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BOARD MINUTES MARCH 28, 2019

The regularly scheduled meeting of Community Board #12 (The Bronx) for March 28, 2019 was called to order at 7:40 PM at Town Hall, 4101 White Plains Road, The Bronx, by the Chairman, Dr. William Hall. Those wishing to participate was asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent prayer for the tragedy in New Zealand, for Carla Borsotti's father, and former New York City Parks and Recreation Commissioner Henry Stern who recently passed away.

I Approval of the Minutes of February 28, 2019

Motion made by Mr. Karl Stricker seconded by Mr. Robert Hall to accept the minutes as printed with any necessary corrections. **Motion passed 25 Ayes and 3 Abstentions.**

IV District Managers' Report

See Attached.

III Good and Welfare/Community Speaks

Ms. Barbara Felder/Resident

Mr. Robert Hall introduced Ms. Felder and informed everyone that she is a resident of Gun Hill Houses and they are seeking assistance in finding her son who has been missing since February 21, 2019. His name is Michael Daugherty and he is 5'4", and 125 lbs.

Ms. Felder stated that her son walked out to go to his regular program and she has not seen his since. They will provide pictures later.

At this point the Chairman introduced Mr. Reginald Jordan, Vice President/Executive Director, and the Wakefield Division of Montefiore Medical Center.

Mr. Jordan informed everyone that he recently joined the Montefiore Health Center (about 8 month ago). He was formerly with the Mt. Sinai Health System. Since joining his goals has been: to get a sense of what the Wakefield Campus offers, to reconnect with the physicians that practice at the facility, and engage with the employees to find out what makes this campus so special to them.



The Wakefield Campus is a 325-bed, surgical and maternity community hospital with critical care and med search beds. The Wakefield Facility has been a part of the Montefiore network for about 10 years. In partnering with the community Mr. Jordan wants to ensure that the Wakefield Campus provides safe, quality, patient focus care while maximizing the patient's experience. Secondly he wants to ensure that this is a facility where the physicians want to practice medicine. Thirdly that it is a place where employees enjoy coming to work and lastly but not least that this facility is a place where people want to come for their health care. There are several things that need to be done to meet these goals: upgrade the facility, upgrade the technology, and improve the service and care that is delivered. He further explained that part of this process is to ensure that these are the services that the community need i.e., surgical care, primary care, orthopedics etc., but he doesn't want to be the one making the decisions. Mr. Jordan wants to ensure that these are the services that the community wants and needs. So as a part of the evaluation that they are doing is working on a 10-year Master Plan for the Wakefield Campus.

The Wakefield Campus currently serves as the Orthopedic Center of Excellence for the Montefiore Medical Center. At this location they conduct and provide joint replacement service (hip and knee), and they are currently doing about 2,400 of these surgeries a year, they see about 45,000 emergency room visits and conduct another 4,000 other surgical procedures. If they are going to maintain these numbers and grown they must be sure that the services that are provided are aligned with the needs of the community. In a few months while the Master Plan is being formulated he wants to make sure that he is listening to the community's concerns and needs and how they align.

During the next six months he will be working with their planners and architects to ascertain for the next 5 to 10 years what will be the needs of this community. Mr. Jordan is especially interested in hearing from everyone so he will be back to future meetings. This will be a part of the listening tour to learn the Bronx Community and their needs. When the plan is completed he will bring it back and discuss it with the community to get any feedback and to make any necessary changes so that everyone can meet in the middle to make sure that the community is taken care of.

As he said earlier Wakefield Campus has been a part of Montefiore for over 10 years (July 2008) and they are currently planning their 10-year celebration which will coincide with their Health Fair on July 20, 2019 from 10 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. They welcome all ideas and more importantly participation. The front of the hospital will be blocked off and they will have booths outside and inside.

A brief question and answer period ensued.

