



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: 1/9/18
 Place: 1363 Fulton Avenue
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

Xiomara Arriola
 Winifred Bama
 Joetta Brown
 Dawn Carter
 Randy Dillard
 Francis Dsouza
 Wanda Ellis
 Eric Henry
 Abdul Johnson
 Marilyn Johnson
 Kathy Johnson-Morris
 Abraham Jones
 Rita Jones
 Una Lawrence
 Elizabeth Luciany
 Marlon Molina
 Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
 Judith Ojo
 Laila Patino
 Anddy Perdomo
 Alberto Pimentel
 Terrence Podolsky
 Edna Quinones
 Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
 Lanet Rivera
 Olympia Jay Striplin
 D'Andra Van Heusen
 Saadia Walters
 Patrick Willis

Staff Present

Etta F. Ritter
 John W. Dudley

Members Excused

Kolaco Acqui
 Gloria Alston
 Gilberto Constantinez
 Rev. Frederick Crawford
 John Wilson III

Members Absent

Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson
 Linda Kemp
 Wilbert Tee Lawton
 Robin Morgan
 Cassandra Saunders

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's Office

CM Rafael Salamanca
 Shanna Knotts

NYC Comptroller's Office

Mariel De La Cruz

Councilmember Vanessa Gibson's Office

Michael Ivory

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 Secretary

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 Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Bronx Borough President's Office

Tom Lucania

Guests Names

Tanjila Rahman, NYC Department of Consumer Affairs

All Other Guests Names on File

Call To Order

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera, 2nd Vice-Chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Invocation

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera led us in prayer.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera thanked the officials at the Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics for hosting the General Board meeting at their location.

At this time, Ms. Rosa Ballenilla and Ms. Deasia Ratcliff, two (2) senior students from the Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics, came before those in attendance to thank the Community Board for accepting their invitation to host the meeting. Ms. Rosa Ballenilla stated that in June of 2017, the Class of 2018 noted that one of their interests for the year was to attend a Community Board meeting. The entire senior class attended the September 2017 Community Board meeting and was dismissed due to lack of space at Children's Circle Day Care Center. The Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics senior class hopes to learn about the Community Board and its role pertaining to constituent services and city government at tonight's meeting.

Community Concerns/Exchange of Information

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

- Ms. Joetta Brown, board member, requested that each student and school official, take an organics flier and sign up for Organics collection, by calling 311 and request a **FREE Brown Bag Bin** for their apartment building. Ms. Brown is advocating for "Giving Food Scraps New Life".
- Ms. Olympia Striplin, board member, requested assistance from the board in facilitating a survey of East 172nd Street and Hoe Avenue, to be evaluated by DOT, for installation of **All Ways Stop** signage at this location. Ms. Striplin noted that there is one stop sign installed; however, it's hard to see oncoming traffic. Mr. John Dudley, district manager, noted that he would refer this matter to the NYC Department of Transportation for installation of **ALL WAYS STOP** signage and to daylight the corner.

Roll Call

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

Members Requesting to be Excused

**Kolaco Acqui
Gloria Alston
Gilberto Constantinez
Rev. Frederick Crawford
John Wilson III**

Motion

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

**Kolaco Acqui
Gloria Alston
Gilberto Constantinez**

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John Wilson III

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Motion

It was motioned and seconded to approve the minutes of the prior meeting held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, with the necessary corrections, if there be any.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Presentation

Tanjila Rahman, Senior Community Affairs Associate, NYC Department of Consumer Affairs

Topic: Discuss Predatory Lending and overview of DCA

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera, 1st vice-chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, introduced Ms. Tanjila Rahman, senior community affairs associate from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), to those in attendance.

Ms. Tanjila Rahman came before those in attendance to provide an overview of the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs and to discuss predatory lending practices. The NYC Department of Consumer Affairs oversees "bad business practices" across New York City.

The Department of Consumer Affairs also oversees licensing of several businesses. Ms. Rahman stated that as a consumer you can file a complaint when a business does not honor its warranty, exchange policy and/or refund policy. As a consumer you can file a complaint with DCA to assist you and mediate the process. In some cases, if the matter cannot be settled, DCA's administrative law judges will hear the complaint or DCA may inform the consumer of the option to go to court.

Ms. Rahman stated that predatory lending practices are very common with used car dealerships, furniture stores, and payday loans (which are illegal in NYC), just to name a few. Used car loans are a common type of predatory lending which offers borrowers help; however, raises interest rate to 29% or more in certain cases. Furniture stores offer credit with high interest rates, as well as rent to own businesses, which can charge up to 70% interest. Ms. Rahman noted that consumers need to shop around for assistance by going to a bank or credit union.

