



# 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*

Sharon Lee  
*Acting Queens Borough President*

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020  
AUDIO AND VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

### **PRESENT**

Charles Apelian  
Kaily Cheng  
Michael Cheng  
Chin-Hsiang Chiang  
John Choe  
Nicholas Corrado  
Arlene Fleishman  
Richard Forman  
Fred Fu  
Doreen Gatanas\*  
Vincent Gianelli  
Pablo Hernandez  
Lawrence Hughes  
Eugene Kelty  
Phil Konigsberg

Esther Lee  
Wensong Li  
Wendy Louie  
Frank Macchio  
Betsy Mak\*  
Rev. R. McEachern  
Barbara McHugh  
Michelle Miao\*  
Selma Moses  
Sergio Nicolich  
Kim Ohanian  
Millicent O'Meally  
John Park  
Terence Park  
Yacov Pshtissky\*

Kris Ram  
Paul Rifino  
Belal Salim  
Warren Schreiber  
Matthew Silverstein  
Joshua Sussman  
Joseph Sweeney  
John Tsavalos  
Harpreet Singh Wahan  
Clarissa Wong  
Maggie Wong  
Dian Yu  
Linna Yu  
Jie Zhu

### **ABSENT**

James Cervino  
Kevin Shields  
Peter Tu

### **EXCUSED-ABSENT**

Kim Cody  
Jeff Huang  
Lei Zhao

### **RESIGNED**

Peter Sutich

### **COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF**

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager  
Mary O'Neill, Community Associate  
Danielle Pennise, Community Associate

### **GUESTS**

Rodley Jean Charles-Queens District Attorney's Office  
Elizabeth Bian-Queens Borough President's Office  
Susan Liu-Congresswoman Grace Meng's Office  
Mabel Tso-Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Office

Barbara Baruch-State Senator John Liu's Office  
Amber Yoon-Assemblyman Edward Braunstein's Office  
Brian Lam-Assemblywoman Nily Rozic's Office  
Joonyong Ahn-Councilman Peter Koo's office  
Vito Tautonico-Councilman Paul Vallone's Office

**\*New Board Member**

**Chairman Gene Kelty** opened the **Public Hearing at 5:05 P.M.** The meeting was conducted by audio and video teleconference. The Chairman welcomed everyone and announced **four new board members** who will introduce themselves during roll call. The Chairman added, "Anyone from **the public** can speak during public participation, after the public hearing and **is limited to 3-minutes.**"

**Chairman Kelty** announced, "The board office is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Staff is operating to take complaints. If anyone has a problem, please call the office at (718) 359-2800. New board members will receive a welcome packet during the summer which will include: community board responsibilities, the board's by-laws, a list of committees, how to do meetings, the office number for any problems that come up and a telephone list of all board members including their address and email. This information is sensitive and should only be used for community board business and should not be passed out to civic or business associations. If anyone wants anything, call the office and a staff member will call the board member and ask the board member if he wants to give his number. This information also applies to board members and is to be used only between board members. For new members, you are joining a great board with history and diversity in different backgrounds and professions. Board members range from 1- 5 years, 5-8 years, 8-10 years, 15 years, 20 years, 25 years, 30 years and over. I have been on the board for 36 years."

**Seventy-seven participants** attended (via teleconference).

**Roll Call Attendance was taken by the Chairman with (44) Present (3) \*Absent (3) \*\*Excused-Absent**

\*James Cervino, \*Kevin Shields, \*Peter Tu

\*\*Kim Cody (work conflict), \*\*Jeff Huang (family medical), \*\*Lei Zhao (work conflict)

Peter Sutich (Resigned)

**Chairman Gene Kelty** commented, "Peter Sutich resigned because of medical reasons and he does not want to hold up a board member spot. The board wishes him well and when he feels better, we hope he reapplies again to the Community Board."

### **Introductions of New Board Members**

**1. Doreen Gatanas** said, "I was a **registered nurse** for 40 years and I am retired. I live in Flushing for 50 years and I am glad to be on the board."

**Chairman Gene Kelty commented**, "It is great to have a nurse on the board" and thanked her and the medical profession for their dedication. He welcomed her onto the board.

**2. Betsy Mak** said, "I am a **Real Estate Appraiser** for over 20 years and I live in Flushing for 20 years. I hope to learn a lot from the board."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** added, "We learned a lot from you during the **Flushing Waterfront** project. You gave us a lot of statistics and we appreciated that. You are a good addition, thank you."

**3. Michelle Miao** said, “I am a **Program Director** for the **NYC Department of Finance**. I served NYC for two decades and I worked for two City Comptrollers and later worked for Mayor Bloomberg. I am a resident of Beechhurst for over 10 years and I am happy to join the board under the leadership of **Gene Kelty**.”

**Chairman Gene Kelty** thanked **Michelle Miao** and welcomed her to the board.

**4. Yacov Pshtissky** said, “I am an **Electronic and Computer Science Engineer**. I held the position as Vice President & Chief Technology Officer. I am a **board member** of the **Bay Terrace Community Alliance** and I am the **Vice President of the Bay Club’s Board of Managers**. I supported **Councilman Paul Vallone** in the implementation of a safe cross walk at 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and 211<sup>th</sup> Street in Bay Terrace in conjunction with the DOT Commissioner. I am happy to contribute to the board in any way.”

**Chairman Gene Kelty** thanked **Yacov Pshtissky** and welcomed him to the board.

**The following announcements were read by Chairman Gene Kelty:**

- Congratulations to board member, **Harpreet Singh Wahan** and founding member of the **Flushing Interfaith Council**. He was part of a conversation last month on faith-based tools for living through the coronavirus and beyond. The event was moderated by **Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams**.
- We are proud of board member **Clarissa Wong** and **her son Max**. Max is a grant recipient for a new tennis wheelchair and received a message from Andre Agassi (Retired American professional tennis player, Former World No. 1, Eight-time Grand Slam Champion in singles and 1996 Olympic Gold Medalist) during a virtual interview. The office will forward the link to all board members to see.
- For **new board members** and **current board members**, if you are having a problem using the video website, please call the board office and someone will walk you through the process. If you are using a telephone, you should have no problem calling in with the password to join the meeting.
- **Free meals** are available for **all New Yorkers**. **Locations in Northeast Queens:** Bayside High School, MS 158, PS 169 Bay Terrace and PS 107 Flushing (Mon.- Fri. from 7:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.) **Visit** <http://schools.nyc.gov/freemeals> or **text** “NYC FOOD” to 877-877 for the nearest location.
- **Job posting from MTA Headquarters**-Application Developer, Levels 2-4 (Job ID 97426), Location: 2 Broadway.
- **Union Construction Information Session**-The **Port Authority of NY & NJ** and the **Building & Construction Trades Council of Greater NY** will host a three-part virtual community event: **June 16th** at 4:00 P.M., **June 17th** at 2:00 P.M. and **June 18th** at 12:00 P.M. **For more information contact** [awholenewlga@panynj.gov](mailto:awholenewlga@panynj.gov) or [jfkredevolpement@panynj.gov](mailto:jfkredevolpement@panynj.gov).
- **Councilman Paul Vallone** sent a reminder on the upcoming **Primary Election on June 23, 2020**. **Early voting** will take place **June 13-June 21**. Polling places will be open on Election Day from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

