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Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 VIRTUAL DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING MINUTES June 21, 2022

Attendance: CB10: M. Cruz; N. Kilkenny; Basics: J. Berkley; CCHR: O. Torres; DCWR: M. Veliz; DEP: E. Ardizzzone; DOB: E. Jarratt, O. Phillips; DoHMH – K. Johnson; DSS – J. Bennett; DOT: H. Malone; J. Soto; DOT Bridges: A. Zhou, A. Bayer; State DOT: T. Bayer; DSNY – J. Falcaro; DSNY-E: Sgt. O'Neill; FDNY: R. Velez; Parks: C. Acosta, Valerie Davis-O'Neill, K. Zagorski; Pelham Grand: K. Mann; St. Peter's Residence: J. Berkley; Office of Council Member Amanda Farias: R. Nieves; Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez: A. Jadric; Office of Council Member Kevin Riley: K. Yapp (26)

Mr. Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:04 AM by welcoming Cabinet members.

New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM)

A representative was unable to attend however an emailed update was provided:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA's) Climate Prediction Center is predicting another above-normal Atlantic hurricane season.
- All New Yorkers should take steps to be prepared by having an emergency plan.
- Coastal Storm Evacuation Zones changed in 2021 based on new data, so every New Yorker should visit nyc.gov/knowyourzone to find their hurricane evacuation zone.
- People with Disabilities Access and Functional Needs, make sure your emergency plan addresses how your needs may affect your ability to evacuate, use elevators in your building, shelter in place, or communicate with emergency workers. Arrange help from family, friends, building staff, or service providers if you will need assistance.
- You can find NOAA's press release on this year's outlook here: <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-predicts-above-normal-2022-atlantic-hurricane-season>

Beat the Heat

- Summer heat is on the way. NYCEM encourages New Yorkers—especially older adults--to "Beat the Heat" and to take steps to be prepared for extreme heat.
- New Yorkers are especially vulnerable to extreme heat-related hazards during the summer months.
- Get tips on how to stay healthy and cool during the summer months, conserve water and energy, and identify and treat individuals with heat-related illnesses at: www.nyc.gov/beattheheat.
- REMINDER: Keep in mind that during heat events, the Cooling Center Finder will be accessible through our homepage at: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/about/overview.page> or calling by 311
 - The Cooling Center Finder will not be accessible when a heat emergency is not occurring.

Request a Ready New York Event

- Take the next step to preparedness and request an in-person or virtual emergency preparedness presentation.
- Through the program, you can learn about the hazards you may face in New York City and prepare for all types of emergencies by writing an emergency plan, choosing a meeting place, gathering supplies for your home, and preparing a Go Bag in case you need to leave your home in a hurry.
- Request a virtual Ready NY event or material via email at intergov@oem.nyc.gov

General Information

- Sign up to Notify NYC to receive New York City's official information about emergency alerts and important City services. Visit nyc.gov/notifynyc, call 311, follow Notify NYC on Twitter, or download the free mobile application for your Apple or Android device. Individuals can receive notifications in 13 languages, as well as American Sign Language.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DoHMH) – K. Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the FDA authorized vaccines for those 6 months to 5 years of age. The vaccine is awaiting final approval within the next week or so. Beginning today locations where this age group can be vaccinated can be found on the vaccine finder app.

New York remains on a high alert level for Covid 19 infections, though a steady decrease in hospitalizations has occurred during the last few weeks. Fall back to a medium alert level if expected shortly if downward trends continue.

On last Friday, investigations into the Legionnaires Disease outbreak in the Hybridge section of the Bronx concluded. There have been no new cases. The outbreak was traced to an infected water tower which was disinfected along with many other towers. The issue has been resolved.

The agency will follow up on conditions at the grocery at 1466 St. Peters Avenue.

New York City - Department of Transportation (DOT) – H. Malone, J. Soto

Ms. Malone will report on agenda items later today. She asked that any new requests please be emailed separately so they can be logged and provided a case number.

- The approved street lighting on Harding Avenue and Huntington Avenues - DOT-516990-X2S6 should be installed by the end of July 2022.
- Approved additional street lighting on Bruckner Boulevard from East Tremont Avenue to Balcom Avenue, # DOT-529222-B3Q1 will be installed before the end of January 2023..
- A response to the request for a speed cushion study on Revere Avenue between Philip Avenue and Dill Place, DOT-521620-S3H3, should be provided before the end of June 2023.
- Pennyfield Avenue – recent repaving omitted street light area, please revisit
- Request for a left turn signal on the Layton Avenue overpass at Throggs Neck Expressway Service Road.
- The request for new curbs on Lafayette Avenue between E. Tremont and Edison Avenues, case number DOT-545921-G0N9, is still pending.
- Repaving:
 - Edison Avenue from Haskin Street to Bruckner Boulevard, southbound DOT-498445-F4N7 is on the schedule for May or June of FY 23.
 - Revere Avenue from Philip to Lafayette Avenues, DOT-498623-M8Z2 is on the schedule for May or June of FY 23.
 - Waterbury Avenue from Hollywood to Hobart Avenues, DOT-512146-Q0D1, is on the schedule for May or June of FY 23.

Request for resurfacing on East Tremont Avenue is on the schedule for May or June of FY 23.

- Request for repair of several Co-op City Boulevard streetlights from Benchley Place to Carver Loop, and from Bellamy Loop to Carver Place
 - is on schedule for May or June of FY 23.
 - Graff Avenue from Miles to Harding Avenues
- Request for pothole repair in the crosswalk on Graff Avenue at Miles Avenue. Possible street anomaly causing severe ponding.
- Request for pedestrian ramps at the intersection of Pennyfield and Harding Avenues, DOT-539465-T9Y7
- Request for replacement of faded street signs at Lafayette and Dean Avenues, DOT-547983-Z0R2
- Request assistance in removing portable basketball hoop which is bolted to the sidewalk at 1535 Outlook Avenue. It is impeding DEP work to be performed at this location.
- Request repaving of angle parking lines at 100, 120, 140 Carver Loop
- Request for dismount signage at Shore Road Bridge
- Request pothole repair on the southbound lane of the Shore Road Bridge

State Transportation Department (State DOT) – T. Bayer

Mr. Bayer reported that on Project NYSDOT D264410, utility and drainage work continues.

Paving scheduled for July is now tentatively scheduled for August. Einstein Loop North parking will be impacted when paving occurs. Notices will be distributed.

Asphalt was added to areas on Bruckner Expressway/New England Thruway/I95 South by exit 8C as requested in Agenda Item, DOT-536184-F1K0. Mr. Bayer is requesting information on when more permanent repairs will be done.

Requests for weed removal/maintenance at Cross Bronx Expressway North and South bound between Lafayette Avenue and Dewey Avenue, Throggs Neck Expressway North and South bound between East Tremont Avenue and Pennyfield Avenue, and Throggs Neck Expressway North bound between Schley Avenue and Layton Avenue was forwarded to Arterial Maintenance and will be taken care of. Weed maintenance is ongoing throughout the borough.

Transportation Dept. – Bridges - A. Zhou, A. Bayer

Westchester Avenue Overpass - Ms. Zhou reported that the project will implement a traffic shift in mid-July to accommodate concrete work on the middle westbound lane. Notices will be circulated when details are finalized.

Unionport Bridge Project – Ms. Bayer had no updates to report. Work is moving along. Potholes have been addressed.

Department of Buildings (DOB) – E. Jarratt, O. Phillips

Inspectors visited 928 Swinton Avenue on June 7th but were not granted access to investigate allegations of a private pool being rented through the Swimply App. Matt offered photos. Mr. Jarratt is unsure of what is needed to proceed with the violation. Enforcement has the Swimply advertisement and Mr. Cruz has received confirmation from residents of the block that weekend parties are ongoing. The R3 zoning of this address does not permit commercial use of the property. Also, the pool is in ground which also requires permitting.

Mr. Jarrat confirmed that both 1412 Castle Hill Avenue and 3273 Westchester Avenue have permits for their enclosed areas.

Consolidated Edison – R. Infante

Mr. Infante reported that the agency is preparing for summer usage increases and storms.

The City Council will hold hearings next week on rate increases.

Con Ed will report the start date for work at the City Island Bridge. It will most likely start after the summer busy season.

Department of Parks and Recreation – C. Acosta, Valerie Davis-O’Neal, K. Zagorski

Mr. Acosta reported via email that the tree at 3244 Radio Drive, 311-09181188, will be addressed by Forestry.

The green streets at Zulette Avenue and Ericson Place and Wellman and Dudley Avenues were cleaned.

Department of Parks and Recreation continued

The request for tree pruning at 163 Meagher Avenue is not a Parks Department responsibility.

Weed trimming on Miles Avenue at Ferry Point Park was done.

Lot cleaning at Balcom and Edwards Avenues was accomplished by DSNY.

Ms. Davis-O’Neal reported that the fireworks display at Orchard Beach will take place on July 29th at sundown.

Mr. Cruz welcomed Ms. Zagorski back and wished her well upon her return from medical leave.

Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) – M. Veliz

Ms. Veliz reported that because an inspector was injured while performing a mobile car wash inspection, a temporary pause has been put on inspections. Going forward, inspections will be performed in conjunction with an NYPD officer.

Per Ms. Ardizzzone of the Department of Environmental Protection, mobile car washes are a Citywide issue. Mr. Cruz believes that vendors believe they can operate without permits.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) – E. Ardizzzone

The street cave ins at 178 Meagher Avenue and in the crosswalk at Lasalle and East Tremont Avenues have open work orders but have not yet been repaired.

The Agency is proposing a 4.9% water rate increase for 2023. It is not official, but is likely to pass, and would go into effect July 1, 2022.

Fire Department of New York City (FDNY) – R. Velez

Mr. Velez provided statistics. There were 31 structural fires which is similar to last year. There were 386 EMS runs which is an increase of 3.2 from this time last year.

The agency continues to provide fire safety presentations and smoke alarm installations for free.

Department of Sanitation (DSNY) – Superintendent J. Falcaro, Sgt. O'Neill (DSNY-E)

Mr. Cruz thanked Superintendent Falcaro for a wonderful lot cleaning job at Balcom and Edwards Avenues.

He indicated that his team is monitoring mobile car washes to ensure that vendors are keeping the street clean during and after operation. Tickets are issued when necessary.

Department of Social Services (DSS) – J. Bennett

Ms. Bennett reported that 1400 Blondell Avenue remediation is underway. It is a multi-agency effort.

The property at 2443 was not sold. There is no change in ownership on record and it is on target for opening in 2023.

Pelham Grand – K. Mann

Ms. Mann had no updates to report. The residence is pleased that the Burr Avenue Project is winding down and that the bus stop in front of the building has been restored.

St. Peters Residence – J. Berkley

Mr. Berkley reported that he is working to establish links with community organization such as bakeries, food suppliers, and other businesses that may be able to directly assist the residents. Donations are welcome. Mr. Berkley invited anyone with suggestions or information to contact him: jonberkley@basicsinc.org, 347 573 2981. Mr. Cruz indicated that he is eager to assist and will forward any leads he receives.

Human Rights Commission NYC (CCHR) – O. Torres

Mr. Torres had no updates.

The agency has had representation at many Pride events in the Bronx.

Workshops and training in Human Rights Law is available to those interested.

The agency will be tabling at State Senator Bailey's Barbeque in July.

Office of Council Member Kevin Riley – J. Yapp

Mr. Yapp had no updates to report.

The graffiti removal items on the agenda were forwarded to WildCat Services for remediation.

Mr. Cruz thanked Council Members Riley and Velazquez for their significant budgetary allocations to WildCat Services. Such allocations ensure that the neighborhood receives needed maintenance.

Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez – A. Jadric

Ms. Jadrick had no updates to report but added that Council member Velazquez also allocated funding to ACE Services, which does similar work to WildCAT.

Office of Council Member Amanda Farias – R. Nieves

Ms. Nieves had no updates to report.

The Council member is hosting a family day at Virginia Park this Saturday. The original Space Jam movie will be shown later in the evening at the park as a "Movie Under the Stars" feature. Flyers will be provided.

Matt wished all a good summer. No District Service Cabinet meetings will be held over the summer months. Mr. Cruz reminded all that summer hours at the Community Board Office are 8 AM – 4 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM