

Jack M. Friedman, Trustee

A community leader in Northeast Queens for most of his adult life, Jack Friedman was raised in Whitestone and lived in Clearview Gardens through his younger years. He attended local public schools and graduated from Bayside High School. During high school, Jack coached little league baseball for DePhillips Athletic League. Jack attended Queens College and State University of New York at Oneonta where he was a member of the Student Senate and involved with local community charities. Jack represents Bellerose Jewish Center at NEQJCC meetings and continues to support Jewish and Youth organizations throughout the City.

In 1983, Jack opened a retail video store in Bayside. Married a year later, Jack opened a second store 2 years later; a one-hour photo shop. Despite retail's long hours, Jack got elected to Community School Board 26, serving 10 years, including as President for five years. As President Jack led the fight against re-districting, and beat back a Chancellor's challenge to the School Board's authority to select its Community Superintendent. Subsequent to his tenure on the Board, Jack served on the New York State Joint Legislative Task Force to determine the future role of New York City Community School Boards. Jack also served four years as President of the Cloverdale gardens Coop Board before moving to a home in Bellerose Manor where Jack joined the Board of Directors of the Rocky Hill Civic Association and served as their Vice President for three years.

Jack and his wife Lori are proud parents of Daniel and Cara. As the Friedman children started attending school, Jack's passion for education increased. After school, the children attended Hebrew School at Bellerose Jewish Center where the family became members. Jack became Chairman of the school's Board of Education and worked with the Board of Jewish Education to create a new curriculum designed to include the teaching of life-cycle events as well as conversational Hebrew. Jack was elected to the synagogue's Board of Directors in 1995. As Daniel and Cara grew, their father remained active in their lives. Jack coached little league baseball for Mid-Queens Fresh Meadows and became president of the Middle School 74's parent Teacher Association.

In 2002, Jack began working with B'nai Brith Youth Organization, where he had been active as a teen and became Chapter Advisor to Maccabees A.Z.A. at the Bellerose Jewish Center and shortly after served as the Advisor to the A.Z.A. Regional Board. In 2003, Councilman David I. Weprin asked Jack to be his Chief-of-Staff. In that role, Jack Friedman has worked closely with the Chairman of the Council's Finance Committee on the City's \$50+ Billion budget. He has drafted numerous bills to curb over-development and reform personal income tax. He continues to strategize and counsel community-based organizations and not-for-profits throughout Northeast Queens. Jack has not only been busy with B.B.Y.O. but has worked directly with Northeast Queens Jewish Community Council (NEQJCC) and the Samuel Field Y, assisting the Council in receiving funding from the City for the very first time. He also was instrumental in the "Y" receiving large City Council grants for development and support of their NORC program. In addition to locating funding, Jack lends support and guidance on programming ideas. In December 2007, Jack joined the Queens Chamber of Commerce as its Executive Vice President.