



**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

AARON KOHN  
ANA CALI  
AKIVA KIZELNIK  
ALAN DUBROW  
AVI GREENSTEIN  
AVROHOM WOLFSON  
BERNARD FREILICH  
DAVID FRIEDLANDER  
DAVID SHLOMOVICH  
DOUGLAS JABLON  
JACOB ASKAL  
ELIE KASTEL  
JACOB DASKAL  
JACOB HASS  
JACQUE FRIEDMAN  
JOSEPH GROSS  
JULES FLEISCHER  
LILY MARINELLI  
MENDEL REINER  
MONIQUE WALLACE  
MORDECHAI KATZ  
MORRIS SENEROVIC  
PETER REBENWURZEL  
ROCHELLE ZAMI  
SAM STOBER  
SHARON FUCHS  
SHLOMIE RIEGER  
YAAKOV KAPLAN  
YANKY SCHIFF  
YOEL VIZEL

**COMMUNITY RESIDENTS**

APPROXIMATELY 9 RESIDENTS

**LIASON'S PRESENT FROM 66<sup>th</sup> PCT**

CAPTAIN, ROBERT DANTONE  
PO THOMAS KUKLA

**BOARD MEMBERS**

ABUL HASNAT  
ADAM COHEN  
ANNIE FERDOUS  
EDGAR GLUCK  
HERSH DEUTSCH  
JACOB EISDORFER  
JEFFREY DWECK  
LARRY JASON  
MAMNUNUL HAQ  
MAYER WEBER  
MORTON PUPKO  
MOSHE WIEDER  
NYDIA DAVILA  
SHLOMO HELLER  
SOL WAHBA  
YAAKOV SCHAPIRO  
YECHIEL MALIK  
YERUCHIM SILBER  
YIDEL PERLSTEIN

**STAFF PRESENT**

BARRY SPITZER, DISTRICT MANAGER  
ANN MARIE HONAN, COMMUNITY ASSISTANT

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

CM. DR. MATTHEW EUGENE  
TONYA L. CANTLO, REP. BORO PRES.  
ERIC ADAMS  
PINNY HIKIND, REP. COMPTROLLER  
SCOTT M. STRINGER  
YIDEL SCHONFELD, REP. CM YEGER  
GABI FRIEDLANDER, REP. CM BRAD LANDER  
JOSEPH LANGSAM & SHARON FUCHS  
REP. SEN. SIMCHA FELDER  
MARY KAY SEERY, RER. AM ROBERT CARROLL  
KALLIE SINGER, REP. AM ORTIZ  
SHLOMO RIEGER, REP. AM SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – ANNA CALI:**

- Happy New Year to all Board Members upon the first meeting of 2019.
- Mazel Tov to Yeruchim Silber upon the birth of his grandson.
- Congratulations to former Board Member Simcha Eichenstein on assuming office as the new assembly member.
- Congratulations to current Board Member Shlomie Reiger on being appointed administrative director for Assembly member Eichenstein.
- The Chairman appointed a nominating committee to appoint the executive committee for the upcoming year. The nominating committee members are Yaakov Schapiro, Shlomie Reiger, Marc Katz, Monique Wallace and Yaakov Kaplan. The committee will meet during the next month and present the nominations for Executive Committee at the February Board Meeting. A general vote will be held at the March board meeting if necessary.
- The deadline for reappointment for Board Members who need to reapply as well as for interested prospective board members is February 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who would like to serve on the Community Board can apply at the Boro President's website. Members who needed to reapply are: Aron Kohn, Akiva Kizelnik, Alan Dubrow, Annie Ferdous, Avi Greenstein, Avraham Wolfson, David Friedlander, David Shlomovich, Edgar Gluck, Ellie Kastel, Hersh Deutsch, Jacob Askal, Jacob Hass, Jacque Friedman, Jeffrey Dweck, Mammunul Haq, Morris Senderovic, Moshe Wieder, Nydia Davila, Shlomo Heller, Yanky Schiff, Yeruchim Silber, Yidel Perlstein and Yoel Vizel.
- The next board meeting will be on Tuesday February 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

#### **Grace DiVilio-Genco – Resident**

- Representatives of DSNY should answer claims as to why sanitation workers are not doing their job properly. They leave a mess behind as they drive trucks and they throw garbage cans.  
(There were no DSNY representatives present.)
- At the last board meeting there were questions about cars and parking. The Brooklyn Eagle had a piece on Community Board 10 and accidents. The 68 precinct, which covers the area, showed that accident increases were because people were not following rules such as using headphones and cellphones. If that community was having the same issues as this one; maybe this community group should meet CB10 and ask them how they got their figures. For example, the 68 precinct reported 17 accidents in one day. People will get hurt because of illegal sidewalk and street parking and so it needs to be addressed in this community as well.

