



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

- A. The chair attended the SOMOS conference in Puerto Rico
- B. There are budget cuts being hit across city agencies per the Mayor’s orders. These cuts may affect the Community Boards’ FY25 capital and expense budget requests.
- C. The CB7 veterans flagging memorial and tree lighting ceremony are coming soon and she is inviting the board to these events

VI. Motion(s) -

A. Public Safety and Quality of Life (<https://bit.ly/3sB9M2T>):

Send a letter of Support in favor of the City Council to move the introduction of this bill (Intro 758 2022) from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to the full City Council to vote in favor.

1. The motion was read and seconded by Barbara Stronczer; discussion followed:

a) How would this law, if passed, be implemented?

- (1) Once this law passes city council, it will then head to the state where it will be voted upon there.
- (2) Drivers of electric scooters and bikes will need to be licensed and insured to keep driving or else they will face financial penalties

b) After discussion, the motion was then voted and carried by a vote of 5 yeses to 1 no.

B. Housing, Land Use, & Economic Development (<https://bit.ly/40Jxirl>):

Send a letter of support to the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) in favor of the proposed zoning amendments pertaining to *City of Yes for Economic Opportunity Text Amendment (N 240010 and N 240011 ZRY)*, with the following comments:



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Proposed Zoning Amendment #5- Upper floor commercial- Must be business specific & in coordination with related agencies.

Proposed Zoning Amendment #9 -Nightlife- This needs to be in a commercial corridor, include soundproofing, regulate the size & in coordination with related agencies.

Proposed Zoning Amendment #11- Home Occupations – The business needs to be duly licensed & in coordination with related agencies.

1. The motion was read and seconded by Jean Hill; discussion followed:

a) How would entrepreneurs be able to start a business if the cost to lease a space is so high?

(1) The current zoning laws are archaic and do not represent the city in the 21st century. Therefore, these amendments will make it easier for entrepreneurs and other business owners to occupy various spaces, including their apartments, to start a business without having to go through so much bureaucracy

(2) This initiative is under Mayor's Adams ' City of Yes, where he wants to have more entrepreneurs so that there is economic growth.

2. After discussion, the motion was then voted and carried by a vote of 5 yeases to 1 no.

C. **Veterans Affairs** (<https://bit.ly/3sBHqFJ>): Send a letter to the City Council to request that the NYC Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) adds a Veterans preference percentage to their Housing Connect Portal, collect aggregate data on housing units allocated to veterans, and retroactively take into account applicants who previously applied for an apartment on Housing Connect.

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: KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV ♦ WEBSITE: WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7



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1. The motion was read and seconded by Chad Royer; discussion followed:
2. Is there really no veterans preference in the Housing Connect portal?
 - a) Although there are developments that allocate a certain number of apartments for veterans, there have been instances where veterans who have applied to housing via Housing Connect have never gotten their applications expedited or accepted
 - b) Therefore, what this motion will do is it easier for veterans to have an increase chance to get housing just like any other applicant who gets preference, such as those with disabilities
3. After discussion, the motion was then voted and carried unanimously.
6 yeases to 0 no's.

VII. New Business:

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill

1. The committee is meeting next Monday at Tracey Towers to talk about the internal budget
2. Jean will not be present for the December General Board meeting

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. The Mexican Institute at Lehman College and Oyate Group did a presentation to speak about the various resources offered to the community
2. The next committee meeting is on December 12
3. Leurys will not be present for general board meeting in December and January

C. Environment and Sanitation – Betty Arce

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1. Steve Caruso from Sanitation will be coming back to their meetings
2. Effie Ardizonne from DEP attended to present and give materials about water safety
3. Next meeting is on January 2

D. Health & Human Services – Chad Royer on behalf of Michelle Avila

1. They will meet next Tuesday

E. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Barbara Stronczer

1. DCP did a presentation on the **City of Yes** and the committee provided a letter of support which was discussed tonight

F. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Gregory Haber, Deputy Director of Bronx Forestry attended and gave a presentation about planting trees in the city
2. The chair is inviting everyone to the Tree lighting on December 7

G. Public Safety & Quality of Life – N/A

1. The chair was not present, but the board voted on the motion

H. Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos speaking on Behalf of Daisy Perry

1. Transit Bureau District 11 brought their NCOs and discussed about transit safety and gave out their cards
2. Edgar wants to bring the NCOs to the general board so they can present themselves to the public

I. Veterans Affairs – Chad Royer

1. The new fiscal year started on Oct 1st and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) requested a 5.4 percent increase to their budgets for a total amount of \$32.5 billion. That new amount will allow the VA to continue to provide care for veterans



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2. The VA is making a push to reach out to many veterans as they can
3. The second annual flagging ceremony is Saturday, November 18 and Chad is inviting everyone to this event

IX. Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)

X. Next meeting Dates:

A. Thursday, December 14, 2023

XI. Discussion on Next Month's Agenda

A. Chad raised an issue about a van being parked on East 205th street that has been there for a long time.

1. The DM followed up with the DOT and DOT said as long as they have a license plate, then there is not much they can do. The DM will reach out to PD, and advise the constituent to contact 311 if the van does not move for DSNY's street sweeper.

B. Some members suggested bringing back zoom meetings to raise attendance.

1. The DM and Chair both said the current Open Meeting Law does not allow for that to be an option.

XII. Meeting is adjourned

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