

# COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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ALEXA WEITZMAN CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS **BOROUGH PRESIDENT** 

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO DISTRICT MANAGER

# **CB 6 MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 23, 2021**

#### **PRESENT**

A. WEITZMAN, CHAIR P. BEADLE, 2<sup>ND</sup> VC

D. SCHNEIER, VC SCOPING M. LASTER, VC SECRETARY

H. DIMITRIADIS, VC FINANCE

M. ARCATI A. AYON K. BATRA M. BERFAS H. BIRNBAUM H. CHAIN J. LI S. CHU K. LY A. COHEN L. DAVIS J. DERESZEWSKI P. MORGAN

K. ENGEL T. PADGETT B. GRIFFITH S. ROLNICK B. GROSSBERG G. SANDOVAL O. HORODNICEANU H. SCHONHAUT R. LEONART T. SIMMONS I. TAMAYEVA M. TUCKER S. WANDERMAN R. MEHRRA S. METZ

**ABSENT** 

E. FELDER G. GORDON E. KALENDAREV J. MEDINA

A. DIAZ-HOUSTON

R. NEKTALOV P. KUMAR J. SILVA R. TAMAYEV

E. WONG D. YAKUBOV

J. WESTON

E. NEWTON

# OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO CB 6 DISTRICT MANAGER

OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT RICHARDS A. ROSERO

J. MONGELUZO OFFICE OF NYC COMPTROLLER STRINGER OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER MENG J. GOLDES J. D'ANGELO OFFICE OF STATE SENATOR ADDABBO

A. ARECCHI OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER HEVESI

R. MALONE OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER ROSENTHAL

OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ M. COHEN

# **COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

# **SEPTEMBER 23, 2021**

This meeting was held virtually via WebEx due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The meeting is also livestreamed on Youtube.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

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

#### Joseph Jenkins – NYC Department for the Aging

Mr. Jenkins spoke about DFTA MY RIDE. He thanked the Community Board for helping get the word out.

*He announced the following:* 

- Rides will be provided by CTG (Commercial Transportation Service) vendor.
- Eligible participants can request door to door car services through DFTA My Ride app, website or dispatch by phone.
- 24 hours per day, seven days a week access.
- Rides are within the five boroughs, Nassau and Westchester Counties.
- 3-year pilot. Over the eight-month period, 1,038 participants will have free rides.
- Thirteen Community Boards, five in Queens.
- Participants need to be 18 years of age with disability, or 60 years of age
- Participants will be chosen through random lottery process. Submit your application on-line or through mail. If selected need to show proof of age, residency, and disability (if applicable)
- For more information, visit the website: www.nyc.gov/aging/myride

#### Gabrielle Napolitano-Swift – PS Family NYC

Ms. Napolitano introduced PS Family and explained the following

- Responsible for largest family network in New York City for childcare in the community.
- Family works directly with in home childcare service provider.
- Supporting businesses and help families with low cost or free childcare.
- Provide resources to childcare businesses with professional development workshops.
- Training and assist in navagiting the DOE requirements and paperwork for families and businesses.
- Looking for providers to join the network. A free information session will be held virtual on September 29<sup>th</sup>. She will send information to the Community Board.

#### Odette Wilkins - Wired Broadband Inc.

We have a problem and the health of our community is at risk. 5G wireless cell towers are cropping up on rooftops. These rooftop antenna farms produce a large amount of radiation. There is no one monitoring exposure limits, except the telecom industry's say-so that they comply. A Wall Street Journal article in 2014

found that about 10% of NYC rooftop antennas exceeded the FCC exposure limits. The fox is guarding the hen house. The health of every man, woman and child in Forest Hills is at risk.

I have been a technology attorney for 20 years, having worked on multi-million dollar technology transactions for a number of multi-national corporations in finance, entertainment and technology. Technology is great when it makes our lives easier and more efficient. But when technology harms, that is where I draw the line as an attorney and as a human being.

As a long-time resident of Forest Hills, I am concerned about the health and safety of the residents of the Forest Hills community and particularly of the children. For decades, the Little League fields have been a source of joy and excitement and a coming together of the community.

