



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, January 9, 2023

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
Cody Herrmann
Pablo Hernandez
Jeff Huang
Lawrence Hughes
Eugene Kelty

Phil Konigsberg
Esther Lee
Wendy Louie
Frank Macchio
Betsy Mak
Rev. Richard McEachern
Barbara McHugh
Selma Moses
Sergio Nicolich
Millicent O’Meally
John Park
Terence Park
Yacov Pshtissky
Frank Quatela
Kris Ram
Paul Rifino

Warren Schreiber
Kevin Shields
Matthew Silverstein
Josh Sussman
Joseph Sweeney
Saleem Syed
John Tsavalos
Peter Tu
Harpreet Wahan
Clarissa Wong
Maggie Wong
Dian Yu
Linna Yu
Lei Zhao
Jie Zhu

ABSENT: Wensong Li

EXCUSED: Michelle Miao

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager
Mary O’Neill, Community Coordinator
Anne Krzyzanowski, Community Assistant

GUESTS

Susan Liu - Congresswoman Meng’s office
Angela Sherpa - Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez’s office
Soo Jin - NY State Senator Liu’s office
Bailey O’Donnell - Senator Stavisky’s office
Howard Wong - NYS Assemblywoman Rozic’s office

Alie Ziraschi - Councilwoman Vicky Paladino’s office
Xin Wu - Councilwoman Ung’s office
Elisabeth Bian - Queens District Attorney’s office
Max Weprin - Queens Borough President’s Office

Chairman Eugene Kelty opened meeting at 7 pm via audio and video teleconference. Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag in honor of all who fought for our freedom and our country and never forget those who gave their lives for freedom.

Announcements from Elected Officials.

Attendance was taken with (47) Present (1) Absent (1) Excused

Announcements from Chairman Kelty.

Approval of November and December 2022 minutes

Public Hearing

NYC School Construction Authority team presents a proposed new school at the former St. Agnes site located at 13-20 124th Street, College Point. Notice has been filed for the proposed site selection of all or portions of Block 3998 Lot 1 and any other nearby sites for the renovation of an existing building into a new, approximately 659-seat high school in Community School District # 25

Chaired by Arlene Fleishman, Chair of Education Committee Andrea Bender, VP External Affairs, NYC SCA

Andrea Bender: NYC SCA is looking to acquire the site of the former St Agnes School. This lot is almost 48,000 SF, including the surrounding sites and a paved lot. The building will be renovated inside, and the new school will serve students from the entire borough of Queens. Comments are accepted until January 18th for the suitability of the site.

Arlene Fleishman: The Education Committee met to discuss this site. This project completion is not scheduled until 2026. The school's rectory is scheduled to be demolished and will be used for recreation.

Chairman Kelty: We will vote on only the site selection.

Kevin Shields: Will the old school be knocked down?

Andrea Bender: The existing building will not be knocked down. We do not have design plans or anything more because we do not enter into design phase until we have authorization to acquire this site.

Arlene Fleishman: Will this school be for borough-wide student or local? College Point needs a high school.

Andrea Bender: When SCA builds a school it is to serve the students in the borough of Queens: It is up to the DOE to determine the catchment area or the admissions policy.

Arlene Fleishman: The HS Superintendent informed us College Point students will have priority for admissions.

Warren Schreiber: Will they come back with the floor plans when they have a design for the new school?

Andrea Bender: We are careful who we show floors to for security reasons. We will let your Board know what is going on with the construction. The good news is that almost all the construction will be done indoors except the play yard.

Jim Cervino: Will the rectory area be turned into a play area, or will there be a structure in its place?

Andrea Bender: The rectory has been demolished and a play yard will be in that location.

Arlene Fleishman: Ben Goodman (from SCA) told us that there will be more meetings about the acquisition and the design development. No one was opposed at the committee meeting because there is a need for a high school.

Robert Gonzalez (College Point Taxpayers): Will the proposed play area be used as a construction staging area?

Andrea Bender: We usually use any property that we have control over for the construction staging.

Robert Gonzalez: What about construction equipment and materials because 14th Avenue is heavily used by trucks?

Andrea Bender: We will work this out when they start construction.

Arlene Fleishman: Will there be an elevator in the building?

Andrea Bender: We are looking to do a gut renovation, and we are required to install an elevator.

Charles Apelian: Is the SCA in contract to buy this property?

Andrea Bender: Yes.

Jenifer Shannon (resident): The community needs a school. We would want this to be a community school.

Lei Zhao made a motion to approve this site for purchase by the SCA. Seconded by **Warren Schreiber**

Councilwoman Vicky Paladino: There are many schools in my district which have started construction and were not completed. We want to know what this new school will look like. This is a great opportunity for the community, and I am looking forward to this new school.

Barbara McHugh: This community needs a high school. The Superintendent told us that this school will be for the students in College Point, Whitestone, and Flushing before it is extended to the other areas.

Josh Sussman made a friendly motion that the SCA should come back to us with progress updates.

Chairman Kelty: We are modifying the motion to approve with the stipulation SCA should come back to the Board and inform us of the developments of this project.

44 – In favor
3 – Against

0 – Abstention
0 – No vote

2 - Absent

Chairman Kelty: The motion carries. We would appreciate if the SCA come back to make a presentation to this Board to give updates about what is going on with the site.

Executive Board Elections 2023

Candidates for **Chair** - Gene Kelty

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

47 Votes for **Gene Kelty**
2 Absent

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

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

47 Votes for **Charles Apelian**
2 Absent

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

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

47 Votes for **Warren Schreiber**
2 Absent

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

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

- 47** Votes for **Frank Macchio**
- 2** Absent

Candidates for **Fourth Vice-Chair & Secretary** – Lei Zhao

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

- 47** Votes for **Lei Zhao**
- 2** Absent

The CB7Q Executive Members for 2023 are:

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

Public Participation

Kris Ram: The next 109 Pct Community Council Meeting will be held at the Poppenhusen Institute

Warren Schreiber: The NY Governor will make a State-of- the-State address and she might legalize basement apartments.

Millicent O’Meally: I wanted to thank all the Board members who offered their sympathy on the passing of my husband Donald and for Chairman Kelty who took the time to visit me and offer his condolences.

Meeting ended: 09:47 PM

Respectfully Submitted

**Anne Krzyzanowski,
Community Assistant**