



THE CITY OF NEW YORK Borough Of The Bronx

COMMUNITY BOARD #12

4101 WHITE PLAINS ROAD
BRONX, NEW YORK 10466
TELEPHONE: (718) 944-3300
FAX (718) 944-3310

The next Community Board 12, the Bronx regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at Town Hall—4101 White Plains Road, the Bronx at 7:30 P.M.

AGENDA

- I Presentation by Stagg Group
- II Presentation by JUMP Bikes
- III Good and Welfare/Community Speaks
- IV District Manager's Report
- V Report of the Bronx Borough President
- VI Report of the Chairman
- VII Report of the Nominating Committee
- VIII Committee Reports

Economic and Business Services Committee

- Two Two Two Bar and Grill Corp—3601 East 222nd Street—On Premise—New
- La Roose Catering Hall—4848 White Plains Road—On Premise—Renewal
- Hot Spot Grill & Jerk Inc.—4850 White Plains Road—On Premise—New
- Beatty Equities LLC d/b/a Peppers—4564 White Plains Road—On Premise—Renewal
- Stacey Bonner—4386 White Plains Road—On Premise—New



- Unmero Uno Sabor Latino Restaurant—4120 White Plains Road—Wine & Beer—
Renewal

Transportation and Capital Projects and Public Safety Committees

- Vote on JUMP Bikes

IX Old Business

X New Business

XI Adjournment

PLEASE USE ENTRANCE ON EAST 229TH STREET



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BRONX, NEW YORK 10466
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Community Board 12 Minutes May 23, 2019

The regularly scheduled meeting of Community Board 12, the Bronx, for May 23, 2019 began at 7:45 pm, at Town Hall, 4101 White Plains Road, The Bronx. Those wishing to participate were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. District Manager George Torres noted that a quorum was not yet present.

I Presentation by Constantinople and Vallone Consulting

Ms. Judith Benitez introduced Ms. Lauren George, representing Constantinople and Vallone Consulting and Mr. William Bollinger representing JCAL Development Group LLC, which is based in the Bronx and focuses on affordable housing. The company is looking to build 100% affordable housing at 4541 Furman Avenue off of White Plains Road. The proposed development would include community space and retail, underground parking and interior and exterior recreation areas. The developer is requesting rezoning of the area to support the project. It will consist of 2 buildings each 9 to 10 stories high, with a total of 172 units.

The company aims to exceed the HPD 50% community preference requirement. They source subcontractors, suppliers and workers from within the community wherever possible.

Board members raised questions about when Furman Avenue residents will be brought into the process; and asked: has the sound impact of being over the elevated #2 subway line been addressed; has an environmental impact study been done; and has parking been addressed. The JCAL representatives stated that they fully intend to engage the Furman Avenue community at a later stage in the process. The impact of the subway noise has been addressed in the design. The environmental impact study will be addressed in the future. Parking is being addressed in the design; however additional geophysical testing is required to determine how much underground parking the site will support.

II Presentation by STAGG Group

First Vice Chairman Mr. Karl Stricker introduced representatives Mr. Austin Graham and Ms. Katherine Bradshaw from the Stagg Group, who are developing a site at 761 E. 233rd St. Mr.



Graham provided an overview of the company's current projects. The proposed building on E. 233rd Street will have 116 units with 54 parking spots. The building will be financed privately as opposed to via HPD.

III Presentation by JUMP Bike

Mr. Kyle Thomas and Mr. Chris Walker provided a presentation on JUMP Bike rental offering. A primary feature is a very robust locking mechanism. They stated that they are the first dockless e-bike share system in the US. The company was purchased by Uber last year, so the bikes can be rented directly through the Uber app. The rental costs is \$2 for the first 30 minutes of ride time, and \$.07 per minute for additional use.

JUMP Bike is requesting a letter of support from the community to extend a pilot program in the Bronx.

The meeting was called to order at 8:45pm by First Vice President Mr. Karl Stricker, when it was determined that a quorum was present.

IV Good and Welfare/Community Speaks

Ms. Desiree Campbell/Community Business Owner

Ms. Campbell asked if there are any funding resources to support local small businesses in our community. Her business will provide meeting and event space for community organizations and residents. She stated that many landlords will not rent their facilities to small businesses because they prefer franchises. Ms. Campbell was advised to contact the Board 12 office for more information regarding small business resources.

Mr. George Diaz/Resident

Mr. Diaz stated that he has concerns about the Stagg Group's proposed development, because there has been a problem with flipping of buildings in the Bronx in recent years. Sometimes the flipped buildings are converted to homeless shelters.

Mr. James Rather/NYC Department of City Planning

Mr. Rather informed everyone that he is from the NYC Department of City Planning, and is available to the community as a resource.

Ms. Yvonne Martin/Prudential Financial Advisor

Ms. Martin stated that she is available to provide financial guidance to community residents.

