



COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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HEATHER BEERS-DIMITRIADIS
CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 7, 2024

PRESENT

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

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

M. ARCATI
D. ARONOV
A. AYON
K. BATRA
H. BIRNBAUM
H. CHAIN
G. CHEN
K. CLARK
L. DAVIS
B. GROSSBERG
K. IMAS
S. JAIN
M. FERNANDEZ-
KONIGSBERG

M. LASHLEY-KABORE
R. MEHRRA
P. MORGAN
D. RACHNAEV
S. ROLNICK
M. SALTON
D. SCHANTZ
J. SILVA
M. TUCKER
B. WINSTEAD
T. YASUKAWA
E. ZAKRY
K. ZAPATA

ABSENT

B. LEONG
K. LY
G. SANDOVAL
*EXCUSED ABSENCE

P. SCHNEIDERMAN*
H. SCHONHAUT*
E. WONG*

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

CHRISTINE NOLAN
AMPARITO ROSERO
KEVIN McALEER
JORDAN GOLDES
GIANNA VALENTE
KELLY SEXTON
SEAN McCABE
THOMAS AURINGER

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR
OFFICE OF THE QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN
OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG
OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI
OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES GENNARO
OFFICE OF SENATOR JOSEPH ADDABBO
OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

This meeting was held in-person with a limited virtual option via WebEx for individuals with extraordinary circumstances. The following CB 6 Members joined the meeting via WebEx: Dr. Renee Mehrra, Heidi Chain and Titilayo Yasukawa. The meeting will be recorded and posted on YouTube. Community Board meetings are posted on YouTube.com for transparency to the public (www.tinyurl.com/cb6youtube).

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis made an announcement to the board members if anyone sees the board members on WebEx with their hand raised to let her know, so she can call upon them. Board Member L.T. Ciaccio will now monitor the Webex.

GOOD AND WELFARE

CB 6 MEMBERS

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis made the announcement for Board Member Heidi Chain, announcing the following:

- Wednesday, February 21st at 7:30pm on zoom 112th Precinct Council meeting. You can follow them on Facebook or Twitter to find out how to attend next week's meeting.

Mark Laster announced the following:

- Composting Update – Food Scrap Drop Off Sites in the Farmers Market and Commonpoint remain open until June 30th. The mayor's budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year continues to defund community composting. If you are interested in joining this fight, please email the Forest Hills Green Team @ fhgtinc@gmail.com
- Central Queens Against Hate is tentatively planning another Breaking Bread Building Bonds luncheon for Sunday, February 25 at 2pm. Central Queens Against Hate is hoping to secure another grant.
- Central Queens Against Hate submitted a grant to the Office of Prevention of Hate Crimes and the New York City Commission for Human Rights called One Borough, A Hundred Tastes; a Queens food fest for cultural celebration where we plan on inviting local restaurants who serve food from different cultures to share their food and stories and why this is significant to their culture. Central Queens Against Hate is waiting to hear back if they received a grant. The next meeting is February 8th at 6pm.
- Metro Village is planning a cleanup along Metropolitan Avenue for Saturday, March 9th, more information to follow.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis also announced on behalf of Edwin Wong the following:

- Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 2pm Lunar New Year rain date March 2, 2024, the starting point is Ridgewood Savings Bank, 107-55 Queens Blvd.

Bruce Grossberg announced the following:

- Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 7pm a webinar on nursing homes after COVID, Senator Joseph Addabbo will participate along with patient advocate for long term care community coalition. Bruce is looking for a nursing home advocate. Board Member Mark Laster will monitor.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis asked the residents for their cooperation, that there be no interruptions or defamatory comments when public speakers are speaking.

Patricia Malley

I'm a citizen of Forest Hills and have resided here for 57 years, I'm very upset with the situation of the concerts. They have destroyed our quality of life here. Here are three reasons; 1) noise is intolerable, they begin early, and they don't end at 10pm. I have filed complaints several times, this is a residential area. The bass vibrations give me headaches. 2) Parking and the traffic. I live on Burns Street; the police and the tow trucks remove our cars. Many are towed and damaged, they reroute the buses and block the traffic flow. I have health issues. I had my carpets clean in 2022, the carpet cleaning company had to park four blocks away and had to carry his equipment for four blocks. The concerts don't start until 7pm. I must carry heavy groceries from Yellowstone Boulevard, it is not conducive to our health. The emergency vehicles, ambulances, and police along 69th Avenue produce fumes and noise that gives headaches. Neighbors in the adjacent buildings are complaining about it. I have spoken to many people who have complained about the same situation. 3) Garbage and litter, the concert goers get drunk and drugged before and after the concerts. They cannot control themselves; they urinate in our driveways and properties. I have taken pictures and have spoken to the captain at the 112th precinct. This is a health hazard, children and pets are subject to germs. I found three broken bottles in front of my building. I picked up the broken glass which I destroyed in my basement where I live. I shouldn't have to pick up after anyone. In addition, there are drugs and condoms on the ground. We are not paid to become janitors after people leave the concerts. We are exposed to their public toilet and their garbage; we are exposed to their contamination. Quality of life has been destroyed by these concert goers. We can't have that; many people are fed up. I am in the Ladies Auxiliary in this community and have lived here a long time and would appreciate it if somebody would realize that I am a senior citizen and have health issues.

Alex Shehovsov

"I am here to discuss the matter of the proposed 100 capacity single men's homeless shelter in Rego Park. In the past discussions, the speakers made it clear that they are not trying to make insinuations against any individual client of the shelter company. I second the sentiment, we are not here to discriminate. However, when the population reaches 100, statistics matter. It is mathematically proven and cannot be disputed. And statistics unequivocally tell us that if the shelter begins operation, there is an impact on the community. There is crime. Anything from nuisance panhandling to violent assaults. There is the quality-of-life impact. At the very least, the Lost Battalion Park will indeed be lost - to the community. Parents will not be able to bring their children to the playground in the presence of mentally unstable individuals. There is the impact on the businesses. The malls and stores within a few blocks of the location are already suffering post Covid. Increased crime and decreased customer flow can easily bankrupt them. A proponent of the shelter will appeal to the suffering of the homeless and their need for help. But what of the suffering of the residents? The homeless just need a home. It does not need to be in Rego Park - indeed they will be shipped from Manhattan intake facilities. The shelter can be located just as easily in an industrial area, where taxpayers will not be impacted. A cynical politician might point out the "free 100 votes." I will point to the fact that the impacted buildings are already heavily immigrant, and this shelter will incentivize the residents and their entire social network to switch affiliation away from the incumbents, who forced the shelter on them. Finally, there is the lack of proper review and due process. I have reviewed the videos of the past community board meetings, and there are glaring defects in the planning of the proposed shelter. There is no provision for security outside of the shelter. Indeed, the operator representative explicitly confirmed the shelter's inability to control the population's behavior outside of the shelter walls. Something as basic, like fencing off the Wyndham terrace from the adjoining residential parking garage is not provisioned for. Glaring oversight. Moreover, there is zero engagement with the NYPD. The planners have not bothered to meet with the precinct. They did not bother to arrange for additional patrols in the park, nearby malls, and residential areas. They elected to merely dump the crime on the residents to "deal with." I urge the Community Board to strongly oppose the shelter, not only on the safety grounds, but also on the lack of planning and due process. The community residents deserve protection and representation."

