



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

**BOROUGH OF THE BRONX**

**COMMUNITY BOARD #5**

**Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President**

**Chairperson  
Dr. Bola Omotosho**

**District Manager  
Kenneth Brown**

**February 24, 2021**

**Community Board Five**

**General Board Meeting Minutes**

- **Community Board Five Board Members**
- **Attendees:** E.Acosta, B.Akumah, S. Bah Dr. M. Brown, A.Caballero, J.Curiel, A.DeJesus, P.Dominguez, M.Estrella, R.Gonzalez, N.Graham Jr., M.Heath, G.Medina, B.Moore, E. Morris, Dr.B.Omotosho, R.Owusu, J.Parra, F.Ramos Guareno, M.Rosado, S.Rudolph, C.Shorter, P.Stewart, C.Westbrook.
- **Absent/Excused**
- P.Blanco, T.Bushby, C.Camara, H.Esteban, A.Hernandez, B.Lawrence, T.Mims, D.Perry, L.Reyes, C.Rosario, R.Whetstone.

**Welcome:**

- **Opening Prayer** by Thomas Campbell from Louella Project 2064 Grand Concourse. A special guest and please welcome Thomas Campbell for opening prayer.
- **Quorum: 6:39 pm (Done)**
- **Approval of Minutes:** First Motion: Annette DeJesus, Seconded: Nero, Graham Jr. 18 Yea / 0 Nay
- **Chairperson's Report Dr. Bola Omotosho:**
  - **Proceedings:**
  - Good Evening, The Merchants Association maintain every second week of the month to held meeting with the 46th Precinct. Of course, I wanted to thank you, the 46th Precinct, very well for this presence. Our Community Board Five appreciate what you have done to our community. The ugly incident happened in  
BCC Campus \* Gould Hall, Room 200 \* 2155 University Avenue \* Bronx, New York 10453  
Telephone (718) 364-2030 \* Facsimile (718) 220-8426 \* bx05@cb.nyc.gov

Serving these Neighborhoods:  
Fordham, Morris Heights, Mount Hope, University Heights

the last six months; we've not stabilized from the time being, and once again, I want to say a big thank you to 46th Precinct in the Bronx.

- For this quarter, we are looking for volunteers to fill in Committees' Chairperson for these committees, Cultural Affairs and Parks and Recreations.
- This month is Black History Month. Initially, it is essential for our community. Our community board five is exciting as well, in light of what's going on now. We are celebrating Black History Month tonight. One gentleman was running for governor; he was doing a governorship race in Missouri. And he said in his interview about "Black History Month should be canceled." And for lack of better words, it's uninformed. The reason is mentioning because of a Nigerian American, which now brings a kind of stereotype. That is not a reflection of what Nigerian Americans or African Americans think of when it comes to Black History Month. And these are countries. We must continue to celebrate.

- **District Managers by Ken Brown Report:**

- The launch week of The Jerome Avenue revitalization collaborative. The Jerome Avenue revitalization collaborative came down to the rezoning, in which the board voted for and approved by the city council. In 2018, one of the commitments that came out of the rezoning was building this Employment and Economic Development network. This rezoning made by the Employment and Economic Development Network was only information for the past two years, and this week the past Tuesday, we had our community stakeholders meeting; approximately 40 people involved.
- On February 4. Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (JARC) Strategy meeting. JARC week: February 23 will be a stakeholders' presentation. Working groups will present their areas of work. On February 24, the Personal Paycheck Program and financial resources. A presentation about access to the PPP and financial resources for local small businesses. On February 25, Bronx Borough President Candidate forum. Bronx Net will moderate a discussion with current candidates for Bronx Borough President. The host will ask moderated questions on candidates' opinions on economic issues which are pertinent to JARC.
- On February 12. JARC/JP Morgan Chase meeting, the branch's construction to be located at 7 East Burnside Avenue was delayed because of snow. The expected opening will be towards mid-year. Among the staff will be a dedicated community center and a manager for community engagement. There are 153 such managers in Chase branches throughout the country in 25 cities. If you are interested in participating in this JARC week meeting, please signup today for tomorrow's meeting at 6:00 pm. There will be communication with current account holders on the branch's status—also, dedicated sectoral focus groups on how to use community space.
- The \$189 million dedicated to the rezoning is a testament to the hard work. I wanted to say that we have been working with a family member of Councilperson Pichardo's office. We're going to plan a facemask Give away that We'll be **on March 5**. At the stairs to the East 183 Street on number four train on March 5, next Friday at one o'clock. So, if anyone wants to come out and help and get some masks to distribute, that would be super great. This is a pro-acted process of getting nationwide banks are closing branches, and we are part of that trend. So, we're working very diligently to try to get another bank here; Chase Bank has committed at least verbally. They will be reopening their branch at Seven, West Burnside Avenue. They have promised this construction will

be done by the end of the second quarter of this year, maybe **around May or June**; **the** branch should be open by this year, 2021. They also promised that construction activity is going on now, so if any of the residents notice or don't notice construction activity going on, please let me know because that's something that we need to hold Chase's feet on.

