



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

30-50 Whitestone Expressway, Flushing, NY 11354 Ste. 205

Ph: (718) 359-2800

Fax: (718) 463-3891

Email: qn07@cb.nyc.gov

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

Donovan Richards, Jr.

Queens Borough President

Eugene T. Kelty Jr.

Chairperson

Marilyn McAndrews

District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD #7 PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 10, 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
Wensong Li
Frank Macchio
Betsy Mak
Rev. Richard McEachern
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
Harpreet Wahan
Clarissa Wong
Maggie Wong
Lulu Yang
Dian Yu
Linna Yu
Lei Zhao
Jie Zhu

ABSENT: Wendy Louie, Peter Tu

EXCUSED: Barbara McHugh, 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

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez

Ashely Lin - NYS Senator John Liu

Waael Abdalh – NYS Senator Stavisky’s office

Irene Cheung - Assemblyman Braunstein’s office

Councilwoman Vicky Paladino

Alie Zirachi Councilwoman Paladin’s office

Xin Wu - Councilwoman Ung’s office

Chairman Eugene Kelty opened meeting at 7 pm via audio and video teleconference. Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag and a moment of silence 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.

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and **NYC Councilwoman Vickie Paladino** spoke.

Attendance was taken with (46) Present (2) Absent (2) Excused

Approval of March 2023 minutes

Announcements from Chairman Kelty.

Update on the new school PS 388 that will be built at 23-50 Waters Edge Drive:

Ben Goodman, External Affairs Manager, School Construction Authority presented the plans for the new school. Construction is planned to start in the fall. There will be an elevator. There will be a gym-atorium in the building.

Councilwoman Paladino: When there is an assembly in the gym-atoruim, it will make more work to put up the chairs and then take them down.

Ben Goodman: This is done to save space. Most schools do not use their auditorium very often.

Councilwoman Paladino: Every school that I have visited uses their auditorium.

Arlene Fleishman: PS 242 has been here over 20 years and they have this type of gym-atorium, and this has worked wonderfully. We are so tight on schools that sometimes we have to make use of the space.

Richard Forman: I am Principal of a Brooklyn HS. We use our auditorium 7-days a week. Outside groups also rent it.

Warren Schreiber: How much space is between the school and the building next to it? Will there be a buffer between the two buildings?

Ben Goodman: I will find out and get back to you.

Phil Konigsberg: Can you show where the elevators will be in the school?

Ben Goodman: The elevators are in the lobby area near the entrance. The building will be handicapped accessible.

Kim Cody: If the buses travel from South to North, they will drop off the students across the street. This will put the students in danger if they have to cross the street. Is the City planning to make Waters Edge Drive a one-way street?

Ben Goodman: I am sure that the school will not do anything to put the students in danger. The SCA does not monitor the school buses. It's up to the DOT to change the direction of the street.

Kim Cody: Where will the teachers park?

Ben Goodman: They will have to find street parking.

Kim Cody: There is no street parking there now. They will have to park 4-5 blocks away.

Chairman Kelty: They can take buses to work.

Matt Silverstein: What will be the color of the building? The color on your presentation looks like a pumpkin eyesore.

Ben Goodman: This is the color for the school that we are planning on using.

Public Hearing

**1 - Street co-naming for Police Officer Thomas Brophy to be located at the corner of 14th Avenue and 149th Street
Chaired by Joseph Sweeney, CB7Q Chair of Land Use Committee**

Officer Brophy died 2005 of an illness related to his time at 9/11.

Matthew Brophy (son of PO Brophy) and Police Office Danny Wong of the 109th Pct read biographies of PO Brophy.

Councilwoman Paladino supports this street co-naming.

Joseph Sweeney: The CB #7 Transportation Committee held a meeting about the street co-naming for **Officer Brophy**. The vote was unanimous to approve the co-naming.

Chairman Kelty: We have a motion on the floor to approve the co-naming for **Police Officer Brophy**
Seconded by **Kim Cody**.

**46 – In favor
0 – Against**

**0 – Abstentions
0 – No vote**

4 - Absent

Chairman Kelty: The motion to approve carries.