Dr. Victoria Bellot

My name is Dr. Victoria Bellot, I am a physician providing care to thousands of patients in Queens in the areas of nephrology and internal medicine. My practice is in Queens Boulevard Tower at 92-29 Queens Boulevard. My patients have many chronic illnesses including kidney disease, some need dialysis, hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease. Queens Boulevard Tower (92-29 Queens Blvd) is a building that is located near the proposed Wyndham Hotel Shelter. This building has 30 busy medical practices in multiple specialties. My practice and the other practices as well see patients from the community with Medicare and Medicaid and provide much needed access to care to a population of

disadvantaged and elderly and disabled patients who would need to wait months for appointments at hospitals such as Elmhurst Hospital, which also takes their insurance. Given the vulnerability of these patients, introducing a homeless shelter to the area would endanger their access to medical care. As research has shown, when homeless shelters of the type proposed enter an area, crime increases significantly. Patients who are elderly and disabled are especially vulnerable and cannot defend themselves. As a result, they will be scared to come to the area for appointments to receive much needed medical care. Missing appointments here will most often mean that they will miss receiving medical care completely because we provide little wait time to book an appointment compared to practices in Queens and particularly hospitals. This will result in an exacerbation of their chronic medical illnesses and poor medical outcomes and an increase in hospitalizations. We cannot endanger the medical care of vulnerable patients by increasing crime in the area. This zone is quite isolated with no nearby law enforcement. It has areas under highway overpasses where drug addicts can congregate and sell and use drugs. As we all know, with drug use and dealing comes increased crime and shootings. While it is important to help the homeless, there are many other programs the city runs that do so and they should be discussed separately. Unfortunately, many residents of homeless shelters are drug addicts and crime rates at many of them have risen in recent years to the point that many homeless Queens residents prefer to sleep outside instead of going to these shelters because they feel threatened. Unsupervised areas under the highway overpass and the park near Lost Battalion Hall will facilitate drug use and crime rather than help in recovery. Please take these arguments into strong consideration and oppose the opening of a homeless shelter in the Wyndham Hotel as this will greatly endanger the safety and subsequent access to care for some of our most vulnerable and elderly patients. I would welcome any information about who we can contact in the city who has the power to affect this decision.

Ilya Feygin

Dear Community Board 6 Representative: My name is Ilya Feygin and I own 3 medical offices at Queens Blvd Tower (92-29 Queens Blvd, Rego Park, NY) which house a medical practice and a lab serving the elderly, disabled, and chronically ill patients with kidney disease. I am writing this letter not only on behalf of myself but many physicians, residents, and business owners in the building. It has come to our attention that the Department for Social Services (DSS) intends to open a single men's homeless shelter at the 93rd Street Wyndham Hotel adjoining our building in March or April without consulting with or even informing the Community Board, members of the public, residents of 92-29 Queens Blvd, business owners, and other stakeholders. We are shocked that this item is not even on the agenda for the Community Meeting. We, along with other members of the community, are deeply concerned about the further decline in safety and security of the area to the point that the chronically ill and the elderly will not be able to get vital medical services at our building, 92-29 Queens Blvd and residents, many of whom are in the same category, will fear for their lives and be confined to their homes. Data obtained by NY1 under the Freedom of Information Act shows escalating violence, including the use of knives and guns, drug use and overdoses in the New York City shelter system (see article cited below). This problem has also been extensively studied in other parts of the country with a large homeless population, such as California. The California District Attorney found the following (see attached article): For felony-level offenses, the DA's office discovered that homeless individuals were up to 514 times more likely to commit crimes. Worse, homeless individuals who commit a crime are often repeat offenders. Stephan's report showed 98% of homeless individuals cited for a crime had two or more new cases filed against them. Stephan pinpointed the cause of the spikes as untreated mental health and addiction disorders, as well as laws preventing law enforcement from deterring petty crime and steering homeless individuals into treatment before lawless behavior escalates. Homeless individuals were 118 times more likely to die of a drug overdose than the non-homeless population. "In my role as the county's top public safety official, my goal is to bring solutions driven by my team's unique experience where homelessness, mental health issues and substance use disorders intersect with the criminal justice system," said Stephan. Carl DeMaio, chairman of Reform California, praised DA Stephan's acknowledgement of mental health and addiction issues as they relate to crime and homelessness. Our building is located on Horace Harding Expressway with significant areas hidden under the Long Island Expressway overpass that consistently serve as platforms for crime and drug use. In addition, the park across the street from Burger King behind our building serves as a meeting point for drug dealers and drug users as well as an unsupervised area inviting crime. Law enforcement is unwilling and unable to deal with a sharp rise in crime and drug use around our area. We are deeply concerned that this new shelter is a threat to the lives and well-being of everyone involved: patients, medical staff, building residents and staff, and the homeless themselves who will get more easy access to drugs and ability to engage in crime. Furthermore, this will scare off patients from coming in for necessary medical care which will lead to further exacerbation of their chronic medical conditions, poor outcomes, and death. I would like to request a time to speak at the meeting on February 7th along with Dr. Victoria Bellot, one of the busiest physicians working at 92-29 Queens Blvd. I would also like to request that this item be put on the agenda for the meeting as it significantly affects many community members. Many community members are not even

aware of this issue and have a right to know and comment. Not putting the item on the agenda perpetuates this lack of transparency and keeps everyone misinformed. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Michael Wechsler – Lafayette Owners Corporation.

I am the president of the owners of the Lafayette Owners Corporation, which is the building between Yellowstone Boulevard and the mini mall across from Parker Towers and Trader Joe. Something that is important is called coalition. We need to help our community board, by helping us deal with the problems in our community. Maintenance in co-ops has increased. Local Law 11, which is the scaffold law, every five years it is required for the building to be resurfaced. The amount of money that costs six storied buildings are astronomical. Local Law 11 didn't cover these buildings for a while, later as regulations became more astringent, they did cover the buildings. The cost for a 20 storied building versus 6 storied building is very different. You might not realize that you pay hundreds or thousands more per year, which is a way to do more Local Law 11 scaffolding repairs. This is something we may not need in our area to treat 6 storied buildings like large buildings. I would like to discuss it with you another time. There are a couple other Local Laws that are coming up Local Law 126 which is an elevator upgrade requirement, that the department of building doesn't know about except if you are upgrading your elevators which will cost you from \$8,000 to \$10,000 per elevator, that you would not use. Local Law 97 this is another law that will impact on the cost of our buildings. We need to have a group of our people, to have a united interest in dealing with this problem. So, that our lower storied buildings are dealt proportionately like there're skyscrapers. Our building helped the NYPD and DA Katz's office to prosecute a burglary and I want to thank them for their help. There is another part of our coalition on safety, I worked on several other buildings to alert them about burglary. Our block is on the north side of Queens Boulevard, it is a downward sloping block on Yellowstone Boulevard. There are two trees on the corner, this block has a service lane that has parking meters. The lane is 29 inches wide which is less wide than the 48 inches. The roots have broken the sidewalk and need repair. We reached out to the city to repair the sidewalk, the city replied that we need to fix the neighborhood to accommodate the trees. They want us to create a 38-foot tree pit ramp over the roots, spending tens of thousands of dollars so it doesn't harm the tree and goes sloping downwards. I am asking the community board to help me with this situation. I sent the park department a letter stating this is a terrible plan and we want them to go ahead and renew the permit and we will fix it next week. On Monday, I received a notice from the parks department refusing to give us a permit because it's illegal. We can't fix the sidewalk; you will have a 38-foot inch tree pit.