### **New York Police Department 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct by 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Commander Officer Carlos Paralta and Officer Kennedy and Police Officer Aucancela's Report:**

- For the 28 days of the entire year, we are down on most significant crimes for 20 days, and we're down the range from 22 versus 33 for robberies, felonies are down 30 versus 37 burglaries are down 17 versus 21. Grand larceny is about 31 verse 41; grand larceny autos been a big issue in this community; eight versus four for the 28 days. I want to mention that numbers this week, we did have a homicide; on Monday, as you may know, what happened near 2066 Morris Avenue. I don't know if you've seen the video is a vehicle that goes up and slows down and aims behind a person walking northbound and shot this person. So that's what we have. I would appreciate it if you guys take a look at our Twitter website. We posted the video; if you have not seen it, it's a unique vehicle. It's a four-door Mercury Montego Bay. If you could help us, please do. If you can recognize the car, please call the 46th Precinct. Another case about this person attempts to rape the females; he arrested by the 44th Precinct officers.

### **Voting Items:**

- ***Letter of Support for the Louella Project at 2064 Grand Concourse Avenue*** by Thomas Campbell, Sandy Rosario, and Karuna Mehta, Taj.
- ***Dr. Bola:*** Louella spent more than three decades, and she originally came from the south. And she had since called in from a home community activist, which puts everybody in check, not afraid to tell as it is, and a past President of several times, also 46th Precinct Council. When she passed a couple of years ago, one of the leading teams is Thomas Campbell, who has always supported the youth program. We greatly appreciate the Taro board; it is young individuals who decide to invest in this district. This is not the first project of this district they've before. 2064 Grand Concourse is a union Baptist Church. Thomas Campbell's team steps up to this place and rescues it. And now they take possession; they tend to benefit the senior citizens or the residents. Tonight, in this General Board Meeting, the group of this team will present a Louella Project to our Community Board Five.
- ***Mr. Thomas:*** As always, thank you for that warm introduction, Dr. Bola. You have brought back memories to me when you put a description of personnel history. Thank you so much for it. Thank you, District Manager, Mr. Brown, for having us at the Housing Committee, and the entire board for having us tonight; again, as Dr. Bola said, I am Thomas Campbell. We have about 1000

units of affordable housing under construction throughout the borough, including three buildings currently in construction at 225 East 178<sup>th</sup> Street, 225 East 170<sup>th</sup> Street and 2195 Morris Avenue. Of course, with your help, we appreciate your ongoing support on everything we've ever tried to do along those lines. We have Sandy Rosario joining us tonight as a community builder. Also, we have Deacon currently at the First Union Baptist Church to speak at this meeting. We are very excited to present this project in honor of her name. Community Board Member, it's a mixed-use of an affordable housing project, religious church commendation and community space.

- Let's meet up with Dr. William, Pastor for 47 years, First Union Baptist Church is 106 years old church. They had a difficult situation a couple of months ago because they were going to lose the church. Five months later, they did lose the church, and we began to extend the time for the three-year fight. Court assisting you know where we could financially. You see that way. We spent three years in court and then with eventually a forced landing too with the court How to force them to allow us to pay off After that with a plan of redeployment; I'll say that along the way, it was undoubtedly a source of inspiration to me. Because of that, Senator is passing in her honor at the groundbreaking in one of our projects.
- **Ms. Rosario:** We're a national nonprofit housing developer; Thorobird Companies & The Community Builders, Inc... We've developed 30,000 units nationwide; we have we own and manage 13,000. And generally, we're very excited to work on this project, in addition to being co-developer managed property, in addition to providing community services. So, I'm going to launch into the development plan; we are proposing a 14-story building; in addition to a new facility for the first union Baptist Church, we present 91 units, all affordable senior housing at or below 50% PMI. I've included the rents here as well. We're also looking at forming a tear at 40% per HDPD requirements; there would be 30% set aside for homeless seniors. And we want to include a 50% preference for the community board and residents when it comes to the lease-up. So, we'll be working with the community board for that, in terms of growing up unit. It's also important to note that, while these are the unit's rents, the building will be a section eight-building, so the front end would only be paying the portion attributable to their income, which is generally 30%; 100% of the units would be supported with project-based vouchers. Tenants would only expect to pay 30% of whatever they're bringing in. In terms of the work that we've done and the unit mix, you know, we were initially looking at a project with 98 Studios. But since we met with the housing committee last month and last week, we've been pushing to increase the number of one-bedroom without reducing the unit count to the extent where the project isn't financial anymore. Last week, you know, after our meeting, we sharpen our pencils, we looked at the budget and the design, and we doubled the number of one-bedrooms we're proposing and feel like at this point, you know, we've reduced to a unit, where this is the best that we could do with the financing out there. One of the limiting factors we were seeing is just the construction costs for this building. We're estimating it to be pretty high because we're going up 14 stories high. And also, there's just a minimal floor plate.
- First motion: Nero Graham Jr, Seconded: Annette DeJesus.
- 20 Yea / 0 Nay.
- Congratulations to Louella Project.

