Attendance of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

Held on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare

1740 84th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11214

Present: Bart Allegretti, Ross Brady, Albert Campanelli, Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cassato, Iwen Chu, Salvatore D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Paul DiSpirito, Charles Farrauto, Shirley Fineman, John Garvey, Anthony Grigos, William R. Guarinello, Peter Joseph, Eileen LaRuffa, Man Wai Lau, Tim Law, Albert Milone, Nicholas J. Miraglia, James Orlando, Janet Perry, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Laurie Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung

Absent: Thomas Andros, Wai Cheung, Vincent Chirico, Steven Chung, Eric DiNapoli, Yonah Glatzer, Ligia Guallpa, Caleb Pan, Robert Whittaker, Robert Yee, Nicholas Zimmitti

Excused: Matthew Bromme, Lawrence Ciulla, Ruben Colon, Priscilla Consolo, Mafalda DiMango, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Andrew Windsor

Guests: Hamza Mughal – Kingsborough Community College Syudent, Ari Kagan – Comptroller Scott Stringer, Anna Shats – Mayor’s Community Affairs Unit – Thrive NYC, GM Fazlay Rabbi – Baruch College Student, Rambul H GM, Michael A Bove – Neighborhood Improvement Association, William Vitale CERT BK10/11, Christopher Carillo – Hunter College Student, Camryn Hellwart – Sprouts Cooking Club, Bob Quigley, Patrick Lewis – Public Advocate Letitia James, Nancy Tong – Assemblyman Colton, Angelina Dahab – Councilman Gentile

Minutes of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

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The meeting was opened with Assemblyman Peter Abbate having the honor of the pledge.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Guarinello requested a moment of silence for the people killed in the Tribeca terrorist attack and for the lives lost in the deadly fire that occurred in the neighboring district.

Public Portion

Camryn Hellwart, representing Sprouts Cooking Club, announced their recent expansion to the New York City Area. The club connects children with chef’s and restaurants to host hands-on cooking classes. Winter cooking classes are available and for those who are interested, additional information can be found at [www.sproutscookingclub.org](http://www.sproutscookingclub.org)

Anna Shats, representing the Mayor’s Community Affairs Unit, spoke regarding ThriveNYC, the mental health initiative for the City of New York. The initiative includes NYC Well, free and confidential mental health support via phone, text or chat and get access to mental health and substance misuse services, in more than 200 languages, 24/7/365.

Ari Kagan, representing Comptroller Scott Stringer, spoke regarding a newly released report, “Making Rent Count: How NYC Tenants Can Lift Credit Scores and Save Money”.  The report finds deep disparities in credit scores across the City and proposes solutions to help the problem that include tenants having their monthly rent payments count toward their credit scores.

He further extended an invitation on behalf of the Comptroller to celebrate Jewish Heritage on December 5th. Invitations are available.

Patrick Lewis, representing Public Advocate Letitia James, was pleased to announce that the Public Advocate’s gender wage equality bill is effective November 1, 2017. The law prohibits employers from requesting a job applicant’s wage history.

Mr. Lewis on behalf of the Public Advocate thanked all veterans for their service.

Representatives from the Highlawn and New Utrecht branches of the Brooklyn Public Library spoke regarding the programs taking place. A calendar of events and flyers are available for both branches.

Nancy Tong, representing Assemblyman Colton, announced that the Assemblyman will be hosting a Veteran’s Day recognition ceremony that will be held on November 14th. Forms are available for anyone who would like to recognize a veteran.

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 Bart Allegretti. Unanimously adopted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Laurie Windsor to accept the minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting. Seconded by Al Milone. Unanimously adopted.

Assemblyman Peter Abbate

The Assemblyman advised that when the legislature is not in session he is able to spend all his time working in the district. Working with the residents of the district on a day to day basis is the most gratifying.

Assemblyman Abbate thanked the District Manager and the board for their assistance.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello reported that Community Board 11 was notified of a bias incident, which occurred on November 1st, in an apartment building on Cropsey Avenue and Bay Parkway. Derogatory writing was found in the hallway of an apartment building. The Chairman commended the 62nd Precinct for the quick arrest and charge of a hate crime.

Mr. Guarinello denounced any acts of hate or violence based upon race, ethnicity, or religion.

The Chairman advised that Health Care Choices, the non-profit community health center located at 62nd Street and 16th Avenue, has requested to conduct an opioid training and distribution of Narcan at an upcoming community board meeting.

62nd Precinct

Captain Anthony Longobardi, the Commanding Officer of the 62nd Precinct, spoke regarding car thefts. He advised that most of the car thefts occurring are those that are left with the motor running. He urged residents to always remove the keys and lock the vehicle.

The Captain further advised that quality of life complaints are high. He has been addressing complaints regarding the collision shops, cars being sold on the street and the driving schools.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia reported that she has met with the 62nd Precinct Community Affairs and businesses on 63rd Street between 16th and 17th Avenues, to address their ongoing issues with the current on-street parking regulations.

She advised that the area is zoned a M1-1 zoning district consisting of manufacturing and industrial uses. The north side of the street is occupied by building and electrical supply businesses, as well as auto collision shops. The south side of the street is occupied by a large parcel that has lot frontage of 510 feet that runs down 63rd Street, with loading berths for the manufacturing and warehouse use.

The existing sign regulations on the block are No Parking 8AM-6PM, the street cleaning regulations are Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:30 AM-1PM.

The businesses are requesting Trucks Loading/Unloading from 6AM-6PM, the street cleaning regulations to overnight or removed, and a small span of meters to create turnover for the building supply showrooms.

The District Manager discussed the board’s past budget recommendations to prioritize the installation of guardrails to separate vehicles from the greenway on the eastbound Belt Parkway. She spoke of the recent terror attack using a truck along the pedestrian bike path on the west side of Manhattan and the vehicle that drove onto the American Veterans Memorial Pier and into the water, both resulting in the tragic loss of life.

She suggested that the board may want to consider calling upon the Department of Transportation to immediately initiate a study to install guard rails to protect the users of the greenway.

A motion was made by James Orlando to call upon the Department of Transportation to immediately initiate a study to install guardrails on the eastbound Belt Parkway. Seconded by Man Wai Lau. Unanimously adopted.

The District Manager reported that she attended the quarterly meeting with Chief Powers, the Commanding Officer of Patrol Borough Brooklyn South. She discussed the amount of

311 calls that the 62nd Precinct received for blocked driveways and fire hydrants. From 41January 1 +

to November 7th, 2017 there were about 6704 calls received.

A motion was made by James Orlando to call upon the Transportation Division to allocate Traffic Enforcement to alleviate the work load. Seconded by Nicholas Miraglia. 012.

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She further announced that the Department of Sanitation advised that there will be regular garbage, recycling and organics collection on Veteran’s Day, Saturday, November 11th, as the holiday falls on a week with two holidays.

We also have bags for leaves for those that are interested. Leaf bags should be placed out for collection with organics.

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motion was made by Bart Allegretti to adjourn. Seconded by James Orlando. nanimously adopted.