



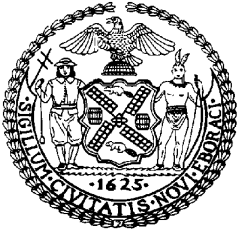
Application #:	Project Name:
CEQR Number:	Borough(s): Community District Number(s):
Please use the above application number on all correspondence concerning this application	

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete this form and return to the Department of City Planning by one of the following options:
 - **EMAIL (recommended):** Send email to CalendarOffice@planning.nyc.gov and include the following subject line: (CB or BP) Recommendation + (6-digit application number), e.g., "CB Recommendation #C100000ZSQ" ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 - **MAIL:** Calendar Information Office, City Planning Commission, 120 Broadway, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10271
 - **FAX:** to (212) 720-3488 and note "Attention of the Calendar Office"
2. Send one copy of the completed form with any attachments to the applicant's representative at the address listed below, one copy to the Borough President, and one copy to the Borough Board, when applicable.

Docket Description:

Applicant(s):		Applicant's Representative:	
Recommendation submitted by:			
Date of public hearing:		Location:	
Was a quorum present? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		A public hearing requires a quorum of 20% of the appointed members of the board, but in no event fewer than seven such members.	
Date of Vote:		Location:	
RECOMMENDATION <input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Approve With Modifications/Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove With Modifications/Conditions			
<u>Please attach any further explanation of the recommendation on additional sheets, as necessary.</u>			
Voting # In Favor: # Against: # Abstaining: Total members appointed to the board:			
Name of CB/BB officer completing this form		Title	Date



Chairperson, Martha Taylor

The City of New York
Borough of Queens

Community Board 8

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Monday, May 6, 2019

PLACE: Hillcrest Jewish Center
183-02 Union Turnpike
Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

ATTENDANCE: Steven Konigsberg, Zoning Committee Chair
Edward Chung, Board Member
Kevin Forrestal, Board Member
Bhithara Martha-Fulton, Board Member
James Gallagher Jr., Board Member
Joshua Glikman, Board Member
Mitch Lisker, Board Member
Mary Maggio, Board Member
Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Board Member
Simon Pelman, Board Member
Wendy Phaff, Board Member
Seymour Schwartz, Board Member
Martha Taylor, Board Member
Jacob Weinberg, Board Member

Others in attendance: Kevin Morris – Mayor’s Office, CAU
Jay Goldstein, Esq. – Applicant Representative
Soojin Choi representing State Senator John C. Liu
Anthony Lemma representing Assemblyman David Weprin
Nolan Gray – Queens Department of City Planning
Marie Adam Ovide, CB8 District Manager
Jatnna Reyes, CB8 Staff Member

Purpose of Public Hearing

Application to rezone the existing R2 zoning districts in Kew Gardens Hills to R2X districts. This would maintain the existing residential, single family homes, while allowing for enlarged footprints and limiting the heights of the homes. The proposed development will increase the allowable floor area ratio (FAR) to accommodate the needs of the existing homeowners. There will be approximately 400 homes affected by this change.

Zoning Chairperson Steven Konigsberg called this Public Hearing to order at 7:31 p.m. He introduced the Board Members present and explained the rules governing the hearing. There were 14 Board Members

present; therefore, there was a quorum. A vote will be taken by the full Board at the Community Board Meeting on May 8, 2019 at the Hillcrest Jewish Center, located at 183-02 Union Turnpike at 7:30 p.m.

ULURP Appl. # C190299ZMQ/N190301ZRQ

Jay Goldstein introduced himself as the applicant representative. He gave a Power Point (PP) presentation explaining the process of the proposed re-zoning for Kew Gardens Hills. They have two project areas: Project Area A which is an R2 zoning district bounded by 72nd Avenue, Main Street, 77th Avenue and Park Drive East, and Project Area B which is bounded by 78th Avenue, Park Drive East, Union Turnpike and Vleigh Place. He explained that the proposed rezoning would change the existing R2 district to an R2X district, bringing a number of properties into compliance and enabling buildings to be constructed up to 0.85 FAR (1.02 FAR using an attic allowance). PP presentation is available upon request.

Chairman Konigsberg reiterated that the public cannot ask questions directly to the applicant. Those who already signed up will have the opportunity to speak. The public can write a question; pass it to the front [*paper and pen were placed on the table for the audience*], and give it to a board member who can ask it.