- **Councilman Paul Vallone** lauded **Mayor De Blasio's** announcement that **Signature Bank** will donate \$750,000 in funds to the **Small Business Emergency Grant Program**. The grant program will allow individual grants of up to 10,000 to small businesses owners across the city who experienced damage to their storefronts during recent protests.
- **NYC Department of Small Business Services** and **NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection** will be distributing 2 million face coverings citywide to small businesses and their employees. Visit <https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings> to **secure a free face covering** and to find the nearest distribution partner. Contact the partner organization in advance.
- **Get Cool Air Conditioner Program-NYC311**- The City is providing free air conditioners to low-income seniors who pre-qualify based on their enrollment in City benefits programs. DFTA (Department for the Aging) will start calling eligible clients and will provide them with a DFTA ID number (case number). Do not provide personal information. Visit: <http://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-03305> . Contact 311 to verify if the call is legit and provide your case number.
- All **NYC Schools will remain closed** for the rest of the academic year.
- **Queens Public Library Summer Reading 2020 Program** began in **June**, go to [summerreading.queenslibrary.org](http://summerreading.queenslibrary.org).
- **Universal Church** located at 13-39 College Point Blvd. in College Point is giving free food to all those in need on Saturday from 9:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M. and possibly Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M. (if food supplies are available). This information was provided by the **College Point Civic & Taxpayer's Association** President, **Michael Niebauer** and Corresponding Secretary, **Brock Weiner II**.
- A **newsletter for pet owners** is available, sign up at <https://pawshumane.org/>.
- **NYC Coronavirus pet hotline** is available Monday-Sunday from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. at (877) 204-8821.
- **Joanna Sophia Foundation** presents **Joanna's Drive-In Movie** featuring **The Goonies** on Monday, **June 29, 2020** from 6:30 P.M.- 8:30 P.M. and **The Greatest Showman** from 9:30 P.M.- 11:30 P.M. at 30-50 Whitestone Expressway Parking Lot. Tickets are \$50 per vehicle per showing and must be purchased in advance at eventbrite.com. The foundation was created in loving memory of **Joanna Sophia Ioannou** to help find the cure for Epilepsy and to support families affected by Epilepsy. 100% of the donations will go to research institutes and families with children who face immediate financial challenges because of Epilepsy.
- **Councilman Paul Vallone** announced the first in a series of **drive-in movies at Bay Terrace Shopping Center** with "Star Wars, **The Rise of Skywalker**". Tickets are sold out. **Chairman Gene Kelty** thanked **Cord Meyer Development** and the **Queens Chamber of Commerce** for their partnership with Councilman Vallone.
- **The Department of Homeless Services** transferred 96 residents from a Bronx men's homeless shelter into the **Fairfield Hotel** located 28-66 **College Point Blvd**. The move is part of the administration's temporary COVID-19 policy to relocate non-symptomatic homeless individuals from congregate shelters to low-density settings.

- There is an online petition to reopen public access to the Waterfront Park, path, and pier at **Tallman Island Sewage Treatment Plant**. The petition is hosted by the **Coastal Preservation Network** in College Point. Support has been received from **Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, State Senator John Liu, Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal, and Councilman Paul Vallone**.
- Recently, the board office held a **Committee Meeting** with the **Coastal Preservation Network** and **Department of Environmental Protection** regarding public access to **Tallman Island**. The board is waiting to hear back from DEP.
- Tomorrow, **June 16, 2020** the **NYC Board of Standards and Appeals** will have a public hearing for **26-11 123rd Street, Flushing 11354**, BSA Calendar No. **2020-9-BZ**.

For more information about these announcements, please contact the board office at (718) 359-2800.

#### Approval of May 18, 2020 Minutes

A motion was made to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of May 18, 2020 by **Linna Yu**. The motion was **seconded** by **Selma Moses** with **(6) abstentions** from board members due to **excused absence on May 18, 2020**. The motion carried.

**\*\*Kaily Cheng, \*\*Jeff Huang, \*\*Wensong Li, \*\*Terence Park, \*\*Peter Sutich, \*\*Peter Tu**

**\*\* (Excused-Absent)**

#### Updates from Board Members

**Q. Chairman Kelty** asked **Reverend Richard McEachern**, “How are you feeling?”

**A. Rev. Richard McEachern** responded, “I am feeling wonderful.”

#### A Message from Our Elected Officials

**Barbara Baruch, Community Representative for New York State Senator John Liu’s office** announced, “The office always has someone manning the phone and if anyone needs to contact John Liu’s office please call (718) 765-6675 and if no one answers immediately that means the person is on the phone but will call you back, so please leave a message.”

**Susan Liu, Caseworker & Constituent Liaison for Congresswoman Grace Meng’s office** announced, “Staff is working remotely Monday – Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The office can be reached at (718) 765-6675.”

**Mabel Tso, Case Worker and Field Representative for Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez** wished everyone safe and good health during these challenging times.

“Even though there is a pandemic, the census is still underway to make sure everyone is counted. Please fill out your census form at <https://my2020census.gov/> and share this link with your neighbors.

The response rate for College Point is 44.35% so we need to up those numbers. The area census office for the New York region has resumed operations. The Census Bureau will adhere to all state and local public health guidelines when conducting operations. They are also securing training sites to train enumerators. Door knocking will start **August 11, 2020.**”

“Some legislative updates: The Congresswoman cosponsored a bill introduced by the Congressional Black Caucus called the **Justice in Policing Act** to address the crisis of racism in law enforcement. The Congresswoman also joined Representatives **Mark Takano** (Ca) and **Chuy Garcia** (IL) in introducing a bill that will prohibit the use of tear gas and any other chemical weapon by federal law enforcement. Additionally, the Congresswoman signed Representative **Ayanna Pressley’s the People’s Justice Guarantee**, which includes proposals to combat mass incarceration by expanding access to restorative justice, ending the cash bail system, implementing minimum sentences, terminating solitary confinement and ending the death penalty. Last month, the office hosted a virtual town hall meeting on **May 16, 2020** with **Jennifer DeCarli**, Assistant Commissioner for NYC Family Justice Centers and Outreach to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, **Kathryn Garcia**, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Sanitation and COVID-19 Food Czar. As always, our office is available for assistance in case work. We are happy to share that we reached 1,000 cases. The office is open remotely and you can call us at (718) 662-5970 or contact us at <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov>. Anyone is welcome to sign up for our newsletter with COVID-19 resources.”

**Chairman Gene Kelty** thanked **Mabel Tso** for the information.

**Brian Lam, Community Liaison for Assemblywoman Nily Rozic** announced, “Free face covering and hand sanitizer giveaway at **Kissena Park** (164th Street and Oak Avenue) on Friday, **June 19, 2020** at 3:00 P.M. The office is open Monday-Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Staff is working remotely and can be reached at (718) 820-0241. Leave a message and someone will return your call promptly.”

**Vito Tautonico, Director of Constituent Services for Councilman Paul Vallone** announced, “The office is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and can be reached at (718) 619-8611. If no one picks up the phone, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.”

**Elizabeth Bian, Community Coordinator for the Office of the Queens Borough President** said, “Welcome first time community board members and current members. Please fill out your census and vote on **Election Day, June 23, 2020**. Upcoming virtual events: Pride Month Celebration on Thursday, **June 18, 2020** from 2:00 P.M.-3:30 P.M., Recruitment fair on Wednesday, **June 24, 2020** from 2:00-3:30 P.M. and a virtual Celebration of Philippine Independence Day from 5:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. and an Annual Celebration of Jerusalem on **June 25, 2020** from 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. Visit <https://www.queensbp.org> for more virtual events.”

\*See Public Participation for Queens District Attorney’s Office announcements. Speaker joined the meeting late.

**Public Hearing**

**BSA Calendar No. 2020-19-BZ, 133-27 39th Ave., Flushing, 11354**-Application for a special permit pursuant to NYC Zoning Resolution Section 73-36 for a proposed physical cultural establishment use, Goldfish Swim School to be located in the Tangram House South, a fifteen story mixed-use development. The (approx.) 1,900 sq. ft. swimming pool will be utilized for swim instruction to infants, toddlers, and children. The property is zoned C4-2 and Section 32-10 of the Zoning Resolution is to be varied.

**Parks & Recreation Committee Chair Kim Ohanian** introduced **Denise Vista, Esq. of Amato Law Group, PLLC** who will present on behalf of the applicant (Goldfish Swim School).

