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December 16, 2021

**ATTENDANCE**

Ann Brown  
Elba Buendia  
Mark Buhrmester  
Vicky Chan  
Muquith Choudhury  
Shiv Dass  
Michael De Valera  
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  
Nuala O'Doherty  
Dorothy Phelan  
Megan Rockwell  
Fausto Rodriguez  
Jairo Rodriguez  
Leoncio Romero  
Tammy Rose  
Edmund Rosenbaum  
David Rosero  
Lobsang Salaka  
Jimmy Smith  
Shanel Thomas-Henry  
Fahad Solaiman  
Marlene Tapper  
Frank Taylor  
Arthur Teiler  
Hamlett Wallace  
Toi Washington-Simon

**ABSENT**

Kham Bhatta  
Haiko Cornelissen  
Sonya Davis Roberts  
Joyce Julian  
Ralph Moreno  
Richard Mullings  
Marco Munoz  
Veronica Ng  
Laverne Nimmons  
Ladisla Perez  
Dawn Siff  
Edwin Westley

**Guest**

CM Daniel Dromm  
Captain Michael Kozo, Rep., FDNY  
Kevin Horgan, Rep., NYC Parks Dept  
Denise Mattes, Rep., NYC Parks Dept  
Michelle Luna, Rep., Congresswoman  
Ocasio-Cortez  
James Mongeluzo, Rep., NYC Comptroller  
TaQuoia Jones, Rep., CM Moya's Office  
Qibin Ye Rep., CM Dromm's Office  
Lili Pioche, Rep., Assy. Aubry Office

**Please Note: The next Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Teleconference.**

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 PARTICIPATION**

Shelly Brevda, resident, expressed concerns with homelessness in certain areas regarding men who hang out drinking at 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, a lady vendor on 74<sup>th</sup> Street & 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue who lives under her vendor table plus an encampment on 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue under the BQE. Ms. Brevda asked if one of the Board's Committees can reach out to a city agency to help these people.

Tracy Laumenede-Sanchez, resident, said that she and her family have appreciated Open Streets. Her students are enjoying the outdoor space to play instead of being stuck inside their homes for months due to the pandemic. She is excited for the future of the Open Streets for the children. The only thing that is needed is more planters and barricades for everyone's safety.

Ondine Crispin, resident, said that she loves the Open Streets. Her daughter has enjoyed the social interaction being outside in the Open Streets and has been doing better than her 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade classmates in school, who were isolated. Ms. Crispin said she would like to see a separation between bicyclists and the pedestrians.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

#### **FDNY Holiday Fire Safety**

Captain Michael Kozo, representative for FDNY, reported that in the winter there is an influx of fire fatalities. In the last three days there were five fire fatalities and one person in critical condition. He said that is the reason the FDNY tries to get the word out about fire safety.

There has been an influx of cooking fires, electrical fires, some candle flyers and some Christmas tree fires but unintended cooking seems to be the number one cause of fires. People get busy trying to multitask and forget something is on the stove. While cooking they should stay near the stove and monitor the food. Captain Kozo recommends not walking out of the kitchen while cooking. If someone has to walk out of the kitchen they should take something as a reminder like an oven mitt or set a timer. The best way is to take the food off the burner if walking out of the room.

If there is a grease fire throw the cover on top of the pan to smother the grease fire or pour baking soda over it then put cover on top. Shut the burner off and get the pan off the burner. It's important to get oxygen and heat away from the pan. There is only about 30 to 45 seconds to get the fire under control. It's imperative that the person is in the kitchen at the time that it happens because if they are not it's probably going to be beyond anyone's control.

Another option is to have an extinguisher. There's a pin that goes through the trigger of the extinguisher and it prevents someone from squeezing the trigger by mistake. If the pin is not pulled the extinguisher can't be used. So first thing to do is pull the pin and aim at the base of the fire. Don't go chasing the flares that are going up near cabinets or the microwave or anywhere else. Focus on the pan where the fire started. Stay six to eight feet away from the fire. The fire should be in front and exit behind to escape. Recommendation is an ABC extinguisher that will put out any type of household fire.

