

# COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

104-01 METROPOLITAN AVENUE · FOREST HILLS, NY 11375-4136 TEL: (718) 263-9250 · FAX: (718) 263-2211 WWW.NYC.GOV/CB6Q



JOSEPH C. HENNESSY CHAIR

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO DISTRICT MANAGER

GAIL M. GORDON 1ST VICE-CHAIR

STEVEN GOLDBERG 2ND VICE-CHAIR

NAOMI ALTMAN VICE-CHAIR · SECRETARY

**GREGORY CARLSON** VICE-CHAIR - FINANCE

NORMAN LEIBOWITZ VICE-CHAIR - LAND USE

LYNN SCHULMAN VICE-CHAIR . SCOPING

# **MINUTES JUNE 14, 2017**

MELINDA KATZ BOROUGH PRESIDENT

## PRESENT

J. HENNESSY, CHAIR

G. GORDON, 1ST VC

N. LEIBOWITZ, VC, LAND USE L. SCHULMAN, VC, SCOPING

S. GOLDBERG, 2<sup>ND</sup> VC

N. ALTMAN, VC, SECRETARY

G. CARLSON, VC. FINANCE

P. BEADLE M. BERFAS

H. BULOW H. CHAIN

S. CHU

J. DERESZEWSKI A. FEIGENSON

E. FELDER G. FERRERAS

B. GRIFFITH B. GROSSBERG M. JACOBSON

B. KATZ

J. KEVELSON

S. KING M. LASTER

J. LEBOWITZ J. MAKIN

N. MARTINEZ R. MEHRRA

J. MEDINA Y. MEIROV

F. MOHAMMA E. MURRAY

R. NEKTALOV K. NEUMANN

E. NEWTON

H. PAREKH S. ROLNICK

D. SCHNEIER J. SILVA

R. SILVER M. SILVERSTEIN

J. SINGERMAN B. STUCHINSKI

S. WANDERMAN B. WEITZBERG A. WEITZMAN

J. WESTON E. WONG

## **ABSENT**

J. CIORCIARI

C. COLLETT

P. KUMAR

## OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO

DISTRICT MANAGER

D.I. RAMOS P.O. MASER

112 PRECINCT 112 PRECINCT

DET. REDZAMATOVIC

112 PRECINCT OBPO

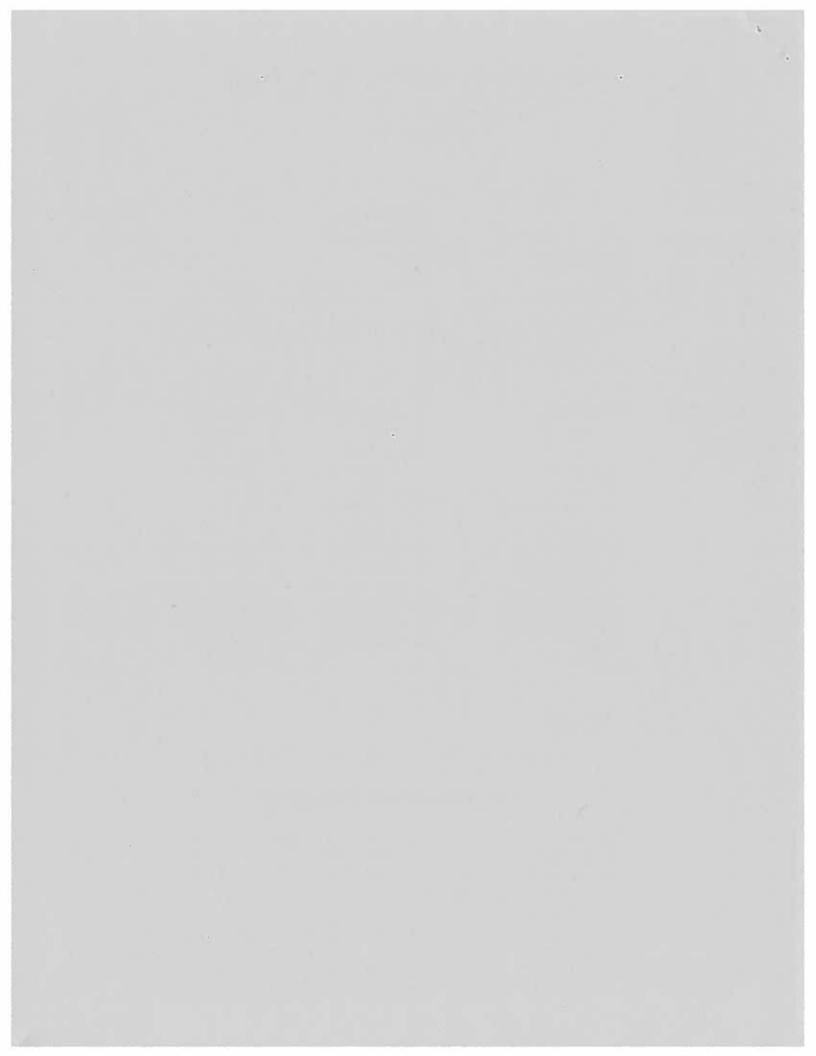
J. PERRICONE K. WISNIEWSKI

OFF. OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER HEVESI

D. BLECH J. GRIFFIN OFF. OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER SIMANOWITZ OFF. OF SENATOR ADDABBO

A. BENNETT

OFF. OF CONGRESSMEMBER MENG



### **COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

**JUNE 14, 2017** 

Chairman Hennessy opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hennessy addressed the following items:

He thanked Howie Birnbaum for his help in setting up for this and other meetings.

He spoke about proposed safety improvements on Queens Blvd. and bike lanes.

Memorial Day Parade – The Chairman congratulated Bob Silver for his help with the Parade.

He recognized Michael Dunn, Grand Marshall of the Memorial Day Parade, and thanked him for his efforts.

The Board will not meet during July and August.