I observed that 6 wireless towers were installed on the side of the building adjacent to the Little League fields. On Monday, August 30, 2021, I took readings at the Little League fields to determine their radio frequency (RF) levels. Safe 'n Sound Pro II was the device that I used to take the readings. <a href="https://safelivingtechnologies.com/products/safe-and-sound-pro-ii-rf-meter.html">https://safelivingtechnologies.com/products/safe-and-sound-pro-ii-rf-meter.html</a> It is a consumer grade device calibrated to the threshold levels for biological harm set by the Building Biology Institute (BBI). <a href="https://buildingbiologyinstitute.org/#">https://buildingbiologyinstitute.org/#</a> (also view "Resources"). These threshold levels are based on thousands of studies showing biological injuries below the FCC radio frequency exposure limits that the FCC sets for the telecom industry. The FCC exposure limits are set for industry, not whether there is biological harm.

These were my maximum readings (because the RF waves are pulse-modulated, the readings are constantly changing). The numbers are in microwatts per square meter. The BBI has set the threshold for biological harm at 1000 microwatts per square meter. In many instances, the readings far exceed the BBI's biological limits. I'd be happy to walk you through the fields with the meter so that you can see the readings for yourself.

Location	Maximum*
Field 1 – at perimeter	198,000
close to building	
Field 1 – walking off	391,000
field	
Vending machines	226,000

<sup>\*</sup>Microwatts per square meter.

Radiation penetrates children's skulls more easily and therefore children are even more susceptible to the radiation.

The physical harm to the children at not only Little League fields, but also, around Forest Hills where they may be living close to these wireless antennas, indeed right underneath them, may be permanent and irreversible. If the children do become physically injured, the point at which they would become aware of their injuries, it may be too late to reverse their injuries. This also applies to all residents in Forest Hills.

The problem with RF radiation is that you can't see it, taste it or smell it. It's like the gas from your stove, except that with gas, the utilities insert a smell to alert you to danger. There is no danger alert to RF radiation until it's too late.

Forest Hills is becoming saturated with rooftop antenna farms, e.g., 71-58 Austin Street, adjacent to Alberto's Restaurant, the Cinemart across from Eddie's Sweet Shop where children congregate, Burns Street facing the police precinct and the West Side Tennis Club.

A couple of months ago at 71-58 Austin Street, a pregnant woman was being taken by ambulance to the hospital. She had feinted and she looked in very poor shape. I asked her husband if they happened to live on the top floor. He said yes, right underneath the antennas, "but what can we do?"

A police lieutenant bought a house in Astoria and after coming back from vacation, found 4 wireless antennas installed right outside his house facing into his house. He experienced heart arrhythmias, sleep deprivation and other symptoms, and went through invasive cardiac procedures. His only solution was to evacuate his own home while still shouldering a large mortgage on the house.

An elderly woman living on the top floor of her building, experienced the following symptoms soon after wireless antennas and devices were placed on the roof right over her apartment: heart arrythmias, sleep deprivation, irritable bowel syndrome, cognitive issues and persistent nausea and vomiting. She has had no refuge for the past 2 years since their installation. Her doctor confirmed that her symptoms were from the wireless antennas and also stated that she happened to have other patients in the same building who were experiencing similar symptoms that also coincided with the installation.

No more wireless antennas should be put up on any rooftops or on any street poles until the Forest Hills community has been given due process: notice and opportunity to be heard. The Forest Hills community should have the opportunity to participate, comment and object. All wireless antennas already installed should be powered down or turned off.

We need answers:

- 1. What companies are putting up these antenna farms.
- 2. What are specs of the antennas that they are using?
- 3. Who is approving them?
- 4. Why are they being approved w/o public notice or an opportunity to comment and to object? What is the FCC's role in this?

The FCC decided to give a categorical exemption to all 5G deployment from review of its effect on the environment. The D.C. Circuit of Appeals disagreed with the FCC, and in August 2019, vacated the FCC's 5G deployment Order because the FCC violated federal law that requires an assessment of environmental impact.

The FCC then declined to update its radiation emission exposure limits set in 1996 which purport to be safety guidelines. On Friday, August 13, 2021, the D.C. Circuit of Appeals again found that the FCC violated federal law when it declined to review the thousands of scientific peer-reviewed studies of biological harm from RF radiation (of which 5G is a part), and the hundreds of comments from people and children who actually suffered injuries from RF radiation and some of whom died. Having exposure limits that are 25 years old is like boarding a plane today in 2021 whose safety standards are from 1996. Would you board that plane?

