



Donovan Richards
Queens Borough President

Community Board No. 2

43-22 50th Street, 2nd Floor
Woodside, New York 11377

(718) 533-8773

Fax (718-533-8777

Email qn02@cb.nyc.gov

www.nyc.gov/queenscb2

Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson
Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

September 17th, 2024
Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee
This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Attendees:

Karesia Batan, Chair
Eric Narburgh, Vice Chair
Ann Marie Baranowski
Akello Thomas

Absentees:

Anatole Ashraf
Kat Bloomfield
Stephen Cooper
Kenny Greenberg
Lisa Charles
Ryan Smith

Edjo Wheeler – Public Member

Guests:

Kristen Robinson, Queens Lighting Collective
Dirk McCall, Sunnyside Shines BID
Molly Kurzius, MoMA PS 1
Jose Ortiz, MoMA PS 1
Cheryl – Sculpture Center
Angel Gil Orrios - Thalia Spanish Theatre
Andre Irving, Cucala Dance Company
Nancy Bruno – LIC Artists
Isabella Teen Art Salon

Community Board 2:

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Karesia Batan welcomed everyone to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee meeting.

Karesia Batan introduced Krit Robinson of the Queens Lighting Collective.

- Krit Robinson shared how Queens Lighting Collective and di Domenico and Partners (the architectural firm associated with the project) got involved with the lighting installation in Sabba Park and the public art process.
- The Urban Design Forum had the grant for this project.
- The root of the project is to explore public space from the community level and to examine both existing conditions and to think about the future of the space.

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

- The three major outcomes of the project were: The lighting installation which is up until October, 2024, public activation in the space, a vision plan and a larger public space activation.
- Krit Robinson shared a presentation with the committee. (*presentation #1 attached*)
- Sabba Park was chosen for the lighting installation as it's the entry way into Sunnyside.
- Sabba Park is located at 48th Street and Queens Blvd.
- The design is a theme of wanting to see more light and creating a sense of safety.
- Queens Lighting Collective worked closely with the NYC Parks Department.
- The installation is run on solar energy received during the day. It turns on at 7pm.
- The permitting process with the parks department was not that complicated in terms of paperwork, however, depending on the size of the installation, safety is a concern.
- Krit Robinson shared a link <https://www.nycgovparks.org/art-and-antiquities/art-in-the-parks>
- Krit Robinson shared with the committee in detail the steps of this installation.
- The fee for the application is \$60 and the turnaround in knowing if accepted was two months.

Karesia Batan introduced Molly Kurzius and Jose Ortiz, Deputy Director, of MoMA PS 1

- Molly Kurzius shared a presentation of all the Fall Programming for 2024 (*presentation #2 attached*)
- The return of the Halloween Ball will be on October 25th Night at the Museum.
- Molly Kurzius spoke in detail about each exhibition.
- The Ralph Lemon exhibition opening in November will be their largest exhibition including all mediums.
- After the Fire Mural Project has been worked on for two years and will be opened next week.
- <https://www.momaps1.org/en/programs/12-after-the-fire>
- Neighbor Night will be on October 21st, 2024 Co-hosted by NYC Council Member Julie Won.
- MoMA PS 1 is free for all New Yorkers all the time.
- Molly Kurzius can be reached at molly_kurzius@moma.org

Karesia Batan gave an update on DCLA funding:

- The recent cycle is up for renewal if you received a multi-year award.
- https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=x2_1MoFflk6pWxXaZIE77zSZB_943chNgvGSFAV8pIpUOUVMNzBZVUgwUEI4SFI1MzM2TTBTskdJQIQIQCNO0PWcu&route=shorturl

Karesia Batan gave an update on LIC DRI:

- The state awarded LIC a \$10million grant to revitalize Long Island City.

- They are getting ready to allocate these funds.
- A neighborhood committee has been formed.
- There was an open call process where a lot projects of were submitted.
- The projects being considered and the meetings can be viewed on the website www.licdri.com

Announcements:

Angel Gil Orrios – He announced Hispanic Heritage Month started two days ago. Thalia Spanish Theatre has a new comedy. The theatre has six productions per year. More information can be found at <https://thaliatheatre.org/>

Ann Marie Baranowski gave an update on the Bliss Theatre. Ann Marie Baranowski shared that the theatre was not granted landmark status. She also shared the Link to the Future of Public Space and Art Series at the Center for Architecture <https://lnkd.in/eqiYkAaP>

Isabella Teen Art Salon no announcement at this time.

Nancy Bruno – LIC Artists. More information can be found at <https://www.licartists.org/> Two open calls – one is for off the wall exhibition apply by October 14, 2024; second open call for ceramics apply by October 15th, 2024.

Andre Cucula Dance Company – second year anniversary in the neighborhood. The next big event is October 5th, 2024, the Mambo King Eddie Torres will do a quick workshop and a Q and A. Visit www.cucaladance.com for more information.

Edjo Wheeler – Culture Lab LIC. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday free outdoor concerts until the end of October. Bodies in Motion is a new exhibition. Culture Lab in partnership with Queensboro Dance Festival and MoMA PS1 among other local organizations are working with the LICP on coordinating a monthly arts and culture newsletter which will go to all the apartment buildings in the neighborhood informing the community of all events. Information can be found about this newsletter on the LIC Partnership website. Edjo Wheeler shared that a pickle court will be opening in their area and they are looking for a muralist. More information on exhibits can be found at <https://www.culturelablic.org/>

Dirk McCall – www.tasteofsunnyside.com

Cheryl, Sculpture Center. Sculpture Center has an opening tomorrow night on Wed, Sep 18, 6-8pm for our fall shows - "Álvaro Urbano: TABLEAU VIVANT" and "In Practice: Bastien Gachet" More information can be found at <https://www.sculpture-center.org/events/14045/fall-2024-openings>

Karesia Batan mentioned if anyone from the cultural organizations would like to become a public member now is the time to apply.

Karesia Batan mentioned to the committee that during this year she would like the Arts and Cultural Committee to work closely with the Small Business and Local Economy Committee. Arts and cultural events benefit the community. Karesia mentioned seeing more murals on the closing gates of businesses.

Karesia Batan thanked everyone for their attendance at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kim Waber