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March 19, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Ann Brown
Elba Buendia
Muquith Choudhury
Vivian Dock
Margaret Dozier
Renetta English
Ulrick Gedeon
Pastor Peter Herron
Abdur Rahim Howlader
Kevin Hughes-Noboa
Joyce Julian
Nabaraj Kc
Edward Kiernan
Stephen Kulhanek
Marta Lebreton
Bill Meehan
Lisa Mesulam
Richard Mullings
Laverne Nimmons
Veronica Ng
Nuala O'Doherty
Philip Papas
Esteban Peralta
Ladislav Perez
Dorothy Phelan
Megan Rockwell
Fausto Rodriguez
Leoncio Romero
Tammy Rose
Edmund Rosenbaum
David Rosero
Lobsang Salaka
Jimmy Smith
Marlene Tapper
Frank Taylor
Arthur Teiler
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Pat Thorpe
Hamlett Wallace
Toi Washington-Simon
Edwin Westley

ABSENT

Haiko Cornelissen
Shiv Dass
Sonya Davis Roberts
Vasantraj Gandhi
Larinda Hooks
Carlos Andres Lopez
Richard Mink
Ralph Moreno
Jairo Rodriguez

Guest

Israel Rocha, Elmhurst Hospital
Dr. Joseph R. Masci, Elmhurst Hospital
Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Lisa Atkins, Rep., Qns President Office
James Mongeluzo, Rep., NYC Comptroller
Qibin Ye, Rep., CM Dromm Office
Lili Pioche, Rep., Assy. Aubry's Office

Please Note: The next Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 7:30pm via Teleconference.

March 19, 2020 Community Board 3 Teleconference Meeting

Renetta English, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken at that time.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Mr. Israel Rocha, V.P. Health & Hospitals & CEO, Elmhurst Hospital Center

Mr. Israel Rocha, representative for Elmhurst Hospital, thanked Community Board 3 for inviting Elmhurst Hospital to present via Teleconference. Mr. Rocha said that Elmhurst Hospital is fortunate enough to have Dr. Joseph Masci. He said that a few years ago Dr. Masci had a great vision of creating a Global Health Department. Dr. Masci recognized that some of the health concerns in the future are not bound by border but are actually a Global condition. Mr. Rocha said that Elmhurst Hospital wanted to make sure they were prepared for a situation that unfortunately we find ourselves in today where pathogens, disease and illness can transcend the entire globe. They wanted to make sure to create a Center that will be able to track illness and pathogens across the globe.

Dr. Masci is head of epidemiology and head specialist of infectious disease. He is involved with The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The World Health Organization and is a consultant to the United Nations. He is also an expert in pathology and infectious disease around the country. We are very honored to have Dr. Joseph R. Masci here on our staff.

Dr. Joseph R. Masci, MD, FACP & Chairman of Global Health, Elmhurst Hospital Center - Presentation on COVID-19 (Corona Virus)

Dr. Joseph R. Masci, MD, FACP & Chairman of Global Health at Elmhurst Hospital Center, emphasized that the information in his report, “is changing very rapidly each day” and that “some of the statistics I’ll show you are from this morning and they actually changed somewhat during the day.”

Dr. Masci gave a presentation on COVID-19:

Some aspects of Coronavirus:

- Large group of viruses, which infect mammals and birds, cause a lot of different syndromes
- Divided into 4 genera, 2 of which infect humans
- Primarily respiratory pathogens
- Typically cause mild illness (e.g., the common cold)
- They can mutate frequently and infect new species
- In general, they are spread by human-to-human transmission and most often occurs in hospital

There have been three outbreaks of Coronaviruses in the last 16 years. This was not expected and it’s not fully understood why this happened.

Three outbreaks so far:

- SARS (Severe acute respiratory syndrome) 2003 – 2004
- MERS (Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome) 2012 – ongoing
- COVID-19 – ongoing

COVID-19: How and When did it Start?

