



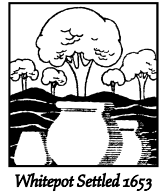
COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

104-01 METROPOLITAN AVENUE • FOREST HILLS, NY 11375-4136

TEL: (718) 263-9250 • FAX: (718) 263-2211

QNO6@CB.NYC.GOV

WWW.NYC.GOV/CB6Q



HEATHER BEERS-DIMITRIADIS
CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES APRIL 3, 2024

PRESENT

H. BEERS-DIMITRIADIS, CHAIR
K. ENGEL, 2ND VICE CHAIR
S. BAIDA, SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION
J. DERESZEWSKI, PARLIAMENTARIAN

P. BEADLE, 1ST VICE CHAIR
M. LASTER, 3RD VICE CHAIR
L.T. CIACCIO, SECRETARY OF FINANCE

E. ALFONSECA
M. ARCATI
D. ARONOV
R. ASHE
J. AVILA
A. AYON
K. BATRA
H. BIRNBAUM
S. CHRAIBI
K. CLARK
L. DAVIS
T. GAVRIELOF

B. GROSSBERG
M. LASHLEY-KABORE
K. LY
R. MEHRRA
P. MORGAN
S. MUNAWAR
N. PIENKOWSKA
J. POORAN
J. PRATT
D. RACHNAEV
P. RODRIGUEZ
S. ROLNICK

M. SALTON
G. SANDOVAL
D. SCHANTZ
A. PRATAP SHAH
E. SHVARTSMAN
J. SILVA
M. TUCKER
B. WINSTEAD
E. WONG
E. ZAKRY

ABSENT

H. CHAIN
G. CHEN
K. IMAS*
M. FERNANDEZ KONIGSBERG*
S. JAIN
H. SCHONHAUT

*EXCUSED ABSENCE

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|------------------|---|
| CHRISTINE NOLAN | COMMUNITY COORDINATOR |
| GEORGIA KATSALIS | OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS |
| JORDAN GOLDES | OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG |
| GIANNA VALENTE | OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI |
| JOHN D'ANGELO | OFFICE OF SENATOR JOSEPH ADDABBO |
| THOMAS AURINGER | OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ |
| JAVIER FIGAROA | OFFICE OF QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ |

COMMUNITY BOARD 6 MINUTES

APRIL 3, 2024

This meeting was held in-person with a limited virtual option via WebEx for individuals with extraordinary circumstances. The following CB 6 Members joined the meeting via WebEx: Kandra Clark, Latrice Davis, John Dereszewski, Dr. Renee Mehrara, Pat Morgan, and Shari Rolnick. The meeting will be recorded and posted on YouTube. Community Board meetings are posted on YouTube.com for transparency to the public (www.tinyurl.com/cb6youtube).

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GOOD AND WELFARE

CB 6 MEMBERS

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis announced the following on behalf of Heidi Chain:

- 112th Precinct Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 17th at 7:30pm at Ridgewood Savings Bank. If you want to sign up for the meeting please email council112@yahoo.com.

Mark Laster announced the following:

