



November

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

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, Deepthi 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

We are going Hybrid! Our monthly meetings will be in person, via WebEx. & YouTube.

**Next CB8 Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.
Hillcrest Jewish Center's Auditorium
183-02 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows**

Welcome back! Our meeting will be held in-person at the Hillcrest Jewish Center this month and virtually via WebEx. It will also be livestreamed via YouTube so we can reach more people.

Out of an abundance of caution, ONLY those who are vaccinated may attend our in-person meeting and they MUST show proof of vaccination to enter the building. We will also do a temperature check. If you forgot your vaccination card, you will be given instructions on how to retrieve your Excelsior Pass on your mobile telephones. Otherwise, you will receive a flyer with information on how to participate remotely via WebEx or how to view it on YouTube. Our doors will be open at 6:45 p.m. to allow enough time for us to screen everyone. If you plan to attend in person, please come in early.

If you have any flu like symptoms, please be mindful of your neighbors and DO NOT attend the in-person meeting. Information on how to view it on YouTube and how to participate by WebEx will be available on our website or contact the office.

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

A Word from the District Manager...

Dear Resident,

The number of individuals who receive our Newsletter has doubled since I became the district manager. We want to continue to send hardcopies to those who do not have access to a computer and preferably via email to those with computers. We need your help!

If you have access to a computer and email, please contact our office so we can remove you from the list to receive hardcopies. Our cost for paper and postage has increased and we need your assistance to provide you with the best service.

Those who receive our Newsletter by email receive it in their inbox earlier.

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-Ovide

October's Virtual Community Board Meeting Re-cap

The Minutes of the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting were unanimously approved by 40 members.

Due to technical difficulties Chairperson Martha Taylor was unable to chair the meeting. 1st Vice Chair Michael Hannibal led the meeting on her behalf.

Chairperson's Report – 1st Vice-Chair Michael Hannibal:

The issue raised by Kevin Forrestal on behalf of the Queens Civic Congress (QCC) should be addressed by the Buildings and Housing Committee chaired by Florence Fisher.

We received notice that Project #HWS2020Q2 started this month to repair the sidewalks damaged by Storm Isaiah last year. Our office has been in contact with Christy Germain, the DDC Liaison for the project. While she has not submitted a detailed work schedule for us as yet, she assured us that DDC is scheduled to complete work at 147 locations in Queens by Thanksgiving. This includes 38 locations in CB8. They are working in several community districts simultaneously. They are currently working in CBs 14, 13 and 12. We expect a schedule by the end of next week.

Elected Officials' Announcements:

Honorable Senator John Liu – They finally got all the educational funding in place to all public schools throughout the state. The funds are available, but tax rates had to be increased. [*Due to technical difficulties Sate Senator John Liu was unable to complete his presentation*]

Commanding Officer Kevin Chan – 107th Precinct

They had a homicide back on October 2nd. It was the first one of the years in the 107th Precinct. It was also the first one since January 2019. Unfortunately, this happened late Saturday night on this day around 11:45 p.m. on 165th Street and 85th Avenue, north of Captain Tilly Park.. EMS responded and the victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Investigation is still ongoing.

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The agency's biggest concern right now is grand larceny of autos. He suggested to everyone not to leave their cars on, not even for a one minute, turn it off to prevent this from happening. Phishing Attacks – Scams are happening more than often now. They are happening via email. He asked everyone to verify where the email is coming from and do not reply, make payments, or forward any suspicious emails. He also suggested all homeowners to have security cameras on the outside of the property for security purposes. In case of an emergency, there is footage to show the occurrence.

Guest Speaker:

Harold Miller, Deputy Executive Director of External Affairs – NYC Racial Justice Commission

Mr. Miller spoke about the Charter Revision. These are some of the main highlights of the presentation:

- The Racial Justice Commission was founded earlier this year by the Mayor on March 23rd. It is empowered as a Charter Revision Commission and appoints 11 Commissioners including Chair Jennifer Jones Austin and Vice Chair Henry Garrido.
- The NYC Charter sets out the structure, powers, and responsibilities of New York City's government.
- The Charter Revision Commission conducts comprehensive review of the Charter, report on findings, recommends proposal to amend, draft proposed amendments to the Charter for consideration by voters.
- Their vision for racial equity is to make sure that worth, talents, and contributions of all people in society are valued and recognized; race is not determinant of economic, political, social, or psychological outcomes, as it neither confers privilege nor denies opportunities.

