



**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

Chair:	Yajaira Arias
Meeting Date:	November 28, 2023
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	P.S. 246 Poe Center 2641 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10468
Minutes done by:	Ruth D. Caraballo

Minutes:

- I. Meeting Guidelines & Code of Conduct read by District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera**

- II. Public Hearing facilitated by District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera**
 - A. Mayor's office- Alina Dowe**
 - 1. She reminded the audience of the 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. Gave over 2,000 turkeys for the Thanksgiving holiday
 - 2. Hosting a public hearing on City of Yes on Wednesday, November 29 at 2pm online
 - 3. Tree Lighting Winter Event and Menorah events in December
 - E. Bronx District Attorney's office - Trevon Blondet**
 - 1. Her office is hosting a Coat Drive. Anyone who wants to drop used coats can drop it off at the DA's office
 - 2. A Re-Entry Fair focused on job readiness on January 30th for any formerly incarcerated individuals

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3. Court Tours - Anyone who is interested in taking a tour around the Bronx Courts can contact him

F. 52nd Precinct-Officer Echevarria

1. He discussed the 28 day period statistics
2. This Thursday will be the public safety town hall with CB7
3. Toy Drive with CB7

G. Congress Member Ritchie Torres - Ron Jordan

1. He left flyers on the table on the resources and events the Congress Member is hosting

H. NY State Senator Gustavo Rivera - Sari Mendoza

1. Free Housing and immigration services at his office
2. She left resources are on the table

I. NY State Senator Robert Jackson - Cary Figueroa

1. A Civil Service career fair on December 19 at Bronx Community College

J. Assembly member George Alvarez -

1. Their office did a community cleanup earlier this month on Webster avenue on 194th and 195th street
2. 1st Dominican Book fair that his office held with Lehman College
3. Turkey distributions where 1,000 families were fed

K. Assemblymember Jeffrey Dinowitz

1. The elected official gave his report to the community
2. Gave a financial allocation update: 20 million given to Mosholu Montefiore Community Center and 9 thousand to the Mosholu Preservation Corporation.

L. Assembly Member John Zaccaro Jr

1. The elected official gave his report to the community

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2. Introduced two bills on e-scooters and e-bikes that would require statewide registration, and safety training to motorists.

M. Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia's Office- Not Present

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

1. Office hosted a Turkey giveaway on Tuesday, November 21st
2. Immigration lawyer in his office by appointment only

O. Council Member Pierina Sanchez - *Adrian Cacho*

1. Public Safety town hall with 52nd precinct and CB7
2. Legal and housing services in his office

P. Council Member Eric Dinowitz -

1. The elected official gave his report to the community

Q. Principal Andrea Johnson of PS 246 -

1. She spoke about the current issues she is facing as principal of the school.
 - a) Unsheltered people are overdosing and leaving used needles in the school yard and on school entrances.
 - b) Liquor stores are selling weed and candy together
 - c) She is asking help to the elected officials at the meeting

R. Sirio Guerino - **Constituent**

1. He wanted to thanked those who attended the Flagging Ceremony that honored veterans
2. He spoke about the current issues facing the community, such as drug and needle use

S. Carlos Masach - **Constituent**

1. He spoke about the labor laws in NYS
2. He is looking for a job in the city

T. Armando Ramos - **Constituent**

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1. He spoke to the board on which motions to they should vote for and against for tonight's meeting

U. Rafael Ortega - Constituent

1. Elevated issues around illegal street vending, sanitation issues, fare evasion, loss of respect to authority and general disinvestment by the city to his neighborhood.

V. Kazi Noor - Board Member

1. She spoke about the public drug use and environment and sanitation issues happening around the community
 - a) She made a direct comment to the elected officials regarding the ongoing Palestine and Israel conflict

III. District Manager's Updates

- A. Bronx CB7 hosted the Participatory Budget event where they engaged with 22 participants on ideas on how to improve the community
- B. A 5G tower coming on Marion avenue between East 193 and 194th Street
- 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. Due to time constraints, she apologized to the rest of the public speakers who wanted to speak, but could not.

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- B. She thanked the public and board members for those who attended the Flagging Ceremony event
- C. She thanked the elected officials for the turkey giveaways they hosted
- D. Annual Tree Lighting on December 7th

V. **Attendance (Roll Call) by Chairperson:** Quorum was met

VI. **Review of Previous Month's Minutes:** Barbara Stronczer motioned to approve October 2023 minutes; seconded by Michelle Avila. Minutes were accepted

VII. **Motions**

A. **Public Safety and Quality of Life Motion (<https://bit.ly/3sB9M2T>) - Samantha Souvatzis**

Send a letter of support to the City Council to vote for electric scooters and bikes to be licensed and registered.

- 1. Motion was seconded from Chad Royer.
 - a) There was a disagreement on the framing of the motion. It should not include E-bikes
 - b) After discussion, motion was taken up for a vote
 - (1) Motion passes.

B. **Housing, Land Use and Economic Development**

(<https://bit.ly/40Jxirl>) - Sandra Erickson Send a letter of Support to the Department of City Planning in favor of proposed zoning amendments for City of Yes Economic Development.

- 1. Motion was seconded for a vote from Michelle Avila.
- 2. Discussion was followed where some members expressed concerns how these amendments would affect small businesses who have limited resources and the public's lack of awareness of this project

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- a) A representative from DCP was there where he addressed any misclassifications before a vote was taken
3. The board voted in favor of the motion.

C. Veterans Affairs (<https://bit.ly/3sBHqFJ>) - Chad Royer
Recommend city council to add percentage preference for veterans in the HPD Housing Connect Portal

1. Motion was seconded from Michelle Avila for discussion
 - a) Discussion followed where some members asked who this letter will be addressed to and the HPD Housing Connect application process. Chad responded to those concerns.
2. Motion was taken for a vote where the board voted unanimously in favor

VIII. Committee Reports - <https://www.nyc.gov/site/bronxcb7/index.page>

IX. Motion to close board business

- A. Chairperson decided to close board business and allow members of the public to make any last comments before adjournment
 1. No public comment

X. Next meeting date: December 19, 6:30PM at Serviam Gardens

XI. Meeting was adjourned.

- A. Motion was seconded by Michelle Avila and others to adjourn the meeting. Meeting is adjourned

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