



Ruben Diaz, Jr.  
Borough President

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Peter J. Sullivan  
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz  
District Manager

### BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING February 19, 2019

District Manager Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:00 am by inviting agency representatives to introduce themselves.

#### **NYPD – Lt. Hernandez**

Lt. Hernandez reported that overall crime is down 60%, and down 6% for the 28 day period. The NCO program is showing positive results.

Lt. Hernandez reported that on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Sunoco Gas Station at 410 City Island Avenue shots were fired. No one was injured and no arrests were made. The 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct is working on this case and believe that the perpetrators were not locals.

Party room Liquor Licenses were discussed. The Sip and Paint establishment on East Tremont Avenue has closed. The owner was not aware of the parties taking place.

The NYPD has been contacting party rooms and assisting them with obtaining liquor licenses.

On February 17<sup>th</sup> four arrests were made at Mama Juana. A patron had an argument with the bartender and his friends became involved when the police arrived. There was also an incident of identity theft on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. The NYPD had a meet and greet at the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct to review issues and improve things at Mama Juana.

A patron of Havana Café was arrested after running over someone a few blocks away from the establishment.

Lt. Hernandez reported that last year there were three police calls to the Health Center on Glebe Avenue and no complaints were filed this year.

Five complaints were received in the past six weeks concerning cars parking in front of the hydrant on Revere Avenue. It is being monitored.

Pennyfield Avenue is patrolled regularly for speeding and parking .

The intersection at Crosby/Buhre Avenues is problematic because it is a six way intersection. Traffic has issued violations in this area.

In the vicinity of Country Club Road and Polo Place the Board has received complaints of young people loitering and using drugs. Mr. Cruz observed loitering on Friday night and requested that patrols keep the area on their radar.

**Department of Transportation (DOT) – D. Cruz; E. Riquelme**

Ms. Cruz announced that in approximately one month, DOT will be assigning specific Boards to Ms. Riquelme and herself. Ms. Cruz will remain the Board #10 liaison. She advised all to continue to copy both on emails. Also, the quickest way to address potholes is by reporting them to 311.

Ms. Cruz provided flyers concerning ped-ramp installations.

The response to the Board's request for repaving at the Bruckner Expressway overpass on East Tremont Avenue is due in March. Mr. Cruz suggested a site visit to point out the hilly condition of the roadway.

The need for roadway repairs on the New England Thruway is clearly a Thruway Authority responsibility. Ms. Cruz will clarify and Mr. Cruz will reach out to Assembly member Benedetto for assistance.

The response to the new request for traffic controls at Balcom and Schley Avenues is due in March. Mr. Cruz begged for controls and insists that the community is anxious for controls in this area. NYCHA has requested a pedestrian island in this area. Ms. Cruz reported that DOT will submit traffic control options to the Board.

The pothole on Maitland Avenue has been addressed and the entire block is scheduled for resurfacing in the spring.

The response to the request for muni meters at 3147 Waterbury Avenue is due in April.

Mr. Cruz indicated that he had 311 complaints for malfunctioning muni meters on Crosby Avenue and will forward them to Ms. Cruz.

Ms. Cruz indicated that our request to have 2280 Lyon Avenue street markings evaluated by HIQA may result in others on the block receiving violations because DOT evaluates the entire block when reviewing areas.

The response to the Board's request for street signage for Pell Place is due in April.

3685 Bruckner Blvd. has already received a violation. Since it is not a 1-3 family property, it will not be addressed by DOT's sidewalk division. It is up to the owner to correct the violation.

The request for review and replacement of signage on Shore Road is due in April. Also, Shore Road is part of a DDC reconstruction project to take place in 2022.

The response to the Board's request for additional merging lane signage indicating the start of the Tremont Avenue road diet is due in May

FDNY Battalion Chief McDade requested a traffic light to allow firetrucks to exit the firehouse. He agreed to speak with Ms. Cruz after the meeting. She indicated that such requests can take 16 weeks.

