Attendance of Community Board 11’s General Meeting and Public Hearing

Held on Thursday, April 7, 2015,

at the Bensonhurst Center, 1740 84th Street

Present: Matt Bromme, Rocco Buonpane, Albert Campanelli, Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cassato, Warren Chan, Jin Wing Chiu, Steven Chung, Sal D’Alessio, Mafalda DiMango, Eric DiNapoli, Paul DiSpirito, Charles Farrauto, Shirley Fineman, John Garvey, Anthony Grigos, William R. Guarinello, Eileen LaRuffa, Man Wai Lau, Dr. Tim Law, Nicholas Miraglia, Dr. Raymond Mollica, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Sal Rao, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Victor Wong, Sai Chuen Yeung, Nicholas Zimmitti

Absent: Thomas Andros, Wai Cheung, Donald Clark, Ligia Guallpa, Salvatore Rao

Excused: Bart Allegretti, Gerald Bertuna, Louis Crispiano, Priscilla Consolo, Marc D’Ottavio, Yonah Glatzer, Albert Milone, James Orlando, Laurie Windsor

Guests: Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson, Michael Strasburg – Senator Golden, Trip Yang – DA Thompson, William Vitale – Brooklyn CERT 10/11, Olga Fiore – Senator Savino, Mike Gregorio – Senator Felder, Jianghua (Jimmy) Li – UPK Community Outreach

Minutes of Community Board 11’s General Meeting and Public Hearing

Held on Thursday, April 7, 2015,

at the Bensonhurst Center, 1740 84th Street

The meeting opened with Councilman Mark Treyger having the honor of the pledge.

Public Portion

The Chairman inquired if anyone from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Mafalda DiMango to close the public portion of the meeting. Seconded by Sal D’Alessio. Unanimously adopted.

Moment of Silence

The Chairman requested a moment of silence for Corrado “Joe” Manfredi, who recently passed away. Mr. Manfredi served on the community board and was active in numerous Italian American organizations.

Minutes

A motion was made by Man Wai Lau to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2014 meeting. Seconded by Mafalda DiMango. Unanimously adopted.

62nd Precinct

Captain Taylor, the Commanding Officer of the 62nd Precinct, advised that crime is down 30% within the confines of the 62nd Precinct. He spoke about recidivism and the partnership with the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office.

Mr. Guarinello commended Captain Taylor and the men and women of the 62nd Precinct for the work they do in keeping our community a safe place to live and work.

District Attorney Ken Thompson

Brooklyn District Attorney Thompson advised that the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office is the 3rd largest in the country, with over 1000 employees, trying 500,000 cases per year.

DA Thompson presented the workings of the District Attorney’s office, the zone map and trial zones. Each zone has a dedicated prosecutor who works with the Precinct. Chief Prosecutor Tom Ridges was introduced, who works closely with the 62nd Precinct.

The DA commended the 62nd Precinct for the work they do and advised that they rank 74 out of 77 for the lowest crime. While not an issue that is prevalent in Bensonhurst, a map was displayed of gun violence in Brooklyn, and the work that needs to be done to reduce these numbers.

In closing, District Attorney Thompson invited everyone to participate in a joint Community Council meeting with the 62nd and 68th Precincts, on May 19th, 2015, at the Knights of Columbus, 1305 86th Street at 7:30 PM.

Councilman Mark Treyger

The Councilman advised that he met with the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery regarding the Gravesend/Bensonhurst NY Rising Plan. He commended Marnee Elias-Pavia, who served as the co-chair of the committee, for recognizing resiliency needs of the community.

The Councilman discussed the new FEMA flood maps, which will expand the floodplain and flood insurance purchase requirements within the next 2 years. He stated that this is very important due to the financial ramifications that will be imposed on property owners within the new flood zone.

Councilman Treyger advised that there will be a town hall meeting in the near future regarding the new proposed flood maps.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello appointed the following members to serve on the 2015-2016 Nominating Committee: Bart Allegretti, Chairman, Al Campanelli, Eileen LaRuffa and Antonio Troia.

The Chairman advised that he and the District Manager met with the new Commanding Officer of Patrol Borough Brooklyn South, Assistant Chief Steven Powers. He stated that the discussion was productive and related to quality of life issues.

He further advised that a roundtable discussion was held jointly with Community Board 10 regarding PlaNYC. PlaNYC is the Administration’s blueprint for New York City’s long-term plan for growth, sustainability, resiliency and equity.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia advised that she attended a briefing regarding the new FEMA flood maps. She thanked Councilman Treyger for his work and advocacy on behalf of the community.

She advised that the community could easily check their future flood risk by entering their address online at [www.FloodHelpNY.org](http://www.FloodHelpNY.org)

The District Manager advised that free Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and SCRIE Application assistance will be available on Tuesday, April 14th from 10AM-2PM at the New Utrecht Library, 1743 86th Street.

She further advised that the property owner of 8610 21st Avenue has filed for 421-a property tax exemption benefits. The property was a two family home before demolition, and will now be a 27-unit condominium or co-op, with a community facility on first floor and no affordable units.

A motion was made by Matt Bromme to oppose the 421-a tax exemption. Seconded by Sonia Valentin. Unanimously adopted.

The District Manager advised that of April 1st, New Yorkers will receive a $100 fine for placing electronic waste curbside. For those that would like to dispose of unwanted electronics, harmful household products or unwanted medication, the Department of Sanitation will be accepting these items on Sunday, April 19th in the MCU Parking Lot on Surf Avenue.

A motion was made by Eric DiNapoli to adjourn. Seconded by Charles Farrauto. Unanimously adopted.