



**COMMUNITY BOARD 11**  
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*Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.*  
*Chairman Albert D'Angelo*  
*District Manager Jeremy H. Warneke*

## COMMITTEES

*Leadership*  
*Community Development & Budget Priorities*  
*Economic Development*  
*Education, Culture & Youth Services*  
*Health & Social Services*  
*Housing*  
*Land Use*  
*Parks & Recreation*  
*Public Safety*  
*Sanitation & Environmental Protection*  
*Transportation*

Education, Culture & Youth Services Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 3, 2020  
Community Board 11 Office

## MINUTES

PRESENT: Diane Norris, Chair; Linda White, Co-chair; Paula Creary; Bernadette Ferrara; and John Musto.

EXCUSED: Marnie Rodriguez.

GUEST(S): Tara McCrossan; Vivian Fiallo; Diane Cooper; Benjamin "Ben" Sapadin; Joe Bombace; Kwabana Danquah; and Naomi Pemberton.

Meeting was called to order at 6:57 pm.

1. Yankee Award Memorandum
  - a. The Committee discussed the award and what the requirements entail (e.g. age limit, leadership hours, deadline).
  - b. Linda read over the memorandum drafted by the District Manager and spoke about the awardees selected for this year's award and how they will be honored in an on-field ceremony at Yankee Stadium.
  - c. Due date for 2021 nominations is Friday, October 30, 2020.
2. New York Public Library
  - a. Ben Sapadin from the Morris Park Library came to share information on a college/career preparedness program where library staff will assist collegebound students with college applications, FAFSA forms, resumes, etc.
  - b. Normally this would be limited to those 13 - 18 years of age, but the library is willing to help anyone interested.
  - c. There will be 1-on-1 sessions and classes on various topics every Wednesday at 4:30pm. (Every month will be a different set of classes.)
  - d. Annually there is a grant program open to those between 15 - 17 year of age who could win a chance to get a \$4,000 grant that can be used towards educational purposes.
  - e. More information for upcoming events:  
<https://www.nypl.org/locations/morris-park>
3. P.S. 108
  - a. Discussion was held in regard to an extension to P.S. 108's property. It's unclear what the purpose of the extension will be. Parents want to

- know what it will look like. Ideally, they want it to cater to middle school students.
- b. Guests asked committee members on ideas and steps that could get them answers.
4. Caregivers Outreach Mentorship Empowerment, Inc.
    - a. Program operated out of the Bronx for 5 years focusing on children grades 6 -10 who were mainly recruited from P.S./I.S. 83.
    - b. Operated out of P.S. 83 on weekdays and the Morris Park Library on Saturdays. Currently, it's transitioning to a new location in Co-Op City but is open to all Bronxites.
    - c. Youth Care Giver Symposium is on April 9, 2020 to educate school personnel, health care providers and community members on youth caregivers and the resources that are available in the community.
    - d. For more information: [https://www.sharksyouth.org/about\\_us](https://www.sharksyouth.org/about_us)
  5. Summer Youth Employment Program
    - a. Starts in July through August for teens from the ages 14 - 15 who will take part in project-based activities.
    - b. Young adults from 16 - 24 can get experience in variety of industries throughout the City.
    - c. Great experience opportunity to gain job experience and earn some money.
    - d. For more information: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dycd/services/jobs-internships/summer-youth-employment-program-syep.page>
  6. Old Business
    - a. Bernadette Ferrara followed up in regard to connecting with CEC11 President, Cheryl Smith. She has not heard back from her but will look into inviting her to one of our upcoming committee meetings in the future.
    - b. It was suggested by one of our guests that the parents of P.S. 108 should look into having a meeting with the construction authority to get possible answers in regard to what is going to be built.
  7. New Business
    - a. Suggestion was made about honoring Bronx author Mary Higgins Clark at the Morris Park Branch of the NYPL. It was brought to the committee's attention that Saint Francis Xavier already named their library after her.
      - i. Mr. Sapadin said that they tried to do something with the author before her passing but was unable to. They would want to seek approval from her family first before coming up with a way to honor her at the library.
      - ii. Linda White suggested reaching out to the Borough President's Office to see about getting her mentioned during Bronx Week.
    - b. Alumni from Dewitt Clinton High School wanted to know the best procedures to raise funds to give back to Bronx high school students. Their goal is to create a scholarship fund. They were able to raise

\$6,500 and just want to give back to the community that they care about.

- i. Linda White suggested for them to reach out to their alumni association for ideas as well.
- ii. It was also suggested to look into making their own non-profit organization and to reach out to the Bronx Borough President's Office for direction to the right resources.

Minutes typed by Paula Creary, edited and formatted by staff.