



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

# General Community Board Meeting Minutes

<b>Chair</b>	Jean Hill
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	September 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	6:30pm
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	243 East 204 <sup>th</sup> Street – Sister Annunciata Bethell Senior Center
<b>Minutes Done By:</b>	Nora Feury, Secretary

**Minutes:**

**I. Review of last month’s minutes (If applicable)**

**II. Introductions**

- a) The meeting opened at 6:35pm with greetings from Jean Hill, newly elected Board Chairperson. Jean was greeted with applause and congratulations from all.
- b) Jean commented that despite the weather she was happy to see so many in attendance. She went on to cite all the issues before the CB and how we will tackle them together. All agreed enthusiastically that they were looking forward to the year ahead with all the changes.

**III. Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)**

**IV. New Business**

- a) Public Session
  - 1. Lowell Green reported information from the NY State Wide Senior Council about open enrollment for Medicare recipients and the need to be aware of scammers who are tricking seniors into revealing their SS #. Seniors are asked to examine their Medicare reports to ensure that the services being charged are being received. Assistance is available at the local Senior Center.
  - 2. Assemblyman Victor Pichardo greeted all and came in person to report on events he sponsored ie: the recent 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Day of Peace March which will continue to be an annual event, the gun buyback program at Holy Spirit Church on 10/13 from 10 to 4, the job readiness program at 2115 University Ave. on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> and a discussion of Immigration issues at PS 33 from 12 – 3.



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3. Assemblywoman Nathalia Fernandez thanked all for the warm welcome.
  - She continues her support of the elevator at the Mosholu subway station. On Oct. 17 she is sponsoring a Mental Health and First Aid workshop at Jacobi Hosp. A Job Fair is being planned in the near future and in November there are plans for collecting Care packages for Veterans.
4. Ron Jordan representing Councilman Richie Torres informed the members about the upcoming Participatory Budget meeting on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> at the Bronx Library. If you need lead testing call and make an appointment. The Councilman is continuing his work supporting tenants against unscrupulous landlords. Call his office to address any issues one is experiencing.
5. Greg Faulkner representing Councilman Fernando Cabrera reported on various legislation issues ie: Legislation on the annual inspection of window guards Legislation on the return of towing costs to car owners who have been charged illegally. Bill to have landlords install anti scalding devices in homes. He wishes to create an African American Museum in NYC. Legislation to censure President Trump re: the P.R. situation. The award of \$ 42,000 to CB's was announced.
6. P.O. Echevarria from the 52<sup>nd</sup> pct. reported on the crime stats for the last 28 days. He shared the results of the Cops & Kids initiative which was held last week at McDonalds. The program will continue with youngsters signing up in advance to participate. There will be a march against violence and crime on Sunday from Our Lady of Refuge to St. James Park. The Pct. Council will meet on Thursday 9/27. All are welcome.
7. Joshua Stevenson from Councilman Andy Cohen's office reporting on the Participatory Budget requests on October 9<sup>th</sup>. On 13<sup>th</sup> he will hold an Immigration Fair at Tracey Towers from 11 – 2. An E Newsletter is in the planning.
8. Jeffrey Klein from Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz office reminding people to register to vote and Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register in a Party. The Assemblyman is supporting the elevator at the Mosholu



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Station. A “Shout Out “ is warranted for all the volunteers who supported the elevator.

9. Rachel Ferrari reported from State Senator Gustavo Rivera’s office about the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual health Fair, the Overdose Prevention activity at the 50<sup>th</sup> pct. and the Back to School Backpack Giveaway where 3,000 bags were given away. Plans are ongoing about a Veterans dinner for November.
10. Sirio Guerino had remarks about the need for graffiti cleanup. He would like to see the underpass painted and to have tree removal throughout the community. He will be participating in Breast Cancer fund raising by getting out his guitar and playing for the public.
11. Dilletta Pina reported the need for poll workers which pays & 200 a day. Call Board of Elections for more information.
12. Jane Addison J Amoya from the Mosholu Library thanked all for continued support. She mentioned the upcoming activities and distributed flyers with times and dates. There is presently a library card drive on for those who wish to access pertinent information.
13. John Betts from Bronx Works will be attending the Housing meeting.
14. Emmanuel Martinez is seeking assistance from the CB about the traffic on Hull Avenue.
15. Jennifer Tausig informed all on the Fall Festival to be held on Oct. 13 from noon to 6 pm on Jerome Avenue from Mosholu to Gun Hill road. There will be a community clean up on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. Meet at the Keepers House. There will be a Gala on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Norwood News to be held at Lehman College. All are invited to a Commercial Vacancy tour at 9:30 am at 3400 Reservoir Oval.
16. Gary Smalls described his work as a mentor to young men through education and support.
17. Gloria Bent is seeking support for a Talent Show to be held on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. She is also looking for support of the American Cancer Society on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at a Gala in the Eastwood Manor. Both activities are to benefit the American Cancer Society,



