



# Community Board 7

## Borough of Queens

Auburndale, Bay Terrace, Beechhurst, Clearview, College Point, Downtown Flushing, East Flushing, Flushing, Malba, Murray Hill, Queensborough Hill, Whitestone, Linden Hill, and Willets Point

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Donovan Richards, Jr.

*Queens Borough President*

Eugene T. Kelty Jr.

*Chairperson*

Marilyn McAndrews

*District Manager*

### COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022

AUDIO AND VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

#### PRESENT

Charles Apelian  
James Cervino  
Kaily Cheng  
Michael Cheng  
Kim Cody  
Nicholas Corrado  
Arlene Fleishman  
Richard Forman  
Fred Fu  
Doreen Gatanas  
Vincent Gianelli  
Pablo Hernandez  
Cody Herrmann  
Jeff Huang  
Lawrence Hughes

Eugene Kelty  
Phil Konigsberg  
Dr. Wensong, Li  
Wendy Louie  
Frank Macchio  
Betsy Mak  
Barbara McHugh  
Michelle Miao  
Selma Moses  
Sergio Nicolich  
Millicent O'Meally  
John Park  
Yacov Pshtissky  
Frank Quatela  
Kris Ram

Paul Rifino  
Warren Schreiber  
Kevin Shields  
Matthew Silverstein  
Joshua Sussman  
Joseph Sweeney  
John Tsavalos  
Peter Tu  
Harpreet Wahan  
Clarissa Wong  
Maggie Wong  
Dian Yu  
Linna Yu  
Jie Zou

#### ABSENT

\* Rev. R. McEachern  
Terence Park

Esther Lee  
\* Lei Zhao

#### COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

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

#### GUESTS

Susan Lui - Congresswoman Meng's office  
Mabel Tso - Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez's office  
Soojin Choi-Lee - State Senator Liu's office  
Lya Rothmann - State Senator Stavisky's office  
Sandro Navarro - State Senator Ramos's office  
Howard Wong - Assemblywoman Rozic's office

**\*Excused**

Irene Cheung - Assemblyman Braunstein's office  
Nichole - Councilwoman Paladino's office  
Xin Wu - Councilwoman Ung's office  
Elizabeth Bian - Queens District Attorney Katz's office  
Max Weprin - Queens Borough President's office  
Maria Bolanos, Mayor Adam's office

**Chair Gene Kelty** opened the Public Hearing at 7 pm via audio and video teleconference. A Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag in honor of all who fought for our freedom and our country and to never forget those who gave their lives for that freedom.

**The attendance was taken with ( 44 ) Present ( 2 ) Absent ( 2 ) Excused\***

### **Announcements from Elected Officials, Mayor's Office, and Borough Hall**

#### **Announcements from Chairman Kelty:**

- Chairman Kelty reminded Board Members that February 16<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to reapply for reappointment
- COVID Test Kits can be picked up at libraries and other place at no cost.
- The City is hiring lifeguards.

**Millicent O'Meally:** I would like to speak about Molly Williams. She was a slave owned by a firefighter. He brought Molly Williams to the firehouse to wait on him. She learned firefighting skills while she was there and became Volunteer # 11. She was the first known Black Female Firefighter.

**Jim Cervino:** DDC project in College Point & Whitestone. In a meeting with CB7, DDC said there will not be any stockpiling of soil and illegal dumping of soil in the residential area of Whitestone & College Point. The contract became overdue & over budget. Workers are stocking their garbage at the old boat yard on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The BP's office, NYS DEC and Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez's office has been helping to get this to the EPA as a federal violation and hold them accountable. We met on-site with Andrew Hollweck, Deputy Commissioner of DDC and said the pile is too high. We don't want ten thousand yards of historic fill dumped on an urban street corner that someone is renting to the highest bidder. We think trucks are taking the dirt from Malba and dumping it in College Point. Thanking Chairman Kelty, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez, Senator Liu, and BP's office for helping to prevent any dumping in Powell's Cove Boulevard. I will have a Civic meeting tomorrow night and hopefully the DDC and NYS DEC will be there.

**Chairman Kelty:** I know that the BP and some other state agencies have been involved with this. This goes back many years before the Police Academy was built in College Point. We asked back then when they were taking the soil out, where are they taking it. We were told that they have a soil removal plan. They will pack it in our area for a day or two and then take it out. We are spending more time supervising them. Thank you for keeping us in the loop.

**Phil Konigsberg:** Borough Board Meeting was last Monday. The Bayside Smoke Free Housing made a presentation to the Borough Board. Brooklyn approved the Smoke Free Housing resolution, but Queens did not approve it yet. Some years ago, The Bayside Smoke Free Housing made presentations to all the Community Boards

**Chairman Kelty:** Many of our Board Members may not realize that years ago, we made a resolution recommending new complexes be smoke-free. Maybe large complexes should have a smoking room like airports used to have.

**Arlene Fleishman:** Report of Sewer Improvement Project. This one is a budget item. These are on 138 Street and 31 Road. Two DEP Engineers came to her housing complex to see the damage caused by flooding over the years especially Hurricane Ida, 138 & 137 Streets sewers. This item was in the budget since 1984 to upgrade the sewers.

**Chairman Kelty:** You can come to CB #7 DSC Meeting in May or June with the two engineers to discuss the flooding issues.

**Matt Silverstein:** Update on Queens Greenway meeting with NYC Parks Department. Many people gave conceptual ideas.

**Chairman Kelty:** Please discuss this at the Parks Committee Meeting.

### **Public Participation**

**Ashook Ramsaran:** I am on the committee to co-name 136 Street in honor of Don Capaldi Between 57 Road & 58 Avenue. He was a prominent member of the Queensboro Hill Association. Many people had admiration and high regard for Don and his life-long community service. He was a former member of CB #7.

**Chairman Kelty:** We can set up a subcommittee for the street co-naming.

**Henry Euler:** First Vice President of the Auburndale Improvement Association. They are opposed to the legislation that would end single family zoned housing. This would not just affect our local area but the entire state. This would allow another building on a single-family property. It would end many zoning regulations. This is referred as Transit Warranted Development because it applies to homes that are near a train station. The purpose of this is to create more affordable housing.

**Chuck Apelian:** We have worked hard and for many years on this Board. I think our Board would be opposed on this because it would down zone CB #7. The Governor wants to override local municipalities on a State level. This would make all municipalities across the State have the same zoning requirements. There would not be any regulations to make the housing affordable. This would destroy the quality-of-life here. North Flushing is the largest area with single family homes in the City. If we need to, we can form a committee and a resolution on this.

**Meeting ended: 08:28 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Anne Krzyzanowski,**  
**Community Assistant**