



June

COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT OFFICE

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OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON: Martha Taylor
1st VICE CHAIR: Michael Hannibal
2nd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
3rd VICE CHAIR: Mary Maggio
EXEC. SECRETARY: Carolyn Brown
TREASURER: Harbachan Singh
BUDGET DIRECTOR: Marc A. Haken

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Barry Grodenchik - 23rd District
Honorable James Gennaro - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Donovan Richards

STAFF

DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
Jatnna Reyes, Community Associate
Izabela Szczepanska, Community Assistant
Nicholas Mejia, PT Community Service Aide (NEW!)

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Mitch Lisker – CHAIR, Heather Bennett-Idels, Susan D. Cleary, Florence Fisher, Joshua Glikman, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Simon Pelman, Deepti Sharma and Jacob Weinberg

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz - CHAIR, Carolyn Brown, Solomon Davydov, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Wendy Phaff, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee, Douglas Sherman

Area 3 - Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hills

Kevin Forrestal - CHAIR, Dilafroz Ahmed, Ahsan Habib, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, Paul Lazauskas, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest

Jagir Singh Bains—CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg, Dilip Nath and Dr. Penny M. Stern

Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing

Mary Maggio – CHAIR, Carolann Foley, Tamika Williams-Moore

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, James Gallagher, Jr., Tami Hirsch, Alan Ong and Tamara Osherov

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

Howard Fried – CHAIR, Dr. Robert Block, Edward Chung, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, David Mordukaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor and Mohammed Tohin

Virtual Community Board Meeting Re-cap

The Minutes of April 14, 2021 Board Meeting were unanimously approved by 42 members.

Chairperson Martha Taylor:

- ◆ A few weeks ago, Community Board 8 welcomed a new staffer on a part-time basis. His name is Nicholas Mejia. He is getting acclimated. We were involved in choosing the *NEW* Commanding Officer at the 107th Precinct. We saw four candidates. Captain Kevin Chan was chosen. We welcome him aboard!
- ◆ As many of you know, the Kew Gardens Library is being used for a test and trace site. Board Member Jennifer Martin was able to receive about a thousand signatures from the community to support to stop the use of the library as a testing site and resume traditional library service.

Mary Maggio made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Susan Cleary.

Count in favor: 41 Opposed: 1 Abstained: 0

Members who voted against: Kevin Forrestal

A letter was sent to Dennis Walcott at Queens Library supporting this.

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Next Community Board 8 Meeting will be held *virtually* on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021** at 7:30 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95682185869?pwd=VzBTZEF3K1ozVWVhQnp1b1hNVUIGUT09>

Minutes of Board Meetings are available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8 within two weeks.

A Word from the District Manager...

Dear Community Board 8 Resident:

In 2018, over 70% of New Yorkers voted to have **“Ranked Choice Voting”** in special and primary elections for local offices, including Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough President, and City Council.

As you may be aware, a special election was held to fill the 24th Council District seat back in February by using Ranked Choice Voting . This new method will be used again for the Primary Election. There will be early voting from **Saturday, June 12, 2021** through **Sunday, June 20, 2021**. Primary Day will be on **Tuesday, June 22, 2021**. To locate your poll site for both early voting and Primary Day, please go to: <https://findmypollsite.vote.nyc/>

Here is how it works according to the Campaign Finance Board’s website:

You can rank up to five candidates in order of preference, instead of choosing just one. If a candidate receives more than 50% of first-choice votes, he/she is the winner. If no candidate earns more than 50% of first-choice votes, then counting will continue in rounds. At the end of each round, the candidate with the fewest votes will be eliminated. If you ranked that candidate first, your vote will go to the next highest ranked candidate on your ballot. This process will continue until there are two (2) candidates left. The candidate with at least 50% plus one vote wins.

