

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON

VACANT, DISTRICT MANAGER

HOUSING, LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair:	Erick Ascensio
Meeting Date:	April 11, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Meeting Recording:	https://youtu.be/DQJMbYSZiTk
Members	✓ Erick Ascensio ✓ Myrna Calderon ✓ Sandra Erickson
In Attendance:	 ✓ Edgar Ramos _ Mahbubur Jewel _ ✓ Helene Redd ✓ Barbara Stronczer
Minutes done by:	Erick Ascensio

Minutes: (please click on active links for more information)

- I. The meeting started at 6:35 PM by reading the Meeting Guidelines.
- II. Attendance was taken by the chairperson.
- III. The committee reviewed the previous minutes from March 14, 2023 and approved them as presented.
- IV. Follow-up from previous months
 - A. **Fordham Landing:** 320 West Fordham Road presentation postponed to the month of May.
 - B. **2880 Jerome Avenue:** Project Renewal provides a six-month construction update. They stated that excavation of the site has been completed and foundation work is ongoing. The construction team expects to be off the ground in the next few months. The GC has obtained permanent power and the use of a generator for ongoing field work is no longer necessary.

C. CHV 202nd & 203rd Street:

- 1. CAMBA Housing Ventures has informed the Board that The Bronx Grove's is looking to fulfill several job openings. There will be multiple hires for each position featured below and they are now up on CAMBA's website.
- 2. The Bronx Grove: Security Guard (LINK LISTING)



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- 3. The Bronx Grove: CAMBA Case Manager (LINK LISTING)
- 4. The Bronx Grove: Program Manager (LINK LISTING)
- D. For other jobs available in the buildings please go to www.camba.org/careers

V. **New Business**

A. Kingsbridge Armory

- 1. EDC presented a synthesis of the findings from the community workshop 3 held on March 18, 2023, at Lehman College. Inder from EDC explained that the latest workshop focused on how priority uses maximize economic and community benefits.
 - a) The main idea is that the users should not compete.
 - b) "Build here, sell here" (revenue/ownership)
 - c) The Armory should benefit all age groups.
 - d) "All uses should be interconnected and work together."
- 2. Main anchor tenant to help offset the cost of maintaining the Armory. Such as companies that do sustainable manufacturing and Film and TV production.
- 3. Complementary community uses:
 - a) Training and education.
 - b) Retail and entertainment.
 - c) Community gathering and organizing.
 - d) Cultural attractions.
 - e) Recreation and fitness.
- 4. Drill hall tours are available.
- 5. Resident Workshop (4/26) in conjunction with the council member office.
- 6. Working Group (CWG) meeting on 5/10.
- 7. The RFP is tentatively going to be put out by September 2023.
- 8. More information can be found at https://kingsbridgetogether.com

B. Presentation from Girls Prep Bronx II @ 263 East 203rd Street:



BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



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- 1. Public Prep is a network of single-gender charter schools with schools currently in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. In addition, Girls Prep Bronx I on Kelly Street and a Middle School on Cauldwell Street.
- 2. Boys Prep at 151st Street is where students for Girls Prep Bronx II are currently taking classes.
- 3. Currently serving about 1,885 scholars of which 117 are Pre-Prep students.
- 4. The building at 263 E 203rd St is expected to open in Fall 2024 with grades PK to 4th grade. Full capacity is expected as the school expands to grade 8.
- 5. The committee expressed concern about transportation and commuting of the students from the current location to the new building. As well the narrowness of the street for school buses.
- 6. Public Prep will lease the building from the developer.
- 7. The committee overall approves the addition of the school to the neighborhood.
- C. **Financial Institutions:** Committee Vice Chair Sandra Erickson presented about the recent economic fallout of banking institutions such as Silicon Valley and Signature banks and what the implications of existing mortgages held by the bank being sold by the FDIC to other institutions. About 479 Bronx buildings (20,000 Bronx residents) had mortgages with Signature bank.
- D. **FDNY:** Chairperson shared a flyer with guidance from FDNY in regards to e-bikes batteries and the importance of using the correct and approved charges to prevent fires.

E. HPD Updates: No updates

F. DOB Updates: No updates

G. DCP Updates: No updates

H. CCHR Updates: No updates

VI. Next meeting date: May 9th, 2023



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- VII. Discussion on next agenda
 - A. Fordham Landing South
 - B. Kingsbridge Armory
 - C. Former Sam's Carpet site.
 - D. Illegal Cannabis stores in the district and information session.
- VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was closed at 7:45 PM.