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18. Jackie Acevedo from MAS noted the local community events and asked for support from the community.
- b) Closing of Public Session at 7:35 pm
  1. Attendance taken Quorum present
  2. The Agenda and Minutes were approved
- c) Motions:
  1. Barbara Stronczer read the first motion about a letter to the Parks Dept. about a dog run in Devoe Park with a description of the designated space with 12 feet for small dogs on one side and 24 feet for large dogs at the other side.
    - Motion: A letter be sent to the Parks' Dept. stating the Board approves the proposal for a dog run at Devoe Park. Motion approved with one opposed Myrna Calderon
  2. The second motion about a letter to the DOE was read by Myrna Calderon who gave background on the need for services for children with special needs.
    - Motion: A letter be sent to the Dept. of Education and local elected officials requesting to know what services are now being offered to special education students in our district. The letter will also inquire as to what additional services can be obtained by the schools in our district. The motion was approved unanimously
- d) Chairperson's Report
  1. Jean Hill noted the various meetings she attended. She urged members to attend Monroe College on Oct. 3rd to voice their opinions on the new busing plans from DOT.
  2. The new Committee Chairs were announced and were approved unanimously.
  3. Jean reminded members of the importance of attending committee meetings and to notify the Committee Chair, the DM and the CB office in case of absence.
  4. Jean reiterated to all that she was open to any and all so do not hesitate to call on her to discuss whatever is on your mind.



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e) Executive Committee Report

1. Barbara Stronczer reported on the changes of the Executive Committee meetings to be held on the 3rd Wed. and the General Meetings on the 4th Tues.

f) DM's Report

1. During the summer months of July and August the office worked on Outreach. Consisting on:
  - Office renovations to better display resources available to our community.
  - Enhancing our technology through a better email system to grow our network of residents.
2. TEXT 22828 w/keyword BOARD7 to be added to our e-blast
  - Participating/Partnering in various events involving CB 7 residents to share information on NYC Agencies.
3. Our NYC operated website will be up by the beginning of October 2018
4. We are currently working on FY2020 Budget: Expense and Capital as a Community Board
5. Working on Bronx Borough Budget Consultations: Click here for a link of Bronx CB's request and Agency Responses thus far:
  - <http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/22a62f59-fd66-4b99-98945001ca4ee3f5.pdf>
  - <http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/262ae332-b330-48e7-9097-9f286b9c3bf8.pdf>
  - <http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/ab2814fe-6681-4012-b5b2-8c5c735dbbcc.pdf>
  - <http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/0b8b3801-3c07-47c7-abe5-8f8af2aa6c58.pdf>
  - <http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/467841ae-f943-42f7-81a7-e041040dcab6.pdf>
6. Assisting in process of obtaining a traffic agent on Bainbridge between 211<sup>th</sup> Street and 212<sup>th</sup> due the traffic congestion as a result of the Construction by the Department of Design and Construction.