Chairman Konigsberg asked if there were any questions for the applicant from the Board Members. Seeing none, he opened Public Participation.

Public Participation

Veronica Yurcick – Ms. Yurcick is a resident of Kew Gardens Hills. She had several concerns regarding this proposal and the integrity of the petition. Where she resides there is another name on the official record that have been submitted in favor of this proposition. She wants the integrity of the petition to be investigated to make sure that truly the names represent people in the community. She mentioned that within the past 10 or 15 years, there has been a great amount of construction within the zone. Many houses have been extended on the back, upwards and to the sides. Something was mentioned about non-compliant homes. She wonders if those homes have been allow to be built [non-compliant]. They are quite luxurious homes and she doesn't feel they are serving the needs of the community now. She asked if whether or not this proposal is actually a way to prevent the City from coming back and serve them for illegally built homes that are non-compliant. In speaking with the City Council, City Planning and the Community Board, she understands it is a joint effort to put in this zoning. She believes this would change the character of the neighborhood and taxes will increase. The price of these homes will be outpriced. She believes the beauty of the neighborhood should be preserved.

Hadassah Waxman – Ms. Waxman is a resident of Kew Gardens Hills. She stated that she fell on a sidewalk in this beautiful neighborhood. Too many funds are being spent to expand these homes instead of repairing and making these homes safer. She has lived in this neighborhood since 1962 and has been a homeowner since 1964. At that time, the neighborhood was already an Orthodox Jewish neighborhood. There are many synagogues around. They all have kosher kitchens, despite the fact that some of them only had one sink. All of their children went to Jewish schools. She would love to see more young people come into the neighborhood. She does not want to see her neighborhood turn into Flatbush in Brooklyn. They used to sit in their backyards under trees, on grass on Saturday afternoons. She is requesting that the Board first examine the correctness of the names on the list of people who asked for this proposal. She was told that 80% of the community requested the zoning change. Her name is not listed under her address. Someone else's name is. She believes that this has to be carefully investigated before this proposal is even considered. Her address is 72-22 137th Street.

Chairman Konigsberg asked once again if there were any questions for the applicant from the Board Members.

Edward Chung – Mr. Chung reiterated what Ms. Waxman said regarding 80% of the people in the neighborhood wanting to have this R2X change and her address being listed with another name. He thinks that maybe people's names that were supposed to be on the list are not there. It is very expensive to live in

Queens, especially if you start expanding buildings with less lot space for others who want to live in Queens. He is very concerned about having too large a building, the young people cannot have homes in Queens.

Answer [Jay Goldstein]: This application was started by a large number of young families in the neighborhood. Most are seeking ways to expand their houses without having to move out of the neighborhood. The proposal was in fact from those families that did invest large sums of money into this neighborhood. Some are second and third generation in the neighborhood and do wish to remain. As for the question of the names on the petition, there were close to 200 names on this petition.

Unfortunately, he doesn't know what happen as to why that address was brought up with another name. It made have been an oversight and he will look into it. The application was presented at a town hall meeting. City Planning came and explained in great detail the pros and cons of what is being proposed. They had a large turn out on a very short notice at one hearing and at a second hearing. There were a lot of people that came out seeking larger houses and they kept it as a single-family home neighborhood.

Chairman Konigsberg – He corrected Mr. Goldstein regarding using the word hearings. Those were not hearings, those were meetings held by the Kew Gardens Hills Civic Association with the people from the community. He asked Mr. Goldstein if there is any petition that Ms. Waxman is referring which is a part of this application or is that petition something that was presented at those meetings.

Answer: [Jay Goldstein] – The petition presented at the initial meeting was to gather support, information and knowledge about the proposal. The petition is not part of the record or the application. The application stands on its own as environmentally sound and a community need.

Steven Konigsberg asked if anyone had any other questions. Seeing none, he asked for a motion.

Seymour Schwartz – He made a motion to approve ULURP Appl. #: C 190299 ZMQ/ N 190301 ZRQ for the rezoning of the existing R2 zoning districts in Kew Gardens Hills to R2X districts.

Mitch Lisker – Seconded.

Steven Konigsberg asked if there were any comments with respect to the motion. Seeing none, a roll call vote was taken.

