



**COMMUNITY BOARD No. 3, Q.**  
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**BOARD MEETING**

Thursday January 16, 2014

I.S. 227 –The Louis Armstrong School  
32-02 Junction Blvd, East Elmhurst, N.Y

**ATTENDANCE**

- Patrick Beckles
- Emma Brant
- Ann Brown
- Elba Buendia
- Shiv Dass
- Sonya Davis Roberts
- Vivian Dock
- Margaret Dozier
- Vasantrai Gandhi
- Alfredo Gomez
- Joyce Hucless-Julian
- Norma Jimenez
- Andrew S. Kim
- Stephen Kulhanek
- Grace Lawrence
- Marta Lebreton
- Lynda McDougald
- Martin Maier
- Bill Meehan
- Lisa Mesulam
- Ralph Moreno
- Laverne Nimmons
- Philip Papas
- Dorothy Phelan
- Jessica Ramos
- Fausto Rodriguez
- Jairo Rodriguez
- Jose Rodriguez
- Leoncio Romero
- Edmund Rosenbaum
- David Rosero
- Arturo-Ignacio Sanchez
- Jimmy Smith
- Arthur Teiler
- Pat Thorpe
- Hamlett Wallace
- Edwin Westley

**ABSENT**

- Kelit Brown
- Howard Dent II
- Raul Garcia
- Brunilda Leon
- Caridad Mak
- Sam Schiralli
- Shanel Thomas
- Cheryl Tse
- William Young

Giovanna A. Reid, District Manager  
Keisha Howard (Recorder)

**Guests**

- Michael Mallon, Rep., CM. Daniel Dromm
- Joel Trinidad-Santos, Rep., CM. Julissa Ferreras
- Lilly Pioche Rep., Assem. Hon. Jeffrion Aubry,
- Juan Antigua, Rep. Assem. Hon. Francisco Moya
- Gary Gilbert, Rep. Assem. Hon Michael DenDekker
- Deanna Foote Rep., Senator Hon Jose Peralta
- Barbara Jackson, Rep., Congressman Joseph Crowley
- Lisa Atkins, Rep., Borough President's Office

**Please note: The next Meeting will held on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 7:45PM.**  
Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:45PM and welcomed all in attendance.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **People for the Pavilion**

Christian Duran, Co-Founder, said that People for the Pavilion is non for profit looking to landmark to preserve the New York State Pavilion from the 1964 World's Fair. They are hosting an event at Queens Theatre at Flushing Meadows Corona Park on January 25<sup>th</sup> to create awareness of the organization and how to get involved.

### **Jackson Heights Beautification Group**

Ed Westley, Board Member, announced that Len Maniace is the new president for the Jackson Heights Beautification Group. Mr. Westley will stay on the board as secretary.

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

### **Council Member Coasta Constantinides**

Council Member Constantinides said that he is the new council member for District 22. He said his office is located at 31-09 Newtown Avenue in Astoria. He asked that if anyone has had any questions or concerns to please call his office at 718-274-4500. He is hosting a coat drive in collaboration with New York Cares along with Assemblyman Michael DenDekker, Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas, State and Senator Michael Gianaris. Coats will be collected at the District Office from now till February 6<sup>th</sup>. He looks forward to working with the Community Board.

### **NYC Comptroller**

Jason Hilliard, Queens Borough Director, said he looks forward to meeting with the Board in the future to help and addressing the community's issues.

### **Public Advocate Leticia James**

Fernando Fernandez, Representative, informed the Board that the Leticia James is watching over the community like she did as a Council Member and will continue to do as a Public Advocate. If anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to contact their office at 212-669-7200.

### **Citizens Committee for New York City**

Sabine Bernerds, Representative, informed the Board that the Citizens Committee for New York City is a not for profit and has been around for 40 years. Their organization supports community groups and helps organizing projects for small grants up to \$3,000 as long as it is volunteer and community based.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**(Business / Economic / Development – Arthur Teiler, Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chairs)**

**El Puerto De Acapulco Bar Restaurant – 93-16A 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jackson Heights ( New – Full Liquor)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, called upon the representatives of El Puerto De Acapulco.