## **Presentation of Black History Month by Sallie Smith.**

- Sarah Law is a young lady I will be talking about tonight. She was born the first saw first lady in her family in Mississippi. She was an orphan. At the age of six, she worked hard to live with our system. Because of a portrait of my brother-in-law, she ran away. She offered his route to walk away, and she finally met the average man; as she had one daughter after her marriage and everything, she bought her house and passed away. She made her way to St. Louis, Especially Joe and her brothers, who were barbers. Whether it was one child, she came in, worked in the cotton fields, and became a wash lady to send her young daughter to a Law School. The name of Charles J Walker should change the name to Madame CJ Walker. Madame CJ Walker was the developer of black products made called Madame CJ Walker. She ran a college for black women because she also employed over 1000 black women throughout the United States. The sales of the products were exceptionally great. Our products came after becoming prominent, selling her products throughout the United States and abroad. She made her way to New York City and resided in Harlem. She had a match on 136 three Lenox Avenue, and now you will see her name Madame CJ Walker. That's one of the first songs of the series. Presently, Madame CJ Walker is still well respected in Harlem.
- You may find her name in New York City or probably may be spotted in the southern states.

## **Public Session**

### **• Steven Williams**

Thank you for your time, and Thank you, folks. My name is Steven Williams, and a community outreach coordinator for the Accessible Dispatch program. The program connects the community to wheelchair festival taxis throughout the park. Boroughs of New York City, but you don't have to be in a wheelchair or use a wheelchair for the program.; anyone can use it, or there's no enrollment necessary. Everyone is eligible, and these cars are more significantly useful for it. These are taxi cabs, but they're more significant than your regular taxicab, they can hold on a wheelchair and some cars can have for Non-wheelchair using passengers and a wheelchair to draw Drivers trained to assist people in and out of the back. Our goals are fair where people pay the same amount as a regular taxicab. You are getting a loan car; you're getting someone trained to assist you in and out of the vehicle. You can get service on demand can make a reservation. You can also contact our service through our website, [www.Dispatch.com](http://www.Dispatch.com). If you have a smartphone, you can download the app. You can book trips through our app or call us 24-hour Call Center at 646-599-9999. What I'll do tomorrow is emailing my information to the CB5 office and an electronic brochure that your District Manager can share with all of you, and we don't want to see seniors and people who are disabled feel isolated during the pandemic. To make them feel that they still have a way to get around the

city. Enter your doctor appointments. Thank you so much for your time, and I hope to hear you soon.

**Q & A:**

1. From Dr. Bola: What's the difference between the Taxicabs or Accessible Ride?
2. Mr. William: Great question Dr. Bola. Most of the Accessible Ride must be qualified by go through the assessment process. But in our program, you do not have to. All you have to do is call up and get a car. It's an excellent opportunity to have it in this community. You pay your fare at the end of your trip, and that is.
3. From Ken Brown: Please go over the fee structure, and is your organization for-profit or a non for profit?
4. Mr. William: Good question. I work for a profit company called MTM. The TLC is the government's agency, and they regulate by the taxicab industry. And the cab drivers are separate businesses. The drivers make their profit from fares to survive.

## **Elected Official's Reports**

- **Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor**
- **The Representative is *not available*.**

- **Honorable Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate**
- **The Representative is *not available***

- **Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President**
- *The Representative is Tom Lucania*
- *Good evening, everyone. And thank you all for your attendance. Dedication to the community and coming to these virtual meetings, and I know it's difficult not to be in the same room together to share what we've been going through, but we are happy that you are continuing to participate in these events, virtual meeting. We'll see how much longer the Governor will allow these to come. Just a couple of quick items as of February, our mail at the Borough President's Office has been a bit slow, so I am still going through some of the reappointment applications sent by mail. I'll be reaching out to Ken Brown to see those applications that I have not received. To follow up with any of these members who may be ill or out of state, to be sure. We're not writing somebody off for not submitting their application if there are any extenuating*

circumstances. Dr. Bola mentioned a little earlier about Sexual Harassment Training. It would help if you had not all received a personal email from the Department of City-wide administrative Services DCAS. The link will allow you to take the course at home, you must complete it. You will receive it in two to three days a certificate in the email. Now, you should email me to make sure that you are credited with attending the course. If you have not received it, I asked you to look at the Inbox or spam emails carefully. Look at your spam because it's probably not an inbox email that you're receiving in terms of junk mail or something. I just asked you to go back and take another look, and if you still haven't received it, please let Ken Brown or me know, and I will contact DCAS and them resend it to you. And lastly, The Borough Presidents website has all of the most recent and up-to-date information regarding COVID testing vaccination sites. We are doing to keep all of the current, up-to-date Borough President newsletter, which again included a lot of that information, probably about a week or two ago. And there should be another one coming in the early part of March. So, thanks to Ken Brown, Lashawnda, and Alva for the work. The challenging circumstances to Dr. Bola during his difficult times, still maintaining his leadership at the Board and all of your Board Members and those in the community here this evening, I thank you for all of your excellent work. Thank you so much.

