



## 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

CHRISTINE NOLAN  
DISTRICT MANAGER

### **CB 6 MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 9, 2025**

#### **PRESENT**

HEATHER BEERS-DIMITRIADIS, CHAIR      MARK LASTER, 3<sup>rd</sup> VICE CHAIR  
PETER BEADLE, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE CHAIR      SALUA BAIDA, SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION  
K. ENGEL, 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE CHAIR      JOHN DERESZEWSKI, PARLIAMENTARIAN  
LT. CIACCIO, SECRETARY OF FINANCE, PERSONNEL

E. ALFONSECA  
D. ARONOV  
R. ASHE  
A. AYON  
K. BATRA  
H. BIRNBAUM  
K. CLARK  
L. DAVIS  
K. FUENTES  
A. GUO

K. IMAS  
S. JAIN  
N. JOHNSON  
M. LASHLEY-KABORE  
K. LY  
P. MORGAN  
S. MUNAWAR  
N. PIENKOWSKA  
J. PRATT  
R. PUNJABI  
G. RIVKIN

L. ROBINS  
P. RODRIGUEZ  
S. ROLNICK  
G. SANDOVAL  
D. SOLOW  
D. SCHANTZ  
J. SILVA  
L. TECPANECATL  
M. TUCKER  
D. WALCOTT  
E. ZAKRY

#### **ABSENT**

J. AVILA  
A. FERATOVIC\*  
N. GALIPEAU\*  
T. GAVRIELOF  
DR. R. MEHRRA\*

J. POORAN  
D. RACHNAEV\*  
H. SCHONHAUT\*  
E. SHVARTSMAN\*

A. PRATAP SHAH  
B. WINSTEAD\*

\*EXCUSED ABSENCES

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

CHRISTINE NOLAN  
JORDAN GOLDES  
MERCEDES JENNINGS  
GIANNA VALENTE  
MICHAEL CARLIER  
AMPARITO ROSERO  
KEVIN MCALEER  
SEAN MCCABE  
MEGAN YUAN  
MARIA CONCOLINO  
BARBARA VULICH

DISTRICT MANAGER  
OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG  
OFFICE OF SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS  
OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI  
OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN  
OFFICE OF SENATE JOSEPH P. ADDABBO  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT  
COMMUNITY BOARD 6 STAFF  
COMMUNITY BOARD 6 STAFF

## COMMUNITY BOARD 6 MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2025

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis opened the meeting, welcoming Michael Carlier, Borough President's Office, Tom Grech, Queens Chamber of Commerce, and former Council Member Costa Constantinides.

This meeting was held in person with a limited virtual option via Webex for individuals with extraordinary circumstances. The following CB6 Members joined the meeting via Webex: Pat Morgan, L.T. Ciaccio, Shari Rolnick, and Kandra Clark. The meeting was recorded and posted on YouTube ([www.tinyurl.com/cb6youtube](http://www.tinyurl.com/cb6youtube)).

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

## GOOD AND WELFARE

### CB 6 MEMBERS

Chair Heather Dimitriadis:

- The 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall, Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm. If you have questions for the precinct, email [council112@yahoo.com](mailto:council112@yahoo.com).

Mark Laster:

- Starting April 1<sup>st</sup>, residents who are not separating their food scraps and yard waste will be fined. According to the Patch, nearly 2,000 tickets were issued to property owners during the first week of New York City's new composting rules. The food scrap drop-off site in MacDonald Park, opposite the Forest Hills Jewish Center, is open every Sunday from 8 am to 2 pm. On Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> Big Reuse will be distributing free kitchen containers to store your food scraps.
- Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 pm, Sanitation Foundation Big Clean Up along with Queens Community Board 6, Forest Hills Stadium, Senator Addabbo, Assemblymember Hevesi and Councilmember Schulman will be hosting a cleanup on Metropolitan Avenue. Further details to follow.

Jean Silva:

I am the President of Flushing Meadow Corona Park Conservancy. On April 19th, we are doing a Pat Dolan Trail-Walk with park rangers. Our website has all the activities we do.

Latrice Davis:

Gail Lacey, a staff member at the Rego Park Library, has passed away, and I wanted to send my condolences.

## PUBLIC FORUM

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis reported that we have 63 public speakers signed up for tonight. We had to make alterations for time allotments. Normally, we allow 2 minutes for individual speakers and 3 minutes for organizations. However, individual speakers will get 1 minute, and organizations will get 2 minutes. We will not be reading the written comments; we received 13 comments: 1 comment was in favor of the Forest Hills Stadium, 11 comments were against the Forest Hills Stadium, and 1 comment was about a different subject.

### *Jenna Cavuto*

*As a resident of Forest Hills Gardens, I would like to share my concerns with the illegal activity that takes place annually at Forest Hills Stadium. A year ago, I attended the Borough President's Town Hall in this very room where he said, "The law is the law." Yet time and time again when residents of the community have followed the appropriate channels to report the illegal activity in seeking support & relief, we have been dismissed. This sends the message that the law only applies to some when it must apply to all. It is inaccurate for anyone to state that a vocal minority is trying to end the shows at Forest Hills Stadium. What this statement proves is that while one may hear what we are saying, they are not truly listening. Our concerns are very clear- end the illegal activity at the stadium. Thank you to the NYPD Legal Bureau & City Officials who listened to these concerns and issued a letter supporting the rights of FHGC to control its own*

property. Perhaps this is an opportunity where the West Side Tennis Club and its tenants can do the same. It's time to listen to our concerns and follow the law.

**Liz Chase**

*I'm a Lifelong Forest Hills resident, and I'm a homeowner. I live one and a half blocks from the southwest corner of the stadium. My husband, my children, and I all support the stadium and the concerts for three reasons that I wanted to share with you tonight. Number one, we feel a lot of pride in the cultural legacy that the stadium offers with the iconic shows that it has and continues to bring to our neighborhood. Number two, we are super enthused about the support for local businesses and the ways in which those businesses can flourish with continued patrons for the concerts. And number three, we really enjoy having this world-class venue in our backyard. Again, we live one and a half blocks from the corner of the stadium and we find a lot of pride, enthusiasm and enjoyment in it.*

**Mike Herman**

*I'm also a Forest Hills resident, and I have been so for over ten years and I'm strongly in support of the stadium. I feel it is tremendously culturally valuable. It makes Forest Hills a destination spot. I work in Long Island and the people that I work with are excited to come to Forest Hills. They ask me what businesses, what bars or restaurants to go to. It's been a tremendous boon in the restaurants in the area. I also feel like the stadium and the club have been willing to enter into negotiations, whereas the Forest Hills Gardens Association has not been able to or has not been willing to. And so I feel like, whereas one side of the negotiation process is willing to be a good partner, the other is not negotiating in good faith.*

**Costa Constantinides**

*Thank you, Community Board 6, for all the work that you do. I know that you do all the work of elected officials without pay. So, thank you for that. I'm speaking this evening in support of Forest Hills Stadium. It is a destination for our borough. We are the world's borough. We'd be the 4th largest city in the country if we went our own way, not that I'm advocating that. But we are larger than Atlanta, larger than Phoenix, larger than Washington, DC. We are a world-class borough that deserves a world-class venue like Forest Hills Stadium. We need to have that economic driver that supports our small businesses, our restaurants, our bars, our candy stores as you walk by and get water or a soda. It's something that we all take pride in in Queens and it's a cultural entity. They're also great partners in that they have an open-door policy. They've reached out to us and had great conversations. They want to work with the young people of the borough to not just be the performers on the stage, which is wonderful, but all the back-of-house stuff; they want internship programs with us and work with young people in Queens to ensure that they have opportunities to have good middle-class jobs. So, with this kind of partnership, how can I do anything else but be here in support of the Queens, iconic, Forest Hills Stadium?*

**Giselle Mendoza – PA of PS 220**

*My name is Giselle Mendoza, and I'm the Parent Association President for PS220Q. I'm here on behalf of our school community to raise two urgent concerns. Traffic safety near our school and hazardous conditions at 108th Street and Horace Harding underpass. The intersection at 108 Street and Horace Harding is unsafe for our students and families. We need additional crossing guards, improved signage, and speed reduction measures to prevent accidents and ensure safe crossings. There's been multiple cars doing U-turns while kids are trying to get to school. The Horace Harding Expressway underpass near the school is a major health hazard. Families walk through excessive bird droppings, feathers, and garbage, increasing their risk of disease exposure, including bird flu. It is worsened by daily feeding. We urge the city to clean the area regularly and install Do not feed the pigeons signs. Lastly, our neighborhood lacks accessible play spaces with PS 220's playground and PS 206's playground also being closed for renovation. Barrier playground is unequipped as they only have basketball, and the only real option is Real Good playground, which was recently covered in racist and vulgar graffiti. We would like to follow up on this issue. We were promised by the parks that we would be able to address our concerns, but that has yet to happen. So, we need immediate action to ensure our children's safety.*

**Robert Intelisano**

*My grandmother Anna came from Sicily and bought a home at 182 Burn Street in 1967 to try to live the American dream. My family has owned real property here since then in Gardens, and now I'm a property owner myself. It's the most unique place, not only in New York State, but I believe in the world. I've been to all seven continents. Both sides have legitimate issues here. I feel they should be able to compromise. You know, there's the new lineup at the stadium that is more geared for the 18 to 40 demographics, so it's pretty much younger people, which to me is a plus and a minus. But you cannot cut off this generation from wanting to live in Forest Hills. I own an independent insurance agency located on Austin Street and 76th Avenue with no walk-in traffic. I don't benefit or get hurt by this issue. However, I feel that small businesses are*

critical. New York City is 5 % of the country's GDP and is the family issue for multiple generations and there's the financial issue.