**Denise Vista** said, "The applicant is requesting a special permit for a swim school to be located at 133-27 39<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Flushing. The property is located on the north side of 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue between College Point Boulevard (on the west) and Prince Street (on the east) and is zoned C4-2. The surrounding area is mixed use (light manufacturing, retail and multi-family). The property (Tangram House South) is currently under construction. It is a fifteen story mixed-use development consisting of condos and a two-level retail mall with underground parking. Construction was halted because of the pandemic but has commenced again. The swim school will be located on the first floor within the retail area (jewelry store, salon, gym and a cinema) of the mall. The applicant's focus (Goldfish) is to provide specialized swim instruction to infants, toddlers and children ranging in age from four months to twelve years of age. The most popular age is 4 to 6 years of age. The class ratio is typically 4 students to 1 instructor. Although semi-private and private lessons are available, there are always three lifeguard's on-duty when instruction is going on. Each class is 30 minutes. For this particular school, a 1, 900 sq. ft. swimming pool is proposed which will have a viewing area for parents and spectators to watch the children. A drying area and changing area will be available. There are two existing swim schools on Long Island, one is located in East Farmingdale and the second is located in Garden City. Both schools have been operating for a while. Two swim schools have been approved in the City, 620 Degraw Street in Brooklyn which is fully constructed but has yet to open due to the pandemic. Approval was just received from the BSA for the location 257-09 Union Turnpike in Glen Oaks."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** shared **Denise Vista's** photo slide show presentation of the proposed swim school by video to the board and attendees. **Denise Vista** gave a walk-through of the photos from the Farmingdale swim school and proposed floor plan.

**Denise Vista** said, "The swim school has a Caribbean theme, is bright, vibrant and fun for kids. There are three swimming lanes. Different angles of the pool are shown including the restroom area, changing area (with a tikki hut in the center, resembling the Caribbean theme) and storage for belongings. **Robert Wineman**, Principal of Goldfish, is present to answer questions about the school and its operations."

Q. **Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, "Is the pool 3 feet deep?"

A. **Denise Vista** responded, "Yes, it is."

Q. **Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, "Are the chairs there for the parents to sit?"

A. **Denise Vista** responded, "Yes."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** added, "The photo indicates 3 feet and 9 inches which is the depth of the pool."

**Chairman Gene Kelty Opened the Floor for Questions**

Q. **Pablo Hernandez** asked, "What is the seating capacity?"

A. **Denise Vista** responded, "There are about 30 chairs."

Q. **Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, "Is the maximum pool occupancy 38?" "So there would be 38 chairs?"

A. **Denise Vista** responded, "Yes."

Q. **Pablo Hernandez** asked, "Does the swim school qualify for a Public Assembly?"

A. **Denise Vista** responded, "Yes, it will be obtained."

**Chairman Gene Kelty asked, "Any other questions from the board?"**

Q. **Clarissa Wong** asked, "Above the rinse area, is this a disability accessible pool lift?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "Yes, that is a lift. We are required to provide one but it may not be in this specific spot."

Q. **Pablo Hernandez** asked, "Are you providing the name of the manufacturer or servicer within the pool environment?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "Within the pool environment there will be the name of the manufacturer Seresco. The pool area will be serviced by a specific e-verification system and the customer service area will be serviced by a typical A/C system."

Q. **Pablo Hernandez** asked, "Will the pool equipment be energy efficient and in compliance with local law 88?" He added, "Very soon you will need to be in compliance with local law 88 which means your equipment needs to meet the specifications of the new guidelines."

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "I would presume it will. All the equipment is newly built with compliance to whatever the current code is. I am not a mechanical engineer so I don't know that specific section of the code."

A. **Chairman Gene Kelty** (Directed to Pablo Hernandez) commented, "Robert Wineman would not be able to get approval if it was not in compliance. It is part of his application."

A. **Robert Wineman** added, "We will be submitting these plans to the DOB for review and so whatever the code is, it will be in compliance to DOB requirements."

Q. **First Vice Chair Charles Apelian** asked, "I don't see any area for food or beverage." "How are you accommodating this?"



A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "Within the reception area and our port of sales service desk there is a glass cabinet where we accommodate this. There is candy and snacks but there is no food that is prepared on site. We have a cooler to pass out bottled water to the parents and kids and coffee as well, will be served to the parents."

Q. **First Vice Chair Charles Apelian** commented and asked, "The aqua is great for physical therapy." "I know you are applying for a children's swim school; however, are you going to be limited to just children?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "Yes." "As Denise Vista said, the pool is at its deepest point, 4 ft. deep in the middle and the temperature is 88 degrees which is suitable for children learning how to swim and not for anything else."

Q. **Phil Konigsberg** asked, "Is there any special needs children class offered for learning how to swim?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "We could accommodate this to the extent that there is children that require a need."

Q. **Michael Cheng** asked, "Is the Goldfish in Flushing owned by a central company or is it owned by a franchisee?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "It is the latter. I am the principal of the franchisee. Our group has thirteen facilities, two in New York. The balance of our portfolio is in Michigan, where we are based and in Ohio and Florida. We have plans over the course of five to seven years to double our size in New York. We will then have about twelve schools including this one in the Greater New York area. We are the first and largest franchisee in the system."

Q. **Maggie Wong** asked, "Is there a membership?" "Do you serve low income families?" "I would like to know more about the operations and how it will benefit our community in the district?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "We are a membership and there is no long term commitment but we do require a 30 day commitment. All of our student programs are one lesson a week. We will consider making accommodations on a case by case basis."

Q. **Maggie Wong** asked, "Do you have a community section for community members to use vs. members who pay?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "It is for young children. We do have a section once a month for nonmembers, it is called an open swim. Nonmembers will have the experience and understand physically what we are doing in our space and will also learn about our programs. So, if they are interested they will sign up."

Q. **Betsy Mak** asked, "Can you tell us what is directly underneath the swim pool?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "The middle of the pool is the deepest and becomes shallow and tapers off to 3 ft. deep. The answer to your question, there is retail space below. In conjunction with the landlord we are going to suspend the base of the pool."

Q. **Warren Schreiber** asked, "Are you going to set aside service hours for schools or day camps?" "Is this part of your operation?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "No, we are a lesson base program. If you are a member, you sign up for a class at a designated time. We do not rent out or lease the pool to other organizations."

Q. **Warren Schreiber** asked, "Do you rent out for parties?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "We will on an occasion. This is not our preference because it involves closing the pool down with other members once a month on a Sunday afternoon."

Q. **Selma Moses** asked, "When the children go into the pool, what is the ratio to an instructor?"

**Chairman Gene Kelty** commented, "Although this was provided in the introduction of the proposal by Denise Vista, the question is to be answered in order that no one will ask this question again."

A. **Kim Ohanian** responded, "4 students to 1 instructor."

Q. **Josh Sussman** asked, "Is there a maximum number at a given time?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "Based on our occupancy law we can have seven classes going on at the same time. Our pool occupancy is 38."

Q. **Yacov Pshtissky** asked, "Will the pool have a dehumidifier to maintain the humidity level below the acceptable level?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "The flare will be serviced by a dehumidification system, Seresco is the manufacturer and we typically accept 50% to 55% humidity and we want an 88-90 degree ambient air temperature."

Q. **Yacov Pshtissky** asked, "Will the pool have salt chlorination or regular chlorination?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "It is going to be a regular chlorination pool."

Q. **Yacov Pshtissky** asked, "Don't you consider salt chlorination better for the health of the children's skin?"

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, "We did look into this, specifically our franchise orders did, but we have not reached the point where it is part of our corporate model. We use a self-generating chlorination system which is a hybrid between salt and chlorine. From a sanitary standpoint we feel it is the best way for us to be going at the moment."