- Compost update – Thanks to the Council for prioritizing community composting; CB6 Composting resolution passed last month is being used by the Queens Solid Waste Advisory Board as a template for asking the rest of the Queens Community Boards to pass similar resolutions. Sadly, due to these cuts, the Food Scrap Drop Off Sites run by Grow NYC, which includes locally the one by the Farmers Market, and the FHGT site by Common point will be closing on May 19, even if the budget cuts to community composting are restored. Also, sadly, Big Reuse is being kicked off their Queensbridge Composting Site by Parks; they will be holding a press conference on Sunday, April 19 regarding this issue. If anyone wants more information about this, you can email me at fhgtinc@gmail.com.
- Forest Hills Green Team; Queens Community Project; New York Communities for Change; Food and Water Watch; NYPIRG are sponsoring a panel on Thursday, April 11 at the First Pres Church of Forest Hills, 7 PM to discuss Local Law 97: What it does; why we need it and how it works. I will share the flyer with the office. There will be a second panel on Thursday, April 18 at 7 PM in Jackson Heights, Community United Methodist Church at, 81-10 35 Avenue.
- Following up on the very successful clean up along Metropolitan Avenue, our own CB6, in partnership with the Forest Hills Green Team; Metro Village; Senator Addabbo; Assembly Member Hevesi and Council Member Schulman will be having another clean up on Sunday, April 14, from 10 AM to noon; meet in front of Aigner Chocolates. All supplies will be provided.
- I have been appointed to serve as a Delegate on Borough President Donovan Richards' Queens General Assembly (QGA) for the 2024 session. This intercultural dialogue project is the only one of its kind operating out of a Borough President's Office, and it is now entering its 21st year. Our focus is on promoting dialogue and building solidarity among diverse stakeholders from around the borough. My responsibilities include co-facilitating meetings, attending events at the Borough President's office, getting to know communities beyond my own, and working on community action projects with my fellow QGA Delegates, Alumni, and Advisors.

Ephraim Zakry announced the following as the Queens representative on the Panel for Educational Policy:

- April 4th, 2024, CEC District 28 meeting at 6:30pm
- April 11th, 2024, PEP meeting at 6:00pm located at John Bowne High School
- April 17th, 2024, PEP meeting at 6:00pm located at John Jay Educational Campus regarding Fair Student Funding Formula.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis announced that if you want to sign up to receive email from the CEC their website is cec28@schools.nyc.gov.

PUBLIC FORUM

All requests for public comment must be submitted via email to QN06@CB.NYC.GOV by 3pm on the day of the meeting. Public comments submitted by Friday at 5pm will be included in the minutes. Chair Beer-Dimitriadis made an announcement that anyone who submitted a written public comment to be read by the Chair will not be read but will be included in January's minutes.

Martin Levinson – Concerned Citizens of Forest Hills

Good evening members of Queens Community Board 6. I am Marty Levinson, a member of the Concerned Citizens of Forest Hills. Once again, I am here to remind you, as if you needed reminding, of the negative impact the Stadium concerts are having on our community and what you as a Community Board can do and you can do something. I personally am not here to ask that you stop the concerts. That has never been my aim. You know what are our main concerns? They include excessive and harmful noise, not observing a 10pm curfew and the number of concerts and traffic. We are also very disturbed by events scheduled on religious holidays, school nights and lasting for more than four hours. Community Board Members, I as an individual, cannot place an item on your agenda that requires a vote, but you can. If the volume is too loud, for example, you can in a resolution request that the mayor ensure that noise from the Stadium does not exceed legal decibel levels in the NYC noise code. That there be regular follow up by the Department of Environmental Protection. You can, in a resolution ask DEP inspectors to impose fines and to immediately shut down the performance of code violators in the same way that the Department of Health padlocks filthy restaurants. One should hold the promoters responsible. Aren't they the ones making the big bucks? What is controversial about mandating a 10pm curfew? Isn't this the rule for performances in New York City Parks? One elected official told me that performers won't come to the stadium if they must stop at 10pm. Do you believe that? Can't you pass a resolution that no concerts be scheduled on religious holidays, is that wrong? Is that controversial? Now, I get to the more contentious issues. The number of concerts is there is no limit to the number of concerts. A few summers ago, there were under a dozen. This past summer there were at least twenty-eight. This season there are almost 30 events planned for the season. 30 events are excessive, 30 events are greedy. That's what I said, greedy. I have heard that 30 events or more is what the promoter wants to do every year. These events often make our life unbearable. There are road closures, traffic jams, people urinating on lawns and in driveways. At the end of the concerts, often until midnight, people honk their horns, and scream on the streets. Also, why not limit the length of events to four hours? There should be moderation and compromise. Many of these problems might have been resolved through good faith negotiations among the stakeholders. Isn't it sad that some of these issues must play out in the New York State Supreme Court? Queens Borough President Richards is quoted on March 18 of the Queens Daily Eagle as follows: "the concerts aren't going anywhere, so we have to find a way to get everybody to work together". That's a lofty thought when faced with a promoter who threatens to schedule more concerts to pay for his legal bills incurred from defending against the two current lawsuits. Last May, according to the Gothamist, a letter was sent to the NYPD from this Community Board, praising the promoter's contribution to the community. Could we respectfully impose upon you to send a letter to the mayor expressing our concerns? To our local elected officials. Are you only focused on money for the concert promoter and an elite tennis club? Don't you care about our neighbors? Hundreds of residents have signed a petition demanding an end to the concerts. These are active, motivated, and angry local voters that vote. Think about them. Community Board Members 6, thank you for serving the community.