Chairman Hennessy said that on June 27 Borough President Katz will present the Board Members with their service awards. Ceremony will take place at the Helen Marshall Cultural Center at 5:30 p.m.

## 112TH PRECINCT

Deputy Inspector Ramos reported that there have been no problems with the concerts at the Forest Hills Tennis Center.

On June 3, a skimming device was recovered from the ATM at Astoria Bank on Queens Blvd.

Due to an increase in bicycle thefts, the 112<sup>th</sup> Precinct urges bicycle owners to bring their bikes to the precinct to have them registered. Call 718-520-9319 to make an appointment.

There have been 11 fishing incidents at mailboxes so far this year. Inspector Ramos said that it is a good idea to mail letters inside the Post Office.

The Inspector thanked Heidi Chain for reaching out to the Postal Authorities. Some of the newer boxes have been installed in the Community Board 6 district. These boxes have mail slots that can only accommodate letters, and it is not possible to reach in and tamper with the mail.

In answer to a question about phone calls from banks requesting personal information, the Inspector said that no one should give any information out over the phone unless they have initiated the phone call.

Inspector Ramos informed that the IRS does not contact clients by phone. If anyone calls and says they are from the IRS do not give them any information. They always contact people by mail.

Detective Redzematovic said that the Blood Drive originally scheduled for <u>June 30, 2017</u> has been changed to <u>June 23, 2017</u>.

#### **DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT**

District Manager Gulluscio informed that the District Office will continue to be open 9 to 5, Monday through Friday during July and August. He distributed copies of the meeting dates for the rest of the year.

#### **CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Norman Leibowitz, Chair, Consumer Affairs Committee, said that the Board received the following new liquor license applications:

<u>Cobblestones Pub, 117-18 Queens Blvd.</u> (Change in method of Operation), and <u>Tamashi Red, Inc. 71-34 Austin St.</u>

Both applicants were present, and the committee had no objection to the applications.

<u>Aaheli Indian Cuisine, 71-51 Yellowstone Blvd.</u>, was received after the agenda was mailed out. The applicant was present and the committee had no objection to the application.

