



*The City of New York*  
*Borough of Queens*



Chairperson, Martha Taylor

**Community Board 8**

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

Minutes of Community Board 8 Board Meeting held on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the Hillcrest Jewish Center, 183-02 Union Turnpike in Flushing, New York.

**Attendance:**

**Board Members Present:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tamara Osherov, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members Absent:**

Robert H. Block, Monica Corbett, Paul S. Lazauskas, Jennifer Martin, Simon Pelman, Frances Peterson and Rachele Van Arsdale.

**Others Present:**

Jessica Douglas, representing Mayor Bill de Blasio, Elain Tan representing NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, Susie Tanenbaum representing Borough President Melinda Katz, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Ari Gershman representing Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Masis Sarkissian representing Councilman Rory Lancman, Amir Abbady representing State Senator Leroy Comrie, Marilla Li representing Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, Assemblyman David Weprin, Muhammad Rahman representing Assemblyman David Weprin, Marie Adam-Ovide, CB8 District Manager and Alma Karassavidis, CB8 staff member.

**Call to Order:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz called this Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Public Participation:**

**Ruthie Campbell** – She is with Greater NY Road Runners and wanted to let everyone know about “Open Run” which launched on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Cunningham Park. They meet every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. at Cunningham Park. She, invited everyone to Cunningham Park to participate in Global Running Day, which begins at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. To participate, go to [www.globalrunningday.org](http://www.globalrunningday.org)

**Ari Gershman** – Offered his personal congratulations in advance to our expected, new chairperson. Councilmember Grodenchik is on his way and will be here soon.

**Allen Eisenstein** – Reminded everyone about the annual Community Board Breakfast at the Queens Zoo on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. He mentioned that he has some free tickets to any Queens Zoo event. Please see him after the meeting.

**Bruno Mejia** – Informed the community about the opening of NCR Queens Urgent Care, located at 178-11 Union Turnpike. They are open from 8:00 a.m. to Midnight, 7 days a week. The facility accepts all major insurances as well as Medicare and Medicaid. Call (718) 480-1233 for more information.

**Ahuva Fried** – Ms. Fried is a licensed Social Worker with the Medicaid Advisory Group. They are located in Manhattan, but they service the five boroughs. It is a consulting firm that assists and represents seniors in becoming eligible for Medicaid and maximizing their entitlements. For further information contact them at (646) 745-9122, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. or online at [www.MedicaidAdvisoryGroup.com](http://www.MedicaidAdvisoryGroup.com)

**Neil Kramer** – Spoke for the residents who live near the shopping mall on Kissena Boulevard and Parsons Boulevard . It was abandoned for years and is now thriving. For the people who live in the area, the only entrance to the stores is through the parking lot. There is no access to the stores from Kissena Boulevard.

**Jessica Douglas** – She is the Queens Borough Director for Mayor de Blasio, Community Affairs Unit. They are kicking off a month long campaign to inform seniors of the NYC Rent Freeze Program called SCRIE [*Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption*]. This program freezes rent and allows eligible seniors to be exempt from future rent increases. She also reported that the first lady is currently in Washington, D.C. discussing her mental health initiatives and how they can help make a more successful New York City.

**Sylvia Hernandez** – Queens College will be celebrating their 92<sup>nd</sup> Commencement on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to attend. Just note that it will be a little bit crowded. LaGuardia Community College will also host its commencement on Queens College grounds on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The Peruvian community will be holding their elections at Queens College on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Masis Sarkissian** – Informed everyone about a few upcoming events. Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> is Briarwood Family Day at Manton Playground, Manton Street and Main Street; on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a Jamaica Hills Family Day at Captain Tilly Park, 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 165<sup>th</sup> Street; and on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> they will have Fresh Meadows Family Day at Utopia Playground, Utopia Parkway and 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. All Family Day events will be from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Amir Abbaddy** – There will be two Rain Barrel Giveaways; one at St. John’s University (Gate 6) in partnership with Assemblyman David Weprin and Council Member Rory Lancman on Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The second one is in partnership with Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, Assemblyman David Weprin and Councilman Barry Grodenchik at Cunningham Park on July 10, 2016. You can reserve a barrel by calling one of their offices.

**Mohammed Rahman** – Assemblyman David Weprin has partnered with Senator Leroy Comrie and Council Member Rory Lancman to have a Rain Barrel Giveaway event on Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at St. John’s University (Gate 6). The second one is in partnership with Assemblywoman Nily Rozic and Councilman Barry Grodenchik at Cunningham Park (Union Turnpike and 196th Place) on July 10, 2016.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Allen Bennett made a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2016, seconded by Mark J. Lefkof.

**Count in favor**      37                        **Opposed:**      0                        **Abstained:**      0  

**Board Members who approved the minutes:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley,

Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tamara Osherov, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin and Jacob Weinberg.

**Board Members who did not approve the minutes:**

None

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz introduced Len Shaier, Engineer with Quiet Skies who gave a presentation on Flight Pattern Changes and Airplane Noise

**Guest Speaker:**

**Len Shaier – Engineer – Quiet Skies**

*(Mr. Shaier did a Power Point presentation on the Overview of the Aircraft Noise and Pollution Issues in the New York Metro Area. The following is a brief summary of the lengthy presentation).*

**Mr. Shaier stated that the goal is to explain the recent increases in aircraft noise and pollution in the metro area and explain why residents must help in the fight to reduce aircraft noise and pollution:**

- He summarized the two FAA programs that are currently impacting our environment; Airspace Redesign and NextGen.
- Introduced the Metroplex concept.
- Explained the Day Night Average Noise Level (DNL) noise metric and showed its usage.
- Briefly discussed noise monitors and their purpose.
- Showed the number of people already living in an unhealthy environment due to aircraft operations and may already be entitled to mitigation.
- Summarized recent research on the impact of aircraft flights on health.
- Reviewed the Status of Roundtable and Part 150 Study.

***[For the full PowerPoint presentation go to the link below]:***

**[https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=http://quietskies.net/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/improved-generic-web.pdf&hl=en\\_US](https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=http://quietskies.net/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/improved-generic-web.pdf&hl=en_US)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz asked Mark Lefkof to begin the Elections for the Executive Officers**

**Mark Lefkof** – In accordance with the By-Laws of CB8, nominations were held at the April meeting for the positions of Chairperson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. In accordance with the By-Laws, elections are held for these positions. There will be a roll call vote for each nomination.

Nomination for Chairperson – Martha Taylor. A roll call vote was taken.

**Count in favor**    41                      **Opposed:**    1                      **Abstained:**    0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Osherov,

Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members against:**

Florence Fisher

*Martha Taylor was elected Chairperson of Community Board 8.*

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Nomination for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair is Stanley Weinblatt. A roll call vote was taken.

**Count in favor**    42                      **Opposed:**    0                      **Abstained:**    0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Osheroov, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members against:**

None

*Stanley Weinblatt was elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair of Community Board 8.*

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Nomination for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair is Seymour Schwartz. A roll call vote was taken.

**Count in favor**    38                      **Opposed:**    4                      **Abstained:**    0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Osheroov, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members against:**

Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Marc A. Haken and Douglas Sherman.

*Seymour Schwartz was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair of Community Board 8*

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Nomination for 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair is Michael Hannibal. A roll call vote was taken.

**Count in favor**    42                      **Opposed:**    0                      **Abstained:**    0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley,

Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul "Delwar" Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Oshero, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members against:**

None

*Michael Hannibal was elected 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair of Community Board 8*

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*Nomination for Treasurer is Harbachan Singh. A roll call vote was taken.*

**Count in favor** 38                      **Opposed:** 4                      **Abstained:** 0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Fakrul "Delwar" Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Oshero, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg and Stanley Weinblatt.

**Board Members against:**

Maria DeInnocentiis, Florence Fisher, Tami Hirsch and Albert Willingham.

*Harbachan Singh was re-elected Treasurer of Community Board 8*

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*Nomination for Secretary is Carolyn Baker-Brown. A roll call vote was taken.*

**Count in favor** 41                      **Opposed:** 1                      **Abstained:** 0

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul "Delwar" Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tammy Oshero, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg and Stanley Weinblatt.

**Board Members against:**

Albert Willingham

*Carolyn Baker-Brown was re-elected Secretary of Community Board 8*

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*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz congratulated all the newly elected and re-elected Executive Officers of CB8 and relinquished his seat to the new CB8 Chairperson, Martha Taylor. (All present applauded the new Chairperson).*

**Chairperson Martha Taylor** – She thanked everyone for their support. She stated that it will be very tough to follow Alvin Warshaviak after 25 years. He has done an amazing job as the Chair of CB8. She promised to do her best to keep this Board as wonderful as it has always been with everyone’s support.

**Chairperson’s Report:**

- Chairperson Martha Taylor mentioned the shooting at St. John’s earlier today. She believed it was a robbery or attempted robbery. Carolann Foley was asked to update us on this incident.
- The 107th Precinct and 107th Precinct Community Council is having a Crime Prevention, Community Outreach Night on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the 107th Precinct Parking Lot.

**Carolann Foley** – Ms. Foley stated that it was a robbery. Three (3) people were apprehended. A gun and a knife were found. Everyone is safe; nobody was hurt. A shot was fired, but the bullet exited through a chair next to a wall in one of the student dorms. They are just wrapping it up now at the District Attorney’s office. Thankfully everyone is okay.

