



**Bronx Community Board 12
May 27, 2021**

The regularly scheduled meeting of Community Board 12, the Bronx, for May 27, 2021 was called to order via Web Ex the First Vice Chairperson, Ms. Egeria Bennett at 7:02 pm.

I Public Gallery Session

Ms. Ducarie Yahunga/Mind Builders

Ms. Yahunga thanked everyone for the support of Mind Builders for over the past 42 years. She informed everyone about the programs that are offered at Mind Builders. She further stated that each year over 1000 family participated in their music, arts, and theater programs. Mind Builders is located at 3415 Olinville Avenue and they are recruiting for their summer programs. Ms. Yahunga invited everyone to register. She provided her contact information in the chat.

Ms. Smalls/Resident

Ms. Smalls informed everyone that she has lived in this community her entire life. She is concerned because there is a rumor that a building on East 228th Street between White Plains Road and Barnes Avenue is being turned into a shelter. There are rumors that most of the people residing in this building receives subsidies.

Mr. George Torres, District Manager explained that the Community Board has not received notification regarding a new shelter opening in the district. He will reach out to the Elected Officials and the Department of Homeless Services. He also explained that depending on the type of housing there is no Community Board notification.

Ms. Judy Hutson/East 222 Block Association

Ms. Hutson informed the Board that there is loud music being played on the street behind hers and there is no enforcement from the 47th Precinct.

The District Manager explained that there was a policy change within the New York City Police Department, and it does not allow Police Officers to enter people's houses and take their



equipment. He explained that if the police receive a noise complaint, they must have a sound meter to write a ticket. During Budget Consultations he will be requesting that all police officers be trained and provided with a sound meter.

Ms. Erica Tobia/Bronx Executive Superintendent/New York City Board of Education

Ms. Tobia informed everyone that she was invited by Ms. Johnnie Goff to attend tonight's meeting. She gave a brief description of her background. She wanted to introduce herself and to build a better working relationship between the Community Boards and the Community Education Council. It is her opinion that everyone would benefit from a better working relationship especially when it comes to the new construction of schools.

Ms. Egeria Bennett invited her to attend the Youth and Education Committee meeting.

Ms. Pauline/Resident

Ms. Pauline shared her concerns regarding a mechanical garage on the 3400 Block of Kingsland Avenue. She stated that they are parking the cars that they are working on in the street. She is also concern about demolition being done without a permit.

Mr. Alfredo Figueroa, Board Member responded that there are demolition permits at this location and this area is a C8-1.

A brief discussion ensued on the types of things that would be legally permitted to be built at this location. Mr. Torres noted that the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) is looking into rezoning Boson Road. He explained that this rezoning is expected in the future.

Mr. Tyrell Carillo/T Carillo Funeral Home

Mr. Carillo informed everyone that the funeral home is located at 4363 Bronx Boulevard at East 237th Street the former Summerset Hall location. They have been in business for 9 years; they are a Black/Family owned business and they are excited to be in the district.

II Elected Officials/Representatives Reports

Mr. Ivan Nedds informed everyone that the Assemblyman will be attending shortly.

Ms. Angela Cowley/Senator Biaggi's Office

Ms. Conwley informed everyone that the Senator along with the Senate Majority was able to pass the New York State Transparency and Supply Change Act and the Domestic Violence Record for Prosecutor Act to Combat Human Trafficking and Domestic Abuse.

She also informed everyone that Section 8 has reopened for the first time since 2016 and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program will open on June 1, 2021 to assist tenants and landlords. If anyone needs assistance, they can contact her office at 718-299-2049.

Ms. Marilex Santana Tavaréz/Bronx District Attorney's Office

Ms. Tavaréz informed everyone that the District Attorney's Office will be hosting the following events: On June 4, 2021, a Violence Awareness March beginning on East 183rd Street and Valentine Avenue and ending on East 194th Street and Valentine. On June 6, 2021 a Gun Buy Back Program in the 46th Precinct at Christ Church 800 Forest Avenue.

