



Community Board 7

Borough of Queens

Bay Terrace, College Point, Beechhurst, Flushing
Malba, Queensborough Hill, Whitestone and Willets Point

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Melinda Katz

Queens Borough President

Eugene T. Kelty Jr.

Chairperson

Marilyn McAndrews

District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2018

UNION PLAZA CARE CENTER

33-23 UNION STREET

FLUSHING, NEW YORK

PRESENT

Charles Apelian

Tyler Cassell

James Cervino

Michael Cheng

John Choe

Kim Cody

Nicholas Corrado

Arlene Fleishman

Richard Forman

Vincent Gianelli

Pablo Hernandez

Lawrence Hughes

Eugene Kelty

Phil Konigsberg

Peter Kwiath

Esther Lee

Frank Macchio

Rev. McEachern

Barbara McHugh

Selma Moses

Kim Ohanian

Millicent O'Meally

Terence Park

Kris Ram

Belal Salim

Marc Schiffman

Warren Schreiber

Kevin Scheilds

Joshua Sussman

Peter Sutich

Joseph Sweeney

Peter Tu

Harpreet Wahan Singh

Clarissa Wong

Linna Yu

Lei Zhao

Jie Zhu

ABSENT

John Byas

Li Mei Li

John Tsavalos

Chin-Hsiang Chiang

Matthew Silverstein

Fred Fu

Carlos Talisaysay

Jeff Huang

Alison Tan

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager

Mary Zuliani, Community Assistant

Mary O'Neill, Community Assistant

Sherine Perez, Community Service Aid

GUESTS

Lynn Koester – Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal's office

Amber Yoon - Assemblyman Braunstein's office

Joyce Choi – Councilman Peter Koo's office

Tony Cao – Assemblyman Kim's office

Marilla Li – Assemblywoman Nily Rozic's office

Timothy Hopper – Congresswoman Meng's office

Justin J. Connor – Congressman Thomas Suozzi's office

Vito Tautonico – Councilman Paul Vallone's office

Elaine Fan – NYC Comptroller's Office

Chair Eugene Kelty opened the meeting at 7:10 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silent prayer for our military forces around the world fighting for our freedom.

Roll call attendance was taken with (37) Present (4) Absent (6) Excused

Item I - Chair Kelty announced current job openings at the Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services for a College Aide, Media Coordinator and Special Examiner, for anyone interested. The Parks Department seasonal openings include “Summer Sports Experience” and “Kids in Motion. The DEP will hold a citywide Water Resource Art competition for 2nd to 12th grade students to create original art or poetry on New York’s shared water resources. The Post Office is currently changing mailboxes to prevent mailbox fishing for checks. However, avoid posting your mail after 5 pm in mailboxes for the time being. Also the NYPD again urges us to use only the special gel pens on our checks that cannot be altered. A reminder that Senator Braunstein’s office is collecting donations for their “Valentines for Vets” event and to keep June 2, 2018 open from 6 pm to 10 pm for Poppenhusen Institute’s celebration of their 150th anniversary.

Elizabeth Bian of Borough President ‘s Office said Borough President Melinda Katz recently had knee surgery and is recovering nicely and announced the State of the Borough Address will be hosted by the Frank Sinatra School of Arts. She further reminded us the Queens Borough FY 2019 funding application meeting for capital and expense budgets is coming up. A reminder that members of the public can attend so please RSVP their office if you plan on attending.

ITEM II – Kathleen Cassino of the US TENNIS ASSOCIATION (**USTA**) was invited to give a year end recap of events. The outreach efforts and community events included **(1)** Ball person tryouts in late June. **(2)** Job fair in July. **(3)** National Anthem singer tryouts with the first round online. **(4)** Total attendance last year was 690,000. **(5)** The Grandstand Stadium now in second year of observation. **(6)** The new Louis Armstrong Center will be completed by this year’s event. **(7)** Queens Day in late August during fan week with local performers welcome. **(8)** Queens Senior Day on the same day welcoming local seniors from Queens to the National Tennis Center. **(9)** Arthur Ashe Kids Day with free tickets for kids to a concert. **(10)** ACEing the Autism event. **(11)** Tennis clinics being offered to organizations across the city. **(12)** The USTA Business Resource Group offering affinity groups within their employees. **(13)** Cystic Fibrosis Stair Climb fundraiser in October. **(14)** Rally for Relief fundraiser for disaster relief. **(15)** Light the Night Walk for Leukemia. **(16)** Thanksgiving Luncheon service with Elmcors Senior Services. **(17)** Holiday Wishes event with local school. **(18)** NY Cares Coat Drive. **(19)** City Harvest food drive. **(20)** Job openings and **(21)** Louis Armstrong Stadium update including the retractable roof.

Q. Warren Schreiber – How do you conduct your outreach to senior centers for those programs?

A. Outreach relies on word of mouth with the Board.

Q. Gene Kelty – Any problems with the dome on Arthur Ashe Stadium?

A. No problems whatsoever!

Board member, Frank Macchio commended the USTA on its commitment and contributions to the local community.

