



Donovan Richards
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Anatole Ashraf

Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert

District Manager

June 10th, 2024

Health and Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee

Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Attendees:

Lauren Springer, Chair
Amparo Abel-Bey, Vice Chair
Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

Absentees:

Warren Davis
Nellie Afshar
Danielle Brecker
John Bahia
Benjamin Lucas
Thomas Mituzas
Leticia Vasquez

Andrea Thomas -Public Member

Atanu Majumdar – Public Member

Julie Chou – Public Member

Guest

J.R. Cehonski, LGBT Network

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert

Lauren Springer, Chair Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Lauren Springer introduced J.R. Cehonski from the LGBT Queens Center.

- J.R. Cehonski is the Regional Director of the LGBT Queens Center and has been working there for 6 years.
- The LGBT Network is the home and voice for LGBT people of all ages, their families and support systems.
- The organization was founded in 1993.
- There are currently 4 locations. One in Astoria and three on Long Island.
- They have 40+ groups each month (virtual and in-person). The calendar can be found at www.lgbtnetwork.org/calendar

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

- In addition to the group meetings they have a food pantry, an enrichment series and transcend workshops.
- Every November 20th there is a Trans Day of Remembrance and on March 31st of every year there is a Trans Day of Visibility.
- Transcend Services can be found at <https://www.timetap.com/book/QCenter>
- LGBT Network has referrals and linkages with other participants.
- Community Education for faculty and students are free. The LGBT Queens Network is a vendor with NYC DOE.
- There is an Annual Youth Summit for middle and high school students throughout NYC talking about LGBT issues for young people.
- J.R. Cehonski spoke about the different workshops in their community education programs.
- He spoke about their annual events.
- The National Coming Out campaign date is always on October 11th. LGBT Queens Network works with businesses and schools distributing ribbons.
- For more information visit www.lgbtnetwork.org
- Social media, outreach, and word of mouth is how people would find out about this organization.
- The LGBT Queens Network trains staff and visits schools every year regarding bullying.
- The LGBT Queens Network does not have a senior group. They work with Queens Community House who runs Queens Center for seniors. However, all programs are open to all ages.
- A question was asked if the network provides training for homecare workers who care for those of the LGBT community.
 - The Network does provide training.

New Business

Lauren Springer announced Amparo Abel-Bey will now be a Vice Chair on the Health & Human Services and Education and Unhoused & Shelter Committee.

Lauren Springer thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Waber