Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, reported that in October, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez hosted a Town Hall meeting that was focused on environmental and housing justice. The Town Hall meetings can be seen on Facebook.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Chuck Schumer pushed FEMA to release funeral assistance to families of COVID-19 victims. This is important funding for families who are already going through a hard time.

Ms. Hernandez reported that Congressional leaders reached an agreement to fund the government through December 11th and within that bill there was a portion of money, \$8 billion, allocated toward a pandemic relief nutrition program. Children who go to public school will be receiving \$420 from the bill.

In October, the House passed the Heroes Act. There will be direct cash assistance and financial support for families regardless of immigration status and housing support.

If anyone wants to celebrate the life of someone who passed away due to COVID-19 or someone in the community that has gone above and beyond for the community, they should contact the office.

Ms. Hernandez said the Congresswoman sends a big "thank you" for doing a great job in getting out the word about the Census.

Council Member Francisco Moya Office

Taquoia Jones, representative for Council Member Francisco Moya's office, reported that last weekend, the Council Member's office partnered with Elmhurst Hospital to give out free flu shots. The next flu shot event will be on November 7th.

CM Moya funded a food distribution at Plaza de Sol as well as many community cleanups with local volunteers. There will be a cleanup at Hinton Park on October 30th. Ms. Jones said if anyone sees any illegal dumping to contact the office.

CM Moya allocated another round of funding to local restaurants and partnered with Hispanic Federation to prepare and distribute thousands of cooked meals for families in need.

October 22, 2020 Community Board 3 Full Board Meeting

Motion # 59 - To Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, and seconded by Lisa Mesulam to adjourn the meeting, was passed unanimously. Adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by
Clara Colon*

*Reviewed and Edited by
Kevin Hughes-Noboa, Board Secretary*