- First acknowledged cases occurred in Wuhan, China in December, 2019; However, it is not clear that the outbreak began in that market in December

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- Several theories: Chinese cobras or pangolins sold in the seafood market in Wuhan may be the immediate source since the protein codes of 2019-nCoV are most similar to those in snakes
- Chinese authorities cleaned out the market before the source could be verified

Latest Reported Figures as of the afternoon of 3/19/2020:

- 230,658 confirmed cases globally
- 9390 deaths
- 86,261 patients fully recover
- Leading countries:
 - China 80,928 (3,245 deaths) 34 new cases
 - South Korea 8,565 (91 deaths) 152 new cases
 - Italy 35,713 (2,978 deaths) pending
 - Iran 18,407 (1,294 deaths) 1,046 new cases
 - Germany 14,366 (43 deaths) 2039 new cases
 - France 9,134 (264 deaths) pending
 - USA 10,816 (161deaths) 1,557 new cases

The other countries numbers are rising. Coronavirus has quickly gone around the world except for Antarctica. China and South Korea so far have brought the outbreak under control due to putting everyone under strict restrictions. It's a Global outbreak and was declared a pandemic last week.

As of the morning of 3/19/2020 in New York:

- 4,152 total cases in New York State
- 21 deaths
- 2,469 cases in New York City
- 11 deaths

Two weeks ago, there were no cases in New York City. There were only 15 cases in the United States.

Clinical features of this infections:

The illness based on an analysis of 181 symptomatic cases:

- Latency period 3 to 7 days, maximum 14 days
- 50% developed symptoms within 5 days
- Nearly all had symptoms by 12 days
- Contagious during latency period

The latency period is between the time exposure to the virus occurred and when the onset of symptoms begin; however, the latency period is very unfortunate for COVID-19 because it indicates a period during which an individual may not have symptoms at all. "We know now that during the latency period the infection can be transmitted."

Symptoms:

- Fever
- Sore throat
- Dry cough
- Chills
- Muscle aches
- Upper respiratory symptoms like runny nose rarely reported
- Diarrhea often reported

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- 50% SOB
- Median duration from disease onset to dyspnea 8 days
- Severe cases
 - Acute Respiratory Distress (ARDS)
 - Septic shock
 - Refractory metabolic acidosis
 - Coagulation dysfunction

Signs:

- Mild symptoms may not present with positive signs
- Severe condition
 - SOB
 - Moist rales in lungs
 - Weakened breath sounds
 - Dullness in percussion
 - Increased or decreased tactile speech tremor

Chest X-ray Findings:

- CXR frequently normal
- Parenchymal abnormalities
- Most common peripheral consolidations
- Bilateral involvement
- Unilobular halo sign
- 33% Patchy lesions
- 13% large confluent lesions
- 48% small nodular lesions
- Peripheral and posterior lung fields 78% and 67%
- Ill-defined and composed of mixed ground glass opacities and consolidations or pure ground glass
- Patchy confluent lesions primarily lower lobes and pleura
- Nodular lesions primarily bronchovascular bundles

Differential Diagnosis:

- Influenza
- Para Influenza
- Adenovirus
- Other Coronavirus
- Respiratory syncytial virus
- Rhinovirus
- Human metapneumovirus
- SARSr-Cov
- Mycoplasma pneumonia
- Chlamydia pneumonia
- Bacterial pneumonia
- Vasculitis
- Dermatomyositis
- Organizing pneumonia

International Strategies for Containment:

China:

- Delayed recognition, followed by:
- Massive quarantine measures:

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- On January 23, 2019 travel into an out of Wuhan was stopped
- By January 30th adjacent cities locked down, total of 50 million people
- Eventually, 760 million people were covered by some type of lockdown
- Armies of enforcers
- Door-to-door temperature checks
- Those with fever were sent to quarantine centers

Singapore:

- Early cases traceable to China, without community transmission
- Meticulous contact tracing
- Early availability of rapid testing
- Quarantine on site within hours

South Korea:

- River of Grace Church: 60% of cases directly or indirectly connected
- 87% of cases concentrated in Daegu (Southeast) and adjacent North Gyeongsang Province
- This week cases in Seoul exceeded those in these regions

Italy:

- Why has it been hit so hard?
 - Very limited access to testing
 - Older population: second oldest to Japan. South Korea much younger
 - Smoking among men and women at high rates (South Korea few women smoke)

Africa:

- 350 people have been diagnosed, 7 have died
- Most cases are in people arriving from Europe or North America
- 27 countries have reported cases
- South Africa is hardest hit so far has declared national disaster
 - 35 of 72 land crossings and 2 of 8 seaports have been closed
 - Foreign nationals banned from 8 countries including US and UK
 - All schools closed

US Efforts to Prepare for COVID-19:

The more tests that are done the more cases are identified. Social distancing such as telemarketing, limiting large gatherings, reducing travel or more assertive approaches will slow down the spread. Also, allowing people to isolate at home and avoid social contact. By instituting proactive measures it will slow the spread of disease and reduce burden on hospitals. Ending sport seasons and closing stadiums in effect, to remove opportunities where people congregate, has been a good strategy in our country.

