

### COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

104-01 METROPOLITAN AVENUE · FOREST HILLS, NY 11375-4136
TEL: (718) 263-9250 · FAX: (718) 263-2211
QN06@CB.NYC.GOV
WWW.NYC.GOV/CB6Q



HEATHER BEERS-DIMITRIADIS
CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO
DISTRICT MANAGER

# CB 6 MEETING MINUTES JUNE 8, 2022

#### **PRESENT**

H. BEERS-DIMITRIADIS, CHAIR

P. BEADLE, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE CHAIR K. ENGEL, 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE CHAIR

M. LASTER, 3<sup>RD</sup> VICE CHAIR K. LY, SECRETARY OF FINANCE

T. PADGETT, SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

J. DERESZEWSKI, PARLIAMENTARIAN

M. ARCATI B. GRIFFITH P. SCHNEIDERMAN A. AYON K. IMAS D. SCHNEIER K. BATRA J. LI H. SCHONHAUT M. BERFAS B. LEONG J. SILVA M. TUCKER H. BIRNBAUM J. MEDINA H. CHAIN S. WANDERMAN R. MEHRRA S. CHU J. MILNER A. WEITZMAN J. WESTON L. CIACCIO P. MORGAN K. CLARK E. NEWTON E. WONG S. ROLNICK T. YASUKAWA A. COHEN

A. DIAZ-HOUSTON G. SANDOVAL

#### **ABSENT**

L. DAVIS D. RACHNAEV
S. JAIN T. SIMMONS
S. METZ R. TAMAYEV
R. NEKTALOV I. TAMAYEVA
H. POLLACK B. WINSTEAD

#### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO CB 6 DISTRICT MANAGER

J. GOLDES OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER MENG

M. CARLIER OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER HEVESI
K. MCALEER OFFICE OF NYC COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN

#### **COMMUNITY BOARD 6 MINUTES**

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

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy Belated Shavuot, a Happy Father's Day, and a Happy Juneteenth.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis continued by acknowledging that it has been a challenging 30 days in our country with the horrific mass murders that have been taking place in Buffalo, Uvalde, Texas, Philadelphia, Chattanooga and more. Also, in our own community, we saw the arrest of an individual in the murder of Zhiwen Yan.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis shared an excerpt from a poem written by a young black poet named Amanda Gorman called *Hymn for the Hurting* "May we not just grieve, but give; May we not just ache, but act." Chair Beers-Dimitriadis encouraged the Community Board Members to turn their anguish into action. "We work to make our community better and hopefully, by extension, make the world a better place. It is what we can do in this moment in time."

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

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

#### Nicholas Elizabeth Faby

I'm concerned about the fact that the garbage on the street is still just in bags and not in bins. This is something that was discussed during the campaign for city council. I know several members who were running had as part of their campaign that they were going to switch to having the garbage in bins.

That will be more hygienic, and the garbage will not block the way for disabled people or families using stores. I use mobility aids and frequently I have to cross the street or end up just deciding not to go places on garbage day because there are big bags of garbage that are blocking the sidewalk, especially as the sidewalk is narrow. Additionally, because the bags of garbage, are just bags, and not bins, rats can chew through the bags and get to the food inside. This is obviously not hygienic and especially concerning because I've read on the Centers for Disease Control website that rodents can spread monkey pox. They are one of the animal vectors and that's not safe for our community right now to have food for rodents out on the street. This could lead to more disease spreading in our community.

I want to know if there's any sort of plan in place to have bins for the garbage, instead of just bags, so that it'll be safe for disabled people and also more hygienic for the community in general. Thank you.