Ms. Sabrina Campbell/Councilman Eric Dinowitz

Ms. Campbell informed everyone that they are in the office two times a week and she will be providing the contact information in the chat.

Assemblyman Jeffery Dinowitz

The Assemblyman informed everyone that him and Assemblyman Carl Heastie secured over \$1 million in funding to renovate Wakefield Playground which is adjacent to PS 16.

III. Bronx Borough Presidents Report

Ms. Alexis Ruiz reported that the Bronx Borough President's Report was sent out and it contained updated COVID sites. She also informed everyone that reappointment applications should be sent out shortly.

V. District Manager's Report

See Attached.

VI. Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes are not available currently.

VII. Financial Report

Ms. Tollyne Dickerson encouraged everyone to pay their Sunshine Fund dues. All members are required to pay \$20.00. Currently the Sunshine fund had \$1,054. She is thinking about raising the dues to \$25.00.

VIII. Vote on Committee Recommendations

Mr. Torres informed everyone that some issues were raised at the last Board Meeting. One of the questions that was raised was that members of the Nominating Committee must be elected. In the past members were appointed and that happened again this year. At this point the floor was given to Mr. Clinton Myke.

Mr. Myke responded that the current members of the Nomination Committee are Ms. Sydney Blair, Ms. Denise Bond, Mr. Theodore James, and Ms. Marlene Allen-Brown and himself.

Mr. Torres inquired if there are any Board Member who would like to serve on the Nominating Committee? Ms. Barbara Gibson-LeGrant and Ms. Johnnie Goff requested to be on the Nominating Committee.

A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Torres stated that a Google Doc will be created, and everyone will be given 2-weeks to vote or the Board can take a voice vote. If it is decided that a vote will not be taken tonight, then the Board must make a resolution leaving the Executive Committee as is until October 2021.

Mr. Carl Lanzano raised the issue of people serving on the Nominating Committee that are a part of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Torres explained that there is nothing in the By-Laws that precludes this from happening and the By-Laws must be changed if this is what the Board wants.

The District Manager continued explaining that a Nominating Committee meeting could be held two weeks before the Board Meeting to give those who are running for an Executive Position an opportunity to explained who they are and why they are running. After this the ballots could be opened and then 2 weeks from that the Board could certify the vote.

A brief discussion ensued regarding changing the By-Laws and rules regarding the Nominating Committee and Executive Positions.

Transportation and Capital Projects

See attached

Motion made by Mr. Karl Stricker seconded by Mr. Carl Lanzano to accept the Transportation and Capital Projects Report as presented. A brief discussion ensued. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion made by Mr. Karl Stricker and seconded by Ms. Barbara Gibson-LeGrant to correct the location to Reeds Mill Lane between Bivona and Streenwick Avenues and to approve the street name additions for Ms. Mary Jean Jefferson and Mr. Walter Burgin. **Motion passed 29 Ayes and 1 Abstention.**

Economic and Business Services

See attached.

Motion made by Mr. Karl Stricker and seconded by Mr. Anthony Reid to accept the report of the Economic and Business Services. **Motion passed 2 Ayes and 1 Abstention.** **Motion made by Mr. Karl Stricker seconded by Mr. John Isaac** to approve the recommendations of the

Committee and write a letter to the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA). **Motion passed 28 Ayes, and 1 Nay.**

IX Old Business

By-Laws Committee

Mr. Karl Stricker reported that the Committee will be meeting and forming the Disciplinary Committee by the next Board Meeting.

They are also investigating if they want to incorporate the Committees Mission Statements into the By-Laws.

He will be waiting for Mr. Borrás' request to change the By-Laws.

X. New Business

Ms. Bennet reported that alternatives to the upcoming Mandatory Inclusion Housing Proposal are being looked at. She further reported that they were looking into three Community Board 12 properties that were available to be developed. At this point Ms. Bennett gave the floor to Mr. Hari Singh.