### **Suzanne Higgins**

*I'm a Forest Hills resident. I live on Burn Street. I'm one block away from the stadium. The stadium has been my kid's backyard. The concerts started when they were one and four years old. They shut down the street. They've played manhunt there, soccer games and ride their bikes. My kids are now grown, and they go to concerts with us, or they go to concerts with their friends. We love it. It has been their playground, their backyard. Every single Uber, Lyft, party van and taxi stops in front of my house to drop people off every concert all night long. I love it, I would not change it for the world. I have NO problem with this. It brings jobs to our community, it brings culture, it brings life experiences and a wonderful family experience for me.*

### **Tom Grech**

*My name is Tom Grech run the Queens Chamber of Commerce. We're the oldest and largest business association in Queens County, with 1400 members representing 150,000 Queens-based employees. I'm coming to you as a matter of jobs. This venue creates at least 500 to 600 jobs for every single event, and they're all union jobs. In an environment where we're always getting attacked in various ways, those jobs pay people's tuition, they pay rent, they pay mortgages, and they're really successful opportunities for people. Mystery shop all over the borough. As a sidebar, I have worked with both Senator Comrie and Senator Addabbo the last couple of days, and the porta potty in front of the White Radish is gone today. That was a really, tough thing to do, but it's gone and the rest of the crap in front of that place is going to be gone in the next couple of days. But beyond that, mystery shopping is really important. I've been to concerts there. I went with my wife to go see Neil Young last summer. We walked around, I looked, I asked, I smelled. There's weed in the air, but it's everywhere in New York City, and that's just the way it is. But when I walked around, I talked to the cops. They say it's a, pretty quiet night, well-behaved, then I walked down to the street, had a piece of pizza, walked around, the restaurants and the areas around there are vibrant. If folks only knew how hard it is to do business in the great city of New York and the County of Queens. You may or may not be shocked, but they're under attack by every single different area. This is a great opportunity to have a cultural icon where the Beatles played, and yes, Neil Young played, and for the enjoyment of all of Queens, the transportation system there is gorgeous. I've heard stories like the woman who spoke before me about the ease of use with Uber's, although I see most people take public transportation, and we're fully supportive of this opportunity and I want to continue it.*

### **Max Dixon**

*I live just one block from the iconic Forest Hills stadium. It's one of the reasons we moved to Forest Hills from Brooklyn about eight years ago, when our children were young and like Suzanne who spoke earlier, it's been their backyard. I said to my daughter this evening as I was coming here, you know, there's a possibility there won't be any more concerts, and her voice starts to break. She said, why? That would be so awful. I told my son he said the same thing. I can't imagine life without it. We enjoy going to concerts. We've enjoyed playing in the streets. We've never had any issues with safety or any misbehavior. We understand the concerns of other parties, but I've always felt kind of under-represented as I look around at this group here that's representing neighbors who enjoy the concerts and don't want them to go away. And so that's what urged me to come here today and speak.*

### **Dana Carlson**

*I've been a Forest Hills resident for a little over ten years. I'm here tonight to support the stadium. When I moved here, it was right when the concerts sort of started up again and I feel like they're the quintessential New York experience. They're just like the cherry on top of being a part of Forest Hills, Queens. And I started to think about it. I live really close. I hear sound check. My street gets busy, but I'm ok with that, and I think about, what the stadium is for? And, you know, it's for joy, it's for bringing people together, it's for culture, it's for happiness, it's for being in communion and I think it does a good job of programming for all kinds of people, and I would be really sad if it got shut down.*

### **Rachel Sabella**

*I've lived in Forest Hills for ten years. Sometimes it feels like yesterday, sometimes it feels like I've been here forever. What keeps me here is the community. It's the businesses, it's the people, it's the concert venue, and I think what we hear from the businesses, what we hear from individuals or people who come is how much they love it. I want to tell you a personal story I had there last year. I dealt with some knee injuries, and I was having trouble walking and I went to the staff and said, Is there something that I can do? Can I lean somewhere? Do you have a place I can go? So, I can still enjoy it. They sent me to guest services. I worked with the ADA staff. They didn't take a seat away from anyone else but were able to accommodate me and to make sure that I was able to enjoy myself. I posted that in one of the Facebook groups and the amount of comments from people sharing those same stories and from so many people who are in wheelchairs dealing with ADA*

*compliance, and they said they've never had a venue treat them that way before and they know they can go to Forest Hills, feel safe and enjoy a show. And I think that's something important for us to acknowledge.*

**Joseph Cooney**

*I'm here in support of the concerts in Forest Hills; it's fantastic. My family moved here, we live in the gardens, about three and a half years ago, and it's the absolute greatest thing in this neighborhood. It's wonderful, the shows are for everybody. It would be more than a shame for these to go away. It would be a tragedy. This is about music; it is about community. We have it in spades in this neighborhood. How could we ever let that go away?*

**Sarah Istarki**

*I'm standing here in front of you today in support of the stadium. I am a homeowner, and I've lived in Forest Hills for over 20 years. I live about six blocks away and I've attended many events with my husband, who is a die-hard concert goer. I found the concert as a builder of community, and I have felt safe in every concert I've gone to by myself. I've come home by myself. I have not felt safe in all parts of the city when attending concerts. I continue to feel safe here. I've noticed a lot of changes over the years. I've lived here in Queens, and I think what makes Queens strong is our ability to ebb and flow with change. I understand there is no one size that fits all, but I'm appealing to both sides of the negotiating table. I constantly hear the word partnership from the stadium. But I do not hear partnership from the other side of the table. I am asking those people who are fighting back to maybe work harder at finding a solution instead of putting blocks in the road.*

**Donya Fernandez**

*I've lived in Forest Hills for 20 years, I'm a homeowner. I have two teenagers who go to concerts at the stadium. I love that they're able to walk home rather than have to go to MSG or you know, Brooklyn or Newark. I know that they can get home safely because they're just walking home, not taking the train late at night when the train's not even running properly. They like going to concerts at the stadium because it's intimate and smaller than other concert venues. I also attend concerts at the stadium. We deserve to have a concert venue here in Queens and not have to go elsewhere to be able to go to concerts. The stadium is a staple of our community. When you say you're from Forest Hills, people say, Oh the Forest Hills Stadium. Community is more important now than ever. Kudos to all of you for doing this unpaid work that helps build the community.*

**Stella Xu**

*I've been a Forest Hills resident and homeowner for 20 years, and I'm here to speak in support of the stadium. The block parties closing down Burn Street are some of my son's favorite memories. He's too cool for it now, but when he liked it, he really liked it. And it gave us a chance to socialize and enjoy the summer at night with our neighbors, being able to see the bars and restaurants full on a concert night after the pandemic and knowing that the businesses are being supported and they can continue here after the year, the two or three years we had in lock down. At his public school, we've received three concert tickets to the New York Pops, heard the music of John Williams, and I just want this tradition, this community to continue, and I also really like telling my Manhattan friends all about the stadium and where they could come and have a drink.*

**John Delaney**

*I've been a Forest Hills resident for about 18 years. I want to talk to you about my family's experiences with the stadium. We attend the shows on a regular basis, and it feels like the entire neighborhood turns out for the shows. It's a great venue, it's a great time, and it's a place that I'm happy to not only have for my family and for my wife, but also for my sons too. The atmosphere is fun, friendly and welcoming. We're fortunate that we're within easy walking distance of the stadium. Our route takes us through the gardens as well as the non-gardens part of Forest Hills. The folks that I see on the way in and out. They're respectful of the neighborhood. I don't see littering. People aren't causing a ruckus, and I've never seen anything that makes me feel unsafe or concerned. My son Liam is 16 and he worked at the stadium for Forest Hills Youth Athletics Association, for their flag football season. So not only was Liam getting work experience, but he and a group of his friends actually coached a team of nine- to ten-year-olds for flag football.*

**Jillian Grancaric**

*I live at Six Burns Street, which is directly across from the entrance of the West Side Tennis Club. I'm on the 2nd floor and every concert goer that walks down Burns Street passes my apartment, if you're coming from Station Square. If you see two girls in the window, those are my kids, they're probably in the window waving at you. We love it. My grandmother, who's 90, is here half the year. She lives on the ground level facing Burns Street. My parents, who moved from their quiet house in Bayside, live on Tennis Place. We love the stadium so much. I also own two businesses in the neighborhood. They are not bars, they are not a restaurant, it's a gym and real estate. Neither has been impacted; in fact, both have increased with concerts. We do things around the concerts. I was a board member of my co-op for five years. There is nothing that we asked the stadium for in the five years that they have not done for us immediately.*

**Christine Gendreau**

*I'm a special educator in New York City, and two of the things that I always promote to my children are, the lifeblood of my life and my teaching is inclusivity and jobs. We want everyone to welcome one another. We want everyone to be a productive member of society. I am here in support of the stadium because that's what it provides, and that's what it does for us. It has every type of music, anyone can go, it's an amazing symbol of community, not only for Queens, but for New York City, but for the world. In this day and age, why don't we have a place where anyone can go and just have a good time? It's kind of hard considering the things that are going on right now to have a good time. So why not? You could come to my backyard; you could listen to the music if you want. I live block and half way away. Sometimes we go to concerts, sometimes we stay home. If you don't like the music close your windows.*