Clarification was made concerning the request for removal of foliage extending onto the roadway along Shore Road from the Bartow Circle to the county line northbound and from the circle to the entrance of the Hutchinson River Parkway southbound. Mr. Cruz indicated that the Board and FEDCAP will facilitate this work. Mr. Cruz will email Ms. Davis-O'Neal of Parks with the specifics. She agreed to assist with the project.

The Board's request for a traffic study at Balcom and Schley Avenues was denied. Mr. Cruz indicated that the Board received nearly 1,000 signatures requesting assistance for this intersection and further indicated that daylighting would even be acceptable at this location. Ms. Cruz will resubmit the request for reevaluation.

Ms. Cruz indicated that she had no updates on the request for pothole repair on Maitland Avenue between 2806 and 2804.

The Board's requests for muni meters at 3147 Bruckner Blvd and 3113 Westchester Avenue have been referred to the Parking Management Division. Muni meters are usually granted if the request is in close proximity to existing meters, which is not the case in this instance. Ms. Cruz will explain the specifics of our request in an effort to have the meters installed.

#### **DOT BRIDGES – R. Fernandez, A. Bayer**

Mr. Fernandez reported that potholes were patched last Friday. The Board Office's complaint may have been addressed during those repairs, but since there were no photos, it is unclear. Mr. Fernandez stressed the benefit of photos in resolving complaints.

Ms. Bayer reported that the project is progressing well and by the end of March or the beginning of April the temporary bridges will be in place

#### **Office of Community Affairs – F. Konneh**

Mr. Konneh reported that ferry service to Throggs Neck should be in place in 2021. Mr. Cruz requested an opportunity to relay his suggestions for the project to the Department of Design and Construction.

Mr. Konneh reported that he has contacted Bryan Honan of NYCHA about 680 Balcom Avenue. Mr. Cruz relayed that the Housing and Zoning Committee has requested that NYCHA have a representative attend a meeting.

Mr. Konneh announced that this evening at 6 pm the Mayor will be celebrating Black History Month at an event at the American Museum of Natural History.

#### **Parks and Recreation – V. Davis-O'Neal, K. Zagorski**

Unfortunately, the position of District 10 Manager is once again vacant.

Ms. Zagorski indicated that Parks is repairing what they can on the staircase at Bufano Park. The park needs more structural repairs which may be addressed in a capital project. Mr. Cruz relayed that the group, Survivor I Am, wants to have a skate event at this park in April or May.

Mr. Cruz indicated that though the Board had inquired about using monies from a one-time \$42,500 funding to assist in local park repairs, OMB denied the request. Ms. Zagorski inquired if the Board can assist in a special event, or in any other capacity. Mr. Cruz suggested possibly doing something linked to the concert series.

Dunkin donuts revenue division is checking the boundaries of the concession. Mr. Cruz visited the site over the weekend. Scheduled for past week for clean up so it should be improved by now.

Ms. Zagorski announced that at 6 pm this evening there will be an Orchard Beach Pavilion meeting at St. Mary's recreation center.

### **DSNY – Enforcement – SEA II E. Robinson**

Enforcement continues to monitor tree pits along E. Tremont Avenue, Westchester Avenue and Bruckner Boulevard. Nine of the stores are vacant. Vacant stores are only ticketed once every 30 days.

Mr. Cruz indicated that Givan Avenue in Co-op City also requires patrolling. Superintendent Mason also agreed to increase enforcement.

### **Consolidated Edison – R. Infante**

Mr. Infante reported that Section 5 in Co-op City is waiting for their final inspection which will be performed shortly.

The laundromat at 3113 Westchester Ave. has an issue with lines having insufficient pressure. The work must be done after the heating season, March at the earliest, when the temperatures are consistently warmer. The owner is aware of this issue.

A battery storage unit was installed on City Island. It is the way of the future and how wind and solar energy are stored.

### **DEP – E. Ardizzone**

Ms. Ardizzone indicated that the Agency is working on the repair of two catch basin cave-ins on City Island Avenue at Ditmars Street (DX2019036037 and DX2019035032) as well as cleaning the catch basin at 3147 Bruckner Blvd.