The representative said that the establishment operates as a Mexican restaurant.

Ralph Moreno Board Member, asked what the name of the previous establishment was.

The representative, informed the Board that they purchased the establishment with the same name.

**Tu Casa Bar Restaurant – 38-12 104<sup>th</sup> Street, Corona (New – Full Liquor)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, called upon the owner of Tu Casa Bar Restaurant.

The owner informed the Board that the establishment is located at 38-12 104<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Bovicar Inc. 82-13 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (Alt. / New Rest. Liq.)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, called upon the representatives of Bovicar Inc.

The representative informed the Board that they currently have a wine/beer license for the current location. They have filed an application for a full liquor license. The establishment has been in the community for over 15 years and is expanding their space.

Shiv Dass, Board Member, asked if there will be dancing.

The representative informed the Board that there will be some music but no dancing.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said that the restaurant is a beautiful family oriented restaurant and looks forward to the expansion.

**Executive Session**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, opened Executive Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion # 1 - Adoption of the January 16, 2014 Agenda**

Upon motion duly made by Marta Lebreton, seconded by Jose Rodriguez, to adopt the agenda, was passed unanimously.

**Motions by Committee**

**Nominating**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, introduced Vivian Dock, Nominating Committee Chair.

Ms. Dock thanked the members of the nominating committee: Grace Lawrence, Ralph Moreno, Dorothy Phelan, Leoncio Romero and David Rosero. She thanked Ms. Lebreton for her outstanding leadership, dedication to the Board during her two consecutive terms as Chairperson. Dock reported that the Nomination Committee met and the Nominees are as follows:

- Stephan Kulhanek, Chairperson
- Ann Brown, First Vice Chair
- Hamlett Wallace, Second Vice Chair
- Edmund Rosenbaum, Secretary
- Lisa Mesulam, Treasurer
- Shiv Dass, Margaret Dozier, Caridad Mak and Jairo Rodriguez, Members at Large

Vivian Dock opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and Members-At-Large.

Jessica Ramos, Board Member, asked if Caridad Mak can still run if she is not here.

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said yes she can still run.

Jessica Ramos, Board Member, said **"That's weird"**.

Jose Rodriguez, Board Member, said that you have to nominate a candidate for slate out loud, that person than has to accept nomination.

A motion was made by Joyce Hucless - Julian, to nominate Ed Westley for Chairperson and was seconded by Jose Rodriguez.

Ed Westley accepted the nomination.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member introduced himself. He said **"I have been a member of the Board for 18 years. I have seen a lot here. I have a question. I have a few questions and there about procedure"**.

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said that any questions regarding procedure should have been asked during the December Board Meeting.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **"I did bring it up to you and I did bring it up to the district manager. I hoped that it would have been shared publicly. This is a public forum and I don't see how any discussion on the election or on procedure is anti-democratic or out of order. My first question to you is, which I asked you at our last meeting. I was a Member At Large for two terms, for two terms. Then I find out without anyone contacting me that my terms were up, which I knew but I was off"**.

Vivian Dock, Board Member said that Arturo Sanchez served three terms as Member At Large and that his time served was up.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“yes, at the lowest possible category, right. I have been on the board for 18 years. I have written chapters, lectured, traveled around the world speaking on Jackson Heights. I am writing a book on Jackson Heights. You would think I know something about Community Board 3 and then I get pushed out, but that’s not the point I want to make. The point I want to make is number one, the nominating committee I find is fundamentally flawed. Why, because the outgoing administration picks the people that will serve on the nominating committee and then when they decide on who will be part of that nominating committee and you ask folks about that, they say we cannot speak about it in public, but when we nominate people off the floor it has already transpired. We cannot have it both ways. You also said the requirements that are considered to be a member of the executive board is representation of different communities, racial / ethnic kinds of diversity. I can see we live in the most diverse Community Boards. You got a problem, you have a problem, speak up”**.