Ms. Rahman distributed hand-outs to those in attendance. See attached.

At this time, questions and concerns were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

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. Tom Lucania noted that the Bronx Borough President is now accepting applications for youth ages 16 and above to become board members. Mr. Lucania stated that committees are the life blood of the board and your requirements are that you live or work within Community Board in which you are applying.

***Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.
January 2018
Community Board Report***

**Borough President Diaz Urges Bronx Residents to
Apply to Their Local Community Board**

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Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. is inviting Bronx residents to consider joining their local Community Board. The Office of The Bronx Borough President will be accepting applications for all 12 Community Boards from city residents who reside, work or have professional or other significant interests in The Bronx.

“Participation on local Community Boards can provide Bronx residents with a forum to share with their community their expertise and talents,” stated Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. “There are great things happening in The Bronx that involve the participation of community boards. It is important that community residents participate in the decisions that are building and revitalizing our borough, and our community boards are a great place to do so.”

In addition, Borough President Diaz is encouraging young people ages 16 and 17 to apply for community board membership. Presently, there are a number of high school students who have been appointed by the borough president to community boards, and Borough President Diaz is working to insure that there is a least one youth member per community board.

“I believe that the earlier young people become engaged in community affairs and interact with government officials and agencies, the better they will understand government and become active leaders in their communities. It is important to hear the voices of our youth when planning for our neighborhoods.” said Borough President Diaz.

Applications are available online at <http://bronxboropres.nyc.gov/community-boards/>. Applications can also be picked up at any Bronx Community Board office, or by calling the Borough President’s Community Board Unit at (718) 590-3913.

The deadline for submission of applications for the next round of appointments is February 9, 2018.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ SWORN IN FOR THIRD TERM

Ruben Diaz Jr. was sworn in for his third full term as the 13th Bronx Borough President at a ceremony held at The Bronx County Building, Veterans’ Memorial Hall.

Borough President Diaz first took office as Bronx Borough President in May 2009, and was reelected last year to serve his third and final term. Borough President Diaz was sworn in to office by Hon. Elizabeth A. Taylor, Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York, Bronx County.

“Over the past eight and a half years we’ve done so well in moving the needle forward on our agenda to make The Bronx an even better place to live, work and raise a family,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “During the next four years we will continue our efforts to improve our borough, as we show the entire world how far The Bronx has come and how much further we are ready to go.”

Deputy Bronx Borough President Marricka Scott-McFadden was also sworn in by Judge Taylor during the event.

MARRICKA SCOTT-MCFADDEN NAMED DEPUTY BRONX BP

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. today announced that Marricka Scott-McFadden would serve as the new Deputy Bronx Borough President, beginning in January 2018.

“Marricka Scott-McFadden has decades of experience in both the public and private sector, and I am thrilled to welcome her voice to my administration,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “My staff and I look forward to working with Ms. Scott-McFadden as we continue to advance a positive transformative agenda for The Bronx.

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“I love The Bronx, and I am thrilled to serve it in this new capacity,” said **Deputy Bronx Borough President Marricka Scott-McFadden**. “I thank Borough President Diaz for this tremendous opportunity, and I look forward to working with stakeholders across the borough, city and state as we continue to implement a positive agenda for the betterment of the more than 1.4 million people who, like me, are proud to call this borough their home.”

Marricka Scott-McFadden has spent nearly 20 years in politics and public service. Ms. Scott-McFadden served as chief of staff for more than a decade to the current New York State Assembly Speaker, Carl E. Heastie. In this role she oversaw day to day operations of Mr. Heastie’s office and managed his legislative and policy units.

Most recently, Ms. Scott-McFadden served as a vice-president in the New York City and Albany offices of the nationally recognized consulting firm Mercury Public Affairs.

Ms. Scott-McFadden received her bachelor’s degree from CUNY’s Herbert H. Lehman College and her master’s degree in Public Affairs and Administration from Metropolitan College of New York. In 2009, she was named one of City Hall News’s “40 Under 40 Rising Stars in Politics. She has also earned a spot on City & State’s 2016 list of the Bronx Most Influential Persons.

Ms. Scott-McFadden is a proud resident of the Northeast Bronx and enjoys serving her beloved community.

Ms. Scott-McFadden replaces Hon. Aurelia Greene, who retired as Deputy Bronx Borough President in December.

STATEMENT FROM BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ
RE: Gov. Cuomo’s 2018 ‘State of the State’ Address

In his speech today, Governor Cuomo outlined a clear progressive vision for protecting our most vulnerable citizens, continued economic development and job creation, a fairer criminal justice system, a more equitable educational system, greater infrastructure investment and a plan for addressing sexual harassment in New York State.

“In the face of a hostile Washington, it is up to state and local governments to develop plans to keep our city and state moving in a positive direction. Today, Governor Cuomo did just that.

“I have been proud to partner with Governor Cuomo on a variety of projects and issues during my tenure as borough president, and I look forward to continuing to work with him to make our city and state work for everyone,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

BP DIAZ ISSUES ACTION PLAN FOR PUERTO RICO

A new report, titled “Left In The Dark” Outlines More than 25 steps the City, State and Federal Governments can take to assist Puerto Rico and its residents in the short and long term

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. issued a new report, “**Left in the Dark: An Action Plan for Puerto Rico’s Future 100 Days After Hurricane Maria**,” outlining an action plan for the short and long term recovery of the island of Puerto Rico. The report was released to mark the grim occasion of the 100th day since Hurricane Maria struck the island, and includes more than 25 recommendations that New York City, New York State and the federal government should enact to assist the ongoing recovery of Puerto Rico.

“The Trump Administration and the federal government are failing Puerto Rico,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “For 100 days the people of the island—nearly 3.5 million American citizens—have lacked power, adequate food and medical supplies, and other critical necessities that most of us take for granted. Our families and friends, our fellow

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Americans, need and deserve our help. Given the refusal of President Trump to step up for Puerto Rico, it is up to others to craft the agenda for the island's recovery."

Chief among the report's recommendations is the creation of a new oversight panel to coordinate relief efforts between New York City, New York State and the federal government. This panel would be comprised of elected officials, the business and non-profit leaders, infrastructure experts, healthcare representatives and others, and would guide relief efforts in both the short and long term, in order to best address the needs to the people of Puerto Rico.

In addition the report calls for New York City to open offices in Puerto Rico to provide family reunification and other services, "Sister City" and "Adopt A Town" partnership programs to help guide local aid, the creation of a volunteer tourism program in New York State to guide New Yorkers to the Island to assist in relief projects during their free time, the repeal of the Jones Act and the development of an emergency preparedness registry for Puerto Rico to better prepare for the next disaster, among other proposals.

"So many people are doing everything they can to assist the recovery of Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Governor Cuomo's administration has done more for the Island than any local government entity in this nation, and individuals and families all over the nation have done what they can. These efforts are certainly welcome, and I know firsthand from my own friends and family that the people of Puerto Rico appreciate our support. However, the Island needs much, much more assistance," said **Borough President Diaz**. "I look forward to working with leaders across the nation to implement this action plan for Puerto Rico and to help the Island and its people recover from the ongoing aftermath of this disaster."

"Left In The Dark: An Action Plan for Puerto Rico's Future 100 Days After Hurricane Maria," can be read at <http://on.nyc.gov/2CdEH9d>.

STATEMENT FROM BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: President Trump's Actions on Temporary Protected Status

"The Trump Administration's decision to end Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for thousands of refugees from El Salvador, Haiti and Nicaragua is cruel and unnecessary.

"To turn our backs on hundreds of thousands of people that have built their life here and have make great contributions to this nation without offering a real alternative is madness, and shows an utter lack of compassion and caring for our fellow human beings. TPS should not be weaponized as a list to deport and divide families," said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

STATEMENT FROM BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIAZ RE: RIGHT TO KNOW POLICE REFORM LEGISLATION

"Today's vote by the city council to pass police reform legislation is a commendable step towards justice in this city. We still have much work to do.

"The 'Right to Know' package of legislation moves the ball forward on equal rights, improved police/community relations and a more fair and just City.

"After much serious debate and the careful deliberative consideration that the legislation required, with the passage of these bills our City is now positioned to lead the way on criminal justice reform.

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“I congratulate my colleagues in the City Council, especially the chief architects of these pieces of legislation Antonio Reynoso and Ritchie Torres, for all of their efforts as we continue to seek progress on these critical issues,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.**

FIVE-BOROUGH BIKE SHARE: MAYOR DE BLASIO ANNOUNCES NYCDOT PLANS TO EXPAND PUBLIC BIKE SHARE WITH NEW “DOCKLESS” TECHNOLOGY

City will review and select ideas to complement Citi Bike system by bringing bike sharing to more outer-borough neighborhoods, including in the Bronx and on Staten Island

NEW YORK—Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the NYC Department of Transportation is today releasing a Request for Expressions of Interest aimed at bringing bike sharing to outer-borough neighborhoods that Citi Bike has not yet reached — including in the Bronx and on Staten Island. The RFEI seeks innovative companies and ideas around next-generation “dockless” public bike share systems. The City will continue to support and strengthen Citi Bike, and prioritize new systems that complement existing service. Citi Bike has had more than 53.5 million trips since its launch in 2013.

“New Yorkers have embraced public bike sharing faster than anyone expected. These past four years, we’ve strengthened Citi Bike and doubled its size. Now it’s time to take the next big step and bring safe, reliable and affordable bike sharing to even more of the city,” said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**.

“Citi Bike has been a unparalleled success story in providing New Yorkers affordable, safe and green transportation, but as we are learning from around the U.S. and the world, the next generation of bike share in New York City may not even require that the bikes themselves be parked in docks,” said **DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg**. “With so many companies anxious to prove their skills in serving our City’s diverse, demanding and lucrative market, this RFEI allows us to create different pilots and evaluate what works best, allowing us to move far beyond the limited neighborhoods in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens that Citi Bike now so ably serves.”

The RFEI seeks ideas from innovative companies that can provide additional bike sharing outside of the current Citi Bike service area. This will ensure new systems do not undermine current bike share service, and bring bike share to underserved areas.

The new RFEI will allow the City to evaluate emerging dockless models for bike share service that have lower capital and operating costs and may help bring bike share service to more outer borough neighborhoods, at a faster rate, than is possible under the current model for Citi Bike expansion. The priorities of the new RFEI will include:

- Exploring the concepts of “dockless” models for providing bike share services and investigate the feasibility of instituting such options in areas of New York City not currently served by the City’s existing Citi Bike Program.
- Examining the practicality of a “free-locking” bike share in New York City. Free-locking bicycles include mechanisms that unlock bikes via mobile phone and render them inoperable when not in use. They are otherwise free-standing, i.e. not locked to a dock, bike rack, or any other fixed object.
- Seeing that dockless bike share operations are safe for both riders and pedestrians, and that vendors can ensure their bikes do not obstruct other street and sidewalk uses.
- Examining vendors’ plans and capabilities for keeping bicycles within a designated service area.
- Determining standards for “rebalancing” (making sure bikes are evenly distributed across a service area to meet community demand) ahead of any pilot launch.
- Exploring bike share models that are both sustainable and affordable for New Yorkers. (In other American cities with dockless systems, trips are often priced at \$1 per 30-minute ride.)

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The RFEI defines a dockless system as a network of publicly available bicycles with technology that allows for all essential system and locking components to be installed in the bicycles themselves, and thus eliminates the need for docking stations. Bikes may be parked and rented from any point within the service area boundary where bicycle parking is permitted. Bicycles may also be required to meet functional standards set by DOT and the City would define standards for any permissible parking areas as part of its role in prioritizing the safe and orderly management of public space.

The RFEI could be followed by pilots that would allow the City to determine the practicality of the service, evaluate individual vendors and their equipment, observe how multiple operators interact and coordinate in area served by multiple vendors, and monitor the rates at which New Yorkers adapt to dockless formats.

“The people of The Bronx have shown incredible enthusiasm for bike sharing programs, and this RFEI represents an excellent opportunity to explore and examine innovative new ideas that could finally make bike sharing a reality in our borough,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “As we continue to advocate for the expansion of Citi Bike to The Bronx we should explore other potential bike sharing possibilities that could also meet the demand of Bronxites who patiently wait for such opportunities to come to our borough. I look forward to seeing the responses to this RFEI, and I will continue to work with partners at all levels to bring bike sharing to The Bronx.”

Since its arrival in 2013, bike share has proven an effective and popular component of advancing the City’s transportation, traffic safety and sustainability goals, alongside the de Blasio Administration’s commitment to double cycling by 2020. More than 60,000 Citi Bike trips are taken per day during peak season. Annual Citi Bike subscriptions stand at over 130,000.

The newest RFEI comes as New York City nears full implementation of the de Blasio administration’s expansion of Citi Bike, which in 2017 has expanded its reach to Upper Manhattan, brownstone Brooklyn and into Long Island City and Astoria in Queens. In 2014, Administration officials created a new management structure for Citi Bike, bringing in Motivate, the company that has stabilized and improved Citi Bike, doubled its size to 12,000 bikes and 750 stations. Supporting and enhancing existing Citi Bike service remains among the City’s top priorities.

