



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

BETTY BRYANT-BROWN
CHAIRPERSON

FULL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

October 30, 2019

CEDRIC L. LOFTIN
DISTRICT MANAGER

The Chairperson Ms. Betty Bryant-Brown commenced the meeting with a prayer.

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca said that first I just want to send my regards to Community Board 1 and just talk about some other stuff that we're working at in City Hall. The last time I was here I was asked about the jail plan don't know if you followed it and just to give you a recap. I am I favor of closing down Riker's. When the Commission put out a report to close out Riker's the plan was that in order to close down Riker's we have to open up four borough based jails and every borough was going to get a jail except for Staten Island. But what separated the Bronx from Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn was that the Littman recommended when you open up these new jails they should be attached to the courthouse. What separated us was that Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn already had jails attached to the courthouse the borough of the Bronx did not have jails attached to the courthouse and that was my opposition. If we're going to shut down Riker's then they should have opened up the jail built the jail on 161st Street behind the courthouse and followed the recommendations of the Littman Commission. That did not happen for whatever reasons there were the alternative site that the administration chose was the tow pound and I came in opposition. I told you that I was going to oppose it and when time to vote I voted no for the jail. I just wanted to let you know that I kept my word. It did pass but I thought that it was important that you know what I did and how I voted in City Hall and I just wanted you to know that I stood up for you guys.

Just to talk about some of the work that we're doing today in city Hall we voted on a few bills that follow the waste industry the private sanitation of the waste industry. There are some regulations what happens now is that you have carters stationed out of the Bronx and they're picking up garbage in all five boroughs including Staten Island. Individuals who are doing hundreds of stops you know the amount of mileage in driving back and forth to get to Staten Island. The pollutants that these trucks are putting in the air I suffer from asthma and I walk around with my asthma pump. So what we did at City Hall today we voted on a bill that would be zoned designations for private sanitations. They're going to put out bids and there's going to be carriers that are going to win those bids to pick up the garbage in particular locations. So that may take about a year to implement and we voted on that today at City Hall.

Finally, on November 21st I'm going to have a neighborhood Pop-Up-Court in my district office. So if you're a homeowner with tickets because you have garbage in front of your house and they give you a summons for it or if you're a business owner and you've got some summons and you just haven't had the opportunity to fight that. on November 21st from 9 to 4 there's going to be a Pop-Up-Court in my district office where there will be a Judge there and employees there to help you navigate and the opportunity for you to plead your case and get rid of these tickets. I will make sure that Cedric gets the flyer.

Questions and Comments

State Senator Luis Sepulveda said that although the construction of the jail is not directly in my jurisdiction I'm Statewide elected not Citywide and Riker's is a City official issue. I had a different perspective from the very beginning I thought that it made no sense to close Riker's I think we should have rebuilt Riker's retrofit the cells. I'm the Chairman for the Prison's Committee for the entire State of New York, I oversee all the prisons and all the jails through legislation and through my Chairmanship. I thought we should spend the money building humane cells in Riker's not from this bringing it from area to area. In bringing into this area here I too agree that it should have been by the courthouse it would make more sense with transportation and so forth. But there were some logistical problems with footage that the city claimed was the reason why they couldn't build right there by the school plus they got a lot of resistance from Concourse Village and the surrounding areas. Just like most things not in my backyard. But the reality is and I thought it was shortsighted when we're going to spend whatever money we're going to spend building to do retrofitting and doing a better job. Our problem is our whole correctional system the prisons upstate are inhumane the young men and women that go there basically are not getting the level of education they should, are not getting treatment about 30 to 40 percent incarcerated are suffering from mental illness. So our prisons have become a warehouse for people that suffer from mental illness.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson called for roll.

The roll was called and there were thirty-two members present constituting a quorum.

The Chairperson called for a motion on the Agenda.

Motion made to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

CHAIRMAN AND DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

The MTA New York City Transit presented an overview on the final draft plan of the Bronx Bus Network Redesign.

The Captain of the 40th Police Precinct represented the **Deputy Inspector** to address the concerns of the Boardmembers and public on issues in the district.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Representatives for Elected Officials presented their reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chairperson informed the Boardmembers that the Committee Reports were in their folders.

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NO OLD BUSINESS

NO NEW BUSINESS

The Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED.