

The City of New York BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose







Immigration Committee Minutes

January 17th, 2025

Mohammed Sheikh, Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

Introduction and Meeting Kickoff

- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh introduces himself as the chair of the immigration committee and welcomes everyone to the meeting.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan introduces himself as the district manager and emphasizes the importance of the immigration committee in representing vulnerable communities.

District Manager's Address

- District Manager Anthony Jordan discusses the significance of the immigration committee in providing accurate information and resources to immigrants.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan highlights the need for the committee to dispel myths and provide access to legal and application assistance.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan mentions the upcoming installation of a new president and the potential impact on the immigrant population.

Secretary's Report: New Business

- Member Argelia Ortiz acknowledges the presence of Mr. Esau and introduces new business topics.
- Members Argelia Ortiz discusses the anxiety among the immigrant population regarding the migrant situation in their district.
- Member Argelia Ortiz mentions the controversial plan to place 2000 migrants in their district and the
 potential impact on the community.
- Member Argelia Ortiz emphasizes the need to address the psychological anxiety among immigrants
 due to the new administration and media misinformation.

Immigrant Anxiety and Legal Assistance

 Member Argelia Ortiz shares personal experiences of calming down immigrants who are anxious about their status and potential deportation.

- Member Argelia Ortiz mentions the collaboration with Bronx Defenders to provide 24-hour legal assistance for immigrants.
- Member Argelia Ortiz discusses the challenges of working remotely and the use of social media to reach out to the community.
- Member Argelia Ortiz expresses gratitude to Lincoln Hospital for hosting their meetings temporarily.

Old Business: Immigrant Women's Project

- Member Argelia Ortiz updates on the project to reach out to immigrant women and address their specific concerns.
- Member Argelia Ortiz shares examples of issues faced by immigrant women, such as homelessness and lack of basic amenities.
- Member Argelia Ortiz mentions the need for a forum to address these issues and provide support to immigrant women.
- Member Argelia Ortiz thanks everyone for their attention and support.

Chairman's Closing Remarks

- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh appreciates Argelia Ortiz's efforts to bring solutions and create a support center for migrants.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh emphasizes the importance of working together with elected officials and stakeholders to support the immigrant community.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh mentions the need to provide information on resources like NYC ID and HR benefits.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh reiterates the committee's commitment to helping the community and working together to make a significant change.

Member's Input: Mr. Isha

- Mr. Isha thanks the community board for their efforts and discusses the anxiety among immigrants.
- Mr. Isha emphasizes the importance of sending true information to counteract false narratives about immigration.
- Mr. Isha criticizes the current administration's handling of immigration and calls for better communication and fairness.
- Mr. Isha expresses his frustration with the lack of clear information and the impact on the community.

Chairman's Response and Future Plans

- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh thanks Mr. Isha for his input and emphasizes the importance of contributing to the community.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh mentions the need to work with elected officials and stakeholders to support the immigrant community.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh reiterates the committee's commitment to helping the community and working together to make a significant change.

• Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh invites any new business or old business discussions from the members.

Public Hearing Announcement

- District Manager Anthony Jordan announces the upcoming public hearing on January 27th at Lincoln Hospital regarding a 2200-bed single adult facility for migrants.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan invites the administration, elected officials, and the community to participate in the hearing.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan emphasizes the importance of understanding the resources and services available for the migrants in the facility.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan mentions the need for comprehensive information from the administration and the community's concerns about the facility.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh reiterates the importance of the public hearing and encourages mass participation.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh invites any new business or old business discussions from the members.
- Member Argelia Ortiz suggests inviting the New York Immigrant Coalition and Bronx Immigrant Immigration Partnership to future meetings.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh agrees and mentions the importance of working with partners to provide resources and support to the immigrant community.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting, which is seconded and approved by the members.

Action Items

Invite the New York Immigration Coalition and the Bronx Immigrant Partnership to a future committee meeting to share information and resources.

Coordinate with the District Manager to bring in additional partner organizations, such as Bronx Defenders, to provide legal assistance and resources at future committee meetings.