An extinguisher should be kept in the bedroom if someone should wake up in the middle of the night to a fire. The extinguisher in the bedroom can be used to knock down enough fire to clear a path. Captain Kozo reminded everyone that they shouldn't get heavily involved in trying to put out a fire. Best thing to do is call 911.

If there is a fire and you have to escape make sure to get everyone out and close the door behind you. If the door is left open the heat and smoke escapes from the apartment and goes to the hallway.

Captain Kozo said to always remember that any item that heats or cools has to be plugged directly into the wall (e.g. space heater, microwave, air conditioner, toaster-oven, etc.) all have to be plugged directly into the wall. Using a power strip does not give more power. Using a power strip is only giving you more access to the output.

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He noted that space heaters shouldn't be on all night and close to the bed. The blanket could fall on top of it and ignited a fire. The space heater should also have an automatic shutoff button.

The Fire Department recommends using battery operated candles instead of candles that require a match to light. If necessary to have a lit candle, the flame should be blown out when leaving the room. Don't put or leave a lit candle near children, pets or curtains.

Most important is having a working smoke and carbon-monoxide alarm in the home. It reduces chances of death about 50%. The alarms should be tested once a month. If there is a fire, the alarm will sound off four long beeps. If there is carbon monoxide it will sound off four quick chirps. If someone is in need of an alarm, there is a program between the FDNY and the Red Cross that provide the alarms and installation. The alarms last 8 to 10 years.

Captain Kozo said that the FDNY will go to schools, senior centers and other meetings to talk about fire safety. The FDNY educators are all vaccinated and they wear masks.

Shelly Brevda, resident, asked why only the smoke alarm should be placed in the bedroom and not the dual alarm.

Captain Kozo said that there's typically no source of carbon monoxide in your bedroom. The dual alarm is typically placed in the hallway that leads to the bedroom. It is also recommended that people sleep with their bedroom door closed.

### **Helen Marshall Ballfield Design – Parks & Recreational Dept.**

Kevin Horgan, Landscape Architect for NYC Parks Department, gave a presentation of the designs for Helen Marshall Playground. The project is about 2.1 acres and has a budget of \$7.1 million funded by Council Member Francisco Moya.

Mr. Horgan reported that the goals for Helen Marshall Ballfield Design are:

- Transform existing baseball field into a multi-use synthetic turf field to accommodate other sports and expand the use of the field throughout the year
- Improve drainage and enhance ballfield amenities with new dugouts, benches and fencing
- Reconstruct existing handball court area with the addition of adult fitness

One of the biggest issues is a lot of weed growth in the clay and drainage issues causing water to collect in the infield. The dirt and grass in the outfield is not in great condition.

As part of the contract, the trees around the perimeter of the field will be fertilized and pruned. The old bleachers will be removed and replaced with steel bleachers that are ADA accessible. On the 100<sup>th</sup> Street side (i.e., the bleacher side of the ball field), a perimeter fence will be reconstructed in the pavements with new features.

At the community input meetings, the following was said:

- Play and Multipurpose
  - Multi-use synthetic turf field for baseball/softball, soccer, football, and adult fitness
- Seating
  - Spectator seating (i.e., bleachers)
- Safety and Security
  - Park security lighting, perimeter fencing, ADA accessible
- Water
  - Misting post and drinking fountains with bottle filler
- Drainage
  - Correct drainage problems in existing grass/clay field

Mr. Horgan said that the biggest part of the reconstruction includes the conversion of the grass field into a synthetic turf field, which that will allow for other sports to be played. The Parks Department is proposing to stripe the baseball field with 90-foot base lines.

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The north side of the park will be reconstructed as a handball court and wall. The south side of the aforementioned wall will be an adult fitness area with equipment that accommodates ADA accessibility.

The fencing will be kept at 16-feet but will be reconstructed and painted. Where necessary, they will replace any hardware, bolts and rails. There will be new fencing on both fields. The fencing but will be steel but most of it will be standard chain link with some mesh privacy screening. Pipe fence will be used to secure and store soccer goals.

A resident said that synthetic is very harmful to the environment and people. She said that the Parks Department should use another type of grass that is healthier for people and absorbs water rather than synthetic. It would only require maintenance by the Parks Department.