V District Manager's Report

See attached.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Chairman Mr. Ivan Borrás investigated NYC rules for community fundraising for Community Park. Any funds raised by communities cannot be earmarked for specific parks; they are deposited into a general fund. Mr. Borrás is requesting that the Board send a letter asking that this process be revised to allow funds raised by a community to be committed to specific parks.

Motion made by Mr. Ivan Borrás to write a letter of support to the Mayor and for changing the capital funding process for parks. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Transportation and Capital Projects

Chairman Mr. John Isaac expressed the support for Jump Bike program. He requested a letter of support for the program.

Motion made by Mr. John Isaac to write a letter of support for the Jump Bike program. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Economic and Business Services Committee:

Chairman Mr. Felix Roldán presented the committee's report, recommending that the following license renewal requests be approved.

Two Two Two Bar and Grill Corp – 3601 East 222nd Street – On Premise – New

La Roose Catering Hall – 4848 White Plains Road – On Premise – Renewal

Hot Spot Grill & Jerk Inc – 4850 White Plains Road – On Premise – New

Beatty Equities LLC d/b/a Peppers – 4564 White Plains Road – On Premise – Renewal

Motion made to approve the committee's report. Motion passed 25 Ayes and 1 Abstention.

Motion made by Mr. Felix Roldán and seconded to accept the committee's recommendation to approve the new and renewal license requests, for La Roose, Hot Spot Grill & Jerk Inc, and Beatty Equities LLC, and to reschedule the meeting with Two Two Two Bar and Grill Corp. **Motion passed 17 Ayes, 3 Abstentions, and 4 Nays.**

After a brief discussion it was noted that since there was no quorum present at the committee meeting these items will be taken up again.

Library and Cultural Affairs Committee

See attached

Report of the Borough President's Office

- 2019 Community Board Reappointments
- Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. Kicked Off Bronx Week 2019
- The 2019 Bronx Walk of Fame Inductees are: Regina Spektor, Iran Barkely, and Carolyn Porco
- BP Diaz Launched Bronx 2020 Census Complete Count Committee
- Borough President Diaz Jr. Testified at New York State Assembly Housing Committee Hearing to Protect New York City's Renters
- BP Diaz Assailed Jail Design Advisory Group
- Borough President Diaz Attended Grand Opening of the LIT. Bar
- Borough President Diaz Appointed Lilliam Al Perez to Civic Engagement Commission
- Statement Issued From Borough President Diaz Re: Launch of the USDA SNAP Pilot Program in NYS
- Borough President Diaz Attended Anti-Violence March on Grand Concourse

Upcoming Event

- Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., Hosted Annual Ramadan Iftar Dinner, Breaking the Fast Together, Thursday, May 23, 2019, (6:30 P.M. doors opened and 7:00 P.M. program started), Veterans Memorial Hall, 851 Grand Concourse

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

Office of the Honorable Alessandra Biaggi

Mr. Stricker recognized Ms. Maryann Joyce from State Senator Alessandra Biaggi's office. She provided an overview of upcoming events.

Nominating Committee

Nominating committee members are: Ms. Barbara Gibson, Mr. Felix Roldan, Dr. Michael Burke, Ms. Judith Benitez, and Ms. Tollyne Dickerson. Ms. Dickerson will chair the committee. The committee will meet in June.

Old Business

Dr. Michael Burke noted that the B&B Urban development organization remains an ongoing problem in the community.

New Business

Mr. Carl Lanzano requested clarification regarding the Board by-laws. He stated that back in the June a vote was taken regarding the new By-laws which was approved by a vote of 29 Ayes and 2 Abstentions and they had to be certified by the Bronx Borough President's Office. Mr. Lanzano inquired that if the Board needed 36 members to pass the vote why was the vote taken anyway? Why was it printed and sent as if it was approved? Why are we hearing it for the first time today?