In addition to the municipal elections, we will be voting for civil court judges. Later, there will be a state election and it will not be by ranked choice voting.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. **It takes more than City Hall to make New York City great, it takes us all!**

Sincerely,

Marie Adam-Ortiz

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Kevin Forrestal – Chair of Nominating Committee:

Martha Taylor was elected to serve as Chairperson

Michael Hannibal was elected to serve as 1st Vice Chair

Seymour Schwartz was elected to serve as 2nd Vice Chair

Mary Maggio was elected to serve as 3rd Vice Chair

Harbachan Singh was re-elected to serve as Treasurer

Carolyn Baker Brown was re-elected to serve as Executive Secretary

Guest Speaker:

- ◆ **Dr. Christiane Reitz – Alzheimer’s Disease and Columbia University Programs** – Ms. Reitz gave a presentation on Alzheimer’s Disease. In the US, 5.8 million people have Alzheimer’s and is the 6th leading cause of death. It is the only cause of death in the top 10 diseases that cannot be prevented or cured. Since 2000, deaths from cancer, hearts disease and stroke have decreased while deaths from Alzheimer’s have significantly increased. It is also the most expensive disease in America. The main goal of studies conducted is to understand causes and risk factors of the disease, and to identify and develop better treatments. They need to identify the genes first, to group patients into treatment groups based on their genes. The NIA-LOAD study, funded by the National Institute of Health, recruits individuals with and without memory problems. They are seeking for participants to join the study. It can be completed over the telephone or via Zoom. If anyone is interested, please email: imm2129@cumc.columbia.edu (Izra Martinez).

Special Guest:

- ◆ **Honorable State Senator John Liu** – Honorable State Senator Liu thanked all the Board Members for the great service they do for the community. During the pandemic they continued to meet. They will be passing legislation and the budget. It is the largest budget in history, because of the federal infusions of state and local assistance due to the pandemic. They are looking to increase state tax revenues. These revenues come in two major portions: an increase in personal tax and increase in corporate franchise tax. They finally put in place the commitment with the tax revenues to fully fund the remaining 4-billion-dollar short fall for school funding. They are finally fulfilling this court mandate. By March 31, 2024 they won’t owe any more money to public schools as per the court order.

Committee Reports:

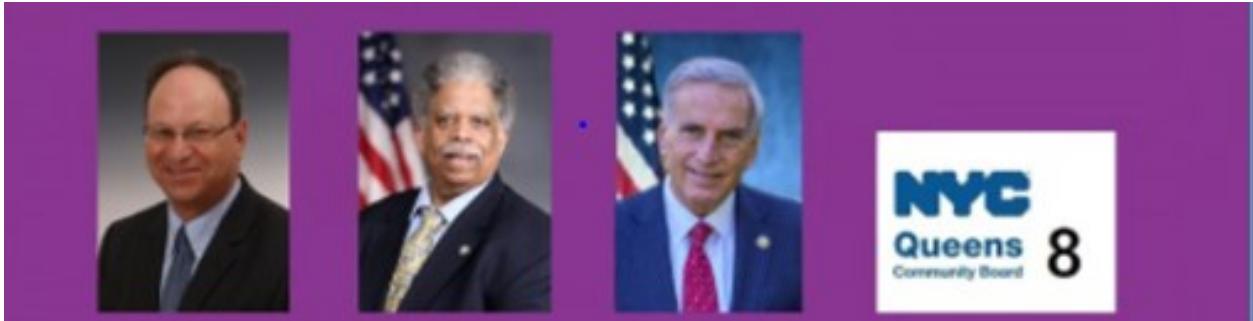
Parks Committee:

- ◆ **Bhitihara Martha-Fulton, Parks Committee Chair** - The Parks Committee met on May 11, 2021 to discuss a proposal from the NYC Parks Department on the Hoover Playground reconstruction. A letter was drafted in support of this proposal.

The Committee voted in favor of this proposal. A letter of support will be sent to the Parks Department on behalf of the Board.

Health Minute with Dr. Penny Stern, Health Committee Chair:

- ◆ Dr. Stern informed everyone that the FDA expanded the emergency use for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for children ages 12 through 15. This vaccination is highly effective in children in this age group. In the trials that were done the vaccine prevented 100% of COVID-19 cases. It is important to remember the results seen in clinical trials may be slightly better than when it is out in the world. The side effects the children are having are some effects that adults have. The FDA will be monitoring safety for another two years on this child age group.



**Council Member Barry Grodenchik,
Senator Leroy G. Comrie,
Assemblyman David I. Weprin
and Queens Community Board 8 present:**

Face Mask Distribution

Friday, June 18, 2021 (Rain date: 6/25/21)

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Foodtown of Hollis

202-15 Hillside Avenue, Hollis, NY 11423



Mask will be distributed **first come first serve** while supplies last.

