



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



VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

## GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Yajaira Arias</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>October 24, 2023</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Monroe College's King Hall - Mintz Auditorium</a></u> <b>2501 Jerome Ave, Bronx, NY 10468</b></b>
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Ruth D. Caraballo</b>

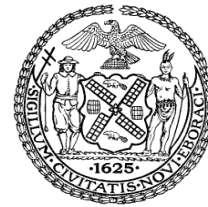
**Minutes:**

- I. Meeting Guidelines & Code of Conduct read by the District Manager (DM), Karla Cabrera Carrera**
- II. Public Hearing facilitated by the DM**
  - A. Mayor's office- Alina Dowe**
    - 1. Encouraged everyone to use 311 for any complaints
    - 2. CityFHEPS voucher can now be used outside of NYC
    - 3. Awards Jean Hill with Pillar of the Community Award
  - B. NYC Public Advocate's Office- Not Present**
  - C. NYC Comptroller's office- Not Present**
  - D. Bronx Borough President's office- Kenny Agosto**
    - 1. Domestic Violence (DV) events to raise awareness about DV and which people are most affected
    - 2. Fentanyl Crisis
      - a) The Borough President's office is working with the mayor and the precincts to address the fentanyl crisis
  - E. Bronx District Attorney's office-Trevon Blondet**
    - 1. The DA's office is holding court tours starting on November
    - 2. Mock Trials will be starting in March. More details to come

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## **F. 52nd Precinct-Officer Echevarria**

1. He discussed the 28 day period statistics
2. Encouraged the public to go to shredding events to avoid identity theft

## **G. NY State Senator Gustavo Rivera**

1. October 26 shredding event with Assembly Member Zacarro
2. Free Housing legal services at his office

## **H. NY State Senator Robert Jackson**

1. His new district includes parts of the Bronx so him and his team are going around the neighborhood to learn more about the issues affecting the community

## **I. Assembly member George Alvarez**

1. Senior Night Out on October 26 at Kingsbridge
2. He is inviting the community to his weekly Community Conversations where he listens to constituents talk about the concerns happening in the district
3. At the overpass in Kingsbridge, he is working with DOT and MTA to try to close the gate, so that the homeless people who are sleeping and using drugs there can leave

## **J. Assemblymember Jeffrey Dinowitz**

1. The Assembly Member reminded people about the upcoming election on November and to go out and vote
2. Upcoming shredding event at his office on October 29

## **K. Assembly Member John Zaccaro Jr.'s Office - Evan Weinberg**

1. The Assembly Member is hosting a Cannabis Townhall with the Office of Cannabis Management and the Sheriff's Department

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2. His team did a park clean up in Pelham Parkway and collected 17 bags of litter

**L. Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia's Office- Not Present**

**M. Council Member Oswald Feliz's Office - *George Cooke***

1. There is a Immigration lawyer available on Tuesdays-by appointments only
2. On November 11, there will be a Turkey Giveaway with more info to come

**N. Council Member Pierina Sanchez**

1. She is working with agencies and her elected colleagues in the state to uncover the issues that occurred in the daycare center, where an one-year old overdosed
2. The governor and the mayor announced a \$200 million investment for the Kingsbridge Armory redevelopment.
  - a) In the months to follow, organizations will bid for the armory, but they will have to take into account what the community wants.
  - b) The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) will announce the winners of the bid in due time
3. She will hold oversight hearings on HPD's preparedness for the upcoming winter season

**O. Council Member Eric Dinowitz's Office- Crystal Diaz**

1. October 26 at 10 am- Dewitt Clinton Pool's Ribbon Cutting
2. Turkey giveaway at Tracey Towers on November 16

**P. Armando Ramos - Constituent**

1. Remind the board members about their responsibilities and ethical guidelines

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## **Q. Leurys Acosta - Board Member**

1. Encouraged the public to sign up for Dolly Parton Imagination Libraries where families can receive free books for their children.

## **R. Jane Addison - Mosholu Library**

1. She spoke about the various services that the library is offering

## **III. District Manager's Updates**

- A. Bronx CB7 will be hosting a Participatory Budgeting Session on Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 11 am to 1 pm at Parts of The Solution (POTS) office. Address: 2450 Grand Concourse. Please refer to the flyer in your packets to RSVP.
- B. Saturday, October 28th is the last day to register to vote in the general election and also the first day of early voting.
  1. Sunday, November 5th is the last day of early voting
  2. Tuesday, November 7th is Election Day.
  3. Learn more at [www.nycvotes.org](http://www.nycvotes.org)
- C. We have DSNY brown bags for pick up at the office. To schedule a pick up, contact my colleague, Steven at 929-496-7657.
- D. The office is open for in person services Monday-Thursday from 10 am to 4pm, and remotely Monday-Friday 9 am to 4pm. The office will be closed for in person and remote services on Nov 7th, 10th, & 23rd.
- E. Stay up to date with our notices and newsletters via Instagram and Facebook.

## **IV. Chairperson Remarks**

- A. Encourages board members to take Civic Engagement Trainings
- B. Dewitt Clinton Pool is now open for use
- C. Fire safety awareness as the weather gets colder

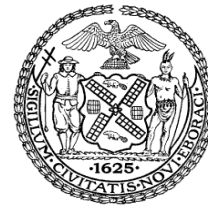
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D. November 3, 2023, Flashback Throwback on Skating Rink here at Monroe College

- V. Attendance (Roll Call) by Secretary:** Quorum was met
- VI. Review of Previous Month's Minutes:** Tabled for a future meeting
- VII. Motions**
- A. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Motion- Have the Aqueduct Walk become a Historical Landmark**
1. Motion was seconded for a vote from Michelle Avila where the board voted unanimously in favor
- B. Fiscal Year 2025 for Bronx Community Board 7 Capital and Expense Capital Requests**
1. Motion was seconded for a vote from Barbara Stronczer where the board voted in favor with one abstention
- VIII. Committee Reports**
- A. Environment and Sanitation – Betty Arce**
1. Next meeting is on November 6
- B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosa**
1. The committee met the new manager at the Bronx Library Center
  2. The next meeting date is on November 14
- C. Traffic & Transportation – Daisy Perry on behalf of Edgar Ramos**
1. They held their meeting on October 5 to discuss the 2023 meter increase rates and traffic concerns around the district
  2. Next meeting is on November 2nd
- D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Sandra Eirckson, on behalf of Erick Ascensio**
1. The Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition did a presentation on the Kingsbridge Armory

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a) Council Member Sanchez was present at the meeting to thank the board members for their input

2. Cesar Delgado from the Department of City Planning discussed the zoning amendments for the “City of Economic Development” initiative and requested to present at the November Meeting.

## **E. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer**

1. Maintenance issues and garbage around the parks
2. The annual Tree Lighting ceremony is set to be held on December with more details to come at next month’s community board meeting

## **F. Public Safety & Quality of Life – Samantha Souvatzis**

1. The chair is not present, so the public can read September’s meeting minutes in the agenda packet

## **G. Health & Human Services – Michelle Avila**

1. The cannabis retail application licenses opened in October and the DM and committee are working with the Office of Cannabis Management to set up guidelines for any retailers who want to apply for a license
2. There will be a public hearing on Nov 14 for those applicants and anyone from the community is invited to ask questions to the applicants

## **H. Veterans Affairs – Chad Y. Royer**

1. The Committee went over the COMPACT Act, which goes over mental health services for Veterans
2. Bronx CB7 Flagging Memorial is on Nov 18 and Chad is inviting the community to attend the event

## **I. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill**

1. The committee had a public hearing earlier in the day to go through capital and expense budget requests

## **IX. Motion to close board business**

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A. Motion was passed to close the board business and open discussion for the public

B. A resident asked about the fire incident that occurred in the district

**X. Next meeting date:** November 28, 2023 at 6:30 pm. Location: TBA

**XI. Meeting was adjourned.**

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