Mr. Singh reported that he sent out a spread sheet that listed the locations and some Board Members had suggestions for the Gun Hill Road Golf Course, Peartree Storage and Furman Avenue.

Ms. Denise Bond suggested:

- Gun Hill Road Golf Course—a park, playground, or a baseball field
- Peartree Storage—an Educational Complex i.e., mechanical, technical, plumbing, electrical or HVAC training
- Furman Avenue—Hydroponic Farming

Ms. Judith Benitez suggested:

- Gun Hill Road Golf Course—open greenway with pedestrian and bike lanes, dog park, picnic areas, exercise area, community garden and a pedestrian bridge over East Gun Hill Road
- Peartree Storage—a storage facility with minimal parking with a hydroponic garden on top
- Furman Avenue—training school or an extension of a college

Mr. John Isaac suggested:

- Gun Hill Road Golf Course—farmers market
- Peartree Storage—vocational center
- Furman Avenue—distribution center or micro-brewery

Ms. Bennett informed everyone that Dr. Burke requested this information so that he may pass it along to Councilman Kevin Riley to give some ideas as to what can be done differently with these properties.

A brief discussion ensued regarding issues with these sites and the Board's input.

Mr. Karl Stricker encouraged everyone to remember those who sacrificed themselves for our freedoms on Memorial Day.

Ms. Beatriz Cornel encouraged everyone to complete the Community Survey.

Dr. Dean Robins informed everyone that on July 12, 2021 in Haffen Park the first ever government sanctioned Abolition Day will be held from 11:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Alfredo Figueroa gave an update on the traffic issues on Paulding Avenue and East 232nd Street.

XI. Adjournment.

The meeting was duly adjourned

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date 05-27-2021

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
ABDUL, HUSSEIN			X
BENITEZ, JUDITH	X		
BLAIR, SYDNEY	X		
BENNETT, EGERIA	X		
BOND, DENISE	X		
BORRAS, ANTHONY IVAN	X		
BORSOTTI, CARLA			X
BROWN-ALLEN, MARLENE	X		
BROWN, VICTOR	X		
BROWN, JEROME	X		
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD	X		
BRYAN, NORBET	X		
BURKE, DR. MICHAEL			X
CAMPBELL, SADIE	X		
CLODD, JOAN	X		
CORONEL, BEATRIZ	X		
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	X		
EICHELBERGER, KEVIN	X		
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	X		
GIBSON, LAGRANT BARBARA	X		
GOFF, JOHNNIE	X		
GREEN, CHANTAL			
HALL, ROBERT	X		

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
HAYES, LISA	X	Left early was ill.	
ISAAC, JOHN	X		
JAMES, THEODORE	X		
LAGO-MARTIN, KEISHA		X	
LAASST, AFUA (Ayy_Fwa)		X	
LANZANO, CARL	X		
MARTIN, LUCILLE	X		
MCCLLOUD, MARY			
MOORE, SHANEQUA	X		
MYKE, CLINTON	X		
ORTIZ, CARMEN	X		
PORTER, FRANK			
POWELL, CLAUDIA			
REID, ANTHONY		X	
ROBINS, DR. DENA	X		
SINGH, HARI	X		
STRICKER, KARL	X		

- This document is FOIL-able.