David Rosero, Board Member, said yes, he is out of order and you are taking too much time.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I am out of order, this is a democratic forum. He said no one gets elected to these positions”**.

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said if he has issues with the nominating committee bring it up the issue to the Chairperson. We have to continue with the elections.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I did bring it up at the last meeting and it was not included in the minutes. I specifically asked Giovanna Reid will they be in the minutes, my comments on the nominating committee. She said yes and they were not included in the minutes. Last month’s meeting my comments were also excluded. I ask myself how does this Board operate. You speak on transparency.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said if this has been an issue for a long time, how come it has not been addressed in previous years.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“because I am bringing it up now. We nominated a person who is going to be running for the chair. When we took a vote against the tennis stadium, everyone voted against it and he was the one person who voted for it. How can we nominate these people, I want to know.**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said he is out of order. The Board does not keep track of a member’s personal vote. I am chair of the nominating committee and I will continue with the election. Please have a seat.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“why am I out of order, why am I out of order. This is unfair, this is unfair.”**

Jessica Ramos Board Member, asked **“are we allowed to make comments on the record before everyone makes a vote.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said comments should have been made at the last meeting when the report was presented.

Jessica Ramos, Board Member, said **“but the candidates changed. I was asking if I can ask a question now that there are different candidates. Last month it wasn’t a contest, now it is a contest.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said it is in the By-Laws, we are following the rules of the By-Laws, which allows you to nominate anyone on the floor during elections.

Jessica Ramos, Board Member, said **“my question was if we can make comments for discussion, for example amongst community board members before we actually check off our vote. That’s all. I would like to make the comment, for example and I don’t know if anybody of my fellow community board members feel the same way that might want to speak as well. Now that it’s a race I would have liked to have the time to speak to each of the candidates to see where they stand on different issues that I care about in my community, you know. So whether it’s for later, for next year, or not I just wanted it to be on record that I am saying that I would like to see more democratic process when there’s an actual race, we find a way so that there’s a better way to “campaigning” allowed so we can get to know the candidates a little better and we can make a thoughtful choice. At this point none of the candidates have personally asked for my vote. I want to make it public that I plan to abstain.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, advised the Board to review the By-Laws.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“because I am bringing it up makes it invalid, no.”**

Jimmy Smith, Board Member, said that these are the procedures that we always have followed; these are the procedures we will continue to follow tonight. If there were any questions or concerns they should have been brought up at the last board meeting or we can discuss something different for next year.

A motion was made by Jose Rodriguez, to nominate Ralph Moreno for First Vice Chair and was seconded by Norma Jimenez.

Ralph Moreno accepted the nomination.

Jose Rodriguez, Board Member, nominated Arturo Sanchez for Second Vice Chair.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I respectfully decline because I do not want to legitimate a process that I think is untransparent, and I would like that to appear on the record Giovanna, this is for the record for what I just said. Giovanna.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said that Ms. Reid does not transcribe the minutes, why is he being rude.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I am being rude because last time when I spoke it is not in the record again.”**

Vivian Dock, Board Member, said that Mr. Sanchez is being disrespectful.

A motion was made by Hamlett Wallace, to nominate Jose Rodriguez for Second Vice Chair and was seconded by Leoncio Romero.

Jose Rodriguez accepted the nomination.

Vivian Dock closed the floor for nominations for Chairperson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and Members-At-Large.

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, advised the Board that they now have the opportunity to comment and ask the candidates questions.