III Good and Welfare/Community Speaks Continued

Mr. Ronald Harrison/Northwest Bronx

Mr. Harrison is an organizer with Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition. They have been in existence for 45 years. Their goal is to unite a diverse group of people and fight for racial and economic justice through community organization and to transform the Bronx and beyond. To do this vital work they partner with a number of location city-wide and national organizations

and institutions. This is their mission. They are working with the small businesses along the Kingsbridge Commercial Corridor to leverage local and citywide resources and community support to defend against harassment along with negotiating fair leases. They are also partnered with local health and educational institutes to address the root cause of poverty including the limited access to quality training programs that could help residents secure living wage jobs. With the redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory Project and also with NYCHA they are organizing community residents to launch a community land trust that will create ownership and decision making over projects and land. They currently have all boots on the ground to educate and help pass universal health care.

Mr. Kevin Finlay/One Village One Voice

Mr. Finlay informed everyone that One Village One Voice is a youth program located on East 219th Street inside Crawford Methodist Church. On Sunday, April 6, 2019 12-Noon they will be hosting a fund raising event for the youth in order to provide them with additional programs. They are also trying to fix the gym. The program started out with 7 children and currently have 70. He encouraged everyone to attend and provided flyers. Programs are ran from September to June. During the summer months they have a basketball and chess program. He also stated that they are looking for donations and if a person could make a cake that would be a help.

Mr. Trevor Browne/Resident

Mr. Browne resides on Tiemann Avenue between Boston Road and Tillotson Avenue and they have an ongoing problem for the past 4 years with abandoned vehicles parked on their block. There is a used car dealership and they park over 20 vehicles on the block. They have spoken to the owner, Ursula Greene, 47th Precinct, and the Department Sanitation with no avail.

Ms. Mary Howell/Resident

Ms. Howell resides in East Gun Hill Houses and she is concerned because every year her son and others are required to do volunteer service but it is not taken off of the rent roll and the rents keep increasing.

Dr. Hall informed Ms. Howell that Mr. Robert Hall will be meeting with a federal monitor next week and he will bring up this issue.

Ms. Judith Hall/Wish Mindset Organization

Ms. Hall is the founder of Wish Mindset which the UTF is sponsoring. She has room for 20 people to come and hear what they are doing and plans for the future. The next program is going to be a Business Strategy Summit on Friday, April 12, 2019. The launch will be Friday, April 5, 2019 from 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. Meals will be provided. She encouraged everyone to come out and support her organization. The organization goal is to take care of women within New York City and the Caribbean Diaspora. It is her opinion that we as a people are not doing enough for our young people. She further stated that we have to be able to pass the baton onto the next

generation. Ms. Hall gave a background of herself. She encouraged everyone to contact her so that everyone can brainstorm to see what we can do with our youth.

Mr. Richard Gordon/Prose Legal

Mr. Gordon informed everyone that Prose Legal is doing intense para legal for homeowners who are facing foreclosure. After a 5-year investigation as to why people was losing their homes. During this process he found that homes are being confiscated by breaches of law that is not being investigated. New York City Land Registry allows property to be transferred from one person to another. He will be providing classes in the future.

Mr. Robert Hart/Families United for Solutions

Mr. Robert Hart stated that he has been a Bronx resident for over 20 years. He is here to try to get involved and continue to come to meetings to see what is needed. He is in the process of creating a youth program. His focus is on the youth and their families. The program will focus mostly on cultural and academics. He stated that he is not afraid to collaborate with other organizations. It is his opinion that we need unity to get things done and change things for the betterment of the community. He is doing presentations two days out of the month at Toro College in Harlem. He would like to begin to do this in the Bronx. He also mentors at SLEDGE Group in Harlem.

Mr. Hakeem Elliot/Center for Law and Social Justice

Mr. Elliot informed everyone that he is doing census outreach throughout the borough for the Center for Law and Social Justice is located in Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn. He explained what the census is and the requirements and what is done with the information collected. Black communities are the most undercounted in the census and encouraged everyone to complete the forms. The census comes out April 1, 2019 and all data is secure. If someone releases data there is a \$250,000 fine and jail time. Everyone is counted regardless of immigration status.

At this point Mr. John Isaac, Second Vice Chairperson introduced Community Board 12's distinguished guest and representatives.