Vote:

13 in favor

1 opposed

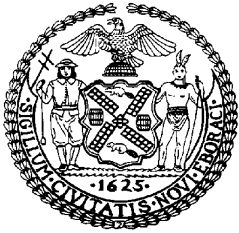
0 abstention

Board Members who voted in favor: Kevin Forrestal, Bhitihara Martha-Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Steven Konigsberg, Mitch Lisker, Mary Maggio, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Simon Pelman, Wendy Phaff, Seymour Schwartz, Martha Taylor and Jacob Weinberg.

Board Members who voted against: Edward Chung.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Jatnna Reyes, Staff Member
May 7, 2019*



Chairperson, Martha Taylor

The City of New York
Borough of Queens

Community Board 8

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District Manager, Marie Adam-Ovide

Minutes of Community Board 8 Board Meeting held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at the Hillcrest Jewish Center, 183-02 Union Turnpike in Flushing, New York.

Attendance:

Board Members Present:

Jagir Singh Bains, Robert H. Block, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul "Delwar" Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Paul S. Lazauskas, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Mary Maggio, Frank Magri, Jennifer Martin, Dilip Nath, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tamara Osheroov, Simon Pelman, Frances Peterson, Wendy Phaff, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Dr. Penny M. Stern, Martha Taylor, Jacob Weinberg and Stanley Weinblatt.

Board Members Absent:

Dilafroz Ahmed, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Dr. Allen J. Bennett, John Gebhard, Rachele Van Arsdale and Albert Willingham.

Others Present:

Kevin M. Morris representing Mayor Bill de Blasio, Susie Tanenbaum and Irving Poy representing Borough President Melinda Katz, Davinder Singh representing Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Henry Yam representing Councilman Rory Lancman, Akshar Patel representing State Senator John Liu, Pierre Millien representing State Senator Leroy Comrie, Anthony Lemma representing Assemblyman David Weprin, Honorable, Daniel Blech representing Assembly Member Daniel Rosenthal, Hudy Rosenberg representing Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, Marie Adam-Ovide, CB8 District Manager and Izabela Szczepanska, CB8 Staff Member.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Martha Taylor called this Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She announced that after the Public Participation the Board Members will be taking a group photo.

Public Participation:

James Gallagher, Jr. – Mr. Gallagher announced that this Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be a Community Health Fair in Junior High School 216 George J. Ryan. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Stephanie Lizza: Ms. Lizza introduced herself as the new manager of Community Affairs in New York-Presbyterian Queens. She invited everyone to attend Twist & Sprout on June 9th in the Queens Botanical Garden.

Barbara Foote: Ms. Foote announced a Kidney Health and Hypertension event next week at the Congregation Etz Chaim. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Kevin Burns: Mr. Burns informed everyone about Briarwood CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). They will be setting out healthy food on Sunday mornings next to Briarwood Library. He hopes people are interested and will come and join.

Gabe Hirschan: Mr. Hirschan spoke in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Adam Sokol: Mr. Sokol agreed with Mr. Hirschan and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Jacob Shafran: Mr. Shafran agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Boris Abduraktlmanov: Mr. Abduraktlmanov spoke in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Meyer Jeger: Mr. Jeger spoke in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning and asked the Board Members to vote for this change.

Aviva Tropper: Ms. Tropper agreed with the previous speakers and spoke in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Yaakov Stern: Mr. Stern agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Chaya Shafran: Ms. Shafran agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Shenny Berger: Ms. Berger agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Ephraim Berger: Mr. Berger agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Shlonvo Merrov: Mr. Merrov agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Adila Hussain: Ms. Hussain announced that the Down to Earth Farmer's Market will open this Sunday, May 12, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be at 10:00 a.m. everyone is invited to attend.

Alyssa Dipadova: Ms. Dipadova announced that a new Farmers Market will open in the Queens Botanical Garden on Friday, June 12, 2019. She hopes to see everyone there.

Orit Newman: Ms. Newman agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Elan Shamsayev: Mr. Shamsayev agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Moshe Sdayeb: Mr. Sdayeb agreed with the previous speakers and is in favor of the Kew Gardens Hills re-zoning.

Dr. Rubin: Dr. Rubin is the Director of Community Affairs for Flushing Hospital. He announced that every three years, every hospital is required to do a neighborhood health needs assessment. He would appreciate if everyone could fill out a survey and return it to them.

Joanne Ariolla: Ms. Ariolla announced that these surveys allow them to learn how they can better serve the community. She informed everyone that Mary Maggio [who works for Flushing Hospital] will be collecting the surveys after the meeting.

Hudy Rosenberg: She spoke on behalf of Assemblywoman Nily Rozic and announced that service will be restored to the Q46 and the Q44. She also asked that if anyone has any feedback on the Queens Bus re-design to contact the office.

Daniel Blech: Mr. Blech announced a number of events that will be sponsored by Assembly Member Daniel Rosenthal and some sponsored events in conjunction with Senator John Liu.

Chairperson Taylor announced that the group picture of the Board Members will be taken now because of some Board Members that need to leave early because of a religious observance.

Salute to the Flag

Chairperson Martha Taylor led the salute to the flag.

Approval of Minutes:

Kevin Forrestal made a motion to approve the minutes of April 10, 2019, seconded by Carolann Foley.

Count in favor 39 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Chairperson Martha Taylor asked Mary Maggio to begin the Elections for the Executive Officers

Mary Maggio, Chair of Nominating Committee – In accordance with the By-Laws of CB8, nominations were held at the April meeting for the positions of Chairperson, 1st Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice-Chair, 3rd Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. In accordance with the By-Laws, elections are held for these positions in May. A roll call was taken for each position.

Chairperson – Martha Taylor.

Count in favor 38 Opposed: 1 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

Tamara Osherov.

Martha Taylor was re-elected Chairperson of Community Board 8.

Stanley Weinblatt for 1st Vice Chair.

Count in favor 39 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

None.

Stanley Weinblatt was re-elected 1st Vice Chair of Community Board 8.

Seymour Schwartz for 2nd Vice-Chair.

Count in favor 39 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

None.

Seymour Schwartz was re-elected 2nd Vice-Chair of Community Board 8.

Michael Hannibal for 3rd Vice-Chair.

Count in favor 40 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

None.

Michael Hannibal was re-elected 3rd Vice-Chair of Community Board 8.

Harbachan Singh for Treasurer.

Count in favor 38 Opposed: 2 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

Susan Cleary and Maria DeInnocentiis.

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

Carolyn Baker-Brown for Secretary.

Chairperson Taylor announced that she has been informed that Roberts Rules states that if there is no other nominee it can be asked if anyone is opposed. She stated that this is what will be done now.

Mary Maggio asked if anyone is opposed to the Secretary being Carolyn Baker-Brown. None were opposed.

Unanimously approved.

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

Mary Maggio, Chair of the Nominating Committee closed elections for all categories.

Chairperson Martha Taylor introduced Guest Speaker Amanda Nasner from the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and she will speak about Turning the Tide for homeless people.

Guest Speaker:

Amanda Nasner – Ms. Nasner spoke about the need for shelters and the Turning the Tide plan. She stated that the Turning the Tide plan was released two years ago to review the shelter system and determine how to transform it. Their vision relies on doing more to keep people in their homes by making housing more affordable and stopping illegal evictions. She also spoke about making long-needed operational reforms to better serve people in shelters and neighborhoods. They have also reimagined a shelter strategy that would remove people from all cluster apartment units and commercial hotel facilities. This would cut the total number of shelter facilities and keep homeless people close to their own neighborhoods and on a path to get back on track.

Ms. Nasner opened the floor for questions from the Board Members.

Marc A. Haken – He stated that the Briarwood Family Shelter was supposed to be a model shelter for the City of New York and asked if it succeeded. He also asked if other shelters have been opened along the same line of strictures. He states that when they were open; families were supposed to be there no longer than a certain period of time and that didn't happen. There are families that have been there for two or three years. He states this is because of DHS failure to find regular housing. He also asked about air conditioning in the Briarwood Shelter.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] - *Yes, Briarwood is an amazing shelter. It is something we are moving towards in all the new shelters that are opening. That is why we closed the Commercial Hotel in Community Board 8 (CB8). It is not an adequate place to have families with children. Briarwood Shelter offers an array of social services to the clients. Individuals and families typically stay in the system a year and a half. Finding housing in New York City is incredibly challenging as is finding landlords that will accept vouchers. We have started with a team of lawyers who will look into cases and find if they were discriminating against our clients. It is not a lack of efforts on the City of New York or DHS to get them into housing.*

Martha Taylor – Ms. Taylor stated that she can vouch for that. She does guardianship work and they had a case where people were getting evicted. They were able to get vouchers but the landlords wouldn't accept them.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] - *We encourage our clients to call that number or to reach out to us. We want to get in touch with those landlords and see if there is any discrimination going on that we can take legal action on. That is an older building (Briarwood Shelter) and installing air conditioning is something we have been exploring but it is incredibly costly to install. It is a lot more complex.*