**Allison Sesso**

*I've been living in Forest Hills for over 20 years, I am a homeowner, I live in a two-family house with my sister. We have three kids amongst us and we're big supporters of the stadium. We love to go there. Life is really stressful. My sister is a teacher at Mel's. She talks to her kids that she works with about the stadium. They're all excited to be old enough to go to concerts on their own. When we talk to people about where we live and we say Forest Hills, one of the first things out of their mouth is Oh my god, that's the stadium, I love it there so much. I have been there; I've had great joy. They ask about coming back. A lot of people have had this theme tonight. I'm obviously here in big support of the stadium. I think it's a jewel in the middle of our town, and I just want to make sure that it is maintained. My ten-year-old son cannot wait to go to his first concert there. Me and his dad can't wait to take him and as well as my nephew and my niece who also live at home with us. So, I'm just here as a big supporter and I appreciate that you're listening to all of us tonight.*

**Keith Silana - ITASE union**

*I have served as the financial secretary for the International Alliance of Stage Employees since 1888. Our dedicated union members have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring live entertainment to Brooklyn and Queens. I'm here today to speak about the concert series by Forest Hills and the significant impact that these events would have on my union members and their families. I've been following the issue closely through the new social media and from my own perspective as someone working within the industry. If these concerts are canceled, it will directly affect many of our union members and their livelihoods. I fully understand both sides of the debate, those who are inconvenienced by the concerts and those who value this iconic venue. I urge both sides to work together to find solutions to the concerns that were raised about the Forest Hill Stadium. The financial consequences of cancelling these concerts in terms of lost wages and benefits would be devastating for the workers who bring these events to life. These concerts provide a vital boost to local businesses, bars, restaurants, and other establishments. Events around the arena depend on that revenue generated before and after the shows. Without these events, these businesses may face even greater challenges in staying afloat, especially in today's economy with rising inflation. I ask that we all work together with open minds and considerations for everyone's interest to find a solution that ensures the concerts continue and benefit the entire community. Thank you for taking your time and considering the local force perspective.*

**Rob McKay - Queens Economic Development Corporation**

*I'm a Deacon at the Church in the Gardens on Ascan Avenue. I'm not speaking on behalf of the church, but just to let you know I'm in the neighborhood and I think that both me and the majority of the church really enjoy the fact that we have a Forest Hills Stadium. What other neighborhoods in the borough has such a wonderful thing, plus, we like to go to concerts. How often can you go to a concert and be home 15 minutes later? We think it's really good for local businesses. I've dealt with the people that worked there, they have all been very nice. Another thing I'd like to say is that if the stadium goes away, what's going to replace it?*

**Alfred Vitsentzos**

*I own two restaurants in Forest Hills and another business. The pandemic is over for everybody. It's not for restaurants. We are still struggling with inflation. We're still struggling with the city, you know, losing our outside dining was a huge blow for us. The stadium provides a lifeline for us. It's the busiest nights of the year, in excess of Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. It helps get your name out there. People know to come to Nick's Bistro before the concerts because there is parking. They are able to access the stadium and walk through the amazing town of Forest Hills. I cannot think of a better venue; the stadium has my full support.*

**Michael Vitsentzos**

*I'm one of the owners of Bloom Botanical Bistro, and I've been a part of my brother and my friend Mario's, Nick's Bistro since the very beginning. I also have the benefit of working in the stadium at one of the booths, so I have an inside view of what happens. And let me tell you, that stadium just brings happiness and joy to everyone. It's just such a fun event. So, I come from a crazy finance job in the city into that environment, and I'm just as happy as everybody else. It's extremely*

*clean, it's very safe, I see families, I see children, you know, it does stop at a reasonable time, and everybody can get home within a short amount of time if they live in Forest Hills, or they jump on great public transportation. It's an amazing venue; it brings a lot to the city. There's no other city that has anything like it. It has my full support.*

**Sebastian Lyner**

*For over eleven years, my family and I have lived on the corner of Clyde and 68th, one block from the stadium and where these loudspeakers face. Having a world-class venue on our doorstep is amazing, and something, you know we typically attend. Perhaps four or more concerts a year. My daughter, who is ten and has Down syndrome, loves them. But when we're not attending, we hang out on the street with neighbors, with friends that we've made through the concerts, and appreciate the music while the kids play on those closed streets. I see 1st hand the boost that events provide local businesses on Yellowstone Boulevard, Metropolitan Avenue, and Austin Street. And we know local businesses who have food stores in the stadium, to have such a remarkable venue right here which benefits the community is something we cherish and support.*

**Annamaria Girard**

*Forest Hills has been my home since 1999, living on Fleet Street since 2012. One of the many treasures in Forest Hills is the Stadium. While it might not be perfect, it is evolving, and what truly matters is that those who support it are willing to listen. Let us continue to cherish it, not just as a venue but as an essential part of the fabric of Queens. In a city that changes so rapidly, places like these are rare. They hold our memories, create new ones, and remind us of our shared identities when we come together. I hope that the financial consideration raised by the Forest Hills Gardens residents is not the real issue. It's essential to recognize that not all valuable aspects of our community can be measured in monetary terms.*

**Elisa Koenderman – Forest Hills Neighborhood Coalition**

*I appear tonight on behalf of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Coalition, a grassroots organization of community residents who have been negatively affected by the concerts at Forest Hills Stadium. First and foremost, we thank the NYPD for its decision to deny sound amplification permits for the concerts without the consent of the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation, which owns the private streets upon which access to the Stadium depends. We understand that some local politicians have criticized this decision, claiming that a "minute" or "small" number of "vocal" individuals are opposed to the concerts, and that the Stadium "has done everything right" and "has made every attempt to be a good neighbor." In fact, we are the hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals who live here and are impacted by the noise, crowds, congestion, street blockages, parking violations, littering, public urination, and other detriments of the concerts. That a few of us have chosen to speak on behalf of the many does not diminish our number. Moreover, the stadium is aware of the community's objection to the scope and scale of the concerts, since an inability to agree on a reasonable number of concerts was one of the reasons why the Gardens Corporation refused to extend its license to the Stadium. Despite this, in 2024 the stadium hosted almost forty concerts, including on weeknights, over a five-month period. That is neither "doing everything right" nor "being a good neighbor." We understand that the parties now have agreed to enter professional mediation to resolve their differences. This is an opportunity for the Stadium to demonstrate its good faith by agreeing to a solution which acknowledges and addresses the legitimate complaints of the surrounding community. Further, we hope that, unlike others who have denigrated us, the community board will support the surrounding community's right to be considered in the coming negotiations.*

**Kelly McCord**

*I am here in support of the concerts at Forest Hills Stadium. A lot of what the fellow attendees here have said resonates a lot. I moved to Forest Hills around the same time, right before the concerts came back. We're walking outside, talking to my parents on a cell phone, listening to James Taylor outside of the concerts, and being like, oh, there's music, and I've watched it develop and flourish over the years. I understand the concerns. Despite all of that, I've chosen to be a homeowner here. I love Forest Hills, I love the community, it brings truly the concerts bring joy and happiness and jobs, and I really hope that we can come to a resolution that works for everyone.*

**Phil Stern**

*If you've ever worked at Forest Hills Stadium, you might have had my cooking. So, I cook for a lot of the guys there. I've been going to concerts at Forest Hills stadium since I was probably twelve years old in the early eighties and there's always been controversy about it. At the end of the day, it brings more to the community than anything else. It's a history of our neighborhood that is irreplaceable, and music and live events in general are in real danger. The prices and the tolerance of the areas that have these events. It's really important that we stick together and we put our differences aside. The woman who brought up her statistics, I'm not quite sure how accurate her statistics are. Or that there is a small percentage of Forest Hills Gardens residents presented in her group. I think if we had a fair representation from all residents, we would know a better scope of who really wants these shows in the area.*

**Daniel Hovsepien**

*I was born and raised in Forest Hills; I've lived here 45 years on Loubet Street. Currently, I've been working at Forest Hills High School for 22 years. Students have expressed how important it is to our community to keep the concert doors open. To keep the magic and history that has helped shape us. I have had countless students come to school after attending a concert at Forest Hills and share their unforgettable and magical experiences. These are our children and our grandkids who are able to see and share these moments right in their own backyard. I never had the chance as a kid, to have such moments and I'm sure you do not want to take that away from our kids and our community. Not only do the concerts serve as an unforgettable memory, but they also help provide jobs for both our young adults and grown men and women who are trying to support their families. I know plenty of students who have worked at Forest Hills Stadium along with my own friends. It has been a means of income and employment for so many. I'd also like to mention the importance of keeping our favorite restaurants and stores open, up and running,*

**David Reifler**

*I've been a Forest Hills resident and community member for 34 years. I am a homeowner as well. I'm currently an educator and coach at Forest Hills High School. I understand the concerns about pollution, noise, and trash, but I'm here to help continue to build the community. Forest Hills High School has many programs, teams, and groups that are beyond willing to build community ties and relationships with the hopes of community events, fundraisers, and more. I am a tennis coach, my teams, some of which have been members and have taken lessons at Westside Tennis Club in the past, would love to build a relationship. My program that I teach council for unity, strives in community and civic learning, a non-profit that works in schools to promote social emotional learning, volunteer work and passion projects. We would love to help organize events such as community cleanups and tours of the historic grounds. I went to the job fair last weekend, and I saw several of my students applying for their first job. I spoke to supervisors who were excited for some of our small local businesses getting kiosks at the stadium for the first time. I know Forests Hills is our favorite hidden gem, but having a venue like this in our backyard is super special.*

**Jonathan Isaac**

*I'm a resident of Forest Hills Gardens. I'm all for compromises and at the end of the day it's all about finding solutions. I think the solution here is to build a roof. You know, the biggest complaint is noise, and it's an open facility and it was intended for the purpose of a tennis stadium, not a concert stadium, and therefore, I think if they want to proceed with the concerts, they should build the necessary conditions that would prevent the nuisance.*

