



Donovan Richards
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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

September 8, 2025

Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee

Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Committee Member Attendees:

Lauren Springer, Chair
Amparo Abel-Bey, Vice Chair
Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos
Alyssa Sawicki
Leticia Vasquez

Committee Member Absentees:

John Bahia
Warren Davis
Benjamin Lucas
Phugelzen Sherpa

Health and Human Services Public Members Absentees:

Olivia Jackson Lewis
Robert Wohner
Andrea Thomas
Judy Zangwill

Community Board 2 Staff:

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Guest:

Sabrina Snyder, Long Island City YMCA, Executive Director

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

Lauren Springer, Chair of the Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee, welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

The committee discussed the following:

- Committee members reiterated their interest in having a representative from the newly opened Queens Innovation Center attend a committee meeting to provide information on the schools located at the center.
- A committee member inquired whether measures have been taken to assist homeless individuals in the district, noting their vulnerability to severe weather and the approaching colder months.

Lauren Springer introduced Sandra Snyder, Executive Director of the Long Island City YMCA. Ms. Snyder provided a presentation, which is attached to the minutes, and discussed the following:

- The branch is located at 32nd Place and Queens Boulevard. It recently celebrated its 25th anniversary.
 - The branch has two pre-K classes and two 3-K classes through a DOE contract. It also offers fee-based aftercare for Pre-K and 3-K families, with childcare available until 6:00 PM.
 - The center offers childcare for children 6 months to 7 years, while parents are working out. Parents can reserve a two-hour slot where their children will be taken care of in the childcare space. The center also plans to expand the program to serve children aged 7 to 11.
 - Financial assistance is available to help families afford memberships or fund Summer Camp, an eight-week program for children ages 3 to 12 years. Registration for Summer Camp will open in late December 2025.
 - With membership, individuals have access to 35 group exercise classes and an indoor track.
 - The branch will launch a caregiver support program after receiving funding from a donor. The program will support individuals who provide care for others and address caregiver burnout. The first session is scheduled for September 12, 2025.
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- Lauren Springer shared an update on the budget process with the committee.
 - Several Health and Human Services Committee members will draft narrative statements to advocate for resources aligned with the committee's priorities, including youth services and homelessness prevention.

- The committee reviewed survey responses shared from the Community Board 2 monthly newsletter and analyzed Health and Human Services priorities to develop recommendations reflective of CB2's community needs.
- The committee also discussed the lack of health facilities in CB2, and Amparo Abel-Bey emphasized the need for birth centers.
- The committee will continue to discuss budget requests in the coming weeks.

Amparo Abel-Bey made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Rosamond Gianutsos.

The committee meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rafael Nava