Marc A. Haken – Mr. Haken asked what is the point of having a shelter if people can't live in it because of the heat.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] - *We would like to install air conditioning. We are working to see if that's possible. We are going to need to secure a lot of money. I know DM Marie Adam-Ovide has been consistent about overseeing if it's possible. We are figuring it out.*

Jesse Rosenbaum – Mr. Rosenbaum asked if they are phasing out all of the hotels that are homeless shelters.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *Yes, that is correct.*

Jesse Rosenbaum – He also asked if a large quantity of families in a specific area is being phased out of commercial hotels, how will services be provided to them once they move out.

Answer: [Nasner] - *As we phase commercial hotels out we will replace them with shelters. Folks who are ready will be moved to a permanent residency. Folks who aren't ready will be transferred to another Tier 2 shelter with more structured services and kitchen facilities.*

Jesse Rosenbaum – He asked if you have 100 or 200 families that will be moving all in one shot how will those services still be provided.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *We wouldn't phase out all commercial hotels at once. We are going to phase out all of the cluster sites and open shelters to accommodate those into permanent housing. It is going to be a slow process. We don't plan on getting out of commercial hotels until 2023.*

Susan Cleary – She asked why did De Blasio's Administration state they are transparent when the Par Central Hotel was sneaked into.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *I am not sure when Par Central Hotel was opened in this community.*

Martha Taylor – She stated that the Par Central is closed and gone. She thanked Amanda for her help with closing Par Central.

Carolann Foley – She asked what good is Turning the Tide if the three large components are not working. She states that she has been hearing of all the failures: no air conditioning, nobody accepting vouchers, and people being in shelters for longer than a year.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *DHS is working to revise the shelter system and it will take a long time. The system has been a mess and no administration has ever taken the time or thought into opening shelters that are going to benefit people within the system. They have created a source of income and a discrimination unit. We are working towards getting air conditioning units. We phased out the Par Central unit. We are able to open shelters within different communities and phase out commercial hotels that are not appropriate. We have phased out over 1,500 cluster sights. The cluster sights are individual apartments that the City rented from different landlords. The administration has made a commitment to get out of all those locations. We are halfway through.*

Carolann Foley – She stated that there are also people sleeping on trains and the streets.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] - *For those sleeping on streets and trains we now have more money that can go into outreach teams. It is not a crime to sleep on trains and they will not be arrested or issued summons like they used to. Every borough has a contract provider that goes out and does outreach. It takes about 265 engagements for a homeless individual to process and come inside. Our partners have been very successful in placing those individuals into current housing. We have also made a commitment to open more centers where they can get services. We are exploring every option possible. Breaking ground does an amazing job to get people off the streets either to supportive housing or permanent housing.*

Robert Harris – Mr. Harris asked if the system is working so well why are people protesting against other shelters in Elmhurst, College Point and South Ozone Park.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *People believe DHS is not engaging. We are transparent about the work we are doing. People feel that they were not involved in the process. That's why they stand and protest against these shelters. We have been transparent with sending letters and community engagement. We have been very clear about the need for shelters. In New York State they are mandated by law to open shelters. We are asking for sites that you think are appropriate to open homeless shelters.*

Dilip Nath – Mr. Nath asked the average length of time people stay in the shelter on average from 2017 to now. He also asked how successful has DHS been with moving people from shelters to permanent housing.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *I am not sure but I believe it has been over 100,000 people.*

Dilip Nath – Mr. Nath asked for the percentage in the last three years.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *I do not have that information right now. The average length of stay in shelters varies on population. On average it is usually a year and a half. I will follow up on the amount of individuals we have moved.*

Tami Hirsch – Ms. Hirsch asked Ms. Nasner what she thinks about homeless shelters and are they clean and safe. People didn't find them clean or safe and do not want to return to them.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *There is a misconception. This is another reason why we are doing the Turning the Tide Program to build quality shelters. I don't know if you are talking about a recent incident in one of our shelter systems.*

Tami Hirsch – No, I am talking about a while back when we started building shelters.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *Yes, a lot of administrations prior to this one did not care how we sheltered people. They did start commercial hotels and they are not a great place to house people. We cannot provide services for them. The shelter system has not been in a good place for the last 30 plus years. I can say we are moving in a better direction.*

Frank Magri – Mr. Magri thanked DHS for their hard work. He stated that on trains most individuals need more than housing and food. He stated that some of them need medical, psychiatric or mental help. He asked what DHS does to help these people.

