



Community Board 7

Borough of Queens

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

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Eugene T. Kelty Jr.

Chairperson

Marilyn McAndrews

District Manager

Melinda Katz

Queens Borough President

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 03, 2019

VERDI'S 149-58 CROSS ISLAND PKWY, WHITESTONE, NEW YORK 11357

PRESENT

Charles Apelian

James Cervino

Kaily Cheng

Michael Cheng

Chin-Hsiang Chiang

Nicholas Corrado

Arlene Fleishman

Richard Forman

Vincent Gianelli

Jeff Huang

Lawrence Hughes

Eugene Kelty

Wensong Li

Wendy Louie

Frank Macchio

Selma Moses

Sergio Nicolich

Kim Ohanian

John Park

Kris Ram

Paul Rifino

Belal Salim

Warren Schreiber

Kevin Shields

Peter Sutich

Joseph Sweeney

John Tsavalos

Maggie Wong

Dian Yu

ABSENT

*John Choe

*Kim Cody

*Pablo Hernandez

*Phil Konigsberg

*Rev. McEachern

*Barbara McHugh

*Terence Park

*Marc Schiffman

*Joshua Sussman

*Peter Tu

*Harpreet Singh Wahan

*Linna Yu

*Lei Zhao

Fred Fu

Esther Lee

Millicent O'Meally

Matthew Silverstein

Clarissa Wong

Jie Zhu

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager

Mary O'Neill, Community Associate

Danielle Pennise, Community Associate

Mary Zuliani, Community Assistant

Anne Krzyzanowski, Community Service Aide

GUESTS

Elizabeth Bian-Queens Borough President's Office

State Senator John Liu

Barbara Baruch-State Senator Liu's Office

Councilman Paul Vallone

Vito Tautonico-Councilman Vallone's Office

Councilman Peter Koo

Joonyong Ahn-Councilman Koo's Office

*Excused

Chairman Eugene Kelty opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. and introduced himself to the public. He welcomed everyone for attending this month's hearing at Verdi's of Whitestone. The agenda for the evening consisted of announcements and committee updates, followed by the Board's Annual Holiday party. The Public Hearing Minutes for November 25, 2019 will be voted on for approval next month.

Roll Call Attendance was taken with (26) Present (13) *Excused (9) Absent

*John Choe (work), * Kim Cody (work), *Pablo Hernandez (vacation), *Phil Konigsberg (prior commitment), *Rev. McEachern (conflict), *Barbara McHugh (work), *Terrence Park (family event), *Marc Schiffman (medical), *Joshua Sussman (sick), *Peter Tu (conflict), *Harpreet Wahan (family matter), *Linna Yu (vacation), *Lei Zhao (conflict).

The following announcements were read:

- **A special thanks to Fred Fu and his sponsors** for organizing the tree lighting on **November 26th** at **Flushing Library**.
- **Christmas Tree Lighting at Queens Borough Hall Wednesday, December 4th** at 4:30 p.m.
Address: 120-55 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens.
- **Hello Panda Festival at Citi Field starts December 6th- January 26, 2020** from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The largest lantern festival in North America celebrating the Chinese art of lantern-making featuring cultural performances, a holiday market and 60 international food vendors. Ticket cost \$25 (Child/Senior/Military) and \$28 (Adult).

Updates from the Board

James Cervino, Environmental Chair has been in the news. Recently, the Department of Environmental Protection extended a stormwater outfall pipe beyond the shoreline of College Point's MacNeil Park. The outfall pipe has been relocated away from the restored oyster reef. The project is currently in its design phase. The State Department of Environmental Conservation, previously granted a permit to Dr. James Cervino to establish and restore the oyster reef at MacNeil Park. Both Dr. Cervino and his wife have worked aimlessly over a decade in securing the marine life. Dr. Cervino thanked Councilman Vallone for his advocacy and coordinated conferences with DEP in reevaluating the project. Both Chair Gene Kelty and District Manager, Marilyn McAndrews congratulated Dr. Cervino and his wife Kathryn Cervino, President of the Coastal Preservation Network and Vice President of the College Point Civic Association, for their efforts in preserving the ecosystem and beach at MacNeil Park and Powell's Cove Park.

Joseph Sweeney, Public Safety Chair meets with the 109 PCT Council. The precinct has been responding to calls reporting car break-ins in Flushing, College Point and Whitestone occurring around the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Gene Kelty advised senior citizens to be aware of solicitors who are approaching homes.

Nicholas Corrado, Transportation Chair announced a committee meeting on the **Van Wyck Expressway Rehabilitation project** to be held **December 16th**. Project managers introduced the project at the Public Hearing of October 28th. Businesses in the area have been invited to attend this month's committee meeting. Gene Kelty will also be attending.

In addition, the Transportation Committee will be looking at a **One-way proposal in January 2020** at 119th St. between 20th and 22nd Ave. in College Point.

Kim Ohanian, Parks Chair reported on the **ground breaking of the NYS Pavillion**. The Borough President, New York City Council, and the Mayor's office secured \$24 million to start working on three towers. The project is currently in Stage I. She also reported on the Park's committee meeting held **November 21st**. A proposal was received on an evaluation study initiated by the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority, to assess the usage of solar panels over the Clearview parking lot, installation of electric vehicle charging stations and a storm water infrastructure.

Warren Schreiber, Aviation Chair announced the next **New York Community Aviation Roundtable- LGA Committee meeting** which will be held on **January 9, 2020**. A presentation on 14 CFR, Part 161-Notice and Approval of Airport Noise and Access Restrictions will be discussed. Also, The Federal Aviation Administration will host a **public information session** on **January 14, 2020** (6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott in East Elmhurst. He further mentioned that he has been attending the meetings on the AirTrain proposal. He further stated, it was not received well from the local community.

Gene Kelty thanked **Arlene Fleishman** for organizing the Community Board's Holiday party.

A Message from Our Elected Officials

Barbara Baruch, representative from Senator John Liu's office, invited the Board to the **Senator's Holiday party** on **December 11th**, (5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) at his office 38-50 Bell Blvd., Bayside. Entrance is on 39th Ave.

Councilman Peter Koo and **Councilman Paul Vallone** wished everyone a Happy Holiday and thanked everyone for their time throughout the year. **Councilman Paul Vallone** congratulated Community Board 7 on their expeditious efforts in land use and zoning within the district.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ellen Russell resident of Flushing, reported on a new construction built with the address 29-44 143 Street, Flushing. Violations were previously filed under this address; however, the city lists the property address as 29-46 143 Street and as a result, the violations filed were not addressed. The property is currently being converted into a House of Worship and Ms. Russell asked if it is permissible under the NYC zoning district. The job description listed under NYC Department of Buildings indicates enlargement of existing 2 story, one family dwelling. The property resides in a R2A, a single-family detached Residential Zoning district, which allows a House of Worship to be built. **Chair Kelty recommended the property to be reviewed by community liaison, Anthony Iuliano, Department of Buildings.**

The Board concluded the meeting with a gift to Gene Kelty. District Manager, Marilyn McAndrews presented to Chairman Kelty the invitation from President Donald Trump enlarged and framed, requesting his presence at the signing of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund held July 29, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. and the Board proceeded to the Annual Holiday dinner celebration.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Pennis