The RFEI can be found [here](#). For more information on New York City’s bike share system please go to www.nyc.gov/bikeshare

Upcoming Events

Martin Luther King Tribute

Monday January 15, 2018

Trinity Baptist Church

10:00am

808 East 224th Street

RSVP: 718-590-3989 or smalave@bronxbp.nyc.gov

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CM Rafael Salamanca's Report

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca came before community at-large to wish everyone a **HAPPY NEW YEAR**. The CM provided a brief update on the following:

- NYCHA developments are currently being audited due to inefficient services at several developments (ie: heat and hot water due to faulty boilers). Tenants that are experiencing heat and hot water problems should call 718-707-7771. If further assistance is needed contact your respective Councilmember's office.
- The new council speaker elected is City Council Speaker Corey Johnson.
- On Sunday, January 7, 2018, a ceremony was held for the co-naming of East 172nd Street and Hoe Avenue to "**Rev. Fletcher Crawford Way**".
- The FY'2019 Discretionary Funding Application for non-profits is available on line. The application deadline is Tuesday, February 20, 2018.
- The Borough President's Office is accepting "new board member" applications as well as youth applications. The deadline is February 2018.

Ms. Shana Knotts, representative from CM Rafael Salamanca office, stated that the office is located at 1070 Southern Boulevard, in the 17th council district. Ms. Knotts noted that she can provide assistance on housing issues and immigration services.

Solar One

Mr. Cherno Sow, program Associate at Solar One, indicated that Solar One is a non-profit organization which provides technical assistance to those interested in installing solar energy. Mr. Sow stated that Solar One is interested in connecting with affordable housing providers, community groups, and other entities who can benefit from using solar energy. Mr. Sow distributed fliers to those in attendance.

WHEDcO

A representative from WHEDcO informed the community at-large of a proposed liquor store at 1286A Southern Boulevard. It was noted that within this immediate area, there are schools and day care centers which may be within 500 feet of the proposed store location. The representatives in attendance were against this location for use as a liquor store, and requested those in agreement to sign the petition opposing the proposed liquor store at 1286A Southern Boulevard.

CM Vanessa Gibson's Report

Mr. Michael Ivory, outreach director from CM Vanessa Gibson's office, introduced himself to those in attendance. Mr. Ivory stated that he plans events for the councilmember. The next scheduled event will be a Black History event honoring men and women of color in February 2018. Councilmember Vanessa Gibson's office is located at 1377 Jerome Avenue. Mr. Michael Ivory distributed CM Vanessa Gibson's Community Council calendar, to those in attendance.

NYC Comptroller's Office -Scott Stringer

Ms. Mariel Del La Cruz, representative from the NYC Comptroller's Office, wished everyone a "**HAPPY NEW YEAR**". Ms. Del La Cruz stated that the Comptroller is the city's "**Watch Dog**." The Comptroller can request an "audit" on any city agency. The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) boiler systems are currently being audited. The Comptroller also oversees diversity of contracts with women of color. Ms. Cruz instructed the students in attendance to get as much information from this meeting, so that they can understand how city government works. Upon understanding how city government works, they can be of assistance in their own communities.

District Manager's Report

Mr. John Dudley, district manager provided an oral report, not limited to the following:

- A Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued for Railroad Park located within Community District Three.
- Southern Boulevard is still undergoing installation of new water and trunk mains.
- The Bruckner/Sheridan Expressway design is anticipated to be completed in 2018, and construction is scheduled to begin in 2018 and anticipated to be completed in 2019.

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New Business

At this time, the Day for Children's Committee informed the community at-large of their fundraiser. The Day for Children's Committee hosts a fun filled street activity in late spring 2018, fronting 1363 Fulton Avenue. A representative requested financial assistance from those in attendance and a container was passed around.

It was noted that the committee had some issues with cars being parked fronting said location during the street event, which caused some problems with their vendors. Ms. Marilyn Johnson, board member, instructed them to contact the 42nd Police Precinct's, Community Affairs Unit, to request "No Parking" signs. The **No Parking** signs should be posted on the block at least 2 days prior to their event. The community affairs officers to contact are PO Roberto Collazo, email address Roberto.Collazo@nypd.org, Det. Nelson Ramos at Nelson.Ramos@nypd.org, and P.O. Maria Jorge at Luz.Jorge@nypd.org.

Benediction

Min. Abraham Jones 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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