

Melinda Katz

Queens Borough President

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

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019 UNION PLAZA CARE CENTER 33-23 UNION STREET FLUSHING, NEW YORK

PRESENT

Charles Apelian Pablo Hernandez John Park Joseph Sweeney Alfredo Centola Lawrence Hughes Terence Park Alison Tan James Cervino **Eugene Kelty** John Tsavalos Kris Ram Phil Konigsberg Paul Rifino Peter Tu **Chin-Hsiang Chiang** John Choe Esther Lee **Belal Salim** Harpreet Wahan Frank Macchio Clarissa Wong Kim Cody Marc Schiffman Nicholas Corrado Rev. McEachern Warren Schreiber Dian Yu Arlene Fleishman Barbara McHugh **Kevin Shields** Linna Yu Richard Forman Selma Moses Matthew Silverstein Lei Zhao Fred Fu Kim Ohanian Joshua Sussman Jie Zhu Vincent Gianelli Millicent O'Meally Peter Sutich

ABSENT

Michael Cheng Christine Colligan Jeff Huang Peter Kwiath
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COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager Mary Zuliani, Community Assistant Mary O'Neill, Community Associate

GUESTS

Barbara Baruch – State Senator John Liu's office
Sandra Ung – Congresswomen Grace Meng's office
Daniel Blech – Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal's office
Jason Antonopoulos - Assemblyman Edward Braunstein's office
Brian Lam – Assemblywoman Nily Rozic's office
Maria Borlis – State Senator Jessica Ramos's office
Joyce Choi – Councilman Peter Koo's office
Justin J. Connor – Congressman Thomas Suozzi's office
Vito Tautonico – Councilman Vallone's office

In the absence of Chair Gene Kelty, who will be late since he is attending the Borough Board meeting, First Vice-Chair Chuck Apelian opened the meeting at 7 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence for our armed forces abroad and here at home as well as our uniformed services protecting our communities.

First Vice Chair Apelian took the roll call attendance with **(43) Present (4) Excused (1) Absent** followed by notable announcements of the month. **Metro North** submitted numerous job openings as well as **Work Force** looking for Security Guards. Also, **DCAS** sent us a list of exam dates open to the Public to be held in January for several job positions. You can view the lists at the end of the meeting or at our office tomorrow. The First Vice- Chair gave us the sad news of **Don Capalbi's** passing recently. **Don** was the President of his Civic organization and worked with Congresswoman Grace Meng. Eight of our members including Chair Kelty attended the services on Saturday, January 12, 2019.

The December 11, 2018 minutes were reviewed and approved with one abstention, and the day was correctly stated as <u>Tuesday</u>, the same day as our holiday Dinner at Queens Botanical Garden.

Speaker, **Elizabeth Bian**, from Queens Borough President Katz's office advised the State of the Borough Speech is on January 25, 2019, 10:30 am at LaGuardia Community College. **Ms. Bian** also spoke on the new application form to be used by board members due to the new term limits. In the past, after you filled it out, it had to be signed by your Councilman and then submitted to the Borough President. The new application does not require your Councilman's signature. You can mail the notarized original to the Borough President and bring or mail a copy to the Councilman's office. **Ms. Bian** also presented our Board Member, **Selma Moses**, with the 15 year Service Award.

ITEM #4 – Aviation Update -Warren Schreiber, Roundtable member & LGA Committee Chair for CB7 - At the 12/4/18 LGA Committee meeting, the FAA acknowledged the overuse of the TNNIS climb procedure causing major noise pollution for northeastern Queens. The FAA has started monitoring its usage and will allow it only when necessary and safe to do so. Warren thanked our elected officials, Grace Meng's office, Queens Quiet Skies and civic organizations who helped. He also spoke about the Helicopter flight operation noise complaints in our area. They will now be using different routes coming inbound from the east, which will cut noise in half commencing in November. He also thanked Congressman Suozzi's office and We Love Whitestone for their help. The FAA will be doing a study on the LGA AirTran and ask CB7 and civic organizations to sit in on this process.

Chair Kelty said the current 2019 list of public hearing dates are to be disregarded because of some issues with the dates. You will receive the new list shortly. He reminded everyone you need to notify the office and committee chair if you cannot attend a public hearing also, it will be noted if you leave the Public Hearings early since the Borough President's office has questioned why the numbers on votes don't line up at times.

ITEM #5 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS - Josh Sussman, Committee Chair reminded everyone all ballots must be signed whether you cast a vote or not. Nominations are allowed from the floor this evening.

For the **Chair** position, the only candidate formally running was **Gene Kelty**. With no nominations from the floor, the vote was **42 in favor** and **1** person who did not vote.

For the **First Vice-Chair** position, the only candidate formally running was **Chuck Apelian**. With no nominations from the floor, the vote was **43 in favor**.

For the **Second Vice-Chair** position, the only candidate formally running was **Warren Schreiber**. With no nominations from the floor, the vote was **43 in favor**.

For the **Third Vice-Chair** position, **Frank Macchio** and **Barbara McHugh** formally ran as candidates. Each thanked the Board Members and asked for their support. With no further nominations from the floor, the final vote taken was **36** in favor of Frank Macchio and **7** votes favoring Barbara McHugh.

For the **Fourth Vice-Chair/Executive Secretary** position, **Alison Tan** and **Josh Sussman** formally ran as candidates and **Kim Ohanian** was nominated from the floor. **Alison Tan** ran for City Council last year and wants to address issues that affect the community and her daughters. One of many issues she's interested in is improving our Sanitation system, the trash pile-up during the government shutdown on Federal properties, how funding is allocated, etc. **Josh Sussman**, a teacher, lawyer, worked at the DA's office, involved in school safety with the Chancellor and training Safety Officers, etc. With his rich experience, joining the Community Board was a natural step to be a part of the community. **Kim Ohanian** spoke of her active 19 yrs. on the Board and her daily participation with the community. When asked why, her answer was "Someone has to"! With no further nominations from the floor, the vote was **22 votes in favor of Alison Tan, 12 votes in favor of Josh Sussman, and 7 votes for Kim Ohanian**.

Our Executive Committee for 2019 is as follows:-

Eugene Kelty Chair

Charles Apelian First Vice-Chair
Warren Schreiber Second Vice-Chair
Frank Macchio Third Vice -Chair
Alison Tan Fourth Vice-Chair

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bruce Green – On 31st Drive and 138th Street in the Mitchell-Linden area, traffic agents are illegally parking/standing and violating the law themselves while giving summonses to us. They've called the ICO Task Force of Queens North and the 109th Pct., but the Mayor and Governor's words "If you see something, say something" seem meaningless. They are asking for our help.

Rob Reynolds, resident of Flushing, CPA, husband and father witnessed a woman struck by a car and pinned under it on Roosevelt Avenue on 1/2/19. He suggested to make Roosevelt Ave. between Union Street and Main Street a pedestrian plaza. It should be looked into to make Flushing safer.

Kevin Shields, **Board Member**- On December 6, 2018 an article was published in the Queens Chronicle by Ryan Brady about a petition for a hearing on renaming a street in Whitestone for **John McHugh** of Whitestone, a 90 year old war hero who survived the Normandy invasion and is still alive today. The DOT Policy is a person must be deceased to be memorialized with a co-naming street,but exceptions have occurred. Kevin and others have garnered 500 signatures from the community. They would like to see this happen while Mr. McHugh is still with us.

Chair Kelty's response is the follow through is commendable, but you must have the approval of your Councilman, Paul Vallone, before anything can go forward. Only his signature will start the ball rolling.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zuliani