



COMMUNITY BOARD No. 3, Q.
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December 21, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Ann Brown
Elba Buendia
Shiv Dass
Sonya Davis Roberts
Vivian Dock
Margaret Dozier
Renetta English
Vasantraï Gandhi
Patricia Glunt
Pastor Peter Herron
Larinda Hooks
Kevin Hughes
Edward Kiernan
Stephen Kulhanek
Marta Lebreton
Carlos Andres Lopez
Caridad Mak
Bill Meehan
Lisa Mesulam
Richard A. Mink
Laverne Nimmons
Nuala O'Doherty
Philip Papas
Esteban Peralta
Ladislá Pérez
Dorothy Phelan
Fausto Rodriguez
Jairo Rodriguez
Leoncio Romero
Edmund Rosenbaum
David Rosero
Lobsang Salaka
Agha Muhammad Saleh
Marlene Tapper
Frank Taylor
Arthur Teiler
Shanel Thomas
Hamlett Wallace
Edwin Westley

ABSENT

Joyce Julian
Ralph Moreno
Veronica Ng
Tammy Rose
Jimmy Smith
Pat Thorpe
Camilo Zamora

Guests

Council Member Daniel Dromm
Council Member Costa Constantinides
FDNY
Lisa Atkins, Boro President's Office
William Giron, Comptroller's Office
Jackie Cosme, Dromm's Office
Gary Gilbert, DenDekker's Office

Please note: The next Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:45pm

Mr. Philip Papas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:45pm and welcomed all in attendance.

Public Participation

Agha Muhammad Saleh

Board Member Saleh reported on an incident that occurred on June 16, 2017. He was apprehended by the 115th Precinct based on false charges alleged by his tenant. He recounted his experience of getting the charges dismissed, he had to hire a lawyer, go to court and after a very long process was finally exonerated. He warned the board that it can happen to anyone. He appealed for the assistance of both Council Members Dromm and Constantinides; to see what can be done to prevent another person from encountering the problem.

Specialized High Schools

Glennis Gomez from the Department of Education informed the board that Chancellor Carmen Farina has launched an initiative to increase diversity in specialized high schools. Ms. Gomez said the New York Department of Education has an outreach team covering all five boroughs informing youth and their parents about specialized schools. The outreach teams have supplied libraries with student handbooks which include sample tests. The goal is to prepare minority teens for the tests to get into specialized high schools. Ms. Gomez is continuing her outreach in Community Board 3.

For more information contact: 212-637-8010 or ggomez15@schools.nyc.gov.

Citizens Committee for NYC

Ryan Adams said the Citizens Committee for NYC is a nonprofit organization that gives out grants to community organizations to beautify and improve their community. The organization is offering grants up to \$3,000 to resident-led groups to work on community and school projects throughout the city.

For more information: www.citizensnyc.org/grants@citizensnyc.org

Council Member Costa Constantinides

Council Member Costa Constantinides acknowledged Council Member Daniel Dromm, District Manager Giovanna Reid, Board Members and Community Board 3 Staff for all their hard work in the community.

Property Taxes

Council Member Constantinides announced that he introduced a bill in October 2017 to make it easier for homeowners to pay their property taxes. He said currently, property owners have to wait for letters to come in the mail. His bill would create a secure online website for homeowners to pay taxes, get more information and view their records. CM Constantinides said he is looking forward to reintroducing the bill in January 2018.

Playground

CM Constantinides announced that renovation has started at the Louis Moser Playground. He said it will go by its historic name, Louis Moser and reopen in the summer of 2018.

Asthma

CM Constantinides reported that he introduced several legislations to combat asthma. He said that he passed a bill that requires power plants in western Queens to stop burning heavy oils. He pointed out that the number one reason children miss school is because of asthma. CM Constantinides stated that another bill that he introduced is for every public school to have nebulizers for the students.

Board Member Frank Taylor asked if there isn't anything in the council to lower homeowner's property taxes.

CM Constantinides responded that there are certain things the council can and cannot do. He added that January – June is Budget negotiations with the Mayor and property taxes are always discussed.

Council Member Daniel Dromm

Council Member said in response to Agha Saleh's issue, is of great concern to him. He said that his heart goes out to the Saleh family. He will work with Agha but also pointed out that the system did work. Although it was a long and difficult process at the end, he was exonerated.

