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

Held on Thursday, September 13, 2018, at

The Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare,

1740 84th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11214

Present: Bart Allegretti, Ross Brady, Albert Campanelli, Wai Cheung, Ruben Colon, Angelo Cucuzza, Salvatore D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Claudio DeMeo, Eric DiNapoli, Paul DiSpirito, Charles Farrauto, Giuseppe Floccari, Laura Gottlieb, Anthony Grigos, William R. Guarinello, Eileen LaRuffa, Dr. Tim Law, Albert Milone, Nicholas J. Miraglia, James Orlando, Caleb Pan, Antonio Troia, Laurie Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung

Absent: Thomas Andros, Vincent Chirico, Jin Wing Chiu, Steven Chung, Lawrence Ciulla, John Garvey, Yonah Glatzer, Ligia Guallpa, Peter Joseph, Roy Jung, Robert Whittaker, Robert Yee, Laura Zhang

Excused: Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cass, Priscilla Consolo, Shirley Fineman, Man Wai Lau, Janet Perry, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Sonia Valentin, Andrew Windsor, Nicholas Zimmitti

Guests: Tambe John – New Utrecht Public Library, Jeffrey Krauss – Senator Golden, Al Fazio – Assemblyman Abbate, Inna Lukyanenko – JCH of Bensonhurst, Erica Liu – JCh of Bensonhurst, Hafida Torres – Moroccan American Council to Empower Women, Eric Kumar – Brooklyn District Attorney

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

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The meeting was opened with Father Michael Gelfant, of St. Finbar’s Roman Catholic Church, having the honor of the pledge.

Public Hearing

BSA Calendar No. 2018-117-BZ

2060 63rd Street

The applicant seeks a special permit to enlarge an existing two-family, 2-story home contrary to the floor area ratio and side yard requirements.

John Stanzione, the property owner of 2058 63 Street, stated that he had no objection to the proposal, but he did voice his concerns regarding damage to his property and inconvenience due to construction activities.

A resident inquired if the owner was present and questioned why he was enlarging his property.

The Chairman inquired if anyone else from the public sought recognition. Hearing none, a motion was made by Sal D’Alessio to close the public hearing. Seconded by Laurie Windsor. Unanimously adopted.

Public Portion

Father Michael Gelfant, of St. Finbar’s Roman Catholic Church, spoke regarding the traffic congestion and parking issue on Bath Avenue. He stated that the Police Department has no parking, a school with no parking, as well as the Muslim American Society Youth Center. There is also a safety concern with double parked cars. The Department of Transportation is conducting 2 studies and thus far, there are no results. He requested the community’s assistance.

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

Moment of Silence

Mr. Guarinello requested a moment of silence for Mafalda DiMango. Mafalda was an original board member, a fierce advocate for the children of this community and will be terribly missed.

Minutes

A motion was made by Sal D’Alessio to adopt the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Ross Brady. Unanimously adopted.

Disposition of Public Hearing

Mr. Guarinello advised that since this application was received during the summer recess the committee has some questions that were brought forward this evening.

The Chairman recommended that the matter be tabled until the October meeting, so that the committee can further review.

A motion was made by Ross Brady to table the matter until the October meeting. Seconded by Eileen LaRuffa. Unanimously adopted.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello addressed the concerns raised at the public portion of the meeting. He stated that parking is an issue throughout this community, and he understands that Father Gelfant, as well as Captain Longobardi have contacted various officials regarding the parking conditions near the precinct. There is a meeting being scheduled by Councilman Brannan, the Department of Transportation and stakeholders.

The Chairman advised that the 2018 Charter Review Commission adopted a resolution on August 14, 2018, which calls for term limits for community board members. The proposal will be on the ballot for the general election this November.

The proposal establishes a limit of four consecutive full two-year terms for community board members, provided, however, that for purposes of staggered implementation, certain initial appointments may include a limit of five two-year terms; establish that the four-term limit would become effective for appointments or reappointments beginning on or after April 1, 2019; and establish that community board members who had previously served for four consecutive terms are not barred from re-appointment after one full term out of office.

The District Manager submitted written testimony asserting that the Borough President has the authority to not re-appoint members and to remove engaged volunteers from serving is a disservice to the community.

Mr. Guarinello advised that the New York City Charter requires all NYC public servants to be trained in the conflict of interest law, once every two years. Conflict of Interest Board educators will be giving a quick overview of board members’ obligations under the law at our next meeting.

The Charter also requires that community boards are required to provide voter registration/education program. The District Office is distributing voter registration forms and will assist in completing the forms.

In compliance with the Identifying Information Law, the District Office mailed board members a questionnaire. Please return it as soon as possible.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia reported that MTA/NYC Transit advised that they will be implementing the B82 Select Bus Service this fall. Following discussion with stakeholders and elected officials many points of concern have been addressed through changes in the project.

In our district, bus lanes will be placed in Transit Priority Zones, at the N Station, on Kings Highway between West 7th and West 8th Street, and at the F Station from McDonald Avenue to Dahill Road. These lanes will be in effect 7 days per week from 7AM-7PM. Metered parking will be added on the commercial blocks, as well as 8 truck loading zones along the busiest blocks.

She further advised that she met with Councilman Treyger and Commissioner Garcia to discuss the conditions on 86th Street between Bay Parkway and 23rd Avenue, particularly the waste generated from the businesses and sidewalk obstructions. Sanitation Enforcement has been monitoring the area and conditions have been improving.

Ms. Elias-Pavia announced the following:

Councilman Brannan has brought participatory budgeting to the 43rd District. Residents and stakeholders have the opportunity to submit ideas, develop projects and vote on the projects that they would like to see in their neighborhood. If you live in the 43rd District, you can submit your ideas online at ideas.pbnyc.org or fill out a paper form available on the table.

The Department of Sanitation will collect leaves on your organics collection days. Set out leaf and yard waste in brown paper lawn and leaf bags or in an unlined container. They can also be placed inside the brown organics bin. Do not place leaf and yard waste in plastic bags.

The Department of Consumer Affairs responded to the board’s resolution opposing the newsstand application located on the northeast corner of Bay Parkway and 86th Street. They have denied the application.

The Department of Sanitation announced that beginning October 1, 2018, residents can make an appointment to have their electronic waste picked up by Sanitation. Residents can call 311 or visit nyc.gov/electronics to schedule an appointment.

62nd Precinct

Captain Longobardi, the Commanding Officer of the 62nd Precinct, advised that this community is the safest, crime-wise, in recorded history. He commended the work of the men and women of the 62nd Precinct.

The Captain introduced Sgt. Jose Alegre, the new supervisor for the Neighborhood Coordinating Officers. He will be replacing Sgt. Ishakov who was recently promoted.

A motion was made by Eileen LaRuffa to adjourn. Seconded by Laurie Windsor. Unanimously adopted.