**Marc A. Haken** – Marc reminded everyone that on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> all were invited to the Anti-Bullying Event being held at Parsons Community School, 158-40 76<sup>th</sup> Road. It will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be speakers, workshops, raffles, prizes and food.

**Susan Cleary** – On Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Flushing Meadow Park Wildlife Conservancy will be holding Jurassic Dinosaur Day for children at the **Jurassic Playground** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The conservancy will be having face-painting, crafts, and activities for kids of all ages. Come in your dinosaur costume or your favorite dino shirt!

***Chairperson Martha Taylor acknowledged Elected Officials Assemblyman David Weprin and Councilman Barry Grodenchik and invited them to say a few words.***

**Assemblyman David Weprin** – Wanted to be the first to present the new CB8 Chair with her first official recognition as being Chair of CB8. (*Chairperson Martha Taylor was presented with a Proclamation by Assemblyman Weprin.*) Assemblyman Weprin said that Martha Taylor and the Weprin family go back many years. He added that Martha worked for his father, the late Assemblyman Saul Weprin for a number of years. She has been a resident of CB8 for many years and has done so much in this community. Martha has been involved in City and State government for so many years. She has been a leader in community service with the Jamaica Estates Association and is a founding member of The Friends of Cunningham Park. She has worked for a number of NYC Mayors as a legislative community liaison. He joined with colleague, Councilman Barry Grodenchik to present an official Assembly Proclamation to new Chair, Martha Taylor. Martha has been the Democratic District Co-Leader of the Saul Weprin Democratic Club for over ten (10) years. Congratulations Martha!

**Councilman Barry Grodenchik** – Councilman Grodenchik started by telling everyone how long they have known each other and how they met. Martha worked for Saul Weprin and Councilman Grodenchik worked for Nettie Meyersohn. He stated that it was bittersweet when our dear friend Alvin stepped down. He told him that he has done his share and now is the time for a new chapter in life. He has absolutely every confidence that Martha will be a great leader. He wanted to go on record saying “I voted against the bag tax, the zoning and the mandatory inclusionary housing”. This board and all the boards he represents were almost unanimously opposed. “So you *can* fight City Hall”! He reminded Martha that she has accomplished something that he has yet to accomplish. She is running a City agency now. Each Community Board is a City agency. He stated, “Congratulations Madame Chair on another unpaid job”. He thanked everyone for their hard work. As former director of Community Boards, he said that CB8 runs the fastest meetings anywhere in the City, certainly in Queens.

District Manager’s Report, May 2016

**NYPD**

Crime is 9% higher in our district compared to last year. The good news is that they have made a few arrests. They anticipate that this will have a positive effect on crime moving forward. The Precinct Commander has been going to events in the community to warn people about the telephone scams.

**DOB**

The Department of Buildings announced a few changes:

- o If a Certificate of Correction is submitted to the Central DOB office at 280 Broadway in Manhattan between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., an answer will be given the same day. In the past, it used to take several days to receive an answer.
- o The Permit Fees for one and two-family dwellings are going to be reduced; however the fees for multiple dwellings and commercial properties will be increased.
- o There will be no more self-certifications by master plumbers for gas installation. They will all require a DOB Plumbing inspector. There will be 22 new inspectors hired citywide for that purpose.

**Parks**

- o The construction of the main oval path at Cunningham Park is underway and should be completed in June. The rest of the path will be done in the fall.
- o The Philharmonic is scheduled for Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.
- o The Big Apple Circus started setting up on May 8<sup>th</sup> and the first performance will be on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**DOH & MH**

- o The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s travel warnings in regards to the Zika virus remain the same.
- o We were reminded that unlike other complaints (i.e. harborage, rats etc.) where the violator is first given a warning and a chance to correct the violation, NOV’s (Notice of Violations) are issued the first time that the inspectors observe a violation for standing water.
- o We were also informed that most of the rat complaints received for our CB and neighboring CBs were due to vacant 1-2 family homes. Some of them may have squatters or have a hoarder living there.

**DOT**

There is still no word on a sidewalk contract for Community Board 8. The curbs on the median are replaced under major contracts. If there is metal sticking out of the curb located on the median, please contact us right away. DOT will send a crew to cut the metal and make the area safe.

**DFTA**

There will be a “Newcomers to Medicare” event scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> in Manhattan. We were informed that starting in September these events will be scheduled at Queens Borough Hall for the seniors in Queens. We will keep you posted.

**DEP**

We had 293 complaints in March and 283 complaints in April. The majority of the complaints were noise related. Many of the noise complaints had to do with car alarms. They also received numerous requests for lead kits.

Homeowners who are recipients of HEAP, SCHE and DHE will be credited \$160 on their water bill. Homeowners [usually seniors] who only use 100 gallons or less in water on average daily will be credited \$250 on their water

bill and will not be charged the 2.1% increase that is being proposed. Homeowners of 1 – 2 family dwellings will receive a \$280 credit on their water bills as well this summer.

