

**QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS  
VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING  
JUNE 18, 2024**

**Officers present:** Kevin Forrestal, Richard Hellenbrecht, Michael Scotland, Warren Schreiber, Seymour Schwartz, James Trent, Denise Winters, Elaine Young.

**Legislators and their Representatives:**

Timothy Chubinidze for Borough President Richards  
Evelyn Li for Congresswoman Grace Meng  
Alex for State Senator Persuad  
Evelyn for Councilmember Paladino  
Daniel Sparrow for Councilmember Lee  
Representative for John Liu

**Others present:** Ann Brown, Irene Cheung, Gloria Dixon, Henry Euler, Eugen Falik, Bhitihara Fulton, Arlene Fleishman, Bob Friedrich, GAR, Eileen Greenberg, Renee Hill, Jamaica Hill Community, Sylvia Johnson, Phil Konigsberg, Rhonda Kontner, Lorraine, Melissa Madden, Carole Marrone, Catherine Murawski, Karen Odaira, Sherri Reisner, Malini Shan, Bobby Sher, Scott Sieber, Sinetta, Brenda Tow.

**Treasurer's Report** by Jim Trent

Paid memberships: For 2022, 61; for 2023, 62; for 2024, 41 to date; 2025, 4.  
Current bank account: \$9,027.18. With \$23,900. in donations and current expenses at \$30,087.50, we are \$6,800. in the red.

**Nominating Committee Report** by Michael Scotland. Committee members:

Ashook Ramsaran, Chair; Michael Scotland, Sherry Reisner, Denise Winters.

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|---------------------|---|
| For President       | Warren Schreiber  |
| Executive V.P.      | Ashook Ramsaran   |
| Executive Secretary | Seymour Schwartz  |
| Financial Secretary | James Trent   |
| Vice Presidents     | Henry Euler, Kevin Forrestal, Richard Hellenbrecht, Renee Hill, Mohamood Ishmael, Barbara Larkin, John McCaffrey, Charles Ober, Michael Scotland, Harbachan Singh, Denise Winters and Elaine Young. |

**"City of Yes"**

Report of the recent rally held on the steps of City Hall. It was considered to be successful, with representation from groups in The Bronx, Staten Island and Brooklyn. The QCC had done its part in getting out the word. There was considerable criticism of the 10 Queens City Council members who had voted in favor of the plan, and it was proposed that QCC make the effort to expose them. In summary, President Schreiber suggested that another rally at City Hall might be very effective at the time the City Council Use Committee is expected to be discussing the City of Yes proposal.

**Congestion Pricing**

A rally opposed to Congestion Pricing was recently held on the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, organized by State Assemblyman David Weprin, who has played a strong role in opposition to the plan. Admittedly, there was as well a strong group of supporters of the plan at the site at the same time, which weakened the action by the limited number of protesting opposition. It remains to be seen if the shutdown of the plan by Gov. Hochul will remain in effect.

**Climate Mobilization Act, Local Administrative Law 97**

The 2019 law sets carbon limits by requiring most buildings over 25,000 sq. ft. to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050. There was a troubling general discussion of its potential disastrous effect on applicable buildings and cooperatives.

It was pointed out that the law does not affect rent stabilized apartments nor 1-family homes – only condos. In discussion, it was noted that coops and condos are already suffering unaffordable, rising operating costs. Kevin Forrestal presented a motion, seconded by Richard Hellenbrecht, to oppose Intro 772-97. Motion passed unanimously.

**NYC Charter Revision**

Mayor Adams has created and convened a Charter Revision Committee. Among the issues to be considered is term limits for Community Board members. In the discussion that followed, the action was characterized as ominous, with the current quality and effectiveness represented by experienced community and civic activists, in jeopardy.

President Schreiber urged that, if possible, we attend the meetings of the committee. Bob Friedrich presented a motion, seconded by Kevin Forrestal, to oppose the proposal for Community Board term limits. The motion passed unanimously, and Warren agreed to prepare an appropriate letter to be sent to the Mayor.

On a voice motion, the meeting was concluded at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by  
Seymour Schwartz, Executive Secretary  
June 20, 2024

**Next meeting: September 17, 2024**