



**The City of New York**  
**Bronx Community Board Three**

1426 Boston Road, Bronx, NY 10456  
 Telephone No.:(718)378-8054 – Fax No.:(718)378-8188  
 E-mail Address: [judley@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:judley@cb.nyc.gov)/[eritter@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:eritter@cb.nyc.gov)

DIAL	Government Services
311	& Information for NYC

Comm. Bd. Info go to: [bronxmail.com](http://bronxmail.com)

**RUBEN DIAZ, JR.**  
**BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT**

**GLORIA ALSTON**  
**CHAIRWOMAN**

**JOHN W. DUDLEY**  
**DISTRICT MANAGER**

**GENERAL BOARD MINUTES**

Date: 2/11/2020  
 Time: 6:00PM  
 Location: 1332 Fulton Avenue

**Members Present**

- Kolaco Acqui
- Gloria Alston
- Xiomara Arriola
- Joetta Brown
- Dawn Carter
- Gilberto Constantinez
- Vladimir Cruz
- Nelson Delerme
- Randy Dillard
- Wanda Ellis
- Abdul Johnson
- Marilyn Johnson
- Kathy Johnson-Morris
- Abraham Jones
- Rita Jones
- Victor Latimer
- Una Lawrence
- Tracie Lucas Lord
- Marlon Molina
- Gina M. Newton
- Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
- Laila Patino
- Andy Perdomo
- Edna Quinones
- Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
- Olympia Jay Striplin
- Keziah Sullivan
- Patrick Willis

**Bronx Borough President’s Office**

Tom Lucania

**Staff Present**

- Etta F. Ritter
- John W. Dudley

**Members Excused**

- Jerry Aviles
- Winifred Bama
- Linda Kemp
- Aubrey Mike
- Terrence Podolsky
- D’Andra Van Heusen-Thomas

**Members Absent**

- Rev. Frederick Crawford
- Melody Jimenez
- Wilbert Tee Lawton
- Cassandra Saunders

**Assemblyman Michael Blake’s Office**

Michaela Ritz

**Councilmember Vanessa Gibson’s Office**

Michael Ivory  
 CM Vanessa L. Gibson

**Councilmember Rafael Salamanca’s Office**

Shanna Knotts

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson	Linda Kemp 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson	Joetta Brown Secretary	Kathy Johnson-Morris Treasurer	Rita Jones Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian
---	--	---------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

**NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams Office**

Angel DuBose

**District Attorney Darcel Clark's Office**

Hon. Darcel Clark  
Robert Barnes

**Guests Names**

Keith Kalb, NYC DOT  
Emily Riquelme, NYC DOT  
Nivardo Lopez, NYC DOT  
Chelsae Gill-James, NYC DOT

**ALL OTHER GUESTS NAMES ON FILE**

**State Senator Luis Sepulveda's Office**

Krystle Cajas

**NYC Comptroller Scott Stringers Office**

**Community Concerns/Exchange of Information**

Chairwoman Gloria Alston opened up by asking if there were any community concerns and/or exchange of information as follows:

- Ms. Yesmin Vega, representative from WHEDco, informed the community at-large of the Free Workshops that WHEDco will be hosting in February and March. Ms. Vega distributed fliers relating to workshops to help small businesses
  - Small Business Tax & Financial Management
  - Fundamentals of Business Brand Identity
  - Introduction to Social Media Strategy
- Mr. Dion Powell, veteran advocate, is hosting the following:
  - Veteran's First Time Investor Program (FTIP)
  - New York Community Civics & Government Workshop Series
- Ms. Vicky Correa, representative from Lincoln Hospital, distributed upcoming events:
  - Legislative Summit 2020
  - Census 2020 Forum
- Ms. Joetta Brown, representative from the South Bronx Emergency Network, invited the community at-large to a Community Emergency & Disaster Planning Meeting at the following locations:
  - Bronx Community Board Three, located at 1426 Boston Road
  - McKinley Center, located at 751 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street
- Min. Abraham Jones, executive director of Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc., stated that they will be hosting their Annual Youth Development Day on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. The Summer Youth Employment Application will also be released on that day. Mr. Jones also noted that Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc. has been selected as an early voting site.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Gloria S. Alston, chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

**Invocation**

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. led us in prayer.

