

ALEXA WEITZMAN CHAIR

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO DISTRICT MANAGER

GAIL M. GORDON 1ST VICE-CHAIR

PETER BEADLE 2ND VICE-CHAIR

MARK LASTER VICE-CHAIR · SECRETARY

BRUCE GROSSBERG VICE-CHAIR · FINANCE

PRAMEET KUMAR VICE-CHAIR · LAND USE

SOUMALY KING VICE-CHAIR · SCOPING

COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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CB 6 MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2020

PRESENT

A. WEITZMAN, CHAIR
P. BEADLE, 2 ND VC

B. GROSSBERG, VC FINANCE

S. KING, VC SCOPING

G. GORDON, 1ST VC

M. LASTER, VC SECRETARY

P. KUMAR, VC LAND USE

N. ALTMAN	G. FERRERAS	P. MORGAN
A. AYON	J. GOLANT	K. NEUMANN
G. CARLSON	B. GRIFFITH	E. NEWTON
	M. JACOBSON	S. ROLNICK
H. CHAIN		
A. COHEN	E. KALENDAREV	J. SILVA

J. DERESZEWSKI J. KEVELSON M. SILVERSTEIN
A. DIAZ-HOUSTON R. MEHRRA S. WANDERMAN

H. DIMITRIADIS S. METZ J. WESTON

ABSENT

M. BERFAS
N. LEIBOWITZ
R. NEKTALOV
S. CHU
J. MAKIN
D. SCHNEIER
C. COLLETT
J. MEDINA
H. SCHONHAUT
E. FELDER
Y. MEIROV
R. SILVER
J. HENNESSY
E. MURRAY
E. WONG

O. HORODNICEANU

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO

J. PERRICONE

M. CARLIER

J. SCHABOWSKI

J. GOLDES

CB 6 DISTRICT MANAGER

OFFICE OF BOROUGH PRESIDENT LEE

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER HEVESI

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT

OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

COMMUNITY BOARD 6

APRIL 7, 2020

This meeting was held virtually using Zoom due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic. It was also streamed on Facebook.

PUBLIC FORUM

Sheryl Fetik made the following comment:

Regarding the current health emergency, the Coronavirus Pandemic: There is an apparent shortage of PPE, personal protective equipment, available to medical personnel, first responders, essential workers and others. I believe that some workers and others have become ill, or even died, as a result, while trying to do their jobs. I propose that Community Board 6 and other organizations, pass a resolution, insisting that medical personnel, first responders, and essential workers, be provided with proper and effective PPE, so that they and the public can be protected.

Ava Boudi made the following comment:

I have heard many complaints and have experienced it myself of people not respecting the 6' rule in Rego Park. Not only young people, but adults and seniors as well. People take up the sidewalks, so you have nowhere to go, or they pass by next to you as they are behind you walking past you. We need signs on the streets, especially 63rd Dr/Rd and QB, as is done for when there is a festival. In different languages. English, Russian, Chinese, Korean, Hebrew, Spanish, etc. Also, I would like to announce that for members of the Rego Park Community I am hosting free virtual get togethers to meet neighbors on Zoom. You can go to facebook.com/RegoParkGroup/ for more information.

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting were accepted.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Weitzman thanked the Borough President's Office, BetaNYC, and the CB 6 Staff for assisting in getting the Zoom program up and running for the meeting.

Ms. Weitzman reported that the CB 6 Staff is working remotely. Emails and phone messages are being checked throughout the day. The Staff, District Manager and Chair are in constant contact. Last, the staff is taking turns going into the office to check mail, check on the building, etc.

A virtual Executive Board meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday March 26, 2020. This assisted the executive board figure out the functions of zoom as well as discuss neighborhood issues related to COVID-19.

Borough President Lee has extended the term for current Community Board Members until May 31, 2020. The next term will start June 1 and run until March 31.

Ms. Weitzman acknowledged the recent passing of Edwin Wong's father and Christine Nolan's mother in law. Also, Ms. Weitzman acknowledged all the individuals that are on the

front lines fighting COVID-19 in our communities and offered well wishes for those that are sick with COVID-19.

Last, Chair Weitzman wished everyone a happy Easter / Passover.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Gulluscio announced that he is always in contact with the staff and the chair. Mr. Gulluscio also announced that the April election is now going to take place in June.

The Office of Management and Budget announced that all city agencies (including Community Boards) must decrease their budget.

Mr. Gulluscio asked that everyone keep Past-Chairman Joseph Hennessy in their prayers as he is in the hospital and not well.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Chair Weitzman announced that the board put together a COVID-19 Resource Document. This includes information from New York City, New York State as well as local Forest Hills and Rego Park resources. This will be emailed to the Community Board tomorrow and posted on social media. If anyone has anything to add, please contact the Board.

GOOD & WELFARE

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT

Jessica Schabowski announced that NYC Public Schools will be distributing food to adults and children. From 7:30am – 11:30am is for adults with children and from 11:30am – 1:30pm is for adults without children. No registration is required. Text NYCFOOD to 877877 for a location near you.

Ms. Schabowski announced that if anyone is in need of mental health services, they can contact NYC Well by calling 888-NYC-WELL / Texting WELL to 65173 / nyc.gov/nycwell.

Last, Ms. Schabowski announced an initiative called Fun at Home. This is a digital platform for children at home including SAT practice sessions, exercise videos, games, etc.

OUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT LEE

John Perricone announced that the Borough President launched the Fuel the Front Lines Initiative. This is a joint initiative with the Queens Economic Development Corp and the Queens Night Market that aims to provide thousands of ready-to-go, individually-packaged "home-cooked" meals to health care workers on the frontlines of battling the COVID-19 pandemic. The Borough President is looking for vendors that are interested in participating. Call 718-286-3000 or email info@queensbp.org.

Mr. Perricone reminded everyone of the importance of filling out the census. He also said that the Queens Borough President's office is checking emails and taking telephone calls.

CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes announced that the Congress Member has been working on the following:

- Telephone Town Hall and about 9,000 constituents were in attendance
- Congress passed the 3rd Coronavirus relief package which authorizes stimulus checks.
- Sent a letter to President Trump asking him to fully invoke the Defense Production Act
- Sent a letter to FEMA requesting additional transparency
- Reached out to local hospitals to offer assistance
- Staff is working remotely

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Michael Carlier reported that the office is closed but the staff is working remotely. They have received a lot of inquiries about unemployment and food delivery. Assembly Members Hevesi put together a COVID-19 resource guide and posted it on social media.

Steven Metz reported that as a Care Coordinator working from home, he is seeing firsthand how this is affecting people.

Heidi Chain announced that the 112 Precinct Community Council has been coordinating with the 112th Precinct to assist seniors with meals if they can't leave the house.

Naomi Altman added that the Queens Community House has an active case management agency at 718-268-1412. They can coordinate home delivery of meals including kosher meals.

Emanuil Kalendarev thanked the board for a letter of support for teleservices for Adult Day Cares. His center, The Rego Park Seniors Club, has been providing deliveries of food, toiletries, etc. The center can be reached at 718-459-2555.

Mark Laster reminded everyone that the Census is still taking place. Rego Park and Forest Hills is doing okay with responses. If anyone wants to volunteer for the Census, they are looking for people to text people in low response areas to remind them about the census. Neighboring communities, North Corona and East Elmhurst are some of the lower response areas. You can email David Aranov at daaranov@census.nyc.gov.

Renee Mehrra reported that she has recently done Zoom interviews with the Census Bureau giving information about the census and doctors giving information regarding COVID-19.

Jean Silva, reported some issues she has had with the Keyfood Supermarket.

- In the past 3 weeks I've noticed that Key Food has not had a weekly sale and the aisles are jammed up with boxes stacked on top of packages to be put on shelves. Please check the expiration dates, I have found several items that have expired. When I talked with someone in the store who was filling the shelves, I asked him why there have been NO sales in the past 3 weeks. He said that the Key food office has stopped all sales, that all he knew. I asked other employees the same question but got no answer. Has anyone else noticed this going on in your food stores, or overcharging of items?

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Nolan Community Coordinator