



**Agenda: BXC12 General Board Meeting (September 28, 2023 - 7:00 pm)**

**I. Community Board Chairperson's Welcome:**

The Chair Beatriz Coronel opened the meeting at 7:10pm with welcoming the returning members and the newly appointed members of the board. She noted that it is her honor of being the first female Chairwoman of CB12. She then reported on the responsibilities of the Community Board and also gave her personal goals for this year. She then moved to the introduction of the 10 new appointees.

At this point the Chairperson introduced Council Member Riley spoke on current initiatives being done by his office, He welcomed new Board members and discussed the role of the community board. He also gave some insight on the Shelters/Migrant Shelters in the District. He discussed the flood concerns and damages to homes and informed everyone of a forum his office is hosting with DEP and the City. The Councilman also informed everyone of planned Land Use education training for the board and changes he is hoping to make on White Plains Road. Also, along with Councilmember Dinowitz legislation was introduced to create a Rapid Response Center. A brief question and answer period ensued.

**II. Public Gallery Session: (Please note that each individual/organization will be given 3-minutes, 2.5 minutes to speak, 30 seconds to review next steps.)**

- Josie Garcia- Abandon cars concerns/George & Ursula to follow-up  
- Flooding concerns.
- Debbie- Following up on the request of one-way street for Steinwick Street/DOT has not responded to date/John Isaac to follow-up
- Patricia- Homeless Tent set up by Edson and Bartow Avenue by I95
- Shante Albright, Wakefield Library Mgr. gave updates on program offers.
- Public Gallery closed 8:05 pm

**Elected Officials/Representatives Report**

- Public Advocate Office
- Alena Dowe- Mayor's Office





- Edili Espailat from Rep. Jamaal Bowman's Office
- Cynthia – Council member Kevin Riley's Community Events & Initiatives
- Ranell Ogilvie- Senator Bailey's Office updates
- City Council Member Eric Dinowitz
- Donnella Smith office of Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz
- Rochelle office of Congress member Ritchie Torre

**III. Presentation: Royal Hotel**

Mr. Airpit Partel is trying to register his hotel as a asylum seeker hotel. He is seeking support from the Board because he has been informed by the Department of Homeless Services that the Board does not support this location.

This matter was referred to the Housing Committee.

Roll Call was done.

**IV. The District Manager 's Report**

See Attached.

At this point the Chairperson introduced Councilman Dinowitz.

The Councilman informed everyone that he always tries to attend all of the Community Board meetings.

He explained his position on all of the shelters that has opened up in Wakefield and informed everyone of all the things that his office has done to assist with the families and communities.

The Councilman agrees that Wakefield has be inundated with shelters and he has expressed this displeasure to the Department of Homeless Services.

He further explained his office will be doing monthly check-ins with the District Manager and has extended his office hours.





The Councilman reiterated the information regarding Rapid Response Center. He continued to inform everyone of the things that his office is doing.

A brief question and answer period ensued.

**V. Approval of Board Minutes for the September 28, 2023, General Board Meeting**

**Motion made by Mr. John Isaac and seconded by Mr. Robert Hall** to accept the minutes as printed with any necessary corrections. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion made Ms. Carla Borsotti and seconded Mr. Luke Szabados** to continue the Ad Hoc By-Laws Committee. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**VII. Financial Report**

Ms. Tollyne Dickerson informed everyone that the Sunshine Fund currently has \$2,660.00.

**VIII. New Business:**

- Royal Hotel request for a letter of “No Objection” has been referred to the Housing Committee for next month.

**XI. Adjournment:**

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Reid and seconded by Mr. Darren Grant. Meeting was adjourned at 9:57P.M.**





**District Manager's Report**  
**September 28, 2023**

Good evening Board Members and welcome back from your summer hiatus. Welcome to our newest Board Members. Community Board 12 received 15 new Board Members this year. We are now 45 Board Members strong. This makes our quorum requirements slightly higher at 23 Board Members in person. Tonight, is our second attempt at hybrid meetings. Some of you will recall our first attempt in June was met with some technical difficulties. Those participating online could not hear us. I am hopeful that has been addressed and fixed by our production crew tonight.