V Report of the Bronx Borough President

- BP Diaz Launched 'Camp Junior' at Annual 'State of the Borough' Address
- The Fresh Air Fund Announced Registration Now Open for Camp Junior at Harriman State Park
- Borough President Diaz and NYC DOE Announced Extended Use Hardship Waiver Program
- Bronx Foodies, Chefs and Familia: Recipes Needed!

Upcoming Events

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.'s Woman's' History Month Celebration, Thursday, March 21, 2019, Fordham University, Rose Hill, Keating Hall #1, 2691 Southern Boulevard, 5:30 P.M.to 8:30 P.M.

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.'s Irish Heritage Month Celebration, Thursday, March 14, 2019, 5:30 P.M., Rambling House, 4292 Katonah Avenue

The Bronx Borough President's Report is available in its entirety in the Community Board office.

Ms. Maryanne Joyce, Honorable Alessandra Biaggi Office

Ms. Joyce introduced herself and informed everyone that their office is located at 1250 Waters Place, Suite 1202, and they can be reached at 718-822-2049. She also stated that they are planning on moving shortly with one office in Riverdale and another on the east side of the Bronx. The Senator is up in Albany because it is budget season and she is currently working hard to secure more funding for schools, to prevent funding cuts to nursing homes, Medicaid, and fair elections. Recently legislation was passed to establish a review board on how to reduce maternity mortality. The Senator will be hosting open office hours on the first Fridays from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. The Senator's office also has pop up locations. Ms. Joyce provided flyers.

Mr. Ivan Nedds/Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz

Mr. Nedds informed everyone that the Assemblyman is also in Albany working on the budget. One of the big issues that they are working on is Congestion Pricing.

Mr. Kiron Ireland/Assemblyman Carl Heastie

Mr. Ireland informed everyone that he is a Constituent Liaison and is always willing to help. He provided his business cards and offered to speak with anyone who needs assistance.

VI Report of the Chairman

Dr. Hall reported that he attended a mentoring medical premed student's seminar at Montefiore Medical Center last week. Some of the students require about the Community Board. Dr. Hall will be meeting with the students on Monday afternoons and possibly invite them to speak at a board meeting.

VII Committee Reports

Economic and Business Services Committee

Mr. Felix Roldan, Chairperson tabled the vote for liquor licenses until April.

Library and Cultural Affairs Committee

Ms. Joan Clodd, Chairperson reported that they will be hosting a Mental Health Awareness Seminar on Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Mr. Ivan Borrás reported that they discussed why completion dates have not been met with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation Capital Projects. The committee is reporting the completion on the Seton Falls Park Retaining Wall. The committee is also following up the request to the Board to seek solar power lights within the parks of Community Board 12. It is his opinion that the lights are affordable and would be very useful in the parks that are not well lit. The Committee is also in the process of choosing a new signs for the parks. They also discussed the track that the radio cars use. It was decided that the committee would wait until the weather is warmer to see if this location is still being unutilized. Mr. Borrás further stated that he agrees with the District Manager and the need to make the Community Board better. He offered some suggestions. The Bronx Council on Environmental Equality will be hosting a Green Infrastructure and Water Affordable Event on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M., at Manhattan College.

Housing Committee

Mr. Robert Hall, Chairperson informed everyone that members of the Housing Committee and community took another tour with B&B Urban to look at their 2700 Jerome Avenue facility and the one on East 167th Street. The 171 unit proposed building will proceed.

It appears to be some issues with the privatization of Baychester Houses. Information is still forthcoming but it is Mr. Hall's opinion that there will be a need for some type of intervention. Mr. Hall gave a brief synopsis of what's going on at Baychester especially the rent.

Dr. Michael Burke informed everyone that he is still upset with B&B Urban and although it is as of right he will keep on fighting for it not to be built. Dr. Burke is of the opinion that because B&B Urban submitted their Brownfield Application and stated that they had notified the Community Board before they came to the Board. This left the Community Board and residents out of the comment portion. It is his opinion that there needs to be some type of injunction and this building can be stop. We must decide if we are going to roll over or fight.

