



# *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**

### GENERAL BOARD MINUTES

Date: 04/09/2019  
Time: 6:00PM  
Location: 1332 Fulton Avenue

#### Members Present

Kolaco Acqui  
Gloria Alston  
Joetta Brown  
Dawn Carter  
Gilberto Constantinez  
Rev. Frederick Crawford  
Nelson Delerme  
Francis Dsouza  
Wanda Ellis  
Marilyn Johnson  
Abraham Jones  
Rita Jones  
Linda Kemp  
Una Lawrence  
Elizabeth Luciany  
Judith Ojo  
Laila Patino  
Anddy Perdomo  
Terrence Podolsky  
Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera  
Olympia Jay Striplin  
Keziah Sullivan  
D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas  
Saadia Walters  
Patrick Willis

#### Councilmember Vanessa L. Gibson's Office

Michael Ivory

#### Staff Present

Etta F. Ritter  
John W. Dudley

#### Members Excused

Winifred Bama  
Xiomara Arriola  
Abdourahamane Diallo  
Randy Dillard  
Abdul Johson  
Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Wilbert Tee Lawton  
Marlon Molina  
Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.  
Edna Quinones  
Lanet Rivera  
Carmen Rodriguez  
Cassandra Saunders

#### Members Absent

Alexis Salgado

#### Resigned

Cherno Sow

#### State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office

Latoya Matthew

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

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

Joetta Brown  
Secretary

Lanet Rivera  
Treasurer

Rita Jones  
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's Office

State Senator Luis Sepulveda

Shanna Knotts

Samaris Gross

Guests Names

**All Other Guests Names on File**

Call to Order

Ms. Gloria Alston, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:03pm

Invocation

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera, Jr. led us in prayer.

Exchange of Information/Community Concerns

At this time, community concerns were exchanged as follows:

Community Concern

- Ms. Keziah Sullivan, board member, stated Tai Chi & Qigong Day will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30am until 2:00pm, at Mullay Park located at 164 Street & Jerome Avenue.
- Ms. Linda Kemp, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, stated that on Tuesday and Wednesday, FREE Tai Chi classes are held at Robert Fulton Terrace located at 530 East 169<sup>th</sup> Street, at 10:00am. Tai Chi classes are being held at Drew Playground, located on Fulton Avenue between East 169<sup>th</sup> & East 170<sup>th</sup> Streets on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am .
- Ms. Marilyn Johnson, board member, stated that on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 12noon to 5:00pm "I Love Me Holistic Spa Day" will be held at El Fogon Center for the Arts, located at 989 Home Street.
- Mr. Gilberto Constantinez, board member, informed the community at-large that the **Joint Apprentice Committee** will be accepting letters sent by registered mail, requesting an Apprentice Electrician Application. It was stressed that letters sent by registered mail requesting an application must **NOT** be postmarked earlier than April 15, 2019.
- Mr. Abraham Jones, board member and executive director of Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc., stated that on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00am-5:00pm, they will be hosting "Claremont's Youth Development Day," a workshop to assist youth between the ages of 14-24 complete the Summer Youth Employment Program application. Claremont Neighborhood Centers, Inc. has early registration for "Summer Camp 2019" at 489 East 169<sup>th</sup> Street. Parents and guardians can go to the main office for enrollment. Full payment of \$625 per child for 7 weeks of fun and excitement is due by Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. The summer camp runs from Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> through Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Mr. Colbert Nembhard, branch librarian, at Morrisania Public Library, stated that the library will be hosting an **OPEN HOUSE: to Celebrate Immigrant Heritage Week** on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00am-5:00pm.
- Ms. Saadia Walters, board member, requested assistance in obtaining a "Dog Run" in Crotona Park. Mr. Dudley stated that he will contact Mr. Shawn Cargil, crotona park administrator, to attend the next regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation/Youth Services Committee, to discuss the requirements for installation of a "Dog Run" in Crotona Park.

