



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

# **GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Chair:	Emmanuel Martinez
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 25, 2022
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Minutes done by:	Yajaira Arias

#### Minutes:

I. Welcoming Remarks

### II. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting

1. Bronx Community Board 7 has the right to remove and or ask a member of the public to leave a meeting or block participation of anyone who engages in inappropriate conduct, including but not limited to obscene or offensive images or language, personal attacks, threats, or any other behavior that reasonably impedes the orderly administration of the meeting. The above clause includes the use of the chat function via teleconference.

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If in person outbursts or attacks continue, this will be considered disturbing the peace and the authorities shall be summoned.

#### III. Public Session

#### A. Elected Officials

1. **Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson:** The <u>application</u> to become a member of a community board is open until March 4th.

This meeting's minutes are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, contact us at: 229-A East 204th Street & Bronx, NY 10458 & Phone: (718) 933-5650 E-mail: <u>ibravo@cb.nyc.gov</u> & Website: <u>Nyc.gov/BronxCB7</u>





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- Council Member Eric Dinowitz: The Council Member's office held COVID19 test distributions over the month of January. Constituents can submit feedback on the fiscal budget for District 11 <u>Budget Feedback Form</u>.
- 3. Council Member Pierina Sanchez: Monroe College is open as a service center connecting victims of the recent fires to social service providers, and city agencies. The Kingsbridge Armory is in discussion with local officials and Community Board 7 for future development. Council Member Pierina Sanchez is giving 20% of the participatory budget to the community. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 14 informational forum video in link in english, and link in spanish. This week: Wednesday, January 26th, Burnside Avenue 4 Train Station, Southwest Entrance, the Office of Council Member Sanchez will be handing out flyers and taking ideas from neighbors! Saturday, January 29th, Front of C-Town Supermarket, 2891 Sedgwick Ave, Bronx, NY 10468, the Office of Council Member Sanchez will be handing out flyers and taking ideas from neighbors! You can volunteer and submit ideas for the Council Member using this link.
- 4. Assemblymember Nathalia Fernandez: The state legislature is working towards legislation for illegal firearms to combat gun violence. Combating Gun violence in our community legislation S.14A/A.613A Enacts Jose Webster Untraceable Firearms Act; Criminalizes the Sale of Ghost Guns and Requires Gunsmiths to Register Firearms and Unfinished Frames or Receivers They AssembleLegislation S.13A/A.2666A Enacts Scott J. Beigel Unfinished Receiver Act; Prohibits Possession and Sale of Unfinished Frames or ReceiversLegislation S.7152/A.6522 Amends Definition of 'Disguised Gun' to Include Weapons Designed to Appear as Toys. The Assembly District Office will





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be offering tax prep to constituents. If anyone has any constituent matters or any inquiry you can contact <u>guerreroo@nyassembly.gov</u>. Free Covid Testing at office location until February 11th. The office will be open to walk-ins and appointments in February on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

- **5. Assemblymember Dinowitz:** The absentee ballot legislation has been approved, you can now sign up for an <u>absentee ballot</u>.
- **6. Assembly Member Jose Rivera:** The Assemblymember's office is now open to the public by appointment. A tenant assistant program is in the office as well.
- 7. Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia Representative Leon Tulton: Their office hours are Monday and Wednesday 11am-7pm and Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9pm-5pm. They are located at 2175 Jerome Avenue, Suite C, Bronx, NY 10453. The office number is 718-933-6909 and Leon's email address is TULTONL@NYASSEMBLY.GOV.
- Bronx District Attorney Representative Erica Diaz: Held a gun buyback in December to combat gun violence. Erika Diaz Office of the District Attorney 's <u>Officediazer@bronxda.nyc.gov</u> (929)361-7273.
- 9. Senator Alessandra Biaggi: ERAP is reopened. The federal government will be giving away 4 covid kits per family. Members of the community can contact their office by calling (718) 822-2049 or emailing constituents arvices @senatorbiaggi.com

constituent services @senatorbiaggi.com.

- 10. **Senator Gustavo Rivera Representative Rachel Ferrari:** The NYS Eviction Moratorium expired on January 15th. The Homeowners Assistance Fund is open till February 4th 2022.
- **B. Agencies/General Public**





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- Mahnoor Jaura ICNA Relief: Mahnoor Jaura, ICNA Relief Community Health Worker can be reached via email <u>Mahnoor.Jaura@ICNARelief.org</u> or by phone 914-863-1649. If any community organization, housing complex, place of worship, community center or local institution needs help getting local residents vaccinated and tested, they can reach out. They have local partners able to do pop up clinics.
- 2. BRAG Group Representative Michael Rodriguez: Offering resources and support to members of the community regarding gun violence. They are currently working with the mayor to improve gun violence. Office is located on 1 east Fordham road 2nd flr. Brag website. Michael Rodriguez contact information is 1-646-937-3754 and Michael\_rodriguez@goodshepherds.org.
- IV. Closing of the public session
- V. Meeting called to order by the Chairperson
- VI. DM Updates:

### A. Update on neighboring community fire at 388 East 181<sup>st</sup> Street:

- For more information and resources, visit <u>https://on.nyc.gov/bronxfire</u> or call 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115).
- 2. The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City announced the launch of the <u>Bronx Fire Relief Fund</u> to support those affected by the recent apartment building fire in the Bronx. Those impacted by the fire on January 9th face a variety of associated costs. The Bronx Fire Relief Fund will provide them with financial relief as they recover and rebuild. 100% of donations will go directly towards supporting families impacted.
- **B. COVID Testing sites in the Bronx:**





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- 1. <u>Click to find a testing site near you</u>, or text "COVID TEST" to 855-48.
- 2. You can get a free at-home COVID-19 test mailed to your home.
- 3. Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. <u>Click here to order</u>.
- 4. At-home testing for COVID-19 is now available to all immunocompromised New Yorkers and those ages 65 and older. To schedule an in-home appointment, call (929) 298-9400 between 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM (7 days a week).
- 5. All New Yorkers should get tested now, whether or not you have symptoms or are at increased risk. Your COVID-19 diagnostic test may be conducted using a nasal swab, oral swab, or saliva sample.

### C. Winter Weather guidance

1. <u>PlowNYC</u> is to allow the public to: (1) track the progress of DSNY spreader/plow vehicles; and (2) confirm the snow designation of City streets.

### D. The most up-to-date guidance on the Evictions Moratorium:

1. The EmergencyRental Assistance Program and Illegal Lockouts can be found on the <u>Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants (MOPT)</u> <u>COVID-19 FAQ.</u>

#### E. Community Updates:

- 1. January 19, 2022 at 6:45pm Officers responded to a call at E.198 street and Bainbridge avenue and discovered a 11month female shot once in the face. The Victim was removed to St Barnabas hospital and then transported to Cornell Hospital for further treatment. The 11 month old is in critical but stable condition. The 52pct Detective squad is currently investigating this shooting.
- F. We are getting a Stabilization Bed Facility at 2287 University Avenue





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- 1. Capacity/population: 59 Single Adults
- 2. Nonprofit service provider: Acacia
- 3. This location has been previously utilized to provide shelter to adult families without minor children.
- 4. Stabilization bed facilities provide specialized services in transitional housing settings and serve as an important step towards helping individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness accept services and transition off the streets. These locations are equipped with on-site resources, including health and mental health services, and compassionate staff who work closely with these New Yorkers to build the trust and relationships needed to help them stabilize their lives. These facilities are a vital tool for outreach teams when engaging unsheltered New Yorkers, providing a low-barrier housing option to a population that may not be ready for or may not be best served by more traditional transitional housing settings.

### G. Kingsbridge Underpass

- 1. Update: MTA has denied the closure of the other side where the entrance to the train is located. We will continue to push for the temporary closure in order to provide the local residents a better quality of life while still providing health services to those individuals who may have been using the underpass to sell or use illegal substances.
- H. JOB FAIR: CAMBA with our partnership will be hosting a job fair on Wednesday, January 26th at 9:30 AM at 266 East 203rd Street across the street from the project's development <u>https://camba.org/careers/current-openings/</u>

### I. Bronx Community Board Applications: https://bronxboropres.nyc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-New-CB-Membership-Application.pdf





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- VII. Chair Report: With the given issues of crime, it is important for us to continue to build relationships with the NCO's and give information we may have when needed. The Kingsbridge Armory has been a pillar in our community, the community has given the chance to provide feedback to our council members to adhere to the communities needs.
- VIII. Attendance (Roll Call) by Secretary
  - IX. Review of Previous Month's Minutes
    - A. Last month's minutes have been approved
  - X. Motion (s): From the Executive Committee
    - A. The Code of Conduct for all meetings has been approved.
      - 1. Bronx Community Board 7 has the right to remove and or ask a member of the public to leave a meeting or block participation of anyone who engages in inappropriate conduct, including but not limited to obscene or offensive images or language, personal attacks, threats, or any other behavior that reasonably impedes the orderly administration of the meeting. The above clause includes the use of the chat function via teleconference.

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- B. New Chair for Education, Youth and Libraries Leurys Acosta has been approved.
- XI. Board Chairperson called on Committee Chairs for updates (if applicable)





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- **A. Environment and Sanitation Betty Arce:** The Department of Sanitation gave updates at the last committee meeting.
- **B. Education, Youth & Libraries Leurys Acosta**
- **C. Traffic & Transportation Edgar Ramos:** The next meeting will be February 3rd. There will be presentations from the MTA at the next meeting.
- **D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development Erick Ascensio:** A presentation will take place for the stabilization beds that will be coming into the district and from good urban design at the next committee meeting.
- **E. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Barbara Stronczer:** Discussed the issues regarding unsheltered persons in our parks. St. James Recreation Center is still closed due to the storms that occurred in the fall. The WilliamsBridge Oval Recreation Center is open.
- F. Public Safety & Quality of Life Victor Saldana: <u>NYPD 52nd</u> <u>Precinct Latest Update</u>. FDNY is providing fire safety education. Anyone in the community can reach out to Richard Velez, FDNY CAU 718-999-1436 | richard.velez@fdny.nyc.gov to schedule fire safety education for yourself/ building/community.
- G. Health & Human Services Michelle Avila: Had a presentation from <u>Reserve Health Initiatives</u>.
- H. Veterans Affairs Chad Y. Royer: Guest speaker Ashton Stewart from <u>SageVets</u> presented support and partnerships available for LGBTQ veterans over the age of 50. It was also hinted that Fordham Village and Kingsbridge Terrace were not
- I. Budget, Personnel & Ethics Andrew Laiosa
- XII. Next meeting date: March 22, 2022
- XIII. Adjournment