Denise Mattes, Deputy Design Director at Parks Department, said that the synthetic field is part of the community request from scoping meetings. Synthetic will hold up better than natural grass and there will be less maintenance. It will also contain the storm water.

Board Member Larinda Hooks said that at the scoping meeting there was discussion about striping for a football field. It wasn't in the presentation.

Ms. Mattes said the area is small but they can look into striping it for football in the future.

Shelly Brevda, resident, asked if the striping is changeable.

Ms. Matte said that the striping is permanent.

Nathan Chaffee, resident, said he is concerned that the Parks Department is prioritizing maintenance over safety when it comes to the field. He asked if there is going to be some kind of padding.

Ms. Mattes said that she will have to follow up about padding.

Marta Lebreton, Chair of Parks Committee, asked the Parks Department representatives if they came to the Community Board to ask for a letter of support or just for informational purpose.

Ms. Matte said that they would appreciate a letter of support. They would like to move the process along by submitting to the Design Commission.

Chairperson Renetta English stated that the policy is to come in front of the Committee and then in front of the Full Board.

Ms. Lebreton said that it will be discussed in Executive Session.

### **Councilmember Daniel Dromm**

Kevin Hughes-Noboa presented a PowerPoint tribute to Council Member Daniel Dromm.

District Manager Giovanna Reid presented CM Dromm with a plaque virtually.

Ms. Reid read the citation:

*We are honored to present this small token of our esteem to Daniel Dromm in recognition of his service to Council District 25 and Queens Community Board 3.*

*You are an outstanding leader who championed the needs and concerns of the community. We commend you on your advocacy for the LGBTQIA community, undocumented immigrants, Dreamers, Stop and Fisk Reform, Paid Sick Leave and commitment to ensure that no child gets lost in the public school system.*

*We thank you for supporting our community by providing funds for the construction of P.S. 398, the expansion of Elmhurst Hospital Emergency Room and Cardiac Care Unit, enlarging Travers*

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*Park, developing Diversity Plaza, supporting Community Board 3 Beautification projects and a myriad of other initiatives that helped to improve the quality of life of our residents.*

*We thank you for your exemplary service. It is important for you to know that your invaluable commitment to our community did not go unnoticed. Your dedication is truly worthy of praise and commendation.*

*Awarded this Day December 16, 2021 by the members and staff of Queens Community Board 3.*

*Signed by Chairperson Renetta English and District Manager Giovanna Reid. Thank you for your service.*

CM Dromm thanked Mr. Hughes-Noboa and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Edmund Rosenbaum for the presentation.

CM Dromm thanked Ms. English for her leadership, professionalism, for being on top of everything and inclusivity. He said he is indebted to her.

CM Dromm said he regards Ms. Reid like part of his family cause they have known each other for so long. They marched together in the Jackson Heights Parade along with her brother Robbie. He said when they first started marching, there was no other Community Board that would welcome the LGBT community except Community Board 3.

CM Dromm said he is proud of Diversity Plaza and Community Board 3. CB3 held the first ever outdoor Community Board meeting in Diversity Plaza, which was a tremendous accomplishment bringing democracy and the actual rights of the people to the street.

CM Dromm said he is proud of Travers Park and 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue Open Streets. As well as ID NYC, which he worked on along with former Mayor Bill de Blasio.

In his tenure he provided millions of dollars in funding for LGBT community-based organizations so that the youth are taught tolerance, acceptance and intersectionality of LGBT issues with race, color, religion and different belief systems.

In the last budget, he put \$13 million in for the renovation of the Jackson Heights Library in 2023 and \$2.7 million so that Council Member Shekar Krishnan can implement the creation of a community center. CM Dromm said that CM Krishnan is going to do a fantastic job.

CM Dromm, in his last few days, is looking into sanitation concerns. ACE services has been expanded as well as putting in millions for the New York City Cleanup Corp.

CM Dromm said he is touched and moved. He said that Community Board 3 is his favorite Board.