VOTING SHEET
COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX

DATE: May 27, 2021

MOTION NUMBER:	1	2	3	4	5	6
ABDUL, HUSSEIN	Σ x cused					
ALLAKPO, FRANKLIN						
BENITEZ, JUDITH	A	Abs	A	A		
BENNETT, EGERIA	A	A	A	A		
BLAIR, SYDNEY	A	A	A	A		
BOND, DENISE	A	A	A	A		
BORRAS, IVAN ANTHONY	A	A	A	A		
BORSOTTI, CARLA	Σ x cused					
BROWN-ALLEN, MARLENE	A	A	A	A		
BROWN, JEROME	A	A	A	A		
BROWN, VICTOR	A	A	Abs	Nay		
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD	✗	✗	✗	✗		
BRYAN, NORBERT	✗	✗	✗	✗		
BURKE, DR. MICHAEL	Σ x cused					
CAMPBELL, SADIE	✗	A	A	A		
CLARKE, GAIL						
CLODD, JOAN	A	A	A	A		
CORONEL, BEATRIZ	A	A	A	A		
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	A	A	A	A		
EICHELERGER, KEVIN	A	A	A	A		
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	A	A	A	A		
GIBSON, LAGRANT BARBARA	A	A	A	A		
GOFF, JOHNNIE	A	A	A	A		
GREEN, CHANTAL						
HALL, ROBERT	A	A	A	A		
HAYES, LISA	A	A	NP	NP		

MOTIONS:

May 27, 2021

1.	Motion to change location (Steelewick and Rivona St.) and accept Transportation Report
2.	Motion to approve Street Naming
3.	Motion to accept Economic Development Report
4.	Motion to approve all recommendations of the ED Committee
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 12, Bronx

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE

May 20, 2021

In Attendance: Judith Benitez, Hussain Abdul, Alfredo Figueroa, LaToya Niles, Michael Burke (ex-officio), Michael Felter,

Egeria Bennett, Theodore James, Clinton Myke, Shanequa Moore

Staff: Ursula Greene

Meeting began at 6:39pm via WebEx with Judith Benitez, Chair welcoming the members and community-at-large.

The meeting began with informing the committee that there was a full agenda. The Committee started with the full CB12 applications received from establishments Juisea LLC and the Red Door. Ms. Brittany Moses as well as Martin Mehler, Esq. represented Juisea LLC a new applicant. The establishment is located at 3003 Eastchester Road. Ms. Moses described the establishment as a family-owned seafood and juice bar restaurant as well as catering. The juice/food will be natural and fish only. Police report pending.

It was recommended that by the Committee that all the establishments presented should try and become involved in the Merchants Association.

The Red Door I Inc. application was reviewed. It the establishment is located at 4557 White Plains Road. This is a new application. Red Door list themselves as a private club (members only). No negative reports from the 47th Precinct. In reviewing the application, it was noted 'no' to the DOB question. Mr. Figueroa indicated there was a DOB violation open from 2008. This application is set aside until the DOB violation is cleared up.

The Hotspot Grill & Jerk Inc. was represented by Hope Jones and Martin Mehler, Esq. It is located at 4840 White Plains Road. This is a new application. Ms. Jones described her establishment as catering hall, restaurant, bar and lounge. Open 7 days a week. Also, we are awaiting the C of O and police report.

The LaEstrella Tropical Inc. a restaurant located at 744 Burke Avenue. The application is a renewal. The restaurant has been in the neighborhood for many years. The food is Spanish. There were no negative reports from the 47th Precinct.

Smashburger #1480 located at 4325 Boston Road. Mr. Joseph Fenton represented. The application was a renewal. Smashburger was recommended for approval. Pending police report.

Just One Tavern, a neighborhood pub, is located at 4279 Katonah Avenue. Been there for the last six years. The Committee recommended that the renewal application be approved pending documentations and the police report.

Therefore, the Economic Development Committee is recommending to the Community Board that they approve the new License of Juisea LLC.; LaEstrella Tropical Inc. and Smashburger, Just One Tavern Inc. for renewal.

There were two establishments that did not submit completed applications, HQ Bar and Lounge Inc. and Peppers (Beatty Equities Inc.). No action was taken.

Stop at the Spot Sweet Pot Restaurant returned this month. Mr. Edward Koester, Esq. and Mr. Hopeton Bartley, owner was present. The Community Board received a report from the 47th Precinct regarding Criminal Court summons: Sale to underage and no liquor license as well as 311 noise complaints. The summons for 'sale to underage' is still open. Mr. Koester is indicating that the establishment has been there for 10/12 years and was previously owned by his deceased wife (2019). He also indicated the establishment has been closed throughout the covid pandemic. Mr. Bartley applied and received a NYS Liquor License that is valid until November 2021. Committee inquired Mr. Koester and Mr. Bartley as to how he will be operating his establishment. Mr. Koester stated Mr. Bartley would operate within the provision of the law. He will also close at 12midnight. We would like to do a wait and see on the pending violation and go through a training program.