Sheryl Fetik – Independent Community Action Network

My name is Sheryl Fetik. Many of you know me. I am a lifelong resident of Rego Park and a homeowner. I am deeply concerned and opposed to the plan for the adult men's shelter on 93rd Street in Rego Park. There are various forms of petitions going around the neighborhood. I wrote one of them, to express opposition and to raise questions. I believe that there are over 400 to 500 signatures already obtained, and we just started this a few days ago. I believe the community en masse is really opposed to the current proposal. There was a draft resolution passed on January 23, by a CB6 Committee, regarding a community advisory board. There are so many open questions and concerns, that I really cannot understand how any resolution can be passed at this point. We should be demanding answers from the city, and negotiating with the city, to get a proper plan to really help residents and the homeless. The draft resolution states that the residents of Rego Park recognize and acknowledge their responsibility for providing for this type of facility. I don't know about any survey or study or questionnaire that was sent out. And I have just reached out, as a private citizen, and see that people are very deeply concerned. I've been in touch, since the last Community Board meeting, with many community residents, and most oppose the shelter. It is located on the same block as an apartment building and a playground, near elementary schools, and is in a densely populated residential area. We should help the homeless and others in need. There are current alternatives and other programs. I am just learning about this, and I am reaching out to the city and to others. People can apparently rent part of their homes or apartments, and the city will give them a stipend, I was told. I don't know about this, but I was told by a couple of sources that New York City will pay \$1,800 per month if you will give part of your house to take in someone in need. So, we should be exploring how some people could be provided with housing in this way. We should be negotiating with the city to provide temporary and affordable housing. We need affordable housing for families, seniors, vets, and residents. The current proposal is not good for either the homeless or for our community. My understanding is that there is another shelter being planned for Rego Park, at about 92-54 Queens Blvd., two blocks away from the men's shelter. Not enough information has been provided to the public about either shelter. I live two blocks away from the Queens Blvd. shelter. There is no sign up that says that this is a proposed homeless shelter or transitional housing, or anything like that. As a matter of fact, in 2023 I was robbed twice, in Rego Park. One of these times was at that construction site. And these are two open police cases. I have been reaching out to the city government, to obtain more information, and we should press them on this. I want to go over some of my questions. I have copies, for those who would like them, of one of the circulating petitions that raises

various questions and concerns. One is the location, that I have already discussed, that this is an improper place to put a homeless shelter. One concern is the population, who will be using the shelter. I was here at the Community Board meeting and listened to the DSS. We need to know who is coming into our neighborhood and provide facilities for them and for our neighborhood. Also, the security has not been addressed. The services, the food, the income of the clients or residents. The contracts which are crucial here. You can't make a resolution until you know the terms of the contracts with the City of New York. And there are many other questions. Thank you very much for listening to me. The petitions are still being circulated, and we're really trying to do the best for the community. Petition in Opposition to the Adult Men's Homeless Shelter, proposed for 61-18 93 Street, Rego Park, Queens, NYC. To the Mayor of the City of New York, Members of the City Council, Elected Officials, Community Board Members, Community Members: We are OPPOSED to the establishment of the adult men's shelter, proposed for the Wyndham Hotel, located at 61-18 93 Street, in Rego Park, Queens. We are concerned with residents, homeowners, and businesspeople. There are many problems, and unanswered questions, concerning this shelter. We need affordable housing, for families, seniors, veterans, and others, but this shelter is intended to temporarily house 100 or more adult men, dormitory style, with some meals. It supposedly is not intended for permanent housing. Location: There may be a danger to families and children, caused by the men's shelter, because it will be located next to a playground, within easy walking distance of several elementary schools, P.S. 206, P.S. 139, P.S. 174, with the recreation center, the Lost Battalion Hall, on the next block, in a densely populated residential area. This is the wrong place to put a shelter for adult men. Another location should be found if it is really needed. It appears that there has been no study of how the local community will be affected by this shelter. There are 2 homeless shelters proposed for Rego Park, this adult men's shelter, and another, family shelter, currently under construction, two blocks away, at about 92-54 Queens Blvd. There is at least one more shelter in nearby Corona. Why do we need so many homeless shelters, instead of real affordable housing for our community? There has been almost no information provided to our community regarding any of these shelter proposals. Many important questions have been left unanswered: Population: What will the population be for any of these planned shelters? We believe that a preference should be given to veterans, seniors, and residents. Vetting: The Department of Social Services (DSS) spoke about intake and case management. Does this mean that they will take in migrants, men with mental and/or physical impairments, drug or substance addictions, or criminal defendants? It seems so. Security: What security will be provided for the homeless facilities, and for the community? Will extra police department personnel be required, and allocated? Who will pay for the extra police presence? Services: What services will be provided for these homeless men, or for the community, when we are faced with the additional problems? Where will these services be provided, at the Lost Battalion Hall, or neighborhood schools? Food: Where and when will food be provided to these homeless men? DSS spoke about 3 meals per day. Where will the kitchen and kitchen staff be located? What about additional food? Will there be cooking facilities in each dorm room? Will kosher food be available? Or will the homeless men need to seek out neighborhood resources? Income: Which agencies are involved with providing additional income for these men? With a temporary shelter, and some food, the men will still require additional funds. Or is it expected that they should rely upon our local community? Contracts: What are the terms of the contracts that the agencies and companies involved have with the City of New York? What is the amount of involved process in agreeing to these contracts? What length of time of stay is planned for each homeless man? What provisions are made for moving these men out of the shelter, or out to other facilities? Would any of these homeless men be eligible for a housing voucher, or housing assistance, through N.Y.C.'s other programs and services? If there is room for 100 men, using other programs and facilities, then we certainly don't need this shelter. And other serious questions. We should be seeking ways to help the homeless, and those in need. We must also consider and include the needs of our residents, when any policy or program is implemented, and this must be done regarding shelters. Name, Address, Email address, Phone. Please return petitions to Sheryl Fetik, so that we can show community opposition. Thank you. Please email to sheryl.fetik@gmail.com

Wendy Wei

As a citizen resident at Rego Park over 30yrs, our neighborhood is well maintained and is old and the people know each other get along with each other. If the city brings Men's shelter to our neighborhood, we are very worried that the community will be disturbed. We are working class people worried about their safety and the safety of the elderly and children and the school with no discriminatory thought we can welcome them but still safety is our concern. We don't want our neighborhood to be alert for any problem. Thanks for your attention and time.

