



The City of New York
Borough of Queens

Community Board 8

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Chairperson, Martha Taylor

District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

Minutes of Community Board 8 Board Meeting held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the Hillcrest Jewish Center, 183-02 Union Turnpike in Flushing, New York.

Attendance:

Board Members Present:

Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Robert H. Block, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., John Gebhard, Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Mary Maggio, Jennifer Martin, Dilip Nath, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tamara Oshero, Frances Peterson, Mohammad Rahman, Jesse Rosenbaum, Seymour Schwartz, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin and Albert Willingham.

Board Members Absent:

Dilafroz Ahmed, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Robert Harris, Tami Hirsch, Paul S. Lazauskas, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Simon Pelman, Wendy Phaff, Charlton Rhee, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Dr. Penny M. Stern, Rachele Van Arsdale, Jacob Weinberg and Stanley Weinblatt.

Others Present:

Susie Tanenbaum representing Acting Borough President Sharon Lee, Tania Padgett representing Council Member Barry Grodenchik, Barbara Baruch representing State Senator John Liu, Jamie Kazi representing Assemblyman David Weprin, Daniel Blech representing Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal, Hudy Rosenberg, Marie Adam-Ovide, CB8 District Manager and Jatna Reyes, CB8 Staff Member.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Martha Taylor called this Board Meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Public Participation:

Marc A. Haken – Mr. Haken [Chair of the CB8 Youth, Education & Library Committee] has coordinated a set of sessions for Rabbi Kogan to speak about hate and anti-Semitism. This was done as per Rabbi Kogan’s request, from the January 15th Board Meeting, to be invited to places in the community to educate the public on this. On Thursday, March 26th, Rabbi Kogan will be speaking to the students of Thomas Edison High School. There will be two sessions: 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. On Friday, March 13th, Mr. Haken will be at I.S. 217 in Briarwood to speak with the Principal of the school to coordinate and have Rabbi Kogan speak there as well.

James Gallagher Jr. – Mr. Gallagher Jr. mentioned that the New York City Water Board adopted a resolution approving the increase to the charges for water and sewer service line protection plans. An increase of \$66.84 for the annual charge of water and an increase charge of \$114.60 for sewer service line plans have been applied. This increase has been effective since January 6, 2020.

Noel Nathoue – Mr. Nathoue is from Parsons Community School. He invited everyone to their annual Health Fair which will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Queens School of Inquiry located at 158-40 76th Road in Flushing. For more information, please call: 718-820-0760.

Daniel Blech – Mr. Blech announced that the Notice of Property Value Session scheduled for Thursday, March 12th at the Kew Garden Hills Library has been cancelled. This is being done as a precautionary measure for the Coronavirus. They will have a Paper Shredding Event on Sunday, March 22nd from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Archbishop Molloy High School [83-53 Manton Street]. On Tuesday, March 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., they will be offering Census 2020 Questionnaire Assistance for residents at their District Office [159-06 71st Avenue]. On Friday, March 13th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at P.S. 165 [70-35 150th Street], they will have a Mobile Care Clinic offering FREE mammograms and clinical breast exams. Appointment is required. Please call: 718-969-1508 or 877-628-9090 for more information.

Salute to the Flag

Chairperson Martha Taylor led the salute to the flag.

Approval of Minutes:

At the time of attendance, there was not a quorum; therefore, Chairperson Martha Taylor asked that the approval of the minutes be deferred.

Chairperson Martha Taylor introduced Guest Speaker Tejumade “Teju” Ajaiyeoba, Acting Director of the Bureau of Community Affairs at the Department of Health.

