



The City of New York

Bronx Community Board Three

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HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON
BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JOETTA BROWN
CHAIRPERSON

ETTA F. RITTER
DISTRICT MANAGER

GLORIA S. ALSTON
CHAIRPERSON EMERITUS

Board Members	38
Present	22
Excused	8
Absent	8
Signed Late	0
Left Early	1

BOARD MINUTES

Date: 6/9/26
Place: 1332 Fulton Avenue
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

Kolaco Acqui
Ibrahim Ahmed
Xiomara Arriola
Joetta Brown
Robert Brown
Edgardo Ceden
Francis D'Souza
Wanda Ellis
Margo Grant
Michelle Holmes
Abraham Jones
Diane Jones
Tracie Lucas-Lord
Kathy Morris
Anddy Perdomo
Amanda Reed
Laredo Regular
Jeannie Ruiz
Keziah Sullivan-Norman
D'Andra Van-Heusen Thomas
Beautiful Winston

Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson's Office

Kenny Agosto

Senator Luis Sepulveda's Office

Elizabeth Marte

Congressman Ritchie Torres' Office

Rpnn Jordan

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Joetta Brown, Chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

INVOCATION

Deacon Edgardo Ceden, board member of Bronx Community Board Three, led the meeting in prayer.

PUBLIC SESSION

- **Armando J. Severino, LMHC**, Administrative Assistant Director at the Children's Aid Society, informed the community at large of the free Family Wellness Program.

Staff Present

Etta F. Ritter

Members Excused

Dawn Carter
Iraida DeJesus
Michele Gantt
Maurice Gray
Victor Latimer
Una Lawrence
Aubrey Mike
Jasmine Uribe

Members Absent

Eleanor Cano
Gilberto Constantine
Joyce Diggs
Shakira Hart
Linda Johnson
April Jones
Kim Roland
Chantel Wells

Councilmember Althea Stevens' Office

Lisne Bautista

Councilmember Justion Sanchez's Office

River Alexander

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Kolaco Acqui
1st Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Morris
2nd Vice-Chairperson

Keziah Sullivan-Norman
Secretary

D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas
Treasurer

Robert Brown
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

- Rev. Conrad White, pastor of South Bronx Community Seventh-Day Adventist Church at 1418 Crotona Avenue within Community Board Three, introduced himself to the community at large.

Roll Call

Ms. Keziah Sullivan-Norman, Secretary of Bronx Community Board Three, called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Approval of Members Requesting to be Excused

The following members requested to be excused:

Dawn Carter
Iraida DeJesus
Michele Gantt
Maurice Gray
Victor Latimer
Una Lawrence
Aubrey Mike
Jasmine Uribe

MOTION

It was motioned by Laredo Regular and seconded by Kathy Morris to excuse the following members:

Dawn Carter
Iraida DeJesus
Michele Gantt
Maurice Gray
Victor Latimer
Una Lawrence
Aubrey Mike
Jasmine Uribe

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Atta Acheampong and seconded by Anddy Perdomo to approve the May 21, 2026, minutes, with any necessary corrections.

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

Senator Luis Sepulveda's Office

Elizabeth Marte, Community Affairs Director, did not provide a written report; however, she shared time-sensitive information. Ms. Marte also provided legislative updates.

Councilmember Althea Stevens' Report

Ms. Lisne Bautista did not provide a written report and shared time-sensitive information.

Councilmember Justin Sanchez's Report

River Alexander, Legislative Director, did not provide a written report and shared time-sensitive information.

Congressman Ritchie Torres' Report

Ronn Jordan did not provide a written report.

Bronx Borough President's Office Report

Mr. Kenny Agosto did not provide a written report and shared time-sensitive information for June.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Bronx Community Board Three Election of Officers – 2026

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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1st Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Morris
2nd Vice-Chairperson

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At this time, Chairperson Brown yielded the floor to Ms. Wanda Ellis, chairperson of the Nomination Committee. Wanda Ellis stated that Anddy Perdomo and Francis D'souza will be assisting her in collecting and tallying up the ballots for the Election of Officers from the members in attendance.

Pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Bronx Community Board Three By-Laws, the election of Executive Officers will take place this evening. The officers elected tonight will assume office on September 1 and serve a two-year term.

Bronx Community Board Three currently has 38 appointed members. Consistent with the Board's established quorum requirement, 21 members constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Article V, Section 2 provides that "a majority of a quorum of appointed members of the Board shall be required to elect a candidate to office."

For purposes of tonight's election, the minimum number of votes required to elect a candidate is 11. I want to clarify that this number is derived from the quorum requirement of 21 members, as a majority of 21 is 11. Therefore, any candidate receiving 11 or more votes will have achieved the majority required under Article V, Section 2 of the By-Laws.

If no candidate receives the required majority on the first ballot, all candidates except the two receiving the highest number of votes will be removed from the ballot, and a second ballot will be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws.

We will now proceed with the election of officers. Ms. Elliss read each position and requested nominations from the floor. She asked that each nominee accept or decline the position before the receipt of ballots is entertained for vote tally purposes.

The following are the results of the tally taken:

Chairperson

Joetta Brown 21

1st Vice-Chairperson

Kolaco Acqui 11

2nd Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Morris 12

Secretary

Keziah Sullivan-Norman 18

Treasurer

D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas 20

Sgt.-At-Arms/Parliamentarian

Robert Brown 17

The "Elected Officers" are as follows:

Joetta Brown Chairperson

Kolaco Acqui 1st Vice Chairperson

Kathy Morris 2nd Vice Chairperson

Keziah Sullivan Secretary

D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas Treasurer

Robert Brown Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Ms. Brown congratulated everyone and thanked everyone for her re-election.

B. Empower the Executive Committee to Act on behalf of the Board – Summer recess 2026

Ms. Joetta Brown requested that a motion be made to empower the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board during summer recess in 2026.

Motion

It was motioned by Anddy Perdomo and seconded by Kathy Morris, to approve a resolution to empower the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board during summer recess (July-August 2026)

YES		NO	
21		0	

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS				
Kolaco Acqui	Kathy Morris	Keziah Sullivan-Norman	D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas	Robert Brown
1st Vice-Chairperson	2nd Vice-Chairperson	Secretary	Treasurer	Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

DISTRICT MANAGERS REPORT

District Manager's Report – June For the period extending from May 13th to the present:

September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) – Community Awareness

The September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) provides financial compensation to individuals who suffered physical health conditions, as well as the families of those who lost loved ones, as a result of exposure to toxins and hazards related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and subsequent rescue, recovery, cleanup, and debris removal efforts.

Community members, responders, volunteers, workers, residents, students, and others who were present in affected areas and have been diagnosed with a certified 9/11-related health condition may be eligible to file a claim. The VCF works in conjunction with the World Trade Center Health Program, which provides medical monitoring and treatment for certified 9/11-related conditions.

Individuals who believe they may have been affected by 9/11-related exposure are strongly encouraged to register with the [September 11th Victim Compensation Fund](#) as soon as possible. The current VCF claim filing deadline is October 1, 2090. Registering preserves an individual's right to file a claim in the future should a 9/11-related health condition develop or worsen. Individuals can also call the Helpline at 855-885-1555 for further details.

Bronx Community Board Three encourages residents, community-based organizations, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations to share this information broadly to ensure that all potentially eligible individuals and their families are aware of available benefits and resources. Additional information is available through the [September 11th Victim Compensation Fund](#) and the [World Trade Center Health Program](#).

DEP New York City Noise Code – Community Awareness

The New York City Noise Code, enforced by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, establishes regulations designed to reduce excessive noise and protect the quality of life of residents, businesses, schools, and community institutions. Common noise complaints include loud music, construction activity outside permitted hours, idling vehicles, commercial equipment, and noise from bars, clubs, and other establishments.

Community members are encouraged to report persistent noise concerns by calling 311 or submitting a complaint online. Residents should provide as much detail as possible, including the location, time of occurrence, and nature of the noise, to assist with enforcement efforts.

Bronx Community Board Three encourages residents, community-based organizations, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations to familiarize themselves with the Noise Code and share this information throughout their networks to promote a healthier, safer, and more respectful community. Additional information can be found through the [NYC Department of Environmental Protection Noise Code Information](#).

DOHMH Bronx Community Health Profiles – Community Awareness

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Health Profiles provide valuable neighborhood-level data on health outcomes, chronic diseases, environmental conditions, access to healthcare, and social factors that impact community well-being. These reports help residents, community-based organizations, educational institutions, faith-based organizations, and stakeholders better understand local health trends and identify opportunities to improve health equity.

Bronx Community Board Three encourages community members and organizations to utilize these profiles when developing programs, applying for grants, conducting outreach, and addressing community health priorities. Access to reliable local health data can help strengthen community planning and improve outcomes for residents.

Additional information and Community Health Profiles are available through the [NYC Community Health Profiles](#).

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) – Heat Emergency Preparedness & Community Awareness

Bronx Community Board Three participated in the first of several ongoing discussions with **New York City Emergency Management** and the **Mayor's Office of Community Engagement** regarding heat emergency preparedness, community resilience, and public education initiatives. Through the City's **"Organize NYC"** and **NYC 101** programs, residents are encouraged to become more engaged in civic life, better understand how City government operates, and learn how to effectively communicate community concerns to government agencies and community boards.

As summer temperatures continue to rise, residents should be aware that New York City is experiencing more frequent and intense heat events due to a changing climate. Urban areas can be up to 10 degrees hotter than surrounding regions because of the **Urban Heat Island Effect**, where buildings, pavement, and infrastructure absorb and retain heat. Increased humidity also heightens health risks, as warmer air holds more moisture, making it harder for the body to cool itself.

Forecasts indicate that average temperatures during June, July, and August may range from the low- to mid-80s, with extreme heat events potentially exceeding 100 degrees. Heat-related illnesses, including **heat exhaustion** and **heat stroke**, can be life-threatening, particularly for older adults, individuals with chronic medical or mental health conditions, young children, and socially isolated residents.

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Community members are encouraged to:

- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight clothing;
- Stay hydrated and avoid prolonged outdoor activity during peak heat hours;
- Check on neighbors, seniors, and individuals who may need assistance;
- Call **311** to learn about available cooling centers and heat-relief resources;
- Report emergencies by calling **911** when necessary.

Residents should also be aware that during declared heat emergencies, the **New York City Department of Environmental Protection** may authorize the use of fire hydrants for cooling purposes. However, hydrants must be equipped with an approved spray cap installed by the **Fire Department of the City of New York** to ensure safe operation and maintain adequate water pressure for firefighting operations.

Heat can be deadly, but preparedness, community awareness, and neighbor-to-neighbor support can save lives. Bronx Community Board Three encourages all residents to stay informed, remain connected, and help protect vulnerable community members throughout the summer months.

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bronx Community Three recognized attendees born in June, July & August.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

Wishes for a healthy recovery for board member Ms. Una Lawrence. Condolences to the family of board member Jasmine Uribe on the loss of her grandmother.

BENEDICTION

Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed led us in prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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