

Attendance of Community Board 11's General Meeting
Held on Thursday, January 11, 2018, at
The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare
1740 84th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11214

Present: Bart Allegretti, Msgr. David Cassato, Wai Cheung, Iwen Chu, Ruben Colon, Salvatore D'Alessio, Linda Dalton, Paul DiSpirito, Charles Farrauto, Shirley Fineman, John Garvey, William R. Guarinello, Peter Joseph, Roy Jung, Eileen LaRuffa, Man Wai Lau, Dr. Tim Law, Albert Milone, Nicholas J. Miraglia, Caleb Pan, Janet Perry, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Laurie Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung

Absent: Thomas Andros, Ross Brady, Vincent Chirico, Steven Chung, Lawrence Ciulla, Ruben Colon, Claudio DeMeo, Eric DiNapoli, Paul DiSpirito, Yonah Glatzer, Anthony Grigos, Ligia Guallpa, Robert Whittaker, Robert Yee, Nicholas Zimmitti

Excused: Matthew Bromme, Albert Campanelli, Rosa Casella, Priscilla Consolo, Mafalda DiMango, James Orlando, Andrew Windsor

Guests: Jeffrey Krauss – Senator Golden, School Safety Agent Martin, William Vitale, Jeannine Cherichetti – Councilman Treyger, Olga Fiore – Senator Savino, Peter Szalaiko – Ferals in Peril, Inc., Denise Szalaiko – Ferals in Peril, Inc., Helen Lau, Millie Diaz, Stanley Lave, Patrick Lewis – Public Advocate James, Mailk Hassan – Muslim American Society Youth Center, Elia Peltz – Congressman Nadler

Minutes of Community Board 11's General Meeting
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The meeting was opened with Councilman Justin Brannan having the honor of the pledge.

Public Portion

A resident spoke regarding the recent snowfall and the poor job that was done in clearing the corners and crosswalks.

The Chairman inquired if anyone else from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Man Wai Lau to close the public portion of the meeting. Seconded by Laurie Windsor. Unanimously adopted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Laurie Windsor to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2017 meeting. Seconded by John Garvey. Unanimously adopted.

Elected Officials

Councilman Justin Brannan introduced himself to the board. He advised that he is very familiar with the issues and concerns of the 43rd Council District, which covers Bay Ridge and parts of Bensonhurst. He was born and raised in Bay Ridge, served as Chief of Staff for Councilman Gentile. He plans on being very involved in the Bath Beach and Bensonhurst portion of the district and ensuring that the communities' needs are met. Residents can contact him at AskJB@council.nyc.gov

Assemblyman Peter Abbate advised that he was in Albany attending the Governor's State of the State address. This Tuesday, the Governor will release the FY 19 Executive budget and the Assemblyman stated that there will be major discussions on healthcare, education, the deficit, and the effects of the federal tax bill and property taxes.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Guarinello advised that Community Board 11 has received notice that an application was submitted to the Department of City Planning for a zoning map amendment at 273 Avenue U. While the application has not yet been certified by the Department of City Planning, the planning and zoning committee will start an informal review.

Once certified, the clock will begin under the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure. Community Board 11 will schedule a public hearing and provide a recommendation within 60 days to the Department of City Planning.

The Chairman advised that the Department of Parks has requested a meeting to present the schematic design for Bensonhurst Park. The Parks Committee will hold a meeting on January 23, 2018, at 7 PM, at the Bensonhurst Center, 1740 84 Street. He extended an invitation to all board members and urged everyone to attend.

Chairman Guarinello advised members whose term is expiring on March 31, 2018, that they should have received an email from the District Manager with a link to an online re-appointment application. The deadline for filing is February 15, 2018.

He further advised that anyone interested in applying for membership to the Community Board can apply on the Borough President's website, www.brooklyn-usa.org.

District Manager's Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia advised that the Department of City Planning held a briefing for community boards regarding a proposed administrative rule change that would enhance transparency and improve the land use application review process. If approved, land use applications would be available online to the public.

She further advised that she attended a workshop hosted by Borough President Adams, in partnership with BetaNYC, where they introduced BoardStat and an open data workshop. BoardStat is a program that was created by BetaNYC for Manhattan community boards that uses 311 data.

The District Manager reported that there have been ongoing complaints regarding strong sewer odors on Bath Avenue between Bay 16 Street and 17th Avenue. Residents advised that they have filed numerous complaints via 311, and DEP closes the complaints without resolving the issue. Community Board 11 has been in contact with DEP, which they advised that they are scheduling a vactor truck to clean the lines. To date that has not been done.

The Office of Emergency Management activated the NYC flash flood emergency plan in anticipation of heavy rain tomorrow. Residents are urged to clear debris from the top of catch basins.

In closing, the District Manager reported that the Department of Sanitation announced a service change and will be collecting garbage, recycling, and organics on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 15, 2018.

New Business

Sonia Valentin announced that the 62 Precinct Community Council will meet on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 7:30 PM, at the Precinct, 1825 Bath Avenue.

She further announced that New Utrecht Library will be celebrating Lunar New Year on February 10, 2018 at 2PM.

62nd Precinct

Captain Longobardi, the Commanding Officer of the 62nd Precinct, spoke regarding crime reduction. He asked for the community's help in sharing information on a person of interest who is responsible for burglaries. There is a picture and information on the precinct's twitter feed.

The Captain further announced that the precinct will be implementing the Neighborhood Coordination Officer Program in April. This is a neighborhood policing model program where the precinct is divided into sectors. An officer is assigned to the sector and builds relationships with the community.

A motion was made by Sal D'Alessio to adjourn and seconded by Sonia Valentin. Unanimously adopted.