Answer: [Ms. Nasner] – *The majority of chronically homeless people have mental illness. We have an outreach group that will go out to them throughout the day with social workers, psychiatrists and doctors who will try to convince them to take the services. We cannot remove individuals unless they appear to be a threat to themselves or others. We do have support housing for individuals who have mental illness. Breaking Ground will continuously go out even if that means every single day for the next two years. We do have drop in centers in Richmond Hill and that is somewhere they can get food and services to figure out if they want to go into shelters or not. For individuals in homeless shelters there are services that are provided for those with mental illness.*

Chairperson Taylor thanked Ms. Nasner her for her presentation. .

Chairperson's Report – Martha Taylor:

- Chairperson Taylor announced that Verizon has taken responsibility for the water leaks on 188th Street. An article regarding this was included in packet. She thanked Maria DeInnocentiis and Elected Officials for helping.
- Chairperson Taylor informed everyone that the Executive Committee approved the yearly District Manager's Memo of Agreement. No changes were made to the memo.
- Chairperson Taylor informed everyone that DM Adam-Ovide spoke to Dr. Bennett today who is doing better and is in good spirits. He also took his first few steps. She hopes to see him in September.

District Manager's Report, May 2019

HRA – The agency will be sending letters regarding the Fair Fare NYC MetroCard's (*to pay 1/2 fare*) to its clients. If you qualify for SNAP or the Cash Assistance program, you also qualify for the half fare MetroCard. Your pre-tax income must be at or below the poverty level.

In the past, hearings were held only in the Manhattan Family Court for HRA clients suing for child support. Now, these hearing are being held in the Family Court in the county where the custodial parent resides.

DOB – The agency has been doing inspection safety sweeps to ensure that the construction workers are safe. This is in response to recent construction-related fatalities. There were 5,000 inspections done (50+ inspections were done already in CB8 as of last week).

Our DOB representative also wanted to remind the residents that construction hours are: Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Weekend construction for one and two family homes are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. No construction is allowed on the weekends if the property is located within 500 feet of a house of worship. After-hour variances are required for other times and for other types of buildings to work on the weekend.

The number of work without permits have increased in CB8. DOB receives an average of 200 complaints [for all categories] a month.

DDC – There are now two projects in CB8:

- **QED1047** [164th Street in Jamaica Hill] – They had to reschedule the nightly water shutdown. They were looking to reschedule the shutdown for May 10, 2019. I reminded the representative that it was on the Sabbath. She will go back to her superiors and look for another date. Final restoration will be done in mid-July.
- **HW0100FJM** [Select Bus Service project for Main Street] – The contractor is waiting for the schedule to share with the community.

DFTA – The agency representative announced that on April 9th the Mayor appointed Lorraine Cortes Vazquez as the 7th Commissioner of the Department. She worked at the DFTA back in 1990 and was in charge of the Bureau of Community Program. Then she left for the private sector.

DOT - The agency had a work zone safety campaign in April. This was to remind drivers to reduce speed as they approach work zones. We all must work to protect these public servants who work very hard to maintain our road so they can go home safely to their families.

DEP – Community Board 8 sent a list of questions in preparation for a meeting with DEP regarding the 188th issue with electrolysis since February. We were finally informed by one of the DEP's representative, "After careful consideration and discussion. We believe the questions and concerns you have raised regarding electrolysis should be taken up with Verizon seeing how they have agree[d] to address this concern. Therefore at this time DEP will not be attending a meeting to address these concerns."

Parks – There are several events happening at Cunningham Park this month. On May 10th at 10:30 a.m., there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the amphitheater – 193rd Street and Aberdeen Road. Farmer's Market will start this Sunday, May 12th from 9:00 a.m. to noon and will be there every Sunday until mid-November. There will be a clean-up at the Joe Austin Playground on May 13th at 10:30 a.m. The citywide event "It's My Park Day" will be on May 18, 2019.

