



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



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

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

Chair:	Betty Arce
Meeting Date:	January 4, 2022
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members In Attendance:	✓ Betty Arce ✓ Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky ✓ Jean Hill __ Rosalie Leslie __ Gwendolyn Thomas-Steed
Minutes done by:	Betty Arce

Minutes:

- I. Meeting Guidelines**
- II. Introductions**
 - A. Attendance taken**
- III. Review of Previous Minutes**
 - A. Minutes approved by helen Hartman-Kutnowsky; seconded by Jean Hill**
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month (If applicable)**
- V. New Business**
 - A. DSNY Updates by Stephen Caruso**
 - 1. Preparations for impending snow - pretreatment with salt as a preventative measure**
 - a) Property owners should clear sidewalks after a snow event, otherwise may face fines
 - b) Track plowing & spreaders – PlowNYC
 - c) Hiring for snow laborers to work – starting at \$17/hr.
More info: [DSNY website](#)
 - 2. Food scraps – Smart Bins have been deployed in lower Manhattan & Astoria Queens (none in CB 7 yet)**



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- (1) App with login that will unlock the bin
- (2) Alternative to organic curbside collection
 - (a) <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/resources/press-releases/nyc-department-of-sanitation-installs-smart-bins-for-compost-in-astori>
 - (b) <https://gothamist.com/news/nyc-compost-smart-bins>
 - (c) <https://www.smartcompost.nyc>
- (3) Food scraps drop off sites
 - (a) <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/services/food-scrap-and-yard-waste-page/nyc-food-scrap-drop-off-locations>
3. Staff shortages due to COVID – at least 20% are out ill at any given time. Therefore the public is asked to be patient regarding delays in garbage collection, and addressing any sanitation issues
4. Weather permitting, DSNY will collect clean Christmas trees starting on Thursday, January 6, 2022 through Saturday, January 15, 2022.
5. Jean Hill raised the issue of some areas that are covered by different agencies and getting problems resolved. DM clarified that intra-agency issues are covered at monthly borough meetings she attends. Requested that committee members should forward their concerns with details to her.
6. Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky asked for follow up on signing up for organic curbside collection. Information will be sent from prior presentation



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7. **Question regarding the personal items of an unsheltered individual living under the underpass at Webster near 52nd precinct - DHS takes lead by engaging the individual first to provide services; and determining what is considered personal property vs trash. DSNY will only clean up what is deemed as trash**
8. **Clarification on missed collection – trash should be left out for DSNY to collect as quickly as possible**

B. DEP Updates by Effie Ardizzone

1. **Proposed amendment to provide relief to small businesses that would include reducing penalties for DEP violations, among several city agencies.**
2. **Noise Code Penalty Amendment**
 - a) **Public hearing will be held on January 26, 2022**
3. **Cleaning of catch basins**
4. **Inspection of fire hydrants – FDNY inspects all hydrants every spring and fall**
5. **Hydrant locks – no new plans to install custodian locks**

VI. Next Meeting Date: February 1, 2022

VII. Discussion on Next Agenda TBD

VIII. Adjournment