All three applications were approved on a roll call vote. (17-14)

The Board received the following renewal applications. All were approved by a show of hands. (17-15)

- 1. Rego Park Sushi, 95-34 Queens Blvd., R.P. 11375
- 2. Rove, 72-25/27 Austin St., F.H. 11375
- 3. Jack & Nellies, 108-25 Ascan Ave., F.H. 11375
- 4. Portofino Restaurant, 109-32 Ascan Ave., F.H. 11375
- 5. Luciens, 13 Station Square, F.H. 11375
- 6. Old Siam Restaurant, 69-12 Austin St., F. H. 11375
- 7. 5 Burro Café, 72-05 Austin St., F.H. 11375

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING
RETRO FITNESS GYM, 92-77 QUEENS BLVD., (BLOCK 2075, LOT 9)
BSA SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 19-15BZ – APPLICATION FOR LEGALIZATION OF PREMISES

Steve Goldberg, Chair, Planning & Zoning Committee, recused himself from voting on this issue because he is a member of the Retro Fitness Gym.

Mr. Goldberg reported that the application for 92-77 Queens Blvd. was approved by this Board two years ago. Since that time, a facility next to the gym became available, and they need approval to use this extra footage.

Arthur Huh, Attorney for Retro Fitness Gym was present to answer any questions. The Planning & Zoning Committee had no objection to this application.

Committee motion was approved on a roll call vote 45 in favor, 0 opposed. (17-16)

#### COUNCILMEMBER KAREN KOSLOWITZ

Councilmember Koslowitz reported on Mayor de Blasio's Town Hall meeting in Forest Hills. Over 700 people attended this event. The Mayor announced that he will fund the amount that is needed to build a new Rego Park Library. At the present time, the amount is 32 million dollars. Councilmember Koslowitz has put in 7.5 million, and Borough President Katz has put in 12 million dollars.

Councilmember Koslowitz sponsored the following legislation:

Food carts will now have letter grades on them, and BSA now has to appear before the Community Boards, and the Boards will have input into projects that concern the neighborhoods that they represent.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Aging – Chair Lynn Schulman said that she will be scheduling meetings this summer in order to plan for the year ahead.

Beautification - no report at this time.

Capital & Expense – Chair Greg Carlson reviews budget numbers with CB 6 Staff before the Board members vote.

Consumer Affairs – Chair Norman Leibowitz reports every month on Liquor license new applications and renewals.

- Cultural Affairs Chair Susan Wanderman said that their current project is to enable a Facebook site with a comprehensive posting of Forest Hills & Rego Park community events.
- Economic Dev. Chair Heidi Chain will be meeting with the F.H.

  Chamber of Commerce and will discuss matters effecting
  Forest Hills and Rego Park.
- Env. Protection/Sanitation Chair Greg Carlson had no report at this time.
- Finance Chair Greg Carlson will be working with staff preparing Budget which is submitted to the City of New York.
- Historic Chair Barbara Stuchinski, gave an overview of the Memorial Day parade. and the Forest Hills Gardens 100 Anniversary of Teddy Roosevelt.
- Parks Chair Barbara Stuchinski reported on the Puppet Shows at Katzman Park, DeVoy Park, and Ehrenreich Park. The Committee is in the process of compiling a list of Parks that are in need of care.
- Housing Chair Greg Carlson in discussions about renewable energy and solar panels for 1,2,and 3 family houses

Laws/ByLaws - Chair Susan Wanderman had no report.

- Chair Lynn Schulman will be meeting with Councilmember Karen Koslowitz this summer to discuss plans for the Rego Park library.

Public relations - Chair Lynn Schulman had no report.

Personnel - Chair Naomi Altman had no report.

Planning & Zoning - Chair Steve Goldberg had no report.

Public Transportation – Chair Steve Goldberg said that the MTA will be making bus route changes on the Q-23, QM 12, and the QM 42 lines. These changes will affect the Crescent Apt. complex on Union Tpke., and are a result of DOT's proposal to end left hand turns at the intersection of Woodhaven Blvd., and Union Tpke.

