



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

<https://www1.nyc.gov/queenscb7>

Donovan Richards

Queens Borough President

Eugene T. Kelty Jr.

Chairperson

Marilyn McAndrews

District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021

AUDIO AND VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

PRESENT

Charles Apelian
James Cervino
Kaily Cheng
Michael Cheng
Chin-Hsiang Chiang
Kim Cody
Nicholas Corrado
Arlene Fleishman
Richard Forman
Fred Fu
Doreen Gatanas
Vincent Gianelli
Pablo Hernandez
Jeff Huang
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
Kevin Shields
Matthew Silverstein
Joshua Sussman
Joseph Sweeney
John Tsavalos
Harpreet Singh Wahan
Clarissa Wong
Maggie Wong
Dian Yu
Lei Zhao
Jie Zhu

ABSENT

John Choe
*Linna Yu

Peter Tu

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager
Mary O'Neill, Community Associate
Mary Zuliani, Community Associate
Anne Krzyzanowski, Community Aide

GUESTS

Susan Liu-Congresswoman Grace Meng's office
Marcus Bedinger-Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Office
Soojin Choi- State Senator John Liu's office
Amber Yoon-Assemblyman Edward Braunstein's office
Destiny Batista-Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal's office
Elisabeth Bian- Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz's office

Vito Tautonico-Councilman Paul Vallone's Office
Joonyong Ahn-Councilman Peter Koo's Office
Jessica Schabowski-Mayor's Community Affairs Unit
Vanessa Ordonez-Queens Borough President's office
Katherine Brezler- Queens Borough President's office
Jessica Schabowski- Mayor's Community Affairs Unit

***Excused**

Chair Gene Kelty opened the meeting at 7:08 pm via audio and video teleconference. He thanked all board members in attendance and reminded the public can only speak during Public participation at the end of the meeting. All stood to Pledge Allegiance to our Flag in honor of those who fought for our freedom, especially those who gave their lives and those who came home seriously injured.

The attendance was taken with (47) Present (2) Absent (1) EXCUSED

Announcement from Elected Officials:

Jessica Schabowski from the Mayor’s office spoke of their goal to distribute the COVID vaccine to one million residents in January. Just last week 100,000 vaccines were administered. The Mayor toured a vaccine site in CB 7 and advocated expanding vaccinations from Group 1-A and Group 1-B, from essential workers to those 75 years and older. For more information call **877/vax-4nyc** or email **nyc.gov/vaccinefinder**. *(Chair Kelty will be calling Jessica tomorrow regarding our office move which has been held up for lack of DCAS funds for the moving.)*

Marcus Bettinger from Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez’s office said Congress **1)** Certified the results of the 2020 election, despite the violence and threats to the members of the House while in session. **2)** Successfully removed the requirement tying new spending with spending cuts. Members can now propose Medicare for all and the Green New Deal. **3)** Second stimulus package, including the \$600, now extended to families of mixed immigration status, extension of conviction and eviction moratorium and expanded small business support.

Susan Liu from Congresswoman Grace Meng’s office said the second stimulus check is out. If you haven’t received it, call us and we will reach out to the IRS and ask on your behalf.

Soojin Choi-Lee from State Senator John Liu’s office. Sends all a Happy New Year 2021.

Amber Yoon from Assemblyman Ed Braunstein’s office. We’re always here for you. Just call us.

Destiny Batista from Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal’s office. We’re working on providing a CPR training webinar on January 20th at 4 pm. Call us at 718/969-1508.

Vito Tautonica from Councilman Paul Vallone’s office. Sends all a Happy New Year 2021.

Joonyong Ahn from Councilman Peter Koo’s office. Also sends a Happy New Year to all.

(Chair Kelty announced that Councilman Rory Lancman’s office spot is open now. There will be a special election in February. Ranked-choice voting is in effect and instructions will go out).

Kat Brezler, new Deputy Director for Community Boards at Borough Hall, changed the board application form which will be in use effective February 19th. Please call her if you have any questions. Her website is also updated. Reach out to your council people, as part of your application, if you wish.

Elizabeth Bian for Queens District Attorney, Melinda Katz’s office. DA Katz will be joined by NYPD and Commission on Human Rights on her **Identity Theft** workshop tomorrow, 1/12/21 from 3 to 5 pm. Call if you want to join.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COVID testing this week:

NYCHA Latimer Gardens, week of 1/11 to 1/ 15 at 34-21 137th Street, Bldg.3 parking, Kissena Corridor Park, Colden St. & Geranium Avenue

COVID vaccine sites:

Charles B. Wang Community Health Center. 136-26 37th Ave, Flushing. Call to see if you are in the eligible phase. Phase 1B (75 years or older) is now open. Call 929/362-3020. However, still need to finish health care workers first.

Volunteers needed for Mask Force:

January 27th at the #7 Train, Kissena Blvd. and the #58 Bus terminal on 41st Road.
MTA will supply everything. Call the Board office if interested in helping distribute.
MTA kind of forgot about us, but they're willing to work with us.