Discussion was had on the White Plains Road Safety Improvement Plan Corridor. It seems vendors are not fully aware of this plan. DOB extended their moratorium on issuing business sign violations until January 1, 2023. DOB will not issue violations for business signs that existed before February 9, 2019. The exception to this prohibition is if a sign poses imminent danger to the public.

A report was given by LaToya Niles of MPC to report a virtual marketing workshop to be held Thursday, May 27 at 5:30pm. Also, MPC has a matching grant program to assist merchants interested in improving their storefronts and/or replacing their security gates.

Meeting ended: 7:43pm



The CITY OF NEW YORK Borough Of The Bronx

COMMUNITY BOARD #12

Dr. MICHEAL BURKE Jr. Ph.D.
GEORGETORRES DISTRICT MANAGER

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COMMUNITY BOARD #12 (THE BRONX)

Committee Meeting Report Form

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Transportation and Capital Improvements

DATE OF MEETING: May 13, 2021

LOCATION: Via WEBEX (Covid 19)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Clinton Mike, Norbet Bryan
Theodore James, John Isaac

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: _____

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSE: _____



GUEST: NYCDOT, Lime, Byrd and VEO

AGENDA: The Department of Transportation E-Scooter Presentation and the street name addition of Mary Jean Jefferson and Walter Burgin

MOTION/ RESOLUTIONS PASSED: Yes

The New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) is piloting an E-Scooter program in the North East Bronx. The three companies chosen were Lime, Byrd and VEO, the pilot will last one year. The scooter will be unlocked using a smart phone and are dock less. Each company will start with 1,000 scooters and the fare \$1.00 to unlock and \$.30-\$.39 an hour. The scooter speeds are capped at 15 MPH. The companies will provide four voluntary lesson each month and will offer helmet giveaways.

The committee then had the privilege of honoring two pillars in the CB12 family, Mrs. Mary Jean Jefferson and Mr. Walter Burgin.

Mrs. Mary Jean Jefferson

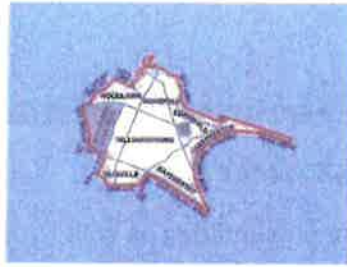
Served as President of the Tenant Association of Boston Secor Houses for 25 years. Was assistant director of the Boston Secor summer program for 18 years. A Community Board 12 member for 12 years. Name will be added to Read Mills Lane

Mr. Walter Burgin

Former Marine, Correction officer and Community Activist- Moved to the Bronx in 1969, served on the Bruner Avenue Block association and the community Board 12 for many years. Name will be added to the intersection of Bartow and Adee.

Respectfully Submitted: John Isaac

Date: 5/24/2021



Land Use Committee Minutes

Name of Committee: Land Use Committee

Date of Meeting: Monday, May 10, 2021; 7:00 PM

Location: Virtual-WebEx

Members in Attendance: Hari Singh – Vice Chair
Judith Benetiz
Denise Bond
John Isaac
Sydney Blair
Keisha Lago-Martin
Michael Burke – Board Chairman

Absences: Karl Lanzano - Chair
Karl Stricker
Anthony Reid
Carla Borsotti

Meeting Called to order: 7:05 PM

Motions Passed: One (Motion Recommending MTA's Zoning for Accessibility Text Amendment)

Discussion:

- Presentation by New York City Department of City Planning and New York City Transit Authority regarding zoning for Accessibility Text Amendment

The Committee discussed the abovementioned Text Amendment and voted in its favor. The Text is now forwarded to the General Board for approval

- Brainstorming Session

The Committee explored and discussed which three sites could be developed, and for what purpose(s), and agreed to forward finalized ideas to Chairman Burke by 5/19.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 PM

Recorded and Submitted by Hari Singh, Vice-Chair, Land Use Committee
May 11, 2021

CB12 – LIBRARIES & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF MEETING MAY 3, 2021

At our event on May 3, 2021, Hugh Campbell, Esq., gave us a presentation on Wills, Trusts and Estates.

The following is an overview of what was presented.

A Will is a legal document with instructions as to how someone wants his/her assets divided/distributed upon death which becomes effective at death. In this document an executor/executrix is appointed, beneficiaries named and guardians designated for underage children with specific instructions as to how and when beneficiaries receive their inheritance.

Wills are submitted to the probate court where the judge ensures the Will is legal and valid. A Will is a public document. To be assigned an executor or administrator one cannot be convicted of a crime.

Will drafting has changed since COVID and only the person making the Will should be in the room with the attorney.

There is no "official reading of the Will". The attorney will file papers, individuals involved will receive notice and object to or admit to probate. The attorney will make arrangements with the involved parties when particulars of the Will are to be disclosed.

A Trust is a fiduciary arrangement that allows a third party or trustee to hold assets on behalf of a beneficiary. Trust can be arranged in many ways and specify exactly how and when the assets pass on to the beneficiaries. The details of the finances will remain private – no probate required. A Trust goes into effect upon signing of the documents.

A Trust will require you to transfer property after death to loved ones. It is called a living trust because it is created while the property owner (trustor) is alive. It is revocable, as it may be changed during the life of the trustor who maintains ownership of the property held by the trustee while the trustor is alive.

A Power of Attorney is a legal document that allows a principal to appoint someone to act for them should they become incapacitated. It is important to choose a trusted individual who is expected to put your interests ahead of theirs. Power Of Attorney laws will change on June 13, 2021.

Health Care Proxy is a document with which a patient appoints someone to legally make healthcare decisions on behalf of the patient when the patient is incapable of making and executing the healthcare decisions.

Life Insurance Policy – one should always check and update. Beneficiaries are designated and so should request for burial expenses.

Intestate – when someone with assets dies without making a Will.

This was a very insightful and informative session and is my interpretation and note taking.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan A. Clodd, Chair

District Manager's Report
May 27, 2021

Good evening Board Members, it is always my pleasure to be here with you. My report will be brief this evening as I will only speak to our reopening efforts.

BxCB12 Offices Reopening

Mayor DeBlasio made an announcement last month that spoke to the City's reopening efforts. He targeted a return date of May 3rd for most City Agencies to return to the office. We have followed suit and returned in person on May 3rd to the office. Ursula and I have had many discussions and I believe we have come up with a plan to have someone in the office most days. Now I want to caution that this does not mean we are open for business as usual. This is a City owned building and we are following as best we can the guidance that DCAS has provided. Fortunately for us, there are benefits to having a very small staff and our very own office which we can lock ourselves inside of. We are not open to the public. I repeat, we are not open to the public. The building and all the tenants in this building are not seeing the general public. Nothing has changed, if you want to contact Ursula or me you must call the office or email us. Since we are not open to the public, that means Board Members are not welcome either. Only staff is allowed in the building. I hope you understand and respect that we are the first-floor tenants and control the flow of foot traffic into this building. Ursula and I cannot let you in and put ourselves or others in harm's way by granting you entry.

We are still meeting virtually, and I do not anticipate that changing soon. It is my hope that even after the Governor lifts the restrictions on the Open Meetings Law that allows us to meet virtually that we will be able to preserve some of the features of meeting from the comforts of home. I had the option of staying in the office this evening but chose to participate from the comfort of my dining room table.

Conclusion

Today marks my 2,125th day as your District Manager or 5-years, 9 months, and 25th day of my tenure here. I look forward to each and every day at the Board.

Thank you for your patience and Good Night.

