



**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**

**OCTOBER 23, 2019  
5:00pm  
Public Hearing**

### ***Testimonies:***

- Richard Sierra. Davidson Center, volunteer. Recommends funding for youth programming.
- Thomasina Bushby. Community Board 5 member. Recommends funding for anti-violence for youth and remedial education services.
- Frank Rojas. Perseverance Project. The Project gathers oral histories of lived experiences. These stories are then transformed into performances. This project is being done in the hopes of starting a movement of local empowerment. They would like to be involved in local schools.
- Carlos Rosario. Community Board 5 member and Health and Human Services Committee co-chair. There are many children in the district, but a dearth of services for them. There needs to be innovative and mindful programs. There needs to be a shift in our community into a 'Wellness Community.'
- Shenia Rudolph. Community Board 5 member. There needs to be more programs like the Police Athletic League. There are many incidents of youth violence against the elderly. As there is more development, schools will become more overcrowded. There needs to be more money for the Police Athletic League, the Davidson Community Center and the Police Explorers. There needs to be more programs for youth to be more involved with the community and for there to be 'Safe Havens' in the community.

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

- Jaqua Curiel. Community Board 5 member. There has been an increase in crime due to poor education and poverty. There are too many shelters. Poverty is a mentality and that needs to change. There needs to be a stop to building jails in the boroughs.
- Laura Reyes. Community Board 5 member and an Assistant Principal of the School of Law and Social Justice. 70% of High School children are reading are under grade level. Many have no 'Regents credits.' Events should be broadcast at schools and throughout the community to have events better attended. The priority at this school is on graduation. We need money for more school social workers. Students are under great pressure and there are not enough resources. 70 of 135 senior students have no 'Regents credits' Schools need more money.

## **General Board Meeting**

### **Board Members:**

#### **Present:**

E. Acosta; B. Akumah; Frank AmatoPablo Blanco; M. Brown; T. Bushby; A. Caballero; J. Curiel; A. DeJesus; H. Esteban; N. Graham, Jr; K. Jabouin; D. Maldonado; G. Medina; T. Mims; B. Moore; B. Omotosho; D. Perez; D. Perry; L. Reyes; M. Rosado; C. Rosario; S. Rudolph; C. Shorter; P. Stewart; C. Westbrook; R. Whetstone.

#### **Absent:**

M. Heath; B. Lawrence; S. Markland-Suwareh; R. Owusu; J. Perez; F. Ramos Guareno; M. Rodgers.

#### **Excuses:**

R. Gonzales; K. Lewis; J. Parra.

### **Proceedings:**

Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairman, Dr. Bola Omotosho and last month meeting minutes were amended and approved. Mahtabuddin Ahmed said the opening prayer.

- **Chairman's (Dr. Bola Omotosho) Report:**
  - The Bronx Community Board 5 Committee Schedules of 2019 -2020 has been released. Please look at the package enclosed
  - Initial attending of Youth and Education meetings for upcoming of this year and next year are very crucial.
  - Executives meeting must attend every month.
  - Each **board member** uses one **ballot**, and **ballots** are not shared.
  - Register of Community Board Budget Requests (For the Adopted Fiscal Year 2020). Please look at the package enclosed.

- The Sexual Harassment Prevention date has been changed from Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 5:30pm to October 29, 2019 at 5:30pm. Please call Community Board 5 office for more details.

### **District Manager's Report**

**Kenneth Brown, District Manager** highlighted the following items in the report (Report Enclosed):

Mr. Brown, District Manager stated that the report is in the board packet enclosed.