“In the hospitals, we are improving capacity to identify patients and to hospitalize those who are sick. Proactive measures slows the spread of the disease and reduces burden on hospitals.”

Testing for COVID-19:

- DOHMH strongly recommends against testing a person with no or mild symptoms unless the diagnosis may impact patient management
- Home isolation should be considered
- This will minimize the exposure of healthcare workers and reduce the demand for personal protective equipment

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- There are false negative tests. Retesting should be considered if the symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) are suggestive of COVID-19 infection

Who Should be Tested?

- People who are short of breath
- If you are only mildly ill or not ill at all:
 - You use up tests which may be needed by others
 - You could spread the infection while you are going for or waiting for testing
 - You could get exposed and infected by going out for testing
 - Your results will not change what you should do: Assume you have COVID infection and isolate yourself at home if you have any symptoms (cough, fever, runny nose) that are consistent with it
 - A negative test does not mean that you don't have COVID now and that you cannot get it
 - A positive test doesn't change anything unless you are sick enough to need care

Current Laboratory Diagnosis: NYC

- Nasopharyngeal +/- oropharyngeal swab (based on lab used)
- Send also our own BioFire (to North well) on all suspect patients
- Patients can go home in home isolation if not sick and destination suitable (i.e., can patient adhere to precautions, but should talk to CDC and notify local health department before sending home)
- If tests go to public health lab, one swab forwarded to CDC
- Turnaround time: 1-5 days so far both public health and private labs
- All positives in NY (by any lab) are reported to state DOH and CDC

Protecting the Staff and Other Patients /General Infection Control Measures:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or with alcohol-based sanitizer if soap and water not available after any patient contact
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough/sneeze with a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands
- The CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from COVID-19; surgical masks should be used by people who have respiratory symptoms to help prevent spread of infection to others
- If you have recently (14 days) returned from a country with COVID-19 you may return to work but should check your temperature twice per day and monitor for respiratory symptoms

Specific Hospital Infection Control Measures:

- Give patient under investigation a surgical mask
- Place patient as far away from others as possible (e.g. in well-ventilated space with at least 6 feet separation from other patients)
- Isolate in negative pressure room (mask off) if possible or single room with door closed if not (mask on)
- Precautions (provider): Isolation, 1 pair gloves, N95 mask if available, surgical mask if not, eye protection (face shield or goggles)
- PAPR (Powered Air Purifying Respirator)/CAPR as alternatives

Hospitalized Patient Treatment Plans:

- Balance water, electrolyte, acid-base levels
- Monitor Blood

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- C-reactive protein
- Procalcitonin
- Organ function (liver, bilirubin, myocardial enzyme, creatinine, urea nitrogen, urine volume, coags, ABG and chest imaging)

Respiratory support in three categories:

- Mild to Moderate
 - Supportive
- Severe
 - Oxygen inhalation through mask
 - High nasal oxygen flow inhalation
 - Or non-invasive ventilation
 - Dynamic evaluation of patients oximeter and chest imaging and labs
- Very severe
 - Mechanical ventilation after tracheal intubation required
 - Prone position ventilation if P/F ration not improved
 - Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation might be implemented in prone plus mechanical ventilation does not work

Major Current Challenges:

- Access to testing
- Strategy for testing vs. quarantine
- Supply of masks
- Flu season
- Projecting bed critical hospital capacity issues

“It’s very likely that we will see a massive surge in the number of cases over the next month. It is projected that we will hit our peak in the first couple of weeks in May. By that time we might find that many of our acute care hospitals like Elmhurst are almost completely converted into intense care units to manage patients. We need the equipment and supplies to manage patients.”

The Future of Antiviral Treatment, Vaccines – Potential antivirals to treat COVID-19:

- Chloroquine
- Hydroxychloroquine
- Arbidol
- Remdesivir
- Favipiravir
- Lopinavir/ritonavir

“One of the advantages that we have in our country is that we can look at the experience in China where they tried Hydroxchloroquine. Hydroxchloroquine is a FDA approved drug that has been used to treat Malaria. It’s now been given to 45 patients at Elmhurst Hospital. The patients are being monitored. We can make a decision whether there is enough data to support using a drug like Hydroxchloroquine. It could possibly be used for prevention.”