Guest Speaker:

Tejumade “Teju” Ajaiyeoba – Ms. Ajaiyeoba gave a brief overview on the Coronavirus. She explained that the information being provided may not be accurate as information is changing rapidly. The information she provided us with was accurate as of 3:00 p.m. today. These are some of the main highlights of her presentation:

- Coronaviruses: a set of viruses which run from mild to a common cold. This may include something more severe, like a pneumonia.
- What they are dealing with now is a “Novel Coronavirus”. It is referred to as “Novel” because it is new. It has been abbreviated to COVID-19.
- Some of the symptoms associated with this virus are fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- As of now, there is no treatment for the virus. There is no vaccine. They cannot say when there will be one available since it has to go through a series of studies and trials. This may take months or years.
- If someone tests positive for this virus, they will remain on the health facility to receive treatment and be monitored.
- In terms of prevention, the agency suggest that individuals cover their coughs and sneezes. Use your elbows or sleeves, not your hands. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds. Wash hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your face. Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Make sure you wipe down surfaces with disinfecting wipes. They have received a lot of questions on how long the virus stays on surfaces. It may be for hours or days. This is something they are not sure of yet. It also depends on the type of surface it is and environment.
- The effectiveness of masks is also being questioned. Masks are only effective for people who are sick. It helps you prevent from spreading germs and getting others sick. However, if a healthy individual wears a mask, it would not protect you from getting the virus or getting sick. There are several people who are wearing masks, this does not mean they are infected with the virus.
- Unfortunately, this outbreak has also caused a lot of people to be stigmatized and harassed. The agency is working on an anti-stigma campaign to try to alleviate some of the stress and pressure that a lot of people are going through. If you know anyone who is undergoing stigma, they can text “Human Rights” to 311 to get assistance.
- To get more information about the virus, they are advising everyone to text: COVID to 692-692. You will receive updates and remain informed throughout the day. This has been created by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM).

During the presentation, several concerns were raised by the Board Members. The following is a re-cap of the questions and the responses received:

Marc A. Haken – You said to wipe down surfaces. Wipe surfaces with what?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – You can wipe the surfaces down with disinfecting wipes (i.e. Clorox wipes, Lysol wipes, etc.). One thing we know about this virus is that it is very weak. It can be easily cleaned, wiped down with disinfecting wipes, washing hands and using hand sanitizers.

You said weak. I saw on Facebook that Tito’s Vodka can be used as a disinfectant. They said that for hand sanitizer to be effective, it has to have more than 60% alcohol. How weak can it be?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – It is weak enough that it can be wiped down from your hands with soap and water.

Allen Eisenstein – If you have COVID-19 and after two weeks you feel better, can you get it again?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – Unfortunately, I don’t have an answer to that question. Information is changing rapidly and we can’t say. In other countries, people who have gotten the virus have re-infected. It is on the same class as the common cold, you get it more than once. There is not a definite answer for this.

Bhithara Martha Fulton – Are there any travel restriction on people coming into this country?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – There are travel restrictions for Italy, Iran, China, Japan etc. If you come from any of these countries you are subject to be monitored. You will be asked to stay home for at least fourteen (14) days. Within this time period, your temperature will be checked daily at least twice a day. If you start to show any of the symptoms mentioned before, you will be on observation for 24-48 hours to see if they go away. If the symptoms still persist, you will be asked to contact your health care provider. They will make the decision as to whether or not you should go to the hospital. The reason why they are advising people to do this is, they don’t want people to go to hospital who are not infected. They risk getting the virus from someone else who’s infected.

Tejumade “Teju” Ajaiyeoba – Ms. Ajaiyeoba stated that if you are not feeling well to contact your health care provider immediately. If your healthcare provider feels you should go to the hospital, then testing will be done there. If you do not have health insurance, Health & Hospitals and City MD (urgent cares) will cover all costs dealing with the Coronavirus. There is no cost associated with anyone who get tested for the Coronavirus.

Bhithara Martha Fulton – I guess I should have been more specific, I have a friend who is Japanese and wants to visit. If she comes, she will have to be quarantined for two weeks?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – Yes.

Fakrul “Delwar” Islam – People are saying that if the weather gets warmer, there is less chance for the virus to stay in the air or on the surface. Is this true?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – Since this is a new virus, we don’t know for sure. A lot of people are speculating. We cannot say if this is true or not.

Mohammad Rahman – They are saying that people who are 60 and older are at big risk and can get it faster than young people and children.

