



COMMUNITY BOARD No. 3, Q.
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February 17, 2021

ATTENDANCE

Kham Bhatta
 Ann Brown
 Elba Buendia
 Mark Buhrmester
 Muquith Choudhury
 Shiv Dass
 Sonya Davis Roberts-
 Michael De Valera
 Margaret Dozier
 Renetta English
 Vasantrai Gandhi
 Ulrick Gedeon
 Pastor Peter Herron
 Larinda Hooks
 Kevin Hughes-Noboa
 Edward Kiernan
 Marta Lebreton
 Lisa Mesulam
 Richard Mullings
 Nuala O’Doherty
 Dorothy Phelan
 Megan Rockwell
 Fausto Rodriguez
 Jairo Rodriguez
 Leoncio Romero
 Tammy Rose
 Edmund Rosenbaum
 David Rosero
 Lobsang Salaka
 Dawn Siff
 Fahad Solaiman
 Marlene Tapper
 Frank Taylor
 Arthur Teiler
 Hamlett Wallace
 Toi Washington-Simon
 Edwin Westley

ABSENT

Vicky Chan
 Haiko Cornelissen
 Vivian Dock
 Joyce Julian
 Abdur Rahim Howlader
 Stephen Kulhanek
 Ralph Moreno
 Marco Munoz
 Laverne Nimmons
 Ladisla Perez
 Jimmy Smith
 Shanel Thomas-Henry

Guest

Regina Bain, Louis Armstrong Museum
 PO Michael Mienko, 115th Pct.
 Richard David, Rep., Con Ed
 Dana Linton, Rep., Con Ed
 Lisa Atkins, Rep., Qns Boro President
 Michelle Luna, Rep., Congresswoman
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Shamina Rahman, Rep., CM Krishnan
 Office
 Valery Calderon, Rep., Assy Aubry Office
 James Mongeluzo, Rep., NYC Comptroller
 TaQuoia Jones, Rep., CM Moya’s Office

Please Note: The next Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Teleconference.

Chairman Frank Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken at that time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident from Southridge Co-ops said there was a thief who gained access to every single building in Southridge and stole all the packages that were delivered. The thief went to each floor and forcibly turned all the apartment doorknobs to attempt access. The tenants of Southridge want the community to be aware.

A resident named Marilyn Rogers said that the Community Board should take in account the uptick in crime when reviewing liquor licenses applications. She said there are too many restaurants and bars for a small community.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Louis Armstrong House Museum - Regina Bain, Executive Director

Regina Bain, Executive Director of the Louis Armstrong House Museum, gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Mission:

The Louis Armstrong House Museum sustains and promotes the cultural, historical and humanitarian legacy of Louis Armstrong by preserving and interpreting Armstrong's house and grounds. Also, by collecting and sharing archival materials that document Armstrong's life and legacy. Developing programs for the public that educate and inspire and engaging with contemporary artists to create performances and new works.

Vision:

- Preserving and sharing the legacy
- Artistic excellence
- Education
- Community

There is a new exhibit called "Here to Stay" at the new Armstrong Center located across the historic Armstrong House Museum on 107th Street scheduled to open in the late summer or early fall of 2022.

The Armstrong House Museum was closed during the pandemic but re-opened in July 2021. They are open for tours Thursdays – Saturdays. There is a special tour in February for Black History Month. In the tour, visitors will hear about the interview Mr. Armstrong gave to the NY Times regarding the nine students wanting to enroll in school in Little Rock Arkansas.

Ms. Bain announced the passing of the Board Chair, Jerome Chazen, at the age of 94. She said that he worked tirelessly for the Louis Armstrong House Museum. At his service he was the lead out with the song "Give Me a Kiss to Build a Dream On" by Louis Armstrong.

115th Precinct Community Affairs – Officer Mienko

PO Michael Mienko, representing the 115th Precinct, reported that an 18 year old male got into a dispute with a group and was killed. The 115th Precinct has been working closely with Queens North Borough to make more gun arrests.

There have been a lot of robberies at stores like CVS, Duane Reade and Rite Aid. The precinct met with pharmacy managers and security guards to discuss prevention tips.

PO Mienko said that when traveling keep wallet in front pocket and beware of surroundings. If anyone feels they are being followed call 911.