As I write this I will not know if our training on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> was a success or not. One of your responsibilities as Board Members is to vote on things. Often times, we under a clock that requires the Community Board to vote in a timely manner. For example, the Community Board met with City Planning and discussed the Citywide Zoning Text Amendment on Carbon Neutrality but did not vote on it. That legislation is moving onto the City Council without the official input of the Community Board. Over the summer hiatus, the Bronx Borough President's Office voted in favor of the Text Amendment. It now moves on to the City Council for a vote. While there is nothing wrong with discussing and delaying votes to request more information; a vote will ultimately be required. You should use your positions as Board Members to be well informed prior to meeting on any given topic. To that end, Ursula and I have come up with ways to make that decision making process a little easier.

I am offering you a different vision on how we should be running our meetings. For some of you this proposal will be familiar. I have tweaked my proposal to address some of the challenges we face as a Community Board. It also attempts to take your time and commitment as Board Members seriously.

1. I am proposing the reduction of the number of committees to four from the twelve committees our By-Laws state we have. This would allow us to increase the membership of each committee substantially. These changes would facilitate more Board Members being knowledgeable about items that made it out of committee. Currently, many of our committees are comprised of four to five members which leads to longer discussions during Full Board Meetings where this is the first time Board Members are hearing the item.

The four committees would be:

- a. **Municipal Services Committee** – would hear all items related to city services. Concerns about service delivery from City Agencies, or the lack thereof, would be the province of this committee.
- b. **Land Use and Housing Committee (Soliciting ideas for a better name for the committee)** – would hear all items related to housing, zoning, ULURP applications, transportation infrastructure projects and economic development items.
- c. **Public Hearings Committee** – would serve to fulfill our requirement of holding Public Hearings every month. Every Community Board was audited last year and we were found to be in violation of the City Charter requirement to hold a Public Hearing every month. Our Full Board Meetings are not Public Hearings as ruled by the Comptroller's Office. These meetings can be used to provide trainings for our Board Members.

- d. **General Board Meetings** – would remain the same as it is currently with the minor exception that we will no longer take public testimony. These meetings would be open to the public but public testimony would not be required. Our monthly Public Hearings would serve as the communities’ outlet to voice their concerns.

Our calendar of meetings displays the breakdown of meetings and when they would potentially meet. If every committee were to meet as required there would be four meetings in the first week of the month, followed by three the second week of the month, followed by two meetings in the third week, followed by three meetings in the fourth week of the month. That’s a lot of meetings and Board Members are required to be in person. I know many of you would rather participate from the comfort of your home. Community Board 12 is the one of two Board’s Bronx-wide that offer hybrid. The other Community Boards opted to go in-person with no virtual component. I say all this to say that I value your time and the changes I am proposing comply with rules set in our By-Laws.

### **Community Board Governance**

2. I am proposing additional changes on how to structure our leadership on the Community Board. The City of New York voted in 2018 on several charter amendments and one of those amendments involved term limits for Community Board Members. The first round of term limits will begin in 2027 with the following round in 2028. This means no one serving now can serve more than four two-year consecutive terms as a Board Member. To that end, I am proposing that the Executive Officers and Chairs be limited to serve as Chairs in their respective roles for no longer than one term (two years). Moreover, Executive Officers could not serve as Chairs of Committees and vice versa. This would allow a wider pool of Board Members to participate in the governance of the Community Board. Also, it divides the responsibility of the Boards Members equally.

I am offering these changes, but I am open to other ideas from Board Members on how we should be governed. I have been the District Manager since August 2015 and while our leadership at the top has changed some of our Executive Officers and Chairs have not changed. There are many reasons for this but it is my belief we must force ourselves to keep evolving.

### **Conclusion**

Today marks my 2,979<sup>th</sup> day as your District Manager or 8-years, 1 month, and 26<sup>th</sup> day of my tenure here. I am grateful for each and every day at the Board.