**Ashley Tyson**

*I have been in Forest Hills since I was a little girl. My mother worked at Russell Sage, my siblings went to PS 101, and I have the fortunate ability to have paid rent and now a mortgage for over ten years. I am here to be in support of the stadium being able to operate as it has in previous years. While I can understand the annoyance of additional foot and vehicle traffic on Austin Street and Queens Boulevard. The concerts bring prestige, enjoyment, and literally hundreds of thousands of revenue dollars for businesses in our community. This is an immeasurable lifeline, especially in a time when many of these businesses are struggling. I'm sad that a small group of neighbors would seek to negate this benefit because of inconvenience during a limited portion of the year, but I do hear them. I ask that we punish the bad actors and not lash out at the stadium. The Stadium has taken extensive noise mitigation efforts, installing sound dampeners, ending concerts earlier than required to encourage attendees to go home before it's too late and disruptive, and offers plenty of opportunities for the community to connect with the space.*

**Marty Levinson**

*I am not a resident of Forest Hills Gardens; I am a resident of Forest Hills. I am one of the thousand people who signed the petition, which is not in opposition but demands moderation. I am an almost 60-year resident of Forest Hills. You may remember me as the man who is forever removing his hearing aids to block out the noise emanating from the stadium's concerts at Forest Hills. If anything, I am not bashful. This evening, I want to complain about the silence. The silence I have heard from our elected officials. Here are portions of the two emails I recently sent to these officials, the first on April 4<sup>th</sup> and then on April 29<sup>th</sup>, a follow-up, in case the first email fell off their desk. I quote in his letter of March 19, 2025, Police Inspector William Gallagher (whom I admire greatly) expresses the hope that opposing sides come together to resolve the issue regarding the issuance of sound amplification permits. That is my wish as well. You, an elected official, can help by making a public statement insisting that all performances not violate the New York City noise code and sending your statement to the stadium promoters. Will you do that? How many officials responded to my emails? Zero. With one exception, I do have a thank you to the staff of my Congresswoman, State Senator, Assembly Member, and Council Member, who took my calls, chatted, but sadly were uncommitted. I have nothing but scorn for our elected Queens Borough President, who neither took my calls nor returned my recorded messages. Am I asking for anything outrageous?*

**Simona Goldin**

*I came to listen to everyone. I wanted to hear everyone's opinions before I formed my own. I am a musician, I'm a concert lover, and I also did my research. As stated before, eleven out of 13 noise complaints were in violation of the law last year. That's an 85% rate. And as much as I want the concerts to go on, and I actually do want them to go on, I think we have to come together as a community to figure out a solution. Imagine going to a restaurant that has an 85% health code violation. Nobody would eat there. And I think we can do it. We can do it as a community, we can figure out a way to bring that rate down. Maybe 20%, I would be good with that. I think that we can hold the concerts more accountable, and that we can work together.*

**Jessica Faith**

*I currently live in Chatwick Garden Co-op, right next to the stadium. I'm here in hopes of providing a nuanced view of the situation. I live 300 yards from the stadium, it is quite loud. My daughter can't sleep in her bedroom on those nights, mostly because of the gate. I will say that the stadium has honored all of its commitments to soundproofing, to try and deal with the gate. I would like to commend the stadium and the Westside Tennis Club for communicating with the community. I am pro-concert; I think the concerts are very special to this community. I feel they have increased from 20 to 40 concerts. I signed the petition to limit the back-to-back Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday night concerts which can cause problems sometimes. I would love to see the concerts stay in our community.*

**Sean Baker**

*I grew up here, grew up at the concerts, but I didn't live close by. I live 250 ft away now. At 05:30 am, heavy delivery trucks come rumbling down our streets. When they parked, double parked, they use their beep, beeps when they back up. They get into the stadium. But at about 07:00 am, they met by forklifts. The forklifts have their beep, beep beeps off and on. I don't have a problem with the concert. I have a problem with the fact that there's not a single toilet provided for the people in line, so they go into our backyards and use our yards for their toilet. I have a problem with the fact that there's not a single garbage can provided. So, when they leave the concert, they throw their trash in our recycling bins, and we're threatened with fines. I have a problem with the police cars on every street corner with their lights flashing until 11:00 pm creeping into our house so that we must buy blackout curtains. I have a problem with the fact that they don't break down the stage until 01:00 am. Then you know, trucks are coming in and out. It isn't the concert; it's everything that goes with it. It's a 24 hour business.*

**Irina Vovsha**

*I represent 1,000 people and businesses who signed the petition, it's not a few. The petition to stop this illegal activity, doesn't matter; music, concert, stadium, the most important thing is that laws are being broken. The law says no alcohol sales in residential areas. The law says 42 decibels, not 68, not 75, and not 125. The law says no. The law says that the nearest house towards open-air concert must not be closer than 200 ft; in reality, it's 58 ft. And you're telling me that's not the law, but how do you see that in people? Children cannot sleep. We have headaches. People come from work; they cannot rest. My house has cracks, and after they started amplification of the sound, all our houses have cracks. How can we live like that?*

**Andy Court - President of Concerned Citizens of Forest Hills**

*I am the President of Concerned Citizens of Forest Hills. For years, long-time residents of this community have come before this board seeking help regarding the Forest Hills Stadium. We've talked about concrete problems: noise, traffic, parking, trash, crowd control, 10-hour events, concerts on school nights, and on religious holidays. All we've asked for are reasonable restrictions, and we've been ignored. The Forest Hills Stadium and the West Side Tennis Club brought this situation upon themselves by refusing to agree to reasonable restrictions. They've been acting like they're above the law. The stadium hasn't been a good neighbor. A good neighbor doesn't violate the city's noise code 85 percent of the time that inspectors come and take readings. A good neighbor doesn't say, "I'll hold as many events as I want. I'll make the sound checks as long and loud as I want. I'll hold events on Rosh Hashanah if I want. You can't tell me what to do." Good neighbors don't vilify and bully people and throw vicious, divisive insults on their way to try to gain political advantage and distract from the real problems at hand. There's a way forward. But it requires recognition that there are real problems that need to be worked out. Strict limits on how many events per season, how long they go, and how loud they can be. A lot of people forget that for years we have put up with disruptions to our lives so that there could be concerts. It was only when the situation got out of control, there were about 40 events last year, that we acted. Instead of telling thousands of people who live in this area, "your quality of life doesn't matter, you don't have a right to be comfortable in your own home," why not encourage the stadium and the tennis club to reach a real compromise with their neighbors rather than bullying us and calling us names? I am asking the members of this board to show some courage: make a modest statement of some sort supporting your friends and neighbors, thousands of us, and who are being harmed by the stadium's conduct.*

**Mitch Palminteri**

*I live on Fleet Street and Forest Hills. I've lived here for 30 years. I've been to many concerts. I love the concerts, my daughter loves the concerts, so if she knew I was here to talk negatively about the concerts, she'd be pissed off at me, I do believe like others here there should be a compromise. I think there are way too many concerts. They do interrupt the night, the evenings, the quietness of the neighborhood. They do, the other things, I would love to see improvement, on the traffic, cars circling around corners, horns beeping, cars parking in front of people's driveways, parking in front of hydrants, and there's nothing we could do about it. The garbage, I find the next morning on the sidewalks, the beer bottles, the beer cans, let's not deny it, it's really there. So, there's got to be a compromise, please. The number of concerts is way too many. It does disrupt the community; I don't want to close my window on a summer night. I love my neighborhood. I love living here. My kids grew up here. My daughter just moved into an apartment on Burn Street. So please, if we can come to a compromise, that's all.*

**John Belter - Songs of Love Foundation**

*I'm John Belter. I'm the founder of the Songs of Love Foundation. We provide fully produced personalized songs for children and teens who are critically ill. We've been in the community for 29 years. And, music is completely healing for these kids, but it's healing for everybody. And you have the Forest Hills stadium right in the middle, it's like a musical heart that's beating right in the middle of our community, and I know we could come to an agreement. Personally, I just bought sound cancellation headphones, and maybe something could be done, you know. Give out sound cancellation headphones, I don't know. Maybe that's an easy fix. But anyway, I created a song to hopefully inspire everyone to think about leaving Forest Hills Stadium here and letting it do what it does best. Bring joy and happiness through music. They went on to play a song.*

**Stuart Morrison**

*I have been a resident here for 25 years. White Radish restaurant on Ascan Avenue close to Burns. Heena bagel shop, Dadkon Sushi place. The MTA is building the handicapped accessible thing, we're all for that for the Long Island Railroad. But they have a huge mess of barriers, blocking White Radish, has dramatically impacted their business and it's going to destroy outdoor seating for them over the summer. This is an immigrant business. They've already had to lay off managers and staff. I'm hoping if anybody can help, have the MTA move some of the barriers that are blocking their business just further down the block, under the trestle towards Burns Street. Regarding Forest Hills Stadium, all these people speaking about noise on Burn Street, you know they live parallel to the Long Island Railroad that runs 24/7 and we don't hear anyone say anything about Long Island Railroad noise. This is questionable. I walk around all the time during the concerts, you don't hear a pin drop. In the center of Forest Hills Gardens by Greenway North, you don't hear a pin drop during the evening. It's just the people that I understand right around that area, but it's not the entire gardens and again, ok, maybe 40, how about maybe 35 concerts, but you're going to impact jobs. People are going to lose their jobs. These are the same people that are not saying anything about the Long Island Railroad. I live on Austin Street it makes the whole floor shake. I find that kind of questionable about their noise complaints. I hope the number of concerts, if it is reduced, is just a few.*

**Chair Dimitriadis**

I can give you an update, regarding White Radish. The District Manager and I did a quick site visit a week ago Monday, took some pictures, and videos of the site. We've been in contact with Long Island Railroad. We were supposed to have a meeting with them today, their person fell ill, we're talking to them tomorrow. Our First Vice Chair took a ride down there this week and was able to report back to us that they did at least move the porta potty out from in front of the restaurant. We are working to rectify this and try to get their staging improved. They do have rather large things behind there, but we think that your request to have that moved is reasonable. Thank you for that.