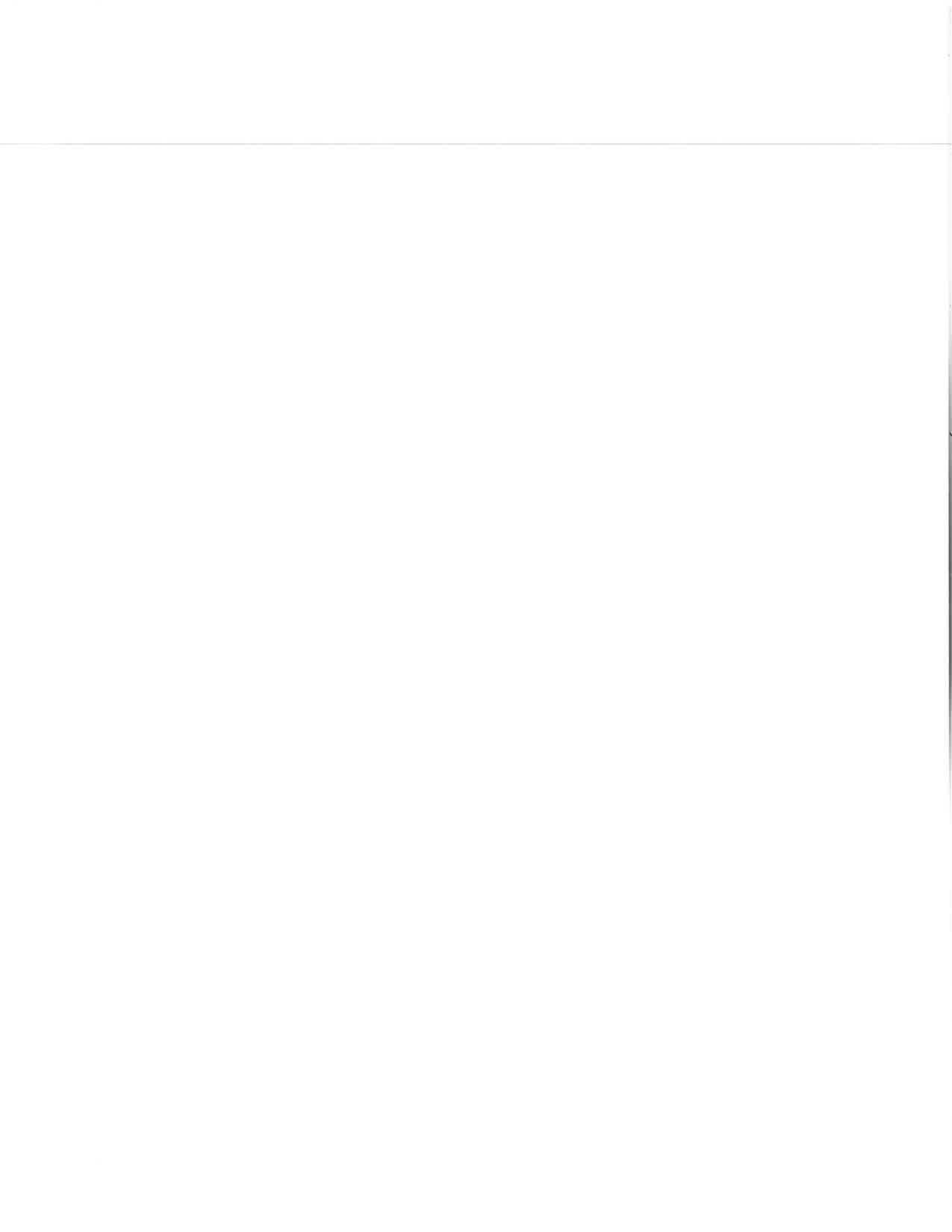
Mr. Torres responded that several people had approached him and expressed a dissatisfaction with the Board and they were told certain things which required him to look at the By-laws. At which time the mistake was noticed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 pm. The next meeting will take place on June 27, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Carla Borsotti
Assistant Secretary
June 21, 2019



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

ATTENDANCE SHEET

WILLIAM HALL
CHAIRMAN

DATE: 5/23/19

ALLAKO, FRANKLIN

BENITEZ, JUDITH

BENNETT, EGERIA

BLOOMFIELD, HILARY

BORRAS, IVAN ANTHONY

BORSOTTI, CARLA

BROWN, VICTOR

BROWN-ALLEN, MARLENE

BROWNE, DEACON EDWARD

BRYAN, NORBERT

BURKE, DR. MICHAEL

CAMPBELL, SADIE

CHRISTIAN, EVELYN

CLARKE, GAIL

CLODD, JOAN

CUMBERBATCH, ROBERT

DICKERSON, TOLLYNE

EASTMOND, LAURA

EICHELBERGER, KEVIN

EVANS, RAYMOND

FIGUEROA, ALFREDO

GIBSON-LAGRANT, BARBARA

GOFF, JOHNNIE

GREEN, CHANTAL

J.M. Benitez
Egeria Bennett
Hilary Bloomfield
Ivan Borras
Carla Borsotti
Victor Brown
Marlene Brown-Allen
Deacon Edward Browne
NORBERT BRYAN
Dr. Michael Burke, Ph.D.
Sadie Campbell
Evelyn Christian
Gail Clarke
Joan Clodd
Robert Cumberbatch
Tollyne Dickerson
Laura Eastmond
Kevin Eichelberger
Raymond Evans
Alfredo Figueroa
Barbara Gibson-Lagrant
Johnnie Goff
Chantal Green

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| HALL, ROBERT | <i>Robert Hall</i> |
| HALL, DR. WILLIAM | <i>excused</i> |
| HAYES, LISA | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| ISAAC, JOHN | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| JAMES, THEODORE | <i>Theodore James</i> |
| LANZANO, CARL | <i>Carl Lanzano</i> |
| MARTIN, LUCILLE | <i>Lucille Martin</i> |
| MCCLOUD, MARY | <i>excused</i> |
| MCNEIL, WALTER | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| MYKE, CLINTON | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| ORTIZ, CARMEN | |
| PORTER, FRANK | <i>Frank Porter</i> |
| POWELL, CLAUDIA | <i>Claudia Powell</i> |
| REID, ANTHONY | <i>excused</i> |
| ROBINS, DR. DENA | <i>Dr. Dena Robins</i> |
| ROLDAN, FELIX | <i>Felix M. Roldan</i> |
| SALKEY THOMAS, ICY MAE | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| STRICKER, KARL | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| TRIPICCO, SHIRLEY | <i>Shirley J. Tripicco</i> |
| WEIR, NICOLE | |
| WILES, NORMA | |