Irina Vovsha

The crime is being committed to the community from the Forest Hill Stadium under false statements being made. 17,000 concert goers will enjoy themselves, while 8,000 Forest Hills citizens will be subjected to noise, vibration of the house, traffic congestion, illegal parking that makes it dangerous to walk the streets. Piles of garbage, public toilet from

the urination of the concert goers. Drunk and drugged mobs that become aggressive when we, the citizens, ask them politely to leave our block or not to park their cars on our driveway. People trespassing come and have picnics on our properties. All these atrocities happen here, do you know why? Because it is good for the economy and businesses according to Senator Addabbo, Assemblyman Hevesi, Councilwoman Lynn Schulman and Melinda Katz. I have here 450 signatures in 2 ½ months from residents and businesses. I promised all 450 people that I would meet with these politicians and the board to report the problem and stop the crime. I kept my promise, these politicians don't care about Forest Hills citizens. They do nothing to stop the concerts, on the contrary the politicians promote the concerts. Why? Because it is good for their pocket. After meeting with all the politicians, and the board, nobody cares about the suffering of Forest Hills citizens. All they care about is filling their pockets with money and you, the board, haven't passed any resolutions so far to stop this crime. These concerts destroy the gem of our neighborhood.

Michael Dunne

My first comment is on the Queens Bus Redesign. I will email a simple, to-the-point document to Mr. Beadle and Mr. Arcati within a few days to support my request, which is: I respectfully ask CB6 to urge the MTA to NOT remove the eastbound Q60 bus stop at Queens Blvd. and Eliot Ave., right in front of the Rego Park Post Office. When my mother must come to Forest Hills for medical appointments that is the bus stop, she uses. She uses a walker. If the MTA insists that it must be removed, I have a compromise solution which I will put on the map and send it to you. The next eastbound stop at 63rd Ave. be pushed or pulled back, relocated to the block between 62nd and 63rd Avenues. Homeless shelter, first I want to thank the members of the board who took my draft resolution and ran with it. I was afraid you would toss out of the room and thank you for using part of my resolution. Anyone who has an issue with my draft resolution talk to me outside face to face. It is based on facts. My mother and I live on Sanders Street, right around the corner from the family and children's shelter and across from Queens Boulevard the men's shelter. When we must walk to Rego Center, Burger King or Lost Battalion Hall when it is finished with renovation, we can't avoid walking past these homeless shelters. Personally, I am not worried about it, but my mother and her neighbors, who are also elderly are scared and nervous. I know I said that I drafted the resolution some of the facts, I was the one who put in the comment about using the hotel. Last April 2023 my family had a mini reunion, we had too many guests and had to use the Wyndham Hotel. It was a lot easier to get them from there than drive to LaGuardia Hotel.

Stephanie H. - Queens Blvd Tower Condominium

We are concerned residents, homeowners and businesspeople who are strongly opposed to the planned men homeless shelter at Wyndham Hotel located at 61-18 93rd St, Rego Park, NY 11374. There will be foreseen danger to women, families and children caused by this Adult Men Homeless Shelter because it will be located next to a playground, within easy walking distance to several elementary schools (P.S. 206, P.S. 139, P.S. 174), recreation center, the Lost Battalion Hall, literally ~50 feet from a residential bldg. (Queens Blvd Tower Condominium) and ~10 feet from a private parking garage. This is a wrong location to put a shelter for adult men. Not to mention the drastic depreciation of our condominium property. There are 2 homeless shelters proposed for Rego Park, the adult men shelter and another family shelter, currently under construction two blocks away at 92-54 Queens Blvd. There is already one existing shelter nearby which is at Holiday Inn, Corona. We don't need another Shelter in our neighborhood. My family recently moved to Rego Park due to its desirable neighborhood, but with this Shelter, I don't think it will be the same. Safety, well-being, peace, and order are paramount to all of us. Friends whose neighborhood has existing shelters are complaining of sleepless nights due to loud noises, fights, drugs, etc. There are cases of sexual assaults and robbery too. Their surroundings became filthy and not safe anymore. We don't want these right next to our home. We don't want more crime in our area. The speed at which this seems to be unfolding is disheartening. This plan is anticipated to happen in March-April 2024 and is causing us intense mental and emotional distress. Some of us can't function well at work due to anxiety. You might feel the same way if this shelter is right next to your home/neighborhood. We're pleading to please stop this men's homeless shelter at Wyndham Hotel.

The following comments were submitted in writing for the minutes.

Ken Karp

Thank you for this opportunity to address derelict properties in Forest Hills. Earlier, I forwarded pictures of the 71-53 Austin Street hole-in-the-ground - at least a dozen years of neglect; permits outdated as often as not; barricades in varying states of disrepair - and the abandoned hospital on 113th Street - also derelict for at least as long, within 3 blocks of three major houses of worship and 6 each of schools and daycare centers - now in entire disrepair, attracting unknown activities at all hours; unquestionably something bad waiting to happen. This one picture (from left to right) alone makes the point: First Presbyterian Church (also home to a daycare center), abandoned hospital a block behind,

adjacent to Grand Central Parkway Elementary School, Touro's FH campus, Reform Synagogue of Forest Hills. Looking forward, too, to forwarding information on the many code violations around town.

Carmen Villarica-Remache

I moved to Rego Park 30 years ago because of the outstanding neighborhood status, good schools, shopping districts, restaurants, proximity to the post office and public transportation. I knew I could feel safe walking around the neighborhood. I knew my children would be safe in the neighborhood. I decided to buy a house in Rego Park for all the reasons mentioned above. Now the people living in Rego Park was blindsided with the news of a homeless shelter for single adult males at the Wyndham Garden Hotel and NYC DHS deciding to build a transitional housing facility for families and children across from Wyndham Garden Hotel. It is a shock how local government can decide such matters without the involvement of the community or has not given enough time for the community to organize, protest and respond. It doesn't take much to see what the effects of these facilities will have on the neighborhood. Do you think people would consider buying property near such locations with homeless shelters? Do you think property value would increase? Do you think people would want to invest in or participate in businesses near a homeless shelter? Do you think children attending school in the vicinity would be safe? Do you think we will feel safe in the neighborhood? Do you think children in the neighborhood will be safe walking to school and back home alone? Do you think the residents of the homeless shelter will not wonder about the neighborhood? Do you think the residents would not hang around the subways? The answer is NO. First and foremost is SAFETY, and UPKEEP OF NEIGHBORHOODS. Why has the local government allowed this. We are taxpayers and deserve an EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE, not the opposite...a neighborhood status DECLINING NO to homeless shelter and transitional housing facilities in our Neighborhood in Rego Park.

Jean Hahn

I am opposed to the proposed single male homeless shelter at the Wyndham Hotel, located at 61-18 93rd St. This location is less than 1 block from a children's playground, and in nearby proximity to several elementary and middle schools which is unacceptable and urge board members to reconsider any support for this.