PO Mienko said to ensure that online transactions are completed in a safe manner when exchanging goods pick a neutral and convenient meet-up location. Look for a well-lit place with view of security cameras. Consider areas in the vicinity of a police precinct.

Mr. Taylor asked if the 115th Precinct received new Officers since 75 of them were taken away.

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PO Mienko said that the 115th Precinct received 12 officers from the last police academy class.

Mr. Taylor told all in attendance to contact their elected officials to pressure City Hall for an extension of the officers that are supposed to be at 115th Precinct.

A resident named Margaret Flanagan said when a 311 call is placed about homeless people living in 35th Avenue under the BQE, it is directed to the 108th Precinct. However, the complaint gets denied because it falls under the confines of the 115th Precinct. Ms. Flanagan asked PO Mienko if he could reach out to the 108th Precinct.

PO Mienko said he can reach out to the 108th Precinct and noted that 115th Precinct border goes up to the BQE. After that, it's the 108th Precinct.

Andrew Sokolof of 89th Street Tenants Unidos Association, said that residents that were affected by the fire 10 months ago had their apartments burglarized. He asked why the tenants haven't been allowed to file police reports for stolen property.

PO Mienko said he wasn't aware of tenants being denied to make a police report. He said that they should plan a meeting between the tenants and the 115th Precinct.

Con Edison - Dana Linton

Dana Linton, representative for Con Edison, introduced her colleague, Richard David to report on Reliable Clean City Project. Mr. David reported that Con Edison is attempting to build a new transmission line that will run from Long Island City to Corona. The transmission line is 6.5 miles long. It will deliver reliable clean zero carbon power to the energy grid. Mr. David said that Con Edison is committed to delivering 100% clean energy by 2040. The project is one leg of three parts. The project started in January 2022 in Long Island City and will end in the spring of 2023. The other transmission lines of the project will come later in Brooklyn and Staten Island. Con Edison is investing \$800 million to improve the infrastructure citywide. A portion of that amount, \$275 million, will be used in Queens.

Con Edison is reaching out to elected officials, community boards, community centers, religious organizations, small businesses, and residents. Con Edison will be notifying 90,000 residents along the route by either mail or e-mail. Mr. David said that together with elected officials and community partners they will distribute flyers to anyone they see along the route.

Mr. David noted that Con Edison wants to limit construction disruptions. There will be construction flaggers directing traffic when necessary.

Mr. David can be reached at davidr@coned.com

Mr. Taylor asked which streets are going to be affected and will people be reimbursed for any disruption.

Mr. David said the construction will run along 31st and 32nd Avenues. He said 32nd Avenue runs through Community Board 3. Mr. David said Con Edison will not reimburse small businesses for minor disruptions they will experience. Con Edison will try to limit disruptions as much as possible.

Ms. Flanagan asked how much it is possible to use construction vehicles powered by renewable energy.

Mr. David said that the market is still catching up but that is something that in the future Con Edison would want to explore.

Another resident asked if Con Edison was hiring.

Mr. David said he is not aware of any hiring opportunities at Con Edison at the moment but he will check.

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Board Member Edwin Westley asked why is the cable necessary and why is it below ground.

Bobby Kennedy, Con Edison Project Manager, said that Con Edison committed to a green energy future and the cable is needed because the gas turbine plant in Astoria is being retired by 2023.

Board Member Tammy Rose asked what Con Edison defines as “minor disruption”.

Mr. David said that there will be visible construction and noise between 8:00am and 4:00pm. No one’s service will be interrupted. There will be digging and will result in temporary loss of parking spaces, temporary re-routed transportation and bike lanes.

Mr. Taylor reminded Mr. David that in a previous meeting rodent prevention was discussed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Business Economic Development. – (Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)

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

Himalayan Group LLC dba Bamboo House & Bar 76-03 37th Ave. Jackson Heights (Corporate Change)

Mr. Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Class Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Bamboo House & Bar.

The applicant was not present.

Espana Sports Bar, Inc dba Espana Sports Bar – 81-03 Roosevelt Ave. Jackson Heights (New- Full Liquor)

Mr. Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Class Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Espana Sports Bar.

The representative was present but not the applicant.

