



The City of New York
Bronx Community Board Three

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RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT

GLORIA ALSTON
CHAIRWOMAN

JOHN W. DUDLEY
DISTRICT MANAGER

BOARD MINUTES

Date: 2/13/18
 Place: 1332 Fulton Avenue
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

- Kolaco Acqui
- Gloria Alston
- Winifred Bama
- Joetta Brown
- Dawn Carter
- Gilberto Constantinez
- Rev. Frederick Crawford
- Randy Dillard
- Francis Dsouza
- Wanda Ellis
- Eric Henry
- Kathy Johnson-Morris
- Rita Jones
- Linda Kemp
- Una Lawrence
- Wilbert Tee Lawton
- Elizabeth Luciany
- Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
- Judith Ojo
- Laila Patino
- Anddy Perdomo
- Alberto Pimentel
- Lanet Rivera
- Cassandra Saunders
- D'Andra Van Heusen
- Saadia Walters
- Patrick Willis

State Assembly Marcos Crespo's Office

Davon Harris

Staff Present

- Etta F. Ritter
- John W. Dudley

Members Excused

- Xiomara Arriola
- Abdul Johnson
- Marilyn Johnson
- Marlon Molina
- Edna Quinones
- Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
- Olympia Jay Striplin

Members Absent

- Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson
- Abraham Jones
- Robin Morgan
- Terrence Podolsky
- John Wilson III

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's Office

Shanna Knotts

State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office

Latoya Matthews

Councilmember Vanessa Gibson's Office

Michael Ivory

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera 1 st Vice-Chairperson	Linda Kemp 2 nd Vice-Chairperson	Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. Secretary	Kathy Johnson Morris Treasurer	Rita Jones Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian
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Bronx Borough President's Office

Tom Lucania

Guests Names

All Other Guests Names on File

Call To Order

Ms. Gloria Alston, Chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Invocation

Rev. Dr. Frederick Crawford led us in prayer.

Community Concerns/Exchange of Information

At this time, the following information was exchanged not limited to the following:

- Mr. Colbert Nembhard, branch librarian at Morrisania Public Library, stated that the New York Public Library has a new interactive learning tool to engage children in reading. The "Read Together Storytime Kits" are available to babies, 0-18 months, toddlers, 2-3 years old and Pre K, 4-5 years old. The Read Together Storytime Kits are available to check out for 3 weeks with an adult or child NYPL library card.
- Ms. Rita Jones, board member, stated that she is also a member of the DYCD Community Action Board. Ms. Jones noted that the Community Action Board is looking to recruit more members from Community District Three. The Community Action Board (CAB) is a Citywide body that oversees community action initiatives under the federal [Community Services Block Grant \(CSBG\)](#). The CAB is comprised of 22 residents of low-income communities, 15 elected public officials, and eight representatives from the private sector. CAB members participate in the development of program priorities and advise in the allocation of CSBG funds. Ms. Jones noted that she had applications for anyone interested in becoming a member of CAB.

Roll Call

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr, secretary, called the roll and a quorum was established at this time.

Members Requesting to be Excused

- Xiomara Arriola
- Abdul Johnson
- Marilyn Johnson
- Marlon Molina
- Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
- Olympia Jay Striplin

Motion

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

- Xiomara Arriola
- Abdul Johnson
- Marilyn Johnson
- Marlon Molina
- Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
- Olympia Jay Striplin

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

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Linda Kemp
2nd Vice-Chairperson

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Secretary

Kathy Johnson Morris
Treasurer

Rita Jones
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Motion

It was motioned and seconded to approve the minutes of the prior meeting held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, with the necessary corrections, if there be any.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Bronx Borough President's Report

Mr. Tom Lucania, representative from the Bronx Borough President's Office, had a written report. It was distributed to those in attendance.

Mr. Lucania stated that in order to become a board member, you have to have to be a resident of NYC, live within the five boroughs or work within Community Board in which you are applying.

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. February 2018 Community Board Report

BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: Mayor de Blasio's Plan to Replace NYCHA Boilers

"Mayor de Blasio's announcement today is cold comfort for the tenants of NYCHA, as it does nothing to accelerate the timeline of the procurement process. Even on the most optimistic schedule the city will have a different mayor when these new boiler installations are completed.

"We cannot afford to wait any longer to make critical, long overdue repairs. NYCHA must issue an emergency declaration and take the necessary steps to cut through the red tape of the procurement process and replace broken boilers faster. This heat crisis is a dire health emergency, and it requires an immediate, permanent solution," said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

OVER 50 ELECTEDS JOIN BP DIAZ & CALL ON NYCHA TO ISSUE EMERGENCY DECLARATION ON HEAT CRISIS

Over 50 elected officials from all over the five boroughs are calling on the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to issue an emergency declaration to address the dangerous lack of heat and hot water in many developments across the city, in order to speed the procurement process to replace out of service boilers.

"As a progressive city, we have a requirement to protect our most vulnerable residents. The hundreds of thousands of individuals and families who call public housing home should not be forced to suffer in the cold. An emergency declaration would allow your agency to jump-start the procurement process and install much-needed, permanent boilers that are already in the pipeline at a swifter pace," states the letter, which is addressed to NYCHA Chair and CEO Shola Olatoye.

The full letter can be read at <http://on.nyc.gov/2EaEUuY>.

"A declaration of emergency is a common sense act NYCHA can take to streamline the procurement process, and it is heartening to see that so many of my colleagues from across the five boroughs agree. Clearly, the signatories on this letter understand the urgency to act immediately on behalf of the more than 400,000 tenants who call NYCHA home," said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**, who first called on the agency to declare an emergency in a letter sent last month. "And if some aspect of City, State or Federal law hinders the process, it is incumbent upon City Hall, with all its resources at its disposal, to take action and build coalitions for change, not to throw up its hands."

TESTIMONY OF BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT RUBEN DIAZ JR. BEFORE THE NYC COUNCIL COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC HOUSING AND OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION RE: NYCHA HEAT AND HOT WATER FAILURES

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The recent “bomb cyclone” that struck the northeast region caused dangerous drops in temperatures across the five boroughs. Nowhere was this extreme weather event felt more dramatically than within NYCHA developments, where nearly half of all boilers are beyond their useful life and many developments are forced to rely on ineffective temporary boilers to provide heat and hot water.

The hundreds of thousands of individuals and families who call public housing home should not be forced to suffer in the cold. Our office has received numerous complaints from residents of NYCHA developments across the borough. When seeking answers on when new boilers would be installed NYCHA advised my office in a meeting on January 18, 2018, that their hands were tied by the procurement process, contrary to recent statements by City Hall. That is no comfort to a family forced to live in a frigid apartment on the coldest days of the year.

I know that the chronic lack of heat and hot water in NYCHA housing is an emergency. Formally declaring a state of emergency is a common sense act and the morally correct action NYCHA can take to streamline the procurement process. Such a declaration would allow your agency to jump-start the procurement process and install much-needed, permanent boilers that are already in the pipeline at a swifter pace.

Further, if some aspect of Federal law hinders the emergency procurement process, it is incumbent upon City Hall, with all its resources at its disposal, to take action and build coalitions for change, not to throw up its hands.

The process to replace boilers in NYCHA developments takes far too long, and does not reflect the urgent need for these critical repairs. For example, the Patterson Houses in The Bronx have been forced to subsist using inadequate temporary boilers since 2011. NYCHA has not even begun the RFP process to replace these boilers, which means that even in a best-case scenario new boilers will be years away. The recent extreme weather event showed us just how vulnerable temporary boilers are to very low temperatures, and we have no reason not to expect similar extreme weather in the future. NYCHA tenants should not have to wait a decade for the basic human right of reliable heat and hot water.

We must act to cut red tape during this time of severe crisis. While the recent announcement of some new funding for boilers is a step in the right direction, the situation remains an emergency, and NYCHA has told our office that red tape ties their hands. An emergency must be declared.

We would not accept this kind of behavior from a private landlord. NYCHA tenants are entitled to warm apartments, just like anyone else.

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Treating this situation as the true disaster it is will help provide heat to families faster, and your agency should declare an emergency immediately and show leadership in cutting the red tape at any and all levels of government, that NYCHA has stated deprives residents of adequate heat.

Thank you.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ OUTLINES HOUSING UNITS FOR PRESERVATION IN REPORT ON JEROME AVENUE CORRIDOR REZONING

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. has issued a report identifying more than 2,000 units of affordable housing that must be preserved as part of the proposed rezoning of the Jerome Avenue corridor.

The report, titled “Zoned-In: A Housing Preservation Blueprint for the Jerome Avenue Corridor,” identifies 2,075 units across 45 buildings within a ¼ mile radius of the area proposed for rezoning around Jerome Avenue by the de Blasio administration.

“In my negotiations with the administration as part of the ULURP process, the city committed to preserving 1,500 units of affordable housing in Community Boards #4 and #5, as a condition of my support of this rezoning. While this achievement is appreciated, we can do more to keep this community affordable. This report identifies the units that should be preserved and kept affordable, and the city should direct its resources to do just that,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “As this rezoning proposal moves forward, it will be up to the City Council to hold the administration to the promises they have made.”

The report uses a formula based on building violations, demographics and development subsidies to identify units that meet the criteria for further preservation. It can be read in full at <http://on.nyc.gov/2ErFy7t>.

STATEMENT FROM BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: Fix NYC Congestion Pricing Plan

“Though I have been a critic of congestion pricing in the past and still remain skeptical, the plan released today by Governor Cuomo and his Fix NYC panel offers a wide variety of innovative suggestions on how we can raise funds and reduce congestion in Manhattan, and is fairer and less regressive than simply tolling the East River bridges. However, the burdens of this new proposal must be examined carefully.

“If a congestion pricing proposal is implemented in Manhattan, the funds raised must be earmarked to repair our city’s subway system by establishing a dedicated fund for New York City Transit. I look forward to further examining this proposal in the coming months,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

Upcoming Events

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. State of the Borough

Thursday, February 22, 2018

11:30am

Bronx High School of Science

75 West 205th Street

RSVP - <http://bit.ly/sotbx18>

CM Rafael Salamanca’s Report

Ms. Shana Knotts, representative from CM Rafael Salamanca office, stated that Council member Rafael Salamanca has been appointed the new Chair of the City’s Land Use Committee. Ms. Knotts also noted that the Participatory Budget is still open however, but the Proposal Development phase of the process is soon coming to a close. Stay tuned for a list of Voting Sites for each participating Council Member. **Vote Week is April 7th-April 15th!** Ms. Knotts noted that she can provide assistance on housing issues and immigration services.

CM Vanessa Gibson’s Report

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Mr. Michael Ivory, outreach director from CM Vanessa Gibson's office, introduced himself to those in attendance. Mr. Ivory stated that Council member Vanessa Gibson has been appointed to the sub-committee chair of Finance. The next scheduled event will be a Black History event honoring men and women of color in February 2018. Mr. Michael Ivory distributed time sensitive information (see attached).

State Senator Gustavo River's Officer

Ms. Latoya Matthew, counsel for State Senator Gustavo Rivera, stated that he will be hosting a Black History Month Celebration on Friday, February 23rd from 3:00pm-5:00pm, at William Hodson Senior Center, located at 1320 Webster Avenue. (see attached)

It was also noted Congressman Jose Serrano will be honoring Ms. Linda Kemp, board member on February 26th at Hostos Community College, for Black History Month.

State Assemblyman Marcos Crespo's Report

Mr. Davion Harris, representative from State Assemblyman Marcos Crespo's Office, stated that their office is located at 1163 Manor Avenue. They have a housing attorney on site every Tuesday and Thursday. The Assemblyman is hosting his annual African American Abrazo Celebration at Maestros on Friday, February 23rd from 7:00pm-12 midnight. Mr. Harris stated that he would be providing tickets to Mr. Dudley at a later date for community board members.

District Manager's Report

Mr. John Dudley, district manager, provided a written report representing a brief summary of issues of importance affecting Bronx Community District Three as follows:

MARCH 2018 TENANT RESOURCE FAIR

Bronx Community Board Three is collaborating with the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Office of Neighborhood Education and Outreach, and the Office of Councilman Rafael Salamanca, to sponsor a tenant resource fair for residents within Bronx Community District Three in early March. This fair is designed to provide one on one assistance from various government and nonprofit agencies. HPD intends to have its Tenant Support Division, Housing Lotteries Unit, Housing Court Answers and Legal Services attorneys, along with other tenant service related entities, present for residents to access information and direct service guidance, from agencies and nonprofits which provide these essential services.

Upon completion of the flyer, Bronx Community Board Three will forward an e-mail blast to the general public and board members alike. Bronx Community Board Three urges attendance by all.

FY' 2019 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Bronx Community Board Three will participate in approval of the Bronx Borough Board Budget priorities for FY'2019, in accordance with Section 241 of the NYC Charter on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. This meeting will be held at the Office of the Bronx Borough President, 851 Grand Concourse, Veterans Memorial Hall.

Bronx Community Board Three will also be preparing a Statement on the FY' 2019 Preliminary Budget or "Letters of Comment" by early March 2018, in line with its requirements under the charter to evaluate the NYC FY' 2019 Preliminary Budget and Financial Plan of the City of New York. This evaluation will speak to recommendations of the city administration and the various agencies, in the departmental estimates and financial plan submission, related to projections for capital and expense budget expenditures by agency.

Bronx Community Board Three will also seek to evaluate and respond to recommendations of the city administration as it relates to its FY' 2019 Capital and Expense budget recommendations, based on its Statement of Community District Needs for FY' 2019, submitted to the NYC Department of City Planning.

STATE OF THE BOROUGH – 2018

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. will be delivering his 2018 State of the Borough message on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at the Bronx High School of Science. Board members were sent the invitation and link for RSVP purposes.

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BRONX MUSIC HALL AT BRONX COMMONS

Bronx Community Board Three has provided a letter of support to Whedco for submission to the Office of the Bronx Borough President in line with its request for capital funding to purchase sound, light, and/or other equipment systems for the Bronx Music Hall. Bronx Commons is currently being constructed as part of the Melrose Commons North Site B, which will provide a broad mix of affordable housing options for residents as well as commercial and community space.

The Bronx Music Hall would serve as a 14,000 square foot world class venue with a 250 seat music and dance performance space; permanent, interactive exhibits that connect visitors to the history and influences of Bronx music; rehearsal, greenroom, and classroom spaces; a post education and podcast room; and an outdoor plaza for recreation and open space performances.

This state of the art facility will vastly expand cultural opportunities for our residents and will contribute positively to the cultural, social and economic health of the district at-large.

RAILROAD PARK – FOOD SERVICE FACILITY

The NYC Department of Parks and Recreation intends to issue a significant request for proposals for the development, operation, and maintenance of a food service facility at Railroad Park in Bronx Community District Three at E. 161 St. near Park Avenue. This RFP is expected to be finalized within two weeks and will provide for concession terms no longer than 20 years under a license agreement with NYC DPR. No leasehold or other proprietary right will be offered to the successful applicant.

NOTICES OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FILINGS

1288 WASHINGTON AVENUE

This location will be developed as an 8 story residential building with 50 units in the Morrisania neighborhood. This site is 13 blocks away from the E. 167 St. subway station, serviced by the B and D train lines. The Daniel Group will be responsible for this development which will include 34,960 square feet of space, of which 31,950 square feet will be dedicated to residential use.

Tenants will have access to a laundry room, storage space for 25 bicycles and a ground floor recreational space. Fifteen parking spaces will be created on site. This lot is currently undeveloped and is in use as a parking lot. Completion is expected in two years or less.

872 HOME STREET

Permits have been filed for development of this site as a four story, 10 unit residential building. This site is six blocks from the Freeman St. subway station, serviced by the 2 and 5 lines. Global management NY will be responsible for the development which will yield 9,060 square feet, with 7,340 square feet dedicated to residential use.

Tenants will have access to on site recreational space and storage area. A duplex will occupy a portion of the fourth floor, extending into the roof space, likely providing space for a private terrace.

Demolition permits for the existing structure have not been filed and completion is expected by mid to late 2020.

Committee Report(s)

By-Laws & Membership Committee

The By-Laws and Membership Committee recommends the removal of Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson due to five (5) missed meetings for the period September 2017 to January 2018. This recommendation is in accordance with Bronx Community Board Three's By-Laws, Article III, Sec. 4-4C, which governs the necessary actions in removing appointed members.

!! VOTE REQUIRED !!

At this time Ms. Wanda Ellis, chair of the By-Laws and Membership Committee, stated that Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson has missed five (5) meetings for the period September 2017 to January 2018. This recommendation is in accordance with Bronx Community Board Three's By-Laws, Article III, Sec. 4-4C, which governs the necessary actions in removing appointed members. Ms. Wanda Ellis made the following motion:

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Motion

It was motioned and seconded to remove Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson due to five missed meetings for the period September 2017 to January 2018.

YES

NO

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MOTION CARRIED

New Business

- Mr. Troy Outlaw, representative from the NYC Public Advocates Office, Letitia James, came to present Ms. Rita Jones with a Proclamation from the Public Advocate.
- Ms. Laila Patino, board member, informed the community at-large of a housing opportunity named St. Augustine located at 1180 Fulton Avenue. This housing lottery has a 50% preference for residents within Community District Three. The application deadline is February 15th.
- Mr. Damion Fray, representative from AFC Urgent Care, stated that AFC is opening up an Urgent Care facility in Community District Three and it is anticipated to be open on April 2, 2018. Mr. Fray also noted that he is also spearheading a “**Business Improvement District**” BID within Community District Three.
- Ms. Crystal Vizcaino, representative from UHAB, introduced herself to those in attendance.
- Representatives from the Children's Aid College Prep Charter School stated that they are currently accepting applications for the 2018—2019 school year. Fliers were distributed to those in attendance.

Benediction

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

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