



# 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 13, 2023

AUDIO AND VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

### PRESENT

Charles Apelian

James Cervino

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

Wensong Li

Wendy Louie

Frank Macchio

Betsy Mak

Rev. Richard McEachern

Barbara McHugh

Michelle Miao

Selma Moses

Sergio Nicolich

Millicent O'Meally

Terence Park

Yacov Pshtissky

Frank Quatela

Kris Ram

Paul Rifino

Warren Schreiber

Kevin Shields

Matthew Silverstein

Josh Sussman

Joseph Sweeney

John Tsavalos

Harpreet Wahan

Clarissa Wong

Maggie Wong

Dian Yu

Linna Yu

ABSENT: Esther Lee, Saleem Syed, Peter Tu, Jie Zhu

EXCUSED: Kaily Cheng, John Park, Lei Zhao

### COMMUNITY BOARD #7 STAFF

Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager

Mary O'Neill, Community Coordinator

Anne Krzyzanowski, Community Assistant

### GUESTS

Susan Liu - Congresswoman Meng's office

Mark Wooley - Congressman Santos' office

Angela Sherpa - Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez's office

Soo Jin - NY State Senator Liu's office

Bailey O'Donnell - Senator Stavisky's office

Jessica Muller - Assemblyman Braunstein's office

Charles Wohlgemuth - Assemblyman Rosenthal's office

Alexis Winters - Councilwoman Vicky Paladino's office

Xin Wu - Councilwoman Ung's office

Elisabeth Bian - Queens District Attorney's office

Alan Swisher - 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 (42) Present (4) Absent (3) Excused

Announcements from Chairman Kelty. Former Board member Arthur Barragan passed away.

Approval of January 2023 minutes

**Public Hearing**

**NYC Parks Capital Team presented design plans for the Latimer House Shed and College Point Fields.**

**Chaired by Matthew Silverstein, CB7Q Chair of Parks Committee**

**Attending from New York City Department of Parks & Recreation:**

**Danielle Monopoli, Architectural Conservator, Sumiyah Dupass, Kouchi Komuro, Nick Magilton, James Mituzas, Eric Mattes, Kevin McClain, Jessica Ugalde**

The new shed installation at Latimer House was approved by the Landmarks Commission prior to this meeting. Therefore, there is no need for a Community Board vote and the CB7Q Parks Committee had no objections.

**Matthew Silverstein:** New Soccer Field to be installed at College Point Fields. It is 3 acres, located at Linden Place, 23rd Avenue and 130th Street. Construction will start in about 18 months and will take about 2 ½ years to complete.

**NYC Parks:** College Point Fields Phase 4: The budget is \$4.5 Million. Field 3 will be reconstructed as a new synthetic turf soccer field; new fencing/barriers installed to prevent ATV's and dirt bikes entering; fencing & scoreboard at Field 4 if funding allows. There will also be a pet-friendly drinking water fountain.

**Kathryn Cervino:** Would like an explanation of the storm-water management in the North/East section. The initial plans had a path from Linden Place leading to the fields.

**NYC Parks:** The storm-water area will have a slope. The storm basin will take water from Field 3 and from another portion of the site. The water will be treated and go out into the sewer. The path from Linden Place was in the original plans, there were too many constraints for this, and it will not be in the project.

**Jim Cervino:** Can you send us a Storm-water management and drainage plan?

**NYC Parks:** Yes, we can share the plan. That will be part of the design. The area will be a shallow retention area.

**Kim Cody:** It's been said that the NY Mets might provide funding. Has anyone been in touch with them?

**Matthew Silverstein:** I bought this up at a Mets event and Steve Cohen was interested in helping to fund this park.

**Phil Konigsberg:** At the committee meeting I asked if the Mets might fund the scoreboard.

**Arlene Fleishman:** Why is this project going to take so long to complete?

**NYC Parks:** We have a set time for design and permitting. The project has to go out for procurement and bidding. The construction will take about a year.

**Millicent O'Meally:** Please explain the storm-water management system.

**NYC Parks:** The retention area is a depression for the eastern portion of the soccer field. The field will slope toward the depressed area. The water will go through the field which is made of synthetic turf, underneath are rocks and pipes which drain into the depression. The depressed area will be filled with plants.

**Millicent O’Meally:** Will this be a small pond?

**NYC Parks:** When it is raining this area will have water, but the water will go into the City’s storm-water system.

**Matthew Silverstein:** How deep is this depression?

**NYC Parks:** We don’t have a finished plan. There will be an overflow which lets the water go directly into the storm-water system. This is typically a six-inch depth maximum.

**Kathryn Cervino:** I walked near the football field and noticed a 2-foot or 3-foot-deep depression area. Is that what will be here? People might accidently fall into this.

**NYC Parks:** There is an offset near the playing fields. We can look at minimizing that slope as much as possible by moving the 4-foot fence closer to the field so that no one falls into this.

**Barbara McHugh:** Can a sign be put up to warn people about the depression?

**NYC Parks:** We can look into putting up signs, this will also be helpful for the people mowing the lawn.

**Chairman Kelty:** What unauthorized vehicles might try to get into the park?

**NYC Parks:** ATV’s and dirt bikes. ATV’s have been an issue here. We can look at placing strategic bollards.

**Chairman Kelty:** Will this project take away a baseball field from the kids?

**NYC Parks:** The other two fields will still be here.

**Chairman Kelty:** It looks like the only access is on 130 Street, is that correct?

**NYC Parks:** People can come in at three entrances on 130 Street and one entrance at 23 Avenue. Anything we install with any significant weight, such as a new entrance, has to be built on a foundation.

**Chairman Kelty:** What will the synthetic field be made out of?

**NYC Parks:** We don’t use recycled tires anymore. Now we use a coated sand that is placed on a synthetic turf.

**Chairman Kelty:** I heard that people who play on synthetic fields got burned, it’s not the same as playing on a grass field. Will this happen with this field? I don’t want to see people with severe burns caused by sliding.

**NYC Parks:** We use synthetic turf on soccer fields because these get heavy, heavy use. If we used grass it would turn into a muddy mess. The synthetic fields tend to be warmer than grass. That is why we will install a misting station.

**Kim Cody:** I spoke with the Dwarf-Giraffe little league, and they said it’s no problem with losing Field 3.

**Matt Silverstein:** The CB #7 Parks Committee held a meeting about this project. Baseball Field 3 will be converted into a synthetic turf soccer field. A letter of support was approved by the committee.

**Chairman Kelty:** We have a motion on the floor to approve this project. Seconded by **Phil Konigsberg**.

**41 – In favor**

**0 – Abstention**

**8- Absent**

**0 – Against**

**0 – No vote**

**Chairman Kelty:** The motion carries.

**Public Participation**

**Millicent O’Meally** read a poem by Langston Hughes titled “Let America be America Again” for Black History Month.

**Meeting ended: 09:10 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Anne Krzyzanowski,  
Community Assistant**