

Community Board 12 4/24/2025 General Meeting Minutes

Chairwoman Beatriz Coronel brought the meeting to order at 7:14pm est.

I. Public Gallery:

Bronxworks (Mr. Guy Loving and Mr. Tyrone Spivey) gave a light overview of the anticipated programming that will be available when the Family Enrichment Center finds a physical space in the Northeast Bronx. For example, a Knitting circle, laundry services, chess club and social services for seniors. Mr. Loving is encouraging the community board to remain engaged with the Bronxworks team so that they may have a better understanding of the needs of the district.

Mr. Robert Hall asked if Bronxworks has been in contact with any of the other pre-existing programs in the neighborhood like the R.A.I.N center.

Mr. Loving responded yes and that the Bronxworks team will continue to attend CB12 meetings and reach out to as many organizations in the district to get resources that fit the needs of the district.

Susan E. Wagner School-The school administrators are requesting support for the co-naming of the street on the same side of the school on 229th Street White Plains Road to be named Maggie Alston for her commitment to the school and life's work of educational advocacy in the DOE, NAACP and NCNW.

John Issac: Asked for clarity on which street the request was for and explained that this matter must first be brought to the attention of committee#1.

The admins from the Susan E. Wagner School explained that the co-naming is not for the street on the opposite side that already has been named after someone but for the same side as the school on 229th Street and White Plains Road. The admins have already received clearance from Councilman Riley's office and were invited back to CB 12 Committee#1 meeting so that they may vote on the matter. Details for an event celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Susan E. Wagner School will be submitted to CB12 from the school once they solidify a date.

47th Precinct Council-Dr. Toba announced and invited the members of the Community Board 12 to the 47th Precinct's Breakfast which will be happening on 4/30/2025 at 8:00am at the Eastwood Manor.

DHS & H.O.G.A.R- Jemar Hooks, Kristine and Bobby Crespo presented on the renovation and social/medical services that will be provided at the standalone shelter located on 2101 Needham Avenue and Boston Road that will serve people that are 50 and up that are facing housing disparities for 130 residents. H.O.G.A.R. is also hiring from within the community for their site staff and they provide services for people living with mental illness, HIV/AIDS, housing disparities and provide career readiness and job placement for the residents.

Bobby Crespo went on to explain that H.O.G.A.R. has been operating for the last 27 years and for example like the location at 835 Tiffany Street that is open from 8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday. The facility is staffed with mental health professionals, security and a support team for residents 24/7. H.O.G.A.R. partners with other organizations like Urban Health on Hunts Point. H.O.G.A.R. is looking to partner with CB12 to create a garden project in a vacant lot in the surrounding area for the 113 residents as well as receive input from CB12 about how they can incorporate more services.

Clinton Myke- How can you assure us that this shelter will be for and remain for “senior women” as opposed to anyone else? Because a lot of developers have come before this community board assuring us that the shelter that they are going to open is for the members of the community then it turns into something else entirely?

Jemar Hooks-We cannot make that assurance, but the intention of this shelter is to temporarily house women but primarily people that are 50 years or older.

Alfredo Figueroa-I don’t mean to repeat but I agree with Clinton because for example a different shelter was proposed by developer for this area for former incarcerated women but instead it became a shelter for male sex offenders.

Javad Malik- I agree with Clinton and Alfredo but as a health care professional I see the need for the housing and the services that you are providing. People that are facing homelessness are also residents of CB12 and while issues like parking are important. The need for housing and these services are more important. With all due respect and I mean no offense. It would be better if we heard from peer leaders about the positive success stories because a lot of the time shelters get stereotyped, and no one gets to hear the positives from peer leaders and about what health services for the women that will be temporarily housed will receive. We should be hearing from them not from directors.

Beatriz Coronel- Yes, I agree with Javed that it would be better to hear from Peer Leaders about the staff from the program and we encourage you to come back so that the board can hear about the ways you are helping the residents to integrate back into the community. How long is the program

Jamar Hooks- The program is 9-12 months

Robert Hall-Multiple types of shelters are in CB12. You should work with the community board to help you with the proposed garden project.

Eaton Davis-Lopez- Its nice to see you and meet some of you again. How many residents do you currently serve?

Ericka-7,000 residents across 13 shelters and rehabilitation centers.

Alpha- What are the demographics?

Ericka- The program caters to the needs of each resident. The residents are paired with a social worker to outline what resources that they need. For example, the job placement not only helps residents, but we look to hire people from within the community so that the staff is reflective of the community it serves

Alpha- The job placement is very important because if the staff is from the community, it makes them more knowledgeable. How long are security guards present?

Ericka- There is 24/7 security for the staff and residents.

Alpha- How about the salaries for the staff?

Ericka- In comparison to the job market the salaries offered for the staff are competitive.

Edward Poppiti- To answer the question earlier about resident/staff success stories. A current staff member who is online as well can attest to the program's success a former resident who went on to become a Peer Leader/ community liaison for H.O.G.A.R.

Gigi Quinones-Explains how she was in a domestic violence situation which led to her becoming homeless/displaced and how the H.O.G.A.R. program helped her out of that situation, and she works now to help others like herself as an administrator.

Beatriz Coronel- Thanks Ms. Quinones for her testimony and invites DHS/ H.O.G.A.R. back to the community board. Then proceeds to open the floor updates from the elected officials.

Councilman Eric Dinowitz

Invites CB12 to an event on 05/19/2025 to discuss the Wakefield Village, he informed the board about how his office secured money for the tech upgrades at the Matilda School and how his office listened to the request of the 5th grade students at the Matilda School for better drinking fountains. He will continue to follow up with the school construction authority to see the progress.

Reminder to check out the events at the improved Wakefield library. For budget information please go to the councilmen's website to learn more. "Scaffolding Reform"- Is a new legislation the councilmen is put forward to beautify the scaffolding in front of buildings. Enforcing Local Law 11 that makes building owners certify 4 times a year with DOB about the safety concerns/constructions. The council member said he also passed bills for protective rights for the transgender individuals.

Javad Malik- Agrees with the councilmember that there is a need to develop more housing because it will aid against the housing crisis and asks if there is a way to have developers that want to come to the board provide more details about their proposed projects in advance.

Beatriz Coronel- In terms of infrastructure do the developers that want to build here take that into account.

Karl Stricker- Right, will there be a school for the Wakefield village? The developer promised there would be, but we are hearing now that there isn't going to be one and its because the schools in the area aren't over-crowded, but they will become over-crowded if there isn't a school made for the 1100 families that will be in Wakefield village.

Eric Dinowitz- I can answer both questions. For infrastructure my office is working on a way to address the storm water issue in this area. SCA is saying there is no need to build a school in that location.

Karl Stricker- Since day 1 SCA and the developer has said that there will be a school.

Eric Dinowitz- I will follow up with SCA

Karl Stricker-What about the request for upgrades to the Woodlawn Library?

Eric Dinowitz- I worked with Borough Pres. Vanessa Gibson to get ADA upgrades for the libraries.

Arielle-The feedback that you're requesting is for which bills? 311 is linked to the website where we can see your newsletter but there is no way to filter the resolutions or check the status of the complaints made.

Eric Dinowitz- I put forward new legislation to improve the 311 online dashboard. The agency will also be going to all the community boards to give training on how to use it and how to use the NYC Agency report card to survey the performance of different city agencies.

Beatriz Coronel- Thanks the councilmen for stopping by and invites Mr. Alex Kipp to begin the C.O.I. Training for the Community Board 12 members.

Updates from the elected official resumed:

Alina Dowe from Mayor Adams Office: Mayor Adams allocated \$167 million for Pre-K education with an emphasis for students with special needs.

New legislation to remove the sidewalk sheds that were used for outdoor dining during covid

Q-team-A program that focuses on the quality of life of city residents.

Beatriz C- Our district is listed as the noisiest

Alina-Composting fines have been suspended. There is a free lead pipe replacement program through the DEP for homeowners.

Karen Skinner-Parker-There has been a lot of mixing compost with garbage.

Eatonia E. Davis-Lopez- When will the fines resume.

Alina- There is no date of when the fines for composting will resume.

Councilman Kevin Riley's office (Andy Turcios):

Candlelight Vigil

- Date: Today
- Location: Community Board 12, 4101 White Plains Road
- Time: 5PM
- **Northeast Bronx YMCA Healthy Kids Day**
 - Date: Saturday, April 26th
 - Location: 1250 East 229th Street
 - Time: 11AM–2PM
- **Voices to End Hunger & Grassroots Grocery Food Distribution**
 - Date: Saturday, May 10th
 - Location: Community Board 12, 4101 White Plains Road
 - Time: 12PM–3PM
- **Team Riley X NYC Parks Youth Soccer Tournament**
 - Dates: Saturdays, May 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st
 - Location: Haffen Park (Hammersley Ave & Gunther Ave)
 - Time: 9AM–3PM
- **Shoelace Park Family Fun Day**
 - Date: Saturday, May 17th
 - Location: Shoelace Park (222nd Street & Bronx Blvd)
 - Time: 12PM–4PM

Councilman Kevin Riley is also introducing 3 bills: 0643-The Indoor Hoops Act: A bill that works with the DOE and Parks Dept to make a contingency plan for events that may be affected by inclement weather. 082 A bill that holds landlords responsible for providing temporary housing for their tenants if they become displaced because of having to be evacuated because of a fire. Intro 82 bill for gun violence.

Congressman Richie Torres

Raishiel Muniz- “The Rescue Act”- To require US intervention when citizens, refugees, green card holders, and asylees are wrongfully deported.

There will be a press conference with Bronx Environmental groups to protest the illegal termination of EPA grants under the Trump Administration.

On Monday, April 28, 2025, the House will vote on setting consumer standards for lithium batteries.

Senator Jamal Bailey

Ranell Ogilvie-The Senator holds a food distribution the last Wednesday of every month.

Beatriz C- Requested Mr. Ogilvie to remind the Senator about the invitation to CB12 Legislative breakfast this summer.

Taste of the District May 3, 2025, at the Northeast YMCA

District Manager's Report—See Attached

Chairperson's Report

Beatriz informed everyone that the support letters were sent out to Ebenezer Church and WellLife.

She met with the Urban Fellow Aishwarya who will be doing a presentation at the next Land Use Committee discussing optimization and vacancy assessments. She will be looking into AMI and focusing on infrastructure in the future.

Beatriz has requested meetings with the NYPD's new Quality of Life Division and the new Commander of the 47th Precinct.

CB 12 social media committee-Alpha Kamara & Dominique Phinn-Vote for the CB12 social media handle

Clinton- Asked for confirmation about the spelling of the proposed handle by the board: BX12 Unity Hub, The 12th Link and Bronx CB12 Connect.

Motion mad by Alpha Kamara seconded by Dominique Phin to vote for the CB 12 social media handle to be: **"BXCB12 Connect"**. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Karl Stricker- Explained that the nominating committee members can participate in voting for executive members.

Nominating Committee:

Bobby Link

Gbenga Subair

Alfredo Subair

Wayne Palma

Arielle Peters

The nominations are unanimously accepted.

Beatriz C- Moves to adjourn the meeting

Javad Malik-2nds the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42pm.

COMMUNITY BOARD 12, THE BRONX

VOTING SHEET

Date

4/24/25

MOTION NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENITEZ, JUDITH	A						
BERKLEY, CARLTON	NP						
BORSOTTI, CARLA	NP						
BOSWELL, PATRICIA	A						
BROMFIELD-ARMSTRONG, MICHELLE	NP						
CAMPBELL, DESIREE	NP						
CAMPBELL, SADIE	NP						
CLODD, JOAN	A						
DAVIS, EATONIA	A						
DICKERSON, TOLLYNE	A						
DONALDSON, TIERRA	A						
ECHEVARRIA, DENISE	NP Excused						
FARMER, JAZLYN	A						
FIGUEROA, ALFREDO	A						
FISHER, SABRINA	A						
FUENTES, KARTIKA out	NP						
GOFF, JOHNNIE	NP						
GRANT, DARREN out	NP						
GRIERSON, SHEILA	A						
HALL, ROBERT	A						
ISAAC, JOHN	A						
JAMES, THEODORE	NP						
KAMARA, ALPHA	A						
LINK, ROBERT	A						

MOTION NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MALIK, JAVAD	A						
MARK, UDUAKOBONG	A						
MARTIN, LUCILLE	A						
MENSAH, MAAME	A						
MITCHELL, ANTOINETTE	A						
MURRAY, ELYSE ANDREA	A						
MYKE, CLINTON	A						
ORTIZ, CARMEN	A						
PALMA, WAYNE	A						
PARIS, REGINALD	A						
PETERS, ARIELLE	A						
PHINN, DOMINIQUE	A						
REID, ANTHONY	NP						
ROSA, NICHOLAS	NP						
SAMUELS, DR. SHERRY		Excused					
SKINNER PARKES, KAREN	A						
STRICKER, KARL	A						
SUBAIR, GBENGA	A						
SZABADOS, LUKE		Excused					
TIRADO, DEBRA	A						
TUTEIN, DAMON	A						
WALKER, DEBORAH	NP						
CORONEL, BEATRIZ	A						

A = AYE

N = NAY

NP = NOT PRESENT

ABS = ABSTAINED

R – RECUSE

Excused



Committee #1 report for

May 2025

Committee Meeting will be held on Monday May 12, 2025, at the Town house 4101 White Plains Road via Web-Ex at 7:00 P.M.