Despite these legal victories, the FCC has continued unabated despite public outcry nationwide from those suffering from such radiation harms, and without consideration of public health or safety.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 has made it clear that local government is the first and only line of defense for people's health and safety. But we need to assert our jurisdiction in this area.

Instead, the NYC Council also provided a categorical exemption from environmental review of all 5G installations in 2019, despite the Court's vacating the FCC's 5G Order earlier that year. The City Environmental Quality Review Act and the NYS equivalent that otherwise require environmental review are not being complied with. As a result, there are no limits to the rooftop antennas that the telecom industry can place on top of buildings in NYC.

Next steps would be to give Forest Hills Community Board 6 a more in-depth presentation on the issues. Action plan:

- 1. We need to engage our federal officials: Congresswoman Meng, and Senators Gillibrand and Schumer.
- 2. We need to engage all local and state officials: City Council member Karen Koslowitz, Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi and Senator Toby Stavisky and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards.

Is there an alternative to 5G? Yes. Fiber optics. 5G moves more like a turtle while fiber optics is the Ferrari of broadband. Fiber optics outperforms wireless in speed and volume of transmissions, safety, cyber security and security of personal data. Since fiber optics is underground, it can withstand hurricanes, and facilitate emergency communications. Ironically, 5G requires fiber optics to operate, and many homes in Forest Hills, and the rest of NYC, are already wired for fiber optics (my apartment building included).

Why is 5G being promoted? Because it is a money-maker for the industry. I have heard that the telecom industry is racing to put up their antennas, because starting about Dec 5, 2021, they will be able to charge for their wireless services in a particular spectrum band, and they can turn on the RF radiation in high gear in Forest Hills. We need to act now before it's too late.

#### Leslie Harf – Motorized Bikes and Scooters

Hello everyone. I have been a resident of Forest Hills for 22 years. In the past few months, I have noticed a drastic increase in the number of motorized bikes and scooters riding on our commercial streets, on the sidewalks, the wrong way down one-way streets, driving very fast.

I have been saying to myself – it's just a matter of time before one of these guys runs into me, my son, my husband, one of my friends, and badly injures us. My fears were verified when I heard last week that a friend of mine who works at New York Sports Club was knocked unconscious by a motorized bike on Austin Street and suffered a serious brain injury. This motivated me to get involved. From what I am hearing within my community, the local police are not making this issue a priority. I

From what I am hearing within my community, the local police are not making this issue a priority. I am looking into other angles of how to approach this issue. One approach could be to put pressure on the delivery services that employ these reckless drivers.

My husband, who owns an insurance company, asked around within the industry and found that these delivery drivers are all independent contractors with W9s. They are supposed to be insured but often are not. He also found out that the large delivery services — GrubHub, UberEats, Doordash — do not themselves take out insurance but rather choose to settle claims when they occur. They are supposed to require their independent contractors to have insurance, but many simply do not. Therefore, these drivers have no incentive to be careful.

But what if the delivery drivers started getting pulled over by the police and asked to produce their insurance certificates? This would be a low-effort activity for the local police. What if this information was then used to give fines to the large delivery services, such as GrubHub? What if GrubHub, Doordash, and UberEats were audited – perhaps by the Attorney General's office – and asked to produce the insurance certificates of their independent contractors – and were themselves fined if they would not?

This approach would require minimal effort from the police, and would avoid the dilemma of arresting violators, only to have them released the next day. The police would only be issuing fines to uninsured delivery drivers on motorized bikes and scooter – these fines would then be passed onto the large delivery services – and then they themselves would have some pressure to better train and regulate their delivery drivers.

I would like to somehow get involved in getting this issue in front of local elected officials and would like guidance on how to go about doing this. Thank you

#### Ari Feldman

My name is Ari Feldman and I'm a parent of two children, one who is school-age. I'm writing to express my concern about the safety of the schools in our community. As a parent of a kindergartener, I was shocked to find out that my child would not have testing in her class at all this year. Despite the fact that the COVID positivity rate for 5-12 year olds was the highest of any age group, almost double that of adults, my daughter and her peers will not be tested, because testing starts at first grade.

