



COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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Whitepot Settled 1653

ALEXA WEITZMAN
CHAIR

FRANK P. GULLUSCIO
DISTRICT MANAGER

GAIL M. GORDON
1ST VICE-CHAIR

PETER BEADLE
2ND VICE-CHAIR

SOUMALY KING
VICE-CHAIR • SECRETARY

NAOMI ALTMAN
VICE-CHAIR • FINANCE

PRAMEET KUMAR
VICE-CHAIR • LAND USE

DAVID SCHNEIER
VICE-CHAIR • SCOPING

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2021

PRESENT

A. WEITZMAN, CHAIR
P. BEADLE, 2ND VC
N. ALTMAN, VC FINANCE
D. SCHNEIER, VC SCOPING

G. GORDON, 1ST VC
S. KING, VC SECRETARY
P. KUMAR, VC LAND USE

A. AYON
M. BERFAS
H. CHAIN
S. CHU
A. COHEN
J. DERESZEWSKI
A. DIAZ-HOUSTON
H. DIMITRIADIS
G. FERRERAS
B. GRIFFITH
B. GROSSBERG
O. HORODNICEANU

M. JACOBSON
J. KEVELSON
M. LASTER
N. LEIBOWITZ
R. LEONART
J. LI
K. LY
J. MAKIN
S. METZ
J. MEDINA
P. MORGAN
E. MURRAY

E. NEWTON
T. PADGETT
S. ROLNICK
H. SCHONHAUT
J. SILVA
R. SILVER
M. SILVERSTEIN
S. WANDERMAN
J. WESTON
E. WONG

ABSENT

E. FELDER
J. GOLANT
M. HECHT

E. KALENDAREV
R. MEHRRA
R. NEKTALOV

K. NEUMANN

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK GULLUSCIO CB 6 DISTRICT MANAGER
J. SCHABOWSKI MAYOR'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT
H. KHAN OFFICE OF NYC COMPTROLLER STRINGER
A. ARRECHI OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER HEVESI
A. ROSERO OFFICE OF QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT
J. D'ANGELO OFFICE OF STATE SENATOR ADDABBO
M. COHEN OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ

COMMUNITY BOARD 6

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

PUBLIC FORUM

The public will now be able to state or read their comments during the zoom meeting. All requests for public comment must be submitted via email to QN06@CB.NYC.GOV by 3pm on the day of meeting. Public comments submitted by Friday at 5pm, will be included in the minutes.

1) *Judy Berman*

I am troubled by the uncoordinated and disorganized discourteous manner that my parents of advanced age have been handled. My father is 90 my parents usually use nyu langone on queens blvd rego park dr mani ushyrov. My father was able to get the first vaccination January 26 but they refused my 88 year old mother said her name has not come up yet and she has to wait to be called for appointment. People a third their age already vaccinated. They should have both been able to have same time (not separate trips) it is weeks later she still has not been given a vaccine appointment. This is unacceptable. This md office usually responds primarily to Russian can someone from your office please call them and advocate for my parents to complain escalate and investigate. On behalf of Andrew and Ruth Spitz, 141-16 68 drive, Kew Garden Hills NY 11367

The following public comments were submitted and read out loud by Chair Alexa Weitzman:

2) *Irina Tamayeva*

1. Can you pls talk more about low and mid cost housing availability in FH. by Queens community center there are few buildings being build. Are they eligible for low/mid income housing and if so, how do we apply 2. Snow plowing - When snow is plowed by trucks, it throws the snow to most of the driveways and causes pedestrian streets and driveways to be filled with snow and ice impossible for owners to get out of driveway and clean the streets. How do we ensure the city plows snow not just in roads where cars drive but streets also. 3. Trucks - there are many trucks on grand central service road parked days over days. What is being done about it. It causes major traffic, pollution and lots of litter on streets.

Vincent Hughes

I would like to know during the meeting what's the status on the old site at shalimar diner? Also, the status on the site near sunrise car dealer, why the developer can't move past the fact sunrise don't want to lose their outdoor show area. And did Rj reynolds close the deal on the tower diner spot? There's so much construction going on in FH and RP Now that were in 2021 they need to move ahead and get it done Even blinds to go new showroom on wdhvn is at a standstill I just read the funeral home will be senior housing but there still is the other lot that houses the old blinds to go And the lot on Q blvd and 62 rd sitting there waiting to develop Thanks for your answers in the forum or send the link to read after the meeting in case i miss it.

