

COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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HEATHER BEERS-DIMITRIADIS
CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO
DISTRICT MANAGER

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2022

PRESENT

H. BEERS-DIMITRIADIS, CHAIR

P. BEADLE, 1ST VICE CHAIR K. ENGEL, 2ND VICE CHAIR

M. LASTER, 3RD VICE CHAIR T. PADGETT, SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

K. LY, SECRETARY OF FINANCE J. DERESZEWSKI, PARLIAMENTARIAN

M. ARCATI B. GROSSBERG H. SCHONHAUT A. AYON O. HORODNICEANU D. SCHNEIER K. BATRA P. KUMAR J. SILVA M. BERFAS J. LI T. SIMMONS H. BIRNBAUM J. MEDINA R. TAMAYEV H. CHAIN R. MEHRRA I. TAMAYEVA S. CHU S. METZ M. TUCKER A. COHEN P. MORGAN S. WANDERMAN L. DAVIS E. NEWTON A. WEITZMAN A. DIAZ-HOUSTON S. ROLNICK J. WESTON B. GRIFFITH G. SANDOVAL E. WONG

ABSENT

G. GORDON R. NEKTALOV E. KALENDAREV D. YAKUBOV

R. LEONART

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO CB 6 DISTRICT MANAGER

D. RICHARDS QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT J. ADDABBO, JR NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

K. MCALEER OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN

A. ROSERO OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT RICHARDS

M. CARLIER OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER HEVESI

S. MCCABE OFFICE OF SENATOR ADDABBO

This meeting was held virtually via WebEx due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

PUBLIC FORUM

All requests for public comment must be submitted via email to QN06@CB.NYC.GOV by 3pm on the day of meeting. Public comments submitted by Friday at 5pm will be included in the minutes.

David Javidan

I'm the new property manager at Park City Three and Four in Rego Park. We are a 1,100-unit co-op. We went through a very rough transition and a lot of challenges in the last couple of months. My mission is to make it a safe, clean environment for our residents and to our community and to protect our shareholders. Thank you to the Community Board and Police Precinct for their hard work. I will reach out to the board if I need any help.

Yvonne Shortt

Rego Park Green Alliance is a non-profit, that does community work from public art projects to murals and projects in schools (robotics, school fences and other things). I would like to speak about a new project proposal for a piece of public art that will be going in at MacDonald Park. We wanted to create something that celebrated the lives of people that we lost during COVID. We came up with this design of a five-by-five-foot box and around it will have relief tiles that will be based on different stories that the community tells us. The relief tiles will go on a reflection pond that will consist of a mirrored acrylic pane surrounded by cinder blocks to look like a reflecting pond. The acrylic pane will hold the reflection of the sky and the individual looking down at the pond. The acrylic pane will also hold several leaf boats. The boats will have a space for community members to put flowers. The flowers will be a placeholder for silent notes to reach loved ones. It would say, "when you're feeling sad look down you will feel this person you lost within you and within the universe around you". The proposal was sent to the Community Board, Parks Department and Friends of MacDonald Park (Steve Melnick). If any community members would like to participate, they can email yvonne@regoparkgreenalliance.org. They are currently awaiting approval from the Parks Department.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Borough President Richards welcomed Heather and thanked her and the Executive Board for their work. He also made the following announcements:

- Community Board Applications (new applications and reappointments) are due by February 16th.
- Thanked Councilwoman Lynn Schulman for increasing COVID test sites, testing kits, PPE and mitigating the surge of Omicron.
- Proposed legislation to create COVID Office of Recovery to streamline all agencies to work together and be proactive with COVID.
- Please get vaccinated. Queens currently leads the city in vaccinations.