**Thank you for your patience and Good Night.**

# COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date *September 28, 1965*

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED	VIRTUAL
BENITEZ, JUDITH	X			
BORSOTTI, CARLA	X			
BOSWELL, PATRICIA	X			
BROMFIELD-ARMSTRONG, MICHELLE	X			
BROWN, VICTOR	X			
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD		X		
CAMPBELL, DESIREE			X	
CAMPBELL, SADIE				X
CLODD, JOAN				X
CORONEL, BEATRIZ	X			
DAVIS, EATONIA	X			
DEVONE, CHRIS	X			
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE				X
ECHEVARRIA, DENISE	X			
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	X			
FUENTES, KARTIKA				X
GOFF, JOHNNIE			X	
GRANT, DARREN	X			
GRIERSON, SHEILA	X			
GROSS, SANDRA	X			
HALL, ROBERT	X			
HENRY, KERRY-ANN		X		
ISAAC, JOHN	X			

<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>VIRTUAL</b>
JAMES, THEODORE	X			
LAGO-MARTIN, KEISHA	X			
LINK, ROBERT	X			
MALIK, JAVAD	X			
MARK, UDUAKOBONG	X			
MARTIN, LUCILLE	X			
MYKE, CLINTON	X			
ORTIZ, CARMEN				X
PALMA, WAYNE	X			
PANIAGUA, QUEENIE			X	
PARIS, REGINALD	X			
PETERS, ARIELLE	X			
REID, ANTHONY	X			
SAMUELS, SHERRY, Dr.	X			
STRICKER, KARL			X	
SUBAIR, GBENGA	X			
SZABADOS, LUKE	X			
TIRADO, DEBRA	X			
TUTEIN, DAMON				X
WALKER, DEBORAH	X			
WALTERS, RYAN		X		
YEMMER, ASTERE		X		

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# COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX

## VOTING SHEET

Date September 28, 1965

MOTION NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENITEZ, JUDITH	A	A					
BORSOTTI, CARLA	A	A					
BOSWELL, PATRICIA	A	A					
BROMFIELD-ARMSTRONG, MICHELLE	A	A					
BROWN, VICTOR	A	A					
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD	NP	NP					
CAMPBELL, DESIREE	E	E					
CAMPBELL, SADIE	A	A					
CLODD, JOAN	A	A					
DAVIS, EATONIA	A	A					
DEVONE, CHRIS	A	A					
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	A	A					
ECHEVARRIA, DENISE	ABS	A					
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	A	A					
FUENTES, KARTIKA	A	A					
GOFF, JOHNNIE	E	E					
GRANT, DARREN	A	A					
GRIERSON, SHEILA	A	A					
GROSS, SANDRA	A	A					
HALL, ROBERT	A	A					
HENRY, KERRY-ANN	NP	NP					
ISAAC, JOHN	A	A					
JAMES, THEODORE	A	A					
LAGO, MARTIN KEISHA	A	A					

MOTION NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
LINK, ROBERT	A	A					
MALIK, JAVAD	A	A					
MARK, UDUAKOBONG	ABS	A					
MARTIN, LUCILLE	A	A					
MYKE, CLINTON	A	A					
ORTIZ, CARMEN	A	A					
PALMA, WAYNE	A	A					
PANIAGUA, QUEENIE	E	E					
PARIS, REGINALD	A	A					
PETERS, ARIELLE	A	A					
REID, ANTHONY	A	A					
SAMUELS, DR. SHERRY	A	A					
STRICKER, KARL	EX	E					
SUBAIR, GBENGA	A	A					
SZABADOS, LUKE	A	A					
TIRADO, DEBRA	A	A					
TUTEIN, DAMON	ABS	A					
WALKER, DEBORAH	A	A					
WALTERS, RYAN	NP	NP					
YEMMER, ASTERE	NP	NP					
CORONEL, BEATRIZ	A	A					

3/4/23  
3/4/23

A = AYE  
N = NAY  
NP = NOT PRESENT  
ABS = ABSTAINED  
R - RECUSE  
Excused

**DATE:**

September 28, 2023

**Motions:**

1.	minutes
2.	Continuance of Ad-Hoc By-Laws Committee
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