Chair Weitzman expressed to the Board that all public comments are taken seriously and are followed up with personal emails from the Chair and/or various committee chairs.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 13, 2020 were accepted as written.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Alexa Weitzman spoke about the CB Budget Process for FY23. Ms. Weitzman sent out a memo with a schedule for each part of the process. Committee Chairs are asked to submit requests that are important to their committees and there will be a meeting on May 24, 2021 with the Executive Board and Committee Chairs to discuss these requests. If the committee chairs can't make it, they can send a representative from their committee.

Ms. Weitzman spoke about the extensive work the board is doing, including committee meetings, forums, events, etc. To streamline the committee process, a document containing guidelines for committees was created and sent out to all board members. If anyone has any questions or concerns, they should reach out. Alexa thanked the Executive Board for their assistance with this.

Chair Weitzman reported that new Borough President has been having many meetings with the CB's regarding unifying the policies and procedures for all the boards. This will include standardized format for by-laws. Therefore, our By-Law modifications have come to a halt until we receive further guidance from the Borough President's Office. She feels that our by-law revisions are on the right track and feels that the work that was done will not be lost.

Chair Weitzman announced that there is now a google calendar on our CB 6 website, www.nyc.gov/cb6q. This will contain all the links to sign up for meetings and events.

Chair Weitzman announced that the board would like to honor those that went above and beyond during the COVID pandemic and those that lost their lives to the pandemic. David Schneier will be taking the lead on creating a formal proclamation and if anyone would like to help him, they can reach out.

The testing at Rego Park Center for the past 2 weeks was successful. However, it is an outdoor site and they are looking for an indoor location due to the cold weather. If anyone has space or has a suggestion for a location in our Community Board, please reach out to the office.

Last, Chair Weitzman reminded everyone that the CB Application is still open. The deadline is February 19, 2021. If board members are not sure if they are up for renewal, contact the office and we can let you know. Application is open to anyone 16 and older.

Chair Weitzman asked everyone to keep Dr. Renee Mehrra in their thoughts following the recent passing of her mother.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Frank Gulluscio emphasized the importance of the need for testing sites in our community.

Mr. Gulluscio reported that he had a meeting with the Queens Congressional Delegation regarding vaccines. The takeaway is that we need more doses from the federal government. Also, the fact that the appointment process is not friendly to seniors that need the vaccine.

District Manager Gulluscio announced that the status of further budget cuts is unknown at this time. Also, he submits a financial disclosure every year, which is currently ongoing.

Mr. Gulluscio thanked Bruce Grossberg for submitting photos of an issue with snow and ice on the sidewalk at the old Keyfood Supermarket on Yellowstone Blvd. He encouraged people to contact the office with any issues.

Last, Mr. Gulluscio reported that he testified at the Borough Budget Hearings. He stressed the importance of the Rego Park Library. The Borough President and several Council Members are pushing for the completion. He will be meeting with DDC soon regarding the library design.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elizabeth Newton, Chair of Consumer Affairs Committee reported that the Board received one new liquor license application and one class change application. The class change is an existing catering hall that would like to convert to a restaurant to serve the public:

1. Gabriels, 90-17 63rd Drive, RP *Class Change*
2. DFG LIC, LLC, (The Mighty Quinn) 108-22 Queens Blvd., FH

The Committee had no objections to the new applications. A motion to approve these applications passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

CB 6 received the following liquor license renewals:

1. Metro Taco, 102-15 Metropolitan Ave, FH
2. West Side Tennis Club Terrace Bar & Inside Bar, One Tennis Place, FH
3. Village Grill, 73-01 Yellowstone Blvd., FH
4. Tower Diner, 98-95 Queens Blvd., RP
5. Alberto Secondo, 98-31 Metropolitan Ave, FH
6. Mojo, 70-20 Austin Street, FH

The 112th Precinct had no issues or complaints with these establishments.