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – What we have seen with this virus is...let’s compare it to the flu. Flu affects young and old people who have underlining conditions. We have seen with this virus that young people aren’t as affected by this virus. The agency’s advice to those who are 50 and older and have chronic conditions is to stay away from large gatherings. They may be subjectable to the virus. The older you are and the conditions you have (i.e. heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, etc.) we [Department of Health]want you to be more mindful of the places you go and the situations you put yourself through.

Tania Paddgett – If you know someone who has high blood pressure and they are 50+, is that considered an underlining condition?

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – Yes. They should be mindful of their activities.

Kevin Forrestal – Mr. Forrestal stated that president Trump will address the nation from the White House tonight. He will provide an update on this issue. Everyone should tune in. He may have answers to some of the questions that were unanswered including travel restrictions.

DM Adam-Ovide – **To [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] you said large gatherings. What is considered a larger gathering? 100 people? 1,000 people? 500 people?**

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – The last I heard and once again this could be different, it was 50 to 100 or more. I will double check. Everything is rapidly changing.

Fakrul “Delwar” Islam – **People/groups are scheduling events or have scheduled events for the summer. For example, next month or so. Do you think it is going to go that far or if it is better to cancel those events?**

Answer: [Ms. Ajaiyeoba] – Our guidance for today is mainly towards the elderly with chronic illness. This direction may change tomorrow or the day after. We are not asking anyone to cancel any events. There is no guidance right now from DOH on cancelling any upcoming events.

Dr. Dilip Nath – In terms of large gatherings, I just want to add that SUNY and CUNY have now gone social distant, meaning if you are sitting in a meeting you should keep 3 ft. of distance from person to person.

Maria DeInnocentiis – Ms. DeInnocentiis mentioned that CDC’s definition of large gathering is anything more than 25 people.

Chairperson Martha Taylor mentioned to everyone that since information is changing rapidly to be on the lookout for news on TV and social media to keep informed.

Chairperson Martha Taylor introduced Guest Speaker Elizabeth Sofield, Program Director, NY foundation for Senior Citizens and Doraine Zhong, Government Affairs Officer for the Department for the Aging.

Doraine Zhong, Government Affairs Officer, DFTA – Ms. Zhong announced that the agency just launched a new information center for seniors. It is called, “Aging Connect”. Aging Connect is the City’s direct link to aging services. For more information, please call: 212-AGING-NYC (212-244-6469) to speak with an aging specialist and learn about services and supports available for older adults and their caregivers, and volunteer opportunities.

Elizabeth Sofield, Program Director, NY Foundation for Seniors Citizens – Ms. Sofield spoke about the Home Sharing program. She explained how the program works and who qualifies for it. These are some of the main highlights of her presentation:

- This program was established in 1968. It is a program that connects adults “hosts” with extra private spaces in their homes or apartments with appropriate adult “guests” to share their space.
- At least, one of the share mates has to be 60 years old or older. The other has to be 18 years old and over. Both can be over 60 years old as well.
- A “host” is a person who has a spare bedroom in their private home or apartment willing to share it with someone in order to share costs.
- The guest is on a monthly contribution. They are not on a lease, they are on a licensed agreement. If the “host” is 60 or older, they can have guests of any age move in with them because they are the ones who are 60 and over.
- If the “host” own the home they can ask for any kind of contribution from the guest. If they rent the home, they are limited as to how much contribution they can ask from the guest.
- They go through a screening process: background check, photo I.D., proof of income, etc. They have social workers who conduct social visits to make sure that the homes are suitable for the guests.
- They conduct interviews for all the guests at their main office in Manhattan to find out what their needs are and to be able to match them with a compatible “host”.

- Last year, they did 48 matches which is 96 people in total. They serve the five boroughs, Long Island and Westchester. Pamphlets with information were left at the table.

During the presentation, several concerns were raised by the Board Members. The following is a re-cap of the questions and the responses received:

Rabbi Nisanov – What if you don’t like the person after they move in?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – Luckily, we have not had a situation like this before. This is why we go through the matching process to make sure everyone is compatible to live together. If there is an issue, they have what they call a 30-day written notice which is created by their pro-bono lawyer explaining the moving out process. There are many other reasons why people move out or end their license agreement (i.e. out of state, saving money to get their own place, etc.).

