

**QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS
VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 18, 2025**

QCC Officers Present: Henry Euler, Richard Hellenbrecht, Barbara Larkin, John McCaffrey, Ashook Ramsaran, Warren Schreiber, Sey Schwartz, James Trent, Denise Winters, Elaine Young.

Elected Officials & Representatives:

Evelyn Li, Representative for US Congress Member Grace Meng

Evelyn, Representative for Council Member Vicky Paladino

Keith Felsenfeld, Representative for Council Member Linda Lee

Scott Seiber, Representative for NYS Senator. John Liu

Timothy Chubinidze, Representative for Queens Borough President Richards

Others present:

Maria Becce, Ann Brown, Jon Carten, Angela Castellano, Aracella Cook, Eugene Falik, Margaret Foley, Jackie Forrestal, Bob Friedrich, James Gallagher, Jr., Ed Goydas, Paul Graziano, Johnny Hines Jr, Mohammad Ishmael, , Izzy, Tatiana A, Jennifer, Jon Karte, T. Korahais, Rhonda Kontner, Jack Laster, Pirandello Lodge, Matthew Mandell, Sandra Mandell, Arnold McKinley, Sandra Miller, Tunisha Walker-Miller, Karen Odaira, Mike O’Kieffe, Pesach Osina, Suzanne Peritz, Keith Pirandello, Dom Pistone, Giovanna Reid, Sherry Reisner, Kathy Rufus, William Scarborough, Chris Scherer, Arlene Schlessenger, Bobby Sher, Tkorahais, Claudia Valentino, Christine Wilkerson, Denise Winterspoon,

Meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. by President Warren Schreiber

Financial report by Treasurer Jim Trent

QCC checking account: \$32,799.45, Foundation account: \$16,243.45

A check for \$35,000. was sent to Attorney Jack Lester as a retainer for the “City of Yes”, Article 78 legal suit.

The QCC account balance shown above reflects this expenditure.

Paid memberships: Year 2023, 66 – 2024, 58 – 2025, 5 – 2026, 3

“City of Yes” Status Report by the President

Warren has signed the attainer agreement with Attorney Jack Laster. The \$35,000. retainer fee has not yet been spent. The legal fund stands at \$65,000, Both he and the Civic Congress are plaintiffs in the case, and additional plaintiffs are being sought to demonstrate our civic strength. There are twenty days to file an amended restraining order, ending April 16th. Paul Graziano has recommended QCC to obtain additional expert counsel, George James, at the hour rate of \$190. Warren mused that QCC perhaps organize a press conference.

Discussion and questions directed at Warren followed, with no action taken.

(2)

Migrant Center at Creedmoor

The City has announced its intent to close in March the immigrant center on the grounds of the hospital. While the affected nearby communities are rejoicing, there remains considerable uncertainty regarding final plans for the redevelopment of the campus.

It was agreed that the situation requires our ongoing vigilance. Civics are urged to continue contact with their legislators to achieve a redevelopment that meets the interests of the nearby communities.

Flushing Airport

The now closed airport is a desirable target for development, and may be subject to undesirable, if not harmful exploitation. It has so much potential for public recreational and educational use to serve the residents of Queens. It would be good to let our officials know our views on this issue development, and to keep our eyes focused on it.

With no old or new business, the meeting was closed at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by Sey Schwartz

February 24, 2025

Next meeting: March 18