Stephan Kulhanek, Board Member, said he is currently serving as first vice chair and has served on the Board for over 18 years. He has previously held the position as Land Marks Chair and is currently the Chair for Traffic / Transportation. He said he has held the position for Treasurer, Secretary and First Vice Chair. If he gets elected as chairperson that the function of the Board and the contributions of the Board members makes to our government and the services provided in Community Board 3. He has the upmost respect for all members of the Board and their views. He believes diverse views makes us stronger and help give us direction. He asks for support from the Board members. He apologized for not reaching out to every Member of the Board.

Ed Westley, Board Member, said that he has been a member of the Board for 11 years. He said he would make sure that all Board Meetings start on time. It is important. He will encourage the chairperson of each committee to implement the same practice. If a meeting is supposed to start at 7:30 it will begin at that time. He said the monthly board meeting used to being at 7PM, which changed to 7:30 and now 7:45PM. That is not the way to run an organization. The Board had had amazing former chairs including Mr. Gandhi, Ms. Lebreton, Ms. Grace Lawrence and Mr. Jimmy Smith. He could only hope to follow in their footsteps.

Ann Brown, Board Member, said that she is a candidate for First Vice Chair. She thanked the nominating committee for their support. She has served on the Board for 8 years. She said as First Vice Chair she would like to be the best right hand person to the Chair of the Board. She said she has lived in the community for over 40 years. She has spent a lot of time and is committed to changing the lives of the residents.

Ralph Moreno, Board Member, said thanked the Board for their nomination. He has been a community member for over 43 years working with 90<sup>th</sup> Street Block Association which later became the Jackson Heights Action Group. He is not really enthusiastic about the position because Ann Brown is a wonderful member of the community and works very hard. He mentioned that he was commended at the 115<sup>th</sup> Precinct. He said he has served on the Board in all positions besides Chairperson.

Hamlett Wallace, Board Member, said he is honored to be nominated for Second Vice Chair. He has served on the Board for over 20 years and is currently the Chair for the Land Use committee. He said it is without a doubt that he is dedicated to the community.

Jose Rodriguez, Board Member, said that he has been a member of the Board for over 5 years. He said the purpose of the Community Board is to control the neighborhood and regulate the real estate and bars that are coming into the neighborhood. There is supposed to be a 25-story convention center being built in the community. He is interested in the position because he has lived and grew up in the neighborhood since 1972. He said you need to stand up for what you

believe in. He does not know what he can accomplish as first vice chair but he is committed as a Board Member.

**(Business / Economic / Development – Arthur Teiler, Edmund Rosenbaum Co-Chairs**

**El Puerto De Acapulco Bar Restaurant – 93-16A 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jackson Heights ( New – Full Liquor)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, informed the Board that the committee recommends that the application be approved.

**Motion # El Puerto De Acapulco Bar Restaurant – 93-16A 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jackson Heights ( New – Full Liquor)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Ed Westley, to approve the application for a full liquor license, with a vote of 32 in favor, 4 opposed and 1 abstention, was passed.

**Tu Casa Bar Restaurant – 38-12 104<sup>th</sup> Street, Corona (New – Full Liquor)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, informed the Board that the committee recommends that the application be disapproved.

**Motion # Tu Casa Bar Restaurant – 38-12 104<sup>th</sup> Street, Corona (New – Full Liquor)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Jose Rodriguez, to disprove the application for a full liquor license, with a vote of 33 in favor, 2 opposed and 2 abstentions, was passed.

Fausto Rodriguez, Board Member, said he abstentions because he is opposed to the idea that telling a business what hours they should operate from and because of surrounding restaurants.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said “**as long as it takes to make my case right? I voted in abstention is, and because I reinforce what Mr. Rodriguez’s comment in that a lot of these individuals have to string together the money to put together a business, quiet often especially in our neighborhoods. These folks don’t have access to formalized capital markets, personal loans, credit cards, and the taxes and they create employment. Now clearly it appears they are in violation to the 200 and the 500 foot rule. The reason I abstention was, let that be rejected at the level of the commission and not at the level of the Board. I am very very sympathetic to anyone who tries to open up a business in our neighborhood because that’s good. The problem I have is when we use liquor licenses and we get involved in a moralizing campaign. That somehow, somehow because someone is applying for a liquor license right, that there’s a level of unwantedness there, right. I know when I go out to eat. I am not a drinker but if I have a nice meal, I like to have a glass of wine or maybe a whiskey before I have my meal. Most of us like that right, are the people in our community working class people. Should they not be allowed to enjoy a nice decent meal? “**

**Bovicar Inc. 82-13 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (Alt. / New Rest. Liq.)**



Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair, informed the Board that the committee recommends that the application be approved.