They will have public engagement in October-November 2021. Their final report and ballot proposals will be issued in December 2021. To learn more about the Commission's work, you can visit their website at: www.nyc.gov.racialjustice.

Marc A. Haken, Budget Director

FY'2023 Capital & Expense Budget Priorities:

Budget Director presented the budget items to be submitted for the Capital & Expense Budget for FY'2023:

- Capital Budget Priorities were approved by 40 members with 0 opposition.
- Expense Budget Priorities were approved by 40 members with 0 opposition.

Committee Reports:

Health Committee – Health Minute with **Dr. Penny M. Stern**, Health Committee Chair
Dr. Stern spoke about the FDA was asked by Merck, the drug company, to authorize emergency use for its pill called Molnupiravir for COVID-19 treatment in adults who are at risk for either severe disease, hospitalization, or both. If approved, it will be a very effective use with the vaccine since the vaccine is for prevention and the pill will be for treatment. It will be the first pill to be used as treatment. She reminded everyone that there is still about 68 million in the United States who are eligible to be vaccinated who have not gotten vaccinated, which makes it really essential to have effective drugs to control the future waves of infections that are yet to come. The case load in the U.S. has dropped below 100,000 on average for the first time in over two months. Death are now down from about being 2,000 a day to 1,700. It is still not where we want it to be, but it is certainly looking brighter. She asked everyone to take care of themselves and wished them well!

Additional Clean-up in Council District 24



[Council District 24 overlaps with Community District 8 from Hillside Avenue on the south to the Horace Harding Expressway on the north, The Van Wyck Expressway on the West to about 188th Street on the east. Community District 8 residents who reside within these boundaries will benefit from these additional service funded by Council Member James F. Gennaro.]

Photo Courtesy of Natalia Kozikowska

As part of his ongoing effort to boost the quality of life in the community, Council Member James F. Gennaro revealed a series of clean-up initiatives throughout the district. Gennaro was joined by DSNY Commissioner Edward Grayson and community leaders to announce new partnerships with DSNY, the Wildcat Service Corporation, and The Doe Fund. The Council Member allocated a total of \$430,000 in this year's budget cycle for clean-up efforts targeting litter and graffiti – including \$185,000 to Wildcat, \$150,000 to the Doe Fund, and \$95,000 to the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY).

"I am thrilled to partner with DSNY, Wildcat and The Doe Fund to offer much-needed supplemental sanitation services throughout the district," Council Member Gennaro said. "I am confident that these partnerships will make a visible difference in our communities, and I remain committed to making this district the cleanest it has ever been. I would like to thank all of our stakeholders here today for their hard work to keep our city clean."

Council Member Gennaro's partnership with DSNY will add sanitation services along Union Turnpike from 164th Street to 188th Street; and Main Street from Melbourne Avenue to 77th Avenue. There will be two additional service days, including basket and road servicing, as well as cleaning and maintaining the median along Union Turnpike. The partnership with DSNY will also add sanitation services along Main Street, from Grand Central Parkway to Queens Boulevard, with two additional service days for street trash pick-up and road servicing along this route.

Gennaro's partnership with the Wildcat Service Corporation will regularly target trash-prone areas, including Hillside Avenue – from Sutphin Boulevard to 173rd Street – three times a week year-round; as well as the Grand Central Parkway Service Road – between 188th Street and Utopia Parkway – once every two weeks. Additionally, Wildcat will provide clean-up services for public spaces in his entire district upon request. Notable services include graffiti removal, snow removal, and cutting up/bagging large tree limbs and grass for DSNY to later pick-up.

The Council Member's partnership with The Doe Fund will regularly service trash-prone areas, including the Main Street Business Corridor – more specifically Main Street between Melbourne Avenue and 77th Avenue (twice a week); and Queens Boulevard, from Main Street to Hillside Avenue (twice a week).

To request clean-up services, graffiti removal services or snow removal services, residents of City Council District 24 may call Council Member Gennaro's office at (718) 217- 4969. Please note snow removal services will only be offered to senior citizens and disabled individuals.

73rd Avenue Roadway Safety Project



Photo Courtesy of Catherine Goode

Pictured from left to right:

Assembly Member Nily Rozic,
Council Member Barry Grodenchik,
Deputy Queens DOT Commissioner
Albert Silvestri,
Assembly Member David I. Weprin,
CB8 Chairperson Martha Taylor,
District Manager Marie Adam-Ovide and
Linda Lee.

The Department of Transportation, our elected representatives and community leaders joined to announced the completion of the 73rd Avenue Roadway safety improvement project on October 22, 2021.