Wear a face covering and line up **6 feet apart from the person in front of you. DO NOT** gather in front of businesses after pick-up



Message from DFTA

Doraine Zhong, Government Affairs Officer

As we all look forward to phasing in-person engagements with Older New Yorkers, beginning with grab-and-go meals as the first low-risk outdoor activity approved by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), it is critical that we establish an environment that is safe and healthy for our most vulnerable community. A vital step to reaching that goal is ensuring that our senior center staff are fully vaccinated.

Last week, the City kicked off an eight-week senior center staff vaccination drive with a Town Hall for senior center staff hosted by DFTA Commissioner Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez and Dr. Dave Chokshi.

The City will continue to stage a series of events to promote and celebrate vaccination of senior center staff. The Citywide goal is for all senior center staff to be vaccinated by July 1, 2021. We can't reach this goal without you and your support to spread the word that it's easier than ever to get vaccinated.

Most vaccine sites offer vaccines without appointments. For anyone who prefers to schedule an appointment, more appointments are available than ever through the following link:
<https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>.

Additionally, vaccination appointments are available across the City - at pharmacies, medical offices, mobile sites, large locations, and smaller community-based locations.

Grow Community
Shop with local farmers and food makers

MAY 9 thru DEC 19

Pre-Order And Pick Up Sunday

- 1) Download the WhatsGood Marketplace app
- 2) Order from our vendors by Thursday evening
- 3) Come to the farmers market to pick up

SNAP WELCOME

HEALTH BUCKS AVAILABLE

Cunningham Park Farmers Market
Sundays, 9AM-2PM
In the parking lot off Union Turnpike, near the tennis courts

CunninghamParkFarmersMarket

downtoearthmkts

downtoearthmarkets.com

Down Earth FARMERS MARKETS

Assemblymember Rosenthal and Councilman Jim Gennaro

ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING

Date:
Sunday, June 27
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location:
Young Israel
of Kew Gardens Hills
70-11 150th Street

Assemblymember Rosenthal: 718-969-1508 | Councilman Gennaro: 718-217-4969

Did you know?

The New York City Civic Engagement Commission (CEC) will be providing language assistance at select poll sites for the 2021 June primary election. CEC is providing services in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese (Cantonese, Mandarin), French, Haitian Creole, Italian, Korean, Polish, Russian, Urdu, and Yiddish to 25 sites during the last weekend of early voting (June 19 and June 20) and 52 sites on Election Day (June 22). This is part of our effort to increase participation of voters with limited English proficiency and offer services supplemental to NYCBOE's services under the Voting Rights Act. The list of poll sites the CEC is serving, in the designated languages, is available under the Voting Center section of <https://www.participate.nyc.gov/meetings/>

The Civic Engagement Commission also has been working with a Language Assistance Advisory Committee and city partners to create materials on ranked-choice voting that are accessible in multiple languages. The palm card is available in 22 languages in the Ranked Choice Voting Resources section. We encourage all community partners to download and distribute these palm cards as widely as possible. To request already printed copies please go to this link to fill out the form to request palm cards:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/e/1FAIpQLScP0Iym5ItC9yREQnwrzwqWT61csjqp6iCveHk69hiG4SbfYA/viewform>



LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION (S)

- ◆ **Grace Lanes LLC**
67-19 Parsons Blvd - **NEW Full Liquor License Application**
- ◆ **Compass Group USA, Inc.**
80-00 Utopia Parkway - **NEW Full Liquor License Application**

CITY PARKING RULES

The City suspends alternate side parking regulations for both street cleaning purposes and traffic flow, on legal and/or religious holidays.



Juneteenth.....Sat., June, 19th

Parking meters are still in effect

DEMOLITION/EXCAVATION NOTICE



76-36 168th Street – Demolition - Partial
80-28 190th Street - Demolition (Garage)
80-79 Tyron Place — Demolition (Garage)

Green Infrastructure Grant Workshop



Join DEP at a virtual workshop on the Green Infrastructure Grant program on Wednesday, June 9th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Attendees will learn about available green roof retrofits on private property, eligibility requirements, and how to apply.

To learn more about the Green Infrastructure Grant Program, visit:

www.nyc.gov/gigrantprogram



June 2021

Community Board 8, Queens

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Virtual Transportation Cmte. 7:30 p.m. 	9 Virtual Community Board 8Q General Mtg. 7:30 p.m. 	10	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17	18	19 
20 	21	22 	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			