#### Jess Zhao

What is the precinct proactively doing to protect the Asian community and neighborhood at large from illegal guns being used to threaten and murder innocent victims? With all the heightened focus on anti-Asian hate crimes and reining in illegal guns, why was nothing done to prevent Yan Zhiwen from being murdered by Glenn Hirsch, despite the fact that Hirsch did not have a gun license (which is why he's also been charged with criminal possession of a firearm), the Great Wall staff repeatedly warned the precinct that Hirsch threatened to kill them with an illegal gun while he hurled racial epithets at them, and Hirsch has an extensive, violent criminal record, including armed robbery? Actions speak louder than words. How do you fulfill your duties to

serve and protect, to prevent hate crimes, to get illegal guns off the streets, to stop violent crimes when at every step the innocent Asian victims' pleas for help and tips to the precinct were rebuffed? Clearly, egregious mistakes were made that cost an innocent man his life, his three children their father and his wife her life partner. What steps are being taken so that this never happens again? Is there an internal investigation, will the precinct mandate training to its officers to follow the proper procedures, and will there be increased patrols to protect Asian businesses and their employees?

#### Stella Xu / Amy Hsin

We are grateful for the efforts of the NYPD in apprehending Glenn Hirsch in the murder of Zhiwen Yan. However, with the rise in Asian hate crimes, and AAPI community remains on edge.

Hirsch's harassment of workers at The Great Wall restaurant began in November of 2021, including, using a knife to damage a car parked outside of the restaurant on December 16 and threatening Mr. Yan, and brandishing a gun at a restaurant worker on January 28.

For months, workers and their families were subjected to violent harassment and endured racist threats and insults. What steps were taken to safeguard workers from continued racist harassment and keep them safe? Mr. Yan's family reports that their repeated pleas for help were unaddressed. Based on news reporting, police officer tried to intervene during an incident when Hirsch threatened workers by requesting the restaurant refund Hirsch's order. If these reports are true, then they would display a callous disregard for the wellbeing of victims of harassment and anti-Asian violence. We ask that the 112 precinct and the DA's office provide the community a detailed account of what was done to address then months of harassment endured by workers at Great Wall and provide a plan for how similar situations will be addressed in the future to protect our community from harassment and anti-Asian violence.

At the same time, I wish to thank CB6 members for their continued advocacy. Crimes against the AAPI community are often ignored. We need allies. Left to their own devices, our institutions and the authorities in power rarely respond without pressure and advocacy from the community. Patrick Mateo was only charged with a hate crime for his assault against Lee-Lee Chin-Yeung due to advocacy of the community, and it took a tremendous amount of effort. David Kim's case resulted in no action, despite multiple eyewitnesses and video. The driver who killed Xing Long Lin's was never charged, because she killed a delivery worker whose life apparently had little value.

We see the same pattern of neglect and indifference in the case of Zhiwen Yan's murder. We have already seen that the repeated calls for help by Zhiwen Yan and his colleagues were left unaddressed. This leads a heartbroken AAPI community to ask, would Zhiwen Yan still be alive today the threats posed by Hirsch was taken seriously? We see the callous indifference to Asian lives to the grieving Yan family and to a frightened AAPI community in Forest Hills by the lack of coverage and attention as compared to Orsolya Gaal's murder. Our community is angry and frustrated that we're being failed again the lack of crime charges. It should be obvious that Hirsch did not target workers at Great Wall randomly. Workers were subjected to harassment and Yan lost his life because they were the victim of anti-Asian violence. Failing to pursue a charge for hate crime is another indication that Asian lives are disposable. We call on DA Melinda Katz to do right by the community who elected her and the people she is supposed to protect to prosecute Glenn Hirsch hate crime charges.

#### Edwin Wong

I agree with what Jess and Stella were saying about the procedures at the 112 and I thank the community for its support and CB 6 for allowing the sharing of these concerns.

I would also like to talk about security guards at non-public schools. This is being raised by a couple of local Catholic schools in terms of funding they would like to see for school security guards to protect the children in light of what's been happening in the last weeks, months and years. There is a long history of shootings at schools. There is a current City Council proposal to have this specific funding, Intro 0098-2022. It's really something to support advocacy for school safety agents at these schools. They'd like to amend Local Law 2 of 2016, which would allow smaller schools to be reimbursed for hiring these school safety agents. I'm speaking specifically for Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and Our Lady of Mercy. These are the 2 Catholic schools in the area that have been looking to reach out to our local Council Member to get her support for this

specific proposal right now. It is currently in the Public Safety Committee, so I just wanted to bring this to everyone's attention.