Regarding the update on Forest Hills Stadium. What have we done? First, I want to thank you guys for the abundance of testimony tonight. You came out for your community, whether you agree with or don't agree with the stadium, so I really appreciate the fact that you guys are coming out tonight to discuss these issues, and I want you to know that we are doing everything within our mandate to address these concerns. Over the course of the last year, we have had conversations with multiple city agencies, the 112th Precinct, and our last meeting with the 112th Precinct was just this week. We've been talking to elected officials just this week, and we had meetings in December; we've had discussions going back beyond that. This has been unending work. We continue to reach out to DEP, which we are still hounding to have a meeting with them about sound, and we are still following up with the Department of Buildings because we have a request outstanding to them regarding zoning and we continue to follow up with these requests. Our office is one of the most diligent offices that keep track of all these requests. We've also had several conversations with the stadium, and we have found them and again this has been my experience. My experience has been that they are responsive to our requests, and they have been forthcoming when an immediate solution isn't in sight. I understand your frustration, and we have done our best to listen to your concerns month after month. This meeting and the 112<sup>th</sup> Pct. Council meeting are the only place where you can go to air your concerns. I have not seen a single town hall held in this district, and I've lived here for 25 years. We're here every single

month listening to you, taking your concerns back to the people. We are doing our level best within our mandate. We are an advisory agency. We apply the best advice that we have, and we're not stopping. We are going to be taking a tour of the stadium, and we will be able to ask some questions. We are continuing to work on this issue. We are not stopping, and we'll see where it lands, but we are doing our very best. We hope that there can be a middle ground. We hope that there can be a good end to this and that the end to this is not the end to the stadium, because we understand one of the things we're going to talk about tonight is our budget priorities, because we need that tax revenue to fund our city. Things are getting rough, and things are getting hard financially. We need to make sure that our small businesses are supported, and that's something we care very much about. But we also don't want to be infringing on other people's lives. So we're going to take a balanced look at this, and we're going to continue to do what we can. You let us know as the concert season starts, you see something, take a picture, send us an email, and then we can follow up. We can have concrete examples in time, and we can respond to them in real time. It is not helpful to get stuff later with no pictures.

**The following comments were submitted in writing for minutes:**

***Kate McGrath***

*I am writing in support of Forest Hills Stadium and continuing concerts there this summer. I am a resident of Forest Hills. I live less than a mile from the stadium and I have 3 small children, aged 4 plus twins that are 20 months old. The stadium is an asset to the neighborhood and to my family. On concert days, the entire neighborhood comes alive. Many families with small children are grateful for the closed streets, more than once we have gathered on Burns Street with other families and let our children play, run around, and enjoy some space together. On most evenings when concerts are being held, we will walk with our children to 71st Avenue and say hi to NYPD. My older son is currently obsessed with police officers, and they are always kind and friendly to the kids. When friends from outside FH attend concerts, they often stop by our home before. For each of these events, we are purchasing food and drinks from shops in the neighborhood, contributing to the local economy even when we are not attending a concert ourselves. When we attend concerts, we encourage people to buy food from Nicks and Stacked because we know they are local, and we want businesses in Forest Hills to survive. The noise from the concerts is minimal. Yes, you can hear that an event is taking place and occasionally you can hear the sound of the crowd. It's not that loud and it's a reminder of people enjoying our community. The concerts have never woken my children up. I have never heard my neighbors complain about them. In fact, immediate neighbors have lived in the area for over 30 years and are retired. Bob goes to nearly every concert he can, even if he doesn't know the musical act. It's just an enjoyable amenity in the neighborhood. I'm deeply disappointed by the minority of homeowners in FHG who are ruining this for the rest of us. I honestly cannot believe the hyperbole they employed at the February CB6 meeting; it was outrageous and a complete mischaracterization of the concert's effect on the neighborhood. It was so over the top that it failed to even mention the small things that could be done to improve quality of life on concert days. Would it kill the Garden Corp to add a few more garbage cans in the gardens? It's impossible to find them anywhere, which contributes to people throwing trash on the street. I do not work for the stadium or have a financial interest in the concerts. I'm simply a resident who recognizes the value of community; this is not a sleepy suburb that should be dictated by a minority of wealthy homeowners. This is a vibrant community, and the concerts contribute meaningfully to building that sense of community in Forest Hills.*

***Kevin Ly***

*I am writing to urge your immediate attention and intervention regarding the proposed installation of a 5G tower near two elementary schools in Forest Hills: PS 144Q and Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy. This plan is deeply concerning for our community. Not only is the proposed location a quiet residential area, but it is also a zone where we've struggled to even get basic safety measures like a 15-mph speed limit or a neighborhood slow zone. The addition of a 5G tower in this area is not only unwanted, but also unnecessary, unsightly, and reflects poor city planning. Meanwhile, we are facing very real and urgent issues: youth violence, truancy, and chronic absenteeism. If we're going to invest in public infrastructure like a 5G tower, let's be smart and strategic about it. The Metropolitan Expeditionary Learning School (MELS) campus, right on Metropolitan Avenue, is far more appropriate and has an impactful location. This is a high-traffic area with a middle school, a high school, McDonald's, Wendy's, Petco, Trader Joe's, the North Forest Park Library, and numerous businesses and bus stops. It's also an area that attracts teens and families alike and will only become more active as Queensway develops. The signal in many of the shops on Metro is already poor. Free public Wi-Fi here wouldn't just benefit students, it would support local businesses, residents, commuters, and visitors. It's a win for everyone. Let's do sensible things. Do not place this tower next to two elementary schools where it's neither needed nor welcomed. Relocate it to Metropolitan Avenue, next to the Petco, near the North Forest Library, or even on the MELS campus itself. That's where the demand is, that's where the people are, and that's where public investment in digital access would truly pay off. We can't even get a sound permit for Forest Hills Stadium. Let's not make the mistake of misplacing city resources again. Please help make this right.*

**Svetlana**

*I am a mama of 2 young kids, and I live on Burns Street. I have been living here for about 10 years. I love the community and moved here for that reason. I've noticed that it has become more and more difficult to live here. One reason is because of the crowd that is growing yearly to come here for the concerts. Finding parking in my own neighborhood is a challenge. Why do I have to struggle to find parking and park so far away while towing 2 kids back to our apartment on Burns Street? It wasn't always this bad. Lately, this has been happening on school nights in addition to the usual weekend concerts. My kids go to school. They have homework and need to be in bed by 8 pm. How are they supposed to get a peaceful and uninterrupted night's sleep and be well rested for school when the concerts are so loud? Allowing the concerts to be held only on Fridays and Saturdays would be better. Less interruptions for school-aged kids. This is a residential neighborhood after all. Besides that, the other issue that is deeply concerning is the noise. Why are the concerts so loud? Why is it so difficult to just follow the noise level regulations? Why don't the people in charge come to our homes and see and feel how loud it is? Shouldn't the voices of residents matter as well? Or do we not matter? I'm all for supporting the local businesses, but at what expense? And I don't appreciate Mr. Donovan Richard calling us "a minute number of individuals" as if our voices and livelihoods don't matter. That says a lot about his character and what he values. Life isn't always about making money. We need to find a balance here. We need to do better. We need to go back to understanding humans and being empathic about what they are going through.*

**Ken Wu**

*I am extremely upset that Donovan Richards, our elected official, resorts to name calling, and constantly disrespect the thousands of citizens in Forest Hills, who live around Forest Hills Stadium. Contrary to what Donovan Richards suggests to the public and the mayor, we are not a 'vocal minority', nor are we NIMBY. We are normal citizens that just want to live a normal life on weekends during summertime in New York. And we are happy about the NYPD finally enforcing laws and rules. Donovan Richards' comments are disrespectful and dangerous, it shows that he is a dishonest person.*

**Claire Rosenzweig**

*Please know that in my opinion, there are too many concerts, and they are too loud. There were some multi-day events last year during which individuals at the microphone used curse words that could be heard far outside the stadium. A reasonable number of concerts within sound limits could be okay but really, please be considerate of the Forest Hills concerned citizens who live close to the Stadium.*

**Ann Whyte**

*I ask the committee to consider the transformation of our quiet neighborhood to a very noisy and crowded one during the Forest Hills Stadium concerts. Besides the homeowners, there are businesses that dread those concert days when they lose money as people do not buy because they cannot park and hate competing with the crowds. Please support us in trying to reach a compromise in the number of concerts as well as turning down the music volume. When we had meetings in the early days, we were told there would be 15 concerts a year and that the promoters wanted to cooperate. That has not happened.*