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| TOTAL BOARD MEMBERS | 45 |
| QUORUM NUMBER | 24 |
| TOTAL PRESENT | — |

VOTING SHEET
COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX

DATE

5/23/19

Amateur Letter
Comp. Code
Economic Committee
Liquor License

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

Ards beds
TYPE
Economic
COMMITTEE
Liquor
LIQUOR

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

26A *26A* *25A* *15-A*
1ABS *4-ABS*
4-N

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

Community Board 12
Sign-In Sheet

Date 5/23/19

ELECTED OFFICIALS

HONORABLE RUBEN DIAZ JR

Justin Sanchez

HONORABLE BILL de BLASIO

HONORABLE ELIOT ENGEL

HONORABLE ALESSANDRA BIAGGI

Marganne Joyce

HONORABLE JAMAAL BAILEY

HONORABLE JEFFREY DINOWITZ

Ivan Neods

HONORABLE CARL HEASTIE

Sandra Cruz - Kiron Ireland

HONORABLE ANDREW COHEN

Miles Burnett

HONORABLE MARK GJONAJ

HONORABLE ANDY KING

HONORABLE RITCHIE TORRES

HONORABLE JIMMY VACCA

HONORABLE DARCEL CLARK

HONORABLE SCOTT STRINGER

Victor Martinez

REPRESENTATIVES/GUEST

Kyle Thomas - Jump Bikes

Chris Walker - Jump Bikes

Austin Gramm - STAGG GROUP

William Bollinger - SCAL Devt Group

Lauren George - CIV consulting

Sandra Cruz

James Rother - DCP BX

Michael Stagg

Miles Burnett

LIBRARY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

On Saturday, May 18th, the Library & Cultural Affairs Committee held an event on Mental Health issues.

We had a panel which consisted of a social worker, a psychologist, a nurse, a New York State Judge, her son who is a peer counselor and a mental illness survivor and a therapist. These individuals are very knowledgeable in dealing with mental illness on a daily basis in their respective occupations.

People were receptive to the information given and many had their questions answered while others joined in the conversation and also shared their experiences. I believe people left there feeling empowered and educated in mental health issues and concerns. Some have even requested a follow up which is being considered.

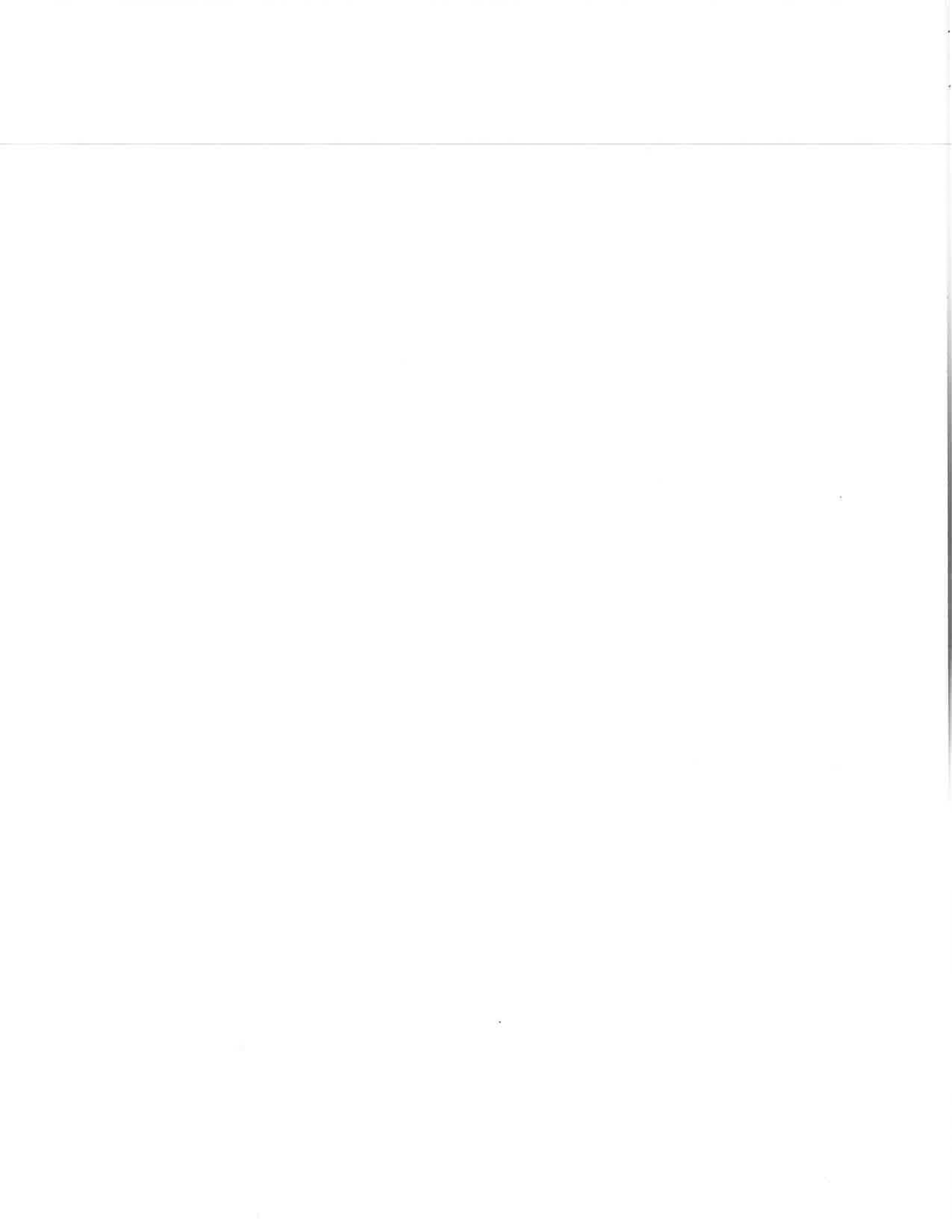
The turnout was admirable but as usual lacked the support of Community Board 12 members.