At this point the Chairman acknowledged Mr. Victor Martinez, New City Comptroller Scott Stringer's Officer.

Mr. Martinez apologized for being late and explained that he had to attend another meeting. He stated that the Comptroller's Office is demanding that the Charter Review Commission to put on the ballot to create a Chief Diversity Officer. This Officer will have the access to create more women and minority businesses in the city. He provided flyers and access to his I-Pad to send petition.

VIII Old Business

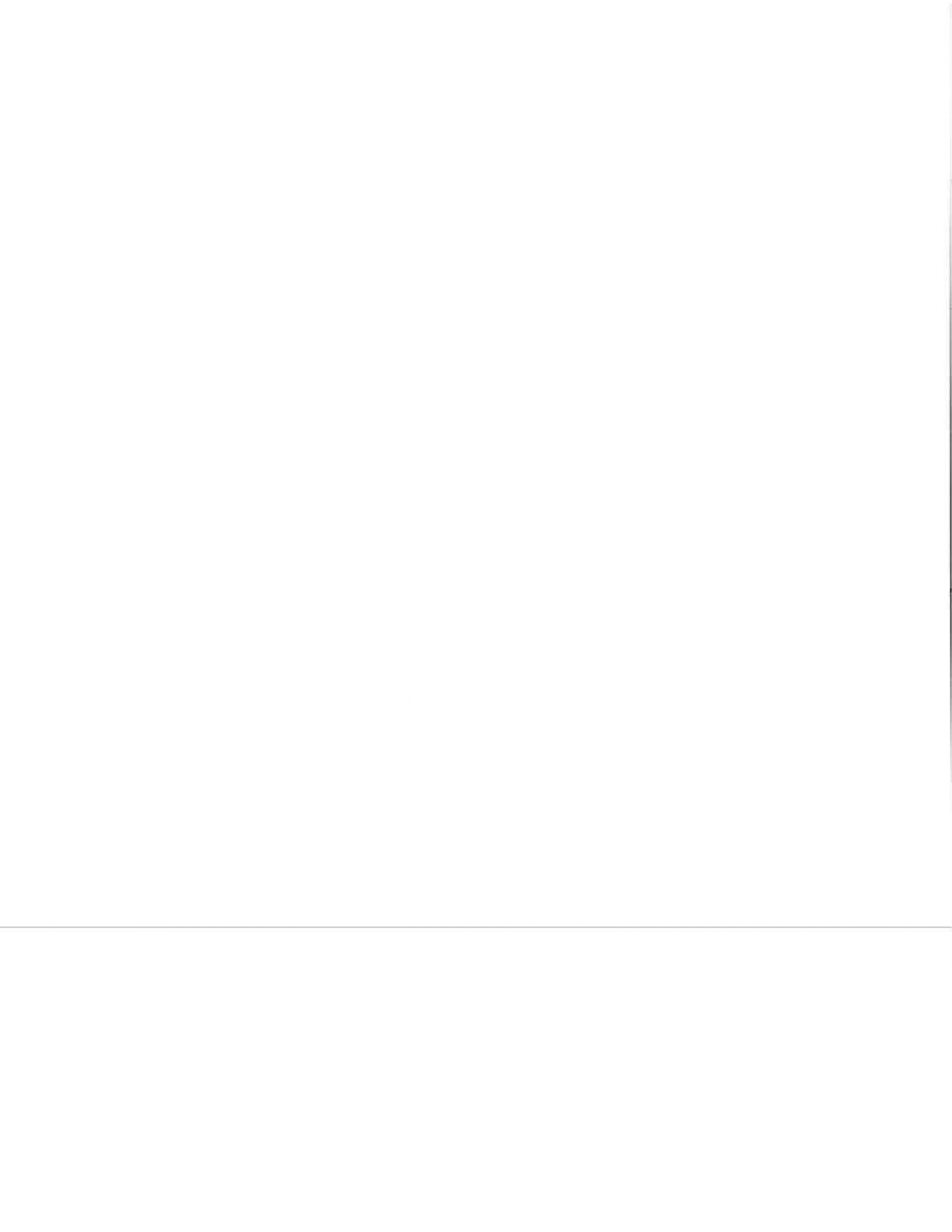
There was no "Old Business" to discuss

IX New Business

Dr. Hall announced that a new committee has been developed and Ms. Carla Borsotti will be the Chairperson. Members will be announced at a later date.

X Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was duly adjourned.



HONORABLE RUBEN DIAZ JR, BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT
COMMUNITY BOARD #12, THE BRONX

ATTENDANCE SHEET

WILLIAM HALL
CHAIRMAN

DATE: 3/28/19

ALLAKO, FRANKLIN	<u>Franklin Allako</u>
BENITEZ, JUDITH	<u>Judith Benitez</u>
BENNETT, EGERIA	<u>Egeria Bennett</u>
BLOOMFIELD, HILARY	<u>Hilary Bloomfield</u>
BORRAS, IVAN ANTHONY	<u>Ivan Borras</u>
BORSOTTI, CARLA	
BROWN, VICTOR	<u>Victor Brown</u>
BROWN-ALLEN, MARLENE	<u>Marlene Brown-Allen</u>
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD	<u>Deacon Edward Browne</u>
BRYAN, NORBERT	<u>NORBERT BRYAN</u>
BURKE, DR. MICHAEL	<u>Dr. Michael Burke</u>
CAMPBELL, SADIE	<u>Sadie Campbell</u>
CHRISTIAN, EVELYN	<u>Evelyn Christian</u>
CLARKE, GAIL	<u>Gail Clarke</u>
CLODD, JOAN	<u>Joan Clodd</u>
CUMBERBATCH, ROBERT	
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	<u>Jim Dickerson</u>
EASTMOND, LAURA	
EICHELBERGER, KEVIN	<u>Kevin Eichelberger</u>
EVANS, RAYMOND	<u>Raymond Evans</u>
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	<u>Alfredo Figueroa</u>
GIBSON-LAGRANT, BARBARA	<u>Barbara Gibson-Lagrant</u>
GOFF, JOHNNIE	<u>Johnnie Goff</u>
GREEN, CHANTAL	<u>Chantal Green</u>

HALL, ROBERT	<i>Robert Hall</i>
HALL, DR. WILLIAM	<i>William Hall</i>
HAYES, LISA	<i>Lisa Hayes</i>
ISAAC, JOHN	<i>John Isaac</i>
JAMES, THEODORE	
LANZANO, CARL	
MARTIN, LUCILLE	
MCLOUD, MARY	
MCNEIL, WALTER	<i>Walter McNeil</i>
MYKE, CLINTON	<i>Clinton Myke</i>
ORTIZ, CARMEN	<i>Carmen A. Ortiz</i>
PORTER, FRANK	<i>Frank Porter</i>
POWELL, CLAUDIA	
REID, ANTHONY	
ROBINS, DR. DENA	<i>Dr. Dena Robins</i>
RODRIGUEZ AHA REID, JAHDEI	
ROLDAN, FELIX	<i>Felix Roldan</i>
SALKEY THOMAS, ICY MAE	<i>Icy Mae Salkey</i>
STRICKER, KARL	<i>Karl Stricker</i>
TRIPICCO, SHIRLEY	<i>Shirley Tripicco</i>
WEIR, NICOLE	<i>Nicole Weir</i>
WILES, NORMA	<i>Norma Wiles</i>