“We’ve come such a long way. When we first started the parade there was no other Community Board in Queens that would welcome us. Except for Community Board 3. That’s why I am so indebted to you and why I love you all so much.”

Board Member Lisa Mesulam thanked CM Dromm for all he did for the children in the community.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **Traffic Transportation – (Stephen Kulhanek, Ed Kiernan, Co-Chairs)**

##### **TLC Application #: B01995**

##### **NYMEX Car Service – 90-03 31st Ave, East Elmhurst. - Renewal of Base Station License**

Ed Kiernan, Co-Chair of Traffic Transportation Committee, reported that the applicant is seeking a renewal of Base Station License. Mr. Kiernan called upon the owner.

Marco Pulla, the owner, was present with his representative. The representative said the owner has had the business for eight years and has been a good neighbor. The Base Station provides jobs for more than 12 drivers.

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Chairperson Renetta English asked how many cars there are and if there a place to store them.

The representative said that they have more than 12 cars and they park around the corner from the Base Station.

Kevin Hughes-Noboa, Secretary, asked if the drivers are parking where the residents park thus taking parking spaces away from the residents.

The owner said that the drivers are driving around looking for passengers so they are not officially parked.

Board Member Muquith Choudhury asked if the drivers pick up passengers at the Base Station.

The representative said that they do not pick up at the Base Station.

Mr. English asked if they have parking on site for the vehicles.

The owner said there is parking near the Base.

Mr. Hughes-Noboa asked if that is street parking.

The representative said the outside parking is located at 30-57 90<sup>th</sup> Street.

Board Member Frank Taylor asked if they have a lot of parking because at the Base Station, they have multiple cars using parking spots on the street. He asked where the drivers come from in the city

The owner said everyone is from the East Elmhurst area.

District Manager Giovanna Reid reported that the operators are required to have off-street parking on-site in a parking lot located off the street. At the Committee meeting there was some confusion about the number of cars. The owner had said that he had 35 cars when actually he has 12 cars. The owner provided documentation about arrangements they made that will provide parking for the vehicles. Ms. Reid said that generally TLC will require that the Operator have space that will cover 10% of their cars. She reminded the Board that the application is for a renewal of an existing license.

Mr. Kiernan added that there have been no complaints to the Community Board.

### **Business Economic Development. - (Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)**

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

##### **Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Class Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the applicant is seeking a Class Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp.

The representative spoke for the owner who was present. The owner wants to upgrade to Full Liquor license.

##### **Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Method of Operation Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the applicant is seeking a Method of Operation Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp.

The representative said that the owner wants to add a DJ and karaoke. They will be making the restaurant sound proof. An email was sent to Community Board 3 with information on the materials and photos were provided.

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### **Blue Angel Lounge Corp. - 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona (Method of Operation Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the applicant is seeking a Method of Operation Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Blue Angel Lounge Corp.

The owner said she wants to extend the hours of the business until 4:00 am Thursday – Saturday in order to get more business.

Board Member Mark Buhrmester asked how many people work in the restaurant.

The owner said that there are four girls who are from the area.

Board Member Michael De Valera asked if they have ever been cited for noise complaints or had any other problems in the neighborhood.

The owner said they haven't had any complaints. The location is in an isolated area across from a gas station and highway.

Mr. De Valera said he passes the location often. He has never seen any issues or anyone hanging outside drinking.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

### **Motion # 83 - Adoption of the Agenda**

Upon motion duly made by Arthur Teiler, seconded by Lisa Mesulam, to adopt the Agenda, was passed unanimously.

### **Motions By Committees:**

#### **Business Economic Development. - (Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)**

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

#### **Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Class Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for a Class Change for this applicant provided a stipulation has been signed. The Stipulation was signed.

#### **Motion # 84 - Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Class Change)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Frank Taylor, to **approve** the application was passed with 25 in Favor, 9 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

#### **Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Method of Operation Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for a Method of Operation Change for this applicant provided a stipulation has been signed. The Stipulation was signed.

#### **Motion # 85 -Valdes House Bar Restaurant Corp. - 91-09 31st Ave, E. Elmhurst (Method of Operation Change)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Mark Buhrmester, to **approve** the application was passed with 22 in Favor, 10 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

#### **Blue Angel Lounge Corp. - 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona (Method of Operation Change)**

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economic Committee, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for a Method of Operation Change for this applicant provided a stipulation has been signed. The Stipulation was signed.