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7. Update on the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health Facility (2681 Marion Avenue)
  - Now accepting Applications
    - Application:  
<http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/ea49a5c1-9a0c-4c88-9950-71b27934c2aa.pdf>
    - 99 Apartments, with 65 units dedicated to Supported Housing Consumers and 34 units which are open to the public through a lottery
    - More info:  
<http://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/ea49a5c1-9a0c-4c88-9950-71b27934c2aa.pdf>
    - Out of the 34 Units: 9 studios and 25 two bedroom.  
These apartments are available to low income individuals and families who meet the criteria.
8. Bronx Borough Board Meeting information
  - Housing Works Inc. Re-Entry Employment Initiatives:
  - The programs provides OSHA training
  - Works with Employers to incentivize them on hiring by giving them a TAX Credit of up to \$9600 and Insurance Policy for liability.
  - I am working with this group to provide services at CB 7.
9. Fast Forward: MTA Bronx Bus Network Redesign
  - <https://fastforward.mta.info/reimagine-the-bus-network>
  - The redesign is meant to enhance the services we receive now
- 10.Center for NYC Neighborhoods <https://cnycn.org/>
  - Few homeowners are aware that loans and grants are available for repairs and retrofits from the City, the State, and nonprofits.
- 11.The following useful links have been provided to all Board members:
12. <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/bronx/7#resources>
  - This section provides helpful planning resources like reference maps, additional Census data, and links to other community profiles. A one-page summary version of each district's profile is available as a PDF. The data referenced in these interactive



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profiles are available for download. (please take your time looking through it, it has plenty of information to help you)

13. <http://www.mygovnyc.org/>
  - This link can help find all of your Elected Officials by inserting your home address
14. <https://www1.nyc.gov/311/>
  - You can file a 311 complaint with the City of New York
15. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/zoning/about-zoning.page>
  - Find your zoning here
16. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/zoning/districts-tools/residence-districts-r1-r10.page>
  - This link can help understand what zoning means when referencing R1-R10
17. <https://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/agencies.page>
  - This link will list all of NYC's city agencies and their websites
18. [http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/my\\_community.jsp](http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/my_community.jsp)
  - This link will help look up New Buildings, Major Alterations and Enlargement, Minor Enlargements and Full Demolitions.
19. <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/motorist/resurfintro.shtml>
  - NYC Dept. of Transportation resurfacing schedule
20. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/services>
  - Please review this link to learn how to dispose of certain objects and services DSNY provides.
21. <https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/lottery.html>
  - Apply for NYC affordable housing lottery's here
22. September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is National Voter Registration Day: Bronx CB 7 will be participating by registering local residents to vote:
  - 9am-10am @ the 4 Train Station (Kingsbridge and Jerome station)
23. 10am-11am @ the Corner of Valentine Avenue and Fordham Road (in front of the Ladies Dr. Jays Store)

#### g) Nominating Committee

8. Lowell Green was nominated by Dilletta Pina which she accepted.



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9. Christine Contreras was nominated and refused.

10. Myrna Calderon was nominated and refused.

11. Since there were no other nominations, Lowell Green will be voted on at the next General Board Meeting.

#### h) Committee Reports

##### 1. Budget, Personnel & Ethics

- The next meeting will be on Oct. 15th at 6:30 pm where discussion of the \$ 42,000 will be held. Andrew Laiosa requests that members come up with some recommendations. Everything submitted will be considered.

##### 2. Economic Development & Long Term Planning – No report

##### 3. Education & Youth

- A correction to the minutes on page F-1 paragraph b  
Should read CPSE instead IFSP

##### 4. Environment & Sanitation

- Helene Hartman – Kutnowsky reported on Lead testing, the dog poisoning situation, the cleaning of catch basins, overflowing garbage baskets and organic recycling. These issues will be discussed at the next meeting.

##### 5. Health & Human Services – No report

##### 6. Housing, Land Use & Zoning

- The next meeting will be on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>

##### 7. Parks & Recreation

- The next meeting to be held on Oct. 10th where Parks issues will be discussed.

##### 8. Public Relations

- Lowell Green wants some input about the kind of information the CB wishes to share with the media.

##### 9. Public Safety & Quality of Life

- Dilletta Pina thanked Crime Prevention Officer Patella who reported on violent crimes and other crimes in the precinct. There is an effort to concentrate on seniors due to their vulnerability.





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Seniors are being reminded about Medicare scams and the need to protect their Social Security numbers. The next meeting is Oct. 11th at 7 pm.

#### 10. Traffic & Transportation

- The next meeting will be on Oct. 4th where the city agencies are invited to discuss transportation and traffic issues. Edgar Ramos is urging all to be ready with their questions.

A reminder was made to Committee Chairs to have minutes in the office 3 days after a meeting.

**V. Next month's meeting date:** Tuesday, October 23, 2018

**VI. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.