#### **Mary Kay Seery – Representing Assembly Member Carroll**

- The assembly member sent greetings from Albany where he was since the start of the legislative session.
- On January 30<sup>th</sup> the MetroCard van will be at the Cortelyou Road Library at 1305 Cortelyou Avenue from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, and then in front of the assemblyman's office in Park Slope at 416 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 1:00pm to 3:00 pm. There were flyers on the table available for the public.
- The assemblyman encourages constituents to contact the office if they need assistance.

#### **Kallie Snyer - representing Assembly member Felix Ortiz**

- Ms. Snyer replaced the previous representative Mitu Maruf.

- The assembly member will be focused on environmental issues, such as: fossil fuel divestment, a moratorium on fracked gas infrastructure, a plastic bag ban, as well as preventing styrofoam from being used in certain take-out places.
- Other great legislations in the works were regarding immigrant protection, a Bilingual Services Act and legislation for Kosher and Halal food in public schools.
- There were weekly reports available to let the public know what the Assembly member has been up to each week and contains social media information.

**Richard Navas- Resident**

- Mr. Navas voiced concern with the construction of projects that affect parking in the district.
  1. 4218 ft. Hamilton. An 18 story mixed use building across the street from a current public school.
  2. 3801 Ft Hamilton Pkwy. An 8 story building.
  3. Clara Street. A proposed 9 story school.
- Around 300 school buses pass through Fort Hamilton Parkway a day. Buses routinely park on the street eliminating parking spaces.
- Boro Park is turning into another Manhattan with all the construction.
- The board should reconsider approving plans for more buildings that would eliminate parking spaces. Surveys should be done with the people in community to see what they have to say. Many buildings are going up without anyone taking into consideration the people who live near them and the way parking is affected.

(District Manager advised: project at 4218 Fort Hamilton Parkway is currently an as-of-right project)

**Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson**

Residents should keep an eye out to make sure the builders provide the parking they need to. The owners may try to get a variance to reduce the parking, which would require notice to residents. If that happens, the residents then need to make sure it doesn't pass. Parking presents a problem in the district and it may seem as though the board is rolling over.

**ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MINUTES:**

**Ellie Kastel- Board Member**

Correction to the December minutes was required. An event that was at the Boro Park Y was erroneously stated as taking place at the Flatbush JCC. (December minutes were changed.)

**MINUTES ADOPTED**

**Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson**

- Boro President Eric Adams was represented by Tonya Cantlo.

**Tonya Cantlo- Representing Borough President Eric Adams**

- The Boro President partnered with the Crown Heights Library for a Free Student Loan Clinic to take place on January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Library at 560 New York Avenue.
- The application process for new community board members started. Anyone interested in applying should do so online.
- There will be a free Tax Preparation event at Boro Hall from January 29 through April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be a Notice of Property Value Public Session on February 7<sup>th</sup> and February 19<sup>th</sup>.
- There were Fire Safety Tip flyers available for anyone interested.
- Free legal services remains available at Boro Hall, by appointment only.
- Community board applications are due on February 15<sup>th</sup>, the reapplication process is available online.

### **Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson**

- Comptroller Stringer was represented by Pinny Hikind.
- Councilmember Yeger was represented by Yidel Schonfeld.
- Senator Felder was represented by Sharon Fuchs.

### **Sharon Fuchs- representing Senator Simcha Felder**

- Ms. Fuchs was honored to accept a position at Senator Felder's office which affords the honor and pleasure of once again engaging in service to the community, following 18 years of service for assembly member Dov Hikind.
- New York Legal Aid Group (NYLAG) will be at Senator Felder's office on January 23, 2019 for the community.
- The MetroCard Van will be at Senator Felder's offices on January 29, 2019. It will be at the Flatbush location from 10:00am to 12:00pm and at the Boro Park location from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.

### **Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson**

- Senator Felder was represented as well by Joseph Langsam.
- Assembly member Robert Carroll was represented by Mary Kay Seery.
- Assembly member Felix Ortiz was represented by Kallie Sywer.
- Assembly Simcha Eichenstein was represented by Shlomie Reiger.
- The 66<sup>th</sup> precinct was represented by the XO Captain Dantone and Officer Kukla.