Chairman Kelty: recommended that the city add a 9/11 symbol next to the names on the street signs for those who died because of 9/11.

**2 - Street co-naming for Piazza Sacco to be located at the west-side of 194th Street and 12th Road.
Chaired by Joseph Sweeney, CB7Q Chair of Land Use Committee**

Angelo Petraglia and Pasquale Masullo: Gave a brief history of the organization Associazione Sacchesi D’America. A group of people immigrated here from Sacco, Italy between 1868 -1914 and later formed an organization to help out each other. They spoke about the many services this group provides to the community.

Councilwoman Paladino supports this street co-naming.

Joseph Sweeney: The CB #7 Transportation Committee held a meeting about the street co-naming for **Piazza Sacco**. The vote was unanimous to approve the co-naming.

Chairman Kelty: We have a motion on the floor to approve the co-naming for **Piazza Sacco**
Seconded by **Sergio Nicolich**.

**46 – In favor
0 – Against**

**0 – Abstentions
0 – No vote**

4 - Absent

Chairman Kelty: The motion to approve carries.

**3 - Street co-naming for Olde Town Burial Ground Lane to be located at corner of 46th Avenue and 164th Street.
Chaired by Joseph Sweeney, CB7Q Chair of Land Use Committee**

Robbie Garrison, Maureen Regan, Ashook Ramsaran and Henry Euler gave a brief history of this burial ground. This is across from Flushing Cemetery. About 1,000 people were buried here between 1840 -1898. Most of the people interred here are African- American and Native-American and was also used for mass graves during the Cholera and Smallpox epidemics.

Councilwoman Ung and former **Councilmen Liu and Koo** support this co-naming.

Joseph Sweeney: The CB #7 Transportation Committee held a meeting about the street co-naming for **Olde Towne Flushing Burial Ground Lane**. The vote was unanimous to approve the co-naming.

Chairman Kelty: We have a motion on the floor to approve the co-naming for **Olde Towne Flushing Burial Ground Lane**.

Seconded by **Warren Schreiber**.

Lawrence Hughes: It's a terrible insult to New Yorkers who have been buried in interred in these burial grounds and ignored and built over. I am supporting the recognition of this site. It is important to preserve and recognize these sites. I have a concern about the archaic forms of the name "Olde Towne". These terms were not used during the time that this burial ground was used. That spelling makes it seem centuries older than it is. This burial ground was entered into the State and National registry of historic places using the modern language.

Charles Apelian: This was something which was discussed at the Committee meeting. NYC Parks Department has put a plaque at this site with this exact spelling. We are using the same NYC spelling so that the signs will match.

43 – In favor

1 – Abstentions

6 - Absent

0 – Against

0 – No vote

Chairman Kelty: The motion to approve carries.

Public Participation

Odette Wilkens (President and General Counsel of Wired Broadband, Inc.): I sent a document to the office about the 5G cell towers that are slated to be installed in your area. Studies show that wireless broadband is not safe. [She talked about a family that got sick possibly from an antenna outside their home]. She recommends that her company give a full presentation with experts on the effects of cell towers and that CB #7 get an extension from the OTI (NYC Office of Technology & Innovation) before more cell tower installations.

Jill McManus: There are many cell towers being built all over the city. I hope CB #7 will get an extension and look into this process and take it very seriously. We are getting sick from over-exposure to the constant radiation exposure. The cell towers installation should be stopped until we know more about it. These companies are covering up the effects of radiation exposure.

Susan Peters: The government is not protecting us [from the cell towers]. All they tell us is that they are following the FCC guidelines. The guidelines were written in 1996 based on science from 1980. 2013 the FCC asked the public to speak about the guidelines. Then the FCC kept the original guidelines. The Environmental Health Trust sued the FCC. The FCC did not change anything.

Theodora Scarato (from Environmental Health Trust): our organization sued the FCC about the allowable amount of radiation that people should be exposed to from the antenna networks. Some of the 5G towers are going up 10 feet from homes. American Academy of Pediatrics submitted a paper stating that children are more vulnerable to the cell tower exposure. NYC has not provided information about the types of antennas, the frequency, the power or any other information about them.

Meeting ended: 9:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Anne Krzyzanowski,

Community Assistant