DSNY – The Chometz Burning Stations and Special Passover collection went well. We originally had three locations listed: one location in Holliswood, one in Jamaica Estates and one in Kew Gardens Hills. At the last minute we were able to service two locations in Hillcrest: one with a burning station and another with a sanitation bin. The Community Board 8 office received no complaints from the community. We thank all involved in serving the community for the holidays, especially Superintendent Eyal Egger, Deputy Chief Stephen Brown and Community Affairs Officer Peter Capozzi for going above and beyond. Next year, we will remind residents not to throw away burnt Chometz into the big sanitation bins to prevent fires. They should be placed in the dedicated small metal cans.

NYPD – The agency was unable to send a representative to the DSC due to a conflict. Officer Peter Capozzi called and announced that we have a new Community Affairs Officer - Kevin McCarthy. He replaced Detective Tom Motta who retired earlier this year.

Community Board 8's Health Fair will be on Friday, June 28, 2019 at Cunningham Park – 196th Place and Union Turnpike from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please contact our office if you would like to participate as a vendor.

Happy Birthday to Jacob Weinberg, Mitch Lisker, Ed Chung and Mary Maggio who are celebrating their birthdays this month!



Marie Adam-Ovide

Borough President's Representative – Susie Tanenbaum

- She congratulated all of the new and the re-appointed members on Community Board 8.
- On Tuesday, April 30th, Borough President Melinda Katz presided over her annual swearing in ceremony and orientation. Borough President Katz stated that she looks forward to working with everyone in the months and years ahead.
- She acknowledged her colleague Irving Poy Director of Planning and Development at the meeting. Irving Poy was one of the presenters at the Borough President's orientation.
- Last Wednesday, May 1st Borough President Katz and Borough Presidents office partnered with the United States Census Bureau on a 2020 Census Job Fair. 261 individuals were assisted in applying for Census. Borough President Melinda Katz was very proud of this. They hope to do it again.
- Later that evening, Borough President Katz hosted a public hearing. The Governor appointed a Complete Count Commission and CB8 was very well represented. Kevin Forestall and Michael Hannibal delivered testimonies. Carolyn Baker-Brown was there. Sherry Reisner was in the room from Utopia Estates Civic Association, she is also a member of the Queens Complete Count Committee and assisted in preparing for the comic. The Commissioners were very impressed with the diversity of the presenters and also with the issues that were raised. The testimony is going to help the Commissioners to determine what kind of assistance our Borough will receive.
- Everyone is cardinally invited to Borough President's annual Memorial Day Observance Ceremony on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Veterans Memorial Garden at Queens Borough Hall.
- This month she would like to wish everyone who is celebrating a blessed Ramadan.

Chairperson Taylor asked if Nolan Gray would like to speak.

City Planning - Nolan Grey - He announced that if anyone has any questions regarding Kew Gardens or the jail he will be available to answer any questions or concerns after the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Steven Konigsberg, Zoning Chair

ULURP Application No. C190299ZMQ / N190301ZRQ – Kew Gardens Hills – A Public Hearing was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 to discuss the application to rezone the existing R2 zoning districts in Kew Gardens Hills to R2X districts. The movement was co-sponsored by our CB to help avoid certain expenses. At the Public Hearing there was a presentation by Jay Goldstein [attorney applicant representative]. There will be approximately 400 homes affected by this change. This would maintain the existing residential, single family homes, while allowing for enlarged footprints and limiting the heights of the homes. The proposed development will increase the allowable floor area ratio (far) to accommodate the needs of existing homeowners. There were two members of the public that signed up neither of them were in favor of this application. However, the majority of members in the community at the Board Meeting spoke in favor of it.

Marc A. Haken made a motion to approve ULURP Appl. #: C 190299 ZMQ/ N 190301 ZRQ for the rezoning of the existing R2 zoning districts in Kew Gardens Hills to R2X districts. seconded by Jesse Rosenbaum.

Steven Konigsberg asked if there were any comments with respect to the motion. Seeing none, a roll call vote was taken.

A roll call vote was taken.

Count in favor 38 Opposed: 2 Abstained: 0

Board Members against:

Allen Eisenstein and Elke Maerz.

Steven Konigsberg, Zoning Chair

ULURP Application No. 190117MMQ/190342ZSQ– Kew Gardens Jail - A Public Hearing was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 to discuss the application made by the New York City Department of Correction to amend the City Map involving the elimination, discontinuance and closing of one-block long, 25,029.9 square feet portion of 82nd Avenue between 126th Street and 132nd Street in Queens Community District 9. Jordan M. Stockdale gave a brief Power Point presentation on the plan to close Rikers. The proposal has to do with criminal justice reform. There are four main criteria to set out as goals in order to achieve that. Seymour Schwartz raised concerns regarding the footbridge on 82nd Avenue and they responded that there are currently no plans to have a negative impact on that footbridge. Many members of the public spoke at the meeting against this application. Many questions and concerns were also raised by the zoning committee against this application.