Sabor Hispano Inc. – 37-29 103rd Street, Corona (Class Change)

Mr. Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Class Change. Mr. Rosenbaum called upon the owner of Sabor Hispano Inc.

The owner said that the restaurant has 12 tables and 50 chairs. They will be open from 8:00am – 12:00am.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Taylor opened Executive Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion # 6 - Adoption of the Agenda

Upon motion duly made by Richard Mullings, seconded by Lisa Mesulam, to adopt the agenda, it was passed unanimously.

Motions By Committees:

Business Economic Development. – (Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)

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

Himalayan Group LLC dba Bamboo House & Bar 76-03 37th Ave. Jackson Heights (Corporate Change)

Tabled until March 17, 2022 Full Board meeting.

Espana Sports Bar, Inc dba Espana Sports Bar – 81-03 Roosevelt Ave. Jackson Heights (New- Full Liquor)

Tabled until March 17, 2022 Full Board meeting.

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Sabor Hispano Inc. – 37-29 103rd Street, Corona (Class Change)

Mr. Rosenbaum 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 # 7 - Sabor Hispano Inc. – 37-29 103rd Street, Corona (Class Change)

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rosenbaum, seconded by Richard Mullings, the motion to **approve** the application was passed with 27 in Favor, 9 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Chairperson's Report

Mr. Taylor reported that he attended vigils for Officers Wilbert Mora and Jason Rivera along with other board members. The vigils were held at Diversity Plaza and 115th Precinct. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards also held a vigil service.

Mr. Taylor said, "There are 50 Board Members. That's 100 Eyes; 100 ears; 100 legs; 100 arms 50 brains and 50 attitudes. We must utilize our resources together for our 250,000 members of our communities of East Elmhurst, North Corona and Jackson Heights for we are all one community. We have to talk to one another." He said that he will be available to sit down to speak with anyone who wants to meet.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Giovanna Reid congratulated new Chair Frank Taylor and the new Executive Board Members and looks forward to working together to serve the community.

Motion # 8 - Adoption of the January 20, 2022 Monthly Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Edwin Westley, seconded by Tammy Rose, to adopt the January 20, 2022 Minutes, was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety Committee

Sonya Davis Roberts, Co-Chair of Public Safety Committee, reported that in January she attended vigils at Diversity Plaza and at the 115th Precinct for Officers Wilbert Mora and Jason Rivera. She said it was heart breaking to have a vigil for young Officers but it was nice to see the community come out to show support.

Ms. Davis Roberts said she will keep the Board informed about the next Public Safety Committee meeting.

Parks Committee

Mr. Taylor reported that Community Board 3 gave an interview to Channel 12 about the Helen Marshall Playground. Mr. Taylor said Marta Lebreton, Chair of Parks Committee, did an excellent job translating for Spanish speaking members of the audience.

Education Committee

Lisa Mesulam, Co-Chair of the Education Committee, reported that on February 9, 2022, she attended the Citywide Council of High Schools meeting. There are plans to build a specialized high school at Woodside and Northern Blvd where there was a Sports Authority. Ms. Mesulam said that a specialized high school means anyone from other areas can attend. The plan to make other area high schools less crowded might not happened. Ms. Mesulam said she will keep the Board informed.

Queens Borough President's Report

Lisa Atkins, Director of Housing at the Queens Borough President's Office, announced that in March, the Department of City Planning is having a training on the ULURP process for all Community Board members.

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Legislators' Report

Council Member Shekar Krishnan Office

Shamina Rahman, Community Affairs Coordinator for District 25 Council Member Shekar Krishnan, said that if anyone in attendance has any issues or concerns to reach out to the office at SRahman@council.nyc.gov, Krishnan@council.nyc.gov or call 929-293-0206.

Council Member Tiffany Cabán Office

A representative for the office of Council Member Tiffany Cabán reported that there is a website for residents that receive high electricity or gas bills. Residents can also contact the Department of Public Service to file a complaint.