ITEM III – Elsa Higby, NYC Compost Project Mgr., Queens Botanical Garden – Ms. Higby introduced Neil Fleischman, Board member & Treasurer of QBG, who spoke on the compost program which will be alongside the working farm and fully funded by DSNY. The compost corridor will exist on the College Point Blvd. side of the project, which is located north of the overpass to the recreation center in Flushing Meadows Park. The existing condition and proposed 16,000 sq. foot project will be buffered with lots of water loving trees. Thirty-two thousand pounds of organics will be processed using only residential composting with no meat or dairy products. It will have self contained bays with a ventilation system to conduct aerobic composting. The composting cycle will be 3 months, then it goes into curing. With the mature trees planted in place, visual profile of the site will be low. The site will include a solar powered farm shed in a rustic style. The bays will be made of recycled compost lumber, solar panels, etc.

Q. What size is the shed?

A. The shed is 30 ft. x 20 ft. for equipment storage.

Q. Solar output?

A. Four blowers don't require too much power; the array on the shed will cover this usage.

Q. How many greenmarkets are in Queens?

A. Forest Hills Greenmarket, Briarwood, Jamaica, Glen Oaks food scraps, Corona Park greenmarket, QBG's own drop off and Flushing greenmarket. There are some more greenmarkets.

Q. Chair Kelly asked why we aren't using materials sourced from CB #7?

A. DSNY wants us to see a full closed cycle system in operation, and we've already built this capacity with existing source work. We could compost the stuff from DSNY, but it wouldn't be appropriate for a botanical garden.

Q. What size trucks?

A. Sixteen ft. box truck.

Q. What happens to the compost?

A. We give it back to be used on site. March 3rd is the first giveback this year.

Q. How long does it take to prepare the compost?

A. Usually six months.

Q. What is the fund source and annual cost?

A. Funding and operation is completely through DSNY including staff, equipment and demolition if the the program ends. Capital Cost is \$400,000 with maintenance \$75,000 annually.

Q. Is DSNY giving Queens Botanical time to get this running and sustainable?

A. QBG is not being asked to run this or fund it.

IV. Executive Committee Elections for 2018- Board Member & Attorney Josh Sussman explained the Ballot procedure to the board members present. All members must turn in their signed ballot, even if you do not vote. The law stipulates this process is open to the public so their vote is also open to the public. With multiple candidates, the candidate with the greatest plurality of votes wins...unless there is a tie. We will now vote on one position at a time!

CHAIRPERSON - EUGENE KELTY - Only candidate on the ballot
With no further nominations from the floor
Vote taken was 37-0
Re-elected as Chairperson

FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON - CHARLES APELIAN – Only candidate on the ballot
With no further nominations from the floor
Vote taken was 36 votes in favor – 1 abstention
Re-elected as First Vice- Chairperson

SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON – WARREN SCHREIBER – Only candidate on the ballot
With no further nominations from the floor
Vote taken was 35 votes in favor – 2 abstentions
Re-elected as Second Vice-Chairperson

THIRD VICE-CHAIRPERSON - FRANK MACCHIO – KIM OHANIAN – BARBARA McHUGH
and the nomination from the floor **REV. RICHARD McEACHERN** by
board member John Choe

Each of the candidates, if they wished, were given the opportunity to speak on their behalf as to why they should be considered for the position.

With no further nominations from the floor
Vote taken was **17 votes for Frank Macchio**
9 votes for Kim Ohanian
8 votes for Rev. Richard McEachern
2 votes for Barbara McHugh
FRANK MACCHIO elected as Third Vice-Chairperson

**FOURTH VICE-CHAIRPERSON – BARBARA McHUGH – FRANK MACCHIO and the nomination from the floor of REV. RICHARD McEACHERN by Board member Pablo Hernandez
With no further nominations from the floor
Vote taken was 26 votes for Barbara McHugh
11 votes for Rev. Richard McEachern
Frank Macchio withdrew because he accepted position of Third Vice- Chairperson**

BARBARA McHUGH re-elected as Fourth Vice Chairperson

P U B L I C H E A R I N G

V - Elaine Fan – Comptroller’s Office - Spoke on behalf of Comptroller Scott Stringer advising that the City and the Mayor will submit a resolution to divest the pension funds from any fossil fuel industries. Comptroller Stringer’s office will also host a Lunar New Year Party on February 21, 2018 at Flushing Town Hall.

VI – ADAM CHEN –Public Advocate’s Office – Representing Public Advocate Letitia James, Mr. Chen advised the Board a list has been published of the worst landlords in the City. Also, legislation has been passed unanimously in the City Council to provide a database of landlords, by the landlord of the property and not the address. You can request this database by e-mail at www.pubadvocate.nyc.gov.

Q. Will the Public Advocate’s office be addressing deadbeat tenants?

A. We can look into this and let you know.

The meeting ended at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zuliani