

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 25, 2015 AT
Riverdale Neighborhood House
5521 Mosholu Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471**

Attendees

Lamont Parker
Demetrius McCord
Daniella Fuchs
Rita Pochter Lowe
Nancy Nunez
Lidia Beqiraj
Derwin Greene
50+ Students

Affiliation

Youth Chair
Vice Chair
Community Board No. 8
Community Board No. 8
Riverdale Neighborhood House
RNH OST Program Director
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
In Tech Academy/RNH

The Riverdale Neighborhood House staff welcomed the Youth Board. The Youth Chair introduced the members to all present and read the agenda.

Old Business

The meeting was called to order at 5:15PM.

Youth Chair, Lamont Parker, reviewed the February minutes with all present. Motion was made to approve minutes from February 2015 meeting. Minutes were approved. (L. Parker, R. Pochter Lowe and D. Fuchs. D. McCord abstaining.)

Needs Assessment – Vice Chair, D. McCord explained purpose of the assessment to students and solicited their thoughts. Students suggest: (1) environmental clean-up group; (2) local homeless support initiative; (3) cheerleading program; (4) teen center; (5) a Capella group; (6) group that teaches younger students; and, (7) community giveback opportunities. The adults present spoke of existing opportunities, including teen groups at local CBOs, previously planned environment clean-up initiative, In Tech cheerleading program, and In Tech students that read to younger students.

2015 Youth Poetry Slam – Event will take place on Wednesday, May 13th at RHN from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Erik Maldonado “Advocate of Words” will moderate. Five special guests will be selected to judge the Poetry Slam. The top four poems will receive gifts (e.g. Apple products). The youth in attendance shared their positive experiences with poetry slams that they have participated in or attended.

Comeback Kid Award – Youth Chair explained the background and purpose of the award. The youth in attendance thought it was a great idea and acknowledged its value to the community. Youth Chair requested all submissions from community centers ASAP. The

Marble Hill Community Center has already submitted two candidates. Youth Chair is also reaching out to last year's winner to present the award for this year's winner.

Kingsbridge Heights Community Center Special Needs Awards – Youth Chair and D. Greene explained purpose of award. The Artists' Acknowledgement/Appreciation Ceremony will be part of the June Celebration during the second week in June.

Open discussion

RNH Teaching staff suggested greater opportunities for students to interact and social hour Friday nights. **Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and RNH** – Derwin Greene and Nancy Nunez gave brief updates on their teen programs. For further information please contact Derwin Greene at dgreene@khcc-nyc.org or Nancy Nunez at nnunez@riverdaleonline.org

The Youth Chair and Community Board No.8 would like to thank the students for their participation in the discussion.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM. The next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22nd, 2015, at 4:30PM at the Fort Independence Community Center.

Submitted by,
Lamont Parker, Chair
Youth Committee