The protocols that have been set for this year are designed with last year's variant in mind. The Delta variant has a hospitalization rate for 5-17 year olds that is almost as high as the rest of the population, ten times higher at the start of school than it was at the same time last year. And yet, the mayor insists on continuing to loosen testing practices in schools. While I appreciate that the unions convinced him to start testing weekly instead of biweekly, at the same time, he essentially made contact tracing non-existent. The rule now is that if a student had a mask on and was at least three feet away, they do not have to quarantine. They say this is in alignment with CDC recommendations, but the CDC maintains that a person should quarantine if they were within 6 feet regardless of vaccine status or mask habit. Teachers cannot be expected to remember whether every single student consistently wore their masks and were at least 3 feet away.

What many may not realize is that limiting the quarantine rules also limits the information we receive. Not being required to quarantine means you're not a suspected contact. If a person is not a suspected contact, they will not get a call. That means that for my child, not only will there not be random testing, we will not be alerted

of a confirmed positive case in my daughter's classroom. I can't even get her tested out of precaution, because I won't be informed. It seems that the mayor is out to make himself look good, rather than ensure the safety of our children. With fewer students traced, there will be fewer tested and lower case numbers, so he can to tell everyone that those victory concerts were not inappropriately timed for a spike in cases, because the numbers are low.

I know that the Community Board has no direct power to intervene, but I wanted to present this information to the community for everyone's awareness. I'll be writing a letter and asking the Education, Library, and Youth Committee to circulate it to elected officials. People have been speaking out about these issues, but the mayor does not appear to be listening. In addition to testing, one of the biggest steps the DOE could take to limit the spread is to create a remote option for those who want it. Not only would families be able to keep their children at home in environments they can control, but those who choose to be in person will be safer, because it will be easier to socially distance, which is especially important in Queens, the most overcrowded borough and in our own neighborhood that has many schools operating above capacity. Creating a remote option will also make it easier for students when they have to inevitably quarantine. Unless an entire class is closed, students will only have work sent home and office hours for a few hours a week. More than half of city council members have signed Education Committee Chair Mark Treyger's letter calling for a remote option, including our own CM Koslowitz. Senators Liu and Jackson have also crafted state legislation that would mandate NYC offer a remote option. Safety should be our number one concern for our children and unfortunately the mayor would rather play politics than keep our children safe.

Chair Weitzman expressed to the Board that all public comments are taken seriously and are followed up with personal emails from the Chair and/or various committee chairs.

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of June 9, 2021 were accepted.

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Alexa Weitzman welcomed the board back. She thanked the legislature and the Queens Borough President for supporting remote meetings and for changing the Open Meetings Law until January. As of now, we are slated to return to in person meetings in January.

Chair Weitzman acknowledged the families that are still dealing with COVID or COVID related illness. She spoke about Hurricane Ida and its impact on Forest Hills and Rego Park. If you were affected by the storm with flooding and need assistance, call the board office.

Chair Weitzman reminded everyone that COVID vaccines are available and are free for anyone over 12 years old.

There was an Executive Committee Meeting over the summer and Chair Weitzman asked the board to think about what you can do to support your community on this board. If anyone has any ideas, you can reach out to her.

Last, Chair Weitzman thanked the office staff for always supporting our Community.

#### DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Frank Gulluscio announced that we are meeting virtually because our chair wrote strong worded letter to the Governor and other Elected Officials. He thanked her on behalf of the other boards.

Mr. Gulluscio also reported that on September 22, 2021 there was a press conference with the Mayor on Queens Boulevard promoting the completion of bike lanes. He also thanked Peter Beadle and Transportation Alternatives for their work on bringing this project to fruition.

The District Manager also spoke about Hurricane Ida, that he visited people on Selfridge Street. He was with FEMA and the Borough President and spoke about his experience with Hurricane Sandy.

District Manager Gulluscio mentioned that John O'Neill and DOT came to him with a long list of improvements that were happening in our CB. These include: An All Way Stop Sign on Alderton Street and Safety Improvements on Union Turnpike. He thanked the Transportation Committee for their support and the staff for following-up.

District Manager Gulluscio also told the Community Board that the Borough President is looking at attendance.