Q. **Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, “Are the swimming classes combined (boys and girls) or will there be separate classes?”(Question was received from online public attendee)

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, “The classes are combined sessions.”

Q. **Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, “The dressing rooms are separate, Correct?”

A. **Robert Wineman** responded, “The dressing rooms are individualized huts.”

**With No Further Questions from the Board**

**Chairman Gene Kelty** asked, “Is there anyone from the public that would like to speak on this issue?”

**No questions or comments from the public.**

**Parks & Recreation Committee Chair Kim Ohanian** discussed her committee report:

The Committee met on **June 2, 2020**. **John Tsavalos** made a motion **to approve** the application. The motion was **seconded** by **Millicent O’Meally**. The **vote unanimously passed in favor** with a **Vote of (9) for Approval**.

The following board members attended the committee meeting: **Chairman** Gene Kelty, **Second Vice Chair** Warren Schreiber, **Committee Chair** Kim Ohanian, Chin-Hsiang Chiang, Millicent O’Meally, Linna Yu, Kris Ram, Kaily Cheng, and John Tsavalos. **Office staff** also attended, **District Manager** Marilyn McAndrews and **Community Associate** Mary O’Neill. Ron Britt, Clubhouse Director of **The Boys Club of New York-Abbe Clubhouse**, Joonyong Ahn, Director of Community Affairs for **Councilman Peter Koo’s Office**, Denise Vista, Esq., Steven Gillman (**Applicant**) and Rob Wineman (**Principal of Goldfish Swim School**) attended the committee meeting.

**Denise Vista** gave an in depth description of the parameters of the special permit requested by Goldfish Swim School including:

- Class Size
- Hours of Operation
- Square Footage of the Pool
- Design & Drainage System
- Description of the Surrounding Area
- Number of Employees
- Description of Operations
- Other Planned & Operating Locations
- Infant Classes
- Instructor Qualifications
- Prior Incident Reports (None)
- Insurance Details
- Monthly Costs for Swimmers

Many questions were asked and all were answered to satisfaction. However, one point that was not mentioned tonight was that the company does allow the parent to be in the pool with an infant. There is one instructor to an infant.

**Committee Chair Kim Ohanian** made a recommendation **to approve the** application. The motion was **seconded** by **Barbara McHugh**.

#### **Discussion on the Motion from the Board**

**Michael Cheng** said, "I am very familiar with Goldfish Swim School. My daughter is two years old and since six months old, she has been taking swim classes at the Garden City location. The photos that were shown are identical to the one in Garden City. They have a wonderful program and the service is great. I think for a community like Flushing with small businesses, Goldfish is a great business to have in the heart of Flushing and I would not have to travel to Long Island."

**Phil Konigsberg** commented, "Since the applicant is open about having swim classes for children of special needs, this sounds like a great opportunity; especially, since the swim classes are small."

**A Roll Call Vote was taken resulting in** (43) For Approval, (1)\*Against, (3) Absent and (3) Excused-Absent  
The motion carried. \*Selma Moses

#### **Regular Meeting**

##### **Revision to By-Laws (Board Members Only)**

A letter was sent to all board members from **Chairman Gene Kelty** with reference to the new revision. **Chairman Gene Kelty** said, "A special committee (including the Executive Committee and Legal Chair) met **Thursday, June 4 2020** to discuss a revision to Community Board 7's By-Laws. The new proposed recommendation falls under **Article VIII-Board Staff (a) Duties of the District Manager**. The **NYC Office of Management and Budget** recommends/required all community boards to insert the following as part of a **District Manager's Duty: Revision (Item 5.)** The District Manager selects, hires, and supervises district office staff members in consultation with and approval of the Board's Chairperson. In cases of termination, the District Manager may terminate a district office staff member in consultation with the approval of a majority vote from the Executive Board."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** added, "This is why we as a board hire a District Manager and I asked for the motion to be put in. Also brought up at the committee meeting was the occurrence of firing a person. It should include approval from the executive board, so it will be a cross reference of a few people looking at why we are terminating a person."