- **Honorable Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson's Office District #16**

- *The representer is Nereida Gomez not available*
- *This is Nereida wishing you all safety and good health and your loved ones. Dr. Bola, happy to see you tonight. I hope you feel the love and feel supportive. At this time, we are also having a Black History Month celebration. I feel like this also happened last year that it coincided with your meeting. There's never enough time in February. But currently, we also have a Women's History Month event coming up in early March. We have a virtual zoom fitness event. I will send this information to Ken Brown by the end of the week so that everyone has it and can participate. Our office also continues to work remotely, but we are maintaining the same partnerships with the tenant Support Unit, CUNY citizenship now for immigration services, and urban Justice Center for Family Law. These issues we can still offer services and connected with these resources. Thank you so much.*

- **Honorable Ritchie Torres, Congress Member District #15**

- *Representative is Joseph McManus*
- *Contact: 718-842-8100, Tuesday -Friday (10am-3pm) by appointments.*
- *This is Joseph McManus. First, I like to wish you my condolences for your loss. I sent all my information to Ken, and I put it in the chat, but the Office is in the banknote building the same Office that Congressman Serrano had on the fourth floor. The Congressman was just appointed to the Homeland Security committee as the vice-chair. Recently, he signed the letter for Puerto Rico to have access to SSI. He introduced the Extending Child Tax Credits which will help reduce child poverty by half. He also had a Press Conference to end Ice deportations and he introduced another bill to obtain civil rights for the LGBTQ community. I would like to say I got two vaccine*

*shots, and I think that everybody should get it because I believe that's our best protection and anybody uncomfortable with it, please read for more details. So that's the strength of my report. Thank you.*

- **Honorable Fernando Cabrera, Council Member District #14**

- *Representative is Russell Cheek not available*

- **Honorable Victor M. Pichardo, Assembly Member District #86**

- *Representative is Steven Ochoa the Community Liaison*
- *Contact: 718-933-6909/Ochoa. [Camachos@nyassembly.gov](mailto:Camachos@nyassembly.gov)*
- *Hello and Good Evening to the Community Board Five members ad Dr. Bola. My name is Steven. I'm from Assembly Member Victor M. Pichardo's office. I'm so sorry for your loss. I know Ken has mentioned it before, earlier in the meeting in terms of our office next week on Friday at 1 pm, we are having a mass giveaway to be by support at East 100 and 83rd Street. And in the coming days, we'll be sure to send out the flyer over to Ken, and we will be putting it out over to our September numbers, social media about Monday. Our office has also compiled an extensive list of three tax resources, you know, in the significant four factors. And finally, our office is currently closed. But we are working remotely. We are open from 10 am to 6 pm. Monday through Friday, and you can reach our office at 718-933-6909. And I'll also leave my information in the Chat Room. Thank you.*

- **Honorable, Chantel Jackson, Assembly Member District #79**

- *Representative is not available*

- **Honorable Latoya Joyner, Assembly Member District #77**

- *Representative is Abdou Balde.*
- *Good evening, Community Board Five members and Dr. Bola. On behalf of Assemblywoman La Toya Joyner, I'm extending my condolences to you and may our beloved mom. You know, since we are in the pandemic, we are operating remotely. So, Monday through Friday from 10 to 5 pm. And we receive in you know, public entities through phone calls; you can always reach out to us at 718-538-2000. Regarding all of these updates to give on, we're having a code giveaway this Friday will be our second giveaway on dealing this winter. We have one week in late January. So, we have your one this Friday from 10 am to 1 pm. We partner with the New York stores in the Bronx Terminal Market; from 10 am to 1 pm at the Bronx Terminal Market, 610 exterior street,*



*we have all sizes, so everyone is welcome, you know, to stop, get some winter clothing. If you can, please stop by and while the supply lasts? Once again. Thank you, everyone.*

- **Honorable State Senator Gustavo Rivera District #33**

*Representative of Oriana Shulevitz Rosado*

- *I just wanted to say hello again and good evening. So, I just wanted to reintroduce myself to those who haven't gotten a chance to talk with me in person yet, but my name is Liliana. Firstly, I also want to extend my condolences, Dr. Bola, I lost my grandfather during this pandemic, and I know how hard it is to mourn someone while also trying to maintain distance and not being able to meet. I have a couple of bills that I wanted to go over as a Senator is highly proud to announce that our role is nursing; to reform bills were passed, S 3061 A delineates reporting standards for communicable diseases, and resulting from bringing transparency into information gathered during the public health. An emergency like COVID-19, we also have s 4336. Another bill app center. Senator Rivera directs the commission of health to establish a direct patient care ratio requiring nursing homes to spend at least 70% of the facility's revenue on natural patient care. Three thousand fifty-eight specified requirements for the transfer discharge and voluntary discharge from residential healthcare facilities, and S 4893 require nursing operators. Homes and residential health care facilities to provide notification have contracts and agreements And I know that was rather worthy, but it basically narrows down to you see, we put our early on in our family members and nursing homes and this Senator, and the Senate wants to make sure that we are providing adequate care. I also wanted to mention that the COVID-19 emergency eviction and closure prevention act passed. It was supposed to be stay evictions currently 60 days, but if you have suffered any financial hardship due to COVID, you may submit a Purchase declaration form. Our office has sent out a mailer with the form incited to everyone we have on our district's mailing list. If you have any questions about the form, if you receive it and you're not sure how to fill it out, please contact our office for assistance. I dropped the number in the Chatroom. Of course, Dr. Bola and District Manager Ken Brown have our information and will have happy to assist you in any way with these forums on some COVID updates. Go quickly with the Yankee Stadium because some of our other elected representatives gave that information already. If you have any issues with getting vaccine appointments, which many of us are having, please call our office. We are trying to connect people to the resources to the providers in the neighborhood. And see how what we can do to Make sure our folks are getting vaccinated. Lastly, I've mentioned this a couple of times, but just in case, our office is currently physically closed for the foreseeable future, but that said, we are still handling constituent services. Via phone and email and If you have any questions about the vaccine. We had many doctors out some community leaders answer serious questions about the vaccine, and it's currently on Senator Rivera's Facebook page. I welcome you to go check it out if you have any questions, and lastly, a never-ending. Happy Black History Month it's fortunate that we haven't been able to celebrate together in person, but we invite you to Join Senator Rivera. He's been Celebrating online, lighting some black homes, Business artists, and sharing some historical facts, which I'd like to say, Thank you.*

*Miss Sally, thank you for the information you provided. I love learning historical facts; it was fantastic. But yes, check our Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter pages for any of our information we've been sending out. Thank you. And everybody, have a lovely evening.*

- **Honorable Jose Marco Serrano, New York State Senator District #29**

- *Representative is Terrell Brook*
- *I would like to start by giving my condolence to Dr. Bola. And data has shown us that New Yorkers of color have been underrepresented in vaccinations so far. The Yankee Stadium vaccination site is proud to prioritize Bronx residents, and it's so from 8 am to 8 pm EST. This week to make an appointment or you can visit [www.somosvaccinations.com](http://www.somosvaccinations.com) or call 1833-somos New York. Individuals who scheduled appointments for Yankee Stadium must prove Bronx residency with them to the appointment to prove Bronx residency, and the individual must show the state or government issue ID statement, from current landlord rent, or received lease or mortgage or mortgage records. This month, Governor Cuomo signed senate Jose Serrano's bill 899 prohibiting unnecessary application. Glyphosate on staple Property into law This law is a big step. As a significant first step in cutting back unnecessary herbicide use, committing New York to prevent a known or unwanted exposure to toxic chemicals when enjoying state property, let's continue examining our practices, anybody weighing the risks versus rewards when using the product. Medic a problematic outcome. The Central Office continues to distribute and sanitizer and mass to individuals and organizations. If you are showing you know as a new supply, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 212-828-5829 or send an email to Serrano at [Serrano.gov](mailto:Serrano.gov), and you can also reach me at [tBrock.nyc.gov](mailto:tBrock.nyc.gov). I would like to thank district manager Ken Brown. You are helping me distribute 1000s of mass to the CB five community over the past year. And I think you have any questions, please let me know or email me. Thank you and Good Night.*

- **Honorable Vacant, Council Member District #15**

- *Representative is not available*

- **Honorable Adriano Espaillat, Member of Congress District #13**

- *Representative is Maximo Javier, is not available.*

- **Honorable Scott Stringer NYC Comptroller**

- *Representative is Victor Martinez not available.*

- **Honorable Darcel D. Clark, Bronx District Attorney**

- Representative is Eric Sawyers.
- Contact: 718-561-9253, [sawyerse@bronxda.nyc.gov](mailto:sawyerse@bronxda.nyc.gov)
- *Hello, and how is everybody doing this evening? I want to offer my condolences to Dr. Bola's Mom. I know things like this must be callous, and I hope they stay strong during these times. But as far as the district attorney's office updates, I have nothing at this time, but I will keep you guys updated. And I will also put my contact information in the chat just if anybody has any further questions.*

- **Committee Reports.**

- **Housing:**

- **Jerome Avenue Oversight:**

- **Land Use:** No reports.

- **Parks and Recreation:**

- ***Dr. Bola:*** Our parks, the Community Board Five of Parks and Recreations, Robert Whetstone, is no longer with us. He used to have an agency on Featherbed Lane, which qualifies him to be on the County Bronx because it allows them the opportunity to be the Executive Director. There are two things: First, he doesn't live in the district, which technically doesn't make him a full board member or eligible for renewal. This is why the position is now open, but I'm going to yield to Miss Pooi, who is very active in Parks and Recreations as a co-chair of Parks and Recreation. Please give us an update; at this point, Ms. Pooi cannot become a Chair for Parks and Recreations because our Community Board Five By-Laws stated that a board member is allowed to become only one Committee Chair not two. Any update on Parks and Recreation.
- ***Pooi Stewart:*** Dr. Bola, I do not have any updates because I wasn't feeling well enough to open up the virtual committee meeting. I did not attend because I am not feeling well. So, I do not have any updates, but the next coming week's meeting will be **on March 23**. March 23 will be our following Parks and Recreation committees meeting. And all of you in this General Board Meetings, some of the Board Members, please join us and know more about Parks or Playground activities in our Community Board Five. Thank you.

- **Economic Development:**

- ***Dr. Bola:*** For Economic Development, JARC is the Jerome Avenue revitalization collaboration; to give us a quick historical perspective, the committee board five. When JARC was about, I believed two or three years ago, when it came to assistance, we decided we had to nominate someone, district manager, and I was the eyes on everything on JARC as part of it. I wanted to use this as a big thank you to him. He was thrilled to attend all the meetings and also bringing back reports

and taking final steps. Why am I saying this? Pumped Board Five must not get left behind. Three Boards are part of this Jerome rezoning, Board Four, Five, and Seven. The initial rezoning actually will stop shut up Five. However, the spiritual efforts as a community, looking forward of a spearheaded; district manager and I, through the consultation of Councilmember Cabrera Fernando's office, which is the lengthy process, we were included in the rezoning process and of course, now extend to Board 7. So, and JARC had been very effective. And we have some very highly talented individuals who are also bringing all this collaborative together, we jumped on one of them from a member who had been besides, Jack as well, and I'm referring to Ms. Peirina's been very active and visible. Without JARC, our Community Board Five will not receive one hundred and seven million dollars for rezoning. This rezoning funding goes out to Davidson Avenue path and several other projects. Another word is rezoning brought some new money into our district. This predates many folks on this board; back in 2002, they wanted to see Jerome Avenue's change. Unfortunately, when the rezoning came through with his current mayor, our Board Community Five said we should not be left behind. And I wanted to use this adventure. Accuracy for all former with board members and community for the spiritual effort for the growth we are announcing on Jerome Avenue. Thank you so much. So that would be the Economic piece of it. And also, with the BJT (Burnside, Jerome, and Tremont). Angel is the President of BJT. Why is this important? For several years, the company board has been trying to put in the West Burnside Avenue to have a business improvement district; and several steps had taken. Angel has been very active within. It is a lengthy process that gave BJT a unique and visible community and has so many histories behind this Economic Development. Angel may not be maybe two more days talking about the accomplishment of BJT. At a later date, we'll make sure that we've been sharing their newsletters with the district and with our constituents. But that's not just enough; we wanted to have a BJT food narrative if it's not by Angel, the Director, and Yolanny, the Merchants Association president Data; Management Associations. As you all know, BJT was at the lead during the shutdown. And when we had the ugly incident on June 2, it was devastated. Economic Development is significant to our Community Board Five.

- **Health and Human Services:**

- **Annette DeJesus:** Good evening, everyone; as everyone knows, I'm going through my help a few and feeling better, ready, willing, and able. I invite everyone to please join us **on March 3, at 6 pm.** For Health and Human Services Committee meeting, it's been going very well and very informative. I tried to bring in as much information as I can. The only update that I have now is something that we've been talking about since last year. Our community debate to keep The United Health Care; it will soon vanish. I recently found out about it, and I advised you to find alternative health care. A couple of months ago, it was in the voting item; after the presentation, our board members voted this item, and we honored a letter of support. Unfortunately, I noticed yesterday that this health insurance would no longer accept, as of March. We need to let this community know that it will come to a point where the hospitals gradually take or neither accepting the health insurance policy. Thank you all and God Bless.

- **Education:**

- **Dr. Brown:** Good Evening, everyone. This is Dr. Brown, and I like to thank my Co-Chairperson, Jaqua Curiel, for giving me this opportunity. And my condolences again to you, Dr. Bola. I would like to thank Francis Martin Library and the manager is Mr. Craig Jacob, for giving us a beautiful slide presentation. It was a combined permitting meeting. And we have three presenters. We

have a children's librarian, and her name is Ms. Rodriguez. And she presented to the community services. Daniel is a youth librarian and offered for the Youth Committee; we also have an adult librarian, Jacqueline Brown, present to the Education Committee. And I think that it was very educational. And if you need further details, please reach out to Ken Brown, the District Manager. We have what's new at the library was a digital library card and simple self-help. Some virtual programs for children or children, such as story time or so artful toy time for the youth, are a chess program, a virtual chess program, and virtual creativity. Create creative writing and the best 125 books for teens, which is part of the celebration of the 125 years that the New York Public Library has been in existence. And we also have for the adults of the discussion; we have a mystery our we have adult coloring. And we also have a powerful position me and self-help online book discussion. So, there are many, many more things. So, we can provide a slide presentation if it's requested. And I also would like to say for our next meeting, it will in **March, every third of Wednesday**, right behind the Health and Human Services Committee. And we're going to celebrate Women's History Month, and our guest speaker will be Lady Sally Smith. And she will be educating us on her topic of choice. And that is the end of my report.

- **Youth:**
- **Dr. Brown:** Anthony Hernandez is the Chair for Youth. He has two presenters. And now that I'm giving his report because I don't know if he is available or not tonight. Bragg's Programs are rising against gun violence. And I believe the name was Jeremy was presenter, and he also had Reverend Eddie in Bragg's program. So, I just wanted to add that, but he can give his official report whenever he can join us tonight. Thank you.
- **Dr. Bola:** Can you go over the Yankee's Scholarship, please?
- **LaShawnda:** I did send the application to Ken. And we discussed, Ken Brown will email out to everyone in the community, and we'll post it on our social media outlets. I will send it out to everyone in a community, and we'll post it on our social media outlets.
- **Dr. Bola:** Can you go over the Yankee's Scholarship, please?
- **LaShawnda:** I did send the application to Ken. And we discussed, Ken Brown will email out to everyone in the community, and we'll post it on our social media outlets. I will send it out to everyone in a community, and we'll post it on our social media outlets. The update with the changes The Yankees is currently accepting applications for those who are unable to perform community service because it's hard during this pandemic. So, they're taking everyone. Remember, we're still taking everyone from the ages of 12 to 24. And you do not have to be committed to community service because of COVID. So, we're accepting everyone between those age brackets.
- **Dr. Bola:** I didn't like to emphasize that because we know the advantages of getting the youth involved and how difficult it is to serve the Community Services.
- **Jaqua:** I'm going to partner with the Youth Chair and Education Chair, and we're hoping that we get many board members to pass out the Yankee Scholarship's application. To everyone they know. There are some restrictions. Board Members can have people in the community such as a church, house of worship, neighbors, and encourage you to reach

*out to them. We're going to put it on our next agenda and can you just re send out that email?*

**Ken Brown/Dr. Bola:** *Yes, of course. I will re-email the Yankee scholarship out tomorrow.*

- **Cultural Affairs:** *No Reports.*
  
- **Immigration Committee:**
- **Pooi Stewart:** *Good evening. Our next meeting for immigration will be on the 11th. And I wish that all the board members be able to attend our immigration committee meetings for next month. Our hot topic is DACA. So if any one of you or any one of your family members or your neighbors are interested in applying for DACA, we have many agencies in the committee meeting that you can ask questions. And just reminding yourself, our next committee meeting for immigration, again, is March 11. Please join us. I'm welcoming all the board members. Thank you.*
  
- **Veterans Committee:**
- **Ms. Gonzalez:** *Good evening. It's a pleasure to be on this evening. The last time we held our meeting, and my co-chair won power, we provided such an excellent resource of information to our veterans, we had our guest speaker from the VA hospital in Kingsbridge. We're excited to indicate that our next meeting is **in March**. I will wash your shower excited another guest speaker at the beaches; we need the support. And we need to get the word out that the veterans in our community need to be informed. And if you know, someone let them know to link on. So, they could also receive that information. We spoke about benefits. We talked about vaccines. You guys saw a flyer that was this year's distributed by Ken or LaShawnda from the office. I think over Valentine's; they had a massive vaccine distribution all at the VA hospital. So, if they're not aware, and when I share the veteran, you know, cannot, but I read this on our next meal. And let's support each other. Thank you again. I appreciate your time.*
  
- **Municipal Services:**
- **Mr. Nero Graham Jr:** *Hi, everyone. Yes, we did have our meeting on February the ninth. We had no guest speakers. So, it was very sweet and concise. But Coming up, our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March the ninth, 2021. And that's going to be with the Veterans Affairs Committee. And at this meeting, we're going to have a guest speaker from DEP and DOT., and the discussion will be concerning the locations of city bikes, Brooklyn, the Bronx. We ask that you get on your participation because you want to know what DLT is having a discussion. And you can speak to DOT. Directly. Okay. So much of*

*that. Also, just for a bit of information, on the 16th of this month, I attended 46 Community Council zoom meetings. As people in our community, we find out that when did the construction start on the Grand Concourse. And when it hit home, we forget so often that we did reach out, and you did not participate, or you did not bring your concerns to the community board or the committee. And now the processes the motion with around you. Now you will say, Oh, my god, what can I do? So, what we did, I did, I reached out, and I asked those merchants, and those churches who have concerns to contact can get on the emailing list if you're not on, and this is the way you can come to our committee meetings, and we can have discussions before these things happen. I would also like to say tonight, and I'm going to tell you seriously, I'm like the Smith, I can see her expression. Is that? Yes. Louella Project has moved on. But let me tell you something that congregation at the first union, I think they are well and is alive. I'm astonished that the assembly was not here tonight to support their project. So, for me, I do hope to see you **on March the ninth**. And that's all I'm going to say because I saw the expressions that the Smiths had enough face. After all, she stood up one thing that she did at the Community Council meeting. And she said, Let the dominoes roll with a pool because we've been trying to recap. So that's the way it happened. And so, thank you again, Mr. Smith, for your support.*

**Sallie Smith:** *Concern, the number of community board members participation and awareness, the board is concerned, and the board committees, most of them are all of these meetings most of the time. Way, some kind of way that the community is aware of when these committee meetings I know, and I can tell some folks, there are no community representatives in any of these meetings. And the measure of what concerns the community has of what goes on in the community. Board members make the decision. And you say, when you come to the meetings that I come can't say anything. You can't ask any questions; you got to send your question to a committed person or somebody on the board to ask these individuals that come to make the presentation. That has discovered many people coming to Louella to let you wait to say she jumped between you and all and everybody that you had to present it to get her point across. I'm not that I tried to go along with the protocol. But that is some of the things that need to be concerned that we're going to try to get you guys to say something.*

- ***Dr. Bola:*** *Mr. Nero, we'll be sending you a packet regarding a letter for a liquor license for the meeting next week.*
- ***Mr. Nero:*** *Yes, I will; Dr. Bola and I speak to Ken tomorrow. Thank you.*
- **Governing Committee:** *No reports*
- **Executive:** *No reports*
- **Ad Hoc Community Outreach Committee:**
- ***Mr. Shorter:*** *Good evening, everyone. Um, the last ad hoc committee outreach and engagement meeting were combined meeting on February 3 with the other committee. And we had two presentations from the Francis Martin Library and BRAGG. I want to echo what Miss Smith said, I*



think one of the ways that we can flesh out, and I've been asking for membership for the community outreach and engagement meeting, is to look at ways to engage the community. Our next meeting will also be **on March 30**; I invite people to that meeting, will go directly after we go in order. But this is an Ad Hoc committee. And actually, I think we can look at ways to engage other community members besides board members. So that's March 3, and I'm confirming the speaker for that meeting. And also, part of that quickly is for the community board five, and as part of community outreach, I sit on the Bronx solid waste advisory board meeting, and I've been attending those meetings and then looking at their bylaws, as well as restructuring that meeting. That committee in which each community barrel has a swab in the Bronx being read. And that's it for me right now. Thank you.

- **Dr. Bola:** Ms. Sally Smith and Mr. Shorter, this is a process of the reason why the other committees you explain it eloquently is to have more community board members to involve. And for all the committee chairs and co-chairs, please, it's essential that you send in the agenda of your meeting to the office ahead of at least give it a week's notice. Even if you're not sure who will be the speaker, please send out the agenda and add it later. We must know what you want to talk about what's on what's going, and this will also help the community be a good participant in this meeting.

- **Old Business :**

- **Dr. Bola:** Do you have any latest updates on Amalgamated Bank from Ms. Pierina? The Chase Bank is coming back to our District to support our community Board Five. Ken, do you have any recent updates on Chase Bank or Amalgamated?
- **Ms. Pierina:** Not available.
- **Ken Brown:** I didn't commit to a specific month or date. I was told by them that it will be in the late second quarter of this year.

- **New Business:**

- **Dr. Bola:** Please, any opportunity that you have made sure you get vaccinated and to God be the glory, we know that we are more intelligent and know that we are better than part of the I mean, I can a million talks that we lost this pandemic is still very much around. We also have video screens; you have the UK variant, you have the South African strain. And at this time, we also have FDA that proved by Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson practicing.
- **Ernesto Acosto:** I'm sorry, let me put my video on. Um, I just wanted to say, My condolences to you and your family. Um, um, I'm going through a death right now; my uncle passed of COVID. And it's a little bit hard because we were trying to get him an appointment to see. And we couldn't get through online. And just after that, he had an issue with an underlying condition that he had, which he called COVID. That so he felt like, you know, um, you know, we see many people coming in from Westchester to some of these vaccination spots, and they don't live in the city. I think it was a city problem. It wasn't that they weren't allowed because the city should have been more diligent in saying, hey, these vaccination sponsors for the five boroughs. But saying that, I was lucky to get what they call a leftover shock. And I got my second shot last Friday of the vaccine distill many my friends are reluctant to take it is many people. And I don't blame them from the past, you know, but I did my vaccine research and, you know, I looked at one side and saw 500,000 people dead, and the other side with a minimal amount of people that



*had an allergic reaction, and to me, it was a no brainer to take their vaccine. So, I encourage everybody to do their research and make their own decision. But the decision was crystal clear for me that I needed to take the vaccine, and I'm happy to say that I did get the second shot last Friday.*

- ***Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 pm.***

***Prepared and Submitted by Ms. P. Stewart.***

***Secretary of Bronx Community Board Five***