**Tricia Anastasio**

*I am writing to express my concern regarding the FH Concerts that are scheduled to start next month. I am a resident of the building on Burns Street across from the stadium. Things I have experienced over the years include: the most serious and dangerous item: my 100 plus year-old building shaking from the noise reverberating. I currently have two cracks running down my living room and kitchen wall which I invite you to inspect. What is this doing to the foundation of my building? Concerts last ten hours and even if they are not ten hours, sound check for hours before the show. Delivery trucks going past the building at all hours of the day and night, men exposing themselves including in daylight hours to urinate against the building and landscape Garbage, bottles and cans left behind by concert goers that the residents must pick up. Terrible traffic in the area with ride share stopping to pick up and dropping off the inability to find parking when I get home so often times I don't leave because I know I won't be able to park when I get home. Drunk and altered people hanging out on the closed to traffic street after concerts are over where they are talking, smoking, screaming on Burns Street where my bedroom and living room is over. The promoter has taken advantage of this. Starting off with a small number of concerts and being respectful of the neighborhood and as he's making money, pushing it every year to 40 shows last year, which is ridiculous. The is in the middle of a residential neighborhood with no roof where you can hear every single word. I'm sure that's not zoning for something like this, and they are constantly exceeding the noise limit, which is documented. Please stop these concerts. Thank you for listening.*

**Jon Blumenfeld**

*The record of these concerts is noisome, disruptive, and a huge quality of life issue for all the residents living within a mile radius of the stadium. I feel sorry for the people who live on the adjacent streets, this promoter has made their lives a LIVING HELL during "concert season", which this promoter has extended to cover a good part of the year, including all of the summer. The residents were here before the "promoter", and last I checked it was a "tennis" stadium, not a "concert" stadium. If this promoter can't be a good neighbor he should not be allowed to operate, and right now he is a lousy neighbor. One other thing-in regards to Donovan's letter in support of these noisome concerts, given the state of New York City's schools, I doubt there are 25,000 people in those zip codes that can even sign their own names, and I know of only one person in my community who likes these events, and they are two miles away from, as Thomas Paine would say, "the scene of common sorrow".*

**Eve Rabinovits**

*As a lifelong New Yorker and Forest Hills resident, I strongly oppose the degrading and false depiction currently being trumpeted by concert proponents and elected officials of those opposing the 30+ planned events at Forest Hills Stadium this season as a "small but vocal minority" of "frustrated" residents. If only one taxpaying member of the community complains that complaint is valid and should be respected. But we are hundreds of residents abutting the stadium who do not understand why this private enterprise can stranglehold an entire community May through October by: illegally using the venue as a music stadium when it is not, and never has been, zoned for such use; closing public streets surrounding the stadium and eliminating street parking for each event; having the local Q23 bus rerouted to inconvenient locations for each event; flagrantly and constantly violating the noise code having truck traffic delivering concert equipment and vendor supplies at all hours; having sound checks and rehearsals days and hours leading up to each event; having 10-hour, day long events; having dozens of NYC police officers on site and milling about for each event, at taxpayer expense and when NYPD resources are already seriously drained; using public resources for ambulances and FDNY equipment on standby for each event; and bringing 13,000 concertgoers via LIRR, Uber, Lyft and private transportation to the residential community 30+ times a season. NYC has Madison Square Garden, the Barclays Center, Jones Beach, Brooklyn Paramount, etc. FHS was built as a tennis stadium and never intended for use as an open-air music venue in the middle of a densely populated neighborhood. It is not zoned or grandfathered in for music events. Why are these facts completely ignored? The West Side Tennis Club, landlord to FHS, is a private, elite club whose sole goal is to generate enough money to continue operation. It is disingenuous to state that the concerts drive economic growth in the community. There are at least five empty storefronts in the nearby shopping street Austin Street, including two drugstore chains. The "hundreds" of jobs the stadium generates are temporary, minimum wage jobs. Our borough president, Donovan Richards, wrote a letter to the mayor in support of the stadium, completely ignoring the pleas of his constituency. Who asked him to do that? The taxpaying residents of Forest Hills living, working and attending school in the vicinity of FHS wonder why we are the bad guys, and not the private entity controlling our neighborhood.*

**D.S Van Dermark**

*As a resident of Forest Hills, I urge CB6 and Queens Borough President, Donovan Richards to represent its constituency and resist the lobbying efforts of wealthy tennis club and hedge fund investors. Please let those you represent, who follow the rules, that you do not bow to private interests. Wealthy private enterprises should not be exempt from the laws the rest of us have to follow. For the record, it is not just a small majority of residents being adversely affected. I commend the NYPD for non-issuance of permits and FHGC and various community groups for their efforts. Thousands of residents are subjected to the illegal activities of hosting these events in our residential community. I call on our "representatives" to disallow these illegal activities in a residential neighborhood and encourage the promoter and private Corp, "Tiebreakers Productions, LLC", to relocate to a proper suitable and legal venue, moving forward.*

**Pamela Tieu**

*"I live with two young children near the Forest Hills Stadium. I am deeply upset at the idea that only "a small minority of people" are affected by the concerts. The sounds from the concerts are unbearably loud, particularly the bass sounds, such that my children have trouble going to bed at a reasonable hour. To make matters even worse, there are multiple concerts on school nights. Multiple parents from our local school have expressed frustration and disappointment about the situation. Our home shakes due to the loud music, which impacts our day to no end when the concerts are here. My spouse and I do shift work in healthcare, so it is essential for our health and well-being, and for the patients we care for, to be well rested. We are not "anti-stadium" as some of the narratives online unfortunately suggest, but we are supportive of reasonable restrictions with regards to the concerts."*

**Sharon Broner**

*We must align ourselves with the FHGC to keep the stadium concerts under control. Donovan Richards sold Forest Hills out on City of Yes and now he is doing it again. His last-ditch effort is to call us racist. We need to protect the quality of life for the residents who live near the stadium. Please vote to preserve the quality of life in Forest Hills.*

**Michael Perlman**

*I am a 5th generation Forest Hills resident and Chair of Rego-Forest Preservation Council, who takes great pride in advocating for the historic preservation, beautification, and maintenance of our community, and its distinctive nature and cornerstones. Power to the kind, caring, and imaginative residents who understand and value their communities most, and become community stewards! Many residents are fortunate to have immigrated, with aspirations of fulfilling the American Dream. That was a dream for India native Paul Singh, a restaurateur who proudly owns White Radish & Daikon Sushi Bar on Ascan Avenue near the LIRR trestle. Paul is very kind, skillful, and passionate. He is a people's person, who is always ready to serve with quality. These restaurants are Forest Hills' epitome of fine dining, along with Aged, which he owns on our Restaurant Row. His restaurants are prime examples of small businesses that add much character. Additionally, the neighboring Ascan Avenue businesses, consisting of Heena Bagel, King Wok Restaurant, and SS Natural market, represent quality, and have dedicated owners and staff. They are among the places where memories are born and initiate the small-town spirit of Forest Hills, which we are fortunate to retain during the unfortunate times of large soul-less developments, often causing displacement and leading to a rise of chains. It is unfortunately a challenge for small business owners citywide, who often face stringent regulations, inflation, and rising rents, but for the MTA/LIRR to erect a storage barricade along with a toilet in front of these Ascan Avenue businesses, potentially until 2026 or 2027, blocks them out of the public's eye. This is an eyesore that causes discomfort for patrons and prospective ones, not to mention the dust and potential fumes. With the view of the restaurants being blocked, the public gets the impression that they are closed. The barricade also minimizes the potential for a full outdoor dining shed. During the cooler months, parking is eliminated. The barricades caused a major loss in business for Paul and the adjacent owners. It is our wish for the MTA/LIRR to compensate these meaningful small businesses for their losses and remove the uncalled-for barricade within days. Let's restore kindness and our community, with the help of the MTA/LIRR and city, state, and fellow residents. The storage barricades should be relocated elsewhere, to not impact hard-working small business owners, staff, and community residents. When there is a will, there's a way. Please be creative and caring in a speedy manner. These businesses lost nearly half of their revenue and customer base and had no choice but to let go of some of their hard-working staff members, who also have a family to support. Let's walk in their footsteps. On a related note, the Ascan Avenue trestle's wall, my Helen Keller commemorative community mural project, which includes a plaque; all financed by City Council and community residents, and dedicated with the LIRR on site in 2019, now has a shed blocking it from the public's eye. It is a definitive and unifying community fixture, where residents and visitors pause to feel inspired and connected, and has been featured on local history and architectural walking tours. The mural and plaque should be protected ASAP, and that shed should also be relocated to a site that does not have pedestrian traffic. It is a sad day when cornerstone small businesses and historical public art is needlessly blocked. I have faith that a reasonable solution can be devised. Community residents echo my beliefs. Let's be team players.*

**Tatyana Artemova**

*950 citizens of Forest Hills, 80% of them represent their families living within 3 blocks of the Stadium, signed a petition calling for an end to the illegal activities occurring at the stadium. These activities violate the NYC Zoning Resolution, which prohibits "open-air stadiums" and "commercial musical venues" in the middle of "residential districts." The Petition was submitted to officials including QCB6. Tiebreakers Productions LLC began converting the stadium into a "commercial musical venue" after years of non-activity. Unfortunately, every time the Department of Buildings (DOB) issues a permit which is based on false information. The information claims that the "non-conforming use" of the stadium was never discontinued for a period of two years or more. Plenty of well-documented evidence shows that it is not true. This violates the NYC Administrative Code, which requires the Temporary Place of Assembly Certificate of Operation (TPACO) to comply with the NYC Zoning Resolution. The stadium operators and promoters do not reside in Queens. Tens of millions of dollars in revenue generated by exploiting the small community go to large corporations AEG Worldwide (Entertainment) and its affiliates and Levy Restaurants (Food and Drinks), rather than benefiting the area. Unfortunately, the voices of citizens are overpowered by hefty corporate marketing and PR budgets. The 950 families living around the stadium within a few blocks are dismissed, insulted by the promoters as 'NIMBYs' and 'unhappy vocal minority'. The NYP posted an article with the treat instigated by promoters - that fans will create chaos in the neighborhood if the concerts are opposed. We look forward to your actions to protect the citizens of Forest Hills from the harm caused by illegal activities. Urge the promoters to move their activities to a location more suitable for concertgoers and musicians, and to restore the quality of life for Forest Hills residents. Such a place could be L. Armstrong Stadium at US Open grounds. It is Queens, the same capacity, commercial zoning with ample space for parking and waiting area. The stadium has an extendable roof, AC, modern bathrooms, nice bars and stalls for vendors, immediate access to LIRR and subway.*