Is there any limit on how much I can ask them to pay?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – If you own the home, you can ask for whatever you like. Our social workers will speak with the guests prior. For example, if you live in Eastern Queens, Springfield Gardens, Jamaica, etc. and you ask for \$1,000 + of course the guest may not be able to pay that. In most cases, hosts ask for 50% of what they pay.

Can you choose if you want to live with a male or female?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – We ask for all those questions. When we interview the guest we ask them for their preference before doing the match.

DM Adam-Ovide – Do you also check that the prospective ‘tenant’ can actually afford it? That they are making enough money?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – Yes. We ask them for proof of income from all sources (i.e. current job, social security, pension, retirement, etc.). We will not offer a guest to a hosts that won’t be able to meet the monthly contribution.

Marc A. Haken – Marie [DM Adam-Ovide] used the word tenant, there was a new state law where when you want to start an eviction process it would no longer be a 30-day notice. It will now be a 90-day notice. Does that fall under your purview also?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – That is a good question. No, this is not a tenant and landlord situation because the guests are not on a lease. They are on a license agreement. We use the 30-day written notice.

Carolyn Baker-Brown – Have you considered or will you consider having a homeless person in that program?

Answer: [Ms. Sofield] – We do not turn anyone away. If they come to us and are able to provide us with proof of income, then they can integrate into the program. They will interview them and match them with a host.

Chairperson Martha Taylor thanked Ms. Sofield for her presentation and proceeded to the approval of the minutes, as we now had a quorum.

Approval of Minutes:

Marc A. Haken made a motion to approve the minutes of February 12, 2020, seconded by Jesse Rosenbaum.

Count in favor **27** Opposed: **0** Abstained: **0**

Chairperson’s Report – Martha Taylor:

- Condolences to Mary Maggio on the passing of her daughter, Lauren.
- The Community Board office needs to have a contact person and telephone number for each Board Member in case of an emergency. The information will be kept confidential at the office.

District Manager's Report, March 2020

Buildings

In January 2020, we had 30 complaints less than January 2019. In February, the number of complaints were about the same as last year.

The Department of Buildings attended the Jamaica Estates Association's Forum. It was a great event and the agency appreciated receiving questions in advance. They were able to get inspections done ahead of time and come to the meeting with answers. They also had an event with Assembly Member Daniel Rosenthal.

So far, they are keeping the part-time inspector dedicated to community boards and elected officials busy. They had over 100 locations inspected since the pilot started officially in February. He encourages the public to attend the DOB's Customer Service Night on Tuesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please try to get there no later than 6:30 p.m. to allow enough time for the staff to address your issues.

Fire Department

There has been a stark decrease in most areas from year to date, as compared to 2019. This is probably due to the very mild winter that we are having

Structural Fires	61	9 less than 2019
Non-Structural Fires	25	8 less than 2019
Total Fires	86	47 less than 2019
Medical Emergencies	534	500 less than 2019
Total Incidents	1,062	935 less than last year

They have a class of 300 that will graduate in two weeks. A new class will start shortly after with 200 students.

The Fire Department has a corona virus respond protocol. When a call is made to 911 with Corona Virus type of symptom hazmat ambulance specializing in that type of response. It will have less responders. Certain hospitals that has been pre-determined to accept patients.

Department of Environmental Protection – The agency will have its annual summer internship program. There are 64 internships available. The deadline to apply is April 3rd and it can be done online. The agency has been doing its anti-idling campaign featuring Billy Idol.

Aging

The Department for the Aging launched its new Service Referral Unit/Call Center recently. The number is (212) AGINGNYC (244-6469). We have some flyers on the table.

Parks

A recent inspection of Briarwood Playground was done. There is a new sprinkler system there that must be tested. They were supposed to open in April.

The Redwood Playground construction has been an ongoing issue. The original completion date was supposed to be in the fall of last year. The contract is in default. DDC has been working with the contractor to get the project completed. Hopefully it will be open this fall.