My thanks to the few board members who attended Carla Borsotti, Deacon Brown and our chair William Hall. Special thanks to committee members, Sadie Campbell, Evelyn Christian and Lisa Hayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan A. Clodd

May 23, 2019



District Manager's Report
May 23, 2019

Good evening Board Members, happy May, let's get right into it.

Last month the Full Board took the action of selecting a Nominating Committee to put a slate forward for next month's election for the Executive Officers of this Board. That same night someone who was nominated asked if they could withdraw from the Nominating Committee because they were interested in running for an executive position. They were told by another Board member that was not possible and that they had to fulfill their obligation on the committee. I was approached later the following week by other Board Members who were upset with the current direction and looking to challenge the current leadership of this Board. Additionally, I was approached by an Executive Board Member who said they would not be seeking reelection to the Executive Committee.

I called the Borough President's Office to confirm my thoughts and to let them know what was going on here. According to our By-Laws, voted and approved on June 22nd 2017, Article V, Section Three states anyone considering running for an Executive Officer position must serve on the Committee Board for Five consecutive years and (this is where I am not sure) must also serve five consecutive years on a standing committee. My confusion is that this is not explicitly spelled out as an either/or choice. But here is the kicker, these rules changes have not been adopted yet by this Board because that June 22nd vote only carried a 29-2 vote for approval. According to our By-Laws in Article X Titled Adoption: These By-Laws shall be adopted when approved by three-fourths of the appointed members of the Board at a meeting of the Board. Three-fourths of our Board on June 22, 2017 would have had to carry 36 aye votes. That rule was not met on June 22, 2017. These rules were never adopted properly.

I think this presents an opportunity for this Board to revisit these issues and take a more pro-active approach to remedying some concerns you have about the direction and leadership of this Board that have been expressed to me in private. Until the proper ratification we will be operating under our older By-Laws which states anyone can run for office for a term of one-year. There are no exclusions or prohibitions for Executive Officer of Community Board 12. Secondly, anyone that was selected to the Nominating Committee can run for and become an Executive Officer. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members and can present more than one candidate for each of the executive offices to be filled at the meeting. Anyone may resign their commission by submitting in writing to the Chairperson and District Manager. Meaning anyone that does not want to serve on the Nominating Committee or any Committee for that matter should submit a letter of resignation. The resignation need not be accepted to become effective.

All this brings me to my next point. As a District Manager I am tasked with running this office and making sure that we are meeting our obligations on an operational basis. Since August 2015 I have tried to get my house in order on meeting those obligations. It's been slower than I anticipated but we are the only Community Board that is transparent in the Bronx by broadcasting and live streaming our Full Board Meetings. We are getting better and we will get better. Considering everything I stated about our By-Laws it is evident that the Board needs to take a serious look at itself and figure out next steps. Ursula and I are willing to help. In that vein, I will codify in our new By-Laws the relationship between the Board and staff. There is a level of coziness that borders on inappropriate. Ursula and I are very accommodating but we are not here to fetch you a cup of coffee or take you home. I know the Borough President is fond of telling everyone that I serve at the pleasure of the Board. That statement has limitations and does not ever mean the Board taking personal liberties with me or anyone on this staff.

Please take seriously Ursula or I making a suggestion during a meeting as it usually means that it will have to be re-visited and remedied later.

I was here Tuesday evening for a meeting and witnessed our Economic Development Committee with only one voting member present. The Chair of that committee is going to make recommendations tonight on who should receive a liquor license. I am not saying this to signal the Chair or the Economic Committee out. There was no quorum for that meeting but the odd thing is I don't know who sits on that committee. The last time the list of committee members was updated was in 2012. This list needs to be updated.