We would like to have the support of whoever we can support us, whether it be CB Members or those from the public that are listening. I just wanted to bring this to everyone's attention. And thank you for your time.

#### Jean Silva

I've lived in Queens, on Austin Street, for over 48 years, and these past couple of years, we have had these blue Revel scooters parked all over our neighborhood, because we are near the Union Turnpike Train Station, and they seem to drop these scooters off in the areas where there's a public transportation stop. They are on our sidewalks, on our walkways, crosswalks, etc. It is just totally horrendous what we are going through. They have to find a place to put these scooters. Get them off of Austin Street and out of Queens.

The other problem that we are having over here is the underpass at Union Turnpike and Jackie Robinson Parkway. The DOT changed the traffic pattern at Union Turnpike and the Jackie Robinson Parkway and rerouted traffic from Queens Boulevard and 77th Road, 77th Avenue, Kew Forest Road, Austin Street. These streets are backed up from 2pm – 8pm. The traffic has tripled, the noise, the difficulty trying to cross Austin Street. There needs to be a traffic light, or a stop sign. All the DOT has done is put in speed bumps. This doesn't solve anything. The cars jump over the speed bumps and you hear bang, bang, bang all night long. I want everybody to have a good Pride and don't forget come out to Flushing Meadows Corona Park or your neighborhood parks. They are open. Have a wonderful summer.

# The following public comment was read by Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis Kim Gee Powell, Parent from Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy

I am curious as to what the status of INT 0098-2022 which concerns the reimbursement of school safety agents at non-public schools where the student body is less than 300. Is this any closer to passing given the increase in random violence around the nation and the city? What can we, as citizens and parents, do to ensure that our children have adequate safety at school?

# The following public comment was received after the 3pm deadline to be read at the meeting Dann Sheridan

I am writing to you to request an installation of a NYPD ShotSpotter and Surveillance package at the corner of 74th Avenue and Metropolitan Avenue in Forest Hills, Queens, 11375. This is in response to numerous complaints reported to 311 and 911 for the Desert Rain Hookah Lounge (107-29 Metropolitan Avenue) over the past few years and a new vape shop, Haboob Vaping Club (107-31 Metropolitan Avenue) that has received NYC Building stop work orders, building violations, and summonses. There are no cameras or other NYPD technology on Metropolitan Avenue between Woodhaven Boulevard and Union Turnpike and beyond. The neighborhood needs this technology to deter and document the unwanted, threatening, stress inducing, and potentially criminal activity we are experiencing.

In the past six years I've owned my home here in Forest Hills, there are very few nights that I have not been awakened in the middle of the night by loud, unruly, and disrespectful patrons of the Desert Rain Hookah Lounge. I've reported many fights on the sidewalks outside of this business, including a fight that moved into my front yard. I've lost count of the times I've reported loud noise incidents of people coming out of the hookah lounge, blasting their car stereos, and continuing to party on the street. Beyond the disorderly behavior constantly experienced, we are entering the warmer months where the hookah lounge sponsors events. One of the most popular events they sponsor is street races. On a Friday or Saturday evening, we see street racing cars pull up to the hookah lounge, someone comes out and hands the passenger a piece of paper, and the car races off. An hour or two later we can hear cars racing all over the Jackie Robinson, Woodhaven, and Metropolitan. An hour or two after that the entire pack of street racers descends on the hookah bar where they spend a few hours and then emerge to run sprints up and down Metropolitan Avenue until the police arrive and chase them off. On the corner I live there are all manner of other shenanigans acted out by patrons of this business; open drug use, public sex, graffiti, people sleeping in their cars, etc. A group of neighbors takes turns cleaning up the area a few times a week where we find the left behind paraphernalia of the shenanigans; hookah tips, liquor bottles, syringes, used condoms, garbage, etc. A ShotSpotter and Surveillance package will deter the street

racing and unwanted activity stemming from the hookah bar.