BSA application Delays:

BSA has been traditionally slow reminding due dates to applicants. However they're improving.

Approval of the Minutes - Selma Moses made the motion to approve the December 7, 2020 minutes seconded by Kim Ohanian and approved by all present with one abstention, Harpreet Wahan, who did not attend the December meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS FOR 2021

This evening we will hold our Executive elections with the help of The Beta Group recommended by the City and being used by other Boards also. We will vote on each position separately. The links for the ballot are locked. Chair Kelty will inform all members present when the ballot is unlocked for voting. Once the link is open you can vote by clicking on your name.

After each candidate's vote is tallied, we will announce the results and winner of the position. If a person cannot vote digitally, we will record a voice vote. If you make a mistake, just tell us so we can let you re-vote. Please call the Board office, if you have a serious issue.

District Manager Marilyn McAndrews read Articles #4 of the Community Board #7 By-Laws regarding elections for executive officers before proceeding on the voting process.

1. Officers of the Community Board shall be elected for one (1) year by open ballot at the first duly called meeting of the currently serving appointed members of the Board to be held in January of each year.
2. Candidates who receive the highest number of votes cast at that meeting for such office shall be deemed elected.
3. Nominations for positions as Officers of the Community Board shall be submitted to the District Manager, in writing, not later than thirty (30) days prior to the January meeting. the names of all such nominees so submitted shall appear on the ballot. The ballot shall also include blank spaces to provide for writing names of qualified nominees who may be nominated from the floor at the January meeting.
4. At the December meeting of the Board, the Chairperson shall report those qualified nominees received for each office.
5. Every member of the Board in attendance in person at the January meeting shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each Officer to be elected.
6. Nominations for every office may be made from the floor at the January meeting.

Candidates for **Chair** - Gene Kelty

With no nominations from the floor, the vote count is

- 46 Votes for Gene Kelty
- 2 No Votes
- 1 Absent
- 1 Member left the meeting before the vote *

Candidates for **First Vice-Chair** - Charles Apelian

With no nominations from the floor, the vote count is

- 45 Votes for Charles Apelian
- 2 No Votes
- 1 Absent
- 2 Members left the meeting before the vote *

Candidates for **Second Vice-Chair** – Warren Schreiber

With no nominations from the floor, the vote count is

- 44 Votes for Warren Schreiber
- 3 No Votes
- 1 Absent
- 2 Members left the meeting before the vote *

Candidates for **Third Vice-Chair** – Frank Macchio

With no nominations from the floor, the vote count is

- 46 Votes for Frank Macchio
- 1 Abstention
- 1 Absent
- 2 Members left the meeting before the vote *

Before the final vote for the Fourth Vice-Chair, each candidate may give a statement why they are qualified to be elected.

Phil Konigsberg - I've been a Board member for the past 21 years and served as the Fourth Vice-Chair for several years, but thereafter could not continue when my parents' health declined. I've since continued to increase my participation in the Board and in my community and to run again now as Fourth Vice-Chair. In the past four decades, I've been the recipient of the AXA Equitable Award for Community Service, the recipient of a Council Proclamation for Smoke Free Housing, a Board member of Jamaica Bay Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and former Recording Secretary of Fort Totten Park. I'm currently Vice-President of Bay Terrace Community Alliance, a Trustee at Bayside Historical Society and founder of Bayside Smoke Free Alliance. I'm currently the Chair of our Board's Health Committee. My passion has always been to serve my community and would like very much to be your Fourth Vice-Chair again.

Lei Zhao – When I was nominated from the floor last January and elected to this position, I didn't anticipate we as a Board and as individuals would have to overcome the incredible challenges posed by the pandemic and events at large. I want to thank each and every one of you for your service to the Board, and for placing your faith in me during these unprecedented times. Through all the logistical issues of meeting remote, the immense personal challenges this

pandemic has posed, you all have continued dutifully discharging your duty to serve and represent our district. I believe I've been able to effectively contribute my unique perspective and dedication to the Board to bettering this community. I hope you give me the opportunity and privilege to continue serving as Fourth Vice-Chair to maintain this Board, a fundamental building block of our local participatory democracy. Happy New Year to you all.

Candidates for **Fourth Vice-Chair** – Lei Zhao and Phil Konigsberg

With no further nominations from the floor, the vote count is

- 28** Votes for Lei Zhao
- 15** Votes for Phil Konigsberg
- 1** No Vote
- 3** Abstentions
- 1** Absent
- 2** Members left the meeting before the vote *

Congratulations! The official Elected Officials for the year 2021 are:-

Gene Kelty, Chairman
Charles Apelian, First Vice-Chair
Warren Schreiber, Second Vice-Chair
Frank Macchio, Third Vice-Chair
Lei Zhao, Fourth Vice- Chair

- * **Member John Choe left the meeting without notifying the Chair or office.**
- * **Member Linda Yu advised the office by telephone and email that she would leave the meeting early for previous engagement.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

With no sign-in requests for public speaking, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zuliani