**Motion # Bovicar Inc. 82-13 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (Alt. / New Rest. Liq.)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Stephen Kulhanek, to approve the application, was passed unanimously.

**Motion # - Adoption of the December 19, 2013 Monthly Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Marta Lebreton, seconded by Ralph Moreno, to adopt the December Monthly Minutes was not passed.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I am sorry I get so nervous and testy. The reason I get so nervous and testy is because things keep on happening to me. And when I was at the last Board meeting and the nominating committee spoke up about who will be on the ballot and I saw that I was removed. When I asked why I was being removed and some other questions which were not discussed or fully answered at my concern. I did make a point and say to Giovanna publicly to please include my comments in the minutes, because clearly when I have spoken out about rezoning of Roosevelt Avenue those comments have been excluded. So I asked Giovanna personally, right to please make sure, right that these comments on the procedure are included. Now this reminds me of an old philosophical question. If a tree falls in a forest and no one hears it does it make a noise? Well if we spoke up and it’s not included in the minutes, has someone spoken up and I am being silenced. I do not understand why my comments were not in these minutes. When I typically asked our District Manager, will it be included and she said in the affirmative yes. What’s going on? I would like that answer. This is the second time in a row this is happening.”**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, said that previous minutes have been corrected and last month’s minutes will not be corrected.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, asked **“why not. Why.”**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, said that the minutes are not transcribed word for word.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said that **“I am not asking for a word for word. Why is it not in the minutes Giovanna”?**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, said that the minutes will be amended and he will get them at the next Board Meeting.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“statistically this makes no sense in terms of probability”**.

Vasantrai Gandhi, Board Member, said that minutes are not word for word document. Important statements are included. He said that the secretary should be the responsibility of the secretary.

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, said that the minutes are transcribed by the office staff and reviewed by the District Manager and Chairperson.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member said **“so if I spoke to her about having my comments included and she reviewed it, why were they not included.”**

Marta Lebreton, Chairperson, said that Ms. Reid will review this matter during her District Managers report.

### **Legislators Report**

Assemblyman Moya, wished everyone a happy new year. He said there is an exciting legislative year ahead of us. The top priority is once again the New York City Dream Act, which will give the opportunity for undocumented students to receive financial aid to attend college. They have submitted a bill to help raise minimum wage to be moved up to \$9.25. We will be higher in the Federal level they are looking to pass a bill to prevent employment agencies from taking advantage of undocumented residents.

Giovanna Reid, District Manager, asked the Assemblyman to speak to the Board regarding liquor licenses and whether or not it is important or not to follow the guidelines and set forward by the State in regard to the issuances of licenses.

Assemblyman Moya, said that in the zip codes 11368 11372 and 11373 has more liquor licenses than downtown Manhattan. There is a huge saturation in this community; most of these establishments have serious violations, assaults, severe crime, the selling of alcohol to those who are already intoxicated. There are many complaints about these establishments and they are generally bad neighbors. The assemblyman is working with the State Liquor Authority and the Community Board to really start looking at how they will start changing their practices. We are not going after establishments who are good neighbors and want to work with the community. When he is in New York he sits on the Business Development Committee and sits through the application process. The volunteer process is great. At the heart of this everyone has the best interest of the community and wants to make sure we can work together and follow the rules as is by the State Liquor Authority.

Arthur Teiler, Board Member, said the law says SLA shall issue and it's their job to issue not so much the community; legislation should take it up and make it more impartial.

