Attendance of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

Held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street

Present: Ross Brady, Matt Bromme, Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cassato, Jin Wing Chiu, Steve Chung, Priscilla Consolo, Sal D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Claudio DeMeo, Mafalda DiMango, Paul DiSpirito, Marc D’Ottavio, Charles Farrauto, Shirley Fineman, John Garvey, William R. Guarinello, Eileen LaRuffa, Dr. Tim Law, Nicholas Miraglia, James Orlando, Caleb Pan, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Robert Whittaker, Andrew Windsor, Laurie Windsor, Robert Yee, Nicholas Zimmitti

Absent: Thomas Andros, Sofia Annunziata, Albert Campanelli, Karina Cardozo, Warren Chan, Wai Cheung, Ruben Colon, Eric DiNapoli, Yonah Glatzer, Anthony Grigos, Ligia Guallapa, Albert Milone, Salvatore Rao, Barry Sanchez, Nayeem Siddique, Sai Chuen Yeung

Excused: Bart Allegretti, Rocco Buonpane, Vincent Chirico, Man Wai Lau, Rabbi Gary Pollack

Guests: Ari Kagan – Comptroller Stringer, Franca Bove – NIA, Jennifer Zakharov, Al Fazio – Assemblyman Abbate, Jeannine Cherichetti, Izzy Dougherty – Parks Department, Anna Shats – Department of Education, Marchel Zinger – Department of Education, Hisham Morgan – Muslim American Society, Liam McCabe – Rep. Donovan

Minutes of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

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The general meeting of Community Board 11 was opened with Robert Whittaker having the honor of the pledge.

Public Portion

Ari Kagan, representing Comptroller Stringer, spoke regarding the work of the Comptroller. He further discussed the most recent report, “Barriers to the Ballot: Voting Reform in New York City” a 16 point plan to amend voting laws and increase participation.

The report, as well as others are available on the table.

David O’Carsley, representing Rep. Nadler, introduced himself as the new Community Liaison to Brooklyn. He briefly discussed legislation introduced to stop sex offenders who target children from owing or acquiring a gun; and the New York Congressional delegation sent a letter to the White House opposing the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Andrew Gounardes, representing Borough President Adams, advised that Borough Hall would be holding an Open House, on Saturday, April 16th from 6PM to 9PM. The public will have an opportunity to learn about the building, meet the Borough President and staff. Flyers are available.

Izzy Dougherty, representing the Parks Department, announced that through the Community Parks Initiative, NYC Parks will redesign Lt. Joseph Petrosino Park with input from the community. The public scoping meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19th from 6PM – 7:30 PM, at PS 112 located at 7115 15 Avenue. All are invited to attend.

Anna Shats and Marchel Zinger, representing the Department of Education, Pre-K for All, announced that second round applications would be available for children born in 2012, on May 2nd through May 20th. Fliers are available with further information.

The Chairman inquired if anyone from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Sonia Valentin to close the public portion of the meeting. Seconded by Eileen LaRuffa. Unanimously adopted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Antonio Troia to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2016 meeting. Seconded by Robert Whittaker. Unanimously adopted.

Assemblyman Abbate

The Assemblyman spoke regarding the state budget and advised that there were significant increases in education funding with a 6% increase statewide and NYC should receive 8 – 9%.

He further advised that there was additional funding for hospitals statewide, and it is very important for residents of our communities to receive services in our borough especially with recent mergers.

In closing, he discussed the importance of funding and repairing the existing infrastructure before beginning new projects.

62nd Precinct

Captain Sanseverino, the Commanding Officer of the 62nd Precinct, advised that crime continues on a downward trend. He thanked the community for their partnership.

He further advised that there is currently a major Vision Zero campaign within the 62nd Precinct. There will be aggressive outreach, education and enforcement.

In closing, Captain Sanseverino discussed the recent evacuation of PS 204, due to a minor gas leak. While no one was injured, he urged parents to have and be aware of emergency plans.

 Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello appointed the following members to serve on the 2016-2017 Nominating Committee: Bart Allegretti, Chairman, Al Campanelli, Eileen LaRuffa and Antonio Troia.

The Chairman reported that the District Manager attended a meeting with JMART, the new owners of Waldbaum’s, and Councilman Treyger to discuss previously raised community concerns regarding the market.

The new owners were very receptive to carrying items such as a deli counter, cheeses and seasonal holiday items. They further advised that displays and fliers would be in both English and Chinese.

The Chairman thanked Councilman Treyger for his leadership.

Mr. Guarinello advised that NYU Lutheran has requested a letter of support for their application to expand its emergency medical service for basic and advanced life support levels. With the recent merger and that availability of three emergency departments in Brooklyn and Manhattan, they believe that an expansion of the service area will greatly benefit public need by reducing response times.

The Chairman thanked the District Manager for meeting with NYU Lutheran to discuss the unmet needs and concerns of this community.

The District Manager will be sending a letter.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia began her report by thanking the 62nd Precinct for participating and collaborating in the Vision Zero Education and Outreach Workshop.

At last month’s meeting, the District Manager reported that the Department of Transportation was going to implement the 18th Avenue safety project following resurfacing. The resurfacing will stop at 86th Street. She stated that this was counterintuitive and the area from New Utrecht Avenue to 75th Street is in terrible condition with hummocking, failed street repairs and ponding. This area needs resurfacing and should have been done before the new markings are implemented.

She further advised that yesterday, the Department of Parks and the Franchise Review Committee held a public hearing on the intent to award a concession for the development, operation and maintenance of the indoor tennis facility and clubhouse at Bensonhurst Park to Matchpoint Group for a 15-year term.

The Department of Transportation has identified 9 sites for benches within Community Board 11. They will be installed on 18th Avenue, Bay Ridge Parkway, Bath Avenue, Stillwell Avenue, Avenue U and Kings Highway corridors.

The Department of Sanitation will be making the Passover collection on Friday, April 22, on the day tour. Sections 1- 68th Street – 66th Street from 14th Avenue and Bay Parkway; 65th Street – 61st Street from 14th Avenue to McDonald Avenue, Section 3 - Bay Parkway to 14th Avenue from 86th Street to 78th Street and Section 5 -    20th Avenue - Bay Parkway from Shore Parkway - Bay Parkway and Bay Parkway to 26th Avenue from Shore Parkway to Avenue P/Kings Highway.

A motion was made by Laurie Windsor to adjourn. Seconded by Antonio Troia. Unanimously adopted.