



The City of New York  
Community Board 3, Queens  
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Vasanthrai Gandhi, Chairman

Giovanna Reid, DM

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, December 13, 2007**

**at: Langston Hughes Library & Cultural Center  
100-01 Northern Boulevard  
Corona, N.Y.**

### **PRESENT**

Earline Berry  
Mizanoor Biswas  
Cristina Borrero  
Emma Brandt  
Ann S. Brown  
Shiv Dass  
Vivian Dock  
Margaret Dozier  
Vasanthrai Gandhi  
Darryl Hoss  
Norma Jimenez  
Andrew S. Kim  
Stephen Kulhanek  
Grace Lawrence  
Marta Lebreton  
Ana Lopez  
Ralph Moreno  
Michael Anthony Nardiello, III  
Joseph Ricevuto  
Leonicio Romero  
Jimmy Smith  
Arthur Teiler  
Hamlett Wallace  
Edwin Westley  
William Young  
Jorge Zamora

*Giovanna Reid, District Manager  
Irene Voss, Recorder*

### **ABSENT**

Khaleeq U. Arshed, M.D.  
Patrick Beckles  
Charles Castro  
Howard Dent  
Judy Grubin  
Joyce-Hucless Julian  
Stanley Kalathara  
Lorraine Kresse  
Martin Maier  
Lisa Mesulam  
Ortner-Vernon Murray  
Alfonso Quiroz  
Edmund Rosenbaum  
David Rosero  
Dr. Arturo-Ignacio Sanchez  
Mary Sarro  
Patricia Thomas  
Orlando Tobon

### **GUESTS**

Firefighter Kevin Kelly, N.Y.C. Fire Department  
Murlaina Tindall, Rep., Assemblyman J. Aubry

Chairman Vasantrai Gandhi, opened the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and introduced Public Information speaker, Firefighter Kevin Kelly, of the N.Y.C. Fire Department.

**Public Information**

Firefighter Kelly spoke about fire safety education as it relates to the importance of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Too many victims have already perished because smoke and carbon monoxide alarms were not installed to alert them of the imminent dangers. He further advised that candle fires peak during the Christmas and New Year holidays -- 33% of candle fires occurred when the candles were left unattended or abandoned.

Firefighter Kelly highlighted several important safety tips:

- An operable smoke alarm will reduce your chances of dying in a fire, nearly in half.
- Disabled smoke alarms endanger your family, as well as your neighbors.
- A smoke alarm should be installed on every level of your home, including the basement.
- Keep your smoke and carbon monoxide alarm working by testing the device and replacing batteries twice a year.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas, nicknamed “the silent killer” because it is colorless, odorless and tasteless. Carbon monoxide gases are usually released by faulty fuel-burning equipment or appliances, i.e. furnaces, space heaters, chimneys, gas ranges, gas clothes dryers and other appliances.
- Plan a “fire escape plan” drawing of your home or apartment. Practice the plan with a realistic fire drill and include all members of the household.
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As a result of the devastating cyclone that hit Bangladesh on November 15, 2007 killing more than 10,000 people, Board Member Mizanoor Biswas advised that he will be hosting a benefit telethon to raise funds for the people of this country. It will be a 12-hour program to be aired on December 15, 2007 on Cable Channel NTV. He further advised that on December 14<sup>th</sup>, an NTV camera crew will be filming in the district office in an appeal for help. He requested Board Members to show their support by being present at the time of the filming.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

*(Bus. Eco. Develop. – Shiv Dass and Arthur Teiler, Co-Chairs)*

**S.L.A. Wine / Beer & Liquor License Applications**

- Tomo Japanese Cuisine Inc., 86-12A 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jksn. Hts.
- Llena Enterprises Corp. – 37-43 103<sup>rd</sup> Street, Corona
- La Cueva Del Lobo Night Club Corp. – 103-11 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Corona

Arthur Teiler advised that the above applicants once again did not show up at the Committee meeting; therefore, committee members could not make a recommendation.

Mr. Gandhi advised that C.B. 3 will send a letter to SLA advising that after two attempts requesting their presence, the applicants did not show up.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vasantrai Gandhi opened this segment of the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman requested that the Agenda be amended to include the following two items:

- (1) Arthur Teiler, Treasurer will make a collection this evening for the “Sunshine Fund”.
- (2) Leoncio Romero, Budget/Personnel Chair, requested that each Board Member sign the petition circulated this evening strongly opposing the Mayor’s proposed budget cuts.

**Motion #46 – 2007 -- Adoption of the Agenda**

Upon motion duly made by Grace Lawrence, seconded by Emma Brandt and unanimously carried, the amended December 13, 2007 Agenda was adopted.

**Nominations**

Jimmy Smith, Chair, reported that the Nominating Committee members (Emma Brandt Vivian Dock; and Judy Grubin) discussed the upcoming elections. The Committee recommended the following slate for 2008: Vasantrai Gandhi, (third term); Grace Lawrence, First Vice-Chair; Norma Jimenez, Second Vice-Chair; Darryl Hoss, Secretary; Arthur Teiler, Treasurer.

**Members- At -Large:** Ann Brown; Stephen Kulhanek; Edwin Westley and Mizanoor Biswas.

Mr. Smith advised that Board Members will vote at the January 2008 meeting at which time nominations will be taken from the floor.

**Chairman’s Report**

Mr. Gandhi advised that the Office of Management and Budget are hard-pressing Community Boards on the proposed budget cuts. He requested that Board Members oppose the cuts by sending E-Mails.

Edwin Westley inquired about a letter that Council Member Hiram Monserrate was going to send to the Mayor opposing the budget cuts and to increase funding to Community Boards in 2008.

Mr. Gandhi advised that on behalf of the Board, he will write a strong letter to our Council Members that will reflect the feeling of the Community Board on the Mayor's proposal. He will also request that City Council write a letter to OMB opposing the budget cuts and increase funding.

**District Manager's Report**

Giovanna Reid encouraged everyone to further spread the word by making phone calls, faxing, E-Mailing or writing their own personal letters to the Mayor regarding the proposed budget cuts. She stated that it is important that the effort continue until resolved. She thanked everyone for their support.

Ralph Moreno inquired about the status of his complaint pertaining to an illegal export / import operation. Ms. Reid advised that she had included in his envelope agency responses. She further requested that he speak with her after the meeting if there were further questions.

Giovanna Reid thanked everyone for coming out in the inclement weather. On behalf of the staff, Sue, Irene, Jennifer and herself, she wished all a "Happy Holiday Season"; a healthy, safe and prosperous **2008**.

**Motion #47 – 2007 -- Adoption of the November 15, 2007 Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Grace Lawrence, seconded by Emma Brandt and unanimously carried, the November Minutes were adopted.

Mr. Gandhi concluded the meeting at 9:00 p.m. and holiday festivities ensued.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Voss, Recorder