# PRESENTATION BY NYC DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING AND NYC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OPEN RESTAURANTS / SIDEWALK CAFÉS TEXT AMENDMENT

John O'Neill (DOT) and Hye Kyung Yang (DCP) presented the following:

#### **Permanent Open Restaurants Program**

- New program under DOT to include both sidewalk and roadway cafes
- Program that balances all needs of the street and sidewalk
- Use what has worked under Sidewalk Café Program and Emergency Open Restaurant Program to develop guidelines for the Permanent Program
- Before COVID, there were 1,022 Sidewalk cafes, 100 Small sidewalk cafes, 102 Enclosed cafes, 25 Street seats

#### **Emergency Open Restaurants Program**

- During the summer of 2020, New York City revisited its rules, and in many cases suspended them to allow restaurants to serve diners outdoors due to restrictions on indoor dining
- The emergency program:
- Helped save almost 11,000 restaurants and an estimated 100,000 jobs by allowing establishments to continue serving outdoors, on the roadway, sidewalk, or both
- Is a lifeline, not a goldmine

- Did not require a participation fee
- Eliminated lengthy design review process

#### Successes

- All areas of the city eligible
- Program easy to access, encouraging participation
- With addition of roadway seating, more options for restaurants

#### Challenges

- Clarity, consistency and communication of rules
- Maintaining emergency vehicle access and ensuring signage not being blocked
- Balancing enforcement with recovery
- Balancing the long-term interests of all sidewalk and street users

#### **Background**

- After thousands of restaurants self-certified to join the program, the Mayor announced in September 2020 that Open Restaurants would be permanent
- In October 2020, City Council voted to establish a permanent outdoor dining program
- A permanent program requires a series of different legal changes, including a text amendment to allow more areas of the city to be eligible for roadway and sidewalk seating
- The permanent program will retain the elements of the emergency program that worked and modifying the ones that didn't

#### **Vision of Permanent Program**

- Both Sidewalk & Roadway seating administered by DOT
- Interagency coordination on enforcement issues:
  - DOT will enforce barriers, clear paths, ADA compliance
  - NYPD will continue to enforce noise
  - DSNY will continue to be responsible for garbage removal
- Available throughout the city
- Stricter sidewalk clear path & roadway siting criteria

#### **Components of Sidewalk Café Seating**

- All restaurants with ground floor space eligible to apply for year-round access
- Must be ADA compliant
- Subject to clear path and siting criteria/distance from obstructions, based on pedestrian levels and sidewalk widths
- Removable tables, chairs, and barriers
- Seating against building wall
- Only in restaurant's frontage

# Components of Roadway Café Seating (This is not part of the initial proposal)

- Setups allowed citywide in parking lanes except in prohibited zones
- Maintain public safety (visibility of traffic safety signs, access to hydrants, etc.)
- Clear guidance and enforcement on sound
- ADA compliance
- No fully enclosed structures
- Fee structure being proposed

#### **Seasonality**

- Allow other city operational needs to continue (e.g.: snow cleanup of streets and sidewalks)
- Safety considerations regarding seasonality (outdoor heaters needed in colder seasons)
- Options are being explored for a hardship waiver that allows for winter months

DOT will be the sole enforcing agency for the Permanent Restaurants Program.

The emergency program is expected to remain in effect and allow restaurants to maintain their spaces uninterrupted through at least winter 2022.

DOT welcomes input from the public: nyc.gov/openrestaurants

#### **Zoning Proposal**

- Deleting ZR, Article1, Chapter 4 in its entirety–effectively removing all zoning locations restrictions on sidewalk cafes
- Removing any language that prevents sidewalk cafes in Special Districts
- Removing rules around enclosures, operable windows, sidewalk widenings, that would preclude or limit outdoor dining under the Open Restaurants program
- Other definitional/reference cleanup to enable the above.

This zoning proposal will affect sidewalk cafes by allowing any restaurant anywhere in city can potentially apply to DOT for a sidewalk café, based on its sidewalk conditions

Citywide use of Open Restaurant stats: 11,500 restaurants participated including 5,920 restaurants outside Manhattan, 10,000 restaurants used the sidewalk.

In CB 6, there were 12 Pre-Covid Sidewalk Cafes Licensed issued by DCWP, as of 2019 Open restaurants in Community Board 6: Sidewalk only: 34, Roadway only:12, Both: 67 20 of these are located in areas specifically prohibited by zoning and 4 in residential/no café zoning areas.