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### **Motion # 86 - Blue Angel Lounge Corp. – 112-51 Roosevelt Ave, Corona (Method of Operation Change)**

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Fausto Rodriguez, to **approve** the application was passed with 22 in Favor, 11 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

### **Helen Marshall Ballfield Design – Parks & Recreational Dept.**

Marta Lebreton, Chair of Parks Committee, reported the Parks Department is requesting a letter of support for the project. There is usually a Committee meeting before presenting at a Full Board Meeting but it did not happen this month because they had a time constraint. Ms. Lebreton said she is uncomfortable because of the grass. The Parks Department needs to revisit other options for natural grass which is something that was discussed in other meetings. Ms. Lebreton opened the floor for discussion.

Board Member Frank Taylor asked why the Parks Department shortchanges the Community Board every time they come before the members.

Ms. Lebreton said the Parks Department has no respect for the Community Board's process.

Board Member Lobsang Salaka said he would like to support the park, but there should be some stipulations regarding the grass.

Ms. Lebreton said that she agrees with Mr. Salaka.

Chairperson Renetta English said that she also supports the park, but the Board needs to voice their concerns.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Edmund Rosenbaum said he is very uncomfortable because the Board has a process for a reason. It looks like Parks is not willing to spend money to maintain the grass, which is not in the best interest of the community.

Board Member Shanel Thomas-Henry said that Ms. Mattes stated, "The synthetic field is part of the community request from scoping meetings." Ms. Thomas-Henry asked if there was information regarding the scoping meetings.

Ms. Lebreton said she does not know what meetings Ms. Mattes was referring to during her presentation.

Board Member Vasantrai Gandhi said that maintaining grass is very expensive and will cost more in the future. He said there is nothing wrong with synthetic grass.

Board Member Larinda Hooks said that people can get turf burns from synthetic fields. She noted that grass is not respected in the community. There is dog feces on the grass at the park and children play in the park.

Board Member Ann Brown asked if there is enough time to ask the Parks Department to come to a Committee meeting and the Committee can make recommendations or have stipulations.

District Manager Giovanna Reid said that it was expressed to her that it is time sensitive. She suggested to the Chairperson to exit Executive Session to ask the Parks Department if it could be heard at the January Full Board Meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to exit Executive Session to ask the Parks Department questions, was passed unanimously.

Ms. Lebreton asked Regional Manager for Queens West Eric Goetz if the letter of support can wait until the January Full Board Meeting.

Mr. Goetz said that he can't speak for the Capital Projects Division. He suggested that if the Board feels strongly about an issue they should communicate with NYC Parks Department even if it delays the project.

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Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Marta Lebreton, to return to Executive Session, was passed unanimously.

Ms. Lebreton asked the Board Members if they want to send a letter of support with stipulations and options for the grass. Or, table the matter until they meet with the Committee.

Board Member Fausto Rodriguez said that the Parks Department should follow the standard procedure as they have to abide by what the Community Board has established as procedure.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Edmund Rosenbaum stated that he was in agreement with Mr. Rodriguez.

Ms. English said that the matter should be tabled.

Ms. Lebreton said it will be tabled. The Community Board 3 office will send a letter inviting them to appear at a committee meeting.

### **Traffic Transportation – (Stephen Kulhanek, Ed Kiernan, Co-Chairs)**

#### **TLC Application #: B01995**

#### **NYMEX Car Service – 90-03 31st Ave, East Elmhurst - Renewal of Base Station License**

Ed Kiernan, Co-Chair of Traffic & Transportation Committee, reported that the Committee recommends **approval** for the Board to issue a letter of no objection for the continued operation of the Car Service.