Assemblyman Moya, said that he is working is to provide the Community Board more of a voice and have SLA provide the Community Board's with a liaison. The liaison would attend business economic meetings and Board meetings to witness firsthand what the issues and concerns are from the community. The review process will also be extended to 90 days to guarantee community board review.

David Rosero, Board Member, said that the problem is that whether or not the establishment abuses the use of the license or not. The owners and operators need to do the right thing.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“I serve on that committee right, and correct me if I am wrong but from what I see the majority of people that come through the committee, maybe ten percent are problematic. So for each applicant that come in maybe one or two are problematic. That's not a majority, that's not a plurality. The problem I have with a larger narrative with a larger discourse, you know on liquor licenses is that, that argument**

**is becoming an adjunct to the pushing forth the extension of the 82<sup>nd</sup> street BID up Roosevelt Avenue. It's the streets that got to be cleaned up and today that clearly indicates in terms of what we are saying at the Community Board that's being overall argued, number one. Number two, you spoke of a liaison right, would come in, go in and look at the City Charter. The City Charter clearly at one point in the process was very explicit about this, that each and every community board should have a planner assigned to it. I would argue that it would provide more value to a community board to have a full time planner working with us that having a liaison whose job will be to scrutinize small business people as they apply for licenses.**

Assemblyman Moya, said that no one is saying that the liaison would scrutinize; the liaison would be there to provide on the request of the Community Board. So if the Community Board says they need a liaison to come and talk to them about certain establishments they are having problems with that is when the liaison would come. The liaison would not scrutinize and I do not think that is what was expressed to the Board. Having someone being a planner is another story and a budget costs that goes into it. There are seven inspectors in the five boroughs, Westchester County and Nassau County.

Assemblyman Aubry, said that he is happy to be here tonight. A critical process this year will be a battle between the Mayor and the Governor relative to affordable Pre- K. The key to making children successful is getting them in an educational setting as early as possible. To help guide them, support them and support their families. The Mayor also added for afterschool program for Junior High and High Schools. There are two different views, the Mayor wants to raise taxes and will fund them for five year tax and it will go. The Governor says that he doesn't want to do taxes and that the City of New York has enough money to pay for what you want to do. They will only be able to pay for that one year at a time; the five year tax pays for five years. That means you would have a sustained program in order to have some length of time as opposed to the market going out or something else happens we wouldn't be able to fund Pre-K in the proceeding years. He thinks the Mayors concept of letting the City set its own priorities and taxes they way we used to makes a lot of sense. He said the new convention center proposal on the corner of 114<sup>th</sup> and Northern Blvd., said that the combination of the Willets Point Project and the Convention Center worries him. He said he is worried about the amount of people that will be traveling throughout the community. He looks to working together in resolving these issues.

Emma Brandt, Board Member, said that Vivian and I have served on the Community Board for 30 years when Jeff Aubry served as the Chairperson.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“and the point being what”**.

Emma Brandt, Board Member, said “I am tired of Arturo Sanchez throwing it in everyone's face that he has served on the Board for 18 years. They have been here for 30 years’.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **“allow me to respond. You have been here for thirty years right, if you go back and look at the demographic data in Community Board 3. What you're getting clearly is that there are changing demographics. There are new people living in Community Board 3, that demographic is not represented, right in the composition of the**

**executive board. That's all I am saying and if one of our criteria is ethno representation we fail on that."**

Ed Westley, Board Member, asked that the fleet financial cross is representing the development site for the site of the convention center. Frankly, he gave us a statement that you cannot build a convention center on that property. What you need to do is go through a rezoning; right now as of right they can build a hotel.

Assemblyman Aubry, said that he is concerned about the construction of a hotel as well. He asked what studies have been done to show that there is a demand for hotels in the community.