#### **Other Zoning Text Technical Cleanup**

- Definitions and Cross references
- Removing text that precludes operable windows that service outdoor restaurants
- Removing enclosure provisions in certain text
- Clarifying sidewalk widening text to ensure no conflict with Open Restaurants

#### Three main actions are needed to facilitate the future open restaurants program:

- **ULURP** removal of locational prohibitions via zoning text amendment
- Changes to the sidewalk café program via local law & CAPA
- Creation of a roadway café program via local law & CAPA

# **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### Barry Gloger submitted the following public comment:

Restaurant business was severely impacted by Covid-19 restrictions and thus Outdoor Curbside Dining was appropriately implemented last year. However now that all occupancy restrictions have been removed and 100% capacity is permitted (for properly vaccinated patrons), it is time to eliminate Outdoor Curbside Dining, because it hurts retail small business, impedes access for the disabled and structures have become eyesores.

Outdoor Curbside Dining usurps public property for private profits;

Outdoor Curbside Dining occupies valuable parking space, which causes shoppers to go elsewhere, hurting local retail business;

Outdoor Curbside Dining occupies valuable parking space, impacting the disabled;

Outdoor Curbside Dining lessens NYC parking revenue

For all the above reasons, I request that CB6 revoke all Outdoor Curbside Dining permits and order structures be removed.

Chair Weitzman announced that the CB Members will have until Monday (9-27-21) at 3:00pm to email their vote to the Board. This is as per the new by-laws that dictates that the CB doesn't vote the same night as the public hearing.

#### EDUCATION, YOUTH AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Heather Beers-Dimitriadis reported that the Committee met regarding the art installation that will be part of the new Rego Park Library. In 1982, Local Law 65, the Percent for Art Law, was passed and states that 1% of capital funds appropriated for newly constructed and reconstructed buildings must be allocated for works of art. The entrance will be on Austin Street and the art can be viewed from the inside and outside of the library. The art will consist of three flowers that are used for paper making for books and are flowers that can be grown in Queens. The committee was in favor of the art and the Community Board sent a letter in support.

The next committee meeting will be Thursday October 7, 2021.

# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elizabeth Newton, Chair of Consumer Affairs Committee reported that the Board received 14 renewal applications.

- 1. Sushi Koi Inc. 116-37 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 2. Stix Kosher Restaurant 101-15 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 3. Bareburger 71-49/51 Austin Street, FH
- 4. Marani Restaurant 97-26 63 Road, RP
- 5. Nick's Bistro 104-20 Metropolitan Avenue, FH
- 6. Dees Brick Oven Pizza 107-23 Metropolitan Avenue, FH
- 7. Rove 72-25/27 Austin Street, FH
- 8. Tuscan Hills 110-60 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 9. Joe Japanese Buffet Restaurant 113-27 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 10. Agora Taverna 70-09 Austin Street, FH
- 11. Matiz Latin Cuisine Corp 110-72 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 12. L'Amour 102-11 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 13. Bamboo Ya 97-11 Queens Boulevard, RP
- 14. Gloria Pizza 108-22 Queens Boulevard, FH

The 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct had no issues or complaints with these establishments and the committee motion was to approve these applications. This motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Ms. Newton reported that the Board received 6 new applications

- 1. Cho-Sen Garden 64-43 and 64-45 108 Street, FH
- 2. Mas Tortilla 113-27B Queens Boulevard, FH
- 3. Prime 107 Inc. 107-02 Queens Boulevard, FH
- 4. Blvd 93 61-18 93 Street (aka 92-77 Queens Blvd.), RP
- 5. Dirty Pierre's 13 Station Square (Class Change & Alteration), FH
- 6. Spring Thai 96-40 Queens Boulevard, RP

Chair Newton reported that Cho-Sen Garden and Dirty Pierre's are not new restaurants, they just had changes to their applications. Cho-Sen Garden had a change in ownership and Dirty Pierre's had a change in ownership and added outdoor dining to their application.

Chair Newton also reported that Blvd93 had some reports from the 112<sup>th</sup> Pct and the State Liquor Authority including: not following COVID protocols, serving minors, operating without a liquor license. The Committee recommendation is to approve the new applications.

The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote for: Cho-Sen Garden, Mas Tortilla, Prime 107 Inc, Dirty Pierre's, and Spring Thai.

The motion failed for BLVD93 on a roll call vote, 8 Yes, 27 No.

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

Ralph Leonart - Co-Chair, reported that the committee held a meeting on September 13. The guest speaker was Barbara Becker-Bruno, Assistant Vice President for older adult services at Common Point. Ms. Bruno gave a presentation about NORC's (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community). They provide social services to individuals who would have a hard time getting them otherwise.

