

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



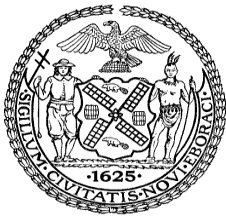
HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON    KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

**VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Chad Y. Royer</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>March 27, 2024</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30PM</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<a href="#"><u>Kittay Houses</u></a> , 2550 Webb Avenue, Bronx, NY 10468
<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Royer <input type="checkbox"/> Emmanuel Asamoah <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Hill <input type="checkbox"/> Bernard Wright <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hugo Gonzalez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tobie Buford
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Chad Royer</b>

**Minutes:**

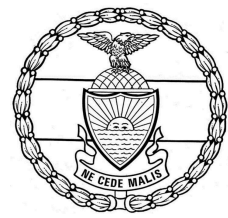
- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting were read**
- II. Introductions/Attendance:** Attendance taken and quorum was met
- III. Review of February 2024 Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed and accepted
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month (If applicable):**
  - A. Fordham Village Update**
    - 1. Bronx Community Board 7's office was asked for a follow up from a recent meeting. Representatives from the Offices of Councilmember Feliz and Assemblymember Alvarez have been working closely with resident Jeff Malone.
    - 2. The dog situation with the loud barking and urination in public areas have improved. The community board is still waiting for a response from Jericho regarding their perspective of the situation and an update on programming for services towards Veterans.
- V. New Business**
  - A. Presentation on Astor Services: Lonnesha Sessoms, MHC-LP**



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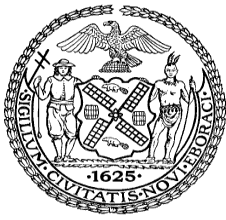
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1. Lonnesha Sessoms talked about Astor services, a non-profit organization that has a Trauma Recovery Center (TRC) where they have outpatient clinics, health home management and case management for patients. The TRC program provides 16 sessions designed to reduce the symptoms of PTSD and the services are free of charge. Each session is about 45 minutes to an hour, and after the 16 sessions, the staff will reassess and see if symptoms are improving.
2. Case management is available for patients who receive therapy. Some requirements include having experienced trauma within the past three years, or a homicide within a lifetime, and being a Bronx resident. TRC also assists patients by reaching out to outside agencies and they provide other services, such as treatment plans and crisis intervention.
3. The locations are 750 Tilden Avenue, Bronx NY 10467 and 1419 Shakespeare Avenue, Bronx NY 10452. TRC also offers tele-health and home visits.
4. For more info, call Jaida Richardson at 718-231-3400 or email at [jrichardson@astorservices.org](mailto:jrichardson@astorservices.org). Their main email is [TraumaRecoveryBX@astorservices.org](mailto:TraumaRecoveryBX@astorservices.org) and website is <http://www.astorservices.org>

#### **B. Jeffrey Hunter Award Conversation**

1. The committee discussed ways to create a criteria for the award. Some of the criteria includes questions or information about Veteran status, years of service and connection within the CB7 district.
2. It was suggested that the committee reach out to former chairs of the Veterans Committee for additional feedback on previous events. The committee can also ask elected officials to sponsor the event by way of our board office.



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#### **C. Community Conversation**

1. The committee continued discussion on how New York City can foster a standardized approach to connect with Veterans and identify their needs. The committee came up with the following recommendation to be directed to the Department of Veterans Services (DVS):
  - a) The committee would like DVS to develop a standardized citywide training program for Veterans so that they can receive wraparound quality services as needed.
  - b) Ellen Greeley of DVS attended a previous meeting and it was suggested that the idea be shared with her.

**VI. Next Meeting Date:** April 17, 2024

**VII. Discussion on Next Agenda:** N/A

**VIII. Adjournment:**

A. Motion to adjourn meeting by Jean Hill, seconded by Hugo Gonzalez.