Keith Mazzarello

I am writing today to urge you to oppose the City of Yes proposals that you will be voting on soon. These proposals will have negative impacts in both low-density and high-density areas of our city. While the City of Yes – Housing Opportunity proposal will frankly have catastrophic consequences on our residential communities, the matter at hand now is the City of Yes –Economic Opportunity proposal which, if passed, will allow unregulated commercial uses throughout all our neighborhoods. This pressing matter must be rejected to help preserve communities across the city and allow us to consider better solutions that will get our city back on its feet – the right way. While many of the aspects of these proposals will have dire impacts on our community, some of the worst include: allowing owners of houses and apartments to open business establishments including massage parlors, nail salons and barbershops which will disrupt the quality of life in neighborhoods across the city and negatively affect the residential atmosphere that we have fought to maintain; this proposal will allow businesses into commercial areas where they shouldn't be able to locate, creating dangerous conditions on neighborhood retail commercial strips; expanding the areas where cabaret licenses will be granted will diminish the quality of life in residences that are near these areas; allowing retail/office/storefronts such as corner stores; up to 2500 square feet on all properties within 100 feet of every corner on every residential block, transforming the quieter areas of our city into an unrecognizable commercial nightmare. These changes, along with many others proposed alongside them, will lead to a need for increased enforcement from various city agencies that are already not equipped to take on the volume of issues we have today, let alone in the future. Between staffing shortages and newly announced budget cuts these changes are all but guaranteed to place the burden of enforcement on already strained city workers. In addition, when considering zoning proposals with a citywide impact like these to the zoning code, collateral damage must be taken into consideration. In this instance, the myriad unintended consequences that would occur from adoption of these zoning changes are immense – and unacceptable. As a resident of New York City that will unquestionably be affected by the negative impact of these proposals, I urge that you take these points into consideration, and that you further research and weigh how these proposals can affect myself as well as all your constituents.

Chelo C. Mendoza

I am writing this email for only one reason it's because of the approval of the "Single Men's shelter" in Wyndham Hotel and the upcoming housing for "transitional families" (migrants??), the reason we bought our house here in Rego Park 29 years ago was because it's a very nice and safe neighborhood. It's near the school, church, public transportation, and

stores. I know our family, especially my daughter, will be safe walking around the neighborhood and walking to subways. There are many great improvements in Rego Park. In spite of the many malls that were built, Rego Park is still a safe and quiet neighborhood. And it will be if NO Men's shelter and NO housing facilities for migrants. Find another area but NOT REGO PARK!! So why make the Wyndham Hotel a shelter for single male shelter? The fact it's a male shelter already makes you feel unsafe. Do you want the neighborhood to decline? Do you want crimes to rise and drug addicts loitering around the subways, mall, Queens Blvd and 63rd drive? I guess you don't want that happening to the Rego Park neighborhood. The property value of the houses will go down. People will not invest to put a business near a homeless shelter. People will not buy real estate in Rego Park. And our investment for this property we bought is going down the drain. Do you want the residents to be afraid? I am asking you this because of what is happening in the city with all those migrants- crimes, drugs, snatching, do you want that to happen in Rego Park? You should have thought of the residents and the quality of life and neighborhood it will bring. When residents of Rego Park heard of this all of them were afraid and worried of what will happen to the community. It's a big NO to single men's shelter and NO to housing facility for migrants! I hope you will listen to the sentiments of the residents of Rego Park.

Cheryl Wasserman

This is my statement to Community Board 6 that I am against the homeless shelter for single homeless men at the Wyndham Garden Hotel located at 61-18 93rd Street. The hotel is near public schools, a recreation center, and many retail stores, businesses, and shopping malls. The area is a densely populated area. The hotel is approximately 50 feet from a residential building, the Queens Boulevard Tower. I was deeply moved by the woman who spoke at the February 7th, CB6 meeting and has anxiety worrying about having an increase in crime and ruining her peace of mind and quality of life due to having a homeless shelter next door to her building. Tax paying residents of CB6 should not have to worry that our lifestyle will change greatly due to a homeless shelter in our neighborhood. I believe that perhaps a shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence would be more appropriate for our neighborhood. If, however a shelter as planned for homeless single men goes forward, I would like to see a written contract or agreement stating that substance abusers, ex-convicts, and individuals with severe mental illness will not be housed in the Wyndham Garden Shelter. I would also like to have police patrols in the area around the shelter for our protection.

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis closed the public comments.

MINUTES

There were updated minutes that were distributed on Friday, February 2, 2024, for the January 10, 2024, meeting. Chair Beers-Dimitriadis asked if there are any comments, issues, changes, or questions regarding the January 10th minutes. The minutes were approved as written. Mark Laster made a motion to approve the minutes as written and it was seconded by Howie Birnbaum. All were in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis thanked the CB6 staff in answering residents' questions regarding the homeless men's shelter. The Chair reported that the Executive Committee met on Monday, February 5th to discuss CB6 meeting efficiency and open meetings law. Over the past several months, the Executive Committee made some changes to have the meetings run more smoothly and efficiently. We have eliminated reading the public comments out loud; reduced public comment time to two minutes outside the community boundaries. The chair also reported that other adjustments at the CB6 meeting will be implemented in tonight's meeting to be more productive and help with the charter mandate role. The changes are as follows: no more promotional presentations at full board meetings only in committee meetings. The second change is going to encourage people to attend their committee meetings, especially when the item is going to be voted on at the full board meeting. Most of the meetings are briefings and can be attended from home. At the committee meetings you can spend more time asking and discussing the item. At full-board meetings there isn't enough time to spend asking questions. You can attend any committee meeting even if you are not on that committee, especially if you have questions. The executive committee board agreed that all board members should keep their comments in succinct, limiting their questions to the most important questions. Should you have more than one question, reach out to the chair of that committee, the chair or office to get you an answer, so that you have the information that is needed at the meeting. A lot of the items that CB6 is

working on takes time to balance the need to increase efficiency, and need to scrutinize these: text amendments, shelter projects, cannabis businesses, which need time.

Committees – when you receive a meeting notice, write back to your chair of that committee in five days if you will be attending the meeting/briefing or if the date isn't good for you. A few of the committees are not getting responses from their committee members.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis reported that CB6 received a lot of responses from OMB. Board Member Mark Laster, Community Coordinator Christine Nolan and Chair Dimitriadis met to go over the budget priority answers and are working on responding to OMB, agencies, and elected officials. Within the next 30 days the board should receive the responses that the Budget Reconciliation/District Needs Committee reported to OMB, agencies, and elected officials.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Christine Nolan Community Coordinator reported that:

- CB Applications are still open, and the deadline is February 16, 2024. For CB Members, if you are not sure whether you need to renew, ask me.
- The District Service Cabinet Meeting was held on 1-24-24. There were representatives from many city agencies in attendance. One takeaway from the meeting is that DOT will be announcing its Dining Out Program, which is the Permanent Outdoor Dining Program. During COVID, there was a temporary, less strict version of the program. Once we have all the information, we will get it out to members as well as businesses in our area.
- We requested a meeting with DDC and Queens Library for an update on the Rego Park Library construction. It was set to begin this year, but we have heard it is now 2025 so we would like an update.
- If you want to schedule a committee meeting, please reserve the date in advance. The CB calendar fills up quickly.
- I testified at the Queens Borough President's Budget Hearings. The main points in my testimony were: Senior Affordable Housing, Meals on Wheels, and Sewer Infrastructure Upgrades.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Due to the absence of Gladys Sandoval, Co-Chair, Chair Beer's-Dimitriadis gave the following report:

Adult Use Cannabis Retail Dispensary Licenses

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis reported that on January 4, 2024, the Consumer Affairs/Economic Development/Small Business Committee met with 65-55 Woodhaven Blvd, RP business applying for cannabis applications.