### **Motion # 87 - Traffic Transportation – (Stephen Kulhanek, Ed Kiernan, Co-Chairs)**

#### **TLC Application #: B01995**

#### **NYMEX Car Service – 90-03 31st Ave, East Elmhurst - Renewal of Base Station License**

Upon motion duly made by Ed Kiernan, seconded by Fausto Rodriguez, to **approve** the application was passed with 29 in Favor, 4 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

### **Chairperson's Report**

Renetta English, Chairperson, read her report:

*We've made it to the last meeting of 2021!! Traditionally, after our December meeting we celebrate the holiday season with a beautiful reception dinner. This year, because we are still meeting remotely due to COVID 19, we will not be having our reception which would have included the board members and the community. I am so happy that we had the opportunity to see one another in person on Tuesday at our Queens CB3 Holiday Meet and Greet in North Corona. I thank all that attended. It was wonderful to hear of your Holiday plans and share in the excitement we all have as we transition into 2022. Please continue to be safe as you visit family and friends over the holidays. We are still in the midst of COVID-19 and it has changed all of our lives forever. This is something that we will have to live with for some time. I am proud to say that Queens Community Board #3 has been resilient in 2021. We continued to provide services to residents, carried on our committee and monthly board meetings virtually and even took opportunities to participate in community outreach. Community outreach activities including conducting our 2021 Community Gift Giving Project, 911 Day of Remembrance, National Night, 34th Avenue Workshops, Immigrant Resources Day, Meeting with Residents impacted by Hurricane IDA, Trunk or Treat and distribute masks and sanitizer throughout the community. Finally, thank you to all the Community Board Committee Chairpersons for conducting their meetings and submitting reports. Thank you, board members, for consistently attending your committee meetings and attending our community outreach event. A Special thank you to Ms. Giovanna Reid, District Manager, Keisha Howard and Clara Colon for all their hard work this year in supporting the residents of CB3 in East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights and North Corona and working with all 50 members of the board. I trust everyone enjoys the festivities of this season. She wished everyone Happy Holidays!*

### **District Manager's Report**

District Manager Giovanna Reid reported that individuals camped in front of Burger King and the Community Board 3 office building have been offered services but refused. Unfortunately, that is as far as the City can go in responding to the situation. A person cannot get arrested because they have nowhere to live. It's a different situation if the individuals

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prove to be a danger to themselves or others. Ms. Reid encouraged residents to keep informing the Community Board of conditions as well as their Elected Officials.

Ms. Reid reminded all in attendance that there are many resources if they have complaints about sanitary conditions, homeless and other quality of life concerns. They can call Community Board 3, 311, Elected Officials or city agencies directly. She said there is no reason why these issues cannot be resolved.

Ms. Reid said that the list of Top 10 Complaints received from September to December can be found in the Community Board Members' folder. She noted that sewer backup complaints should have been higher after Hurricane Ida.

"There are certain sections within our district where flooding is normal for the residents and they have given up in reporting these conditions and have learned to somehow live with it."

Ms. Reid said flooding and sewer backup is not acceptable. Please call 311 or Community Board 3.

Ms. Reid said that the Capital Expense Budget is one of the most important things that Community Boards do each year, which is setting the priorities for the City's budget. There were 40 items in the Capital Budget and 30 in the Expense Budget.

Ms. Reid wished everyone happy holidays.

### **Motion # 88 - Adoption of the November 18, 2021 Monthly Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, seconded by Lisa Mesulam, to adopt the November 18, 2021 Minutes, was passed unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Traffic & Transportation Committee**

Ed Kiernan, Co-Chair of Traffic and Transportation Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, December 13, 2021 to discuss DOT's NYC Street Plan.

#### **Nomination Committee**

Vivian Dock, Chair of the Nomination Committee, reported that the committee met on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Present at the meeting were Ed Kiernan, Stephen Kulhanek, Marta Lebreton, Lisa Mesulam, David Rosero and Toi Washington-Simon.

Members that served three consecutive terms, Chairperson Renetta English, Secretary Kevin Hughes-Noboa and Member At Large Frank Taylor.