Mr. Brown highlighted the budget report of October:

- Jerome Avenue Public Health Task Force meeting addressed potential recommendations such as farmers' markets, bodegas and supermarkets to stock/promote healthier food; recommend that schools have full and working kitchens and gyms.
- October 7th, there are friends of Aqueduct Walk general meeting;
  - Participating in a fitness walk on October 5th.
  - 21 people participated in the event.
  - Discussion with regards to consider applying for a grant with the Partnership for Parks; monies that may be used to support the activities of the group and buy supplies.
  - The General Meeting of this event is November 4, 2019.
  - On June 27th, Career Fair in Bronx Community College was presented by the District Manager about the job opportunity and civic engagement.
  - The Aqueduct Walk comfort station should be completed in October 2019
  - Aqueduct Walk has been opened as of Wednesday, October 16, 2019
  - Partnership for Parks is provided by City Parks Foundation to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers;
    - spaces for social and civic engagement
    - volunteers into community leaders
    - building long-term investment in public space
    - strengthen the social fabric of our neighborhood
    - On June 27th, Career Fair in Bronx Community College was presented by the District Manager about the job opportunity and civic engagement.
    - The official, grand re-opening remains to be scheduled.
- October 8th, Hepatitis C Forum;
  - Community Boards 4, 5, and 7 hosted a Hepatitis C Forum at North Central Hospital.
  - The moderator was State Senator Gustavo Rivera
  - The District Office had a table at the forum
  - Brightpoint Health was present to provide Hepatitis C screening
  - There are few panels of experts answered the questions.
    - Montefiore

- North Central Bronx Hospitals
- Bronx Works

**Quorum present:** 6: 16pm

**Voting Items:**

**Executive Board Secretary**

- Voting for Executive Board Secretary of community Board 5. Ballots are 20/3/1, therefore the Executive Secretary of Community Board 5 has been elected according to the counts it will be Pooi Stewart.

**According to Fiscal Year 2020 Adopted Budget Register Capital Budget Priorities and Requests**

- Budget was approved without any changes.

**Public Session**

- **Sallie Smith (Resident )-**
  - Welcome board and community members. She noticed that on the East Side of the Grand Concourse in the Bronx has less street lights installed and some blocks around the location that the garbage or waste must be removed.
  - Some of the abandoned houses need to be taken care of due to the fact that the location is filthy.
  - Tiebout Avenue and Valentine Avenue locations need to be tidy
- **Mishell Coronel, Yvonne Sidaoul, Siddhorth Kakked (Graduates Students of Community School of Public Health)**
- Welcome board and community members and introduce, "Added Sugar Limits for Adults and Children".
  - The average American eats 22 teaspoons of sugar per day that contains 200 calories.
  - The 2015 - 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommends no more than 10% each day of added sugar.
  - Children over 2 years old should not consume no more than 6 teaspoons (25 grams) of added sugar each day.
  - Kids age 2 -18 should have Less Than 25 Grams or Six Teaspoons of Added Sugars Daily for a Healthy Heart.
  - SUGAR SHOCKERS FOODS must be considered.
  - Eat Healthy that put all of us in a good shape for a lifetime.
- **Filip Condeesou (Resident)** Welcome Board and Community Members.
  - Mentioned - The Community Board did not notice that the parks are closed from Spring 2018 until current.

- Why it is closed? It is unclear.
- Checked the Aqueduct Park is not operating appropriate.
- **Jaleel Anthony (P.A.L.)** Welcome Board and Community members.
- Location : 2255 Webster Ave, Bronx, NY 10457
  - PAL serves the youth of New York City with recreational, educational, cultural, and social programs.
  - Boys and girls ages 3 to 21 build for the future with a place to learn, grow, and dream.
- **Diego Hernandez (South Bronx Job Corps Center) Welcome** Board and Community members.
  - Learn how our center helps the youth in our community through FREE education, job training, community services, and more!
  - November 1st, 2019 From 11am to 2:00pm, 1771 Andrews Avenue South Bronx NY 11453.
  - Contact by [hernandez.diego@jobcorps.org](mailto:hernandez.diego@jobcorps.org) or 718-294-5895.

### **NYPD 46th Precinct**

- ***Deputy Inspector (Inspector Richard Brea***
  - Welcome Board and Community members
  - In the past 28 days crimes has been increased based on the NYPD CompStat 2.0 Reports.
  - Mentioned; A man beats 67 years old veteran inside Belmont apartment elevator.
- Looking for directions to Grand Concourse/E 174 St in Bronx,
  - Needs patrolling activities.
  - Street lights installed for commuters safety
  - After sundown
- There is a Community Meeting at 46th Precinct, all are welcomed.
- Halloween Spooktacular and Pumpkin Fest Thursday,
  - October 31,2019 from
  - 4:30pm to 8:00 pm
  - Location : Bronx 47th Precinct
- Domestic Violence:
  - If there is an allegation that a crime has been committed, law enforcement officers are required to make an arrest. If the New York Police Department (NYPD) can affirmatively determine that a crime was not committed when they arrive at the scene, an arrest may not be made.
- Traffic Violation on Jerome Avenue Issued:

- Residents disputes on congestions with double parked vehicles and there is no summon issued
- According to the residents with regards to parking space are very challenging.

**Elected Official's Reports.**

**Bronx District Attorney (Darcel D. Clark):**

- Welcome Board and Community members
- Learning about sealed old convictions and removal if Marijuana possession convictions.
- Resolved outstanding summons
- Settle summons for quality of life offences including;
  - Consumption of Alcohol in Public
  - Disorderly Conduct
  - Trespassing (Violation)
  - Noise Violation
  - Various Subway Offenses
  - Public Urination
  - Collaboration with the Office of Court Administration
  - Collaboration the Legal Aid Society,
  - Collaboration NYPD
  - Collaboration Thessalonia Worship Center
  - For more details please call 718-590-2272

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

- **Representative Alexis Diaz**

- Welcoming to all the New Board members
    - Concerned Breaking Ground and Communitlife open New Supportive Housing at La Central in The Bronx
    - Concerned Sunday's Tour DE Bronx is Cancelled
    - Concerned Borough President Diaz issues report on Marijuana Justice in New York State
    - Event for Halloween at 47th Precinct

- **Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Council Member District #16**

- **Representative Nereida Gomez**

- Welcoming to all the New Board members
    - Commercial Tenant Rights
      - Commercial Tenants the rights that for so long have not existed
      - EMS workers to call for pay parity in a field largely made up of women and people of color
      - Women's Caucus NYC Council
      - Jerome Rezoning Update
        - Jerome Avenue Neighborhood Plan
        - Neighborhood Rezoning Commitments Tracker

- **Honorable Victor M. Pichardo, Assembly Member District #86**
  - **Representative Heidi Salazar**
    - Ms. Salazar welcome to all the New Board members
    - Ms. Salazar announced with regards to those who are seeking help with Immigration, please contact our office and we will provide FREE Immigration Lawyers every Fridays at 2175 Jerome Avenue Bronx NY
      - Or call us at 718 933 6909
    - There are few classes available for English Second Language for those who are interested to learn English as their second language.
    - Job Fairs are available on November 14; Part time or Full Time from 4pm to 6pm
      - For more details about jobs please contact our office

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

- **Representative Terrell Brook**
  - If anyone needed help with more details on;
    - Housing
    - NYPD
    - MTA Transits
    - Prevention Workshops
    - Legal Advice
    - Legal Services on Immigration
    - Voting

Please contact me at [TBROCK@nyc.senate.gov](mailto:TBROCK@nyc.senate.gov)  
Or call me at 212 828 5829/ 646 764 5103

- **Committee's Reports**

- Please look at the General Board Meeting Package enclosed.
  - Schedules on all Committee Meeting

- **Old Business**

- Jerome Avenue Committee
- Jerome Committee Development

- **New Business**

- South Bronx Job Corps Meeting on November 13, 2019
- Pooi Stewart has been elected as Executive Secretary of Community Board 5
- Committee Community Affairs outreach of the community; Frank Amato and Nero Graham, Jr.
- Request for more additional space and install TV/ internet in the Office at Bronx Community Office Board 5 (Bronx Community College).

- **Announcements**
  - None

**Meeting is adjourned at 8:42 PM.**

***Prepared and Submitted by***

***Ms. Stewart***

***Secretary of Community Board 5***

***District Manager Community Board 5 Office***