I have long resisted injecting myself on the body politic of this Board. However, I have an obligation to point out when things they are not done correctly and that impacts what we do on a daily basis. This requires a little introspection on your part. Why are you here and what do you hope to accomplish? What is your purpose? If you want to make change start with yourselves. Hold yourselves accountable. Accountability starts with attending Committee meetings and the Full Board Meeting. Hold your fellow Board members accountable. If you see something that you disagree with say something about why you disagree. Always remember to be polite. Our disagreements should not be personal or derogatory towards one another. Disagreements should be debated on the merits of the policy and free from personal agendas and pettiness. We should be dedicated to the betterment of our community and each other. Remember this is a City Agency that has very specific tasks. Our responsibility is not to host back to school events or compete with other elected officials. Our responsibility is to do Planning and Zoning, the District Needs Statement on the City Budget and to be an Ombudsman for this district.

Finally at our last Board meeting I mentioned District Budget Consultations on Saturday, June 22nd. I have not heard from anyone so please confirm your attendance this evening and please forward any questions you have about the district. This will give me an idea on which agencies to invite.

Conclusion

Today marks my 1,390th day as your District Manager or 3-years, 9 months and 21st day of my tenure here. I look forward to each and every day at the Board.

Thank you and Good Night

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

May 2019

Community Board Report

2019 Community Board Reappointments

Community Board members who have submitted a reappointment application should continue to serve until they receive a letter from the Borough President regarding their reappointment. The terms of community board members who have chosen not to reapply for a new term ended on March 31st.

New applicants will receive a letter from the Borough President regarding appointments in the middle of May.

BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT RUBEN DIAZ JR. KICKS OFF

BRONX WEEK 2019

Announces the induction of singer-songwriter Regina Spektor, Boxing champion Iran Barkley and planetary scientist Carolyn Porco to the 2019 Bronx Walk of Fame

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. was joined by proud Bronxites and Bronxites-at-heart today for the official kick-off of “Bronx Week 2019” at The Lit. Bar, a newly-opened independent bookstore in Mott Haven.

During the celebration, Borough President Diaz announced that singer-songwriter **Regina Spektor**, championship boxer **Iran Barkley** and planetary scientist **Carolyn Porco** would be honored as the newest members of the Bronx Walk of Fame.

“Bronx Week is a chance for our borough to come together and celebrate what an incredible community we have here,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “The Bronx is recognized by the whole world as a rainbow of culture, talent, and spirit and today we host our annual homecoming for some of our best and brightest stars. This year’s honorees are role models for their achievements in their respective fields and they show that, if given a chance, a child from The Bronx can become a world-renowned pianist, a champion boxer or even a planetary scientist. I am proud to welcome them back to the Boogie Down.”

“Bronx Week is one of the most, if not the most anticipated events of the year. This is the time where the entire borough celebrates the best of the best!” says **Olga Luz Tirado**, executive director of The Bronx Tourism Council.

In addition, the event served as the official unveiling of the official Bronx Week 2019 Spotify playlist. The playlist includes music by artists from The Bronx, including past Bronx Walk of Fame inductees Ms. Spektor, Fat Joe, Prince Royce, Willie Colon and Dion DiMucci.

The Bronx Week 2019 Spotify Playlist can be found here: <https://spoti.fi/2PJWadX>.

The event also included samples of some of the best food, drink and swag The Bronx has to offer, including the Bronx Native, Bronx Brewery, Ceetay and Gino's Pastry Shop.

Now in its 48th year, Bronx Week is the annual celebration of everything that makes The Bronx a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Bronx Week is made possible with the generous support of Gold Sponsor Montefiore Medical Center. Montefiore Medical Center is the largest employer in The Bronx and has partnered with the Office of the Bronx Borough President on a multitude of community outreach projects.

"We are so proud to again serve as gold sponsors for the 2019 Bronx Week festivities," said Dr. Peter Semczuk, Senior Vice President & Executive Director, Montefiore Moses and Wakefield Campuses. "As the premier health system in the Bronx and the county's largest employer, we are excited to work with Borough President Diaz and the Bronx Tourism Council to help support all of the family friendly and civic minded events that bring the Bronx together in celebration each year."

Other Bronx Week sponsors include: Carpenter Contract Alliance of Metropolitan New York, Waste Management, Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield, Altice USA, GOYA, Healthfirst, Con Edison, Bronx Community College, Hostos Community College, Lehman College, United Healthcare, Lincoln Hospital, Mercy College, Blink Fitness, BronxNet and The Bronx Design Group.

For more information about Bronx Week 2019, visit www.ilovethebronx.com.

BP DIAZ LAUNCHES BRONX 2020 CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. announced the creation of the "Bronx 2020 Census Complete Count Committee." The committee will be tasked with increasing turnout in the upcoming 2020 Census and ensuring that Bronx residents participate in this important civic function.