Experimental Treatment:

- No antiviral drugs have been approved for any coronavirus diseases
- In a historical control study, the combination of lopinavir and ritonavir among SARS patients was associated with fewer adverse clinical outcomes
- Placebo-controlled trial of interferon beta-1b, lopinavir, and ritonavir among MERS patients in Saudi Arabia is still ongoing

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- Clinical trial from 2018 showed the potent efficacy of remdesivir to treat MERS and SARS Human airway epithelial cells

Vaccine Development:

- Researchers are trying to speed up the development of coronavirus vaccine, but it's still months or years away
- It took about 20 months to develop a vaccine against SARS in 2003
- It took about 6 months to develop a vaccine against Zika in 2015
- At least 3 companies, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna Therapeutics and Inovio Pharmaceuticals, and Australian scientists at the University of Queensland are working to develop a vaccine

“Developing a vaccine is a slow process. It will take a year or two before there is an affected vaccine. When there is one we should take it once a year like the flu vaccine.”

What Will The Future Bring? A partial list:

- Almost certain:
 - Many additional cases in US; many additional deaths
 - Things will get worse before they get better
 - Confusing messages
 - Much more convenient and effective testing
- Very likely:
 - Further restrictions on travel into/outside the country
 - Hospital crowding
 - Hospital supply issues
 - A vaccine (6-18 months minimum)
 - Antiviral drugs (sooner?)

Things will get worse before they get better. They will be many more additional cases and deaths. Dr. Masci encourages everyone to stay informed with the following links:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/isolation/index.html>

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

Board Member Nabaraj Kc asked could coronavirus have been made in a lab as it was rumored.

Dr. Masci said he doesn't believe that it came from a lab. He believes it came from an animal.

Chairperson Renetta English asked what the rate of patients is being seen at Elmhurst Hospital.

Dr. Masci said today there are 130 with 25 confirmed for COVID-19. But, the number of patients coming for testing is rising.

Board Member Lobsang Salaka asked about cases of Coronavirus in Russia.

Dr. Masci said that though he is in touch with physicians in Russia and they are reluctant to give out information.

District Manager Giovanna Reid said that the Coronavirus is listed on the back of the Lysol spray.

Dr. Masci said that Coronavirus has been around for a long time. It's the common cause of the cold.

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Ms. Reid asked if someone contracted the virus can they be infected again.

Dr. Masci said that they are hoping people will be immune but for now it looks like they can get infected again.

A resident asked about children contacting the virus and should they wipe down groceries when they bring them home.

Dr. Masci said the younger the child the more resilient they are to the virus. He said the best advice is to act as though you have the infection and keep a distance. Cover cough with a tissue or elbow and wash hands frequently. Dr. Masci said he would be wary of groceries and packages. They should be wiped down with soap and water.

1st Vice Chair Edmund Rosenbaum asked if they are any plans to setup a mobile testing in Jackson Heights, East Elmhurst or North Corona.

Dr. Masci replied that as of now they don't have any plans for mobile testing.

2nd Vice Chair Laverne Nimmons asked Dr. Masci his opinion on how long the quarantine will last.

Dr. Masci said he can't say when the quarantine will last. He said we never been in a situation like this before. COVID-19 is a contagious disease that has a high mortality rate which we don't have a vaccine or treatment for. It is going to get worse before it gets better.

Board Member Fausto Rodriguez asked if someone has Coronavirus is there something in the pharmacy they can take for it.

Dr. Masci said there is nothing to stop the infection but you can relieve the symptoms with something like Tylenol.

Board Member Ladisla Perez expressed concern for churches that are still open. She asked if he thought that was a good idea.

Dr. Masci said it is hard to imagine that the churches will remain open. It's common sense that gathering in a church is not a good idea.

Board Member Philip Papas asked if it was safe to go outside for a walk or exercise.

Dr. Masci encouraged everyone to go outside for some air as long as you keep social distances.

Board Member Shanel Thomas Henry asked what the procedure of the hospital is for informing people who may have come in contact with someone who is infected.

Dr. Masci said that the Department of Health helps the hospital with that part.

Ms. Thomas asked if those hospitalized with Coronavirus can receive visits from family.

Dr. Masci said that adults infected cannot receive visitors in order to protect the public.

Board Member Richard Mullings asked about COVID-19 staying on hard surfaces and in the air.

Dr. Masci said that it can stay in the air for seconds. On surfaces longer so it is important to keep cleaning surfaces.