Council Speaker

Council Member Daniel Dromm said the new Council Speaker hasn't been announced but he anticipates that it will be Council Member Corey Johnson from Greenwich Village. CM Dromm said that CM Johnson is a big supporter of the concerns of Community Board 3.

Chancellor Carmen Fariña

CM Dromm informed the Board that Chancellor Carmen Fariña will be retiring this year. There is a nationwide search to fill her position. He praised the Chancellor for giving dignity back to the teachers. CM Dromm said he hopes the next Chancellor is an educator but the final decision will be up to the Mayor.

Bullying

CM Dromm stated that bullying remains a serious problem in public schools. Climate survey is done by the Department of Education every year in all schools. Statistics show there is distrust in principals, high percentage experienced some kind of bullying and a lot of the students do not feel safe in their schools. He said that a high percentage of bullying happens to students who are gay.

CM Dromm announced that \$8 million is going to be used to for anti-bullying efforts. One million dollars will be used for GSA (Gay Straight Alliance). The Department of Education will find out which schools are more in need of the funds.

New Schools

CM Dromm reported that \$860 million was added to the budget by Chancellor Carmen Fariña to build schools. A new school on 69th Street and 34th Ave will be opened in the near future. He said the problem in District 25 is the lack of locations to build a new school.

Criminal Justice Reform

CM Dromm said that he wants to promote alternatives to incarceration like Fortune Society; where individuals have the opportunity to change their lives around. Charges are reduced or dropped depending how well they do in the program. He further reported that legislation was passed to help older people who are returning from prison.

Immigration

CM Dromm said the New York City Council passed legislation to protect the rights of immigrants. Many immigrant parents are afraid to pick up their children from school because they might be picked up by ICE Agents. He stated that in United States it is the law for every child to have the right to go to school even if they are undocumented.

FDNY - Holiday Safety

The representative for FDNY informed the board that the following fire safety precautions can prevent fires as well as save lives:

Kitchen

A pan cover that fit the pot should be used to extinguish a grease fire quickly. Do not use water on a grease fire.

Loose articles of clothing should not be worn when cooking, they can catch fire.

He pointed out that baking soda should be kept nearby at all times. Baking soda has the same chemicals that are found in a fire extinguisher.

He said if you do things routinely you will act quickly. When people panic, they make mistakes.

Keep kids completely out of kitchen.

Electrical

He said that cheap extension cords are more likely to short. Always read the small print on the packaging because it will say the amount of wattage the cords can handle. The thinner the wire, has the less amount of watts the cord can conduct electricity. A 16 Gauge wire for example, would be thinner than a 12 Gauge wire.

Don't buy extension cords or power strips at the 99 cent store.

Never use an extension cord or power strip with large current appliances such as refrigerators, air conditioners, clothes dryers or space heaters.

He noted that the fire that caused twelve lives in the Bronx was caused by a space heater plugged into a power strip.

Smoke Detectors

The representative spoke about combined smoke and carbon monoxide detectors (batteries last for 10 years). He said that everyone should have the smoke detectors in their kitchen. The landlord of an apartment by law, must provide a working smoke detector.

High rise apartment buildings over 6 stories are fire proof. If someone smells smoke and it's not in their apartment, the best thing to do is to close the door and put a towel under it.

Important: Don't delay if there is a fire. Call 911 for the Fire Department.

Public Hearings

(Bus. Eco. Develop. - Arthur Teiler & Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chairs) **S.L.A. New Wine/Beer & Liquor License Applications:**

The Crus-Z Family Corp. - 87-09 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights (New - Full Liq.)

Co-Chair, Edmund Rosenbaum, reported that the applicant is seeking a Full Liquor license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of The Crus-Z Family Corp.

The owner said the restaurant is a family business and he would like to offer margaritas to customers to compliment the traditional Mexican food.

Perla Del Pacifico Rest. Corp. - 95-51 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights **(New - Eating Place Beer)**

Co-Chair, Edmund Rosenbaum, reported that the applicant is seeking a Full Liquor license. Mr. Rosenbaum said that the application will be tabled until January 2018.

Sam's - 89-06 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (New - Wine/Beer)

Co-Chair, Edmund Rosenbaum, reported that the applicant is seeking a Wine/Beer license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Sam's.

The owner said that he would like to offer customers the choice of having a beer with pizza or wine with a pasta dish.

Blue Angel Lounge Corp. - 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona (New - Full Liq.)

Co-Chair, Edmund Rosenbaum, reported that the applicant is seeking a Full Liquor license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Blue Angel Lounge Corp.

Board Member Leoncio Romero translated for the owner.

December 21, 2017 Board Meeting

The owner said that the Blue Angel Lounge is a bar that will serve hors d'oeuvres along with alcohol.

Shiv Dass, First Vice Chair, asked if the owner had a license previously.

Edmund Rosenbaum replied that the location had the license but it was not the present owner.

Board Member Edwin Westley asked if the owner has relationship to the previous operator?

The owner said she has no relationship with the previous owner.

**La Cabana Argentinian Steakhouse – 86-07 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights
(New – Full Liq.)**

Co-Chair, Edmund Rosenbaum, reported that the applicant is seeking a Full Liquor license. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of La Cabana Argentinian Steakhouse.

The owner said he has been working at the restaurant for 12 years as a waiter and Chef. He purchased the restaurant with a co-worker. They will continue with the tradition of the Argentinian Steakhouse.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Philip Papas, Chair, opened Executive Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion # 80 – Adoption of the Agenda

Upon motion duly made by Philip Papas, seconded by Edmund Rosenbaum, to adopt the agenda, it was passed unanimously.

Motions By Committees:

**(Bus. Eco. Develop. – Arthur Teiler & Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chairs)
S.L.A. New Wine/Beer & Liquor License Applications:**

The Crus-Z Family Corp. – 87-09 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights (New – Full Liq.)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair of Business Economic Committee, said that the applicant is seeking approval for a Full Liquor license.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that the committee recommends approval of an application for an on-premises Full Liquor license. The applicant has signed the stipulation, which states the hours of operation, alcohol service will end one hour prior to closing and the basement will be used for storage only.

**Motion # 81 - The Crus-Z Family Corp. – 87-09 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights
(New – Full Liq.)**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rosenbaum, seconded by Lobsang Salaka, to approve the application for a Full Liquor license, was passed with 35 in Favor, 1 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Sam’s - 89-06 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (New – Wine/Beer)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair of Business Economic Committee, said that the applicant is seeking approval for a Wine/Beer license.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated the committee recommends approval of the application for an on-premises Wine & Beer license.

Motion # 82 - Sam’s - 89-06 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (New – Wine/Beer)

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rosenbaum, seconded by Stephen Kulhanek, to approve the application for a Wine/Beer license, was passed unanimously.

Blue Angel Lounge Corp. - 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona (New – Full Liq.)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair of Business Economic Committee, said that the applicant is seeking approval for a Full Liquor license.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that the committee recommends approval for an on-premises Full Liquor license for this applicant. The terms of the agreement is that the applicant will provide a signed stipulation stating the hours of operation and that alcohol service will end at 1:00am daily. Further, the basement will be for storage and restroom uses only.

**Motion # 83 - Blue Angel Lounge Corp. - 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona
(New – Full Liq.)**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rosenbaum, seconded by Edward Kiernan, to approve the application for a Full Liquor license along with the stipulations , was passed with 22 in Favor, 13 Opposed and 1 Abstention.

Board Member Edwin Westley said he voted to abstain because, “Many of my colleagues that live in that area voted no. That surprises me because nobody heard anything during the general discussion.”

**La Cabana Argentinian Steakhouse – 86-07 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights
(New – Full Liq.)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Co-Chair of Business Economic Committee, said that the applicant is seeking approval for a Full Liquor license.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that the committee recommends approval of the application for an on-premises Full Liquor license for this establishment..

Motion # 84 -La Cabana Argentinian Steakhouse – 86-07 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights (New – Full Liq.)

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes, to approve the application for a Full Liquor license, was passed with 35 in Favor, 1 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Chairman’s Report

Philip Papas, Chair, informed the Board that Google Calendar Alerts will be used as reminders for Committee Meetings.

Mr. Papas thanked all the Board Members for all the successful accomplishments in 2017.

District Manager’s Report

District Manager Giovanna Reid stated that the District Office is working hard on behalf the residents in regard complaints concerning National Grid complaints. Ms. Reid said, that last night, she and the chairman met with National Grid and reminded them that are responsible for notifying the community board, elected officials about all planned construction work. Further, they have a responsibility to to give notice to the residents on the affected street, for planned construction work / street closings,48 hours in advance before doing any work is started. In addition, water shut-offs requires 72 hours notification. She said the she will keep the community posted on their progress.

