



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

**BOROUGH OF THE BRONX**

**COMMUNITY BOARD** 

*Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President*

**Chairperson**  
**Angel Caballero**

**District Manager**  
**Kenneth Brown**

**Bronx Community Board 5**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 28, 2025**

**Attendance:** Mario Acosta, Bobby Akumah, Eloise Bennett, Phyllis Bowdwin, Erachie Brown, James Coger, Carrie Cuthbertson, Roxana Gonzalez-Jimenez, Osiris Guzman, Tisha Hatch, Marlene Jimenez, James Lin, Maribel Maria, Nanette Matthews, Theresa Mims, Robert Nieves, Juan Parra, Brenida Parsons, Dilletta Pina, Benjamin Richardson, Shenia Rudolph, Charles Shorter, Cheryl Westbrook, Chef Geneva Wilson

**Excused:** Nekeisha Afful, Chantal Allison-Konteh, Angel Caballero, Michele Heath

**Absent:** Yazmin Benitez, Bakary Camara, Julian Cleveland, Catherine Cudjoe, Lucia Deng, Gail Hill, Tierra Pais, Argenis Santiago-Payamps, Beverly Smith

**Meeting start:** 6:10 pm

**Welcome from First Vice Chair, Cheryl Westbrook**

- Reminded attendees that translation services from English to Spanish are available.

**Chairperson's Report**

- Chairperson Angel is not in, so there will be no report this month. He will provide a report next month.

**District Manager's Report**

- May 10: Comix in the Bronx Panel Discussion at Bronx Community College
  - o This came about because the Council of Arts awardee was a comic artist. They were able to tap into the existing BCC Comic Convention to organize the event.

## Letters of Support

- Both were presented during the Municipal Services Committee. The executive committee also voted to provide a letter of support to each.
  - o Letter: Union Radio Dispatch for base renewal
    - Dilletta motioned to provide a letter of support, Robert seconded
      - 24 yes, 0 abstentions. The motion passes.
  - o Letter: Imperial Luxury Corp for initial license
    - Dilletta motioned to provide a letter of support, Carrie seconded
      - 24 yes, 0 abstentions. The motion passes.

## **Presentation on Parliamentary Procedure: Diana Duncan and Benjamin Solotaire, New York Civic Engagement Commission**

- Materials for this presentation were emailed to Ken Brown
- CEC The People's Money – Vote by June 25<sup>th</sup>
  - o [www.nyc.gov/site/civicingagement/our-programs/participatory-budgeting.page](http://www.nyc.gov/site/civicingagement/our-programs/participatory-budgeting.page)
  - o This is CEC-run: It's an opportunity for you to have a say about how money is spent in the borough. Ten projects are on the ballot, the top 5 will be funded. Voting via QR, online, or in person.
  - o NOT the City Council Process
- Diana Duncan – Professional Registered Parliamentarian (PRP)
  - o What are bylaws and their importance? Bylaws are fundamental rules that govern the body. Bylaws rank above standing rules and other policies. Changing the bylaws requires formal amendments.
    - Defines duties, powers, and limitations. Defines membership. Should specify committees. Should specify that Robert's Rules of Order are used for processes that are not in the bylaws.
    - Template bylaws are provided in the presentation emailed.
  - o Amending bylaws: should follow procedures outlined in the current bylaws.
    - Typically require 2/3 majority vote.
    - Requires notice of proposed amendment. It may require a vote at a specific meeting.
  - o Best practices
    - Regular reviews to reflect changes to the charter or any changes going on in the organization. Make sure that it is not in conflict with local and state laws. Train members on the bylaws.

officers deployed from 1 pm to 9 pm. Second deployment at about 5 pm. It will help prep them for patrol.

- Officer Morrison – The public will see new officers on the street who are approachable and will bring concerns to the precinct. He takes new officers on drives and assigns them different tasks while they are not actively undergoing training.
- Officer Kahlil Guerrier
- Carrie thanks the Inspector for the precinct's support at a recent event.
- Benjamin thanks the precinct for their support during and after an active shooter.
- Dilletta seconds that officers are very approachable and friendly. Thank you.
- Chef Geneva, regarding patrol around Slattery Playground: a lot of times, there is a lack of connection and consistency. Asking for more exposure and rotation of officers.
  - Inspector: Looking to deploy from 1 pm – 2 am, consistency is always best but not always an option. Rotating patrol means some new officers.
  - Eloise: sees that officers are there for a length of time. Can those on cell phones be reported?
    - Inspector: Understands that sometimes they must be on the phone. Integrity officers rotate. They are issued a department phone.
    - How long do they stay after an incident?
- Roxanna: Question about illegal fireworks. And the summer plan for nightclubs.
  - University Ave – Morton Playground: consistent deployment 7 days/week
  - Neighborhood coordination officers
  - Marijuana van enforcement in the vicinity of University Avenue. Arrests for unlicensed vendors.
- Marlene: patrol around and in the Family Dollar by Burnside and Creston
  - Inspector: Special operations Lieutenant Sanchez: Last week's initiative related to Family Dollar resulted in arrests in double digits.
- Tisha: Slattery Park patrol - Officers there are not from the 46<sup>th</sup> precinct. People rolling up marijuana and tobacco cigarettes. When she approached officers, she felt they were rude. Reported it.
- Phyllis: The Homeowners' Association wrote to Sergeant Rosa so that an NCO would come

- May/June Career Basics programming
  - o June 16: Learn to create a LinkedIn account
  - o June 30: Sharpening Interview Skills
- English Conversation class: Occurs from 1 pm - 2:30 pm every Friday. This program was brought to the community because they saw the need
- Request: The Library is still doing online budget advocacy
  - o Go to the NYPL website to submit an e-letter on behalf of the library: [www.nypl.org/speakout](http://www.nypl.org/speakout)

Erika Diaz, Community Liaison for Harmony Hub Family Enrichment Center

- Prom Dress and Suit giveaway for over 40 young people
  - o Part 2 – June 10, 11, and 12<sup>th</sup>, from 3 pm to 6 pm
- May 30, 11 am – 1 pm: Community Café – “The Mask We Wear” for Mental Health Awareness Month
- Other upcoming events:
  - o Parent and Child Sip and Paint.
  - o Collaboration with Bean Morris Garden
  - o Skateboard event
- Address: 2001A Creston Avenue / Phone: 929-703-0485 (Can receive text)

Enrique Colon, CASA Safe Apartment

- Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) – This board decides whether your rent goes up if you are a rent-stabilized tenant in NYC. Raise rent between 1.75 – 7.75%
- May 31, 12 pm – 2 pm: Know Your Rights Workshop. Overview of rent guidelines and CASA’s outreach plan (rally). Will also prep interested participants for testifying at the RGB meeting.
- Rally for Rent Freeze
  - o Testimony at Hostos Community College will follow.
  - o If you want to join. March will be from Bronx courthouse to the post office at 588 Grand Concourse
  - o 35 Marcy Place
- CASA: 347-941-3281

### **Elected Officials’ Reports**

Jacqueline Calderon, Borough President Vanessa Gibson

- May 29, 11 am – 3 pm: Bronx Job Connection, Opportunities for All job fair Bronx Borough Hall (851 Grand Concourse)
- June 5, 11 am – 1 pm: PR Flag Raising Ceremony at Lou Gehrig Plaza
- June 12, 5:30 pm – 9 pm: Bronx Pride Celebration at 856 East 136<sup>th</sup> Street

- June 26, 10 am – 3 pm: Blood drive at Fordham University (2536 Bathgate Avenue). By appointment.
- State Budgetary wins: Operations funding - \$2 million for organizations in the district. Advancements in childcare affordability. Expanded free meals for students in the state.
- Phone: 718-933-2034

(AB) Abou-Bakhr Meite, Assemblymember Landon Dais (District 77)

- May 23: Mother's Day event in collaboration with Oyate Group. Mothers left with a proclamation from the Assemblyman.
- Samples of the office newsletter are in the back. There is a QR code for the WhatsApp group
- Wants to emphasize two 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct programs in the summer
  - o Bootcamp from June – July
  - o Youth Explorer Program: targets 14 – 20 y/o
    - Can earn 26 college credits.
    - Contact Officer Castro- 914-433-7238
- Any issues, please reach out to their office
- Office: 718-538-2000 / Address: 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK

Vincent Sepulveda, State Senator Luis Sepulveda (District 32)

- Health and Wellness Fair June 7 at Echo Park 11 am – 3 pm
  - o Free wellness checks, food pantry, health care packages, and more.
- Constituent services are appointment-based
- Office: 718-991-3161 / Address: 975 Kelly Street

Joanna Rivas, Congressmember Ritchie Torres (District 15)

- Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act: would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to publish a final consumer product safety standard for batteries used in e-bikes and other micro mobility devices to protect against the risk of fires.
- Torres recently called on City Hall to fund the Harlem River Environmental Restoration Project
- He and Adriano Espaillat called on the DHS Inspector General to investigate conditions in Louisiana ICE facilities
- Demanded ethics review of the luxury jet gift from Qatar to Donald Trump

Trevon Blondet, District Attorney Darcel Clark

- June 6, 12 pm – 3 pm: Plant for Peace event at St. Mary's Park, in honor of gun violence awareness. Clean up and planting trees.

Governance Committee: Cheryl Westbrook

- This committee's meetings are working meetings. The next one will discuss the role of committee chairs and fundraising.
- A recent review of the bylaws determined that committee chairs must report during general meetings.

Veterans Affairs Committee: Juan Parra

- No meeting in May.

Municipal Services Committee: Lucia Deng

- Minutes in the packet.

### **Old Business None**

### **New Business**

- Charles, chair of the Nominating Committee – first meeting coming up. The committee members should look out for an email regarding a meeting to discuss a statement to be presented to the general board. Board members should expect an email from the Committee in the next week or so.

**Meeting end:** 8:21 pm

**Next meeting:** June 25, 2025.