



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



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CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

Environmental Justice & Sanitation Committee Minutes

February 19th, 2025

Cesar Yoc, Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

Introductions and Meeting Setup

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc introduces himself as the chair of the environmental justice and sanitation committee and initiates the meeting.
- Various members introduce themselves, including Steven Palmers, Elijah Rodriguez, John Sanchez, Argelia Ortiz, Matthew Short, Ava, and Marina Samuel.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan reminds everyone that the meeting is being broadcast live and emphasizes the importance of clear and concise speaking.
- A motion is made and passed to amend the agenda to include Bronx is Blooming for new business.

Bronx is Blooming Presentation

- Ava from Bronx is Blooming introduces herself and the organization, which focuses on environmental stewardship and revitalization in the Bronx.
- Ava promotes upcoming volunteer projects and mentions the availability of free trees for Bronx residents, organizations, and schools.
- Ava provides a flyer for volunteering and partnerships with Bronx is Blooming.
- No questions are raised from the attendees regarding the Bronx is Blooming presentation.

Discussion on Pickup Plans

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc introduces the topic of pickup plans and the need for a letter of support from the committee.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan provides a historical context on the community board's efforts to push the administration to shut down the peaker power plant.

- The committee discusses the strategic plan released by NIPA in 2024 and the need to align with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).

Proposal for Letter of Support

- District Manager Anthony Jordan reads a previous letter sent to the state regarding the peaker power plant and the need for the state to act on its promise to phase out fossil fuel generation.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc proposes including alternatives in the letter, such as green infrastructure or a park, to avoid another peaker plant in the future.
- Member Argelia Ortiz supports the idea and suggests reaching out to neighboring districts for collaboration on the letter.
- A motion is made and passed to write and support a letter demanding the closure of the peaker power plant and proposing green alternatives.

Cleanup Updates and Planning

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc provides an update on the cleanup efforts, emphasizing the need for community power and support.
- Three sites are proposed for the cleanup: Third Avenue bed, Willis Avenue playground, and Roberto Clemente square.
- The cleanup is planned for April 12, with a rainy day scheduled for April 19.
- Discussion on the need for materials and the involvement of various organizations, including the Department of Sanitation and the Sanitation Foundation.

Needle Pickup and Safety Measures

- Matthew Shore introduces the concept of on-point NYC for safe needle pickup before the community cleanup.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan emphasizes the importance of hazardous material training for volunteers and the commitment from the Department of Health to provide training.
- The committee discusses the logistics of involving on-point NYC and ensuring safety during the cleanup.
- The plan includes a two-hour cleanup followed by an event with nonprofits discussing environmental justice and sanitation issues.

Dog Poop Map and Enforcement

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc introduces the dog poop map and explains the survey process for reporting dog feces.

- Member Argelia Ortiz expresses concern about the enforcement of dog poop laws and the need for stricter penalties.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc discusses the psychological aspect of littering and the importance of community action and enforcement.
- The committee agrees on the need for consistent cleanup efforts and data collection to support their advocacy.

Final Announcements and Adjournment

- The committee discusses the importance of using 311 for reporting issues and collecting data.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc emphasizes the goal of building infrastructure for future committee members to continue the work.
- The meeting concludes with a motion to adjourn, which is seconded and passed without further discussion.

Action Items

- Contact Congressman Richie Torres' office to follow up on their lack of response to previous outreach regarding the cleanup efforts.
- Provide the survey link for the "dog poop map" to a select group of responsible community members to start populating the map.
- Coordinate with On Point NYC to have them conduct a sweep for hazardous materials at the cleanup sites prior to the scheduled events.
- Reach out to Councilman Salamanca's office to invite their participation and support for the cleanup efforts.