Gary Gilbert, Rep. Assemblyman DenDekker, said that the Assemblyman is hosting a coat drive along with Council Member Constantinides from now until February 6<sup>th</sup>. He is pleased to announce that the Assemblymen passed a bill along with Assemblyman Aubry mandating crossing guards at schools from grades K-8.

Barbara Jackson, rep. Congressman Crowley, wished everyone a happy new year. She thanked everyone for their continued service. She said that on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> the Congressman will be hosting Black History Month at the First Baptist Church from 6-9PM.

Michael Mallon, Rep. Council Member Dromm, said that the Council Member joined the Mayor as he announced his plan to implement new policy procedures to work to eliminate horrible traffic incidents. The Councilmember is looking forward to supporting keeping residents safe. The Annual Lunar New Year celebration will take place on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. The location is TBA. They will have culture performances, music and dancing.

Rep., Councilmember Julissa Ferreras, informed the Board that the Three Kings Day celebration was a success. He thanked everyone for their contribution, including Ralph Moreno's donation of toys. They collected over 2,000 toys were distributed to children throughout the community. The yearly free income tax services will take place at the Transfiguration of Christ Greek Orthodox Church, located at 38-05 98<sup>th</sup> Street on Monday – Thursday 10AM-7PM, Friday 10AM-5PM and Saturday from 9AM-5PM. He invited everyone to Council Member Ferreras State of the District Address on Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Langston Hughes Library, 100-01 Northern Blvd.

### **Borough Presidents Report**

Lisa Atkins, Rep., Borough President Melinda Katz, informed the Board that the newly elected Borough President was inaugurated at Queens College and was sworn in by our newly elected Mayor. She reminded members of the Board to submit their renewal applications if they have received them in the mail.

### **ELECTIONS**

Vivian Dock, Chair, informed the Board on the results from the elections.

- Stephan Kulhanek, Chairperson
- Ann Brown, First Vice Chair
- Hamlett Wallace, Second Vice Chair
- Edmund Rosenbaum, Secretary
- Lisa Mesulam, Treasurer

- Shiv Dass, Margaret Dozier, Caridad Mak and Jairo Rodriguez, Members at Large

### **District Managers Report**

Giovanna Reid, District Manager, informed the Board that many years ago the Executive Committee looked at the volume of notes and minutes that were generated and was the community board with the biggest set of minutes in Queens. For many years we inform the members of the Board that we do a general narrative of what had transpired throughout the meeting. Our main focus is actual issues; however, so that we have a better understanding on moving forward on points that are important. The Board Meetings have a lot of discussion and a lot of activity going on. In order to insure that your interests and concerns are reflected she suggested to send an email to guarantee that your comments are being recorded. Many people don't have a concept of the procedure that takes to transcribe the minutes. Marta Lebreton had agreed that the office would resubmit amended minutes at the next board meeting.

Arturo Sanchez, Board Member, said **"I spoke you personally that day"**

Giovanna Reid, District Manager, informed the Board that we have met with the developers for the proposed 25 story structure and a good conversation and discussed impacts and so forth. She will be reaching out to members of the Board. This project has begun as of right but the configuration is important as to what can be done. City Planning has stated that the current zoning does not allow for a convention center. She said Northern Blvd can't already handle traffic as is and when we add the USTA and Mets games, can you imagine what it will look like then.

Ms. Reid, District Manager, congratulated all the newly elected Members – At – Large. She thanked members of the tribute committee; the borough president was very pleased with our presentation. She wished Andrew Kim, Martin Maier, Hamlett Wallace, Lynda McDougald, Phillip Papas, David Rosero and Margaret Dozier who have recently celebrated their birthdays.

Ms. Reid represented an award to Ms. Lebreton for her time served as Chairperson of Community Board 3.

### **Motion # Motion to Adjourn**

Upon motion duly made by Marta Lebreton, seconded by Vasantrai Gandhi, to adjourn the Executive session of the meeting was passed unanimously.

The meeting was closed at 10:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sabrina McGinley