TOTAL BOARD MEMBERS	46
QUORUM NUMBER	24
TOTAL PRESENT	—

**VOTING SHEET
COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX**

DATE 3/28/19

MOTION NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ALLAKPO, FRANKLIN	NP					
BENITEZ, JUDITH	A					
BENNETT, EGERIA	A					
BLOOMFIELD, HILARY	A					
BORRAS, IVAN ANTHONY	A					
BORSOTTI, CARLA	NP					
BROWN-ALLEN, MARLENE	NP					
BROWN, VICTOR	A					
BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD	A					
BRYAN, NORBERT	A					
BURKE, DR. MICHAEL	A					
CAMPBELL, SADIE	A					
CHRISTIAN, EVELYN	A					
CLARKE, GAIL	AS					
CLODD, JOAN	A					
CUMBERBATCH, ROBERT	NP					
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	A					
EASTMOND, LAURA	NP					
EICHELBERGER, KEVIN	A					
EVANS, RAYMOND	NP					
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	A					
GIBSON, LAGRANT BARBARA	NP					
GOFF, JOHNNIE	NP					
GREEN, CHANTAL	A					

HALL, ROBERT	A					
HALL, WILLIAM	A					
HAYES, LISA	A					
ISAAC, JOHN	A					
JAMES, THEODORE	NP					
LANZANO, CARL	NP					
MARTIN, LUCILLE	NP					
MCCLLOUD, MARY	NP					
MCNEIL, WALTER	NP					
MYKE, CLINTON	R					
ORTIZ, CARMEN	A					
PORTER, FRANK	A					
POWELL, CLAUDIA	NP					
REID, ANTHONY	NP					
ROBINS, DR. DENA	ABS					
RODRIGUEZ AHA REID, JAHDEI	NP					
ROLDAN, FELIX	A					
SALKEY, ICY MAE THOMAS	ABS					
STRICKER, KARL	A					
TRIPICCO, SHIRLEY	A					
WEIR, NICOLE	NP					
WILES, NORMA	NP					

25-A
3-ABS

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

District Manager's Report

March 28, 2019

Good evening Board Members, thank you for your well wishes and condolences for my grandmother. My family and I are very fortunate to have had her in my life for so long. She died three weeks short of her 101st birthday.

I wanted to raise several issues for this meeting. Last month I wrote that we needed to revisit our By-laws given changes in the legislation governing tenure on the Community Board. Secondly, I think we need to revisit the number of committees on the Community Board. Currently we have eleven committees according to our By-laws and only a handful are active monthly. Finally, we need to address the lack of participation in attendance of these meetings. We have 47 appointed members who are expected to be here. Tonight we have Board Members present. Last year we missed quorum twice and could not conduct the business at hand. I get that this is voluntary and no one gets paid but we do have responsibilities. Many of you are up for reappointment. Please take a second to evaluate what it is you hope to contribute and get out of being a Board Member. The By-laws allow for us to remove Board members that have missed meetings but it is a provision that in my tenure we have never used. If we were being fair more than half of this board would be removed for missed meetings. I have tried to walk a very fine line in how the Board governs itself because that is not where my authority lies. However, missed meetings and the inability to conduct basic business does reflect poorly on how we respond to the requests that are made of the office.

I would like to switch gears and talk about community organization and our outreach efforts. For the first three years I have focused on ramping up our capabilities. I am now focused on organizing our residents and increasing our outreach. Part of that is dealing with our governance and providing continuity so people can rely on us. We need to have our Committee Meetings on the same day every month without fail. We need committee chairs and backups that can fill in if the Chair cannot be there. We need community residents to come to our meetings so that there are not just three or four people in the room when decisions are being made. This community is blessed with strong and robust neighborhood associations. Two of the four tenant presidents of our NYCHA housing developments are Board members. But I have always found it odd that many of leaders who represent our neighborhood associations are not on this Board. Their membership on the Board could broaden our reach and our message to more people in the communities we represent.

I have it on good authority (but I do not want to jinx it) that the Council will extend and baseline the funding we received this past year. That's great news and I want to thank Council member Fernando Cabrera and his leadership as the Chair of the Governmental Operations Committee for making this a reality. Additionally, I would like to thank Council Members' Andy King and Andrew Cohen for supporting those efforts. I would also like to thank the Speaker of the City Council Corey Johnson for listening to his members and constituency and making this a reality. This is the first tangible increase in decades to Community Boards budget. All this said to say that we will use these monies to hire someone to focus on expanding our footprint on social media and outreach to get more people involved in what we do here at the community board.

