

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 19, AT THE BOARD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Sergio Marquez
Robert Press
Laura Spalter
Robert Spalter
Tom Durham
Patrick Hickey
Fitzgerald Serrano
Eugene Zappi

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair, CB8
CB8
Committee Vice Chair, CB8
Community Committee Member

Bronx Borough Night Super
Supervisor

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Minutes of the October 17, 2012 meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

On November 16, 2012, there was a meeting to view the site of the dumping located at the Promenade. It was determined that the MTA owns the site. The next step is have a meeting with the representatives of the MTA to have the site cleaned up.

In either January or February 2013, a recycling seminar will take place in Marble Hill.

**PRESENTATION BY PATRICK HICKEY, BOROUGH SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION ("DSNY")**

Mr. Hickey gave an overview of the DSNY.

He distinguished Sanitation from Sanitation Enforcement. Basically, Sanitation picks up garbage and cleans the snow while Sanitation Enforcement hands out all the tickets for violations of the sanitation code. He also said that Sanitation Enforcement is a separate agency from the Department of Sanitation like Traffic Enforcement is to the Police Department.

Garbage collection is arranged between commercial and residential.

In commercial areas, there are nine pick-ups per week - six (6) at night and three (3) during the day.

In residential areas, there is only three (3) pick-ups per week.

Robert Press recommended that street cleaning in the Amalgamated be reduced since that neighborhood is pretty clean.

There are no garbage baskets placed in residential areas, but a residential area could obtain a garbage basket under the Adopt a Basket Program. The program requires the

residents of the area to be responsible to place the garbage basket(s) with the rest of their garbage for pick-up.

DSNY has not had a problem getting to difficult streets in Community Board 8 unless there is an obstruction e.g., tree or other debris.

DSNY has a policy and it comes from their union that snow removal must be completed city-wide before any garbage collection can commence.

DSNY's budget has not been cut so services will continue unabated.

Laura Spalter inquired about the legislation that would allow DSNY to charge non-for-profits a fee for garbage collection. Mr. Hickey did not have an answer to that question but he said that one of our local elected officials might be able to answer that question.

Mr. Hickey said that one should call 311 if garbage is left behind after a collection is made. Mr. Hickey said that his department is ready for any snowfall this season and they have a good record for snow removal from past snowstorms.

Eugene Zappi, a resident whose house is across from Hebrew Home, re-visited the issue of excessive noise emanating from the air conditioner unit at the Hebrew Home. He wanted to get the noise readings that the DEP took this past summer. I told him that I would contact Effie Ardizzone from DEP and request the readings.

Mr. Zappi wants the readings to show the Hebrew Home that something has to be done to the air conditioner unit.

Mr. Zappi said that he spoke with Mr. Rheingold from the Hebrew Home in March 2012 and Mr. Rheingold promised that ht would muffle the noise, but the noise this summer was the same as the prior summer. The next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at a place to be determined. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergio Marquez, Chair
Environment & Sanitation Committee