### **Captain Dantone- representing the 66<sup>th</sup> precinct**

- Happy New Year.
- Without speaking to the numbers at the 68 precinct, it was notable that accidents in the 66<sup>th</sup> precinct were down 25%. The 66<sup>th</sup> precinct has stepped up enforcement on issues such as double parking which has been helping.
- A goal of the precinct is to keep injuries resulting from pedestrians struck by cars down. Hopefully, the 66<sup>th</sup> precinct can work with the community to improve on minor collisions.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Vote on Rezoning of 600 McDonald Avenue**

#### **David Shlomovic:**

Prior to the December board meeting the zoning committee met regarding 600 McDonald Ave, Congregation Chasdei Belze Beis Malka's proposed zoning change. The change wasn't really a zoning change, rather it was adding to an R5 zoning into a C24. There was no opposition to the plan at the hearing. There was no quorum at the December meeting so the vote was postponed to the January meeting. Board Member Yeruchim Silber made a motion to approve the rezoning of 600 McDonald Ave at the December board Meeting, so his motion was continued at the current meeting.

VOTE TAKEN: UNANIMOUS

MOTION PASSED

### **Street Co-naming - Giorgio Perlasca Triangle**

#### **Barry Spitzer- District Manager**

The proposal presented to the Board was to co-name the triangle located at 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Dahill Road and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, the Giorgio Perlasca Triangle. A letter in the packet supplied to Board Members described how Giorgio Perlasca posed as a diplomat and issued papers that saved many Jews from the gas chambers. Mr. Fleischer proposed renaming the triangle at in his honor. The site sits across from a school, which signifies the perseverance of the Jewish People after holocaust, an appropriate memorial site for a great person. There

were testimonials from the Raoul Wallenberg Foundation and Yad Vesham outlining the actions of Mr. Perlasca.

### **Jules Fleischer- Board Member**

The idea of co-naming the triangle first arose out of an email conversation from eight years prior with Mayor de Blasio who was then a councilman. This email came up again and the Mayor maintains a continued interest in the idea. Mr. Fleischer expressed hope that the Board would pass this motion.

VOTE TAKEN: UNANIMOUS

### **Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson**

- Councilmember Brad Lander was represented by Gabby Friedlander

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Mendy Reiner – Board Member**

- On January 10<sup>th</sup> there was an unfortunate incident in Boro Park with a run in between a driver and an NYPD tow truck. The community historically has a good working relationship with the police and many government officials. Interestingly, the following day there were tens of tow trucks out as if they were targeting the community. This was interesting because typically there aren't tow trucks out towing cars as a means of enforcement. Cars violating parking laws are usually ticketed. But after one action, which was agreeably a terrible thing, that resulted in an arrest, the whole community was being punished. The message the NYPD was trying to convey remains unclear. The tow trucks were likely from a different division, yet it's a little disappointing.  
The coincidence of a new policy the day after an incident has the appearance of retaliation. The Community Board should receive notice when new policies take effect. There was an unfortunate incident the morning of the board meeting in front of Maimonides hospital where a cars parked in the No Standing Zone were towed. Pictures were passed around social media showing a car only a foot or two in the crosswalk being towed. These actions can elevate the unfortunate incident into an us versus them situation with the NYPD.
- There were rumors of a letter of apology from the Board addressing the incident. Can the Board confirm? (District Manager confirmed there was no official letter of apology from the Board)

**Anna Cali - Acting Chairperson:** The Board Member's complaints would be valid if the community would be [unfairly] targeted. But there have been numerous board meetings where resident complained of illegal parking, whether in front of a pump or bus stops and so on. Now that the NYPD started listening to the complaints and starting towing there shouldn't be complaints from the Board. Credit should be given where it is due.

There was an incident with illegal parking in a crosswalk by 59<sup>th</sup> street near FDR high school. A bus was almost entirely in the crosswalk. Kids had to go around the bus to avoid being hit. When Ms. Cali requested the bus be moved, 5 school bus drivers surrounded her and were throwing profanities questioning her authority to request the bus move. The board has been asking NYPD to get involved in enforcement, now that they began enforcement there should be no complaints.

