



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

3024 THIRD AVENUE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10455

(718) 585-7117 • Fax (718) 292-0558 • Email: BX01@CB.NYC.Gov

Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



VANESSA L. GIBSON
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

PAOLA M. MARTINEZ
CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

Education, Youth & Young Adults Services Committee Minutes

April 8th, 2026

Stephane Calzado, Committee Chairperson

Book Exchange Event Recap

- Member Andres Madrigal introduces the meeting and mentions the successful book exchange event held at Roberto Clemente Plaza.
- The event saw a good turnout, with many new faces and a variety of books picked up.
- A teenager expressed interest in starting a book club, and the next book exchange is scheduled for May 4.
- The partnership with Third Avenue for the spring and summer season is discussed, with three more weeks left.

Discussion on Book Donations and Thank You Letters

- The need for more Spanish books and children's books in English is highlighted.
- Book donations came from schools, churches, and the community, with more expected.
- Andres proposes drafting thank you letters to donors, and Anthony Jordan offers to draft them.
- The importance of acknowledging donors through professional thank you letters is emphasized.

Autism Awareness Walk Planning

- Member Jacqueline Dejesus discusses the upcoming autism awareness walk on April 25 at St. Mary's Park.
- The walk aims to bring attention to resources and connections for people with autism.
- The need for community members to participate and spread the word is stressed.
- The walk will start at 10:10 AM, and resources will be distributed at the beginning and end of the walk.

Community Board Resources and Outreach

- The need for more community outreach and advertising for the community board is discussed.
- The idea of creating a brochure with a QR code to the community board's website is proposed.
- The importance of making the community aware of the various committees and their activities is emphasized.
- The possibility of changing the meeting day to a more convenient time for participants is considered.

Coordination with Third Avenue BID

- Member Christina Cover mentions the collaboration with the Third Avenue BID for future events.
- The need for a firm layout to avoid conflicts during events is discussed.
- The importance of having electricity and other necessary equipment for events is highlighted.
- The plan to have live performances and cultural musicians at future events is shared.

Final Action Items and Closing Remarks

- The need to create templates for thank you letters and to reach out to organizations for more book donations is reiterated.
- The importance of spreading autism awareness and creating a flyer for the upcoming walk is emphasized.
- The need to coordinate with the Third Avenue BID for future events is reiterated.
- The meeting is adjourned with a motion from Member Jacqueline Dejesus and a second from Member Christina Cover.

Action Items

- Post the autism walk flyer on the Community Board 1 Instagram account and the youth and young adults committee Instagram account to promote the event.
- Create a Canva flyer asking for Spanish-speaking literature and children's books and share it via social media and email to solicit donations for the remaining book exchanges.
- Coordinate with Benjamin at the Third Avenue Hub to finalize the layout and technical setup for the May 2 book exchange so there are no bottlenecks.
- Share Benjamin's phone number with the committee so they can coordinate with him about the Hub events.

- Ask Steph about the availability and use of microphones for the May 2 book exchange event.
- Draft thank-you letter templates for book donors (including a signature line for each donor) and share them with the committee tonight so they can be printed and sent.
- Create a printed thank-you card on Community Board letterhead for people who stop by and donate books at events, to be handed out at future book exchanges.
- Draft a QR code resource brochure listing all Community Board 1 committees, their functions, and how to join, and distribute drafts to the committee in May.
- Reach out to the communications office to secure additional books, especially Spanish-language and children's books, for upcoming book exchanges.
- Send Jacqueline the contact information for the woman who spoke at the gym about autism resources once she reaches out.
- Design and finalize the autism walk flyer for the April 25 event at St. Mary's Park and have it ready by tomorrow.
- Prepare and deliver a presentation in May on autism resources and supports, working with the office and interns to create a PowerPoint and present it at a committee meeting.
- Inform Paula via WhatsApp about the autism walk on April 25 so she is aware of the event.
- Follow up with Steven Palmers to communicate back with him about the upcoming committee meeting and related details.
- Text Anthony tomorrow and meet with him on Friday to obtain the contact information for the woman who spoke at the gym about autism resources.
- Compile and share in the WhatsApp group the names and contact information of all book donors (including organizations like City of Refuge and individual donors) so thank-you letters can be personalized.