David Kupferberg

I believe that how to determine if a bus network redesign is a success, or failure, is local riders and how they are treated as part of the redesign effort. As per MTA's presentation, 17% of riders would lose their bus stop. This is unacceptable and won't help the MTA in a Title VI case. After all, 17% of the Queens population is 386,000. In the listings, the Proposed Final Plan is being used as a reference, and to prevent myself from becoming repetitive. The Q11, via Woodhaven Blvd, is proposed to absorb the Q21 by serving western Lindenwood, then doing a round robin via Old Howard Beach and Hamilton Beach. Howard Beach service would be maintained by leaving the Q41 untouched, except in Ozone Park. Unfortunately, service in eastern Lindenwood is proposed be eliminated. Locally elected officials wish for the Q11 to be split into two branches, one via eastern Lindenwood, the current path, and the other via western Lindenwood, MTA's proposed path. This is wishful thinking, as the Q11 would serve less of both sides of the

neighborhood. I think that the Q11 from the New Draft Plan should be resurrected, and called the Q81, with three-legged transfers for Q11 riders.

The new Q81 should do the round robin:

Q11 – Operate all times between Queens Center Mall and 157th Ave/102nd St via Woodhaven Blvd, Cross Bay Blvd, and Lindenwood. Three-legged transfers for the Q81.

Q21 – See Q11.

Q81 – Operate daily between Rockaway Blvd Station and Old Howard Beach/Hamilton Beach via Rockaway Blvd and Centerville St. Three-legged transfers via Q11.

The purpose of Q23's current route path in Corona is to connect with the 7 Train. This, however, had the historical misintent of the creation of a service gap along 108th St. The MTA's proposed Q14 would mitigate some of the negative impacts. Though the MTA is proposing to operate the Q23 overnight, service would be truncated to the 103rd St-Corona Plaza Station. This change does not have community support. The Q23 should continue to serve East Elmhurst but be streamlined via 108th St and serve the 111th St Station. Though some people like the Q38 in its current form, the U-shaped route path is a relic; it has no place in a mass transit system as robust as New York City. The Proposed Final Plan would facilitate the breakup of the Q38 to two services, the Q38 and proposed Q14. The Q38 would continue to serve the M Train. Unfortunately, the proposed Q14 was cut back to Metropolitan Ave/Fresh Pond Road due to "budget constraints". If the MTA could spend \$30 million on the Queens Bus Network Redesign, the MTA could spend \$30 million more. Eliot Ave riders should not be deprived of their connection to the M Train; the Q14 must operate to the Fresh Pond Road Station.

Q14 service would loop on streets already served by other bus routes:

New Q14 – See Proposed Final Plan. Extend via Fresh Pond Road to the Fresh Pond Road Station.

Q23 – Operate via 108th St, 43rd Ave, 111th St, Roosevelt Ave, returning to 108th St. Extend via 23rd Ave to 95th St/Ditmars Blvd. Operate all times.

Q29, Q32, Q38, Q60 – See Proposed Final Plan.

Why can't the Q52-SBS in the Rockaways be extended further east? As a matter of policy, the MTA cannot and will not allow route adjustments of SBS services citywide until MetroCard is phased out. This is an excuse, as that MetroCard would, probably, be phased out when or a short time before the implementation of the Redesign:

Q52-SBS – Operate via Beach 49th St instead of Beach 54th St.

Q53-SBS – No route or span changes.

The Q55 is proposed to be extended to the 121st St Station. Unfortunately, there is nowhere in the area to effectively turn buses. The MTA may wish to go back to what was proposed in the New Draft Plan with the Q54 and Q55. Yes, there was some community opposition. But the intersection of Metropolitan Ave and Jamaica Ave has been pedestrianized. As such, the bus service has deteriorated. What was proposed in the New Draft Plan was not a perfect solution, but was the best solution:

Q54 – Operate via Hillside Ave between Metropolitan Ave and Queens Blvd.

Q55 – Extend to Jamaica via Jamaica Ave.

I think that the Q58 should be rerouted via 108th St and Roosevelt Ave, instead of serving the Horace Harding Expwy. This change would facilitate the creation of the Q98, which has overwhelming community support:

Q58 – Operate via 108th St and Roosevelt Ave to Flushing.

New Q98 – See Proposed Final Plan.

Q59 service in North Williamsburg is used by people who don't need to travel via Williamsburg Bridge Plaza.

Nonetheless, the Q59 should be streamlined via Queens Blvd at its eastern end:

Q59 – Streamline at its eastern end to operate via Queens Blvd. Continues to operate via Grand St in North Williamsburg.

Why couldn't the Q72 be extended, especially southward, in order to connect more neighborhoods? There is no layover area for buses at LaGuardia Airport's Central Terminal Zone; the Q72 must take its layover in Rego Park. Any further extension would make the Q72 unmanageable:

Q72 – See Proposed Final Plan.

Most express bus stops within Queens should be retained, and added in some locations:

QM4/QM44, QM15 – See Proposed Final Plan.

College Point has been demanding Express Bus service for a long time. Such a route could be viable if the Central Business District Tolling Program, loosely called Congestion Pricing, is implemented. I think that the QM10/QM40 should be extended to College Point. The QM10/QM40 are based at the College Point Depot. This option would be operationally efficient, as non-revenue mileage would decrease significantly.

63rd Road is currently used by the QM10/QM40 to loop. This segment carries relatively few people during the AM Weekday Peak, as the routes mostly serve Lefrak City riders. The QM12/QM42 are nearby and more direct:

QM10/QM40 – Extend to College Point. Possible span expansion to midday weekdays and weekends on a trial basis. The proposed express bus stop at East 34th St/1st Ave, for the QM11, would be great for Queens Riders who wish to travel to the east of Midtown; I love it:

QM11 – See Proposed Final Plan.

QM12/QM42 service south of Forest Hills may have low ridership now, but this could change when Congestion Pricing is implemented. Should these segments and services still have low ridership, as per the MTA New York City Transit Service Guidelines Manual with documentation, then they could be eliminated. I have complete confidence that Congestion Pricing would allow these services to be saved from elimination:

QM12/QM42 – Maintain service south of Forest Hills to Union Tpke.

Implementation of all redesign proposals must be based on community input. Of course, there has to be compromise and negotiation, and no plan will satisfy everyone. The plan that is finally decided upon must not be dictated by a higher authority. Communities, however, must also be willing to support plans that are for the greater good, and not take a parochial approach. Most of all, the communities that are virtually isolated from others must not block attempts to improve access to their communities by wanting to stay isolated and automobile dependent. We must all work together to have a better bus service for Queens.

Chair Dimitriadis reported that the Queens Bus Redesign will host a session in the Helen Marshall Center on May 9th from 5-9pm.

Paul Sapienza

My name is Paul Sapienza, I came to give you an FYI on a project that I am working on. There is a plaque dedicated to the World War II dead from Astoria that I am trying to have restored. It originally resided in the front yard at my ancestral home in Astoria. The plaque has 18 service men, I have been compiling information about the service men on the plaque. Where they served, what division, how they died and where they may be buried to be put in a data base. I would like the plaque rededicated to some public place in Astoria. One of the reasons why I came here. There was a reporter from the Forest Hills/Rego Park Times on March 7th, that ran an article about this project. The reporter asked me why I was in touch with the Forest Hills American Legion Hall. Unfortunately, the VFW Hall in Astoria may be inactive. I reached out to the paper because I misidentified Forest Hills as where I used to be the chair of Community Board 9 which was my district. I wanted to come and apologize for the misrepresentation. This is a picture of one of the gentlemen on the plaque and I found a tombstone in Long Island of one of other men on the plaque. My desire is to establish a database so that you can look up the names on the plaque when it gets redisplayed on a website to read about them.

