

FULL BOARD

AGENDA

December 15, 2022

6:00 PM

Ms. Arline Parks – Chairperson

VIRTUAL MEETING

<https://nyccb.webex.com/nyccb/j.php?MTID=mc9b4587668ea8b4a5973d3a075af58be>

By Phone – 1-408-418-9388

Meeting Number (access code) – 2339 059 6737

Meeting Password – J3Yua6HV4ia

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Call to Order**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Approval of November Full Board Meeting Minutes**
- 6. Chairperson's Report**
 - District Manager's Recruitment
 - Board Operating Budget
 - Roll Call Voting Item Resolution on Approval of Bonus
 - No Public Session
- 7. Committee Reports**
 - Economic Development-Land Use & Housing
 - Municipal Services
 - Voting Item: Fire Department Street Change Request
- 8. Adjournment**

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Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said good evening and let us call the meeting to order and proceed to have a roll call vote.

The roll called and there was a quorum.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said let's move the agenda, the next item on the agenda is approval of the agenda. Can I have a motion for approval of the agenda.

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

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said the next item on the agenda is the approval of the Full Board Meeting Minutes for the month of November. Can I have a motion for approval of the Full Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion made to approve the Full Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said the next item on the agenda is my report to the Board and the first item that I would like to report out on is the District Manager's recruitment and to give a status update on it.

So, we've received about 30, 35 more applicants received, and we have acknowledged all applicants to date. We have met as an Executive Committee and now from this second group

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will be down to three and will be contacting those three for an interview either next week or in the first week of January and at that point we will finally be able to make a selection and recommendation to the Board on a replacement District Manager. At that time what we will do is we will call an Executive Committee meeting in the month of January and that meeting will take place in person and for the Board to actually meet the recommended candidate to be the next District Manager. I will be forwarding you the questions that we asked of the candidate so that the Board will have the opportunity to ask questions of the proposed candidate and I will also give you a copy of the new law that was enacted in respect to EEOC and human right requirements of the new law that was just passed so that when we meet as a Board with the candidate we know which questions that we need to ask and which ones we should not ask because it's a violation of law.

So, we will be getting back to you with the recommended candidate for the new District Manager and it is anticipated that at that meeting after the Board asks questions of that candidate will take a vote and it has to be a roll call vote on whether or not the Board approves of the candidate that is selected by the Executive Committee. Does anybody have any questions at this time?

Questions and Answers

The next item on the agenda relates to the Board's Operating Budget and so you got that today but you will have time to really review it for those of you who need to do so to review the budget so that you that you have the opportunity to make recommendations on the unused funds remaining that's projected remaining with the budget and then by that time the new District Manager should be on board and will assess the needs of the expenditures and take into consideration for the requests or recommendations on how the unused portion of the budget should be used. Let me just walk you through very quickly the budget so that everybody understands what was sent to them today and if there's any questions after that I will certainly be able to address them and then we need to have a vote by roll call on this that is required by OMB. There is also a Board resolution attached that you should have received requiring us to do this both by formal resolution and it has to be a roll call vote.

So, for starters what you were sent was my analysis and discussion of my statement of expenditures which is the total budget for the fiscal period of 2022 to 2023. What was actual spent on a year-to-date basis and what is remaining from the budget. You also have as part of the excel spreadsheet the percentage for each line-item expenditure of the budget and then you have a proposed bonus for consideration, and you also have an adjusted column that

shows after a budget proposal is approved how much would be leftover on the line item expenditures.

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Then what was done in order to count what would be the unspent portion of the budget because we don't have a District Manager calculated and we only have one full-time employee which would be Ms. Rojas, analyze her expense because we know we're going to pay that and anticipated that we would have actually hired a District Manager in the month of February to start and that would mean February, March, April, May and June five months of expenditures which gets us to \$127 thousand dollars that we're projecting that we would spend on an annualized basis. So, when you take the adjusted annualized expense adjusted for the budget for the bonus minus what we anticipate the salary cost would be that leaves you a difference of \$58,500 dollars left for the Board to consider how to use the remaining budget. Now we have to use the money, or we lose it so, let me take you through the analysis a little bit further.