<https://www.coned.com/en/accounts-billing/payment-plans-assistance>

<https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>

<https://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/755C4F39A58C924C85257B2F0067FCA5?OpenDocument>

Non-profit organizations who need funding:

<https://council.nyc.gov/budget/fiscal-year-2023-discretionary-funding-expense-application-filing-period/>

Discretionary volunteer opportunities:

<https://forms.gle/brDEQkD6zLrvYf9P6>

Sign up for mailing list:

<https://mailchi.mp/cabanforqueens/government-side-email-list-sign-up>

For assistance call 718-274-4500, or email osrosado@council.nyc.gov.

Assembly Member Jeffrion I. Aubry Office

Valery Calderon, Constituent Liaison with Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry, announced that the office has PPE available. Contact the office for further information.

Email: calderonv@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 457-3615

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Michelle Luna, representative for Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, announced the Congresswoman is looking into introducing legislation that would rename the Jackson Heights Post Office after an individual that represents the community. Submit nominations through brief form: <https://bit.ly/NY14postoffice>

To view February 15, 2022 town hall visit bit.ly/RepAOCYouTube.

To be notified about the next town hall, sign up for the newsletter to get updates:

English Newsletter: bit.ly/NY14newsletter

Spanish Newsletter: bit.ly/NY14boletinelectronico

Submit a casework request: bit.ly/NY14casework

Legislative comments and general questions: bit.ly/NY14contact

Eligible New Yorkers can access NYC Free Tax Prep services at: www.nyc.gov/taxprep.

For information about HR3076 - The Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 -

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3076>

Contact the Office of Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez at 718-662-5970 or on the website at ocasio-cortez.house.gov.

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Office of Council Member Francisco Moya

TaQuoia Jones, representative for the office of Council Member Francisco Moya, reported that anyone can now access home test kits at Queens Theatre, East Elmhurst Library and Rego Park Library. For more information, visit nyc.gov/covid-test for more sites and mobile units.

In addition, the federal government is making free masks accessible through select retailers and health centers. The following Walgreens locations are expected to have masks as supplies come in and last:

- East Elmhurst - 93-12 Astoria Blvd
- Corona - 40-16 National St
- Corona - 103-14 Roosevelt Ave
- Jackson Heights - 91-08 Roosevelt Ave

More details to come and additional Walgreens sites listed here:

https://www.walgreens.com/images/adaptive/pdf/covid/mask_stores.pdf

Additional testing sites and details, visit <https://nyc.gov/covidtest>

Vax sites:

- First Baptist Church
- Blessed Sacrament [PCR ONLY]
- Corona Golf Playground (Rapid antigen testing only)
- Newtown High School (Rapid antigen testing available)
- LaGuardia Airport (Rapid antigen testing available) Terminal B parking lot, 1 Central Terminal Drive
- Make the Road NY (Queens) (Rapid antigen testing available)
- Our Lady of Sorrows Church (Rapid antigen testing available)
- William F. Moore Park (Rapid antigen testing available)

Vax sites by borough: nyc.gov/vcc

To find vax appt/site: nyc.gov/vaccinefinder

Test sites: nyc.gov/covidtest

NYC Comptroller Brad Lander Office

James Mongeluzo, representative for NYC Comptroller Brad Lander Office, reported on audits by the NYC Comptroller Office.

Statement by New York City Comptroller Brad Lander on Property Tax Commission Final Report - <https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/statement-by-new-york-city-comptroller-brad-lander-on-property-tax-commission-final-report/>

New York City Comptroller's Office Audit Finds NYPD Fell Behind on Civilianization Goals - <https://comptroller.nyc.gov/newsroom/new-york-city-comptrollers-office-audit-finds-nypd-fell-behind-on-civilianization-goals/>

Contact information: 646-689-6509 / jmongel@comptroller.nyc.gov

New Business

Board Member Jairo Rodriguez said that he attended the funeral for Lucy Schilero, community activist and Board Member of Queens Community Board 4.

Board Member Marta Lebreton said that Ms. Schilero attended CB3's Public Safety and Business Economic Committee meetings. Ms. Schilero was also the Community Board's 3 and 4 CERT Team Leader.

Board Member Edwin Westley announced that Board Member Joyce Julian is at Fairview Rehab recovering from a stroke she had during the holidays.

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Motion # 9 - To Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by Frank Taylor, and seconded by Tammy Rose, to adjourn the meeting, was passed unanimously. Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by
Clara Colon*

*Reviewed and Edited by
Richard Mullings, Board Secretary*