

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, June 19, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 229-A East 204 th St. Bronx, NY 10458
Members:	 ✓ Betty Arce ✓ Myrna Calderon ✓ Edgar Ramos ✓ John Snider ✓ Dilletta Pina ✓ Chad Royer ✓ Bill Francis ✓ Andrew Laiosa ✓ Lowell Green ✓ Nora Feury ✓ Barbara Stronczer ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Emmanuel Martinez
Minutes Done By:	Nora Feury, Secretary

Minutes:

I. Executive Committee Chair Remarks

a. Barbara Stronczer opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. She noted that this would be our last official meeting until September. She thanked the members for their support and commitment all year.

II. New Business

a. There was a presentation by Harry Bavaro and Dolores Ortiz from the Catholic Guardian Services regarding a planned residential program to be located at 110 West 183rd Street. The CGS has obtained funding from the U.S. Department of Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement, to operate a residence for children and young adults ages 12-17 who have recently entered the United States as undocumented immigrants as part of the Unaccompanied Alien Children program. The residence will have a certified capacity residence with a capacity for 24 children. The proposed program was described at length with questions and answers from the members. The CB will be kept informed about the proposed opening

III. Chairperson's Report

- a. Jean Hill reported on the controversy around repairs at the Jerome Reservoir. The eastern section is in CB 7 and the rest is in CB 8. The discussion centers around the water in the basin or the lack of water. The Community wants water and wants access to the Reservoir itself. The repairs will also affect the closing of the part of Lehman College parking lot which faces the Reservoir. The Reservoir Committee will be addressing these issues and hopefully will be able to come to an amicable agreement.
- b. Jean reminded all of the availability of the ER at NCBH, which is not overcrowded and has excellent health care.
- c. She noted that those who use Urgent Care should be aware of charges for services not covered by your provider.



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IV. District Manager's Report

- a. Redevelopment of the Fordham Landing section in our district:
 - 1. The property is located between the Harlem River and the Major Deegan Expressway, immediately adjacent to the University Heights Bridge. It was purchased by Developer Gary Segal and Brad Zackson. https://newyorkyimby.com/2019/05/final-negotiations-begin-for-3-5-billion-redevelopment-at-fordham-landing-in-the-bronx.html
- b. NYS Passed The comprehensive tenant protection legislation:
 - 1. https://nyassembly.gov/Press/files/20190611a.php
 - 2. This link will explain what the laws versus what it will be now: https://therealdeal.com/2019/06/18/analysis-heres-what-the-new-rent-law-will-do-to-the-average-stabilized-apartment/
- c. NYC Department of Homeless Services Summer Planning:
 - 1. Code Red: NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) administers a Citywide Heat Emergency Plan that is activated during periods of extreme heat and humidity, as defined by the National Weather Service. During a Code Red, shelter is available system-wide to accommodate anyone who is reasonably believed to be homeless. Accommodations are also available for walk-ins. Homeless individuals experiencing heat-related discomfort are able to access the designated cooling area at any shelter.
 - 2. This link will list all the services available for individuals who are homeless: Bronx Fact Sheet- https://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/9ef4e05d-f42c-4c87-92a1-b74a4d310cf6.pdf
 - 3. This link will guide you on be helpful to New Yorkers and where to callhttps://www1.nyc.gov/site/dhs/outreach/street-outreach.page
- d. Preparing for first Community Resource Fair on Saturday, June 29th, 2018 from 12pm-3pm (rain or shine)- https://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/04bb9a36-dbfd-474c-91be-43345cc8a143.png
- e. We have been advised of a new Clinic in the same facility of the Shelter on 3600 Jerome Avenue. The clinic (Care for Homeless non-profit) will provide clinical services by providing suboxone to the shelter clients and other clients referred by providers.

 https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dhs/shelter/providers/cfh.page
- f. NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi- Will be providing constituent services for those residing within her senate district at Bronx Community Board 7 every second Thursday of the month from 11am-4pm.
- g. NYC Council Charter Commission—The 2019 Commission—made up of members appointed by the Mayor, the Speaker of the City Council, all five Borough Presidents, the Public Advocate, and the Comptroller—has a broad mandate to conduct a top-to-bottom review and will bring its recommendations to the public in November 2019. http://www.charter2019.nyc/

