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

Held on Wednesday, November 7, 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, Sal D’Alessio, Linda Dalton, Claudio DeMeo, Paul DiSpirito, Giuseppe Floccari, John Garvey, William R. Guarinello, Peter Joseph, Roy Jung, Eileen LaRuffa, Dr. Tim Law, Albert Milone, Nicholas Miraglia, Antonio Troia, Sonia Valentin, Robert Whittaker, Andrew Windsor, Laurie Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung

Absent: Thomas Andros, Vincent Chirico, Jing Wing Chiu, Steven Chung, Lawrence Ciulla, Priscilla Consolo, Eric DiNapoli, Yonah Glatzer, Anthony Grigos, Ligia Guallpa, James Orlando, Rabbi Pollack, Caleb Pan, Laura Zhang, Nicholas Zimmitti

Excused: Rosa Casella, Msgr. David Cassato, Iwen Chu, Angelo Cucuzza, Shirley Fineman, Laura Gottlieb, Man Wai Lau

Guests: Elizabeth DeAngelis - District 20 Pre-School Z112, Ahmad Shaibani, Claudia Castillo de la Cruz, Oscar Atelhorta, Alice Zhu, Peggy Jung, William Vitale – CERT 10 & 11

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

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The meeting of Community Board 11 was opened with Paul DiSpirito having the honor of the pledge.

Public Hearing

In the matter of the proposed site selection of Lot 5 on Block 5471, 14th Avenue and 63rd Street, the former site of St. Rosalia Church, for the construction of a new, approximately 380-seat primary school in District 20.

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

Public Portion

Bob Quigly, an area resident, spoke regarding the noise that is associated with the construction project taking place at PS 128. He stated that the noise is ongoing until 2AM.

A resident inquired as to when the protective netting would be replaced under the Bay Parkway overpass of the Belt Parkway. He stated that the pigeons gather on the structure and create a mess for the pedestrians that use the sidewalk.

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Laurie Windsor to adopt the minutes of the October 11, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Robert Whittaker. Unanimously adopted.

Disposition of Public Hearing

A motion was made by Laurie Windsor to approve the site selection of Lot 51 on Block 5471, for the construction of a new elementary school with the proviso that the School Construction Authority receive a zoning waiver for the M1 zoning. Seconded by Sal D’Alessio. Unanimously adopted.

Assemblyman Peter Abbate

The Assemblyman thanked the board members for the support that they provide to this community. He stated that he was troubled that the proposition to instate term limits for community board members was approved and would explore if State action is feasible.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello advised that there are graduate students in attendance who are seeking the public’s input on open spaces. They will be distributing brief questionnaires and those interested can provide input.

The Chairman advised that Community Board 11 has received a meeting request from Mr. Eric Palatnik, Esq., to discuss a proposed zoning map amendment from an R5B and M1-1 to a C4-4L, at 2080 McDonald Avenue. The site is located on McDonald Avenue and Avenue S, an area that was contextually zoned as part of the Bensonhurst Rezoning adopted by the City Council in June 2005. The Planning and Zoning Committee will be scheduling that meeting.

Mr. Guarinello provided an update on the parking and congestion issue in the vicinity of the 62nd Precinct that was previously raised by Father Gelfant.

The Chairman advised that a meeting was held with DOT and stakeholders to discuss concerns and offer possible solutions. Suggestions included angle parking on 19th Avenue and Bath Avenue. However, the Department of Transportation’s engineers surveyed the area and found that 19th Avenue is too narrow for angle parking and Bath Avenue could have angle parking installed if parking spaces were removed from one side of the street. There would be no gain in parking. Stakeholders are still exploring other options.

Mr. Guarinello reported that the ballot question to amend the Charter to establish term limits for Community Board members was approved. Board members appointed or re-appointed on or after April 1, 2019, will only be allowed to serve four-consecutive, two- year terms.

In closing, the Chairman announced that next month’s meeting will be held on December 13, 2018.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia advised that the protective netting was removed under the Bay Parkway overpass of the Belt Parkway for inspections. She advised that the Department of Transportation was exploring alternatives.

The District Manager reported that New York City Transit advised that the service plan for the N line station rehabilitation project has been extended to Spring 2019 for Coney Island-Stillwell Ave bound trains. Platforms at Fort Hamilton Pkwy, New Utrecht Av, 18 Av, and 20 Av, will remain closed due to station rehabilitation work. For service to these stations, riders will have to back ride a Manhattan bound train at Bay Pkwy or 8 Av to complete their trip.

The Department of Transportation approved and installed Multi-Way Stop signs at Bay 26th Street and Benson Avenue and Bath Avenue and Bay 32nd Street.

She further advised that New York City Emergency Management will be holding a Community Preparedness Boot on November 13th, from 9AM-5PM, at the Bensonhurst Center for Rehabilitation & Healthcare.

Ms. Elias-Pavia advised that she sent invitations to community-based organizations and faith-based groups.

She further advised that the District Office has been receiving inquiries from residents regarding leaf collection. Because we have organics collection, residents may place their leaves in their brown bins, in paper leaf bags, or in unlined containers, at the curb for pick-up according to their regular organics collection schedule. Residents should not use plastic bags.

The New York City Department of Sanitation announced that there would be no garbage, recycling, organics collection or street cleaning in observance of Veterans Day, Monday, November 12, 2018.

The storm of October 27th caused tidal wash over on the promenade and flooded Bay Parkway. The District Manager thanked the Department of Sanitation and Parks for their clean-up efforts.

In closing, she announced that the 62nd Precinct Sector A, Build the Block meeting will be held on November 8, 2018, at 6:30 PM, at the Bensonhurst Center.

Transportation Committee Report

Laurie Windsor, Chairperson of the Transportation Committee, advised that a request was received from the District 20 Director of Early Childhood Education, to convert 62nd Street between New Utrecht and 15th Avenues to a one-way street.

The segment of 62nd Street is the only span with 2-way directionality.

A motion was made by Bart Allegretti to convert 62nd Street between New Utrecht Avenue and 15th Avenue to one-way directionality. Seconded by Giuseppe Floccari.

Following discussion regarding the existing conditions, the motion was adopted unanimously.

New Business

Eileen LaRuffa advised that for the past 2-weeks, 19th Avenue has not received Sanitation broom service. There was brief discussion regarding leaves not being swept by property owners.

Sonia Valentin announced that the 62nd Precinct Community Council will be meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at Il Centro, at 7 PM.

The Chairman inquired if there was any other new business. Hearing none, a motion was made by Laurie Windsor to adjourn. Seconded by Robert Whittaker. Unanimously adopted.