**Mr. Reiner:** The point brought up was not regarding parking legally or illegally. The Board in general would like people to park legally. The point was the coincidence of a new policy coinciding shortly after an incident. While acknowledging Ms. Cali's point, the issue at hand was not about what sort of enforcement policy is valid for illegally parked cars, rather it was that the deed of one individual should not be the catalyst for the NYPD to come around punishing everyone else the very next day. If a new policy of enforcement is to take place, notification should be provided to the Community Board. The NYPD should not have, however, engaged in collective punishment for an entire community because of the actions of one individual. Tow

trucks haven't been the norm for the last 3 years and the day following an incident there were numerous tow trucks out. The timing appeared more than coincidental. It seemed as if the NYPD was trying to get even.

**Ms. Cali:** Requested a response from Captain Dantone

**Captain Dantone - 66 precinct:**

- Elaborating on the issue: The towing operation has been a long process in the works. Chief Chen advised there were many complaints directly from community members who said they couldn't get through Boro Park because of traffic impediments resulting from illegal parking. The towing policy resulted from those complaints. Indeed, the timing was a perfect coincidence. The incident in question took place a few days into the new policy of towing illegally parked vehicles. That is why there was a tow truck out towing that vehicle in the first place. The situation wasn't that there was one truck one day and then 10 trucks the next, rather it was that at that point there were already 5 trucks out every day for 2 days already. The increase in towing was no way is a reflection of the community.
- Illegally parked vehicles also impact accidents. In 2018, Community Board 12 led the borough in pedestrian accidents. These accidents are often the result of cars parked unsafely. The goal of the enforcement was to get traffic flowing. The towing was in no way a reaction to anything other than ongoing complaints.

**Joseph Gross - Board Member:** The Board's motion was to request notification in cases where something different than the norm is to take place. Usually when there are new policies, for example a zero tolerance scenario or vision zero enforcement, the city usually notifies the community ahead of time. The community would have benefited if there had been notice saying 'from now on there won't be only tickets, instead cars will get towed'.

**Captain Dantone:**

- Towing cars is the norm in New York City. There are on average 500 tows a year in the city. There has always been a tow truck out and about in Boro Park, but because additional trucks were added they were now more visible.
- Regarding the request for prior notice of a change in policy, perhaps something could be worked out with Chief Chen. The enforcement, however, is from a different division.

**Jacob Haas - Board Member:** The towing should have taken place on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There is an ongoing problem there for a long time.

**Captain Dantone:**

- Advised of a plan in the works to combat the commercial parking 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>. The trucks create a dangerous environment, but a large tow truck is needed and there are only 5 such trucks belonging to the city. Two are out of service and one must always be in Manhattan. So there are only two trucks at our disposal. The plan needs to be worked on and coordinated with many parties so that 15-20 trucks can be towed at once. This coordination is not within the NYPD control so it's more difficult. This needs to work out with Traffic Enforcement.
- There was no definite plan for how long the towing enforcement operation will take place; the plan was first to clear up the avenues.

**Ms. Cali:** Ms. Cali was disturbed by the complaints of the board members because the cars that were being towed were the same cars that were constantly being complained about at the monthly board meetings.

(Conversation ensued between Acting Chairperson Ana Cali and some Board Members.)

**Ms. Cali Cont.:** There were complaints every month from all over the neighborhood regarding illegal parking at hydrants and crosswalk. NYPD was finally starting to tow vehicles due to outstanding tickets or for parking illegally. No courtesy or notice was required because the tow trucks were following the law.

**Mr. Reiner:**

- Agreed that legal parking was required however, the courtesy of notice the Board requested was for any obvious change in policy.
- Tow trucks flooded the community a day after an incident, which doesn't smell right. There was no prior issue with the community and then the city started enforcing parking laws with towing cars. The policy itself was not objected to. The community should have received notice, however, of a new policy. The relationship between the community and police is far more important. The policy has always been to ticket cars parked illegally, there was no objection to a change of that policy, but the community should be notified. The community respects the police and would like the same respect in return.

**Ms. Cali:** The incident with the traffic officer, with all due respect, was an incident where no one was showing respect.

(Conversation unintelligible)

**Mr. Reiner:** That incident was an unfortunate story involving just a few people. There are over 200,000 people in the community. It was a very wrong story.

**Ms. Cali:** I had to get an apology from the principal of the school after my incident.

**Akiva Kizelnik - Board Member:** This is anti-Semitic.

**Ms. Cali:** You should not go there. You shouldn't say it's anti-Semitic.

**Mr. Kizelnik:** Yes, I am going to go there.

**Mr. Reiner:** I'm not going there. Mr. Reiner requested a vote on the motion, as a Board Member he has the right to put forth motions. The motion was: to require NYPD give advance notice to the community of changes to policy.