So, the budget for the Board's total Operating Expense totals \$337 thousand dollars for the 12 months ending June 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The Board's budgeted operating expenditures totals \$268 thousand of which \$237 thousand represents salary expenditures for two full-time employees, for a District Manager and a Community Coordinator which also includes OTPS expenditures that your generating general and administrative costs to operate the office and that amounts to \$30 thousand dollars and rent expenditures is a separate line item and that totals for the year \$69 thousand dollars. Now salary costs represents 70.5 percent of the Board's total operating expenses, rent costs are 20.5 percent of the costs and the OTPS costs and that's general and administrative costs that's only 9 percent left after those two expenditures. Now two on an actual day-to-day basis total actual operating expenditures amount to \$42 thousand dollars so far for the year which represents salary costs \$35, 924 dollars, and OTPS expenditures amounting to only \$6 thousand dollars. On a projected annualized basis after the proposed bonus is approved by the Board in the amount of \$15 thousand dollars it is anticipated that the Board will have approximately operating funds remaining of \$59 thousand dollars. The amount of the estimated remaining funds represents the unused funds from salary as a result of the District Manager position being vacant. Attached is a Board resolution for consideration by the Board to approve the budget for the fiscal year 2022 to 2023 that includes consideration for approval of the bonus for the Community Coordinator Ms. Ann Rojas and we're considering her for the budget because she has had to consume the responsibility for her job in addition to the job of the District Manager. The remaining \$59 thousand with respect to the uses of the fund will be utilized subject to taking into consideration the Board's recommendations and the newly hired District Manager and it is anticipated that the District Manager will be hired by February 2023. So, there will be no usage of those funds until the Board makes its recommendation, the District Manager is engaged after being hired and that he or she does an assessment of what the needs are in order to use those remaining funds and then will come back to the Full Board for approval on how those funds should be utilized.

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Now what I'm asking everybody to do is to review the Statement of Activities and seriously thoughtfully email the Board recommendations on the usage of these remaining funds, that would be very helpful. In addition, you should also be advised that Councilman Rafael Salamanca awarded Community Board 1 \$10 thousand dollars that must be used by the Board by the end of fiscal year in June 2023. The Councilman's office will be contacted to receive a formal notification of the award and I want to thank everybody at tonight's forum for your patience and your time. So, at this time I want to open up the forum for any questions that the Board may have and it will be followed by the voting item.

Questions and Answers

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said does anybody else have any questions or concerns. I want to stress that if anybody is recommending that in addition to what we're allocating for Ms. Rojas make that request and that will be given due consideration as well, nothing is off the table, but we just want to make sure that we have enough of a surplus and a cushion to meet the needs of the Board. Is there anymore questions okay, that being said let us now move to the Board resolution that you have in your packet and we're now going to do a roll call vote. So, the resolution that you have is the approval of the 2022, 2023 Board's Operating Expenses and a bonus for the Community Coordinator.

In accordance with the requirements of the New York City Office of Management and Budgets (OMB) Bronx Community Board 1 at a duly held Full Board meeting on Thursday, December 15, 2022 and whereby a quorum was present approves the resolution of the Board's total budgeted expenditures in the amount of \$336.614 thousand dollars, resolves that the Board approves on this payout of \$15 thousand dollars for the Community Coordinator Ms. Ana Rojas. Be it further resolved that the usage of the remaining funds is subject to approval by the Full Board. So, at this point I would like to have a motion from the floor with respect to this resolution, have it seconded and then let's proceed to have a roll call vote, is there a motion.

Motion made to approve the resolution of the Board's total budgeted expenditures of \$336,614 dollars and the \$15 thousand dollars for the Community Coordinator Ms. Ana Rojas. Motion duly seconded.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said at this time let's have a roll call vote for approval of the motion as presented.

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A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said so does that complete the roll call vote. So, let me just finish with the motion, is there anybody that is in opposition, is there anyone who is abstaining. Annie can you basically tell us how many votes were received.

Ms. Ana Rojas, Community Coordinator responded that there were 24 votes received.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said so, there were 24 yes votes with no oppositions nor abstentions to the resolution. Let the record reflect that the resolution was passed unanimously and thank you everyone. Again, if anyone wants to make the recommendation along those lines please do so. Annie, thank you for everything that you do I greatly appreciate it.

Another item at the last Board meeting that everybody was concerned about the no-show of all the Elected Officials and all the challenges that we have, and the ask was that we put together a letter. I am in the process now I had a consultation at the Executive Committee meeting we had a consultation to get some direction on what were doing here with respect to the Elected Officials. So, I'm going to send out a letter to each of the Elected Officials and give them a calendar of all of our meetings starting in the month of January and ask them personally to attend the meeting or if not send a representative. So, that they have the calendar of meetings and then hopefully will be live stream on You Tube or Facebook and it speaks for itself. Then we're talking to the Borough President's Office about all of the issues and the challenges we face her with respect to safety. As you know you turn on the TV and literally night after night our portion of the district is just really taking a beating here and conditions are being exacerbated of what is being sighted here so, I'm going to continue to pursue that until we get a forum or a meeting with people if not then whatever comes next in respect you know with us taking next steps you know I'm certainly willing to do that. I'm a resident here too and I'm just as concerned as everybody here. So, I just wanted to give you an update on that so that you know that I had not forgotten that request I'll follow-up on it. To move the agenda there is no Public Hearing session and the next item on the agenda is the Committee Reports.