The Committee decided on the following slate of candidates for Board Officers:

Chairperson: Edmund Rosenbaum  
First Vice Chair: Dr. Laverne Nimmons  
Second Vice Chair: Kevin Hughes-Noboa  
Secretary: Richard Mullings  
Treasurer: Leoncio Romero

#### **Members at Large:**

Meagan Rockwell  
Jairo Rodriguez  
Lobsang Salaka  
Ulrick Gedeon

Vivian Dock, Chair of the Nomination Committee, stated that members not nominated on the slate can be nominated from the floor at the January 20, 2022 Board Meeting. Due to the virus, voting will be virtual using a ballot created on Google Forms. Nominating Committee Member Toi Washington-Simon will assist in the process.

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### **Legislators' Report**

#### **Office of Council Member Francisco Moya**

TaQuoia Jones, representative for the office of Council Member Francisco Moya, reported that CM Moya was able to distribute health and food vouchers.

Between East Elmhurst, Corona, and Lefrak City, 2,500 turkeys were distributed to the community.

CM Moya hosted four flu shot events to ensure that the community was able to obtain the shots.

Friday, December 10, 2021 there was a Tree Lighting event with the East Elmhurst Civic Association Astoria Blvd. and 27th Avenue.

CM Moya will partner with the Civic Association on Saturday, December 18, 2021 for a Toy Giveaway as Southern Baptist Church.

#### **Assembly Member Jeffrion I. Aubry Office**

Lili Pioche, representative for Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry Office, announced that on Saturday, December 18, 2021 there will be a Toy Giveaway. Assy Aubry was at the tree lighting on Astoria Blvd. and was glad to be surrounded by his neighbors.

#### **Council Member Daniel Dromm's Office**

Qibin Ye, representative for Council Member Daniel Dromm's office, announced that it will be her last Community Board meeting. She said that she is grateful for the opportunity to serve a diverse community for nearly six years. Ms. Ye said it was a pleasure to work with a hard working Board.

#### **Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez**

Michelle Luna, representative for Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, announced that the house passed the "Protecting our Democracy Act" to curb abuses of presidential power and increased transparency and accountability in the executive branch.

Submit legislative comments: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact>

Youth Town Hall meeting on Dec 17, 2021 at 1:00pm register here:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6qa63fG0RdeG3IV9BsP-Bw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6qa63fG0RdeG3IV9BsP-Bw)

Sign up for AOC's newsletter to get updates:

English Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/newsletter-subscribe>

Spanish Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/boletin-espanol>

FEMA has extended the deadline to apply for HP assistance to January 4, 2022.

Disaster Legal Services: (888) 399-5459 or [nysba.org/ida](http://nysba.org/ida)

Submit a casework request:

<https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/services/help-federal-agency>

Internship Application: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/services/internships>

Contact info: [Michelle.Luna@mail.house.gov](mailto:Michelle.Luna@mail.house.gov)

#### **NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer Office**

James Mongeluzo, representative for NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer Office, announced that it will be his last announcement as they welcome Brad Lander as the new NYC Comptroller. Mr. Mongeluzo said he will most likely be at the Comptroller Office in some capacity.

The NYC Comptroller Office put out the last edition of New York by the Numbers Economic and Fiscal Outlook newsletter. Mr. Mongeluzo said that things are trending in the right

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direction but in some ways the city is lagging behind other parts of the country in terms of recovery.

New York by the Numbers – Monthly Economic and Fiscal Outlook by NYC Comptroller Scott M. Stringer - <https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/new-york-by-the-numbers-monthly-economic-and-fiscal-outlook-no-60-december-6th-2021/>

Comptroller Stringer Analysis: Residents Returning to New York City after Out-Migration Tripled During Pandemic - <https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/comptroller-stringer-analysis-residents-returning-to-new-york-city-after-out-migration-tripled-during-pandemic/>

Mr. Mongeluzo announced that a report on Rikers Island is out. He said it is related to Department of Corrections, which is not doing a good job in spending money. The report shows that the City is spending over \$550,000 per year to incarcerate people in city facilities. It comes out to over \$1,500 per day. Check the Comptroller website for more information.

Mr. Mongeluzo said that NYC Comptroller Stringer wants everyone to know that it has been a great pleasure serving as the Comptroller for eight years.

### **Motion # 89 - To Adjourn**

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, and seconded by Larinda Hooks, to adjourn the meeting, was passed unanimously. Adjourned at 10:13 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by  
Clara Colon*

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