Ms. Ardizzone noted that information on the Green Infrastructure Grant Program was sent via email. Private property owners may be eligible to receive grant money for green technology installation.

DEP will be participating with Board #10 and Zoodohos Peghe Church in a rain barrel/shredding event on Saturday, March 30, 2019, 10 AM – 2 PM, at the church parking lot, 3573 Bruckner Boulevard.

DSNY Superintendent Mason reported catch basins that need cleaning and will discuss with Ms. Ardizzone after the meeting.

Mr. Cruz indicated that Ms. Jackie Carter of the Metropolitan Transit Authority will be presenting to the Municipal Services Committee on March 13<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend.

#### **FDNY – Borough Chief McDade**

BC McDade submitted Statistics for January and had nothing new to report. There were 794 incidents for the month.

#### **Pelham Grand – Karyn Mann**

Ms. Mann had nothing new to report other than CAB meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month usually, but not this Thursday. Ms. Mann will inform Mr. Cruz of the next date.

#### **DSNY – Superintendent Mason**

Mr. Cruz thanked Superintendent Mason for work which he observed taking place just before the evening along the Hutchinson River Parkway. DSNY crews were collecting dumped materials along the highway.

DSNY removed debris from the fire which took place on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, on East Tremont Avenue at Mayflower Avenue. A trailer home caught fire and was destroyed. Two occupants escaped and received aid from the Red Cross after being treated for smoke inhalation.

#### **Department of Consumer Affairs – T. Rahman**

Ms. Rahman reported that upon review it has been established that Tosca Café is permanently out of business therefore their sidewalk café license will be deactivated.

On March 5<sup>th</sup> the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs will have an event at Lincoln Hospital from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM.

The Department of Consumer Affairs is offering Free Tax Preparation to those who meet the eligibility requirements.

Mr. Cruz requested to have a mobile tax van pop-up in Board #10, however, only Hunts Point and Soundview will be recipients of that service. Ms. Rahman indicated that because of Community Board #10 income levels, the community is not eligible to have its own event.

#### **NYPL – L Brown**

Ms. Brown thanked all for supporting the New York Public Library and announced that Creative Art funding will provide workshops at the Baychester Branch for those 50 and older in a range of topics including photography and writing.

Ms. Brown announced that a new adult librarian was added to the Baychester Branch.

#### **Office of Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. – A. Toledo**

Mr. Toledo announced that Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., will deliver the State of the Borough Address on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM at Samuel Gompers High School.

The deadline for receipt of Board membership applications was last Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. The renewals deadline is this Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Office of State Senator Jamaal Bailey – S. Morello**

Mr. Morello announced that the Senator will host a Black History event at Tracy Towers focusing on criminal justice reforms and financial diversity with State Farm on February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1 PM – 4 PM.

CAPSLOC – Series 2 on May 18<sup>th</sup> at Monroe College with the 47<sup>rd</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> Precincts

State Senate passed the Reproductive Health Care Act, Gender and Voter Reform Bills.

The Reproductive Reform Act moves abortion from the criminal code to the health code and allows any medical professional to perform an abortion, otherwise nothing else has changed. The Gender Reform Act is aimed at ending discrimination against the LGBT community. The Voter Reform Act will help register younger voters at 17 years of age and facilitate absentee voting.

**Office of Council Member Mark Gjonaj – I. Gonzalez**

Councilman Gjonaj is hosting a poster contest for Black History Month. Approximately 16 local schools have chosen to participate. Councilman Gjonaj will be visiting and providing gift certificates for the winner at each school.

The Council member is hosting a Land Use Town Hall meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup> for community organizations. Due to limited space, registration is required.

The following services will be provided by Councilman Gjonaj at his district office, 1478 Williamsbridge Road:

- Free tax prep on March 8 and April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- A blood drive on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 5 PM
- Mammogram bus on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM - 4:30 PM
- Neighborhood clean-up events with high school students

Mr. Cruz reminded all that Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, is the Full Board meeting at Villa Barone Manor at 7 PM. All are encouraged to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Noreen H. Kilkenny  
Bronx Community Board #10