Mr. Perez is not here tonight there are no voting items on his agenda, Concord was a voting item they cancelled at the last minute and then there was a project, a Jericho Project which we need to as a Board at the next Board meeting follow-up with a formal resolution from the Board and send a letter to the Elected Officials about the project because the project was

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represented that they just came in just to let us know what they were doing but the project is being funded with taxpayer's and it has an impact on the district. So, I encourage everyone to read that report.

The next report is the Municipal Services Committee Report and that is a voting item, Carolyn Chamorro you have the forum.

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson Municipal Services Committee said good evening everyone so, we had the Fire Department Squad Company 41. At the meeting on the 5th so they came in because there is so much traffic in the street towards the firehouse they're coming to see if the traffic light at the corner of Morris Avenue and East 150th Street and East 149th Street can be in sync to improve traffic flow and if there could be a change in direction of Courtlandt Avenue, between East 150th Street and East 149th Street where currently Courtlandt Avenue is northbound. This change would make Courtlandt Avenue southbound for 1 block, East 150th and East 149th Streets. There's so much traffic there that there is a delay in response time in they're getting to any accident or fires at a reasonable time. So, they made a presentation on that, and they want us to support their request to change the traffic direction.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked what is the recommendation of the Committee regarding the Fire Department?

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson Municipal Services Committee responded that the members present recommended approval of the proposal.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked so, this is a public safety request to increase the response time and save people's lives.

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson Municipal Services Committee responded correct.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked is there any questions any the Boardmembers present have with respect to this request by the Fire Department.

Questions and Answers

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Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said so, here is what I recommend in terms of this matter let us have the New York City Fire Department and the New York City Department of Transportation sending them a copy of the Fire Department request to come before the entire Board to discuss this issue. So, all the issues that we're having with traffic congestion in our district in particular that one because I've been saying it all along the traffic patterns in this district has caused so much congestion and has negatively impacted the environment and exacerbated it because now you have this traffic idling in residential areas and in the commercial district as well. They've reduced all the district lanes that we used to have to be able to easily traverse through down to one lane to accommodate bikes all throughout the district and it's causing a lot of problems especially when you have truck traffic going on and all these cars double parking and there is no enforcement taking place here. So, at this time what is the motion of the Board with respect to this voting item do we table it.

Questions and Answers

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said now as a point of clarification and information DOT did come before the Municipal Services Committee when Hakiem Yahmadi was the Chair of that Committee, and they presented all the changes that they wanted to do on Third Avenue, and I was at that meeting and we were fighting like cats and dogs. They represented at the time that they would be studying the impact of the changes that they were going to make, and they agreed to comeback to the Board and make changes if what they did was problematic. Now we have a problem that impacts the emergency responders is what we said all along that this would impact the emergency responders from the Police Department and the Fire Department, and we were ignored. So, I agree that we should do everything that we can to help the Fire Department save lives, but I also agree that we need to send a letter to the Department of Transportation and to the Fire Department and send the Board's recommendation subject to DOT doing an analysis and acceptance of what is being proposed by the Fire Department. I would recommend that we go ahead and proceed with a vote that we have directions on what we need to do and then contact the Fire Department and DOT so that we get an analysis and a complete review by the Department of Transportation to comeback and make corrections to our concerns with the traffic patterns and the safety and emergency response time. That being said can we have a motion followed by a vote.

Motion made to table the vote to approve the changes as requested by the Fire Department and send a letter to DOT, the Fire Department and the Mayor's Office to come and conduct a study to accommodate the Fire Department to address the issue of emergency response time

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and also, to address all of the traffic congestion caused by the changes made by DOT. Motion duly seconded. **A roll call vote was taken.**

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said let the record reflect that the motion carried unanimously. So, now the Board has to follow up with a letter to DOT, the Mayor's Office, the Borough President's Office, the Elected Official for the area and the Fire Department to state what the concerns are and make the request but it should be addressed to DOT because they're the ones that made all these changes so, now they have to comeback before the Committee and make whatever changes hopefully that we're requesting to alleviate the traffic conditions.

So that being said there's no more business for tonight's Full Board meeting and before we call a motion for adjournment I really wish everybody a beautiful, blessed Christmas and a safe New Year. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your service to Community Board 1 and I'm hopeful that the year coming up we can accomplish a lot of things and keep fighting until we get our voices heard to the issues we have addressed in this community. That being said thanks everyone and can I have a motion from the floor to adjourn the meeting.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.