**Correspondence**

Currently, there was no correspondence to review.

**Roll Call**

Ms. Joetta Brown, secretary of Bronx Community Board Three, called the roll and a quorum was established.

**Members Requesting to be Excused**

Jerry Aviles

---

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Winifred Bama  
Linda Kemp  
Aubrey Mike  
Terrence Podolsky  
D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas

**Motion**

**It was motioned and seconded to excuse the following member(s):**

Jerry Aviles  
Winifred Bama  
Linda Kemp  
Aubrey Mike  
Terrence Podolsky  
D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas

**All In Favor**

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of Minutes of the Prior Meeting**

**Motion**

**It was motioned and seconded, to approve the minutes of the prior meeting held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, with the necessary corrections if there be any.**

**All In Favor**

**Motion Carried**

**Amendments to the Agenda**

Currently, there were no amendments to the agenda.

**Presentation(s)**

**Nirvado Lopez, Bronx Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation  
Keith Kalb, Deputy Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation  
Chelsae Gill-James, Representative, NYC Department of Transportation**

**TOPIC: Discuss Better Bus Boarding Improvements on East 167<sup>th</sup>, East 168<sup>th</sup> & East 169<sup>th</sup> Streets**

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera introduced Mr. Nivardo Lopez, Bronx Borough Commissioner at the NYC Department of Transportation, to the community at-large. Mr. Lopez and his colleagues came before the general board to discuss the "BX35 Bus Priority and Safety Improvements" along E. 167<sup>th</sup>, E. 168<sup>th</sup> & E. 169<sup>th</sup> Streets, within Community District Three.

At this time, Mr. Lopez introduced Ms. Chelsae Gill-James, representative from the NYC Department of Transportation, to those in attendance. Ms. Chelsae Gill-James stated that DOT is currently in the planning and outreach stage looking to speak with all community stakeholders to hear their ideas, suggestions and concerns. DOT is looking to improve the BX35 bus speeds by 25%. The BX35 is a crosstown bus which allows riders access to Manhattan and for connections to connect to 8 bus routes and trains 4, B/D. The BX35 route has key problematic issues:

- Congested corridor with slow bus speeds
- Double parking and loading
- Vehicles blocking bus stops
- Bus speeds can be from 4-6 mph during peak hours

DOT is proposing to install bus lanes, queue jump signals and curb regulation changes within Community District Three. This proposal will allow for buses to get a jump ahead of vehicles at certain intersections, along with new metered parking or truck loading zones to reduce double parking and lane blocking. The benefits would improve bus speeds and reliable travel times. Ms. Gill-James stated that these improvements would reduce traffic conditions with double parked vehicles and trucks unloading, making this route safer. The installation of a bike lane and meters was also proposed as part of this discussion.

---

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

At this time questions and concerns were entertained and answered.

Community Board members and members of the public were very clear that they did not want to lose any parking spaces. Parking concerns are a quality of life issue within Community District Three. It was also noted by stakeholders that by installing a “**bus lane and a bike lane**” this will not alleviate the double parking. This open forum was concluded by stating that every parking space within the community is needed. The community felt that the small mom and pop stores would suffer because there is no place to park and run into the store.

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera stated that due the extensive agenda for the evening, please email all burning questions and or concerns to John Dudley, district manager, and he will forward said correspondence to DOT to answer.

At the conclusion, DOT requested that the community at-large assist in identifying the local stakeholders regarding the proposed BX35 safety improvements along this route within Community District Three.

**Stephen Caruso, Citywide Community Affairs Officer, DSNY**

**TOPIC: Discuss the plastic bag ban which goes into effect on March 1<sup>st</sup> FREE DSNY RE-USABLE BAGS**

The NYC Department of Sanitation representative in attendance came before the public at-large to inform them that on March 1, 2020, New York State is banning single-use plastic carryout bags. In New York City, businesses will also be required to collect a 5-cent fee on paper carryout bags from customers.

The ban and fee are efforts to reduce the use of wasteful single-use bags and their negative impact on the environment.

If you pay using SNAP or WIC, you will not be charged any paper bag fees. Stores must provide SNAP and WIC users with free carryout bags. No other customers are exempt from this fee.

You can avoid paying the fee by bringing your own reusable bags to stores. Stores are required to sell reusable bags for customers. Free bags were distributed to those in the attendance.

**Bronx Borough President’s Ruben Diaz, Jr.’s Report**

Tom Lucania, representative from the Bronx Borough President’s Office, provided a written report via e-mail which was electronically sent to board members and those on Bronx Community Board Three’s list serve.

Mr. Lucania thanked everyone for submitting their re-appointment applications and completing the Sexual Harassment Prevention on-line course.

**Report of Elected Officials**

**Hon. Darcell Clark, District Attorney**

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera introduced the Hon. Darcell Clark, Bronx County District Attorney since 2016. The Hon. Darcell Clark is the first woman to hold that office, and the first woman of color to serve as a district attorney in the history of the State of New York.

The Hon. Clark thanked everyone for their vote last November 2019, and stated that her office is working tirelessly for the Bail Reform Laws amid the loop-hole concerns. The new rules eliminate cash bail and pretrial detention for virtually all misdemeanors and in most nonviolent felony cases.

Question and concerns were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

**CM Vanessa Gibson’s Report**

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera introduced CM Vanessa Gibson to those in attendance. CM Gibson stated that discussions have been held regarding co-naming East 161<sup>st</sup> Street and Forest Avenue in honor of the late Rev. Wendell Foster and also in re-naming the Jerome Public Library in his honor. CM Vanessa Gibson distributed the following time sensitive fliers:

- Town Hall Meeting
- NYLAG Free legal service
- OATH will be at Morrisania Public Library
- Black History Month Celebration

---

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Questions were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

### **NYC Public Advocate's Report**

The Mr. Angel DuBose, representative from the office of NYC Public Advocate' Jumaane D. Williams, stated that he can be reached at 212-669-7200.

The NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams has passed legislation aimed at combating the use of fraudulent parking permits in New York City, alongside a package of eight other related measures. The Public Advocate's legislation, [Intro 596-B](#), would increase the fine for use of unauthorized or fraudulent city-issued parking permits, or placards, from \$250 to \$500.

Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams and CM Rafael Salamanca, Jr., will be hosting "**Bronx Bail Reform Information Session**" on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00pm-9:00pm, at The Point at 940 Garrison Avenue.

### **CM Rafaela Salamanca Report**

Ms. Shanna Knotts, representative from CM Rafael Salamanca's office, distributed a "Community News, Information & Upcoming Events" booklet to those in attendance. The booklet contains resources not limited to Constituent services, Important Phone Numbers, Immigration Services, Fair Fares Program, and the DOE School Calendar.

### **State Senator Luis Sepulveda's Report**

Ms. Krystle Cajas, representative from State Senator Luis Sepulveda's office, provided the following updates:

Constituent Services are available at the State Senators office Monday through Friday from 9-5  
The State Senator hosts an Annual Spelling Bee which is scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>

- The Senator had a donation drive for Puerto Rico and will be flying into Puerto Rico this Friday to assist with relief efforts. In collaboration with the community here in the Bronx, we have collected hundreds of relief supplies that will be delivered to those most affected in Puerto Rico.

Please see attached fliers in both English and in Spanish,

### **NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's Report**

The representative from NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office spoke briefly on the following:

- Homeownership
- Creating a Language Bank

### **Assemblyman Michael Blake's Report**

Ms. Michaela Ritz, representative from Assemblyman Michael Blake's office, spoke briefly on the following:

- Bail Reform
- Census 2020
- Scams - Do not fall victim to scams

### **District Manager's Report**

John W. Dudley, district manager, spoke on the following:

- Referred homeowners to Department of Finance session to discuss property assessments.
- Recommended that reports of elected officials be submitted in writing for record purposes.
- Extended invitation to interested parties to submit applications for community board membership.

---

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

### **Birthday's**

At this time, everyone born in the month of February was requested to stand and be acknowledged. Everyone in attendance sang Happy Birthday to those persons born in February.

### **Benediction**

Mr. Abraham Jones led us in prayer

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

---

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Rev. Bruce Rivera  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian