



Community Board 7

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

133-32 41st ROAD · 3rd FLOOR · FLUSHING, NY 11355
(718) 359-2800

Fax: (718) 463-3891
email: qn07@cb.nyc.gov

Melinda Katz
Queens Borough President

Eugene T. Kelty Jr.
Chairperson

Marilyn McAndrews
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017
UNION PLAZA CARE CENTER
33-23 UNION STREET
FLUSHING, NEW YORK

PRESENT

Charles Apelian
Kris Ram
Harpreet Wahan
Joseph Sweeney
Arlene Fleishman
Pablo Hernandez
Vana Partridge
Eugene Kelty
Belal Salim
Millicent O'Meally
James Cervino

Warren Schreiber
Peter Sutich
Esther Lee
Nicholas Corrado
Kim Ohanian
Barbara McHugh
Lawrence Hughes
Linna Yu
John Tsavalos
Peter Kwiath
Michael Cheng

Kevin Shields
Chin-Hsiang Chiang
Kim Cody
Jeff Huang
Fred Fu
Phil Konigsberg
Clarissa Wong
Tyler Cassell
Jie Zhu
Vincent Gianelli
Terence Park

ABSENT

John Byas
Matt Silverstein
Rev. R. McEachern
Marc Schiffman
Peter Tu

Kevin Kang
Carlos Talisaysay
Selma Moses
Joshua Sussman
Arnold Wagner

Devon O'Connor
Rose Forkan
Frank Macchio
Alison Tan

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager
Mary O'Neill, Community Assistant
Sherine Perez, Community Service Aid

GUESTS

Young Kim - Assemblyman Ron Kim's office
Tim Thomas - Assemblyman Simanowitz's office
Erin Rogers - Assemblywoman Nily Rozic's office
Jason D. Antoiourous - Assemblyman Braunstein's office
Joyce Ha Fan Choi - Councilman Peter Koo's office
Adam Chen - NYC Public Advocate Julissa James's office
Elaine Fan - NYC Comptroller's office
Jeong-ah Choi - Queens Borough President's office

Chair Eugene Kelty opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent prayer for our armed forces serving around the world.

Roll call attendance was then taken by the Chair with - (33) Present (7) Absent (7) Excused

Chair Kelty followed with announcements received during the month at our office. You may review these announcements at the end of the meeting or at our Board office tomorrow. Don't forget to speak with **Barbara McHugh** about the Sunshine Fund. The Chair apologized to Board Member, **Fred Fu**, about missing the Lunar Parade due to a schedule mix-up. An important notice was received from the 109th Precinct about recent incidents of mail being stolen from residential and US Postal mailboxes, urging everyone to pick up their mail as early and frequently as possible and not leave it in the mailbox for any length of time. Also, use only a Uniball 207 gel pen when writing checks. This pen's pigmented ink cannot be removed, making it difficult to alter the payee and monetary value of the check. You can contact P.O. Burger at the 109th Precinct Crime Prevention at 718-321-2278 or mark.burger@nypd.org. if you have any further questions.

ITEM #5 - NYC Emergency Management - Ralph Goyenechea, spoke on behalf of NYCEM members who coordinate and support the emergency needs of any and all agencies in the NYC area. They work directly with operations at the MTA, the Police Department, and Fire Department, to name a few and even area businesses. They plan, prepare and coordinate emergency responses and recoveries, educate the public about preparedness, assist in any natural and man-made disasters in the City, be it in our subway system, breakdowns in our water or electrical systems, fires, hospital and health emergencies, etc., and even possible terrorist attacks. Whatever the emergency, the NYCEM will make sure the affected agencies' needs are met. They are currently working on launching the Interim Flood Protection Measures initiative to provide temporary, flood protection measures at sites vulnerable to flooding during coastal storm events and an advance warning system for people with disabilities or other functional needs. **David Schmid** of NYCEM said officials and the public will be notified when there is no longer an emergency situation.

PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM #6 - NYC Dept. of Homeless Services - Ms. Amanda Nasner, Queens Manager was called to speak but did not respond, so **Chair Kelty** continued to go forward to the Public Hearing portion of tonight's agenda.

ITEM #7 131-02 40TH ROAD – Committee Chair Bill Salim - Instant application seeks a special permit under ZR 73-66 to allow an otherwise as-of-right FAA height approved, mixed use, multi-story residential and hotel development located at this address, within a flight obstruction area of LaGuardia Airport, to exceed the height restriction imposed by ZR 610-20/21 (restriction on highest projection of building or structure). The building is an as-of-right in every way, but because it's in the airport flight path, the BSA and our community board have asked for approval from the FAA and the Port Authority.

Attorney Vincent Petraro described the triangular lot in the R6 C4-2 zoning district with Van Wyck Expressway on the East, the LIRR on the South and Lot 100 on the North East. The applicant needs a special permit for 30 additional feet in height. As comparison, the SkyView building, which is further from the airport, has an additional 70 feet in height. Community Board #7 has received letters from the FAA and the Port Authority approving the 30 additional feet for each of the three towers being constructed. The additional 30 feet is within 'as-of-right' approval without the need of a variance, but the BSA wanted the approval for the record from the FAA and the Port Authority to make sure the additional height is within the flight obstruction path required.

Q. What will be the height of the buildings?

A. The height allowed is 240 ft., but they are asking for approval of 201 feet.

There were many questions asked repeatedly about other possible variances needed, for which the responses given were the same, i.e. not needed or applicable since plans submitted were for 'as-of-right' buildings. First Vice Chair Apelian summarized that height restrictions help our community board to make sure new buildings being developed near our airport conform to height regulations for the obvious safety reasons, as well as noise decibels, special thick window glass, safety lights atop buildings, etc.

With no public speakers signed in, Committee Chair Bill Salim gave his committee report of January 25, 2017 and the vote was unanimous to approve with two conditions 1) the need for the FAA and Port Authority letters of approval, and 2) the geo-technical and window specifications for the entire complex, which also was received.

With the approval received from the FAA and Port Authority, and the receipt of the geo-technical and window specifications for the entire complex, the motion on the floor is to approve the application for an additional 30 feet in height, seconded by Linna Yu.

The vote taken was (27) Approved (5) Disapprove (1) Left the room

REGULAR MEETING

ITEM #8 - Kissena Park Meditation Garden - Kim Ohanian, Parks Committee Chair - Parks Department, unfortunately, was not present, so discussion was tabled to the next Public Hearing.

ITEM #9 – Public Participation

Speaker Eva Hoffman from the Forest Hill Inquiry, a contracted agency located in Forest Hills, spoke about the largest program presently being their Foster Care Program. Currently they are looking for new foster homes. Orientation has started this month with training for five consecutive Sundays beginning the end of March through April, not counting Easter Sunday. You must be 21 years of age or over to be a foster parent, a home owner or rental as long as it's a stable home. Marital status doesn't matter. It would be a temporary placement and there is a stipend for it. The age of a foster child is from one year to 21 years. Flyers and sign-up sheets were left for anyone interested.

Speaker Andrea Voyia is a Sociologist attending University of Connecticut, and frequent visitor to our meetings the past year and a half, as well as a local PTA and Church of Worship, She and two others from UConn are studying how community involvement takes place. They would like to interview board members on how they got involved, their experiences, how it impacted them, if it helped them and their neighborhoods and the importance of their input. You can reach them by telephone and choose any place you want for the interview. Any information given will be held in strictest confidence. The donuts and coffee will be supplied by them.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zuliani