

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON., BOROUGH PRESIDENT YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	January 16, 2025
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	<u>The Bedford's Community Room</u> 211 East 203rd Street, Bronx, NY 10458
Members In Attendance:	✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Yajaira Arias ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Michelle Avila ✓ Edgar Ramos ✓ Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky
Minutes done by:	Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky

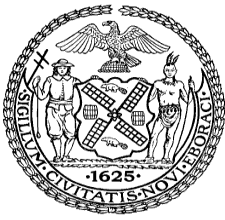
Minutes:

- I. Guidelines and Code of Conduct were read
- I. Introductions/Attendance - Quorum Met
- II. Review of previous minutes - Minutes were approved
- III. Follow-up from previous month -
 - A. Chair Yajaira Arias followed up on the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, which may meet 2-3 times for the purpose of reviewing attendance.
 1. Board Member Betty Arce asked if the meetings for the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee could be virtual. The District Manager said that all board business must be discussed fully in person.
 2. Betty Arce asked if the full bylaws will be discussed. The Chair responded that only certain sections will be worked on.
- IV. District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera Updates
 - A. The NYC Department of City Planning is about to release the "Our Statement of Needs and Budget Requests" document.
 - B. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Review Hearing on the Kingsbridge Armory is on February 11, 2025 at 11 am.

THIS MEETING'S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

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- C. We are working with the Economic Development Corporation team to schedule a Kingsbridge Armory Site visit.
- D. For complaints that have not been addressed contact Karla at the beginning of the month so it can be raised at the monthly District Services Cabinet Meeting. The meeting is on the 2nd Thursday from 10:00am-11:30am.
- E. Each agency has their own preferred method of communication. DHS likes 311 calls.
- F. It was reported that a sweeper had to go on the sidewalk because of the traffic, so the City Council has introduced a bill (Int. 0764-2024) which required the installation of cameras on street sweepers to photograph and report parking, stopping or standing violations, like the buses have.

V. Chair Yajaira Arias Remarks

- A. The Kingsbridge Armory residential component was a surprise, and we expect feedback from the public.
- B. Congestion pricing went into effect and the city has been reporting that it is going well.
- C. On January 29th at 3:30PM, Senator Robert Jackson is presenting an award to her for her community work as Board Chair. Ms. Arias would like board members to join her in receiving the award. Invite to follow.
- D. Chairperson Arias reminded the group that the centennial for the Veteran's Bronx Victory Memorial on Mosholu Parkway is in November 2025.
- E. May 2025 was suggested but no date was agreed on. Anthony Rivieccio, community member, suggested that the Board consider having the 100 year anniversary on Memorial Day or during Bronx Week.

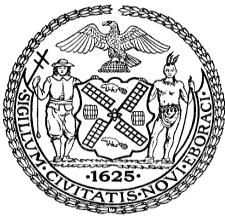
VI. Motion(s):

- A. **Barbara Stronczer, Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs Committee, made a motion to** Send a letter of support to the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation to temporarily convert two tennis courts to Pickleball courts at Williamsbridge Oval (<https://bit.ly/4gOA8CD>).
 - 1. Michelle Avila seconded the motion.
 - 2. Discussion:
 - a) A group is already playing Pickleball in the morning.

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- b) This motion is considered “temporary” in case Pickleball is no longer popular, and it can be converted back to tennis or whatever else becomes popular.
- c) Converting to Pickleball does not require too much expense.
- d) Ms. Arce noted that the document should read, under action: “A letter of support for the “conversion..., it was phrased differently, Ms. Stronczer agreed.
- e) Motion passed unanimously with 7 approvals.

B. Yajaira Arias, Housing, Land Use & Economic Development, made a motion to Send a letter of support to Sinergia, Inc. in support of relocating three female residents from their current Home Street site to a 24-hour supervised Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA) at 227 East 204th Street, Bronx, New York 10458 (<https://bit.ly/40AHJPr>).

- 1. Michelle Avila Seconded the motion.
- 2. Discussion:
 - a) The apartment is for three women, with three bedrooms. They are currently living together at another location.
 - b) The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) wanted to let CB7 know about this move, and they wanted our approval. This is something new they are doing.
 - c) After some discussion, all positive, about the motion; the vote passed unanimously, with 7 approvals.

VII. Committee Reports

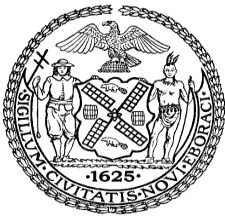
A. Environment and Sanitation – Betty Arce

- 1. The meeting was canceled and they are hoping to host a webinar in February/March.
- 2. The chair reported frustration with limited representation from DSNY at the meetings; homeowners (renters) are not keeping their areas clean.

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3. The Mosholu Preservation Corp (MPC) is not cleaning their garbage pails and businesses may be fined for not cleaning up but most of them are renters, so it has little impact.
4. The Executive Board discussed use of webinars as a form of outreach and education. Ms. Avila suggested setting up a committee to explore use of webinars.

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. Committee did not meet.

C. Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos

1. Meeting was canceled because there was no quorum. Next meeting is on February.

D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Yajaira Arias

1. On February 11, 2025, a public hearing will be held on the Kingsbridge Armory.
2. Committee voted on Motion B, re: approval of an apartment rented out by Sinergia, Inc.

E. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. The Norwood Community Library will be invited to the 2025 Tree Lighting Ceremony. They supplied free books to the community at last year's Tree Lighting Ceremony and the community loved it.
2. The Tree lighting was a great success. Due to the long lines, next year there will be two tables for the hot chocolate.
3. Ms. Tasha Andrews, Board Member, came to the meeting to inquire about getting a bench for her partner who passed away. He was a beloved member of the community, who was called "Coach." Ms. Stronczer said it was through the Adopt a Bench Program and Councilmember Dinowitz will be asked to sponsor the bench.

F. Public Safety & Quality of Life – Vacant

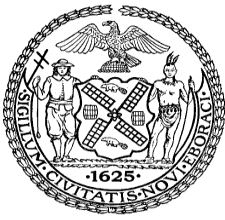
G. Health & Human Services – Michelle Avila

1. On January 21st at 6:30pm, Montefiore will be doing a webinar with the committee. No board business can be done and no voting can take place either.

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2. The webinar will be on the conditions in the Emergency Room (ER). Nurses, Union Reps, ER Staff, Patient Reps and Doctors will all be presenting at the meeting .

H. Veterans Affairs – Vacant

I. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill

1. January 16, 2025 was the date the attendance violation letters were due (20 days) for a response. Not all members responded to the letter.
2. A discussion was held on the history, reasons, pros and cons of not counting any absences as excused. This topic will be included when the AD Hoc committee meets.
3. A question and concern was on the number of term limited board members were asked. It is anticipated there will be 15 members who will be term limited next fall.

VIII. Next Meeting date: February, 20, 2025

IX. Discussion on Next Agenda

- A. Ad Hoc By-Laws
- B. Attendance letters
- C. Possible use of webinars via Zoom
- D. Date for the Centennial of the Bronx Victory Memorial

X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michele Avila and seconded by Yajaira Arias. Meeting ended by 8:10PM.