**Chometz Burning Stations and Special Passover Collection**

There were a few complaints where garbage was not collected in front of homes during the day shift. The Superintendent informed us that more resources were allocated in areas where there was a higher concentration of residents that use this service. This ensured that the majority of the residents would receive the service during the day shift. There were a few tertiary streets (i.e. Clio Street) that were scheduled for the later shift – they were not forgotten.

Our sixth annual health fair will be held on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. We still have room for vendors. Please contact us if you want to participate at 718-264-7895 or via email [qn08@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:qn08@cb.nyc.gov).



Happy Birthday to our Board Members **Jacob Weinberg, Monica Corbett, Edward Chung and Mary Maggio Fischer** who are celebrating their birthdays this month!

**Marie Adam-Ovide**

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**Borough President’s Representative – Susie Tanenbaum**

- On behalf of Borough President Melinda Katz she congratulated all of the Executive Officers who were elected tonight. She offered special congratulations to our new Chairperson Martha Taylor. She stated that Borough President Katz is very familiar with Martha’s very capable leadership and they are all looking forward to working with her.
- She mentioned that it was lovely to see many of the Board Members at the Annual Community Board Orientation Training on Monday night at the Hall of Science. The Borough President’s Director of Community Boards, Vicky Morales will be in touch with the new and re-appointed members shortly, about the date and location of the upcoming Installation Ceremony.
- She extended an invitation to all for the Borough President’s annual Memorial Day Observance Ceremony. It is scheduled for Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. in the Veterans Memorial Garden in front of Queens Borough Hall. The special veteran honorees are; the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 32, Lieutenant Colonel John W. Peterkin who served in the United States Army during WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War, and Senior Airman Ryan Graham, United States Air Force in the Iraq War. She hopes that many of you will be able to attend. *(A flyer was handed out).*
- Ms. Tanenbaum added that on April 28<sup>th</sup> Marie contacted the Borough President’s office to let them know that the DDC was going to be shutting the water off in parts of this district right before the last two days of Passover. Marie sent a series of emails that she had provided to the DDC requesting confirmation that they would not do this. Chief of Staff, Jay Bond, DDC and Jessica Douglas were instrumental in the negotiations. They talked to DDC and in a matter of hours the schedule was reversed and work was postponed from being done during the last two days of Passover. She added that she spoke with Marie about how it is really important to make sure that water remains on during other holidays like Holy Week and various Muslim holidays. She wanted to mention how impressed she was about Marie’s concern; how strongly she advocated for her community. She wanted to take this opportunity to say that Marie is an outstanding District Manager and is a pleasure to work with.
- Stephen Everett of City Planning was not here tonight. He usually provides updates on the Jamaica Now Initiative, which the Borough President’s office is actively involved with. Marc A. Haken pointed out that this past Monday the Jamaica Now Leadership Council conducted a site visit to Thomas Edison High School to begin developing partnerships for the students. This is a remarkable high school that has 12 different CTE programs. This is really important vocational training in a variety of industries. Thanks to Marc for this site visit being arranged.



**Committee Reports:**

**BSA Calendar No. 65-94-BZ AKA 144-02 Jewel Avenue**

**Steven Konigsberg, Zoning Chair**

A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at the Rabbinical Seminary of America, 76-01 147<sup>th</sup> Street. Dr. Bennett, the applicant and Steven Konigsberg were present at the hearing. No one else from the Committee, the Board or the Community showed up. The applicant made a presentation for a renewal of an existing variance which was granted twenty (20) years ago. They took a private house and converted it into commercial use. For that purpose they needed a variance. There have been no complaints. There were some violations that were still on record, however it was explained that they were all things that were addressed but they still need to be administratively removed from the record. There was no opposition. Any questions about the technical nature of the application were responded to and the recommendation made at the hearing was for approval. There was not a quorum at the time of the hearing.

*Steven Konigsberg asked for a motion to approve the application.*

**Mark J. Lefkof made a motion to approve the application for BSA Cal No. 65-94-BZ AKA 144-02 Jewel Avenue, seconded by Marc A. Haken.**

*A roll call vote was taken.*

**Count in favor**      37                        **Opposed:**      1                        **Abstained:**      0  

**Board Members in favor:**

Dilafroz Ahmed, Jagir Singh Bains, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Maria DeInnocentiis, Mary Maggio Fischer, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Sylvia Hernandez, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul “Delwar” Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mark J. Lefkof, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Frank Magri, Tammy Osherov, Steven Sadofsky, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg, Stanley Weinblatt and Albert Willingham.

**Board Members against:**

Allen Eisenstein

**Adjournment**

Carolann Foley made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:39 p.m, seconded by Steven Safofsky.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Alma Karassavidis, CB8 staff*

*May 19, 2016*