**First Vice Chair Charles Apelian** commented, "The executive board supported the revision especially with the check and balance."

##### **Chairman Kelty Opened the Floor for Questions**

Q. **John Choe** commented, "I think this is a clear resolution in terms of the by-laws." "When are the Executive Committee elections held?" "I have not heard anything from you?"

A. **Chairman Gene Kelty** remarked, "This has nothing to do with the motion but to answer your question, executive elections are always in December. A letter is sent out to all board members inquiring if anyone is interested to let the District Manager know. In January we vote and we did."

Q. **Millicent O'Meally** asked, "This has to do only with the Executive board not the full board?"

A. **Chairman Gene Kelty** responded, "No." "We are giving the authority back to the District Manager for hiring in consultation with the Chairman but for terminating office staff, it requires the approval of a majority vote from the Executive Board."

Q. **Pablo Hernandez** asked, "Do you have a developed criteria on how a person is hired?"

A. **Chairman Gene Kelty** responded, "We hire based on the criteria the Borough President and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) send out. They tell us how the position should be published which is defined when we hire a person. Regarding a termination, we would speak to the Borough President's Office and follow the procedures: Sitting down with the person, giving the person advance notice. This is always in consultation with the Borough President's Office in conjunction with the protocols in place."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** asked for a motion to approve the amendment which was **seconded** by **Selma Moses**.

#### Discussion on the Motion from the Board

None

**Chairman Gene Kelty** announced, "The motion is to approve and amend the by-laws and add the section to the District Manager's duty."

**A Roll Call Vote was taken resulting in** (43) For Approval, (1)\*Left, (3) Absent and (3) Excused-Absent  
The motion carried. \*Kaily Cheng

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Michelle Caruso-Cabrera** thanked the board for allowing her to address Community Board 7. She said, "It is a real pleasure." Michelle Caruso-Cabrera is running against **Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez** on **June 23, 2020** in **New York's 14 Congressional District** (Bronx and Queens). Her district includes College Point, Malba and West of the Whitestone Expressway. She discussed her priorities and platform. Since COVID-19, she has been on the front line delivering 20,000 masks and 100,000 gallons of hand sanitizers to the community. Michelle Caruso-Cabrera concluded with "I do hope you turn out and please vote for Michelle Caruso-Cabrera."

**Steven Lee** is running for **Assemblyman for District 40** against current **Assemblyman Ron Kim** in the **Primary Election on June 23, 2020**. He has been a Police Officer for 15 years and in 2015 obtained the rank of **Sergeant**. He exposed corruption in the **109 Precinct**. Steven Lee discussed his platform. During

COVID-19, he accompanied **Chairman Gene Kelty** in the distribution of face masks throughout the district and distributed food to first responders and nursing homes in the community and in New York

City. He announced, "Feel free to reach out to me at [steveny@gmail.com](mailto:steveny@gmail.com) or my website <https://stevefornewyork.com/>." He wished everyone good health.

\* **Rodley Jean Charles, Community Coordinator** at the Queens District Attorney's Office announced, "Constituents can follow the office on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/queensdakatz?lang=en> or Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/queensdakatz/>. A representative from the DA's office will be attending Community Board 7's monthly public hearing regularly." \*(Speaker joined the meeting late)

**Chairman Gene Kelty** said, "I appreciate that very much and please keep in contact with our office."

**Phil Konigsberg** said, "I want the community to know that we may have an Asian long-horned beetle and to keep your eyes and ears open."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** responded, "We would need the address."

**Phil Konigsberg** said, "Clearview."

**Chairman Gene Kelty** added, "The office will notify the **Department of Parks & Recreation**."

**Millicent O'Meally** said, "Welcome new board members."

**Michael Niebauer**, President of the **College Point Civic & Taxpayer's Association** thanked the board for having a civic meeting with **S&S Propeller Co.** regarding the variance application for **26-11 123rd Street, Flushing 11354**, BSA Calendar No. 2020-9-BZ.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Pennise