



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: 10/10/17
 Place: 1332 Fulton Avenue
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

Kolaco Acqui
 Gloria Alston
 Xiomara Arriola
 Winifred Bama
 Joetta Brown
 Dawn Carter
 Gilberto Constantinez
 Randy Dillard
 Francis Dsouza
 Eric Henry
 Marilyn Johnson
 Abraham Jones
 Rita Jones
 Linda Kemp
 Una Lawrence
 Marlon Molina
 Robin Morgan
 Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.
 Judith Ojo
 Laila Patino
 Anddy Perdomo
 Terrence Podolsky
 Edna Quinones
 Lanet Rivera
 Cassandra Saunders
 Saadia Walters

Staff Present

Etta F. Ritter
 John W. Dudley

Members Excused

Rev. Frederick Crawford
 Evang. Patricia Dyson-Johnson
 Wanda Ellis
 Kathy Johnson-Morris
 Wilbert Tee Lawton
 Elizabeth Luciany
 Alberto Pimentel
 Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
 Olympia Jay Striplin
 D'Andra Van Heusen
 Patrick Willis

Members Absent

Abdul Johnson
 John Wilson III

Guests Names

All Other Guests Names on File

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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Call To Order

Ms. Gloria Alston, chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

Invocation

Mr. Timothy Wells led us in prayer.

Community Concerns/Exchange of Information

At this time, the following information was exchanged:

- Mr. Colbert Nembherd, branch librarian at Morrisania Public Library informed those in attendance that on Wednesday, October 18th they will be hosting their second **Employer Pop-Up Recruitment Event** from 11:00am-2:00pm. Morrisania Public Library is located at 610 East 169th Street. Pre-registration is required.
- Ms. Winifred Bama, board member at Bronx Community Board Three, is requesting assistance from Bronx Community Board Three in amending the parking regulations on the south west side of the street fronting the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's office, located at 1309 Fulton Avenue, within Community District Three. The parking regulations now in effect exclude parking availability from 153 ft. from intersection **Ambulance Only 7:00am-7:00pm All Days**, 211 ft. and 250 ft. from intersection **Doctor License Plates Only 7:00am-7:00pm All Days** Friday nights through M. Ms. Bama is requesting that these signs be changed so that the community residents can park at this location beginning Friday evenings to Monday and holidays
- Dr. Basim Adib, a representative from Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc., informed the community at-large regarding the **Teens to the Top** program for 7th& 8th graders, at Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc. **Teens to the Top** is a free leadership training program with club activities included. Teens to the Top provides the following:
 - Academic Tutoring
 - Basketball & Volleyball tournaments
 - NBA 2k15 Tournaments
 - Karate
 - Urban Leadership Training
 - Debate Team
 - S.T.E.M. Club
 - Teen Battle Chef
 - Drumming
 - Trips and much more

Roll Call

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

Members Requesting to be Excused

Rev. Fredrick Crawford
Patricia Dyson-Johnson
Wanda Ellis
Wilbert Tee Lawton
Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
D'Andra Van Heusen
Patrick Willis

Motion

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

Rev. Fredrick Crawford
Patricia Dyson-Johnson
Wanda Ellis

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Wilbert Tee Lawton
Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera
D'Andra Van Heusen
Patrick Willis

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 Wednesday, September 13, 2017, with the necessary corrections, if there be any.

All in Favor

Motion Carried

CM Rafael Salamanca's Report

At this time, Chairperson Gloria Alston introduced Council member Rafael Salamanca to those in attendance. The Council member pointed out the following:

- The last day to register to vote is on Friday, October 13, 2017, for the November General Election.
- The Councilman is having conversations with representatives from the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation regarding Crotona Park. The Councilman has requested installation of cameras throughout the park and two new patrol vehicles.
- It was also noted that the Crotona Park Nature Center will be opened back up for public use and the NYC Park Rangers will be relocated to another site. The Councilman has requested that Crotona Park continue to be policed by the NYC park rangers.

Shana Knotts, representative of CM Rafael Salamanca, was in attendance.

Bronx Borough President's Report

Mr. Tom Lucania, representative from the Bronx Borough President's Office provided the following report:

The Bronx Hosts Donation Drive for Puerto Rico & Mexico

On Saturday, September 30, 2017, the New York Hispanic Clergy Organization hosted a donation drive to help the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the earthquake in Mexico City.