Francis Lewis Boulevard service road into the park has potholes and Parks cannot repair them. DOT has been asked to assist Parks in fixing them.

Department of Transportation

The MTA Bus Re-design is on the way. This is being done mainly by the MTA. DOT's role is to offer support on the corridors have been established. They will look to do priority signals to address traffic, bus lanes, bus queue jumps near the intersection.

A few months ago, six of the seven locations submitted by Sanitation [also recommended by CB8] have been reviewed and approved for daylighting. We should receive the DOT response letters soon.

Sanitation

The agency is getting ready for Passover. We are planning to have the following locations for the Chometz Stations:

- Young Israel of Holliswood
- Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills
- Young Israel of Jamaica Estates
- Congregation Ohr Moshe
- Young Israel of Queens Valley
- Young Israel of Hillcrest

So far, the **Young Israel of Queens Valley [141-55 77th Avenue]** has been **confirmed**. We should have all locations confirmed next week. We will have the information on our website and in our April Newsletter.

NYC Commission on Human Rights

The Commission started a Youth for Equity and Solidarity (YES) Program for youth 13 to 21 years old. They can apply online to join a council of young leaders. The council will meet bi-monthly and will address human rights issues that affect the youth. This program will start in late spring and they can apply right now at:

<https://cchrpublicportal.powerappsportals.us/cchr-youth-council/>

Due to the rise of anti-Semitic incidents that occurred in New York, the Commission started a citywide public education effort. You have might have seen some advertisements in public spaces stating, "Jewish New Yorkers belong here!" If you believe you have encountered anti-Semitic harassment, please call the Commission for Human rights call 311.

Police

We have a new Chief of Patrol, Fausto Pichardo. He will have a meet and greet meeting on Mach 23rd at St. Francis Prep. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. He will also discuss the expansion of the NCO Program. He encourages the community to attend.

Office of Civic Engagement Commission (NEW)

This is the new office that was created following the recent NYC Charter Revision (2018) with the following mandate:

- Develop and implement the Participatory Budget Program
- Develop and implement the Poll Site Interpretation Program – by 2022
- Develop a Citywide Engagement Strategy with city agencies, private sector and Community Based organizations (CBOS)
- Work closely with the Community Boards to offer technological support and training.

On July 1st, they will have a report on their plan for Participatory Budget implementation. Please visit their website at www.nyc.gov/cec.



Happy Birthday to Board Members: Michael Hannibal, Dilip Nath, Harbachan Singh

Marie Adam-Ovide

During the District Manager's Report, Rabbi Nisanov asked for his Shul to be included in the Chometz Burning Station celebration. They will like to participate this year for the first time. He will be contacted for arrangement.

Borough President’s Representative – Susie Tanenbaum

- Ms. Tanenbaum informed us that Acting Borough President Lee is on her way. She will speak to the board as soon as she arrives.
- She offered condolences to Board Member Mary Maggio on the passing of her daughter.
- The Borough President’s Office together with Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz hosted a Black history Month event at Borough Hall on February 26th. She thanked Board Member Marc Haken and Harbachan Singh for being part of the event. It was a great event.
- Board Member Delwar inquired about the cancellation/postponement of events being held at Borough Hall this month. Ms. Tanenbaum stated that as of now the only event that is cancelled is the College Fair that was scheduled for tomorrow. All other events, if cancelled, will be announced through their website or via email.

Committee Reports:

Queens Complete Count Committee (QCCC) – Kevin Forrestal

- **Census 2020** – Mr. Forrestal informed us that starting tomorrow, March 12th, mailers will go out to individual’s household to fill out the Census.
- At their last QCCC meeting, there were presentations on what the Library system is doing to assist in the NYC Census department is doing process and what New York State. All this information will be sent to the Board Members in an email once received.
- He encouraged everyone to fill out the Census. He wants to make sure everyone gets counted. He reminded everyone that the information that they provide is confidential and it is prohibited by law from being distributed.
- Also, someone in Brooklyn who works for the Census stated that the Queens Complete Count Committee is the best one in the City.

