



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



VANESSA L. GIBSON
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

PAOLA M. MARTINEZ
CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

General Board Meeting Minutes

November 20th, 2025

DRAFT

Attendance: Clarisa Alayeto, Ngande Ambroise, Robert Barnes, Jadeen Buxton, Cecil Brooks Jr., Reyes Claudio, Audrey Dejesus, Jacqueline Dejesus, Edwin Diaz, Josephine Fernandez-Byrne, Andres Madrigal, Dalourny Nemorin, Argelia Ortiz, Marilyn Pena, Amanda Perez, Patricia Simpson, Cesar Yoc

Roll Call and Public Session

- 1st Vice Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne calls the General Board meeting to order at 6:17 PM and asks for roll call.
- Anthony Jordan lists the attendees, noting the absence of a quorum.
- Michael Steedly from Jobs Plus in the South Bronx is invited to speak.
- Michael Steedly explains the services provided by Jobs Plus, including resume building, vocational training, and mental health services.

Jobs Plus Services and Community Events

- Michael Steedly details the upcoming turkey and produce giveaways organized by Jobs Plus.
- Member Cesar Yoc inquires about the GED program, and Michael Steedly confirms its continuation with various classes.
- Michael Steedly offers to provide flyers for community events but did not bring them to the meeting.
- Member Edwin Diaz asks about the business hours and age requirements for Jobs Plus, and Michael provides the details.

Cultural Traditions and Homeless Shelters

- Member Argelia Ortiz announces a cultural event involving music, dancing, and a parade to La Casita.

- Herman Francis discusses the issue of homeless shelters in the district and the financial burden on the city.
- Herman highlights the low per capita income in the district and the impact of low voter turnout.
- Herman mentions the crisis in affordable housing and the profit made by private developers.

Committee Appointments for 2026

- 1st Vice Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne announces the committee appointments for 2026, listing each member and their assigned committees.
- Clarisa Alayetto, Evelyn Alvarez, and other members are assigned to various committees.
- 1st Vice Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne notes the need for additional members in some committees and encourages submissions by December 20.
- The absence of members for public safety committees is noted.

Elected Officials Reports

- Kenny Agosto from the Bronx Borough President's office congratulates the winners of the recent election and outlines upcoming events.
- Ron Jordan from Congressman Richie Torres's office provides contact information and services offered.
- Terrell Barack from State Senator Jose Serrano's office discusses upcoming events and resources available.
- Maritza Wiggins from Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's office announces the annual holiday lights event at the Bronx Zoo.

Community Engagement and Safety Initiatives

- Jumanah Escalera from the Bronx District Attorney's office discusses the gun buyback program and upcoming events.
- The gun buyback program offers gift cards and electronics in exchange for firearms.
- Additional events include a beyond the block event focused on providing resources for youth.
- Jumanah Escalera emphasizes the importance of community engagement and safety during the events.

Community Board Announcements and Updates

- District Manager Anthony Jordan highlights the La Paranda event and the development of the December calendar.

- The next General Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 18.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan discusses the partial building collapse at Mitchell houses and the ongoing support for residents.
- Volunteers are needed for food distribution and other community initiatives.

Lincoln Hospital Town Hall and Youth and Education Committee Updates

- Lincoln Hospital is hosting a town hall meeting on November 26 to discuss improvements and address community concerns.
- Member Jacqueline Dejesus announces the start of a new book exchange program and upcoming Autism Awareness workshop.
- The youth and education committee is also planning a job fair in the spring.
- Members are encouraged to join the committee and participate in community initiatives.

Meeting Adjournment

- 1st Vice Chair Josephine Fernandez-Byrne confirms the absence of quorum and calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- The meeting is adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Action Items

- Reach out to the community board office to submit interest in joining additional committees by December 20
- Participate in the annual parada event on December 21 at 4:00 PM
- Attend the town hall meeting at Lincoln Hospital on November 26 from 12:30-2:00 PM
- Donate books for the new book exchange program starting in December
- Participate in the first Autism Awareness workshop in January
- Bring flyers for Jobs Plus program to the December education and youth committee meeting