Agenda

Item 1: 7 Amazing Kids LLC.—3430 Boston Road—Adult Use Retail Dispensary—New

Item 2: Department of Design and Construction (DDC) update for HED562—New 48” Trunk Main on East 233rd Street

Item 3: Request to Co-Name East 229th Street and White Plains Road to Maggie Alston Way

Item 4: Discussion to add bike lanes on Nereid Avenue

Item 5: Explore additional one-lane streets in Wakefield

Committee Members in attendance: Robert Hall, Robert Link, John Isaac, Wayne Palma, Arielle Peters, Gbenga Subair, Clinton Myke (virtual), Beatriz Coronel Chair of BXC12

The Department of Design and Construction rescheduled their presentation.

Request to Co-Name East 229th Street and White Plains Road to Maggie Alston Way

Mrs. Jennifer Lumley was present from the Suzanne E. Wagner school and presented Mrs. Maggie Alston and the incredible contributions she made in the CB12 community. Mrs. Alston was the co-founder of the school which began 60 years ago. Today the school has grown and serves over 500 students. The request made for the street co-naming of 229 Street and White Plains Road, however the intersection has been previously Co-named in honor of former Community Board District Manager Carmen Rosa. A request has been sent to DOT to inquire whether an intersection can have more than one co-naming. Another suggestion was to move the co-name further north to 230th Street, which will move further away from the location of the children’s center.

Action Item:

The Board will contact Mrs. Jennifer Lumley when a determination is made about the co-name at the intersection

Discussion to add Protected bike lanes on Nereid Avenue

The committee discussed the addition of a bike lane on Nereid Avenue Bridge. First this will eliminate the illegal truck parking on the Bridge and make a connection from White Plains Road to Muskrat Cove. A motion was made by Mr. Robert Link and seconded by Mrs. Ariel Peters.

Respectfully submitted,

John Isaac
Co Chair of Committee #1

District Manager's Report

April 24, 2025

Good evening Board Members, the weather is getting warmer which means that it is budget season in New York City. My comments will be brief in hopes of letting this meeting end in a timely manner. Our communities need to be meeting with City Agencies to discuss our budget priorities on the City's Fiscal Year 2027 budget. That budget begins on July 1, 2026, and ends June 30, 2027. In that vein, I forward an email from the Park's Department on setting a date for our budget negotiations. I am still awaiting a response. Please let this serve as a reminder for all our committee Co-Chairs to start scheduling meetings with City Agencies that cover their respective areas of coverage.

I see that the selection of a Nominating Committee is on tonight's agenda. We should strive to have the election completed by June's meeting before new Board Members are appointed to the Community Board. Speaking of which, I hope that all of those up for reappointment have had the opportunity to meet and talk with the Borough President's Office. There were several Board Members that chose not to reapply to the Community Board, and I want to thank you for your time and service. It is a noble thing you have done by serving on your local planning board.

I wanted to highlight an upcoming City Council committee hearing on Tuesday, April 29th at 10AM. The City Council's Committee on Housing and Buildings will be discussing NYC Housing Connect. NYC Housing Connect is your portal to find and apply for affordable rental and homeownership opportunities across the five boroughs of New York City. Ursula has shared this report with all of you so the link is embedded in this report.

Here is the link to the hearing page on Legistar, where the video feed link will be available upon its start (scheduled for 10am on Tuesday, April 29th), and here is the link to the City Council's Youtube page, where the hearing may be broadcasted (unless another hearing scheduled for the same time is broadcasted instead).

Finally, there will be a prayer vigil tomorrow in front of our office beginning at 5PM for Lisa Cotton and Nazier Millien. They were found deceased in their apartment off East 231st Street earlier this week. The vigil is being hosted by our elected officials.

Conclusion

Today marks my 3,553rd day as your District Manager or 9-years, 8-months, and 22nd day of my tenure here. I am grateful for each and every day at the Board.

Thank you for your patience and Good Night.