



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



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON., BOROUGH PRESIDENT LEURYS ACOSTA, CHAIRPERSON KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	November 13, 2025
Meeting Time:	6:30 pm
Meeting Location:	<u>The Bedford's Community Room</u> 211 East 203rd Street, Bronx, NY 10458
Members In Attendance:	✓ Leurys Acosta ✓ Barbara Stronczer __ Robin Rollan ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Momodou Sawaneh ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Chad Royer ✓ Edgar Ramos
Minutes done by:	Betty Arce

Minutes:

- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting**
- II. Introductions/Attendance – Quorum met**
- III. Review of Previous Minutes –**Chad Royer motioned to accept minutes, seconded by Jean Hill. Minutes approved
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Meeting**
 - A. Improper syringe and drug paraphernalia disposal in the district.
 - 1. Discussion on the complaints from the Parks Department about the proliferation of used needles left in St. James Park and other CB7 parks. DM shared stats on the number of needles park staff have collected during a 3-week period in October at St. James (483) and Aqueduct Parks (575). It was the consensus that park staff are not appropriately trained, nor should they be required to collect used needles that are considered biohazard waste. Disposal containers installed in parks have not been used.
 - 2. The used needles are being attributed to the city-sponsored clean needle exchange vans (Boom!) located near St. James and Aqueduct Parks and other CB 7 parks.
 - 3. The committee approved a motion to send a letter to the

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Department of Health requesting the removal of the needle exchange vans from proximity to parks, schools, and libraries in CB 7.

V. District Manager's Update

- A. Reviewing applications for the Community Coordinator position. It is anticipated that a final candidate will be brought to a vote at the December board meeting.
- B. As of 11/3/25, Cristiana Robles, District Coordinator, is working remotely on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- C. Attended a SNAP Benefits Emergency meeting with Sen. Robert Jackson, brainstorming ideas to share food resources with the community
- D. Interview with a Hunter College student interested in learning more about community boards
- E. Future of Community Boards to discuss our websites; Council Transportation Committee Hearing, and other district offices' operations
- F. Planning meeting with Lehman College and Chad Royer for the Veterans' Breakfast
- G. Special luncheon honoring Heather Guerino for her community advocacy efforts
- H. Fordham BID Annual Membership Meeting and 20th Anniversary Celebration
- I. District Service Cabinet Meeting
 1. FDNY October 2025 updates – 55 fires in CB 7 of 521 in the Bronx – an increase of 14.68% from last year, with an average response time of 5:14
 2. The Bronx has 6263 EMS runs, 567 in CB 7. A decrease of 16% compared to last year with an average response time of 6:38
- J. Hosted 2 of 3 Idea Generation Sessions
- K. Kingsbridge Armory Update
 1. City Council's Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings, and

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Disposition voted to approve the Kingsbridge Armory
 Redevelopment.

L. DM shared Borough consultations Recap – NYC Parks Department and Recreation data on the number of needles collected by parks staff in the Bronx, from July 2024 – June 2025.

VI. Chairperson’s Update

A. Officially attended every committee meeting. Would like committee chairs to encourage new members to take more initiative and leadership roles.

VII. Motion(s)

A. Letter to the Department of Health requesting the removal of the needle exchange vans from proximity to parks, schools, and libraries in CB 7. 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 abstain; 1 absent.

B. Send a letter of support to the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation for the proposed renovation of the Recreation Center building at St. James Park. 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 abstain; 1 absent.

VIII. New Business

A. St. James Recreation Center Reconstruction

1. Incorporate critical CPSD study-recommended scope items to help with storm mitigation, which include: Detention tank, Collapsed pipe replacement, and New Catch basins.
2. Design a limited reconstruction scope to improve the state of repairs, security, life safety, and code compliance. The scope of work includes: Roof, Front entrance, Windows and doors, Accessible restrooms.
3. Work to be completed by the summer of 2027.

IX. Committee Reports & Motions

A. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill. The committee did not meet

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. Presentation by Bronx Education Opportunity Center
2. Update on City Bus Contract – operating under a 30-day



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extension

C. Municipal Services – Edgar Ramos

1. Presentation by DDC Safe Routes to Schools – Phase 4D
2. Presentation by DOT – Jerome Avenue (Fordham Road to Bedford Park Boulevard) Existing Conditions Analysis)

D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Dr. Momodou Sawaneh

1. Citadel Care Centers (TCPRINC LLC) Presentation
 - a) Proposed development located on a portion of the historic Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged campus at 100 W Kingsbridge Road
 - b) Announcement: Notice 3210 Webster Ave. Rezoning application filed on 9/3/25

E. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Department of Parks presentation – St. James Recreation Center Reconstruction
 - a) Winter Maintenance at CB 7's Parks update
 - (1) Leaf removal
 - (2) Fall/Winter staffing – 19 employees
 - (3) Snow removal
 - (4) Request for a gator to be included in next year's budget request

F. Veterans Affairs & Human Services – Chad Royer (meeting to be held on Nov.19, 2025)

1. Veterans Breakfast & PB Conversation at Lehman College, Nov. 15, 2025
2. Presentation by Neighborhood Self Help by Older Person Project (SHOPP) – Jenasia Rivera, Outreach Coordinator

X. Next Meeting Date: December 15, 2025

XI. Discussion on Next Month's Agenda

XII. Meeting adjourned