The Public Transportation Committee met about this proposal and Chairman Hennessy wrote to DOT to inform them that the Committee is opposed to moving Q-23 bus stops to accommodate left turn ban, and instead proposes a dedicated left turn lane for buses only from Woodhaven Blvd. onto Union Tpke., during rush hour.

SAPO - Chair Bob Silver said that the committee met several times to discuss Street Fairs.

Transportation – Chair John Dereszewski held 4 or 5 committee meetings about Woodhaven Blvd. and Queens Blvd. improvements, as well as improvements at the intersection of Yellowstone Blvd. and Austin St.

Youth & Education – Chair Heidi Chain said committee will try to get the High School Principals to meet with the Board.

Cert - Co-Chair Heidi Chain thanked representatives from F.H. Hospital for donating a tent for the Street Fair. F.H. Cert Team won best team in City of New York. Michael Dunne, member of Cert Team, was Grand Marshall of the Memorial Day Parade.

Heidi also informed that the Night Out Against Crime event will be held on August 1, 2017.

The District Manager said that he and Heidi will be meeting with the Superintenent of District 28 regarding overcrowding and Universal Pre-K.

Veterans – Chair Bob Silver had no report at this time.

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

### **ASSEMBLYMEMBER ANDREW HEVESI**

In answer to a question about the Assemblymember's Home Stability Support Initiative, Kevin Wisniewski said that the Assemblymember continues to work on this initiative and hopes that it will be passed into law by the end of this session.

#### **BOROUGH PRESIDENT MELINDA KATZ**

John Perricone said that the Borough President will host the Community Board Awards Ceremony on June 27 at the Helen Marshall Cultural Center, 5:30 p.m.

## **ASSEMBLYMEMBER MICHAEL SIMANOWITZ**

Daniel Blech reported that there will be an Unclaimed Funds Event on July 12 at the Queens Library, 158-21 Jewel Ave. and one on July 11 at the College Point Senior Center, 13-28 123 St.

## **CONGRESSMEMBER GRACE MENG**

Alexander Bennett announced the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs continues to hold monthly office hours at the Congressmember's Office, 40-13 159<sup>th</sup> Street, Flushing. Hours for this month will be on June 28. Please call ahead for an appointment.

In answer to a question about the Affordable Care Act Mr. Bennett advised that anyone interested in the Affordable Care Act should contact the Congressmember's office directly.

#### STATE SENATOR JOSEPH ADDABBO

Jeff Griffin said that the next Rainbarrel Giveaway is at St. Camillus, 185 Beach 99 St. on July 29.

Mobile Office Hours are scheduled for June 29 at the Maspeth Library.

Yaniv Meirov announced that there will be a CPR event on

June 20 at Beth Israel, and a community lecture on June 22 at Young Israel of Forest Hills.

<u>Cody Herrman</u>, works with Riverkeeper to improve the quality of the water in Flushing Bay and Creek. There is a Workshop on June 23 at the Queens Museum, 6-8 p.m. Community input is appreciated.

Bruce Weitzberg attended the Queens Community Board day at the Queens Zoo. He said it was a very nice event, and he recommended it to everyone for next year.

Mark Laster announced that there will be an RPTA Studio Pop Up library show in MacDonald Park on Sunday June 18.

Mr. Laster made a motion requesting CB 6's support of Councilmember Koslowitz's advocacy regarding maintaining the Lefferts Blvd. Bridge. Chairman Hennessy said that the Board would not make a motion because the Lefferts Blvd. Bridge is not in the Community Board 6 district.

Alexa Weitzman reported on the following events at Yellowstone Park:

Mobile Puppet Show sponsored by Community Board 6 was very well attended. A community planting event took place on June 19, and Yellowstone Park will be hosting the Painted Piano for three weeks starting on June 15 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

<u>Gail Gordon</u> informed that Rafael Nektalov was given an award by NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer for his community service.

Chairman Hennessy wished everyone a happy and healthy summer.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Burns Board Secretary

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