Attendance of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

Held Virtually on Thursday, March 10, 2022

Present: Ross Brady, Reuvain Borchardt, Jay Brown, Lilibeth Chang, Iwen Chu, Angelo Cucuzza, Victoria Curto, Salvatore D’Alessio, Claudio DeMeo, Leon Freue, Michael Garthaffner, Laura Gottlieb, William R. Guarinello, Jeffrey Harris, Roy Jung, Edward Lai, Eileen LaRuffa, Man Wai Lau, Dr. Tim Law, Lorraine Mazzola, Janet Perry, Rabbi Gary Pollack, Lenny Salama, Sonia Valentin, Andrew Windsor, Laurie Windsor, Sai Chuen Yeung

Absent: Bart Allegretti, Sofia Annunziata, Vincent Chirico, Ruben Colon, Paul DiSpirito, Alan Esses, Charles Farrauto, John Garvey, Albert Milone, Nicholas J. Miraglia, Ahmed Nasser, Briar Sambolin, Karen Sardell, Antonio Troia, Linda Zhang, Nicholas Zimmitti, Daniel Zurek

Guests: Nancy Lulu – Brooklyn District Attorney, Tambe John – New Utrecht Library, Denise Daniello, Naomi L. Dunston, Patricia Capuano, Sergey Chuprik – NYC Comptroller, Gloria Daniels – NYC Parks, Clarissa Soto, Ayaka Matsushima – I Am Womankind, Ceming Huang, Captain Nicholas Reale – 62nd Precinct, Anastasia Yaskova – Mayor’s Community Affairs Unit, Frank Fontana -Department of Buildings, Shirley Grant – CB 11, Edward Cerna – Councilmember Avilés, John Madrid, Rose Uscianowski – Transportation Alternatives, Hannah Weinerman – Congressman Nadler

Minutes of Community Board 11’s General Meeting

Held Virtually on Thursday, March 10, 2022

The meeting was opened with Irene Chu having the honor of the pledge.

Public Portion

Tambe John, representing the New Utrecht Brooklyn Public Library, advised that the branch would be closed for one week to address emergency maintenance issues. She further announced that the library is expanding in-person services, as well as the currently available services and programs. Those interested should visit [www.brooklynlibrary.org](http://www.brooklynlibrary.org) for more information.

In closing, she thanked the board members and the District Manager for their work on behalf of the community.

Hannah Weinerman, representing Congressman Nadler, advised that with tax season upon us, the office created a resource guide, which includes tax and policy changes. Those interested can access the newsletter via <https://nadler.house.gov>. If there are any questions, please call the office at 212-367-7350.

Nancy Lulu, representing the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office, announced that their office in collaboration with the NYPD’s Russian American Officers Association will be providing humanitarian relief to Ukraine. Those interested in donating first aid supplies and over the counter medication, can send online purchase to 350 Jay Street, 19th floor, or drop-off in the lobby.

Ms. Lulu provided contact information for the District Attorney’s Action Center at 718-250- 2340.

Angelo Bruno and Patricia Capuano, residents who live in the vicinity of Dyker Park, requested assistance in addressing summertime barbecuing, music, parties, drinking and public urination in Dyker Beach Park.

Sergey Chuprik, representing Comptroller Lander, advised that the New York City Employees Retirement System will divest from Russian securities. The office is working on a guide for those who would like to help with donations for the people of Ukraine.

Edward Cerna, Chief of Staff for Councilmember Avilés, advised that the Councilmember attended a press conference concerning the cuts to the sanitation budget. They called upon the mayor to not cut their budget. He stated that Community Board 11 is no stranger to what happened when the Department of Sanitation does not get the resources need.

He further advised that there would be mobile office hours for help with government services, which will be held at Parent-Child Relationship Association, 909 58th St, from 11:00 AM -3:00 PM.

Gloria Daniels, representing the Parks Department, advised that Bath Beach Park is nearing completion of the procurement phase and construction should start soon.

Ms. Daniels further advised that someone from the neighborhood is spreading feces in the park. The employees are cleaning the areas, but this vandalism is happening daily and there aren’t enough resources to do this type of cleaning daily. She is working with the 62nd Precinct.

Frank Fontana, representing the Department of Buildings, spoke regarding the Homeowners Relief Program that is available to one- or two-family properties who receive a violation. Those who qualify could have the monetary penalties waived.

He further advised that the Department of Buildings Information System will now show whether a property has been reviewed by the Board of Standards and Appeals.

