Attendance of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

Held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street, Brooklyn, New York

Present: Bart Allegretti, Ross Brady, Matt Bromme, Rocco Buonpane, Albert Campanelli, Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cassato, Jin Wing Chiu, Ruben Colon, Sal D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Claudio DeMeo, Paul DiSpirito, Marc D’Ottavio, Shirley Fineman, Yonah Glatzer, Anthony Grigos, William R. Guarinello, Eileen LaRuffa, Man Wai Lau, Dr. Tim Law, Nicholas Miraglia, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Andrew Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung, Nicholas Zimmitti

Absent: Thomas Andros, Sofia Annunziata, Karina Cardozo, Warren Chan, Wai Cheung, Steve Chung, Ligia Guallapa, Albert Milone, Salvatore Rao, Barry Sanchez, Nayeem Siddique, Robert Whittaker, Robert Yee

Excused: Vincent Chirico, Priscilla Consolo, Mafalda DiMango, Eric DiNapoli, Charles Farrauto, John Garvey, James Orlando, Laurie Windsor

Guests: Allison Allen, Sonia Pryce – Rep. Donovan, Sylvia Ancrum – Citizens Complaint Review Board, Franca Bove – Neighborhood Improvement Association, Pam Ander – New Utrecht Reformed Church, Susan Hanyen – New Utrecht Reformed Church, Jenny Fischman – Public Advocate James, Olga Fiore – State Senator Savino, Jeannine Cherichetti – Council Member Treyger, Angelina Dahab – Council Member Gentile, Michael Gregorio – State Senator Felder, Hisham Morgan – Muslim American Society, John Quaglione – State Senator Golden

Minutes of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

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The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street, Brooklyn, New York

The general meeting of Community Board 11 opened with Shirley Fineman having the honor of the pledge.

Public Portion

Susan Hanyen, representing New Utrecht Reformed Church, announced upcoming holiday events that all are welcome to attend. Flyers are available.

Jenny Fischman, representing Public Advocate Letitia James, announced the release of the 2015 Worst Landlords Watchlist. Those interested can access the report at <http://www.landlordwatchlist.com/>

Sylvia Ancrum, Outreach Coordinator for the Citizens Complaint Review Board, explained the role of the agency. She advised that the Board handles complaints about four kinds of alleged police misconduct: force, abuse of authority, discourtesy and excessive force. Flyers are available.

Maria Campanella spoke on behalf of the Bensonhurst Volunteer Ambulance Service. She advised of the volunteer work conducted in our community.

Jacob Cohen, a member of the Bensonhurst Volunteer Ambulance Service, advised that they provide both CPR demonstrations and certified CPR classes. If anyone is interested, they will provide additional information.

Jeannine Cherichetti, representing Councilman Treyger, invited everyone to celebrate New Year’s Eve in Coney Island. Select rides will be open and offering free admission from 9PM – 11PM.

Olga Fiore, representing State Senator Diane Savino, urged everyone to spend New Year’s Eve in Coney Island. She wished all a safe holiday season.

John Quaglione, representing State Senator Golden, spoke regarding upcoming events and the Senator’s legislative work in Albany. Flyers are available for those interested.

Angelina Dahab, representing Council Member Gentile, announced that the district office is collecting toys for children in need. Those interested can donate.

The Chairman inquired if anyone else from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Bart Allegretti to close the public portion of the meeting. Seconded by Matthew Bromme. Unanimously adopted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Eileen LaRuffa to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Man Wai Lau. Unanimously adopted.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello advised that the previously announced public hearing for 1462 62nd Street is postponed until the January meeting. The rescheduled date was made at the request of the applicant.

The Chairman thanked Paul DiSpirito of Lioni’s, for donating the food for tonight’s collation.

The Chairman announced the formation of a multi-cultural alliance comprised of local clergy and community based organizations that reflect the diversity of the Bensonhurst community.

Mr. Guarinello stated that while there were no pressing issues of concern in the community, he felt that this proactive measure would provide a means to discuss issues and concerns within our multicultural, multiethnic neighborhood.

This committee will meet after the New Year and will work to strengthen bonds and promote a united community.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia reported that the Department of Transportation held a Safe Streets for Seniors Bath Beach Public Workshop at the Bensonhurst Neighborhood Senior Center, which she attended. The program studies crash data, and then develops and implements mitigation measures to improve the safety of seniors and other pedestrians, as well as all road users in New York City.

The workshop sought input on senior safety in Bath Beach. Recently, there were two crashes in Bath Beach that resulted in fatalities. The District Manager advised that DOT will be holding a public workshop within the boundaries of the Bath Beach Senior Focus area.

The District Manager thanked Councilman Gentile and Carlo Scissura, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce for organizing the rally at Waldbaum’s Supermarket and calling for a full service supermarket at this space.

She further reported that she and Mr. Troia, Chairman of the Sanitation Committee, met with the Department of Design and Construction, DSNY and DEC regarding the removal of leaded soil at the site of the Southwest Marine Transfer Station, located at 1824 Shore Parkway. We were advised that after conducting NYSDEC‐ approved comprehensive soil testing of the project site, a limited area was found to contain slightly elevated levels of lead.

We were further advised that the leaded soil will be excavated and removed from the site by trained workers on two Sundays, December 6 and December 13, between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. pursuant to excavation and removal procedures approved by NYSDEC. Sundays were chosen so that this work would have the least impact on neighboring properties. All required onsite safety measures will be observed, including continuous air monitoring during the work. In addition, a barrier will be attached to the site fence nearest to the area of excavation as an additional protection. The independent environmental monitor, who reports directly to NYSDEC, will also be on site throughout the soil removal, along with a Certified Industrial Hygienist for worker safety who will ensure compliance with proper safety procedures.

The Department of Transportation has advised that a traffic signal has been approved for 16th Avenue and Benson Avenue. Installation will be performed by contract and the   
work is tentatively scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2016.

New Business

Sonia Valentin advised that the 62nd Precinct Community Council will not be meeting this month. She further advised that the precinct is holding a toy drive.

A motion was made by Matthew Bromme to adjourn. Seconded by Bart Allegretti.

Unanimously adopted.