Board Member Joyce Julian asked if Elmhurst Hospital put in for supplies with Army Corps of Engineers.

Dr. Masci said yes they have but they have to wait until it is available from the manufacturer.

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A caller asked what Elmhurst Hospital is doing with homeless people who have the virus.

Dr. Masci said it is a struggle because they can't be sent back out in the street. The City Hospital system is looking into potential expansion of housing services for the Homeless.

Chairperson Renetta English gave a heartfelt thanks to Dr. Joseph R. Masci, Mr. Israel Rocha, Atiya Bulter and Elmhurst Hospital for taking time during this state of emergency to keep their community informed.

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio - Cortez

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez reported that she has been in constant communication with heads of every hospital in the Congressional District. There are a rise in coronavirus cases. She said they are trying to make sure hospitals are coordinating and receiving support.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said that she has been working with Governor Andrew Cuomo on a 90 Day Moratorium for those who have been impacted by the virus and financially. She is working on making it so that it applies to rentals as well. On the Federal level she is pushing for Universal Paid Leave for hourly workers, contract works and freelancers. She said that unemployment insurance has been expanded and the 7 day waiting period has been waived.

Board Member Fausto Rodriguez asked what she thought of the media making people crazier and sicker with the reporting of the pandemic.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said she tells people not to panic and prepare. Panicking only makes things worst.

Board Member Nabaraj Kc asked what business owners should do about their rent.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said Landlords don't have to pay banks. If the Landlord is getting a Moratorium then the owners should too. She suggested talking with their Landlords.

Board Member Nuala O'Doherty asked how the Postal Service can be used to help the elderly and the disabled.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said she had a training on how to create a Mutual Aid Network. As of for now she suggested residents can ask the Postal Workers if there are neighbors who need assistance.

Board Member Lobsang Salaka asked about what kind of assistance there is for Taxi Drivers.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said that the drivers are consider independent contractors. They are trying to make sure all of Federal Policies also include Taxi Drivers and get cash assistance for all.

Board Member Bill Meehan asked what assistance is given to undocumented New Yorkers.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said they have secured a commitment from the Administration that the Pubic Charge Rule will be waived for undocumented immigrants of the community.

Resident Marjorie Clarke asked what is going to happen with the people who depend on SNAP benefits since the government will be making some cuts.

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said that The House has passed a bill to expand SNAP benefits.

2nd Vice Chair Laverne Nimmons asked if testing will be extended to everyone and how that will work.

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Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez said that other countries had offered the United States testing but President Trump refused. He left the Governors of each state on their own. Now we are trying on a state level to get testing for everyone. The House has passed a provision saying that once the test is available they will be free.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Bus. Eco. Develop. – *(Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair)*

S.L.A. New Wine/Beer & Liquor License Applications:

Cositas Ricas Corp. – 79-19 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

(Corporate Change)

Chair Edmund Rosenbaum reported that the applicant is seeking a Corporate Change. A family member is selling the remaining stock to the Applicant. The Applicant will attain 100% ownership of the business.

Traffic Transportation – *(Stephen Kulhanek & Edward Kiernan, Co-Chairs)*

DCA Application #: 527-2020 ANWS – Proposal for the installation of a Newsstand at the N/W/C 81st Street & Roosevelt Ave.

Edward Kiernan, Co-Chair of Traffic Transportation, reported that application is to operate a standard Newsstand at the North West corner of 81st Street and Roosevelt from 10:00am – 10:00pm.

Board Member Philip Papas asked if any of the businesses in the location opposes the Newsstand.

Mr. Kiernan said that there is no opposition from any of the local businesses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Renetta English, Chair, opened Executive Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion # 19 – Adoption of the Agenda

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to adopt the Agenda, was passed unanimously.

Motions by Committees:

Business Economic Development. – *(Edmund Rosenbaum - Chair)*

S.L.A. New Wine/Beer & Liquor License Applications:

Cositas Ricas Corp. – 79-19 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

(Corporate Change)

Edmund Rosenbaum, Chair of Business Economics, reported that the committee recommends **approval** of an application for a corporate change of an on-premises full liquor license for this applicant provided a stipulation has been signed. The Stipulation was signed.