DBA TO BE DETERMINED 65-55 Woodhaven Blvd., RP due to illness, the candidate couldn't attend and present at our January 10, 2024, CB6 meeting and is now presenting at the February 7th CB6 meeting. The committee took a straw poll and voted unanimously to approve their cannabis retail dispensary licenses. The presenter was Fred Polsinelli speaking on behalf of Marina Katayeva.

DBA TO BE DETERMINED 63-54 108 Street, FH attended the Consumer Affairs, Economic Development & Small Business committee meeting on January 29th, and met with Louis Ruocco. The committee had one concern, asking about hours of operation based on the proximity of the school. Louis replied at the CB6 meeting, the hours of operation will be 10am-7pm or 9am-7pm, and is working with OCM about how many hours the business could be open until. A straw poll was taken, and all were in favor. Board member John Dereszewski made a motion to accept the approval of the straw votes on January 29th, for 65-55 Woodhaven Blvd. and 63-54 108 Street and was seconded by Ephram Zakry. All were in favor.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis addressed a question that has been asked by our board members about illegal cannabis shops. What makes people not stop from entering an illegal shop? The board needs to reach out to enforcement, stating the board is approving the legal cannabis businesses and would like to remove the illegal cannabis shops. The board could reach out to our elective officials to ask for proper enforcement and proper funding to shut down illegal cannabis businesses.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis will send a letter to the Office of Cannabis Management stating how the community board voted.

CB6 received the following new liquor license applications:

1. BBQ CHICKEN DON ALEX NO 6 LLC., 97-05 64th AVENUE, RP
This is a Peruvian restaurant that is already open. They would like to add beer and wine to complement their food. This application was approved by CB6 in May 2023.
2. BATIK MALAY- INDO CUISINE & BAR, 95-34 QUEENS BLVD., RP
This is a full-service restaurant. The owner worked at a restaurant in the neighborhood for two years as manager. It is a Malaysian Indonesian Restaurant. Most customers are asking for beer and wine, so it is important for the business to have a liquor license.

CB6 received the following renewal applications:

1. ANDA 07 CORP., 96-18 QUEENS BLVD, RP
2. THE BUND, 100-30B QUEENS BLVD, FH

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

STREET ACTIVITY PERMIT APPLICATIONS

CB6 received the following street activity permit applications:

Queens Boulevard Forest Hills Fair - Sunday, April 14, 2024 8:00AM - 8:00PM

Queens Blvd. between Yellowstone Blvd. & 70th Road

Sponsor: 112th pct. Community Council

63rd Drive Spring Fair - Saturday, May 4, 2024 8:00AM – 8:00PM

63rd Drive between Queens Blvd. & Austin Street

Sponsor: Forest Hills Visiting Neighbors

Forest Hills Festival of the Arts - Sunday, June 9, 2024 8:00AM – 8:00PM

Austin Street between 69th Road & 72nd Road

Sponsor: Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce

Queens Boulevard Festival - Sunday, July 7, 2024 8:00AM-8:00PM

Queens Boulevard between Yellowstone Blvd and 70 road

Sponsor: Forest Hills Jewish Center

63rd Drive Fair - Saturday, September 7, 2024 8:00AM – 8:00PM

63rd Drive between Queens Blvd. & Austin Street

Sponsor: Forest Hills Rego Park Lions Club

Forest Hills Fall Festival - Sunday, September 29, 2024 8:00AM – 8:00PM

Austin Street between 69th Road & 72nd Road

Sponsor: Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce

The Consumer Affairs/Economic Development/Small Business Committee voted to approve the street activity permits with the following caveat: the event be planned around the values of equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging with respect to street fair participants. First Vice Chair Peter Beadle made a motion to approve the committee recommendation with one addition; an additional provision explicitly stating that the applicants shall not unreasonably refuse any local community or civic organization from tabling at the event, provided that there is space available, and they satisfy the requirements of the producer of the street event. The motion was seconded by L.T. Ciaccio. A roll call vote was taken, and all were in favor, with the following abstentions: Heidi Chain, Dr. Renee Mehrara and Pat Morgan for the Queens Blvd. Forest Hills Fair (112 Pct. CC) and, Karen Imas and Shari Rolnick for the Queens Boulevard Festival (Forest Hills Jewish Center).

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC TRANSIT, STREET SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT **PRESENTATION FROM MTA – QUEENS BUS NETWORK REDESIGN PROPOSED FINAL PLAN**

Committee Chair Peter Beadle reported that the MTA has been working on the queen's bus network redesign plan for over a year, since there was push back for the bus routes. The MTA went back to their plan and redesigned the bus network. Chairman Peter Beadle suggested to board members to google Queens Bus Redesign, scroll down to the route's details, route profiles, there you can put in your bus number to see the route. Some of the stops in a route have been removed, moved, or added. The chairman asked the board members to email him with any concerns or comments. The committee is putting together a document for the MTA team with issues the committee still feels are a problem. Lucille Songhai, the Assistant Director of Government Community Relations at the MTA New York City Transit along with some of the Queens Bus Network Redesign team, Evan Bialostozky, Ryan Wilkenson and Lola Viera-Sullivan gave a presentation of some of the routes that affect Forest Hills and Rego Park. The Queens Bus Redesign team would like some feedback from the community, one change they had heard from the last time was with the Q23 change proposal and has made some changes to the Q23.

Evan Bialostozky, Supervisor Director for Queens Bus Network MTA. Lola Viera-Sullivan Department of New York City Transportation, DOT is partnering with the MTA.

Evan Bialostozky reported:

Why Redesign the Queens Bus Network?

Queens has more bus routes, and bus riders, than any other borough

- 113 bus routes that serve 800,000 customers on an average weekday.

Queens is growing and changing - demographics and travel patterns are shifting.

- Jamaica, Flushing, and Long Island City are booming, as are employment centers located farther away from the subway.

The Queens bus network has not substantially changed in decades.

- Many routes follow old trolley lines; incremental changes have resulted in slow, indirect routes with closely spaced bus stops.

As our customers 'needs change, we must change with them.

How Are We Redesigning the Bus Network?

Customer Priorities

We asked customers how we should prioritize our efforts to develop a better bus network. They answered with the four priorities below. These priorities are the goals for the redesign.

- Reliable Service – Customers want to be able to rely on buses to arrive when expected.
- Faster Travel – Customers expressed concerns about delays, slow bus service, and congestion.
- Better Connection – Customers want improved intra- and inter-borough connections.
- Simplified Service – Customers want bus service that's simple and easy to understand.

Ryan Wilkenson, Public Transportation Planner on Queens Bus Redesign team, will talk about the bus routes in CB6.

Key Changes Since New Draft Plan

- Q23 service from Forest Hills to 108 Street – maintained
- Q38 service along Juniper Valley Road – maintained
- Q64 no longer combined with Q10
- Q73 rescinded
- Q54 service along Jamaica Avenue – maintained
- Q88 existing routing to Queens Village – maintained

Key Changes in CD6

- New limited routes provide all-day frequent service on major corridors with stops spaced slightly further apart than local routes, providing fast, consistent, and more reliable service, while complementing rush routes (Q54, Q88).
- New and modified local and limited routes expand the reach of the bus network, making it easier to travel between Queens and Brooklyn (Q54, Q59).
- Several Brooklyn Bus Network Redesign routes also improve these connections (B7, B13, B55).
- Other routes are straightened, extended, realigned, or shortened to provide new connections and improve speed and reliability (Q10, Q11, Q37, Q59, Q60).