Luis Bazoberry

I am Luis Bazoberry, a resident of 6120 Grand Central Parkway, and I stand before you today deeply troubled by several critical issues impacting the safety and quality of life in our community. First and foremost, the illegal parking of 18-wheelers along the Horace Harding Expressway near Colonial Avenue and throughout the Grand Central Parkway service road presents significant safety hazards to our neighborhood. These trucks not only obstruct the view of oncoming traffic but also violate designated no-standing zones, especially near corners, school zones, and expressway exits. According to NYC Traffic Rules §4-08(e)(6), commercial vehicles are expressly prohibited from parking overnight or for extended periods on city streets without permission. These trucks not only pose a hazard but also consume valuable parking spots, exacerbating the challenges faced by our community, particularly after the implementation of bike lanes. Speaking of which, the installation of bike lanes across from our building represents a stark example of poorly planned infrastructure, seemingly prioritizing political expediency over thorough research and consideration for community safety and convenience. The reduction of our street from two lanes to one has resulted in the loss of numerous parking spots, causing significant inconvenience for the 421 units in our building, some of whom have been on parking lists for up to two decades. This change not only inconveniences residents but also creates hazardous conditions, particularly during snowstorms, and compounds traffic congestion, jeopardizing the safety of emergency vehicles and trucks turning from the Horace Harding Expressway. Therefore, we demand that officials reevaluate the bike lanes to help us find solutions for parking challenges while maintaining safety for all road users. Furthermore, our community has been plagued by incidents of car burglaries, break-ins, thefts, and vandalism, further eroding our sense of security and well-being. Criminals have even felt emboldened to tag our property with graffiti, adding to the deterioration of our neighborhood. The unbearable noise emanating from Flushing Meadows Park late at night adds to our concerns, violating city noise codes and disturbing our peace and tranquility. We acknowledge that addressing the noise issue falls under the jurisdiction of the 110th Precinct, but we urge collaboration between local precincts and officials to tackle these challenges effectively. Another pressing concern is the negligent conduct of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), particularly evident during Hurricane Ida in

2021. Our property suffered devastating losses, including the tragic loss of a life and extensive structural damage amounting to nearly \$20 million, due to the DEP's failure to adequately maintain sewage infrastructure. Despite being tasked with this responsibility after the Department of Sanitation, the DEP has exhibited alarming neglect, as evidenced by records showing a lack of maintenance for nearly a decade following the hurricane. Residing in one of the most affluent cities in the United States, we are entitled to transparency and accountability in government expenditure. We demand safety, meticulous planning, and responsible operations from agencies funded by our tax dollars. It is imperative that these agencies fulfill their mandate to protect the citizens they serve. Thank you for your attention, and I am confident that by working together, we can create a safer and more livable neighborhood for all residents. Thank you.

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis closed the public forum.

MINUTES

The minutes for the March 13, 2024, meeting were approved as written. Mark Laster made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by L.T. Ciaccio. All were in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis reported that it has only been 15 business days since our last community board meeting, but we have been very busy. Due to redistricting we have a few new Council Members in our district. Over the past two weeks Christine and I have met with Council Member Robert Holden, and Council Member James Gennaro and their staff.

- We discussed a variety of concerns in Rego Park with Council Member Holden. Some of these included:
 - o The need for a temporary library spot. The library is going to be under construction for several years. Residents use the library for a variety of things, not just books. The project is scoped out to provide us with a book mobile for a couple of years. Council Member Holden is committed to finding a temporary spot for the library while it is under construction. We will keep our eyes and ears open for a location.
 - o Traffic challenges on 63rd Drive between Austin Street and Alderton Street. There is a popular market over there that attracts double parked cars, cars making U-turns right across the street. Council Member Holden is going to try to troubleshoot that problem. Some ideas were to provide loading zones to support the business and ease the traffic.
 - o The transitional shelter that falls in his district is expected to open in the fourth quarter of this year.
- After a question from Mark Laster, the Chair shared that they also discussed:
 - o Traffic congestion caused by vehicles blocking the slip lane by the 112th Precinct.
- When Christine and I met with Council Member Gennaro, we spoke about the 61-18 93rd Street shelter that is expected to open on May 15th. The Council Member is speaking with DSS and the Mayor's office to share his perspective on the shelter. He spoke about possibly suggesting a different population of men such as veterans or over 55.
- Both conversations with the Council Members about the shelters were very productive. Both Council Members have experience of dealing with shelters in their districts.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis congratulated Brently Winstead on becoming Co-Chair of the Consumer Affairs/Economic Development/Small Business Committee with Gladys Sandoval. She asked all Committee Chairs to save the date of April 16th for our all-chairs meeting to discuss the budget request process for this upcoming year.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis spoke about the hiring process. Our District Manager retired in December, and we are currently conducting a search for a new District Manager. The resumes must be submitted by certified mail to the office c/o job search and must be postmarked by April 11th. The hiring team will review the resumes by

the end of April. The first week of interviews will be held in May, the goal is to submit a candidate for a final vote at our June 5th meeting. The hiring committee is a combination of executive committee members, personnel committee and one member at large. The hiring team is Peter Beadle, Keith Engel, Mark Laster, Salua Baida, John Dereszewski, L.T. Ciaccio, Brently Winstead, Ephraim Zakry, David Aronov, David Schantz and Marcelle Lashley-Kabore`. This hiring committee is representative of every committee of the community board, represents every police sector in this district, multiple school zones, people on the board that has been on from one year to twenty plus years.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis reported that on April 14th, we will have a table at the 112th Pct. Community Council Street Fair on Queens Boulevard.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Christine Nolan introduced herself as the Community Coordinator and stated that she has been filling in for the District Manager since our District Manager retired in December. She also welcomed the new CB Members, introduced Barbara Vulich and Maria Concolino, CB6 Staff and reminded everyone that they should feel free to reach out to the CB Office with any questions or concerns.

Ms. Nolan reported that we received a call from Daniel Garodnick (Director of the Department of City Planning) thanking us for taking the time to review each proposal of City of Yes, Economic Opportunity. We are waiting for the next portion which will be Housing Opportunity.

Ms. Nolan also reminded everyone that beginning March 1st, all businesses were required to containerize their trash. DSNY has been giving out warnings but as of April 1st, they began summoning businesses that don't comply. If you see a business that isn't complying, you can let us know. If they are having issues, we can put them in touch with Sanitation.

Last, Ms. Nolan announced that DSNY will have extra collection trucks out in the community on April 22 for Passover trash collection. Put out your trash or recycling on April 21st for collection on April 22. They will be out until approximately 2:00pm.

WELCOME NEW COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis recited a quote from Joseph C. Hennessy, Late Community Board 6 Chair "You have one responsibility, not to yourself, but to the community. When you vote, make sure you vote for your community. It's a commitment that you've made to the city". We all live on streets that are different and unique; what might work for your street, might not work for the overall community. At this point, all board members introduced themselves. The swearing in is on April 15th at Queens Borough Hall. We will have a virtual orientation on Webex on May 7th, more information to follow.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Co-Chair Gladys Sandoval reported that CB6 received the following renewal applications:

1. The Dinerbar, 97-45 Queens Blvd., RP
2. 718 Hookah & Lounge Inc., 72-13 Austin Street, FH
3. Forest Hills Stadium, 69-50 Burns Street, FH
4. Kantu Peruvian Cuisine, 105-07 Metropolitan Avenue, FH

The 112th Precinct didn't have any issues/complaints with these establishments. A voice vote for the renewal liquor license applications was taken. All were in favor.

HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMITTEE REPORT
DAY-REHAB PROGRAM – REGO PARK COUNSELING LLC
63-36 99TH STREET, REGO PARK, NY 11374

Committee Co-Chair Diana Rachnaev reported that CB6 received a request for a letter of support for Rego Park Counseling Day-Rehab program. On March 26th, the committee met with Emanuil Kalendarev, the owner of the Rego Park Counseling, a for profit organization located at 63-36 99th Street in Rego Park. He has been operating the center, which has been approved by OMH and OASAS since 2020. The committee agreed to write a letter of support. A voice vote was taken, and all were in favor of issuing the letter of support for the Day Rehab program for Rego Park Counseling, LLC.

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC TRANSIT, STREET SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Peter Beadle, Committee Chair gave a summary of the LIRR ADA Project at the Forest Hills Station for those that missed the presentation at last month's meeting. The committee met on March 28, 2024, and discussed several aspects of the presentation. The bulk of that discussion was regarding the LIRR decision to install ramps instead of elevators when the funding that was originally allocated was for elevators. The committee will be presenting the board with a resolution at our May Meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS, SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE REPORT

Salua Baida, Secretary of Administration, reported that the committee has been working on a CB6 Logo Competition. The CB6 Logo is outdated, and we wanted to make it more representative of our community. The committee, with the great assistance of Public Member Emily Otalora, came up with a logo design competition that will be launched to the Public. Once the entries are received, the committee will choose their top 20, then the Community Board Members will vote for their 5 favorites, before putting the finalists to a public online vote for 1 winner. This logo will be used on letterheads, promotional items, etc.

Ms. Baida told everyone to keep their eyes open because we will be sending the details out soon. Please share it with anyone that you think might be interested in participating.

AGING, SOCIAL SERVICE, DISABILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Bruce Grossberg, Committee Chair, reported that the committee held a Webinar on February 22, 2024, regarding Nursing Homes after COVID-19. The speakers were State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. and Richard Mallot of the Long-Term Care Coalition. Following this webinar, the committee put together a resolution to send to our elected officials.

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Facilities faced challenges prior to COVID-19 pandemic, as described in the attached article.

WHEREAS, there is a need for improved oversight of nursing home care and rehabilitation facility care combined with stronger enforcement of minimum care standards by the State and Federal government;

WHEREAS, there is a need for improved State and Federal staffing policies, increased salary and benefits, and clearly defined career paths;

WHEREAS, the personal needs allowance for residents and patients of nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities is insufficient for the actual personal needs of residents and patients, and needs to be increased;

WHEREAS, there is a need for improving financial accountability and transparency for nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities;

WHEREAS, there is clear documentation that nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities are hiding profits

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Queens Community Board 6, calls on the Governor of New York and all New York State legislators to address these issues prior to passing any increases for nursing home funding and rehabilitation facility funding.

A voice vote was taken, and all were in favor.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPRESENTATIVES

QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ

Javier Figueroa read a statement from DA Katz regarding the death of Detective Jonathan Diller. DA Katz stands in solidarity with our law enforcement officers. The DA's Office will continue to work tirelessly to seek justice on behalf of Det. Diller, his family, friends, and the NYPD. Two individuals were quickly apprehended at the scene and are now charged with serious crimes for their alleged roles in the killing. The alleged shooter is charged with a First-Degree murder charge for the killing of Det. Diller and a First Degree attempted murder charge for attempting to fire his weapon at the sergeant that was also at the scene. If convicted, the defendant faces life in prison without the possibility of parole. A second man, the accused driver of the vehicle the defendant was in is charged with illegal possession of a weapon after a gun was found in the car. DA Katz will not rest until justice is served in this case.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

Thomas Auringer reported the following events:

- The office hosts Legal Assistance Group Vans monthly
- Co-Sponsoring 63rd Drive Clean Up – Saturday April 13, 2024, at 10am
- Mental Health Awareness Event with Elmhurst Hospital, Wed April 24, 2024
- Jackson Heights Community Cleanup – April 27, 2024

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Gianna Valente reported the following events:

- Co-Sponsoring 63rd Drive Clean Up – Saturday April 13, 2024, at 10am
- Co-Sponsoring Metropolitan Avenue Clean Up – Sunday April 14, 2024, at 10am

SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, JR

John D'Angelo reported that the Senator is in Albany working on the budget.