Roll Call

Ms. Joetta Brown, secretary, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Members Requesting to be Excused

Xiomarra Arriola  
 Winifred Bama  
 Abdourahamane Diallo  
 Randy Dillard  
 Abdul Johnson  
 Kathy Johnson-Morris  
 Wilbert Tee Lawton  
 Marlon Molina

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**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

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

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.  
Edna Quinones  
Lanet Rivera  
Carmen Rodriguez  
Cassandra Saunders

**Motion**

**It was motioned by Joetta Brown and seconded by Laila Patino to excuse the following member(s):**

Xiomarra Arriola  
Winifred Bama  
Abdourahamane Diallo  
Randy Dillard  
Abdul Johnson  
Kathy Johnson-Morris  
Wilbert Tee Lawton  
Marlon Molina  
Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr.  
Edna Quinones  
Lanet Rivera  
Carmen Rodriguez  
Cassandra Saunders

**All In Favor**

**Motion Carried**

**Mr. John Dudley, stated that Chernow Sow, board member, resigned due to his work schedule.**

**Approval of Minutes of the Prior Meeting**

**Motion**

**It was motioned by Rita Jones and seconded by Linda Kemp, to approve the minutes of the prior meeting held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 with the necessary corrections, if there be any.**

**All In Favor**

**Motion Carried**

**Bronx Borough President's Office**

Tom Lucania, representative from the Bronx Borough President's Office, provided a written report via e-mail, which was forwarded to board members and those on Bronx Community Board Three's list serve. Mr. Tom Lucania was not in attendance due to a conflict in his schedule.

**Report of Elected Officials**

**State Senator Luis Sepulveda's Report**

Ms. Samaris Gross, representative from State Senator Luis Sepulveda's office, stated that the State Senator's office is located at 900 Rogers Place and the office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00am-3:00pm and Friday's from 9:00am-12pm, for constituent services. They can be reached at 718-991-3161. Ms. Gross noted that the State Senator is working on Senate Bill S2698 "Inmate Visitation Program" as follows:

**The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

- 1 Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 138-b
- 2 to read as follows:
- 3 **§ 138-b. Inmate visitation program. State and local correctional**
- 4 **facilities shall provide inmate visitation programs which give inmates**
- 5 **opportunities for personal contact with relatives, friends, clergy,**
- 6 **volunteers and other persons to promote better institutional adjustment**
- 7 **and better community adjustment upon release. Such program shall**

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8 include, but not be limited to, (a) visiting hours that are reasonably  
9 likely to accommodate persons traveling from within the state, (b)  
10 visits of sufficient duration so that visitors and inmates will be able  
11 to maintain relationship bonds, and (c) a published overcrowding policy  
12 that is equitable with due consideration to the distance traveled by the  
13 visitor. Video visitation may supplement, but shall not take the place  
14 of, in-person visitation. No inmate is to be visited against his or her  
15 will by any person.

16 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
17 it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

Link below:

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s2698>

### **CM Rafael Salamanca Report**

Shanna Knotts, Deputy Chief of Staff for CM Rafael Salamanca, distributed the following information:

- Office of NYC Council Member Rafael Salamanca, Jr. office services flier
- St. Mary's & Adams Houses Town Hall meeting on Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm, at 595 Trinity Avenue, Community Center.
- Council Member Rafael Salamanca, Jr. is hosting an Early Detection of Breast Cancer Screening on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-4:30pm

### **CM Vanessa Gibson's Report**

Mr. Michael Ivory, representative from CM Vanessa Gibson's office, distributed the following fliers:

- Office of Council Member Vanessa Gibson's office service flier
- Office of Council Member Vanessa Gibson is hosting the Garifuna Heritage Celebration on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm, at Bronx Museum of the Arts located at 1040 Grand Concourse

### **Senator Gustavo Rivera Report**

Latoya Matthew, counsel from State Senator Gustavo Rivera's office, distributed and provided the following information:

- Schedule of State Senator Rivera's Senior Center Tour beginning Monday, April 15, 2019
- Bronx Delegation New York State Senate Post-Budget Forum on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-8:30pm
- Job Fair on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-2:00pm, at Bronx Educational Opportunity Center, located at 1666 Bathgate Avenue

### **District Managers Report**

At this time, the district manager spoke briefly on the following:

- Bronx Community Board Three, 42<sup>nd</sup> Police Precinct and PSA #7 Community Council collaboration in hosting a "Meet & Greet" on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 8:00pm, at Boricua College located at 890 Washington Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. The purpose of the "Meet & Greet" is for community residents to meet their Community Affairs Officers, Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCO's) and representatives of the Community Board, 42<sup>nd</sup> Pct. and PSA #7 Community Councils.
- The Executive Committee met with the MTA in March 2019 to discuss the NYC Transit Fast Forward Plan. The bus routes that the MTA cover within Community District Three are BX6, BX11, BX15, BX17, BX19, BX21, BX35, BX36 & BX41. Mr. Dudley requested recommendations that would improve these bus routes by board members who use these lines. All recommendations can be sent directly to Mr. Dudley at [jdudley@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:jdudley@cb.nyc.gov).
- The NYC Department of City Planning will be hosting the Southern Boulevard Neighborhood Study on Housing, Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm, at East Bronx Academy located at 1716 Southern Boulevard.

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## Committee Reports

### Parks & Recreation/Youth Services Committee

The Parks and Recreation/Youth Services Committee came to a consensus to recommend approval of a letter of support for Bronx, Harlem, Washington Heights Youth Leadership Academy's interest in developing the basketball and picnic area near Crotona Park South, and to establish youth programming as well as community give back events.

Ms. Rita Jones, chairperson of the Parks and Recreation/Youth Services Committee, stated that at the last committee meeting, there was a consensus of members who recommended approval of a letter of support for Bronx, Harlem, Washington Heights Youth Leadership Academy's interest in developing the basketball and picnic area near Crotona Park South, and to establish youth programming as well as community give back events

#### **Motion**

It was motioned by Joetta Brown and seconded by Lailia Patino, to approve a letter of support for the Bronx, Harlem, Washington Heights Youth Leadership Academy's interest to develop the basketball and picnic area near in playground #9 and establish youth programming as well as community give back events

YES

NO

24

0

**ALL IN FAVOR**

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

\*Ms. Rita Jones had to recuse herself from voting due to her private interest to support the Bronx, Harlem, Washington Heights Youth Leadership Academy.

### Housing, Land-Use & Economic Development Committee

Shante Edgehill, Pastor, St. Peter's Deliverance Church  
Shawn M. Belle, Principal, CMC Development Group  
David Cleghorn, Chief Housing Officer, HELP USA  
Laura Michemer, Senior Project Manager, HELP USA

The committee members in attendance came to a consensus to recommend approval of a letter of support for the proposed development of the Home Simpson project to be located at 937 Home Street; a seven-story building with 72 units of affordable housing and a newly constructed church building, within Community District Three.

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera, chairperson of the Housing, Land-Use and Economic Development Committee stated that the committee recommended approval of a letter of support for the development of the Home Simpson project to be located at 937 Hone Street; a seven-story building with 72 units of affordable housing and a newly constructed church building within Community District Three.

Pastor Shante Edgehill of St. Peter's Deliverance Church, Mr. Shawn Belle and Laura Michemer, introduced themselves to those in attendance. At this time questions were entertained and answered.

#### **Motion**

It was motioned by Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera and seconded by Rev. Frederick Crawford, to approve a letter of support for the development of the Home Simpson project to be located at 937 Home Street; a seven-story building with 72 units of affordable housing and a newly constructed church building within Community District Three

YES

ABSTAIN

NO

18

3

4

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## **MOTION CARRIED**

At this time, concerns were raised not limited to the following:

- Board members being contentious towards one another
- Not being allowed enough time to ask questions
- Feeling pressured to vote a certain way

Ms. Alston stated that one of the main purposes for committee meetings is for board members to ask questions and address their concerns. Often times after the meeting, you may still have some concerns or require clarification. When this happens, Ms. Alston advised members to send an email or telephone Mr. John Dudley. She also noted that board members are sent an agenda with supporting documentation pertaining to the upcoming voting item, at least a week in advance. It is the board members responsibility to read the materials sent prior to the meeting in the event they have concerns or questions. Again, all concerns and questions should be forwarded to John W. Dudley, district manager for him to address or inform those that are requesting a letter of support, prior to or at the meeting. Once the committee has recommended approval for vote, board members should only be asking compelling question(s) that have not been addressed at the committee level.

Mr. Dudley stated that if a member feels that more time is needed to ask questions, per Robert's Rules of Order, they need to make a motion and ask for more time for discussion or motion to table discussion and refer the matter back to the committee.

## **Benediction**

Mr. Abraham Jones led us in prayer.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm

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