**Jean Hahn**

*It is disingenuous and misleading for the Forest Hills Stadium to say that a "vocal minority" is trying to end the shows at the Forest Hills Stadium. I am a parent with a child who cannot concentrate on the shows and who has bombed tests because of shows that are scheduled on nights before school day. The shows used to only be during the summer months (June to early September) when there was no school session, but over the past few years, the number of shows has exploded to 40 events with a season that has extended from May to late October. For residents who live close to the stadium - it is simply not possible to have quiet enjoyment of one's home, which is a right. A reasonable compromise would be to regulate the Stadium and not permit shows on nights before a school day. Children have no agency, and for them, they need the ability to get homework done and study for tests. The Stadium should be able to easily maneuver this as they did when the shows first resumed in 2013. As for the noise which creates vibrations - I have yet to hear why the Stadium cannot lower the volume. Again, before covid, they were able to operate without aggravating the neighbors in the manner they have now. It shouldn't be controversial for our elected officials and community board members to simply ask the Stadium to follow the law with regard to the noise violations. Lastly, it was reported that the Stadium made a net profit of \$10 million dollars. It is inexplicable why they cannot hold fewer events and lower their profit margin while still supporting the local economy. They have become greedy and care more about lining their own pockets instead of respecting their neighbors. To say that those who live next to the Stadium should expect the noise is absolutely dismissive towards the many who moved in the area like myself where there was a span of decades with very little activity and shows. I ask the Community Board to please voice support for the NYPD's decision to not issue a permit until both sides come to a resolution. It's time that the Stadium offers a compromise to the noise, traffic, number of shows instead of simply gaslighting and smearing their next-door neighbors who have real quality of life concerns.*

**Nancy Ling**

*In the past summer, there were 4 consecutive days of concerts taking place in the stadium, the music was so loud one could feel the house was vibrating. There were beer bottles, soda cans and food bags left behind on the lawn & the sidewalk from the crowd passing by, and there were crowds gathering and sitting on residents' porch late at night. The stadium did not make enough effort to ease the pain and suffering from the neighboring residents and yet only focused on more concerts/events to profit.*

Chair Dimitriadis thanked all the public speakers and closed the public forum.

**MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes for March 12, 2025, was made by Sabah Munawar and was seconded by Sarina Jain. All were in favor.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis announced the following:

Third Vice Chair Mark Laster, will review the budget priority process for FY2027. You must engage in this process early; over the next three months, there are going to be a variety of committee meetings. Please go to those meetings. Even if you aren't on a particular committee but have an interest and would like to have input, go to that committee meeting. We need your ideas at the beginning, not at the last minute. The new board members won't be assigned a committee until the fall. You can attend any committee meeting. You will be getting Friday updates, which have all the upcoming meetings. Our website lists the meetings in order for you to schedule in advance.

**DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT**

District Manager Christine Nolan reported the following:

- We have a new logo. We will unveil it at the May meeting, and we have invited the winning logo designer to attend the meeting.
- Curbside Composting is now mandatory. DSNY has started giving out violations.
- There have been some community residents speaking out about a 5G tower at PS 144. This was presented to our Environmental Committee in October, and we subsequently wrote a letter to OTI suggesting that they look into other locations where there is more of a need for 5G, such as an area near FH Stadium, Metropolitan Avenue, etc.

- The By-Law Committee will have a follow-up briefing to review the amended text for the Public Comment proposed change on Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will include the proposed text in your Friday email. If you have additional comments, please reach out to the office or to John Dereszewski before then or attend the briefing to discuss it further. This will help move the conversation along at the Community Board Meeting.
- Queens Community House will be having an Open House on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm – 8 pm. QCH provides a lot of programming in our communities from Meals on Wheels and Senior Center programming to programming for youth. Please attend to learn more about their programs.

## **FY27 BUDGET PRIORITY OVERVIEW**

Chair Dimitriadis announced that Mark Laster will show the process of how the budget priority is done. All the city budget work begins with the community board. The city council starts working on Fiscal Year 2026, and we begin work on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2027. The work we do in the next seven months will advise the City Council.

Mark Laster gave the following presentation:

### **Our Role**

- Our recommendations will be advised by both the Mayor's Office and the City Council
- We must assess the budgetary needs of our community district and make recommendations as a part of the City's budget process
- We do not have our own checkbook

### **Committees will meet to:**

- Review feedback OMB (Office of Management & Budget)
- Review & Reconsider FY26 budget priorities
- Consider & create additional priorities
- If needed:
  - Compile a list of questions for agencies
  - Request any necessary data
- Finalize and rank your budget priorities
- Chairs will submit the final list to Mark Laster, Chair Dimitriadis, and District Manager Christine Nolan by 6/30/25

### **Public Input Phase (8/20/25)**

- The board will survey the community on their top budget needs for the community

### **All Chair Evaluation Phase (mid-August 2025 – mid-September 2025)**

- All board members will be asked to rank all proposed FY 27 budget priorities
- Committee Chairs will meet to review, discuss and vote on the final ranking for the board's final consideration

### **Full Board Vote/Public Hearing Phase (10/9/2025)**

- Hear from the public via public comment
- Review and final vote on the FY27 budget priority list

## **Budget Priorities Defined**

### **Capital Budget Priorities**

- Definition: the construction, reconstruction, and acquisition of capital assets, such as building and renovating schools, purchasing vehicles and equipment including firetrucks and computer network systems.
- 40 priorities maximum

### **Expense Budget Priorities**

- Definition: services like fire protection and police, social services, healthcare, education, and everyday needs like office supplies, rent, and utilities, and vendor services
- 25 maximums

## Guidelines for Effective Budget Priorities

### Be Specific

- When you have 1 or 2 locations for a particular priority, please include the exact location(s)
- However, work hard to be concise

### Be Broad

- When you have a budget priority that needs to be implemented at many locations throughout the district, don't list all the potential locations. Instead use language such as "throughout the district".

### Stop Bundling

- Each priority should be listed separately
- For example, you prioritize street safety but have multiple projects to accomplish. You must list each project as a separate priority.

## Keys to Success

### Preparation

- Read all the materials in advance of committee meetings
- Prepare a list of questions for your committee meeting

### Participation with Intention

- Attend all committee meetings that discuss budget items that you want to have input on. You don't have to be on that committee.
- Do not wait until September to make suggestions

### Precision

- Your committee can only submit 5 Capital priorities and 5 Expense priorities
- Be specific with your suggestions

Community board members asked the following questions:

After the committee makes their priorities, how soon before our September meeting will we receive everyone's budget priorities? To give feedback, prepare our questions?

**Response:** If you can't make a committee meeting, you can send the Chair your recommendations. Once everything comes into the office, we compile it all together, then we will send it out to the board. We are going to provide more details about the priorities. We will put them in an app, and everyone will get a chance to rank all of them from the most important to the least important. We will review the priorities and send them to the board two weeks in advance. At that time, if you have any questions, reach out to Christine or the particular committee Chair.

Last year, there were lengthy conversations which could have been discussed in advance. Is there a way we can shorten the time?

**Response:** We are encouraging everyone to attend all committees and bring up their priorities they would like to see in that committee. It is Robert's Rules, not just our bylaws, if somebody makes a motion for us to consider a priority, we still have to consider it.

When we make recommendations, are these recommendations specifically used in our community? Do they implement our recommendations?

**Response:** Yes, we get feedback from the city. Sometimes we have some line items come off our budget priorities quickly, and some budget priorities take a long time. It depends on the agency, there are different budgets for different agencies.

Are the goals to send the priority list by the end of the month?

**Response:** Some committees may have one meeting, while other large committees might need to hold several meetings. We would like all Chairs to get their priorities in by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Can you resend the last two years' budget priorities and their answer?

**Response:** Yes, we will send the budget priorities along with the response from the agencies. We will also provide again the contact information for committee chairs, so that members can reach out to them in advance.

## **TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC TRANSIT, STREET SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT PROPOSED RESOLUTION – SPEED LIMIT AROUND SCHOOLS**

Co-Chair Peter Beadle reported that the committee met on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, and had a discussion of school safety, specifically PS 144 and PS 174 along with the principals, PTA, DOT, and the NYPD. Included in the discussion were the applications for both schools for open streets during school hours in order to increase the safety of the students going to and from school. There was also discussion about making it safer around the schools for our children. The committee supported the applications for the open streets to the DOT. PS 144 has been approved for an open street on the Juno side of the school, during morning drop off and afternoon pick up. PS 174 has an application in for Dieterle Crescent for an open street. A study was requested to see if there can be a one-way street between Dieterle and Elwell Crescent, a matched pair in different directions in order to do street calming, to slow cars down. We were joined by members of the Education, Youth Committee.

Kevin Ly proposed that all streets adjacent to these buildings have a speed limit of 15 miles per hour. This is something that can be done due to Sammy's Law. It was unanimously approved in committee, and it resulted in the drafting of a resolution that was sent out to all board members.