Motion # 20 - Cositas Ricas Corp. – 79-19 Roosevelt Ave, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

(Corporate Change)

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Lisa Mesulam, to **approve** the application for a Corporate Change was passed by 31 in Favor, 4 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

Traffic Transportation – *(Stephen Kulhanek & Edward Kiernan, Co-Chairs)*

DCA Application #: 527-2020 ANWS – Proposal for the installation of a Newsstand at the N/W/C 81st Street & Roosevelt Ave.

Ed Kiernan, Co-Chair of Traffic Transportation, reported that the committee recommends **approval** for a Newsstand at the North West corner of 81st Street and Roosevelt Ave.

Motion # 21 - DCA Application #: 527-2020 ANWS – Proposal for the installation of a Newsstand at the N/W/C 81st Street & Roosevelt Ave.

Upon motion duly made by Edmund Rosenbaum, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, to **approve** the application was passed by 32 in Favor, 3 Opposed and 0 Abstentions.

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Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Renetta English said that the last few days have been a true period of adjustment for all of us that live in East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights and North Corona.

“Queens Community Board 3 has never cancelled a Monthly Board Meeting. I along with Ms. Reid want to ensure that our board satisfies Chapter 70 Section H of the charter. “

Ms. English thanked the Board Members for their cooperation in their first video conferencing. The meeting will be recorded, and a link will be placed on the Queens Community Board 3 website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Until further notice meetings will continue to be by Video Teleconference.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Giovanna Reid thanked the Board Members for participating in the Teleconference Meeting. Committee and Full Board Meetings will be conducted by Teleconference until further notice. She said although we won't be meeting face-to-face, the Community Board 3 office can be reached by telephone or email.

Ms. Reid wished a happy birthday to Board Members celebrating birthdays in March. She wished all the Board Members well.

Motion #22 - Adoption of the February 20, 2020 Monthly Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, seconded by Bill Meehan, to adopt the February 20, 2020 Minutes, was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Parks Committee Report

Marta Lebreton, Chair of Parks Committee, reported that the Parks Committee met on Thursday, February 27, 2020. The Committee discussed the \$4.6 million given by Council Member Costa Constantinides for the play area at Gorman Playground. Ms. Lebreton said that the Committee is in support of the project and wants to send a letter of approval from the Full Board for this project to go to the next steps. Ms. Lebreton asked for a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Kevin Hughes-Noboa, it was passed unanimously.

Ms. Lebreton reported, due to coronavirus, Flushing Meadows Park programs are closed and events are canceled.

The next Parks Committee Teleconference Meeting will be on April 26, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Health & Social Services Committee

Vivian Dock, Chair of Health & Social Services Committee, reported that the Committee met on March 5, 2020 to discuss the Leon Von Holden Healthcare Expo. They discussed the flyer, entertainment, refreshments and raffle donations. The next meeting will be held via Teleconference on April 2, 2020.

Borough President's Report

Lisa Atkins, representative for the Borough President's Office, congratulated Community Board 3 on a successful Teleconference Meeting. Ms. Atkins said that the Acting Borough President Sharon Lee recognizes the hard work that Community Board 3 does for the community.

Legislators' Report

NYC Public Advocate Office

A representative for the NYC Public Advocate Office reported that the office is currently working on a Hotline for those who can't leave home.

Mayor's Office

Jessica Schabowski, representative for the Mayor's Office, announced that the Mayor's Office has been coordinating and communicating with faith leaders about religious services. Both Archdioceses of NY and Brooklyn have canceled all masses.

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Council Member Daniel Dromm Office

Qibin Ye, representative for Council Member Daniel Dromm, reported that the office is working remotely. If anyone needs assistance they can leave a message at 718-803-6373. Or, by email at: dromm@council.nyc.gov.

NYC Comptroller Office

James Mongeluzo, representative for NYC Comptroller Scott Springer Office, announced that the NYC Comptroller Office estimates that the present crisis will cost the City about \$3.2 million in lost tax revenue. The office is asking that some revisions be made to the budget for non-essential services. Mr. Mongeluzo said that they are advocating that small businesses don't have to report their sales tax this year.

Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry Office

Lili Pioche, representative for Assembly Member Jeffrion Aubry Office, said that she will let Assy. Aubry know that the Teleconference Meeting was a success. She said Assy. Aubry's Office is open and anyone can reach them by phone.

Motion # 23 - To Adjourn

Upon motion duly made by Renetta English, and seconded by Bill Meehan, to adjourn the meeting, was passed unanimously. Adjourned at 9:55pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by
Clara Colon*

*Reviewed and Edited by
Kevin Hughes-Noboa, Board Secretary*