The Committee had no objections to the renewal applications. A motion to approve the renewal applications passed on a voice vote (38 Yes, 1 No, 2 Abstain). Board Member Jean Silva said that she feels that anyone that votes should be required to show their face on the zoom. Chair Weitzman said although it builds community when we see each other's faces, it isn't a requirement.

Elizabeth also reported that her committee has been working on a Small Business Informational Webinar to show our support for small businesses. There will be guest speakers

addressing grants, loans, free legal services, marketing tips, technology etc). Also, there will be some small business owners speaking about their experiences and ask questions. It will be held on March 16, 2021 6:30pm via Zoom. Flyers will be distributed to businesses and posted on social media.

LAND USE AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

Prameet Kumar, Chair, reported that the committee had a Pre-Certification meeting with the developers for a rezoning at 98-81 Queens Boulevard (the old Trylon theater and Tower Diner). This was just an informational session and there was no vote. Any committee members that would like to submit public comments about this, will have the opportunity to do so once the application is certified and a public hearing is scheduled.

Also, there is a petition circulating online that this site should be landmarked. However, we did receive a letter from the Landmarks Preservation Commission confirming that the site is not eligible for landmarking.

The next meeting will be March 1, 2021 and the committee will be discussing budget items including a planner to study the zoning for the Community Board as a whole.

Frank mentioned a bill he received that is being sponsored by Speaker Johnson. The bill would question all residential zoning and developers would be able to build whatever they want.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Peter Beadle, Co-Chair, reported that the committee met on January 21, 2021. The committee discussed the following:

- Kessel Street – Residents from this block between Union Turnpike and 75th Road have requested that DOT study the changing of the direction of the one-way street. In addition, DOT may be able to change the geometry of the intersection of Kessel Street and Union Turnpike to slow down vehicles. The committee voted in favor of this request.
- Alderton Street – There have been a lot of issues and requests on Alderton Street, specifically Alderton Street and Fleet Street. There is a sub-committee to address concerns on this street. They will circulate a survey to see what the issues are and what solutions could be proposed
- Budget Requests – Improving access to subway stations and other items.
- Union Turnpike – This is a concern from residents, and it has been in our district needs statement for many years. It is a dangerous road for all users (motorist, pedestrians and bicyclists). The committee passed a recommendation to the board that a study is requested from the DOT for a safety redesign including bike lanes, pedestrian safety measures and other tools to make it safer.
- The committee will meet on February 18, 2021 and March 18, 2021 at 7:00pm.

EDUCATION, LIBRARY AND YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Heather Dimitriadis, Chair, reported the following:

Libraries:

North Forest Park Library – The ADA accessibility project is fully funded and will proceed. However, the interior renovation is on pause until the funding is complete.

Forest Hills Library – There are several projects planned including: Storm water management project, an improved accessibility project and an outdoor reading garden.

Education:

Admission process is moving forward for HS and Middle Schools. Middle school submission deadline has been extended to February 23 and the High School submissions have been extended to March 1. Any student submitting auditions, artwork, etc, will have until March 8. Admission decisions are being made later and it causes a problem for parents that are trying to decide between Catholic Schools, Charter Schools and Public Schools. Many schools require a deposit to save a spot.

Gifted and talented is proceeding for one more year. The Pearson test will not be taking place this year. We are waiting for word from the Mayor's Office regarding what type of testing will replace this.

Middle schools will be reopening on February 25, 2021. If a parent opted in for hybrid learning, their child will return to school. However, if a parent opted for remote only, they will remain remote at this time. There is no plan for high school students to return.

One of our budget requests for Air Conditioning for JHS 190 (Russel Sage) has been completed. This will benefit all students, especially the Beacon Program in the summer.

The committee would like more information regarding capacity expansions. The concern is that play yards are being taken up by extensions. A letter will be drafted to the SCA regarding other options for expansion that doesn't compromise the open space and play areas at the schools.

AGING / SOCIAL SERVICES / DISABILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Laster, Co-Chair, reported that the committee met on Monday. The committee will have a series of presentations entitled COVID-Rx. The first presentation will be on Monday February 22, 2021 and the invited speakers will be the Queens Community House and Commonpoint Queens. There will also be a presentation in March by the Elder Abuse Council/Queens DA. In April, there will be a presentation on disability etiquette. Last, there will be a May Presentation on Coping with Post-COVID-19 from a mental health / therapeutic perspective.