Parks Committee

Bhitihara Martha Fulton, Chair – The Parks Committee met on February 18, 2020 to discuss a proposal from the NYC Soccer Initiative and the creation of mini soccer fields in several playgrounds in our District. Also, to review the Flushing Meadow Corona Park Meadow Lake paths project. These are some of the highlights of the proposal:

- The Mayor’s Fund to Advance New York City, is a not-for-profit organization committed to promoting partnerships between the City and the private sector in support of high impact public programs. This initiative is a five-year initiative that is privately funded with a \$3M in funds.
- They will not be regulated. One group cannot dominate a group by signing up for a permit. They will not be issued. This is an initiative for the neighborhood to connect more.
- The goal is to install 50 soccer pitches with free programming and maintenance fund or \$600,000 dollars. These areas have not been utilized and the space can be used for this purpose. This program will operate 24 weeks out of the year.
- The proposed pitch areas for Community Board 8: Utopia Playground, Pomonok Playground/P.S. 201, Fresh Meadows Playground/P.S. 173Q. They all sit in an empty area of yard which is not really being utilized. The installation process will take about three to six weeks.
- Letters of support were received from the PTA and the Principal of P.S. 173Q. At the meeting, there were 5 Board Members present and all voted in favor. They all came to a consensus that this be presented to the full Board for a vote as well.

Marc A. Haken made a motion to approve the installation of three (3) mini soccer fields within unused sections of the school yards of the aforementioned playgrounds seconded by Sey Schwartz.

Discussion:

Maria DeInnocentiss – Ms. DeInnocentiss stated that Utopia Playground is not a school yard.

Answer: [Mr. Haken] – Be it moved that the mini soccer fields be installed at the two school yards and the playground before mentioned. It is not on the grassy area, it will be on the concrete area.

To [Ms. Fulton] – You mentioned that they are not going to permit. So, it's just going to be opened to the public. How do you avoid fights and conflicts? In Cunningham Park when you want to use a picnic table, you have to get a permit of its use.

Answer: [Ms. Fulton] – It is a thought but I think the idea of not having permitted, is to have the children come and play rather than having fights. The NY Football club is going to dominate this one mini soccer field. This is what has happened in other sports events.

Marc A. Haken – Mr. Haken stated that permits are no longer needed to use picnic areas in Cunningham Park.

Answer: [Ms. DeInnocentiis] – I just used it as an example.

Chairperson Martha Taylor asked for a hand vote.

Count in favor **25**

Opposed: **2**

Abstained: 0

Board Members against: Maria DeInnocentiis and Albert Willingham.

Flushing Meadow Corona Park – Meadow Lake NW Path Project – This project is a \$3.72M budget. The goal is to simplify and clarify existing pedestrian circulation, reduce the impacts of frequent flooding, improve entrances at the pedestrian bridges and create safe crossings at pedestrians/vehicular intersections. A motion was made at the meeting to approve the plans for this project to be done at Flushing Meadow Corona Park.

Acting Borough President Sharon Lee arrived at the meeting. Chairperson Martha Taylor asked her to address the Board and say a few words.

Honorable Acting Borough President Sharon Lee – Borough President Lee took the time to thank the full Board for their support during her transition as acting Borough President. She has enjoyed this journey and is forever grateful with the Borough of Queens for the support given during this time. She reminded everyone that we have special elections coming up. There are four opportunities for everyone to vote:

- **March 24th** – Special Election where a new Borough President will be chosen [early voting begins March 14th].
- **April 2020** – Presidential primary.
- **June 2020** – A local primary where a vote will be taken again for Borough Presidents and State Legislators.
- **November 2020** – President Election where we elect our next President of the United States.

She encouraged everyone to fill out the Census 2020. It is very important. It is our opportunity to have our voices heard. All information collected is kept confidential and it is prohibited by law from being distributed. It is also easy to fill out since it can be done online. They will be tracking the responses in real time.

Chairperson Martha Taylor thanked Acting Borough President Lee for coming and thanked her for being a great interim Borough President for the Borough of Queens..

Adjournment

Mary Maggio made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:41 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jatnna Reyes, CB8 staff
March 17, 2020*