**Ms. Cali:** We know each other for a long time (Ms. Cali and Mr. Reiner). He (Mr. Kizelnik) could be removed if he says that. The policy was enforcing the law, anyone who parks illegally risks getting towed.

**Mr. Reiner:** Requested a motion be put on the table to ask NYPD to give community notice.

**Rochelle Zami - Board Member:** If the motion is about enforcing the law, the motion is absurd.

**Mr. Reiner:** Reiterated the Community Board's entitlement to vote.

**Yaakov Kaplan – Board Member:** The difference between a ticket and tow is \$115 to \$350. Those opposed to the motion should vote against it. There were negative manifestations of the policy change. For example, someone parked outside of Maimonides hospital at a No Standing Zone to bring in a sick person would not deserve to be towed.

**Ms. Cali:** Ms. Cali did not agree with the motion.

**Mr. Reiner:** Ms. Cali could vote against the motion. The Community Board is entitled to vote on the motion on the table.

**Sam Stober – Board Member:** The community requested enforcement by towing by the bakery on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There were complaints that cars couldn't get through. Similarly, enforcement was requested on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Avenues. Yet the NYPD only towed once in those situations. The NYPD were looking for certain specific cars that they wanted to tow; for example, cars without a registration sticker in the window. New York City is 100% tow zone. Theoretically, cars that are at an expired meter can get towed. No notice is required.

(Anna Cali- Acting Chairperson interjected- requesting clarification on what the argument is about then)

What Mr. Reiner was requesting is to notify of a change in policy.

**Ms. Zami:** The first tow truck was the notice. I don't agree. The community is abusing the law.

**Mr. Reiner:** In Manhattan the known policy has been that illegally parked cars are towed. In Boro Park it has been that illegally parked cars are ticketed. The change in policy is fine and not objected to. The conversation now is that the community should receive notice that parking illegally is at the driver's risk.

**Ms. Cali:** Shouldn't that already be known, parking was always at your own risk

**Jacques Friedman - Board Member:**

- As chairperson, Ms. Cali is to facilitate conversation. She is not permitted to respond to every person who speaks. Each Board Member has to request the right to speak and can make a motion, a second and so on and so forth. But if there is a situation that every time someone stands up the chairman rebukes them, that's not the proper way to proceed according to *Robert's Rules of Order*. Mr. Friedman has every respect for Ms. Cali, however in this instance feels she was wrong for breaking in and answering to every statement that's made. Ms. Cali should get *Robert's Rules of Order* to see the real duties set forth for a chairman. Ms. Cali is not permitted to keep breaking in. Members can say what they want, and at the end the chairperson can comment or add.
- Mr. Friedman seconds the motion put forth by Mr. Reiner. The relationship with the 66 is a beautiful one and has been for many years, the relationship should be valued.  
That relationship warrants the courtesy of notifications for new policies.

**Barry Spitzer - District Manager**

- The motion proposed by Mr. Reinter is for notification to be issued to Community Board 12 by the NYPD for changes to policies regarding enforcement so the Board has the opportunity to notify residents.

VOTE TAKEN: 2 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENTION, 1 RECUSAL

MOTION PASSES

**Anna Cali - Acting Chairperson**

- Introduced Councilmember Mathew Eugene.

**Councilmember Dr. Mathew Eugene**

- Good evening
- It is always a pleasure to visit Community Board 12 and see the many friends and brothers that date back to before CM Eugene's election.
- The Board members should applaud themselves for all their hard work. As a former member of CB 14, CM Eugene knows what the Board members are doing for community by taking time out of their busy schedules to meet.
- CM Eugene apologized to all present because he chose to sit near Board Member Douglas Jablon. They are friends for many years and Mr. Jablon was one of the first to predict CM Eugene would be a councilmember.
- Legislation will be introduced to declare January 27 Holocaust Remembrance Day in New York City, and the week of January 27 should be a week designated for education about the holocaust. The Holocaust should not be forgotten by humanity, regardless of ethnicity or where one is born.  
This legislation is especially important because of the increase that is seen in bigotry and crime against Jewish people which should not be tolerated. An attack on the Jewish people is an attack on everyone.
- After the December 2010 earthquake in Haiti, the Jewish people were the first to go to Haiti to save lives. Upon a visit to a child suffering from a cardiovascular disease in an Israeli children hospital, CM. Eugene observed children from all over the world benefiting from the free children hospital. There were children from Haiti, from the Caribbean, from Jamaica, Africa, and many Arab countries. This was never reported in papers or on TV.

The friendship between Haiti and Israel dates back to the civil war in Haiti. Haiti opened door for Jewish people and also voted in the UN for the creation of the State of Israel.

- Notified of numerous legislations being worked on regarding health issues
  - Legislation to combat Asthma. The disease is complicated and places a big burden on the family. The legislation requires the government to put more resources toward sufferers of this disease and their families
  - Another piece of legislation proposed more funding for the research of strokes; to study ways to prevent stroke and increase mortality of those suffering. This devastating disease affects people's productivity, ability to care for family and ability to give back to the community.
- Commended brothers and sisters in blue who are out in the street taking care of the community.

## **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REMARKS:**

### **Barry Spitzer - District Manager**

- Councilmember Kalman Yeger was under the weather. But he requested that if this matter (of the increased NYPD towing enforcement) comes up, he would like the Board to know that his position on this matter is that the community was targeted. He reached out to NYPD and has been talking to them and is monitoring this situation. Additional questions can be directed to his office at 718 853-2704.
- As a continuation of last month's board meeting, where the fines that businesses were issued for signs was discussed along with a possible remedy through a bill introduced by Councilmember Rafael Espinal to invalidate the fines, that bill passed. The Awnings act was passed on January 9th. The bill created a 2 year suspension on new fines, rescinds all outstanding fines, gives discounts to stores who already paid the fines and reduces the fees for sign and awning permits going forward.
- There may be changes to the February benefits for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or the Food Stamps program) due to the federal shutdown. Residents were advised if they see larger than usual benefits in their account it is because the February funds are in the account and should budget accordingly. Questions regarding this change can be directed to the Community Board's office or to the Jewish Community Council (JCC).
- There were some positive developments on the Clara Street Sanitation complaints. The school installed a large gate for garbage and will keep garbage behind the gate.

### **Georgette Conroy-Resident**

- The request was for fencing on 36<sup>th</sup> street, which is commercial, instead the fence was put on Clara Street.

## **DISTRICT MANAGERS REMARKS cont.**

- Public Service Announcement: due to the strong cold in the city: Residential building owners are legally required to maintain a temperature of 68 degrees when it's colder than 55 degrees outside. Residents without proper heat should first notify their building management. If the matter is not resolved they should then register a complaint with 311. The complaint goes to the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and they are usually responsive to these complaints
- Human Resources Administration (HRA) administers the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) which can help low income residents with heating bills. Residents in need can call 212-331-3150 and arrange a home visit. Any questions about this program can be directed to the Community Board office or the JCC.
- Three Board Members received commendation for their perfect attendance. Attendance records are submitted annually to Borough Hall. Board Members who received this award were: Moshe Weider (who was not present to accept the award), Jacob Askal and Avraham Wolfson.
- Commendations to Tonya Cantlo, the liaison from Boro President's office. The District Manager has been asking for a while for a CRM computer program to help with constituent services. Since Tonya took over

the position vacated when Senator Andrew Gounardes was elected senator, there were huge strides and now CRM programs are actively pending for all community boards. The target date was in 10 months and it was to Tonya's credit because she took bull by horns to get this done.

**NEW BUSINESS cont.**

**Jacques Friedman- Board Member**

- Raised question about problems in the court system where stenographers are not taking minutes. Some judges make decisions that are unfair. For example, when a judge takes away ownership of property from one party without hearing both parties arguments to that or explaining the reasoning behind the judgment. Mr. Friedman brought this to the attention of the state agency (with oversight of the court system) on April 10<sup>th</sup>. It took until December 27 to get an answer. The agency made the final decision to throw out the complaint. But if a person can't go into court and have the right to speak there is something wrong with the judicial system in NY.
- Upon inspection, Mr. Friedman saw the state budget calls for funds allocated so there can always be a stenographer. Mr. Friedman believes advocacy by city agencies as well as volunteer groups should write to the governor and point out that this is going on. If a judge refuses to allow stenographer to take minutes the judge can do something totally wrong. The community Board representing the community should ask the Borough President and the Mayor to set up committees to look into this matter.
- Perhaps a resolution or letter can be written addressing this matter.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

Respectfully submitted by: Gittel Fekete