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

Held on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street

Present: Sofia Annunziata, Ross Brady, Matthew Bromme, Msgr. David Cassato, Ruben Colon, Sal D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Claudio DeMeo, Mafalda DiMango, Marc D’Ottavio, Shirley Fineman, John Garvey, Anthony Grigos, William R. Guarinello, Man Wai Lau, Dr. Tim Law, Albert Milone, Nicholas Miraglia, Caleb Pan, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Robert Whittaker, Andrew Windsor, Laurie Windsor, Robert Yee, Sai Chuen Yeung, Nicholas Zimmitti

Absent: Thomas Andros, Rocco Buonpane, Warren Chan, Wai Cheung, Vincent Chirico, Paul DiSpirito, Ligia Guallpa, James Orlando, Salvatore Rao, Nayeem Siddique

Excused: Bart Allegretti, Albert Campanelli, Karina Cardozo, Rosa Casella, Jin Wing Chiu, Steve Chung, Priscilla Consolo, Eric DiNapoli, Charles Farrauto, Yonah Glatzer, Eileen LaRuffa, Barry Sanchez

Guests: Alex Lewyn - Councilman Greenfield, Sonia Pryce – Rep. Donovan, Sylvia Jasinki – Community School District 20 Superintendent’s Office, Grace DeLorenzo – resident, Jennifer Romano – resident, Al Fazio – Assemblyman Abbate, Jeannine Cherichetti – Councilman Treyger, Christine Stephan – resident, Jenny Fischman – Public Advocate James, Jacob Cohen – Bensonhurst Volunteer Ambulance, Michael Marquez – Bensonhurst Volunteer Ambulance, Trip Yang – D.A. Thompson, Lisa Ferrara – Brooklyn Public Library Highlawn Branch

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

Held on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street

The general meeting of Community Board 11 opened with Antonio Troia having the honor of the pledge.

Public Hearing

1. Draft of Community Board 11’s Capital and Expense Budget Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2017.

The Chairman inquired if anyone from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Man Wai Lau to close the public hearing. Seconded by Nicholas Zimmitti. Unanimously adopted.

Public Portion

Jeannie Cherichetti, representing Councilman Treyger, announced upcoming events including a neighborhood cleanup of 86th Street, free flu shots, participatory budgeting and a Build it Back – Attached Homes Information Session. Fliers are available.

Lisa Ferrara, representing Brooklyn Public Library Highlawn Branch, announced that beginning October 19, all 60 branches across the borough will be expanding their hours to 6 days per week and eight branches will be open 7 days per week. Fliers are available.

Michael Biestrich, representing Councilman Gentile, announced that yesterday the City Council celebrated Italian Heritage Month, sanitation services were extended on 18th Avenue from 68th Street to 86th Street to 4 days per week, Lt. Joseph Petrosino Park received $4.5 Million Dollars through the Community Parks Initiative for upgrades, and on October 25, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance, Halloween will be celebrated on the 69th Street pier.

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Ross Brady to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Laurie Windsor. Unanimously adopted.

Disposition of Public Hearing

The Chairman advised that resulting from the budget consultations, two items will be added to the expense budget:

**Police Department:** Allocate funding for bulletproof vests and flashlights for the 62nd Precinct.

**Fire Department**: Increase funding for the CPR Unit in order to increase the amount of city residents trained in bystander CPR and improve cardiac survival rates.

Allocate additional funds to hire an additional 36 Fire Marshals to help reduce overtime costs and greatly improve their ability to investigate all cases referred to the Bureau of Fire Investigation.

Mr. Guarinello inquired if there were any other additions, subtractions or changes to the draft of capital and expense budget recommendations.

Hearing none, a motion was made by Man Wai Lau to approve the capital and expense recommendations as amended. Seconded by Rabbi Gary Pollack. Unanimously adopted.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello advised that the Department of City Planning has certified the proposed text amendment for zoning for quality and affordability. There will be a public hearing on the application at the November meeting. He further advised that based upon some of the concerns that were forwarded to the Administration, the planning and zoning committee will again meet with the Department of City Planning on October 29th.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia reported that the Department of Transportation has advised that 18th Avenue has been identified as a Vision Zero Priority Corridor with 321 injuries between 2009 and 2013. They will be making safety-marking improvements on 18th Avenue from 61st Street to 86th Street. The design includes a painted 13’ parking lane stripe as well as a painted center median. There will be no removal of moving lanes or loss of parking.

She further advised that she would request resurfacing of areas near bus stops where the roadway is hummocked and pedestrian countdown clocks.

The District Manager advised that the Department of Sanitation will begin the winter night plow schedule on November 9th. This enables the department to respond promptly and effectively to snow and ice conditions around the clock. This year sections 1 and 6, which are approximately bounded by 14th Avenue to McDonald Avenue and 61st to 68th Streets and Bay Parkway to Avenue U and Stillwell Avenue to McDonald Avenue. These sections will have their refuse and recycling collected on the night shift.

She further discussed with the Department of Sanitation at the budget consultations, the concerns regarding the snow and ice equipment assigned to the Belt Parkway. Commissioner Garcia advised that our districts’ equipment allocation include the segment of the Belt for which our garage is responsible.

Ms. Elias-Pavia advised that the Department of Environmental Protection is making emergency sewer repairs on Bay 23rd Street between 86th Street and Benson Avenue. They will be working from 7AM – 3:30 PM for the next 2 weeks.

She reminded the board that the Department of Sanitation will be making a one-time only curbside clothing collection on the designated recycling day during the week of October 26th.

In observance of Columbus Day, there will be no refuse, recycling collection, or street cleaning on Monday, October 12, 2015.

Residents normally receiving Monday refuse collectionshould place their material out at curbside Monday after 4 p.m. for pickup.

Residents normally receiving Monday recycling collectionwill not have their material picked up until the following Monday, October 19, 2015.

New Business

Sonia Valentin advised that Reaching Out Community Services is collecting turkeys for the Thanksgiving Holiday to distribute to those in need. They are also beginning their holiday toy drive. Fliers are available to those that are interested.

Ms. Valentin advised that NYC Citizens Committee provides $1,000 grants for block beautification projects. Her block has been awarded this grant in the past and urged those interested to apply.

A motion was made by Ross Brady to adjourn. Seconded by Matthew Bromme. Unanimously adopted.