"Whether Bronxites and New Yorkers know it or not the census count has a huge effect on what happens in our everyday lives. If we are not counted, our quality of life and our access to necessary services will undoubtedly be diminished," said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** "We need to make sure that every corner of this borough is counted, and the creation of the Bronx 2020 Census Complete Count Committee will help us do just that."

Further, we must act now to close the preferential rent loophole that allows landlords to raise rents steeply, even in rent-regulated units.

The large gap between preferential rents and maximum legal rents in rent stabilized apartments indicates the risk of rent burden and destabilization in our communities. This can lead to displacement and homelessness for the often-longtime residents of changing neighborhoods. I issued a report this past December addressing this issue, which highlighted the need to maintain preferential rents in more than 260,000 New York City apartments. This accounts for over one-third of the rent-stabilized housing stock in the city.

There are currently no protections against a sudden and dramatic rent increase for those residents who have a preferential rent lease. One egregious example of this came to the attention of my office in 2017 when a disabled Social Security recipient in The Bronx had his preferential rent increased from \$503 to the legal maximum of \$1,650. This \$1,147 per month difference amounted to a 228% monthly hike in rent – an increase that ultimately forced him out of his longtime home because he could no longer afford to live there. The predatory behavior of this landlord demonstrates the necessity of preserving preferential rents, which, in this case, could have kept the resident in his home.

I have also stated that compromises can be accomplished to find a solution, as many landlords are small businesses themselves. Therefore, we should strongly consider giving landlords a property tax break for the difference between the preferential rent and the legal registered rent in a given rent-stabilized apartment. The government routinely provides tax credits for the development of new affordable housing. We should do the same to maintain the existing housing stock and keep families in their homes.

For a comprehensive discussion and analysis on this matter, I refer you to The Bronx Borough President's December 2018 report on closing the preferential rent loophole, which has been submitted into the record attached to this testimony.

We must act now not only to extend rent regulation as we know it, but also to increase protections for tenants. We must help maintain the existing stock of rent-stabilized units by ending vacancy decontrol. Under the current law, landlords can remove a housing unit from the stabilization system if the rent reaches the maximum threshold and the unit becomes vacant. Over 300,000 units have been deregulated under the vacancy decontrol law and the current law provides an incentive for some unscrupulous landlords to abuse the system, even harassing tenants to get them to move out. Over 118,000 units already over the maximum threshold are at risk of deregulation under this provision should changes not be made.

The Governor supports an end to vacancy decontrol, and the Legislature should enact the legislation introduced by Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal and Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins to end this deleterious policy. Over half of New York City's residents are rent burdened, and losing these affordable units will increase the number of families barely getting by and not making ends meet.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ APPOINTS LILLIAM A. PEREZ TO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr, announced today his appointment of Lilliam A. Perez as the Bronx representative to the newly-created New York City Civic Engagement Commission.

“Lilliam A. Perez is a perfect choice to represent our borough on the city’s Civic Engagement Commission. I know her to be someone who loves this city and is tireless in her efforts to better the community. I have complete faith in her ability to help increase civic awareness and participation throughout the city so that more New Yorkers understand the how vital it is to take an active role in our democracy,” said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

“As a life-long Dominican-American Bronxite, it’s an honor that Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. is giving me the opportunity to represent the people of this great Borough. I’m committed to making sure that the many voices of the communities residing in the Bronx are heard,” said Lilliam A. Perez, a resident of Belmont who currently serves as Vice President of Government & Community Relations for the Montefiore Health System & Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

In November 2018, New York City voters overwhelmingly approved three ballot initiatives proposed by the 2018 Charter Revision Commission, which included the establishment of the Civic Engagement Commission. The Commission will be responsible for enhancing civic participation, promoting civic trust and strengthening democracy in New York City. The Commission will have 15 commissioners. Eight are appointed by the Mayor, two by the City Council and one by each Borough President.

Ms. Perez is native of the city of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic and grew up in The Bronx. She was recently appointed to the position of Vice President of Government and Community Relations for Montefiore Health System and Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the counties of The Bronx, Westchester, Rockland and Orange. In that capacity, she is responsible for strategic engagement and advocacy with city, state and federal elected leaders, government agencies and the community-at-large.

Prior to joining Montefiore, she was Senior Advisor and Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs in the Office of the New York State Attorney General. Throughout her career in the offices of the New York State Attorney General and the New York State Senate she collaborated with numerous organizations dealing with social justice issues such as education and immigration reform, political empowerment and women’s rights.

Ms. Perez has received numerous recognitions for her political and community activism, including being named one of “40 Rising Stars Under 40,” The Next Generation of Political Leaders in New York by City Hall News, and having been honored by the Dominican Day Parade and named a “2018 Madrina.” She has also received numerous recognitions from elected officials and community organizations throughout her career.