### **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NYC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO LOWER THE SPEED LIMIT OF ALL STREETS ADJACENT TO SCHOOLS WITHIN QUEENS COMMUNITY DISTRICT 6 TO NO MORE THAN 15MPH**

#### **WHEREAS,**

Pedestrian deaths and serious injuries continue to plague our City Streets and children, some of our most vulnerable residents, are especially at risk at the beginning and end of the school day.

In recognition of the dangers facing pedestrians on our streets the NYS Legislature passed, and on May 9, 2024, Governor Hochul signed, “Sammy’s Law” Amending Vehicle and Traffic Law §1642(a)(26)(a) to permit New York City to lower speed limits on City streets to 20mph generally and speed limits around schools to 15mph. The NYC DOT issued a list of streets around the City where speed limits will be lowered, but none of these were within Queens Community District 6.

On February 27, 2025, Principals and Parent Leaders of P.S. 144 and 174 came before the Queens Community Board 6 Transportation, Public Transit and Street Safety Committee to request support for their applications for School Streets temporarily closing adjacent streets during school hours in order to make the streets safer for the children attending those schools.

During this meeting several frightening incidents were shared, including a child being struck by a car at dismissal, though thankfully not seriously hurt, and another incident of a speeding vehicle flipping over as students were leaving the school. We are also mindful of the death of a 16-year-old girl outside IS125 in Sunnyside last year on the last day of the School Year, and far too many other incidents highlighting the particular vulnerability of children coming to and leaving school buildings.

The Committee overwhelmingly expressed its support for the applications and in looking for additional measures that can be taken to protect our children unanimously supported a proposal that the NYC Department of Transportation lower the speed limit of all streets adjacent to schools within Queens Community District 6 to 15 mph.

#### **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

1. Queens Community Board 6 requests that the NYC Department of Transportation take immediate steps to lower the speed limit of all streets adjacent to schools within our Community District to 15 mph and post appropriate signage reflecting the new speed limit; and,
2. Queens Community Board 6 waives the written notice and comment period required by VTL §1624(a)(26)(b) so as to not delay the immediate implementation of this request.
3. Queens Community Board 6 requests that the NYC DOT increase the number of/install Speed Cameras in the vicinity of District Schools; and

4. Queens Community Board 6 requests that the 112th Precinct increase patrols in the vicinity of schools during school hours to enforce the new speed limit.

Sabah Munawar made a motion to accept the resolution as read and was seconded by Robert Ash. All were in favor.

## **CONSUMER AFFAIRS / CULTURAL AFFAIRS / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Gladys, Co-Chair, gave the following report:

There were no new liquor license applications this month.

The Community Board received the following renewal liquor license applications:

1. IL POETA, 98-04 METROPOLITAN AVENUE, FH
2. PIZZA CLASSICA, 89-89 UNION TURNPIKE, GLENDALE
3. THEATER CAFE, 106-03 METROPOLITAN AVENUE, FH
4. NICK'S PIZZA, 108-26 ASCAN AVENUE, FH
5. TASTE OF TASHKENT, 101-15 QUEENS BLVD, FH
6. SUSHI KOI, 116-37 QUEENS BLVD., FH
7. SINGA'S FAMOUS PIZZA, 63-53 108th ST., FH
8. IRON AGE, 61-35 JUNCTION BLVD., RP

The 112th Precinct did not report any issues regarding these establishments.

The committee's recommendation is to approve the renewal liquor license applications. The committee vote for the renewal of liquor license applicants 1-5, all were in favor; one board member was not in favor for applicants 6-8.

Questions were asked about the liquor licenses.

Why do closed establishments apply for liquor licenses?

**Response:** The restaurants notify us 30 days before they submit their applications to the Liquor Authority. Due to the complexity of the application process, if you're under construction and already have a liquor license, you would want to keep that liquor license up to date.

Do we know why someone opposed applicants, 6-8?

**Response:** The applicants were applying way in advance; their license expires in September. The member thought it was too early. State Liquor Authority prefers that you notify CB no more than six months in advance of the application.

Motion passed on a voice vote. All were in favor.

## **REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPRESENTATIVES**

SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS

Mercedes Jennings reported the following:

- The office is working with DMV to get some events for Real ID. The DMV is inundated with people getting Real ID.
- Our budget is delayed, due to Washington. It pertains to education, housing, healthcare, funding for the schools and affordable housing.

## QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Michael Carlier, Director of Community Boards, reported the following about the member application process:

- 916 community board member applications
- 361 appointed to community boards
- 119 new members
- He also reminded members to attend your committee meetings, and to read your agendas in advance.
- Lastly, he announced that on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Queens Borough Hall, Helen Marshall Center, there will be a swearing in ceremony and orientation for new members.

## QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Amparito Rosero reported the following:

- Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm we will be organizing a neurodivergent awareness forum and resource fair. We encourage all parents, educators, and education advocates to attend to learn about the resources available within our city.
- Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm, we are hosting Bangladesh Independence Day Celebration at Borough Hall.
- Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, at 5 pm, we'll be hosting a Songkran Celebration.
- You may RSVP to any of these events on our website at [queensbp.nyc.gov](http://queensbp.nyc.gov). If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our office. You may call us, 718-286-3000.

## CONGRESSMEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes reported the following:

- April 15<sup>th</sup>, a virtual event with the NYC Department of Veterans Affairs, support services, health care, education, and disability resources.
- April 25<sup>th</sup> office hours for local veterans to meet with the US Department of Veterans Affairs will be held at the VFW in Corona.
- Congressional Art competition, we solicit artwork from all high schools in the district; the winner has their entry hung in the US Capitol for one year. They also come to Washington for a day to celebrate the winners of all art contests around the country.
- FEMA is holding back millions of dollars for food pantries across the country, and that includes many in New York in our district. The congresswoman sent a letter to the homeland security secretary, urging to release the funds.
- Johnny Kim arrived at the International Space Station, and we took him to a couple of schools in the district.
- The total number of constituents in our congressional district received social security benefits was 126,071 people, equals \$94 million in monthly benefits. Rego Park 8,600 recipients, Forest Hills 13,410 recipients.
- We are still working to get the number of subcontractors and contractors in the district. In our congressional district, there are 6,000 workers. Federal workers in Rego Park in our district are 772 and in Forest Hills, 1,250. We are calling for those who were fired to be brought back to the federal workforce. The congresswoman last month brought back a fired federal worker from Woodside. An Army veteran who worked in the VA hospital in the Bronx.

## NEW BUSINESS

Salua Baida spoke about:

- April is the month of the military child. The New York State Veterans Services office is going to have events all over the state of New York. Free events at zoos, museums, and more, please see: [tinyurl.com/monthofthemilitarychild.com](http://tinyurl.com/monthofthemilitarychild.com). Thanks to Commissioner Viviana DeCohen for sharing. For more information, visit: [tinyurl.com/monthofthemilitarychild.com](http://tinyurl.com/monthofthemilitarychild.com).

- May 8<sup>th</sup>, from 1 pm - 4:30 pm, at the Queens Family Court, Queens County Family Courts Teen Day, for teenagers who need a job, prom dresses, life skills and college information. Thanks to our own now Judge Elizabeth Newton for sharing.
- Write to your elected officials about not cutting the budget for the libraries and funding them.

Karen Imas reported:

- Earth Day, Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, Friends of Queensway and the Trust for Public Land are hosting a cleanup in Forest Park along the Queensway trail. Meet up at 10 am at Stop and Shop on Union Turnpike.

Raj Punjabi is the Chairperson of Elmhurst Hospital Community Advisory Board, and they are looking for some new CAB members if anyone is interested.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Submitted by,  
Maria Concolino  
Community Service Aide

CB 6 VOTING SHEET 4-9-25	RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION 15 MPH SPEED LIMIT SCHOOLS
EDGAR ALFONSECA		
DAVID ARONOV		
ROBERT ASHE		
JULIETH AVILA	Absent	A Absent A
ANISIA AYON		L L
SALUA BAIDA		L L
KAVISH BATRA		
PETER BEADLE		W W
HOWARD BIRNBAUM		E E
L.T. CIACCIO		R R
KANDRA CLARK		E E
LATRICE DAVIS		
JOHN DERESZEWSKI		I I
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS		N N
KEITH ENGEL		
ALEM FERATOVIC	Absent	F Absent F
KARLA FUENTES		A Not present for vote A
NICHOLAS GALIPEAU	Absent	V Absent V
TAMARA GAVRIELOF	Absent	O Absent O
ANDY GUO		R R
KAREN IMAS		
SARINA JAIN		
NILE JOHNSON		
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE		
MARK LASTER		
KEVIN LY	Not present for vote	
DR. RENEE MEHRRA	Absent	Absent
PAT MORGAN		
SABAH MUNAWAR		
NATALIE PIENKOWSKA		
JESSICA POORAN	Absent	Absent
JOI PRATT		
RAJ PUNJABI		
DIANA RACHNAEV	Absent	Absent
GARRI RIVKIN		
LIZ ROBINS		
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ		
SHARI ROLNICK		
GLADYS SANDOVAL		
DAVID SCHANTZ		
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	Absent	Absent
AMIT PRATAP SHAH	Absent	Absent
EUGENE SHVARTSMAN	Absent	Absent
JEAN C. SILVA		
DANIEL SOLOW		
LOU TECPANECATL	Not present for vote	
MARTHA TUCKER		
DIANA WALCOTT		
BRENTLY WINSTEAD	Absent	Absent
EPHRAIM ZAKRY		
TOTALS:		