The committee is also working on the following projects:

- Resource directory
- Survey to community about what issues are important and should be taken up by the committee

The committee will meet on the first Monday of every month.

COVID UPDATE

Dr. Karl Newman has been attending meetings regarding the COVID vaccine and other COVID related topics and will report back monthly. He couldn't attend tonight's meeting but we will email his update to the board.

GOOD & WELFARE

Heidi Chain announced that the 112th Precinct Community Council Meeting will be on Wednesday February 17, 2021 at 7:00pm. RSVP and send questions for Captain Cappellmann to council112@yahoo.com

Pat Morgan spoke about difficulties she has been experiencing with Access A Ride.

- The access a ride expired and since she called to make an evaluation appointment, they extended her privileges. Many people may not realize this, and their privileges can expire. Also, the appointments may take a while to get due to limited capacity.
- The access a ride drivers:
 - Difficulty communicating with customers
 - Don't wear masks in the vehicle.
 - They don't display their TLC license and don't give their name
- Complaint line is saying "mailbox full"

Edwin Wong: Wished everyone a Happy Lunar New Year and announced that the Forest Hills Asian Association will be hosting a Zoom call with Forest Hills Hospital on Thursday February 25, 2021 to discuss COVID.

Mark Laster wished everyone a Happy Purim and Passover.

Kevin Ly wished everyone a Happy Black History Month, Happy Lunar New Year and a Happy Valentines Day.

Myrna Jacobson: Reported that if seniors have an issue making an appointment online for the vaccine, a family member or friend can make the appointment for them.

Jean Silva: She will be setting up a parks committee meeting for March. Also, keep your eyes open at the Parks. She visited 2 parks that had snow and ice and created a dangerous condition. Last, on February 15, 2021, those with underlying medical conditions and disabilities can start making appointments for vaccines. You can call 877-829-4692.

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT

Jessica Schabowski announced the following:

- COVID Vaccine
 - o Citifield Vaccination site is open. Half the vaccines are reserved for eligible Queens residents and the other half are reserved for TLC licensed drivers and food delivery workers from all 5 boroughs. Yankee Stadium and Citifield are focused sites primarily for the communities in which they are located.
 - o We still need more supply from the Federal Government; We have the capacity to vaccinate about 500,000 people per week.
 - o We hit 1 million vaccinations this week
 - o Eligible New Yorkers can visit www.nyc.gov/vaccinefinder or call 877-VAX-4NYC
- Beginning this year, communities will have a role in selecting their Precinct Commander via Precinct Councils. The Precinct Council will hold interviews of the proposed candidates and provide feedback. Once the commander is selected, the panel will have an ongoing relationship with the Commanding Officer evaluating their general effectiveness and engaging with the general community.
- Preliminary budget for FY22 has been released. COVID-19 has had an impact. Notably reducing tax revenue and property tax revenue. We are relying on the federal government to pass a Covid relief package that will make up for the revenue loss. Also, we need to keep an eye on cuts from the State Government that will affect NYC, especially cuts to Education, Healthcare and Medicaid.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Alexa Arcchi announced the following:

- The Assemblyman's Office has been at the FH Greenmarket on Sundays handing out masks and hand sanitizer (when available). That will continue this Sunday.
- The Assembly Member is going to partner with the Borough President's Office for a Vaccine Town Hall. The details are being finalized but Alexa will send a flyer.
- State budget hearing for Human Services Table was yesterday. He will be pushing back against any cuts to services that children and families need throughout the state.

COUNCIL MEMBER KAREN KOSLOWITZ

Michael Cohen announced:

- Council Member Koslowitz has contacted the Mayor to facilitate the opening of the West Side Tennis Club as a COVID testing site.
- Council Member Koslowitz (along with other Council Members) has asked that Senior Centers be reopened with the sole purpose of becoming vaccine sites and to assist seniors in scheduling and getting vaccines.
- Budget Requests: If any groups would like to request discretionary funding from the Council Member, the request must be submitted by February 16. If a group would like to request funding from the Queens Delegation, the request must be submitted by February 22.