V. Committee Reports & Motions

a. Budget, Personnel & Ethics



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- 1. Andrew Laiosa reported that all monies were accounted for. Thanks to all. The next meeting is on Monday, June 24th.
- b. Economic Development & Long Term Plannning
 - 1. No Report
- c. Education, Youth & Libraries
 - 1. Myrna reported on the huge success of the recent Education Fair at the Library. She thanked all the members who attended and supported the event. She was pleased to report at the number of signatures obtained at the event to continue library funding.
- d. Environment & Sanitation
 - 1. Betty Arce reported on the presentation by the Zoning for Coastal Flood Resiliency. The purpose of the Agency is to prepare communities to be resilient and ready to withstand and recover quickly from flooding and climate events. They described the work done since Hurricane Sandy and proposed zoning for coastal flood resiliency. In CB7 there are 9 buildings in the 1% and 0.2% floodplain. Looking forward the proposed zoning recommendations for future building in NYC will be greatly affected. The motion for a Letter of Support concerning the Brownfield Cleanup of the former University Heights Yard at West 192nd Street was discussed and after further discussion was tabled to be reviewed later.
- e. Health & Human Services
 - 1. The Committee is pursuing services for people with disabilities. To that end plans are being made to hold a Forum in the Fall addressing these concerns.
 - 2. The recent health assessment at Montefiore will be reviewed with further discussion to add comments.
 - 3. There was a concern expressed about the need for training police officers who may interact with persons who have mental illness. The Committee will be meeting with the PD to discuss issues pertaining to this subject.
- f. Housing, Land Use & Zoning
 - 1. John Snider reported on the Bedford Manor project. The recent Housing Legislation will be reviewed with further discussion in the fall. The committee will continue to keep the community informed on new housing laws and issues and especially tenants' rights.
- g. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
 - 1. The PEP Squad described their duties in the parks and noted their responsibilities in conjunction with those of the PD. They described their plans for enforcement and the schedule for PEP Squad Officers during the Summer months. They listened to the members long list of issues and were willing to address them at once.
- h. Public Safety & Quality of Life
 - 1. Dilletta Pina reported on the presentation about Robo-Call scams.



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Advice on how to handle such calls were given along with a caution not to give anyone personal information over the phone.

- 2. Vladimir Rodriguez from the Friendly Visiting Program described his program where volunteers visit homebound seniors once a week. The volunteers receive a background check to ensure that the seniors are safe.
- 3. There is an upcoming Resource Fair on Saturday, June 29th at Poe Park. All are invited and encouraged to attend and bring a friend.
- 4. The 52nd Pct. is having an Open House on Friday, June 21st. Come and visit and tell your friends.
- 5. On June 21st Montefiore CAB is sponsoring a Yoga Night at Frisch Field at 6:30 pm.

i. Public Relations

- 1. The Newsletter is ready for the printers. Members are asked to review their section for last minute editing.
- j. Traffic & Transportation

1. **Motion(s)**:

- To provide a Letter to fully support the concept of the Pilot Program of Electric Charging Stations. Locations to be determined. Proposed by Andrew Laiosa, Seconded by Lowell Green. Voted and agreed upon.
- To provide a letter of support to the Safe Routes to School Project for PS 307. Proposed by Yajaira Arias, Seconded by Andrew Laiosa.
- To provide a letter of support for the approval of the Southern Blvd Traffic Calming and Protected Bike Lanes Safety Project, presented by DOT.
- 2. The proposed route changing of the # 34 Bus was brought up because the present route is heavily used by residents. It was suggested that a public hearing be held with the MTA at Serviam Gardens as soon as possible.

k. Veterans Affairs

- 1. Emmanuel Martinez reported on the participation of the Committee in the flagging of graves on Memorial Day at Woodlawn Cemetery. This will be an annual activity for all those who wish to join them next year.
- 2. The Committee will continue to address the issues that affect most veterans ie: jobs, housing, health and other support services.
- 3. Emmanuel expressed his concern about the behavior of a community resident at his Committee meeting. The resident was disruptive and disrespectful continually interrupting the meeting. Members offered suggestions on how to handle the situation.. The issue will be addressed at the Personnel Committee on Monday.

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 8:25pm