He announced the following events:

- Paper Shredding and Recycling – April 13, 2024, at Atlas Park and April 28, 2024 at the Forest Park Bandshell
- Narcan Training at the 112th Precinct Community Council Street Fair – April 14, 2024

QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Georgia Katsalis announced that Borough President Richards appointed 117 new members to Community Boards in Queens. Congratulations to the new members and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the Director of Community Boards, Kahleel Bragg kbragg@queensbp.org

Georgia also announced the following events:

- State of the Borough Address – April 12, 2024, at 10am
- Celebration of Eid Al-Fitr – Wednesday April 17, 2024, from 6pm to 8pm at the Helen Marshall Cultural Center
- Sweets and Sweats Event for Young Adults – Friday April 26, 2024, from 3pm – 7pm
- Virtual Parent Advisory Board Meeting – April 20, 2024, at 6pm

To RSVP or any of these events www.queensbp.org/rsvp

CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes welcomed all the new members and congratulated all the reappointed board members and reported the following:

- VA Office Hours are once a month at the Flushing District Office
- Funded a free legal desk at the Queens Chamber of Commerce for small businesses. On May 3rd, the legal desk will be in the Congress Members District Office.
- Introduced legislation making it easier for veterans to purchase Co-Ops.
- Responded to a complaint about the vehicles from the Rego Park Post Office parking in No Standing Zones. They will continue to monitor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

| CB 6 VOTING SHEET 4-3-24 | RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS | DAY-REHAB PROGRAM REGO PARK COUNSELING LLC 63-36 99 ST - RP | NURSING HOMES RESOLUTION |
|-----------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| EDGAR ALFONSECA | | | |
| MICHAEL ARCATI | | | |
| DAVID ARONOV | | | |
| ROBERT ASHE | | | |
| JULIETH AVILA | | | |
| ANISIA AYON | | | |
| SALUA BAIDA | | | |
| KAVISH BATRA | | | |
| PETER BEADLE | | | |
| HOWARD BIRNBAUM | | | |
| HEIDI CHAIN | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| GINA CHEN | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| SAMIR CHRAIBI | | | |
| L.T. CIACCIO | | | |
| KANDRA CLARK | | | |
| LATRICE DAVIS | | | |
| JOHN DERESZEWSKI | | | |
| HEATHER DIMITRIADIS | | | |
| KEITH ENGEL | | | |
| TAMARA GAVRIELOF | | | |
| BRUCE GROSSBERG | | | |
| KAREN IMAS | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| SARINA JAIN | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| MATT FERNANDEZ KONIGSBERG | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE | | | |
| MARK LASTER | | | |
| KEVIN LY | | | |
| DR. RENEE MEHRRRA | | | |
| PAT MORGAN | | | |
| SABAH MUNAWAR | | | |
| NATALIE PIENKOWSKA | | | |
| JESSICA POORAN | | | |
| JOI PRATT | | | |
| DIANA RACHNAEV | | | |
| PEDRO RODRIGUEZ | | | |
| SHARI ROLNICK | | | |
| MATTHEW SALTON | | | |
| GLADYS SANDOVAL | | | |
| DAVID SCHANTZ | | | |
| HERBERT SCHONHAUT | ABSENT | ABSENT | ABSENT |
| AMIT PRATAP SHAH | | | |
| EUGENE SHVARTSMAN | | | |
| JEAN C. SILVA | | | |
| MARTHA TUCKER | | | |
| BRENTLY WINSTEAD | | | |
| EDWIN WONG | | | |
| EPHRAIM ZAKRY | | | |
| TOTALS: | ALL IN FAVOR | ALL IN FAVOR | ALL IN FAVOR |