



Donovan Richards
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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

Revised

March 9, 2026

Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee

Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Committee Member Attendees:

Amparo Abel-Bey, Vice Chair

Warren Davis

Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

Committee Member Absentees:

John Bahia

Benjamin Lucas

Alyssa Sawicki

Phugelzen Sherpa

Leticia Vasquez

Committee Members Excused:

Lauren Springer, Chair

Nellie Afshar

Health and Human Services Public Members Absentees:

Olivia Jackson Lewis

Robert Wohner

Andrea Thomas

Judy Zangwill

Community Board 2 Staff:

Rafael Nava, Community Assistant

Guests:

Andreina Gonzalez Diez, L.O.V.E Mentoring Program

Tom Mituzas, Blissville Civic Association

Hyesook Hwang

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

Note: Reference to the YouTube video and the associated time-in-meeting stamps are offered here as a service to community members who wish to review the meeting.

Time (Approximate, from YouTube Video)

YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fE8VUC6HA-Y>

Amparo Abel-Bey, Vice Chair of the Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee, welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

Latinas on the Verge of Excellence Program

0:01:20 Andreina Gonzalez Diez provided a PowerPoint presentation ([Click here to view](#)) on the Latinas on the Verge of Excellence Program (L.O.V.E.). The presentation outlined the organization’s background, curriculum, objectives, and outcomes. Several details were provided, including:

- L.O.V.E. provides mentorship and professional development to empower young female students. Its curriculum focuses on mental and reproductive health.
- In 13 years, L.O.V.E. has served 45 middle schools and high schools in New York City and supported 3,400 female students.
- Most of the program participants recently arrived in the United States and are undocumented.
- The following outcomes were reported by L.O.V.E.:
 - 93% of students state that attending the program during high school helped them increase self-confidence.
 - 82% of students who actively participate in the L.O.V.E program develop an understanding of sexual health education.
 - 94% of Spanish-speaking students report language skills acquisition based on their participation in the L.O.V.E program.
 - 91% of students who complete the program graduate from high school and pursue higher education.
- L.O.V.E. supports its students, including by connecting them to internships.
- The organization has a partnership with Elmhurst Hospital for students interested in STEM and healthcare.

Discussion of City View Shelter - Warren Davis & Blissville Community Residents

00:19:54 Warren Davis and Tom Mituzas led a discussion on shelters in Blissville and shared the following:

- They acknowledged that multiple mayoral administrations have established shelters in Blissville, including in 2018 when four shelters were located within a seven-block radius.
- While expressing support for shelters in Blissville, they noted that the neighborhood has not received investments despite lacking infrastructure and that its most vulnerable residents face significant challenges.
- They cited the City View Shelter population changes in February 2026 as an example of DHS and DSS not being forthcoming, transparent, or communicative about shelter operations in the neighborhood.
- Warren Davis and Tom Mituzas made the following requests:
 - Follow up on the letter the Blissville Civic Association sent on February 11, 2026.
 - Follow up with DHS to determine whether the following shelters are permanent or temporary:
 - Home2Suites – 39-06 30th Street
 - City View Inn – 33-17 Greenpoint Avenue
- Queens Community Board 2 will follow up on these requests.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rafael Nava