- There will be a Virtual Parent Advisory Board Meeting on February 15th. The chancellor will be there to discuss expanding the gifted and talented program and expanding opportunities of the specialized test to communities of color. Borough President Richards will speak about the need of more seats and funding for Queens schools.
- February 16th at 5:30pm, Borough President will host a virtual budget meeting with the Lieutenant Governor. Going through the governor's legislative proposals and fiscal priorities.
- February 23rd Annual Black History Month Event.
- Thanked CB 6 and Council Member Lynn Schulman for working towards deeper affordability in the Trylon Development Project and convincing the developers to use MIH Option 1.
- Will focus on hospitals in this budget to make sure our hospitals have more beds and have the most updated technology and equipment.
- Will send out some dates for budget request submission and have a hearing mid-March.
- Jobs trying to leverage opportunities with industries coming into Queens. The Deputy Borough President is working on a tech heavy initiative for Queens with Microsoft and others, including launching a tech challenge in Queens.
- Amazon is opening six warehouses in Queens. Borough President Richards is speaking with them about jobs being prioritized for Queens residents (including shipping / packaging jobs and corporate jobs).
- There are several projects at LaGuardia and JFK. These projects will bring union jobs and these opportunities will be promoted in Queens.
- A State of the Borough is tentatively planned for June.

SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, JR.

Senator Addabbo made the following announcements:

- The Senate is doing their budget in Albany, roughly a \$216 billion budget. We are working on the two biggest portions, which are education and healthcare. Thanked Borough President Richards for his hard work. If there are any budgetary issues that you want to highlight, that are important to you, call the office.
- The Senator appreciates the Governor's vision for improved transportation and the interborough express. He doesn't embrace the project at this point; more details and community input is needed. He wants his constituents' voices to be heard.
- Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 4pm webinar regarding seniors' rights and senior issues.
- Monday, February 28, 2022 Webinar on property values and property taxes with the NYC Department of Finance.
 If you are interested in either of these events, you can call his office for the link.

- Thanked Heather for her work as Chair of the Community Board and the members of the Community Board.
- Thanked the 112th Precinct for their efforts on behalf of our community.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 12, 2022 were approved as written.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Heather Dimitriadis thanked Council Member Lynn Schulman for her advocacy with the affordable housing at the Trylon Development.

Chair Heather Dimitriadis also recognized Board Member Joyce Kevelson for 10 years of service on the Community Board. Joyce recently passed away.

Chair Dimitriadis reported that the new Executive Committee held their first meeting on 2-2-22 and discussed the following:

- Holiday schedule for meetings
- Review of Executive Committee oversight assignments
- How to sustain the great work this board is doing without burning out members (ex: no double booking of meetings on a single night)

Chair Dimitriadis thanked Tania Padgett, CB 6 Secretary of Administration, for taking over the CB 6 Social Media pages and posting updates and events. She encouraged members to share those posts with their contacts and in other social media groups that they may be in.

Last, Chair Dimitriadis reminded members that Community Board Applications are due 2-16-22. If anyone knows someone in the community that might be interested, please encourage them to apply.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Frank Gulluscio reported that budget season is beginning for NYC. The Mayor will be releasing his budget soon. He, and Chair Dimitriadis, will be meeting with Council Member Lynn Schulman to discuss what is important to us.

District Manager Gulluscio announced that there was a discussion with the District Managers in Queens about cannabis.

- How will it be managed?
- How it will be enforced?

The Borough President is putting together a task force.

Mr. Gulluscio announced that sports betting is here, and it can make a lot of money for the state. He and the Chair would like to know specifically where this money is going.

DFTA is putting together a community care option. Mr. Gulluscio said he would share it when he receives more information.

PRESENTATION BY JILLIAN RUDES METROPOLITAN EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING SCHOOL (MELS)

Ms. Rudes presented a video made by students at MELS regarding the North Forest Park Library. At the request of the CB 6 Education, Library and Youth Committee, Ms. Rudes and her students conducted field work to the North Forest Park branch, noting the current condition of the library and identifying areas in need of development. Students designed a survey and analyzed the data that they received from MELS students. Students also had the opportunity to meet with Nick Buron, Chief Librarian and Senior Vice President, to ask him about his goals and the renovation process. Finally, students created 3-minute speeches arguing why the renovations to this branch are essential. They developed their presentations with logical reasoning, relevant facts and data.

The winning speeches were recorded and presented to the Community Board.

The students said the following could improve the library:

- Updated technology
- Comfortable seating
- Teen room
- Updated facade

Ms. Rudes ended by saying that the students are very interested in the future of this library and hope the Community Board can keep them informed as this process moves forward.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elizabeth Newton – Co-Chair, reported that CB 6 received 1 new application:

- The Cottage Tavern 108-07 72nd Avenue, FH

This applicant came before us for a liquor license previously in September 2020. The application was approved, and a Conditional Approval Letter was issued, but The Cottage Tavern Inc did not have the Letter of No Objection as an Eating & Drinking Establishment from the DOB, so original license issuance was on hold. SLA later disapproved their application after an investigator made a visit following up on a complaint and found the establishment serving alcoholic beverages without an active liquor license. Therefore, they are applying for a new license again. Currently, they are open and serving only food and nonalcoholic drinks.

The Committee motion is to approve the new applications. This motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The Community Board received the following renewal applications:

- 1. 718 Hookah & Lounge Inc. 72-13 Austin Street, FH
- 2. Reef 108-02 72 Avenue, FH
- 3. Shogun 111-16 Queens Blvd, FH
- 4. Gabriel's 90-17 63 Drive, RP
- 5. Dylan's Forest Hills 103-19 Metropolitan Avenue, FH
- 6. The Bund 100-30B Queens Blvd., FH

There were no negative reports from the 112th Pct. The Committee motion is to approve the renewals. The renewal applications were approved unanimously on a voice vote.

The Community Board received the following Street Activity Permit Applications:

1. QUEENS BOULEVARD FOREST HILLS FAIR

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

QUEENS BLVD. BETWEEN YELLOWSTONE BLVD. & 70th ROAD

SPONSOR: 112TH PCT. COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2. 63rd Drive SPRING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

63RD DRIVE BETWEEN QUEENS BLVD. & AUSTIN STREET

SPONSOR: FOREST HILLS VISITING NEIGHBORS

3. FOREST HILLS FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

AUSTIN STREET BETWEEN 69TH ROAD & 72ND ROAD

SPONSOR: FOREST HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

4. QUEENS BOULEVARD FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

QUEENS BLVD BETWEEN YELLOWSTONE BLVD & 70th ROAD

SPONSOR: FOREST HILLS JEWISH CENTER

5. 63RD DRIVE FAIR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

63rd DRIVE BETWEEN QUEENS BLVD. & AUSTIN STREET

SPONSOR: FOREST HILLS/REGO PARK LIONS CLUB

6. FOREST HILLS FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

AUSTIN STREET BETWEEN 69TH ROAD & 72ND ROAD

SPONSOR: FOREST HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

7. QUEENS BOULEVARD FOREST HILLS FAIR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022

10:00AM - 6:00PM

QUEENS BLVD. BETWEEN YELLOWSTONE BLV D & 70th ROAD

SPONSOR: 112TH PCT. COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The committee motion was to approve these applications. The motion passed on a voice vote. There were 3 abstentions for #1 and #7 and 1 abstention for #5. All other members present voted in favor of all 7 applications.

AGING / SOCIAL SERVICES / DISABILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Laster, Co-Chair, reported the following:

- The committee held an Intergenerational Panel Discussion with CB 9, Queens Community House and Commonpoint Queens on 1-27-22 at 6:30pm. It was called Let's Talk with Seniors and Teens. Three teenagers interviewed three seniors and a panel discussion followed. The takeaway was that there are many differences but also many similarities between the two.
- The committee is still working on a resource manual for older residents
- The committee is working on ways to increase attendance at future presentations
- The next meeting will be on Monday 2-14-22

DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Kevin Ly, Co-Chair, reported that the listening sessions are on hold for now. They are inviting board members to join the committee at upcoming vision sessions. They would like to revisit the mission of the committee and why it was started in the first place and where it should go in the future. The next meeting date isn't confirmed at this time, but when it is, he will let everyone know.

GOOD & WELFARE

Heidi Chain, President of the 112th Precinct Community Council, announced that there will be a meeting Wednesday, February 16, 2022 via Zoom. If you are interested in attending or have questions, email council112@yahoo.com

Peter Beadle, Co-Chair, announced that the CB 6 Public Transportation, Transportation Committee would be having a meeting Thursday February 17, 2022 at 7:00pm. There will be a guest speaker from Circuit Ride (an electric rideshare service) to see if it is a good fit for our community.

Mark Laster announced that Steve Melnick is taking a step back from Friends of Macdonald Park and is looking for volunteers to help with park upkeep. Assemblyman Hevesi's office has assisted with the coordination of this.

John Dereszewski reported that the CB 6 Transportation Committee - Access A Ride Subcommittee had a meeting last week. They were joined by a representative from an

advocacy group to discuss concerns about systemic issues with the program. The subcommittee would like to work to recommend improvements to the Access A Ride program.

Anisia Ayon reported that CB 6 participated in an "Aging in Place" webinar with the Borough President's office, Commonpoint Queens, Queens Library and JASA. There were more than 100 people in attendance. There will be future webinars.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Michael Carlier announced the following:

- As NYS lifts the mask mandates, the Assembly Member will still distribute masks, hand sanitizer, etc. Please respect those that choose to continue wearing masks.
- PPE Giveaway this Sunday 2-13-22 at 10am at Juniper Park. If you can't make it and need supplies, contact 718-263-5595 and arrangements can be made.

COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN

Kevin McAleer introduced himself as the Community Constituent Liaison for the office.

- It is budget season. The Council Member is meeting with a lot of community groups
- Committee Assignments:
 - Health Committee Chair
 - o Aging, Education, Fire and Emergency Management, Governmental Operations, Criminal Justice, Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises.
- If you have any issues, please call or email the office at 718-544-8800 / district29@council.nyc.gov

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Nolan Community Coordinator

CB 6 VOTING SHEET 2-9-22	Attendance	New Liquor License Applications	Renewal Liquor License Applications	Street Activity Permit Applications
MICHAEL ARCATI	Y	Y	Y	Y
ANISIA AYON	Y	Y	Y	Y
KAVISH BATRA	Y	Y	Y	Y
PETER BEADLE	Y	Y	Y	Y
MIRIAM BERFAS	Y	Y	Y	Y
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	Y	Y	Y	Y
HEIDI CHAIN	Y	Y	Y	Y/Abstain #1,#5,#7
SHERIDAN CHU	Y	Y	Y	Y
ALEXANDER COHEN	Y	Y	Y	Y
LATRICE DAVIS	Y	Y	Y	Y
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	Y	Y	Y	Y
ALEJANDRA DIAZ-HOUSTON	Y	Y	Y	Y
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	Y	Y	Y	Y
KEITH ENGEL	Y	Y	Y	Y
ETHAN FELDER	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
GAIL GORDON	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
BRENDAN GRIFFITH	Y	Y Y	Y	Y Y
BRUCE GROSSBERG		Y	Y	
ODED HORODNICEANU	Y	Y	Y	Y
EMANUIL KALENDAREV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
PRAMEET KUMAR	Y	Y	Y	Y
MARK LASTER	Y	Y	Y	Y
RALPH LEONART	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
JONATHAN LI	Y	Y	Y	Y
KEVIN LY	Y	Y	Y	Y
JACK MEDINA	Y	Y	Y	Y
RENEE MEHRRA	Y	Y	Y	Y
STEVEN METZ	Y	Y	Y	Y
PAT MORGAN	Y	Y	Y	Y/Abstain #1, #7
RAFAEL NEKTALOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
ELIZABETH NEWTON	Y	Y	Y	Y
TANIA PADGETT	Y	Y	Y	Y
SHARI ROLNICK	Y	Y	Y	Y
GLADYS SANDOVAL	Y	Y	Y	Y
DAVID SCHNEIER	Y	Y	Y	Y
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	Y	Y	Y	Y
JEAN SILVA	Y	Y	Y	Y
TERESA SIMMONS	Y	Y	Y	Y
ROBERT TAMAYEV	Y	Y	Y	Y
IRINA TAMAYEVA	Y	Y	Y	Y
MARTHA TUCKER	Y	Y	Y	Y
SUSAN WANDERMAN	Y	Y	Y	Y
ALEXA WEITZMAN	Y	Y	Y	Y
JOAN WESTON	Y	Y	Y	Y/Abstain #1, #7
EDWIN WONG	Y	Y	Y	Y
DANIEL YAKUBOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
TOTALS:	40 PRESENT 6 ABSENT	ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR	#2, #3, #4, #6 - ALL IN FAVOR #1 - 3 Abstentions #5 - 1 Abstention #7 - 3 Abstentions