



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

3024 THIRD AVENUE

BRONX, NEW YORK 10455

(718) 585-7117 • Fax (718) 292-0558 • E-mail: brxcb1@optonline.net

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EDUCATION & YOUTH

February 10, 2022

MINUTES

Mr. Hakiem Yahmadi, Chairperson said good evening, this is Community Board One Education & Youth Committee meeting, February 10th. I would like first for any Committee members to introduce themselves.

Committee members present introduced themselves.

Mr. Hakiem Yahmadi, Chairperson said congratulations Detective Stanton on your promotion.

Detective Lee Stanton, Youth Coordinator PSA7 New York City Police Department said first I'd like to say thank you to Hakim for bringing me back into the fold, thank you to the Committee members on today and I remember quite a few Community Board meetings that I attended when I was a Community Affairs Officer. Hakiem is right as of July of last year I did receive a promotion to the rank of Detective Specialist. It's recognized for the work that we did together in the community it was a tremendous honor especially for some of the work that we were able to do despite COVID and everything in the aftermath of the George Floyd tragedy. In really bringing people together in a time where it seemed like everybody had every reason in the world to shy away from coming to the table and having those hard conversations. I'm all about that and I'm lucky to have worked for a Commanding Officer who also felt that way Deputy Inspector John Parkay, Chief Ferrer who is no longer the Chief of Housing but Chief of the Internal Affairs Bureau and right now, our new Commanding Office, Captain Moya who was recently added to the District Service Cabinet so, I'm excited for you guys to meet him, he is a dynamic leader the former Executive Office of the 42nd Precinct. So, really building around some inspiring leaders and I'm just happy to be a part of that.

You can't say the term inspiring leader without mentioning Hakiem, he's been really sort of the north star for us for quite some time. Anything that has to do with young people in the South Bronx, District 7 you guys have a phenomenal, phenomenal asset in Hakiem it's been an honor to work with you and I'm excited to talk about some of the things that we've done already and

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some of the things that we're open to, really that's anything and that's what I think makes our partnership so great. I'm part of a team of 5 Youth Coordination Officers from PSA7 what we've been able to kind of really pride ourselves on, hang our hats on is the ability to say hey we haven't tried that yet, let's do it, let's see what works, let's experiment. We've been the first Command in the city, really the first Police Officers in the country to utilize some of the technologies like Zoom and things along those lines to get in classrooms and have conversations with kids dating back to March of 2020 we hit the ground running. We realized that we had a lot of obstacles to overcome in terms of having vocal conversations with kids. So, one of the main reasons I'm on the call today is to talk about some of the things that we're able to talk about in classrooms in auditorium settings and what we can bring to the table.

What we've done in the past not just with PSMS29 which is right down the block from us we're neighbors with them we have a phenomenal relationship with Principal Presto over there further down the block we've done some work with PSMS31. Basically, a lot of the conversations that we've started with Administrators have stemmed from the Youth Coordination Officers interacting with a young person who may have been in crisis, they were arrested, maybe they were a victim of a crime or were reported missing and we started working with them.

So, the logical next step is to ask ourselves how can we support this young person at school as well. So, we developed a number of phenomenal relationships with those Administrators who happen to be working at the schools with some of those young people that branched off into opportunities to lead assemblies, in the classrooms, one-on-one communications with individuals even mediate issues that were arising in our homes. It's very exciting because it's some of the first examples of that style of work outside, obviously school Safety Agents are doing an amazing job day in and day out, but they have their limitations, we can have that conversation. For us it was kind of hey we're coming in as outsiders so to speak willing to break down those walls and answer questions as they come from kids, from Administrators and develop a number of formal presentations which included gang awareness which of course and unfortunately in our community is one of the biggest and baddest problems that we deal with gangs, and how they approach our very, very, very young residents in an attempt to recruit. Drug awareness, social media awareness is a big one for us and one that in the last couple of year has really taken off, it's crazy when you think it wasn't so long ago that I started doing this work with kids it was back in 2017 my Rookie year was all about kind of breaking the ice and introducing young people to a Police Officer in their community, being able to have just that open communication and then as we went along the lights of Snap Chat, Tic Tok, and Instagram had developed even more so then they had when I was in College I'd like to think not that long ago. So, we've had to adapt, we've had to kind of dissect some things and since then the state law has changed it's now a felony to transfer a number of images that these kids may be

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sending to each other, let alone the implications of having to do with being in possession of underage pornography, child porn. So, all kinds of convoluted things that we try to simplify and have like a real conversation with at the appropriate age level, but we want to have those conversations early enough where hopefully young people will at least have it in the back of their mind before they do something, especially as of late interacting with some of the gangs that we are constantly dealing with in our community. So, it's kind like the thousand mile in the air overview of what we've been doing, and Hakiem I are really talking about an exciting program he's working on.

Mr. Hakiem Yahmadi, Chairperson asked are you talking about the Cadets, glad you brought it up it will be Saturday 10 in the morning at PS29. I have to talk to you, about assembly one day next week we have a situation with bullying going on in the building. As a matter of fact, we're meeting with the person tomorrow and we're going to do an auditorium one day next week.

Detective Lee Stanton, Youth Coordinator PSA7 New York City Police Department said forgive me but just to elaborate on something I might have glossed over that the social media presentation we tie into a bullying presentation. My most recent assembly was at PS31 about that because they had a bullying issue, there was a specific incident that we were addressing but then we also took advantage of the opportunity about social media. I just kind of wanted to say that I'm not the only player in this realm from PSA7, I'm only as good as the cops I work with, they're amazing and I want to introduce them when they're available. They're all in the field right now my partner Detective Malave was also recently promoted for the work that she's been doing in the community.

Mr. Hakiem Yahmadi, Chairperson asked if anyone had any questions for Detective Stanton.

Questions and Answers

Mr. Hakiem Yahmadi, Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.