The goal of this effort is to have a better informed constituency. I have always tried to play it straight to anyone that walks through these doors. We have been very successful in some of our efforts to prevent things we thought might be detrimental to our neighborhoods. However, we cannot rest on our laurels and we need to be better in our ability to respond quickly to new threats. My concern lies with the

City's efforts to conceal their involvement in the siting of social service programs that already overburden our district. City agencies now hide behind the not for profit sector who scope out and sign leases without prior notification to the Community Board. We have seen this recently with the diversion center and with the placement of homeless shelters. By the time we become aware of the situation it is too late. It is my belief with an organized constituency that is easily mobilized we can beat many of these things back. Mark Stagg has a history in the Bronx of buying properties and turning them into homeless shelters when he feels he cannot get the rent roles he desires. His latest partner in these ventures has been Praxis. We have several of his properties where he has done this. He recently purchased the vacant site on East 233rd Street and Barnes Avenue near the firehouse. I have reached out to the Department of Social Services who assure me that they have no desire site a shelter at this location even if Stagg brought it to them. We will continue to monitor the situation. Let me conclude this thought by saying that in another Stagg building we were notified that three of the apartments were raided by the NYPD because of illicit activity. What struck the officers when they raided the homes was the condition of the apartments. This is a brand new building with new everything in the apartment. It's so new you can still smell the plastic like a brand new car scent. The raided apartments were in such a poor condition that they will need to be gutted and done again with new material. I mention this to say that we are always told by DHS/HRA that we should be more accepting of homeless shelters. I don't want be more accepting of people that threaten our quality of life and seek to undo all the gains that this community has made through the years. This administration, like previous ones, talks about equity but it's lip service to me because they seem determined to undermine the fragile social fabric of black and brown communities throughout this City. My vow to all of you is that we will not be silent and we will organize and we will fight back when necessary.

The next issue I wanted to address is something that has been of a concern for me for some time but I haven't been able to articulate my thoughts. As many of you know I attend other meetings as part of my responsibilities as a District Manager. Last night I attend a "Build a Block" meeting for the 47th Precinct. Generally speaking many of these meetings I go to are similar in nature and are very good at dealing with very local complaints. However there is an underlying paradox that I find intriguing. I do not have an answer or how I reconcile these issues. I want to talk about it because I think it offers us an opportunity to address our feelings about our district. The paradox is that many of the complaints were reminiscent of another time. The requests were asking for more of a police presence to basically deal with younger people who hang out in parks or double-parked cars or smoking weed. These problems are more prevalent in the summer time when weather is nicer. The paradox is the State of New York is looking to legalize recreational use of marijuana. That's a good thing. The City of New York sought to reduce the use of Stop and Frisk because it unfairly targeted black and brown individuals. I am confused because the City of New York is the safest it's ever been in my lifetime. I was a teenager in the Dinkins's and Giuliani administrations when crime was at its peak. Since 1990 there has been a decrease of 70% in overall crime. Murder is down 88% since 1990. I say this to say we really need to change the way we think about our district and how we talk about our youth. They aren't doing anything wrong. I will draw a parallel that may help you visual this; nationally the President talks about a nonexistent problem at the border to ask for unneeded funds for a border wall. There's no difference in his rhetoric and yours when I hear talk of nonexistent problem of crime within our district. I am raising two teenagers who may fall prey to your fears because they were merely walking the streets.

Finally, in the same vein of what we want and expect for ourselves. I would like to propose that we stop granting liquor licenses to establishments that are only interested in operating during the wee hours of the morning. I am sure you have noticed that when you're planning dinner reservations for you and your family it's not at restaurant in the district. There are no sit-down restaurants within our borders

with the exception of Woodlawn where wait staff can serve you. We don't even have an Applebee's! Of course we need to establish a broader vision for this idea but nothing good comes out of being out on the town when the sun comes up. Our community deserves better and we have the ability to do something about it.

Conclusion

Today marks my 1,334th day as your District Manager or 3-years, 7 months and 26th day of my tenure here. I look forward to each and every day at the Board.

Thank you and Good Night