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., State Senator Rev. Ruben Diaz, New York State Assembly Members Marcos Crespo and Luis Sepulveda, City Council Member Rafael Salamanca participated in the event, which saw tons of critical supplies donated to be shipped to assist relief efforts in Puerto Rico and Mexico.

Throughout the day hundreds of volunteers helped to move and pack hundreds of thousands of pounds of goods to support relief efforts for Puerto Rico and Mexico, filling four shipping containers and more than two dozen trucks. So much material was donated at the event that it took two days to completely pack and move all items, and the National Guard was called in to help move donations off the street.

“No matter where we are from; whether it is here, the United States, or Mexico or Puerto Rico; today shows the spirit of what happens when we work together, as a community, to help those in their time of greatest need,” said **Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.** “The tragedies that have hurt our Mexican and Puerto Rican brothers and sisters will take years to repair and rebuild. Today shows that we are here for them, for the long-haul, to help in any possible way that is needed so that both Puerto Rico and Mexican stand tall again.”

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NYC Parks Opens Outdoor Gym and Nature Walk at Pelham Bay Park

Bronx park receives more than \$880K in outdoor exercise equipment for all ages and children's pond path

NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP, today joined Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., City Councilmember James Vacca, the Friends of Pelham Bay Park and community members to cut the ribbon on an adult fitness area, fitness-oriented play equipment for kids, and a children's nature walk at [Pelham Bay Park](#).

The outdoor gym includes 13 pieces of exercise equipment, with six ADA-accessible pieces, allowing residents of all abilities to stay fit. Fitness-oriented play equipment has also been installed in the Playground for All Children. To connect children with nature, a wooden boardwalk has been built surrounding the seasonal pond within the playground, featuring two viewing areas. A new gravel path also stretches through meadow grasses and newly planted trees.

"We want all New Yorkers to lead a healthy lifestyle, not just those who can afford a gym membership," said **Commissioner Silver**. "This fitness area gives the people of the Bronx a free, accessible way to stay healthy, combat obesity and even recover from an injury. Most importantly, much of the equipment is ADA-compatible, so New Yorkers of all abilities can stay in shape."

"This new equipment is critical to the #Not62 campaign and our mission to create a healthier Bronx," said **Borough President Diaz Jr.** "I am proud to have provided \$200,000 in capital funding from my own budget to support its installation. I'd like to thank Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner Silver and the Parks Department, and Council member Vacca for their partnership on this wonderful new amenity for Pelham Bay Park."

Governor Cuomo Announces Bronx Civic Center as \$10 Million New York City Region Winner of Second-Round Downtown Revitalization Initiative

State to Collaborate With New York City Regional Economic Development Council to Revitalize the Bronx Civic Center Downtown Neighborhood

Part of Governor's Comprehensive Approach to Transform Communities Into Vibrant Neighborhoods and Boost Local Economies

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the Bronx Civic Center neighborhood in the South Bronx will receive \$10 million in funding and investments as the New York City winner of the second round of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. As in the first round of the DRI, one downtown from each of the state's 10 regional economic development regions will be selected as that region's DRI winner and will benefit from \$10 million in state investment to revitalize the area, marking another overall state goal to target \$100 million in funding and investments to help communities identify catalytic downtown projects to boost the local economy.

"Downtown revitalization is critical to strengthening our communities, driving business growth, and attracting and retaining the next generation of leaders in New York," **Governor Cuomo said**. "These investments in South Bronx will establish a solid foundation for continued growth throughout the region and provide stronger, more viable communities for generations to come."

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Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. said, "The Downtown Revitalization Initiative is designed to transform traditional downtown neighborhoods into even more vibrant communities. This program will help shape the future of the South Bronx, and make the communities surrounding this institution and others even greater places to live, work and raise families. With this funding, the South Bronx will have the opportunity to reach its full potential using community-based efforts to strengthen our neighborhoods. My office greatly appreciates Governor Cuomo's continued commitment to The Bronx, and I look forward to working with local stakeholders to implement this DRI."

**Statement from Borough President Diaz
RE: Fatal Incident at P.S. 67/ Urban Assembly School for Wildlife**

"Today the Bronx bore witness to an unfathomable incident. One student has died, another is clinging on to life and a third has committed a violent crime and forever altered his path at so young an age.

"This incident has also shined a spotlight on two major problems that face our school system. I have been a staunch opponent of age-inappropriate co-locations throughout my tenure as borough president. High school students should not be in the same building as kindergarteners, period. I have always opposed such co-locations. The culture of the high school halls is dramatically different than that of an elementary school, and small children should not be exposed to it.

"In addition, today's incident shows us that the scourge of bullying that faces our children must be addressed in a more meaningful and effective way. While the Department of Education has done some admirable work on the issue to encourage students to treat one another in a respectful manner, it is clear that more needs to be done in that regard. This fatal incident tragically demonstrates the horror that can occur when someone is pushed to his or her limit. Reports indicate that the bullying that led to today's incident had been ongoing for weeks. We must do a better job of training school staff to recognize the signs of bullying in order to intervene, long before the situation spirals violently out of control. A safe learning environment for all students must be our top priority.

"Today, our borough prays for the victims and their families—as well as the school communities at the Urban Assembly School for Wildlife and P.S. 67—as they cope with the results of this horrible event," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

Elected Officials to Amazon: The Bronx is a Prime Location for HQ2

Elected officials from every corner of The Bronx have signed a letter to Jeff Bezos, Amazon's Founder & CEO, urging the company to consider The Bronx as the site of its next headquarters.

"The Bronx offers many unique advantages when compared to other municipalities. We have seen a record investment in our infrastructure, and we are leading the way in job creation. Companies from all over the world are taking a fresh look at The Bronx, and our existing companies are expanding their presence in our borough. With smart planning and collaboration, Amazon could become a key piece of our ongoing renaissance," states the letter.

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Earlier this month, Amazon announced that it would seek a site for its second American headquarters, HQ2, and issued a nationwide request for proposals. Since then, Bronx elected officials and business leaders have been working to identify potential locations that could host Amazon's second headquarters and are developing a package of materials discussing the significant benefits of doing business in The Bronx for the company's review.

"Our borough already has a working relationship with Amazon, and we would welcome them to The Bronx with open arms. We have numerous locations that could meet their needs and a skilled workforce to go with them," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. "The Bronx has seen incredible progress on job creation and economic development in recent years. Amazon would be a tremendous new addition to our borough, and we look forward to discussing their proposal for a new headquarters, and how The Bronx could host them, in the near future. The Bronx is a prime location for Amazon's next home."

The complete letter to Amazon can be read at <http://on.nyc.gov/2xNtASO>.

Registration is Open for the 2017 Tour de Bronx

Online registration is open for the 23rd annual Tour de Bronx!

The Tour de Bronx, which is recognized as the largest free cycling event in New York State, will take place on Sunday, October 22, 2017. Avid and casual riders from all over the Atlantic region and beyond choose from two routes and descend upon the borough for a full day of cycling and touring.

The 40-mile route offers riders views of Bronx waterfronts through Throggs Neck, City Island and Orchard Beach. The ride continues northwest through Woodlawn Cemetery and Kingsbridge/Riverdale. The 25-mile route takes riders through several Bronx parks and greenways as well as historic neighborhoods like the Grand Concourse and Mott Haven. Both rides end at the iconic New York Botanical Garden where they will enjoy a free music festival and receive a souvenir t-shirt and light snacks.

"It's just a great opportunity for both Bronxites and visitors to experience the borough in a unique way," says Olga Luz Tirado, executive director of The Bronx Tourism Council and producer of the event.

"The Tour de Bronx brings thousands of visitors to The Bronx each year, and we welcome them with open arms. I urge cyclists from all over the region and the world to sign up for this year's Tour de Bronx and get a firsthand look at the great things that are happening in our borough," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

Tour de Bronx is made possible with the support of Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center, St. Barnabas Health System, and Mercy College. Domino's provides pizza for the event and Coca Cola supplies the water and Powerade sports drink.

For more information and/or to register for the 2017 Tour de Bronx, log onto www.tourdebronx.com

Upcoming Events:

Bronx Annual PumpkinFest Halloween Spooktacular

Tuesday, October 31st 4:30pm-7:30pm

Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club 550 Balcom Avenue

For additional information call 718-590-3522 or Iroldan@bronxbp.nyc.gov

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Councilmember Vanessa L. Gibson's Report

Council Member Vanessa Gibson provided a verbal report not limited to the following:

- Council Member Vanessa Gibson gave her condolences to the passing of Ms. Joanne Webb-Dixon in September 2017. Council Member Gibson noted that she has submitted the co-naming request of Trinity Avenue between East 161st and East 163rd Street to "**Joanne Webb-Dixon Way.**"
- Council Member Gibson noted that the "**Participatory Budget**" totaling \$1mil has officially begun. The Participatory Budget offers community members starting at age 11 and up the opportunity to decide and give their input on what they would like to see within the district. Budget Delegates will work to turn ideas into real proposals for ballot with input from city agencies. These proposals will be up for a community wide vote in the spring.

Congressman Jose E. Serrano's Report

Maryam Muhammad, representative from Congressman Jose E. Serrano's office provided the following information:

- It was stated that the Congressman is working diligently to secure "**Disaster Supplemental Aid**" for the Caribbean and Puerto Rico Islands. The funding provides short term assistance to the government of Puerto Rico and the federal government, allowing them to continue their relief and recovery efforts. The Congressman will look to work with his colleagues from the Appropriations Committee to ensure that Puerto Rico receives the funding it needs to recover.
- Congressman Jose E. Serrano is hosting "**Ask An Astronaut**" on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, at Bronx Community College, 10:00am.
- Congressman Jose E. Serrano presents **African Heritage Celebration** on Thursday, October 19th, from 6:00pm-8:00pm, at Claremont Neighborhood Center located at 489 East 169th Street.

State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Report

Ms. Latoya Matthew, representative from State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office, gave her condolences to board members and family regarding the passing of board member, Ms. Joanne Webb-Dixon.

- The Senator is accepting donations for the **Relief Drive For Victims of Hurricane Maria** the Drop Off site is located at 2432 Grand Concourse, 5th Fl., room 506, 516 & 517, Monday through Friday from 10:00am-5:00pm.
- Notary services are available at the Senators office Monday through Friday.

NYC Comptroller's Office -Scott Stringer

Mr. Antrison Ortiz, representatives from the NYC Comptroller's Office was in attendance.

NYC Human Resources Administration

Ms. Josephine Crisostomo, representative from the NYC Human Resources Administration distributed the following information:

Thrive NYC is hosting Mental Health First Aid event(s) at the New York Public Library – Mott Haven branch, located at 321 East 140th Street. The **free weekly** trainings are from 9:00am-5:00pm. RSVP is required, please visit www.nycmhfa.eventbrite.com to check upcoming availability.

NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

NYC takes Action to defend DACA – Will your DACA expire on or before March 5, 2018? If so, you must renew before October 5, 2017! For Free & Safe Immigration Legal Help – Call 1800-354-0365 between 9:00am-6:00pm, Monday-Friday or call 311 and say "ActionNYC"

District Managers Report

At this time, Mr. John Dudley, district manager, administered Bronx Community Board Three's Public Hearing on the FY'2019 Capital and Expense Budget. Mr. Dudley stated that there can be up to 40 capital budget requests and 25 expense budget requests.

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Public Hearing – Open

Mr. John Dudley stated that he had received correspondence from the following regarding budget requests to be included as part of Bronx Community Board Three’s budget submissions:

- Morrisania Public Library upgrade (\$1m)
- Future Star Productions – Reconstruct or upgrade Playground #9 (Clinton Playground) at Crotona Park South near Clinton and Crotona Avenues; Bronx Community Board Three capital budget request #35; Track Code: 103201403C; Due to the deteriorated condition of this playground, Bronx CB 3 is requesting the total renovation of the playground to include a new multi-purpose space that includes a new basketball court with upgraded play surface and new bleachers, chess tables with comfortable seating for seniors, a bicycle skills playground, exercise/fitness equipment for youth, teens and young adults, spray shower and wading pool for infants/toddlers, drinking fountain and new comfort station. The district manager will look to move this item up from 13 to 9.

At this time, recommendations were made from the floor as follows:

- Drew Playground – Upgrade comfort station
- Estelle Diggs – Installation of tables and benches
- Seabury Park – Installation of enhanced lighting

Public Hearing – Closed

MOTION

It was motioned and seconded to approve the FY 2019 Capital and Expense Budget requests

YES

NO

25

0

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

Birthday/Sickness and Distress

Ms. Gloria Alston requested that all those born in the month of October to stand and be acknowledged. The committee members sang Happy Birthday to the October babies.

Benediction

Rev. Abraham Jones led us in prayer led us in prayer.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

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