Haboob Vaping Club recently opened without a license, is selling flavored vaping products, and is openly selling cannabis products. The neighborhood has submitted numerous 311 complaints, DCA, and Buildings complaints. Haboob Vaping Club does not possess the permits or licenses required to be operating their business. A Shotspotter and Surveillance package will hopefully deter crime, even the low-level crimes I'm observing every day, related to that new business, protecting the business and the neighborhood. Should crime occur, NYPD will have video footage and other data readily available.

Given the proximity of the hookah bar to the smoke shop, I am almost certain that the hookah bar will be applying to become a licensed consumption site. Or, even if they are not, they will allow consumption in their business. In fact, they already do based on my observations, but that is beside the point. It is clear to me, at least, that the business and building owners are trying to create a recreational cannabis "destination" in our quiet, family-oriented neighborhood. These businesses serve no one in our neighborhood. We need help observing, reporting, and documenting what we are experiencing. A ShotSpotter and Surveillance package will be a welcome tool to help everyone achieve an amicable balance in the neighborhood.

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of May 11, 2022, were approved with the following corrections:

- 1. "Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis opened the meeting by recognizing that May is Asian / Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Jewish Heritage Month" changed to "Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis opened the meeting by recognizing that May is Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Jewish American Heritage Month"
- 2. Date correction in the following (December 30, 2022 to December 30, 2021):
- "DI Cappelmann reported on the violence that has been occurring in our neighborhood since December 30, 2022. This is violence that we don't usually see in this community:
- December 30, 2022 A person was shot during a robbery at  $70^{th}$  Road and Austin Street. They believe the victim was followed to the location"
- 3. In the Public Transportation, Transportation Committee Report, the term "street renaming" was replaced with "street conaming."

#### UPDATE FROM ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Assembly Member Hevesi reported the following:

- 10 bills have been passed by the state regarding gun crimes in the past year including:
  - o Raising the age that someone can buy an AR-15 assault rifle from 18 to 21
  - o Adding new restrictions on purchasing body armor
  - o Increasing red flag laws
  - Allowing schools to have a quicker response and alerting the law enforcement that they have an active shooter
- These bills alone are not going to address the rise in gun violence. He feels that many of the problems we are dealing with are due to the state not being proactive and addressing the roots of these issues.
- AM Hevesi introduced the following bills related to addressing root causes:
  - Analysis of how many kids in foster care have intellectual and developmental disabilities.
  - Rectified an unconstitutional statute that denied unmarried fathers the same due process in foster care cases that other parents have.

- o In cases of domestic violence or abuse, where the caregiver or child has good cause, paternity cant be requested.
- Allow parents who work part time to have their kids receive full time childcare.

These bills are all designed to prevent and mitigate childhood trauma which will also help with the societal problems we're seeing now.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis thanked the office staff for their work on issues in the community. The staff is available Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis reported that the Community Board submitted written testimony to the City Council regarding the budget. Some important things are sewers, housing, community board funding. Community Boards get less and less each year and are expected to do more.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis thanked the CB members that marched in the Memorial Day Parade and thanked Michael Arcati from the American Legion for working so hard to bring the parade back.

There are no board meetings scheduled in July and August. We will keep everyone updated on whether we will be meeting in person in September and where we will be meeting. We must follow the guidelines from the State regarding meetings.

In the past, storms have caused considerable damage in the district. Please stay up to date on them this summer. Sign up for notifications from Notify NYC (<a href="https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/Home/EnrollmentInfo">https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/Home/EnrollmentInfo</a>)

#### **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT**

District Manager Frank Gulluscio reported that he has been in meetings with the other District Managers to prepare for Budget Consultations.

CB 6 Staff must participate in trainings throughout the year from New York City. We are getting ready to do a disability awareness training.

