

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 17, 2013 AT BOARD'S OFFICE

PRESENT

Sergio Marquez
Laura Spalter
Robert Press
Robert Spalter

AFFILIATION

CB8, Chair
CB8, Vice Chair
CB8
Community Committee member

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the March 20, 2013 meeting was approved after they were amended.

Paragraph 1 of the Chair's Report of the minutes was amended as follows: the word noise before meters was replaced with the word decibel.

Chair's Report

The site underneath the Promenade building will be cleaned soon. In response to a letter sent to RY Management, who manages the Promenade, Daniel Durantee, a representative for RY Management stated that the site will be cleaned by the end of April, 2013. An inspection of the site will take place in early May, 2013 to confirm the cleanup. But the Metro North Railroad has yet to confirm a date when the track and the road bed adjoining the site will be cleaned.

The sanitation issues raised at the Marble Hill Town Hall meeting held on April 10, 2013 were: trash cans are constantly overflowing, which may require more than three pickups a week; dog feces is quite rampant, which I suggested creating a neighborhood dog run; Metro North needs to secure their gates to the site underneath the Promenade building to prevent vagrants from coming onto the site; and the businesses that line Broadway are not cleaning the litter that accumulate in front of their stores.

A sanitation informational forum covering recycling, the pooper scooper law and the Adopt A Basket program could provide the Marble Hill Community with the tools it needs to address some of these concerns. Ticketing the dog owners and business owners could be another way to resolve the problems. The residents of Marble Hill need to take the initiative to keep their neighborhood clean by forming a community organization or a block association which can do beautification projects or other sanitation projects.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed a 5.6% increase to the water rate for fiscal year 2014. It is the lowest increase in eight years. If accepted the new rate will become effective on July 1, 2013.

DEP announced the Residential Toilet Replacement Program which will begin this fall and will save millions of gallons of water.

In response to inquiries made at the March 20, 2013 meeting, DEP is responsible for the maintenance of hydrants and Con Edison handles gas leaks.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. at a location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergio Marquez, Chair
Environment & Sanitation Committee