Ms. Reid wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Motion # 85 – Adoption of the November 16, Monthly Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Philip Papas and seconded by Bill Meehan, to adopt the November minutes was passed unanimously.

Youth Services – Renetta English, Chair

Youth Services Chair Renetta English reported on the Gift Giving Project. She said that the main purpose of the 2017 Community Gift Giving Project was to give needed items to the Landing (Camba) Family Shelter in East Elmhurst. Ms. English thanked Regal Heights for providing the space to collect and pack over 1000 items. Also special thanks to Cake Mio, National Association of University Women (Flushing Northshore Branch), LaGuardia Redevelopment, IS 230, IS 61 Corona, Forte Preparatory Academy, Gotham Cigar Enthusiasts of Brooklyn, Kiwanis – LGA, Frank Taylor & Ditmars Boulevard Block Association, Edwin Westley & Jackson Heights Beautification Group, Twitter Master Kevin Hughes, Facebook Administrator Philip Papas, Community Board 3 Staff and Community Board 3 Members.

Ms. English acknowledged Estela Divino, Director of Social Services for Regal Heights, for her continued support in all Community Board 3 events.

Education/School Facilities – Lisa Mesulam, Chair

Education Chair Lisa Mesulam thanked all for making the Gift Giving Project a success. She said that part of the success was having Youth Services Chair Renetta English as a team leader.

Nominating Committee Report – Vivian Dock, Chair

- Vivian Dock stated that the Nominating Committee met Monday December 18, 2017
- She thanked and acknowledged members of the committee; Vasantrai Gandhi, Kevin Hughes, Marta Lebreton, Fausto Rodriguez, and David Rosero.

She recapped that:

- Officers are elected for a (1) year term.
- No officer elected may serve more than (3) consecutive terms in the same office and shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office for a period of (2) years.
- The nominating committee takes into consideration the member's attendance at board and committee meetings, representation from the entire district, diversity of the Board and terms served.
- She thanked the following individuals for serving (3) consecutive terms in office:
Secretary Lisa Mesulam and Member at Large Bill Meehan.
- The committee recommends the following slate of candidates to be considered for office and voted on by the Board at the January 18, 2018 monthly meeting.

Chairperson – Philip Papas
First Vice Chair – Shiv Dass
Second Vice Chair – Renetta English
Secretary – Edmund Rosenbaum
Treasurer – Dr. Laverne Nimmons

Members at Large: Elba Buendia
Sonya Davis-Roberts
Leoncio Romero
Hamlett Wallace

- All candidates were contacted by the committee and they accepted the nomination for office.
- Any Board Member who is not on the slate, can be nominated for any office of the board from the floor by a board member and seconded by another board member at the January 18, 2018 Board Meeting. Candidates must accept the nomination .

At the conclusion of the report, she wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Borough President's Report

Lisa Atkins, Representative for Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, announced that Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law the state legislation approval of parkland alienation to complete the legal process to construct a Pre-K on the land that was previously alienated for the Queens Hall of Science. She said the City plans to build a Pre-K at the location.

Board Membership

She reminded Board Members that January 12, 2018 is the deadline for membership applications.

Contact person: Director of Community Boards Vicky Morales 718-286-2900.

Internship

Queens Borough President's Office is accepting applications for High School and College students who are interested in City Government. For more information email: jnorceno@queensbp.org.

Ms. Atkins wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Legislator's Report

Representative for Congressman Crowley informed that if anyone needs help with Immigration issues or Social Security they can contact the office at 718-779-1400. He said the Congressman wishes everyone Happy Holidays.

Lili Pioch, Representative for Assemblyman Jeffrion Aubry Office, said Assy Aubry wishes everyone Happy Holidays.

William Giron, Representative for New York City Comptroller's Office, said Comptroller Scott Stringer wishes everyone Happy Holidays and looks forward to continuing serving the community.

Gary Gilbert, Representative for Council Member Michael DenDekker's Office, said CM DenDekker wishes everyone Happy Holidays.

Motion # 86 - Motion to Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by Philip Papas and seconded by Stephen Kulhanek to adjourn the meeting, was passed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 9:50pm

Respectfully Submitted by
Clara Colon