

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 16, 2013 AT RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH  
5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**PRESENT**

Sergio Marquez  
Laura Spalter  
Ron Gonen

Tom Durham  
Tony Edwards

**AFFILIATION**

Committee Chair, CB8  
Committee Vice Chair, CB8  
Deputy Commissioner for  
Recycling and Sustainability

rep. Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. The minutes of the December 19, 2012, meeting were approved after they were amended. The first sentence of Paragraph 4 on page two (2) of the Minutes was amended as follows:

Laura Spalter inquired about the [Mayor's Institutional Waste Fee Program] that would allow DSNY to charge a non profits fee for garbage collection

**Chair's Report**

At the December 19, 2012 meeting, Eugene Zappi requested assistance in obtaining the noise readings taken this summer by DEP from the noise emanating from the air conditioner unit at the Hebrew Home. Effie Ardizzone, of DEP, informed me that Mr. Zappi would have to do a FOIL request and the FOIL application could be obtained from the DEP website at [www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep). I conveyed this information to Mr. Zappi.

The MTA informed Nicole Stent that it would provide a key to the gate of the site under the Promenade where dumping has occurred, but it would take them a while to clean the site. Tom Durham recommended that we get the key from the MTA and conduct an inspection of the site. The inspection could reveal who has done or is doing the dumping. Afterwards, the committee could discuss who will clean the site; it could be part of this year's Clean Street Event in Marble Hill or have the Promenade clean it if it is found that it is their garbage.

There was discussion about the lack of neighborhood volunteers at last year's Clean Street Event at Marble Hill. A suggestion was made to have meetings throughout the community including local churches, e.g., St. Stephen and St. John's. These meetings would publicize the event and hopefully motivate the residents to participate in this year's event. The Committee will

continue to discuss this issue in an effort to draw out other ideas to rectify this problem.

**PRESENTATION BY RON GONEN, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
FOR RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY, DSNY**

Mr. Gonen said that DSNY is moving away from disposing our garbage in landfills to recycling it. Recycling is environmental friendly and economically prudent. The plan is to place recycle bins throughout New York City on each corner. Also, to curb the City's rat population, they want to have food waste, which would include leaf and yard waste, separated and placed in locked plastic containers.

They also want to place recycle bins in and around the NYCHA houses.

He said that the Adopt a Basket program still exists but they are not expanding it because many residents, who adopted a basket, have failed to maintain it, causing DSNY to maintain the basket, which is contrary to the program. This program has worked better with commercial establishments and BIDS.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board Office. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sergio Marquez, Chair  
Environment and  
Sanitation Committee