New Express Bus Network CD6

Key Changes in CD6

- All “X” express route labels renamed to “QM”
- Two routes shortened due to low ridership (QM12, QM42)
- All other existing routes maintain current routing through CD6 (QM10, QM11, QM18, QM44, QM63, QM64, QM68)
- Minor bus stop balancing changes on the express buses
- 3 routes with modified Manhattan routing (QM63, QM64, QM68)
- One new route will stop at Queens Blvd/78 Avenue with weekday peak hour service to downtown Manhattan (QM65)
- Minor service span changes on some routes (QM4, QM10, QM42, QM63, QM64, QM68)
- Most express routes have minor frequency reductions due to low ridership on some trips (both pre-and post-pandemic)

Some of the issues raised by CB members included:

- Bus Stop by Metropolitan High School to be removed. This stop is essential to the students and staff at that campus.
- Eliminating the main stops on Metropolitan Avenue, take a look at the Q23
- Look at all the bus stops that are around schools, to keep the bus stop or put in a better place
- Waiting for a long time then two or more buses come at the same time Q23 and Q60
- A stop that is going to be removed in front of Portofino
- The url is frozen on the MTA app.

Lucille Songhai closed the presentation by asking the board members to send their feedback to Chair Peter Beadle. The Queens Redesign Network team will visit all community boards to get feedback. Starting in the Spring MTA will be hosting in person open houses. This way residents can speak with the Redesign Network team about their bus routes to let the team know what they want to see.

Customers can provide feedback through various means:

- Test your trip in the future trip planner tool (it's like our regular trip planner but programmed for the proposed Queens network).
- Checkout Remix, a web-based interactive map:
 - Customers can view all proposed routes and stops in detail, compare with existing routes, and post comments in specific geographic locations.
 - Remix can be accessed on both desktop and mobile – where people can view stops and frequencies by route for the entire Queens Bus Network
- Visit the comment portal on the project microsite: mta.info/queensbusredesign

LAND USE, HOUSING, LANDMARK/COMMITTEE FOR THOSE WITHOUT SHELTER JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT
PLANNED OPENING OF SINGLE ADULT MALE SHELTER AT 61-18 93RD STREET, REGO PARK

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis spoke to the residents to clarify a public comment about any homeless shelter brought into this community. There was not a CAB recommended on January 23rd. A CAB is a standard operating procedure for any homeless shelter that is brought into a community. The CAB is run by the overseeing agencies, DSS and a variety of community leaders including elected officials, community board members, the 112 Pct. and other organizations. The chair stated that the reason why the community board hasn't spoken about the transitional housing across the street from the homeless men's shelter, the housing isn't ready. When the housing is ready DSS will give the community board information. If anyone is interested in the presentation that was given on January 10th, it will be provided. All questions regarding food and services are in the presentation.

Chair Keith Engel reported the committee met on January 23rd, to discuss the presentation that DSS and DHI presented to the community board on January 10th, regarding the single adult male shelter at 61-18 93rd Street, Rego Park. The committee spoke about the questions/concerns that CB6 board members raised and a public comment that was put forward that were brought up at the January 10th meeting. The Land Use, Housing, Landmark/Committee For those Without Shelter committees drafted a draft resolution that was emailed to the board members and posted on social media to the members of the public. A vote will be taken tonight, there will be no discussion due to several past discussions on this topic. It was discussed on December 4th, January 10th board meeting and January 23rd and tonight. Chair Engel thanked the community board staff for their efforts in answering questions from the residents regarding the men's shelter, everything is open and transparent. We don't get a vote on whether the shelter is allowed to commit to the community. That is not the community board's role. The draft resolution we put forward doesn't give DSS and DHI a carte blanche approval, it gives accountability in the interest of the shelter being a good neighbor to the community. We understand the community concerns, as per the city Charter all community districts have a mandate to provide their fair share of shelters. It is a citywide mandate. Corona and Elmhurst in their community district has two shelters and we have zero until now with the men's homeless shelter.

Board member Peter Beadle presented some draft highlights on the resolution. Peter thanked resident Michael Dunn who came to last month's meeting with a drafted resolution, which provided the inspiration for this drafted resolution. The resolution is not to approve the shelters, it is to manage having shelters in our community district, to have a say with specific items that the community wants to see happening and to act if the community board doesn't see any issues that arise being taken seriously and addressed. To hold DSS accountable for their actions. This shelter will help address tens of thousands of homeless people, until affordable housing can be built. The community board acknowledged that DSS didn't consult with anyone in the neighborhood. The community board resolved the issue that DSS and DHS didn't consult with the community by drafting a resolution. The community board sent over some nominations for the CAB who live over in the area of the shelter. Draft Resolution concept is, if a resident that resides in Forest Hills/Rego Park

area needs a shelter will have priority at this location. The contract is prior to the 90 days to the termination of the contract, the operator comes to the community board to solicit feedback. Questions were answered.

Chair Beers-Dimitriadis made a motion on the feedback of the public comment on paragraph number three that starts with “The residents of Rego Park and Forest Hills recognize and acknowledge that their community should do its part, in terms of equity and fairness”. Would like to change the language to read as follows: “that the members of Queens Community Board 6 as opposed to the residents of Rego Park and Forest Hills” due to some people opposing the shelter. Michael Arcati made a motion to approve to change the language in paragraph three that reads The residents of Rego Park and Forest Hills to change to the members of Queens Community Board 6, and was seconded by Kandra Clark. A voice vote was taken, all were in favor with one abstention, John Dereszewski.

LAND USE, HOUSING, LANDMARK COMMITTEE REPOT – BSA APPLICATION – 64-01 WOODHAVEN BOULEVARD

The BSA application came forward to the community board in 2021 to put up a canopy and was approved unanimously. They are requesting to waive the rules of practice and procedure, extend the time to obtain the certificate of occupancy and amend to previous board approval with one minor revision for application 2022. Daniel Ashe from Walter Gorman, PE, PC a representative from the Mobile gas station located at 64-01 Woodhaven Blvd. spoke about putting up a canopy that was approved in 2021 and wants to add a diesel dispenser to this gas station. The committee voted unanimously. No public comments were received regarding this application. Questions were answered. A roll call was taken, all were in favor.

Chairs Beers-Dimitriadis stated that this month the meeting was held a week earlier due to Valentines Day next Wednesday. Our meeting in March will be held on the 13th.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
Amparito Rosero reported:

- Applications for new or renew community board member is due on February 16, 2024
- Monday, February 12th at 6pm Lunar New Year Celebration
- Friday, February 23rd at 6pm Dominican Independence Celebration
- Tuesday, February 27th at 6pm Black History Month Celebration

You can rsvp to the Queens Borough Hall website: queensbp.org.

New York Council Member James Gennaro
Kelly Sexton reported:

- We represent a small part of Rego Park, the council member supports the resolution to the homeless shelter and is demanding a meeting with the Mayor and DSS to discuss the shelter.

Congresswoman Grace Meng
Jordan Goldes reported:

- The congresswoman passed the bi-partisan law, and has received millions of dollars for various projects in our district around the borough.
- The congresswoman received \$69 million to purchase low emission electric school buses which includes all school districts in Queens and New York City.
- Mail Theft investigation is still underway, the results of the audit should come out in March.

- February 15th, at 10am -2pm Veterans Administration office hours located at the Northeast, Queens office in Flushing. The US Department of Veterans Affairs will be available to answer questions. Veterans can come in with any questions or issues they are having.
- The house had passed and renewed the child tax credit and it is moving through the senate.

New York Council Member Lynn Schulman

Kevin McAleer reported:

- Tomorrow you can vote on the councilwoman's bill, to establish the five-year population health agenda legislation. The legislation will help with health disparities in New York City, improve health services to raise the life span to 83 years old by 2030.
- The councilwoman will be introducing a resolution to support state legislation with Assemblywoman Rajkumar called the Smoke Out Act. To close illegal smoke shops, that are distributing illicit cannabis, to close the shops that aren't following procedure.

Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi

Gianna Valente reported:

- March 9th, from 10am-12pm Clean up on Metropolitan Avenue. The assemblyman will be partnering with Metro Village Forest Hills, Forest Hills Green Team, CB6, Senator Addabbo, Councilwoman Lynn Schulman.
- March 2, at PS 128 Will host with Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz's office a community resource fair, still finalizing the fair call office if want more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Concolino

Community Service Aide

CB 6 VOTING SHEET 2-7-24	NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPS		RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPS		CANNABIS DISPENSARY 65-55 WOODHAVEN BLVD		CANNABIS DISPENSARY 63-54 108TH STREET	
MICHAEL ARCATI								
DAVID ARONOV								
ANISIA AYON								
SALUA BAIDA		A		A		A		A
KAVISH BATRA		L		L		L		L
PETER BEADLE		L		L		L		L
HOWARD BIRNBAUM								
HEIDI CHAIN		I		I		I		I
GINA CHEN		N		N		N		N
L.T. CIACCIO								
KANDRA CLARK		F		F		F		F
LATRICE DAVIS		A		A		A		A
JOHN DERESZEWSKI		V		V		V		V
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS		O		O		O		O
KEITH ENGEL		R		R		R		R
BRUCE GROSSBERG								
KAREN IMAS								
SARINA JAIN								
MATT FERNANDEZ KONIGSBERG								
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE								
MARK LASTER								
BEATRICE LEONG		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
KEVIN LY		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
DR. RENEE MEHRRRA								
PAT MORGAN								
DIANA RACHNAEV								
SHARI ROLNICK								
MATTHEW SALTON								
GLADYS SANDOVAL		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
DAVID SCHANTZ								
PETRINA SCHNEIDERMAN		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
HERBERT SCHONHAUT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
JEAN C. SILVA	↓		↓		↓		↓	
MARTHA TUCKER								
BRENTLY WINSTEAD								
EDWIN WONG		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT
TITILAYO YASUKAWA								
EPHRAIM ZAKRY								
KATHERINE ZAPATA								
TOTALS:	ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR	

VOTING SHEET 2/7/24 PG2	QUEENS BLVD FH FAIR 112TH PCT CC	63 DRIVE SPRING FAIR VISITING NEIGHBORS	FH FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS FH CHAMBER	QUEENS BLVD FESTIVAL FH JEWISH CENTER
MICHAEL ARCATI	YES	YES	YES	YES
DAVID ARONOV	YES	YES	YES	YES
ANISIA AYON	YES	YES	YES	YES
SALUA BAIDA	YES	YES	YES	YES
KAVISH BATRA	YES	YES	YES	YES
PETER BEADLE	YES	YES	YES	YES
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	YES	YES	YES	YES
HEIDI CHAIN	ABSTAIN	YES	YES	YES
GINA CHEN	YES	YES	YES	YES
L.T. CIACCIO	YES	YES	YES	YES
KANDRA CLARK	YES	YES	YES	YES
LATRICE DAVIS	YES	YES	YES	YES
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	YES	YES	YES	YES
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	YES	YES	YES	YES
KEITH ENGEL	YES	YES	YES	YES
BRUCE GROSSBERG	YES	YES	YES	YES
KAREN IMAS	YES	YES	YES	ABSTAIN
SARINA JAIN	YES	YES	YES	YES
MATT FERNANDEZ KONIGSBERG	YES	YES	YES	YES
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE	YES	YES	YES	YES
MARK LASTER	YES	YES	YES	YES
BEATRICE LEONG	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
KEVIN LY	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
DR. RENEE MEHRRRA	ABSTAIN	YES	YES	YES
PAT MORGAN	ABSTAIN	YES	YES	YES
DIANA RACHNAEV	YES	YES	YES	YES
SHARI ROLNICK	YES	YES	YES	ABSTAIN
MATTHEW SALTON	YES	YES	YES	YES
GLADYS SANDOVAL	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
DAVID SCHANTZ	YES	YES	YES	YES
PETRINA SCHNEIDERMAN	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
JEAN C. SILVA	YES	YES	YES	YES
MARTHA TUCKER	YES	YES	YES	YES
BRENTLY WINSTEAD	YES	YES	YES	YES
EDWIN WONG	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
TITILAYO YASUKAWA	YES	YES	YES	YES
EPHRAIM ZAKRY	YES	YES	YES	YES
KATHERINE ZAPATA	YES	YES	YES	YES
TOTALS:	30-YES, 3-ABSTAIN	33- YES	33-YES	31-YES, 2-ABSTAIN

VOTING SHEET 2/7/24 PG3	63RD DRIVE FAIR LIONS CLUB		FH FALL FESTIVAL FH CHAMBER		RESOLUTION 93 STREET SHELTER		BSA APP 64-01 WOODHAVEN BLVD	
MICHAEL ARCATI								
DAVID ARONOV								
ANISIA AYON	A			A		A		A
SALUA BAIDA	L			L		L		L
KAVISH BATRA	L			L		L		L
PETER BEADLE								
HOWARD BIRNBAUM								
HEIDI CHAIN	I			I		I		I
GINA CHEN	N			N		N		N
L.T. CIACCIO								
KANDRA CLARK	F			F		F		F
LATRICE DAVIS	A			A		A		A
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	V			V	ABSTAIN	V		V
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	O			O		O		O
KEITH ENGEL	R			R		R		R
BRUCE GROSSBERG								
KAREN IMAS								
SARINA JAIN								
MATT FERNANDEZ KONIGSBERG								
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE								
MARK LASTER								
BEATRICE LEONG	ABSENT			ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT		ABSENT
KEVIN LY	ABSENT			ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT		ABSENT
DR. RENEE MEHRRRA								
PAT MORGAN								
DIANA RACHNAEV								
SHARI ROLNICK								
MATTHEW SALTON								
GLADYS SANDOVAL	ABSENT			ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT		ABSENT
DAVID SCHANTZ								
PETRINA SCHNEIDERMAN	ABSENT			ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT		ABSENT
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	ABSENT			ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT		ABSENT
JEAN C. SILVA								
MARTHA TUCKER								
BRENTLY WINSTEAD								
EDWIN WONG	ABSENT ▼			▼ ABSENT	▼ ABSENT	ABSENT		▼ ABSENT
TITILAYO YASUKAWA								
EPHRAIM ZAKRY								
KATHERINE ZAPATA								
TOTALS:	ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR	