

**Environmental Committee
Community Board Ten
May 28, 2008**

Present: Greg Ahl, Anna DeMetz, Ron Gross, Scott Klein, Mary Nolan, Harriet Rosenberg, Josephine Beckmann

Excused: Stella Kokolis, Larry Stelter, Fran Vella-Marrone

Absent: Allen Bortnick, Kevin Peter Carroll, Tim Cross, Mary Ann Walsh

A quorum was not met.

Brett Sullivan, a representative from the office of Senator Marty Golden's office, Stephanie Giovino, a representative from the office Councilman Vincent Gentile, and Susan Tirota, a representative from Assemblywoman Jenelle Hyer-Spencer's office were present.

Meeting Location: Community Board Ten Office

The Meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m.

There were two items that were discussed at the meeting:

- 1. The Expanded Bottle Bill From Senator Kruger**
- 2. Follow-up On The Private Street Forum**

1. The Bottle Bill

The Bottle Bill that was passed in 1982 covered soft drink, sparkling water, beer, malt beverage and wine cooler bottles, resulting in 90 billion containers being recycled. At that time, water and juice containers were a small portion of the market. Now, these beverages along with other non-carbonated beverages constitute 25% of all beverage sales. 90% of these containers end up as either garbage or litter.

Presently, 1.5 billion dollars of unclaimed deposit money has been kept by the bottle distributors. The law would change this. These funds would go to the State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$100 to \$190 million dollars a year would go to funding for open space, parks, farmland protection, river clean up, recycling and job creation.

Handling fees to retailers would increase from 2 cents to 3.5 cents.

Retailers maximum number of bottles they must accept for return would be lowered.

Retailers and charities could accept more donations via their registration as a drop-off center.

Since a quorum was not met at this meeting, a vote was not taken on this issue.

We have been asked to support this new bill. To do so, we must have a motion from the floor to support this action.