The committee has a Public Member, Seth Hoffman, a graduate of Columbia University School of Social Work. Mr. Hoffman put together a survey that was distributed to seniors in our community and received 65 responses. The survey is still on-going and asked board members to take the survey and forward to other community members.

#### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Mark Laster announced that the Forest Hills Green Team has been doing composting since May. They have collected from 150-175 people who dropped off their food scrapes. They are at McDonald Park on Sundays from 10am-1pm. They are urging residents to call 311 to request brown bin. Curbside composting will not be brought to CB 6 unless enough people request it.

The green team has also received a grant from Citizens Committee of New York for environmental awareness. This included a class on how to take care of neighborhood street trees by the Parks Department, a planting event on Yellowstone Boulevard between Burns and Austin Street (the plants were donated by Stuyvesant Cove), and a register to vote at the compost site, sponsored by Democracy NYC.

They also partnered with the Mayor's Public Engagement Unit to publicize resources for people who were affected from Hurricane Ida. The team wants to partner with other organizations to advocate with the effects of climate change. The Green Team will be meeting on Monday 10-18-21 at 6:00pm. For more information, please visit <a href="www.fhgt.org">www.fhgt.org</a>

Heidi Chain announced that the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council Meeting will be on zoom next Wednesday September 29, 2021 at 7:30pm. RSVP and send questions for Captain Cappelmann to <a href="mailto:council112@yahoo.com">council112@yahoo.com</a>.

Anisia Ayon announced that Community Board will sponsor a COVID19 Vaccine Booster Shot Town Hall meeting on September 30, 2021 from 5:45-7:45. The town hall will be held on zoom and Facebook and is sponsored by CB6, Common Point Queens, Borough President Donovan Richards, Queens Public Library, Hollis Hills Civic Association and Legal Good Association.

Pat Morgan reported that Access a Ride is back logged for appointments to recertify. Applicants should plan ahead because centers are working at 25% capacity and appointments are not currently available in Queens.

Heather Dimitriadis announced that the Central Queens Redistricting Coalition is focusing on redistricting in the State of New York. New York has an independent commission working on drafting maps of what they think the senate, assembly, congressional districts should look like. You can view the maps at nyirc.gov. The maps can be viewed, download and comments can be made. On November 16, 2021 from 3–9pm the commission will be in Queens at York College and written testimony can be provided.

Kevin Ly reported that on October 6, 2021, there will be a virtual By-Stander Intervention Training co-sponsored by NYC Commission on Human Rights, Queens Borough President's Office and a number of different community-based organizations in Forest Hills and the Rockaways.

#### ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Alexa Arecchi announced that in the fall Assemblyman Hevesi will have a series of park clean ups throughout the district. Report any areas you feel need special attention to the office.

Ms. Arrechi also announced that legislatively, the Assembly Member was connected with some families with disabled adult children that were going to age out of their facilities in other states once they turn 21. The Assemblyman is looking to close that loophole, and, in the

meantime, he was able to get six months more for the children to stay where they are. Will work with the governor for a long-term solution.

# SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR.

John D'Angelo announced the following upcoming events:

- Paper Shredding and Household Good Donations: Sunday September 26, 2021 from 10am-2pm at Forest Park
- E-Waste Recycling Event: Sunday October 3, 2021 from 10am-2pm at Forest Park
- Virtual job fair in conjunction with Resorts World at the end of October.
- For more information, please contact 718-497-1630

#### ASSEMBLY MEMBER DANIEL ROSENTHAL

Ricky Malone reported that the Assemblyman supported the suspension of the open meetings law in special session. He urged residents to call their local Assembly Member to encourage them to support Assembly Bill A8134 (Introduced by Assembly Member Niou) to make these changes to the open meeting law permanent.

In addition, the Assembly Member chairs the Food, Farm and Nutrition Policy Task Force and was able to double their funding to \$50 Million this upcoming fiscal year from \$25 Million last year.

Paper Shredding Event will take place on October 24, 2021 at the Poppenhusen Institute

#### COUNCIL MEMBER KAREN KOSLOWITZ

Michael Cohen spoke about DFTA my ride pilot program. He said that the Council Member has wanted something similar to replace Access A Ride for a long time. If you encounter a problem with the program to call their office at 718-544-8800 to iron out the issues with this program.