These improvements include:

- Install standard bicycle lanes and shared bike lanes. Install curb-adjacent bike lanes where feasible.
- New lane markings
- Left turning lane on 73rd Avenue and Francis Lewis Boulevard
- Bicycle connection from Cunningham Park to Alley pond Park
- Upgrade existing crosswalks to high-visibility crosswalks

These improvements' major goal is to make the road safer for all New Yorkers - motorists, cyclists and pedestrians alike.

It takes two...

From the American Medical Association

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters another winter, physicians and other health care experts are again concerned with a possible “twindemic.” The combination of the current surge in COVID-19 cases driven by the Delta variant has pushed the health care system to its breaking point. This means that patients who are seeking treatment for other ailments, including influenza, may not be able to find the care they need. That is why it is more important than ever for every patient who is eligible to be vaccinated both against the flu and COVID-19.

These vaccines can be administered at the same visit, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (ACIP). The COVID-19 vaccines—including those made by Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech—and flu vaccines have been shown to reduce illness, hospitalizations and deaths.

Can be given with other vaccines

COVID-19 vaccines may be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines. This means COVID-19 vaccines can be co-administered with the influenza vaccine during the same visit. Giving all vaccines for which a person is eligible at the same visit is a best practice as it increases the probability people will be up to date on recommended vaccines.

But there are a few rare exceptions to the allowance of simultaneous vaccination. These instances generally involve children who have conditions such as asplenia, complement component deficiency or HIV infection. This is limited to PCV13 and Menactra vaccines, according to the CDC COCA webinar.

Did you know?

(Info taken from the United States Department of Agriculture:

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/SE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs141p2_024206.pdf)

Did you know that November was Native American Heritage Month?

Here are some of the many Native American contributions to our society:

They cultivated and developed **many plants** that are very important in the world today. Some of them are white and sweet potatoes, corn, beans, tobacco, chocolate, peanuts, cotton, rubber and gum. Plants were also used for dyes, medicines, soap, clothes, shelters and baskets.

Native Americans were ecologists and did not abuse the natural world. They did not kill anything they could not use nor killed animals for sport.

Did you know that many of the games you play today came from Native Americans? Some of the sports are canoeing, lacrosse and tug-of-wars.

Many of the words we use today and names of cities, towns and rivers are derived from Native American languages - city names like Seattle, Milwaukee and Miami. Some of the words are: barbecue, chipmunk and skunk.

They developed and communicated with sign language. Who knew?

They were not citizens; however, 8,000 volunteered and served in World War I. Additionally, 24,000 Native Americans served during World War II. A special group of them did top-secret work using a secret code in Navajo.

When we learn about each other, we recognize each other's value which leads to mutual respect and understanding.



LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION (S)

- ◆ **Cinque Fratelli Inc. d/b/a Acquista Trattoria**
178-01 Union Turnpike, Fresh Meadows
Renewal - Full Liquor License Application

Any complaints about establishments with liquor licenses should be sent to Community Board 8 in writing. Unless a signed, written notification is received at our office, we cannot follow up. You must also include your address and telephone number.

CITY PARKING RULES

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



All Saints Day Mon., November 1st
Election Day Tues., November 2nd
Diwali Thurs., November 4th
Veterans Day Thurs., November 11th
Thanksgiving..... Thurs., November 25th

**Parking meters are still in effect
except on Thanksgiving.**

DEMOLITION/EXCAVATION NOTICE



- None received .



Compost Your Fall Leaves!

Instead of letting your leaves rot in landfills and create harmful greenhouse gases, help DSNY make compost!

- Place leaves in paper lawn & leaf bags or open, unlined containers for collection. No plastic bags. Find leaf bags at nyc.gov/leafcollection .
- No branches & yard

Set out your leaves after 4:00 pm on these dates:

**Bronx & Queens
Dec. 11**

Participating Community Boards

Bronx: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Queens: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

**Brooklyn & Staten Island
Dec. 18**

Participating Community Boards

Brooklyn: 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

Staten Island: 1, 2, 3





November 2021

Community Board 8, Queens Native American Heritage Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 We are closed! Election Day 	3	4	5	6
7 	8	9	10 CB8 Meeting <i>Hybrid</i> Hillcrest J.C. 183-02 Union Tpke. 7:30 p.m.	11 Veterans Day We are closed! 	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 We are closed! 	26	27
28 	29	30				

*** Please note - Jewish Holidays begin at sundown the night before.

"It is better to have less thunder in the mouth and more lightning in the hand." – Apache Proverb.