Seymour Schwartz made a motion to approve ULURP Appl. # C190117MNQ & 190342ZSQ for the 82nd Avenue between 126th Street and 132nd Street City Map Change and Special Permit for a Based Borough Jail in Queens, seconded by Kevin Forrestal.

Steven Konigsberg asked if there were any comments with respect to the motion.

Kevin Forrestal – Mr. Forrestal disagreed with Mr. Konigsberg and believes that the majority of people may not agree that Rikers Island should not be used as a jail. He stated that as they develop this evolving plan it contradicts its goals. He spoke about the presentation and how there were discrepancy and that they were disingenuous. He asked that everyone votes against this application.

Martha Taylor – Ms. Taylor stated that Briarwood is closer and more impacted than any other community in this area. She stated that CB8 was never invited to any of the forms or discussions. She stated that there were three people from Briarwood only because CB9 invited them. She believed it is outrageous and objectives were not met. She stated that they are putting all women into the Queens facility no matter what borough they are from and this is counter from what their objectives say. She is against this application.

Steven Konigsberg – Mr. Konigsberg stated that everyone is entitled to their own opinion. One of the main reasons was that in consultation with the formerly and currently incarcerated women a decision was made based upon certain medical needs to house them in a unified location in Queens; to be close to Elmhurst Hospital where the women with medical issues or those giving birth would be taken. This is why they are housed there rather than spread out. Economically it would not be feasible to offer the same level of services. Clearly that goes against keeping them near their residences and to have visitors.

Jesse Rosenbaum – Mr. Rosenbaum asked if there will be any impact on the City's decision assuming the motion is voted down.

Steven Konigsberg – Mr. Konigsberg stated that he hopes they will listen to the Board.

Robert Harris - Mr. Harris stated that considering the desire to keep the 27 story building in Queens is not us.

Steven Konigsberg - Mr. Konigsberg stated that it is not actually 27 stories. They were talking about a physical structure with about 270 feet. He stated they always interpreted that it would have about 9 housing floors and 4 services floors.

Bright Limm: Mr. Limm stated that he has been paying attention to this for a couple of years. He also stated that he will vote against this application. He stated that he does believe that every neighborhood should be building to do its fair share but the scale of this proposal is too much. He believes that if the administration had properly done community outreach it would have never gotten to something this size. He also stated that there is some shady real estate stuff going on. Even though I oppose this particular proposal, I for one would vote for a jail in my neighborhood if everybody had their say beforehand.

Howard Fried – Mr. Fried stated that the presentation was disingenuous. He also stated that they didn't try to consider the cost of rehabilitating Rikers. They didn't consider any other locations that were arguably within a location area of a courthouse like near Kennedy Airport where there is far less impact. The consideration was really empty they didn't have justification. We will need to give a closer look at this and vote it down for now.

Steven Konigsberg asked if there were any comments with respect to the motion. Seeing none, a roll call vote was taken.

A roll call vote was taken.

Count in favor 0 Opposed: 39 Abstained: 1

Board Members against:

Jagir Singh Bains, Robert H. Block, Edward Chung, Susan D. Cleary, Kenneth Cohen II, Maria DeInnocentiis, Allen Eisenstein, Florence Fisher, Carolann Foley, Kevin Forrestal, Howard A. Fried, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, James Gallagher Jr., Joshua Glikman, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, Robert Harris, Tami Hirsch, Fakrul "Delwar" Islam, Steven Konigsberg, Paul S. Lazauskas, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Mitch Lisker, Elke Maerz, Mary Maggio, Frank Magri, Jennifer Martin, Dilip Nath, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tamara Osharov, Simon Pelman, Frances Peterson, Wendy Phaff, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee, Jesse Rosenbaum, Seymour Schwartz, Douglas Sherman, Harbachan Singh, Dr. Penny M. Stern, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin, Jacob Weinberg and Stanley Weinblatt.

Adjournment

Carolann Foley made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Izabela Szczepanska, CB8 staff
May 14, 2019*