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Ross Brady to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2022, meeting. Seconded by Janet Perry. Unanimously adopted.

Elected Officials

Assemblyman Peter Abbate advised that he has been up in Albany focused on the upcoming budget. He stated that with the federal funds received, it is his hope that funding can be restored to many programs.

62nd Precinct

Mr. Guarinello welcomed and introduced the new Executive Officer of the 62nd Precinct, Captain Nicholas Reale.

Captain Reale thanked Mr. Guarinello for the warm welcome and looks forward to working with the board.

Chairman’s Report

Mr. Guarinello advised board members that due to the holidays, next month’s meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13th.

He further stated that the emergency order that permits public bodies to meet remotely is set to expire next week. Due to uncertainty, we are preparing for in-person meetings, however we will continue to stream our meetings. The Federation of Italian Americans has offered to host our April meeting at Il Centro on 18th Avenue and Benson Avenue.

The Chairman reported that the Department of Youth and Community Development requested to present information on Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NAB). NABs provide residents the opportunity to help DYCD identify funding priorities when allocating federal Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funding and work with CBOs within the district to apply for RFPs based on identified priorities.

He requested that the Youth and Education Committee schedule a meeting with DYCD, the meeting information will be shared when confirmed.

Mr. Guarinello reminded board members whose term expires on March 31st, that they continue to serve unless otherwise notified.

He further inquired if board members had any comments on the agency responses to the FY 23 Capital and Expense Priorities.

District Manager’s Report

Marnee Elias-Pavia addressed the issue of Dyker Beach Park that was brought forward at the public portion of the meeting. She advised that she has had ongoing discussions with her colleague at Community Board 10, regarding the issues that are being generated from Dyker Beach Park and the soccer ball fields, and we are scheduling a joint meeting with the residents and representatives of the 68th and 62nd Precincts. The meeting will take place following the April.

She further advised that as previously shared, the Parks Department in partnership with the Department of Transportation released conceptual plans for Destination Greenways. She along with the Chairs of the Parks and Transportation committees attended the presentation. We learned about proposed, unfunded improvements to the greenway.

She stated that while these improvements are welcomed and needed investments, we were very surprised that there was not an associated resiliency component included in the project.

The District Manager reported that she is collaborating with CB 10 colleague, and Costanza Tremante, a Community Planning Fellow, with the Fund for the City of New York. Costanza is a Master of Urban Planning candidate at Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at NYU.

Costanza will be focusing on climate change mitigation and adaptation for the promenade and will present to the board long-term solutions and strategies.

She further announced that the Fire Department has requested that we share their Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery campaign.

Daylight Saving Time will begin on Sunday, March 13th, 2022, at 2 AM. At that time, you should set your clocks forward one hour, and remember to change your batteries in your smoke and CO alarm.

Grow NYC will be hosting a food scrap drop-off site on Sundays, from 9AM to 1PM, on 18th Avenue and 81 Street. Anyone interested in learning more should visit [www.grownyc.org/compost](http://www.grownyc.org/compost)

As a reminder, the 2022 Summer Youth Employment Application is available. NYC Youth between the ages of 14 and 24 and who are legally allowed to work in the US can apply at [www.application.sycsyep.com](http://www.application.sycsyep.com) . The deadline is April 22, 2022.

New Business

Sonia Valentin invited everyone to a meet and greet for our new Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, on Thursday, March 24th, at 12 30 PM., at Il Centro.

She further shared that the 62nd Precinct Community Council will meet virtually on Tuesday, March 15th, at 7:30 PM. Anyone interested in participating should email pct62ndcc@aol.com.

Ross Brady congratulated Laurie Windsor for being honored as an extraordinary woman by a local organization.

Dr. Tim Law thanked Nancy Lulu from the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office for helping schedule a presentation on hate crimes. The presentation will take place at 124 Avenue O, on March 18th at 11 AM. All are welcomed to attend.

He further announced that the US Census Bureau will be holding a job recruitment drive on March 22nd at 11 AM, at 124 Avenue O.

Jeffrey Harris advised that there are safety concerns on 20th Avenue between 67th and 68th Streets. There is a school and no traffic lights, speed cameras or crossing guards.

Captain Reale advised that he will send the traffic safety team to the location.

The Chairman advised that the District Manager will contact DOT.

Mr. Guarinello inquired if there was any other new business. Hearing none, a motion was made by Ross Brady to adjourn. Seconded by Eileen LaRuffa. Unanimously adopted.

Meeting adjourned.