Ms. Perez is a board member of Mosholu Preservation Corporation, a founder and former board member of the Latina Political Action Committee, a former board member and treasurer of the Dominican Women’s Development Center and the Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights, a former member of the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects

Ruben Diaz Jr. “It’s up to us as a community to disavow violence and come together in peace. The tragic death of Nipsey Hussle inspired this march but we need to keep that momentum strong. I thank the organizers for bringing hundreds of people out for this cause.”

Up Coming Event:

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. Hosts its Annual Ramadan Iftar Dinner

Breaking the Fast Together

Thursday, May 23, 2019

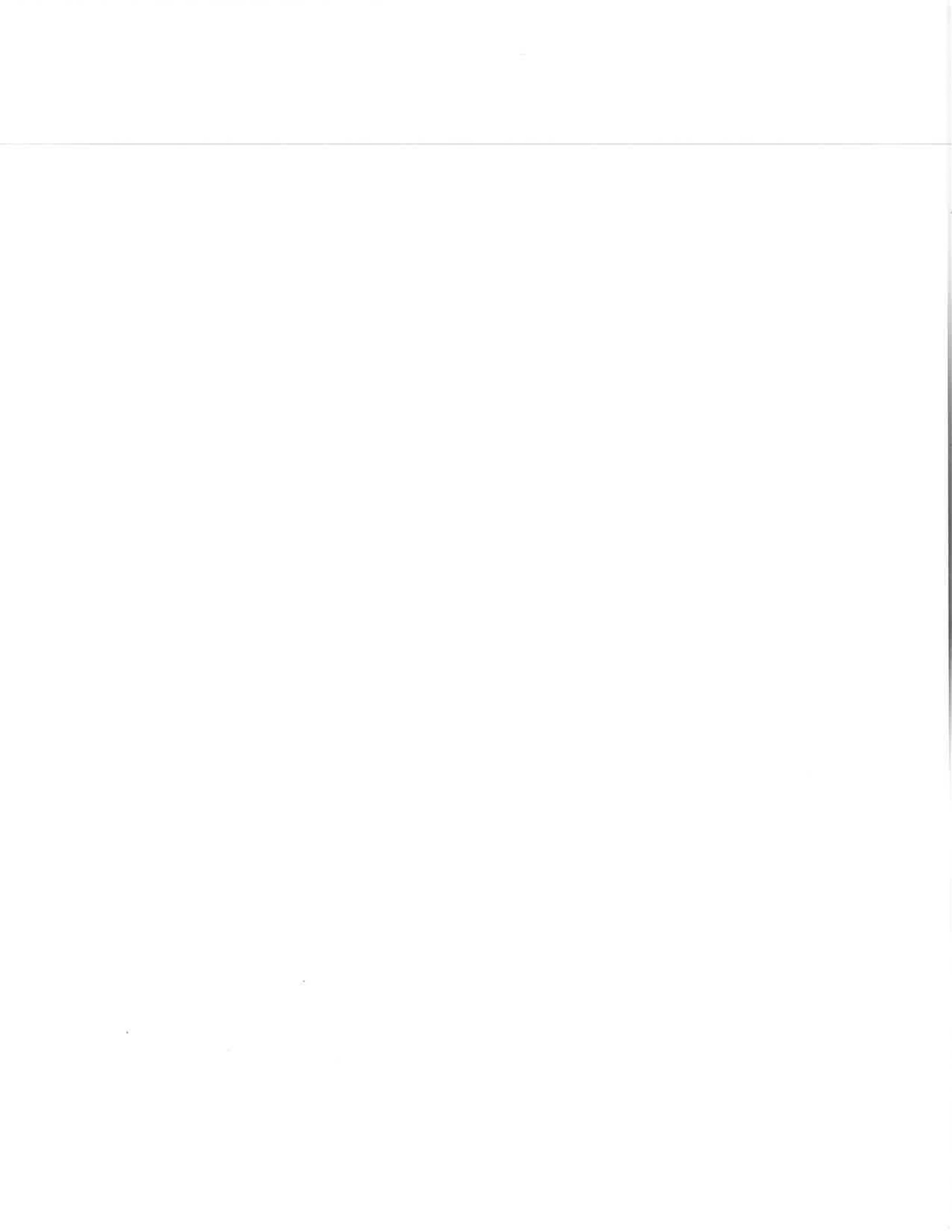
6:30pm – Doors open

7:00pm- Program

Veteran’s Memorial Hall

851 Grand Concourse

RSVP- 718-590-3522 or lroldan@bronxbrn.nyc.gov



COMMUNITY BOARD 12
SIGN IN SHEET
PLEASE PRINT

| DATE | NAME | ORGANIZATION | ADDRESS | EMAIL |
|---------|------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 5/23/14 | Donald Sibley | Sharon Church | 607 E 23rd St | DONALD@THEREGMAIL |
| | Daniel Campbell | | Ederwald Avenue | desvincible@yahoo.com |
| | Edwin Tommas | | 4321 Byron Ave | Tommas@502et.com |
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| | Chris Modred | | 3709 Walleth Ave Bx | |
| | Angelica Rivera | | 3033 Wallace Ave | |
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