



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson
Borough President

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES FEBRUARY 5, 2025, 7:00pm

Present: M. Bufano, J. Thomas, T. Smith, Y. Alvarez, R. Barbarelli, M. Fludd

Absent: M. Musano, S. Hazell, T. Franklin, N. Rosario, T. Salimbene, D. Hunt

Guests: R. Bieder, Lt. D. Dpiero

The guest speaker was Lt. DiPierro from the FDNY Safety Education unit regarding fire safety and prevention. They stated everyone should have a fire alarm on each floor, a carbon dioxide alarm, and a fire extinguisher in their home. The fire extinguisher should be hung up and easily accessible. They warned against the dangers of overloading power strips. Furthermore, they advised that if you find yourself relying on power strips too much, you should consult a professional on a better solution. They also went over what to do in case of a fire and in different situations. The speaker stated that if a fire is above you, you are safe and should evacuate calmly since fire rises. However, if the fire is below you, there is more cause for worry. If you do find yourself above a fire, do not open the windows. Opening the windows allows smoke to enter your residence and puts you at risk of suffering from smoke inhalation. Also, when using the fire escape to evacuate the building, the speaker stated that it is much faster and safer to go down backwards. The speaker also informed us that we should find out whether we live in a fireproof or non-fireproof building. He informed us that we can find out at FDNYSmart.org or to call 311 if your building is not on the list. Finally, the speaker informed us that we should inform our local firehouse about any person with mobility in the residence.