If residents don't know which agency to follow-up with on a complaint, they can reach out to the office. Please call 311 for complaint number first; this makes it easier to follow up.

#### NYC COMPTROLLER STRINGER

James Mongelluzo announced the following:

- An abundance of claims has been filed with the office following Hurricane Ida. Claims can be filed using the following link: (<a href="https://comptroller.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NYCBLA-PD2.pdf">https://comptroller.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NYCBLA-PD2.pdf</a>); or by mail/ in-person using the property damage-water claim form (<a href="https://comptroller.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/property-damage-loss.pdf">https://comptroller.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/property-damage-loss.pdf</a>). However, claims will only be approved if this damage is as a result of city negligence.
- 2021 Back To School Guide <u>2021-22 Back to School Guide</u>: Office of the New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer (nyc.gov)
- Interim Findings and Recommendations of the New York City Comptroller's Investigation of the City's COVID-19 Planning, Preparation, and Initial Response https://comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/interim-findings-and-recommendations-of-the-new-

<u>york-city-comptrollers-investigation-of-the-citys-covid-19-planning-preparation-and-initial-response/</u>

- Reports and Audits from the last few months - <a href="https://comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/">https://comptroller.nyc.gov/reports/</a>

#### CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes reported the following:

- Congress Member Meng has been working with those that were impacted by Hurricane Ida all across the district
- Called for disaster declaration to be issued to NY to open up funding from FEMA and SBA, which was done by the President.
- Secured \$11billion in federal relief for NYC.
- Disaster recovery center established at Queens College for people to meet with FEMA & SBA that were impacted by the storm.
- Congress Member brought the President, Governor and head of FEMA to Queens to show them damage
- Secured \$40 billion to provide internet access to students and libraries that don't have it

#### QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Amparito Rosero announced the following:

- IDNYC will be at Borough Hall until December, Rm 213. Appointments are required call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov
- On October 1, 2021 at 10:15am on the steps of Borough Hall, Borough President Donovan Richards in conjunction with CM Adams will host a free event honoring Olympian Gold Medalist, Dalilah Muhammad. She will be presented with the "Key to Oueens"
- Senior Appreciation Month Musical Luncheon Thursday, October 7, 12-2pm Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Queens Borough Hall. RSVP at queensbp.org/rsvp

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Nolan Community Coordinator

CB 6 VOTING SHEET	ATTENDANCE	NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	OPEN RESTAURANTS TEXT AMENDMENT (THIS VOTE WAS TAKEN VIA EMAIL)
MICHAEL ARCATI	P	Y	Y	N
ANISIA AYON	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
KAVISH BATRA	P	Y	Y	NO RESPONSE
PETER BEADLE	P	Y	Y	Y
MIRIAM BERFAS	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	P	Y	Y	Y
HEIDI CHAIN	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
SHERIDAN CHU	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
ALEXANDER COHEN	P	Y	Y	Y
LATRICE DAVIS	P	Y	Y	Y
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
ALEJANDRA DIAZ-HOUSTON	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
KEITH ENGEL	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
ETHAN FELDER	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
GAIL GORDON	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
BRENDAN GRIFFITH	P	Y	Y	Y
BRUCE GROSSBERG	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
ODED HORODNICEANU	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
EMANUIL KALENDAREV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
PRAMEET KUMAR	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
MARK LASTER	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
RALPH LEONART	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
JONATHAN LI	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
KEVIN LY	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
JACK MEDINA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
RENEE MEHRRA	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
STEVEN METZ	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
PAT MORGAN	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
RAFAEL NEKTALOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
ELIZABETH NEWTON	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
TANIA PADGETT	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
SHARI ROLNICK	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
GLADYS SANDOVAL	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
DAVID SCHNEIER	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
JEAN SILVA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
TERESA SIMMONS	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
ROBERT TAMAYEV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
IRINA TAMAYEVA	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	N
MARTHA TUCKER	P	Y	Y	N
SUSAN WANDERMAN	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	Y
ALEXA WEITZMAN	P	Y, N-BLVD93	Y	NO RESPONSE
JOAN WESTON	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
EDWIN WONG	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
DANIEL YAKUBOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	NO RESPONSE
TOTALS:	35-P, 11-A	BLVD93-8-Y, 27-N ALL OTHER NEW APPLICATIONS - ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR	19-Y, 9-N