DM Gulluscio announced that the NYC Department of Buildings is bringing back its Homeowners Night. On Tuesdays from 4pm to 7pm there are DOB representatives available to answer questions from residents. It is at 120-55 Queens Boulevard.

Last, DM Gulluscio reminded everyone that Early Voting begins this month.

# PRESENTATION BY DEPUTY INSPECTOR JOSEPH CAPPELMANN COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 112<sup>TH</sup> PRECINCT

Deputy Inspector Joseph Cappelmann reported that Glenn Hirsh was arrested on June 1, 2022, for the murder of Zhiwen Yan. The timeline may have been frustrating, but it was all done to maintain the integrity of the case and to make sure everything was done lawfully and properly. The District Attorney released a press release containing all the information that is public at this time. Due to the upcoming trial, there is still information that can't be released.

- D.I. Cappelmann reported that crime is up in the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct and citywide. There has been an increase in Grand Larcenies for this month and year. The most significant contributor to this is identity theft. This includes compromised bank accounts, skimming devices on ATMs and compromised credit cards. The next large spike in Grand Larcenies is related to automobiles. This includes cars being left unattended, cars being left unlocked with valuables inside and catalytic converter thefts. Another issue that has been increasing is mail related thefts. This seems to have started during tax season. Individuals were going into apartment buildings and breaking into mailboxes with a master key from the USPS. D.I. Cappelmann suggested that residents retrieve their mail from their box as soon as possible.
- D.I. Cappelmann announced that although there are a lot of challenges, the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct officers are working diligently to keep the community safe. He continued by saying that 2 weeks ago officers recovered a loaded firearm from a car stop. Last week, while doing an observation of a problematic corner, officers observed a 16-year-old male remove a firearm from a bag and place it in his pocket. This male was taken into custody.

#### **FY24 BUDGET PRIORITY OVERVIEW**

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis and Third Vice-Chair Mark Laster presented the following: Community Board's Role:

- The Community Board's role is to assess the budgetary needs of their neighborhoods and make recommendations in the City's budget process. Recommendations advise both the Mayor's Office and the City Council. We don't have our own checkbook.

**Budget Process for FY24** 

- Committee Review Phase (6-9-22 9-16-22)
  - o Committees will review and reconsider FY23 committee specific goals for the following and consider and create additional priorities
- Public Input Phase (7-5-22 8-5-22)
  - The Board will survey the community on their top 5 expense & capital priorities
  - Results will be presented to the board for consideration at the 9-14-22 board meeting
- All Chair (or committee designate) Evaluation Phase (9-19-22 10-6-22)
  - o Committee Chairs will rank compiled FY24 budget priorities and meet to review, discuss, and vote on the final ranking
- Full Board Vote / Public Hearing Phase (10-12-22)

 Full board will hear from the public via public comment and survey results, review and resolve questions / concerns from the board and vote on final list of expense and capital budget priorities

### Capital Budget Priorities – 40 Maximum

- Definition: The construction, reconstruction, and acquisition of capital assets, such as building and renovating schools, purchasing vehicles and equipment including fire trucks and computer network systems
- Example: New Rego Park Library

#### **Expense Budget Priorities**

- Definition: Services like fire protection and police, social services, healthcare, education, and every-day needs like office supplies, rent and utilities, and vendor services
- Example: Queens Community House Meals on Wheels

#### What comes next?

- All Board Members will receive the following tomorrow:
  - o Current board budget priorities indexed by committee
  - o A template for submission of priorities
  - o A checklist for Phase 1 of the process
- Committee Chairs will
  - Schedule a committee meeting between June 9<sup>th</sup> and September 16<sup>th</sup> to work on and finalize their budget priorities
  - o Use tools like E-mail or Google Forms as needed
  - Submit final budget list to Mark Laster (<u>queenscb6thirdvicechair@gmail.com</u>) and Heather Beers-Dimitriadis (<u>qnscb6chair@gmail.com</u>)
- Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Mark or Heather

### LAND USE, HOUSING AND LANDMARK COMMITTEE REPORT

## BSA APPLICATION #164-60 BZ – 100-20 Metropolitan Avenue, Queens

Extend the term of variance and waive the rules of procedure for an existing gasoline service station which expired on April 10, 2019

Keith Engel, Chair, reported that the Committee met on 5-17-22 and held a Public Hearing on the above application.

Carl Sulfaro, Esq. reported the following about the application:

- Privately owned service station (has been privately owned for many years)
- The current owners repaired the sidewalks and did a lot of renovations to the premises. The applicant didn't want to come before the BSA until these repairs were completed.
- Gas station operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- The service station is located within a C1-3 commercial overlay within a R3-2 zoning district.

- No physical changes are proposed from the prior approval and the facility will continue to operate consistent with the terms and the conditions of the prior approvals

CB 6 Members raised questions and concerns about the following:

- Noise and light pollution for neighboring residents
- Underground tank infrastructure
- Credit / debit card fees charged

The committee motion is to approve this application. The committee vote was unanimous. This motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Keith Engel also gave a brief overview of an informational presentation about the Parkway Hospital Site located at 70-35 113<sup>th</sup> Street:

- Foxy Management, an affordable housing developer, is the new owner of the tax lot that contains the former Parkway Hospital and is developing the senior housing component of the project.
- Development is as-of-right and based upon the approved ULURP which up-zoned the site from R1 to R7 in 2019.
- Project is called 'Parkway Senior Living' and will convert and enlarge the existing building, providing 187 units [mix of 0-BR and 1-BR units] for a 62+ senior population. The project will integrate senior housing and healthcare and will provide a 20,000 SF community facility [medical tenant, TBD] that will be open to the residents and well as the public. 'Hebrew Home for the Aged' will be the non-profit provider.
- Project will provide AMI bands of 50% and lower and will include a 30% homeless set-aside.
- Financing will include project-based Section 8, with tenants to pay no more than 30% of their income toward rent.
- Project will contain accessible apartments, will seek a high degree of electrification, and will provide green features throughout.
- Project will comply with applicable LL97 and will feature green roofs and PVs where practical.
- Project is in HPD's pipeline to close on financing in June 2023 and anticipates a 27-month construction schedule. Occupancy anticipated Fall 2025.
- Due to prohibitions under Federal law as per the Section 8 financing, the project cannot preference the community in apartment assignment. Project will have an open lottery process.

#### AGING / SOCIAL SERVICES / DISABILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Anisia Ayon, Co-Chair, reported that the committee held a presentation on "Social Engagement for Seniors and People with Disabilities" on Thursday May 19, 2022. There were representatives from Fountain House and the Department for the Aging to speak about the

services they offer. If anyone wants to watch the presentation, the recording is available on the CB 6 YouTube page.

The next intergenerational discussion will be on Wednesday June 22, 2022, at 6:30pm. It is Pride Month, and the discussion will highlight individuals that identify as LGBTQ.

The committee will be printing paper copies of their senior survey to distribute at local libraries and senior centers.

The committee meets the  $2^{nd}$  Monday of every month, and the next meeting will be on 6-13-22 at 6:30pm.

#### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION / TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Alejandra Diaz-Houston, Co-Chair, reported that the committee met on 5-26-22 and the following was discussed:

John O'Neill from DOT attended the meeting to give updates on several community projects.

- Neighborhood loading zones
  - Intended for residential areas
  - o Prevent double parking from deliveries
  - Community Portal will be open for the next 30 days: <a href="https://nycdotprojects.info/project/neighborhood-loading-zone-nlz-program-expansion">https://nycdotprojects.info/project/neighborhood-loading-zone-nlz-program-expansion</a>
- Protected bike lane project for Grand Central Parkway and 62<sup>nd</sup> Drive, 62<sup>nd</sup> Road
  - Make a connection to FMCP
  - o Make biking to the park safer
- New Barnes Dance 71 Avenue and Queens Boulevard
  - o 3 signal cycles
  - o Need further communication between DOT and the community to clarify this
- Union Turnpike and Yellowstone Boulevard
  - o DOT is working on some ideas to make these streets safer

The committee discussed the Queens Bus Redesign. The Committee is putting together a letter to MTA regarding concerns that they have heard from our community members.

# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elizabeth Newton - Co-Chair, reported that CB6 received 3 new applications. One is a new application and the other two are corporate changes.

1. Prime 107, Inc. 107-10 Queens Boulevard, FH Chair Newton explained that she couldn't speak directly with the owner since the restaurant isn't open yet. However, the owner provided the following information:

The establishment will be an upscale Italian restaurant and bar. The owner has multiple projects in Brooklyn and Manhattan. Below are some website links. <a href="https://www.labaianyc.com/">https://www.labaianyc.com/</a>, <a href="https://www.labaianyc.com/">https://www.lassantas.nyc/</a>, <a href="https://www.loretonyc.com/">https://www.loretonyc.com/</a>
The owner is proud to bring her love for sophisticated Italian food to Queens and attract a diverse clientele, that too can appreciate great ingredients expertly prepared. We hope to regularly see everyone from the community there, enjoying a great cocktail and meal. If Loreto and La Baia are any indicators, then Queens too will be in for a treat."

2. Il Poeta 98-04 Metropolitan Avenue, FH (corporate change)

This is listed as a new application, but the operation of the restaurant isn't changing, it is just a change in ownership where one partner is buying out the other partner

3. Moca Asian Bistro 107-18 70<sup>th</sup> Road, FH (corporate change)

This is listed as a new application, but the operation of the restaurant isn't changing, it is just a change in ownership where the wife is transferring her shares of the business to her husband

The Community Board also received the following renewal applications:

- 1. Bangkok Cuisine 107-18 70th Road, FH
- 2. C-Town Supermarket 94-06 63 Drive, RP

There were no negative reports from the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct. The Committee motion is to approve the new applications and renewals. This motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

#### **GOOD & WELFARE**

#### **CB 6 MEMBERS:**

Mark Laster announced that the FH Green Team is partnering with CB 6 and several elected officials and civic groups to present a By-Stander Intervention Training in conjunction with the NYC Human Rights Commission. It will be on Tuesday June 14, 2022, at 6:30pm.

Michael Arcati thanked CB 6, the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct and community members for their assistance in making the Memorial Day Parade a success.

Pat Morgan wished everyone a Happy Pride. There are 2 Pride marches in NYC: the NYC Pride March and Reclaim Pride. Pat also encouraged the board members to attend the intergenerational presentation, where she will be a panelist.

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPRESENTATIVES:**

#### ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Michael Carlier spoke briefly about the following gun control legislation:

- Strengthening red flag laws
- Microstamping of certain guns

- Closing loopholes on defining what a firearm is
- Eliminate the grandfathering of high-capacity magazines

Mr. Carlier also thanked the American Legion for their work in bringing back the Memorial Day Parade. He also announced the following:

- The office will have a table at the FH Street Fair on 6-12-22. They will be distributing hand sanitizer, COVID home test kits and masks.
- The 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct will be hosting a gun violence awareness event on 6-18-22.

#### **CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG**

Jordan Goldes announced the following:

- The Congress Member's bill was passed by the house and the senate, which would create a national museum dedicated to preserving the history, culture, and accomplishments of Asian Americans.
- Received complaints about individuals breaking into the green relay boxes and stealing mail. The Congress Member has been in contact with the USPS regarding this.
- Congress Member Meng continues to support aid for Ukraine and stands in solidarity with their people
- Protecting our Kids Act (gun safety bills) passed in the house
- Bill passed the house and senate for veterans that cleaned up radiation sites to be eligible for benefits and compensation
- Congress Member Meng marched in the Forest Hills Memorial Day Parade
- Annual Congressional District Art Contest
  - o All high school students in the district are eligible
  - o Winner gets their artwork hung up in the Capitol for one year

#### COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN

Kevin McAleer announced the following:

- Council Member Schulman is on the budget negotiating team and has been fighting for our community including extra funding for school safety, homeless services, and sanitation
- The office will have a table at the Street Fair on Sunday
- Save the Date: Movie in the Park -6-19-22. More information will be available shortly
- Monday, 6-13-22 Composting Education Event with the FH Green Team and Queens Botanical Garden
- Council Member Schulman is a co-sponsor of Intro 98 which will reimburse small non-public schools for their school security guard services

### QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ

Tara Chester offered her condolences to the community on the death of Zhiwen Yan. Ms. Chester wished everyone a Happy Pride Month, Happy Caribbean American Heritage Month and a Happy Philippines Independence Day, Happy Juneteenth, and Happy Shavuot.

Tara also announced the following:

- Virtual LGBTQ+ Pride Month Celebration 6-14-22 at 5pm via Zoom. You can register for the event at www.queensda.org
- The District Attorney joined Governor Hochul and state law makers for the signing of 10 bills aimed at strengthening gun laws in New York state. In the wake of the horrific mass shootings that have taken place around the nation, the DA firmly believes that limiting access to dangerous weapons will help save lives. And she is grateful to the state legislature for taking action in response to the realities we are facing at the moment.
- The gun control measures that were signed into law this week
  - o Bar the purchase of semi-automatic rifles by anyone under the age of 21
  - o Require micro stamping of new semi-automatic pistols
  - Require social media companies to improve response to and reporting of hateful content.
  - Prohibit the purchase of body armor except for those in specified professions.
- If you would like any additional information, it can be found on the Governor's website.
- The DA's office investigates and prosecutes those who bring guns into our borough and terrorize our communities. Since August of 2021, the office has conducted a total of 11 illegal firearms investigations in Queens, recovering 127 firearms, 470 high-capacity magazines and over 46,000 rounds of ammunition.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Nolan
Community Coordinator

CB 6 VOTING SHEET		BSA APPLICATION	NEW	RENEWAL
6-8-22	ATTENDANCE	164-60BZ	LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS
MICHAEL ARCATI	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
ANISIA AYON	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
KAVISH BATRA	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
PETER BEADLE	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
MIRIAM BERFAS	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
HEIDI CHAIN	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
SHERIDAN CHU	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
L.T. CIACCIO	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
KANDRA CLARK	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
ALEXANDER COHEN	PRESENT	YES	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE
LATRICE DAVIS	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
ALEJANDRA DIAZ-HOUSTON	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
KEITH ENGEL	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
BRENDAN GRIFFITH	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
KAREN IMAS	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
SARINA JAIN	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARK LASTER	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
BEATRICE LEONG	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
JONATHAN LI	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
KEVIN LY	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
JACK MEDINA	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
RENEE MEHRRA	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
STEVEN METZ	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
JULIE MILNER	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
PAT MORGAN	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
RAFAEL NEKTALOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
ELIZABETH NEWTON	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
TANIA PADGETT	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
HOWARD POLLACK	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
DIANA RACHNAEV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
SHARI ROLNICK	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
GLADYS SANDOVAL	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
PETRINA SCHNEIDERMAN	PRESENT	YES	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE
DAVID SCHNEIER	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
JEAN SILVA	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
TERESA SIMMONS	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
ROBERT TAMAYEV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
IRINA TAMAYEVA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARTHA TUCKER	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
SUSAN WANDERMAN	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
ALEXA WEITZMAN	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
JOAN WESTON	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
BRENTLY WINSTEAD	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
EDWIN WONG	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
TITILAYO YASUKAWA	PRESENT	YES	YES	YES
TOTALS:	39 P, 10 A	39 YES, 0 NO	37 YES, 0 NO	37 YES, 0 NO