- Council Member Koslowitz will be hosting a OATH (Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings) video conference on March 4, 2021 at 2:00pm
- NYC Council Intro 2186
 - o Agency with a director
 - o 10-year master plan for NYC
 - o When agencies develop policies and budgets, they should be cognizant of how it fits into this 10-year plan. If they are going to deviate from the plan, they must submit an explanation.
 - o One preferred land use scenario for each community district

QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Amparito Rosero announced that she will be the new CB6 Liaison for the Borough President's Office.

Ms. Rosero also announced the following:

- The CB Application deadline is February 19, 2021.
- There will be a Virtual Job Fair on February 18 at 2:00pm. If you are interested in attending, please rsvp by 2-17 to www.queensbp.org/rsvp.
- Small business grants are available. For more information, please visit www.queensbp.org

NYS SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR.

John D'Angelo announced the following:

- Valentine's Day Food Drive for food pantries. Food can be dropped off at the HB Office or the Middle Village Office.
- Animal Drive to collect supplies for animals such as: food, leashes, wee wee pads, etc.
- The deadline for both of these drives is February 19, 2021
- Planning an Electronics Recycling Event for March. This is tentative and more information will be forthcoming. Due to COVID, event can't be held at Forest Park with large crowds, so the materials will be dropped off at the office.
- Any questions or issues, please feel free to contact the Senator's Office.

NYC COMPTROLLER SCOTT STRINGER

Haris Khan reported the following initiatives announced by Comptroller Stringer:

- Called for NYS and NYC to expand Holocaust education and hate crime awareness and prevention in schools
- Announced a comprehensive plan for addressing food insecurity and hunger and to close the gaps in our social safety net
- Continuing the conversation around Vaccine rollout and equity issues
- Released a blueprint for strengthening public safety, transforming policing, enhancing safety, and investing in communities.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Nolan
Community Coordinator

CB 6 VOTING SHEET	ATTENDANCE	New Liquor Licenses	Renewal Liquor Licenses		
2/10/2021					
NAOMI ALTMAN	P	Y	ALL IN FAVOR		
ANISIA AYON	P	Y			
PETER BEADLE	P	Y			
MIRIAM BERFAS	P	Y			
HEIDI CHAIN	P	Y			
SHERIDAN CHU	P	Y			
ALEXANDER COHEN	P	Y			
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	P	Y			
ALEJANDRA DIAZ-HOUSTON	P	Y			
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	P	Y			
ETHAN FELDER	A	A			
GLORIA FERRERAS	P	Y			
JEREMY GOLANT	A	A			
GAIL GORDON	P	Y			
BRENDAN GRIFFITH	P	Y			
BRUCE GROSSBERG	P	Y			
RABBI MORDECHAI HECHT	A	A			
ODED HORODNICEANU	P	Y		Abstain	
MYRNA JACOBSON	P	Y			
EMANUIL KALENDAREV	A	A			
JOYCE KEVELSON	P	Y			
SOUMALY KING	P	Y			
PRAMEET KUMAR	P	Y			
MARK LASTER	P	Y			
NORMAN LEIBOWITZ	P	Y			
RALPH LEONART	P	Y			
JONATHAN LI	P	Y			
KEVIN LY	P	Y		ALL IN FAVOR	
JAMES MAKIN	P	Y			
JACK MEDINA	P	Y			
RENEE MEHRRA	A	A			
STEVEN METZ	P	Y			
PAT MORGAN	P	Y			
EDWARD MURRAY	P	Y			
RAFAEL NEKTALOV	A	A			
KARL NEUMANN	A	A			
ELIZABETH NEWTON	P	Y			
TANIA PADGETT	P	Y			
SHARI ROLNICK	P	Y			
DAVID SCHNEIER	P	Y			
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	P	Y			
JEAN SILVA	P	Y	NO		
ROBERT SILVER	P	Y			
MARSHA SILVERSTEIN	P	Y			
SUSAN WANDERMAN	P	Y			
ALEXA WEITZMAN	P	Y			
JOAN WESTON	P	Y			
EDWIN WONG	P	Y	Abstain		
TOTALS:	41 PRESENT, 7 ABSENT	41 YES, 0 NO	ALL IN FAVOR EXCEPT 1 NO AND 2 ABSTAIN		

