



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

## GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### Tuesday, October 21, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

Held at: Serviam Gardens ♦ 321 East 198<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Bronx, NY 10458

- I. Public Session began at 6:30 pm with the following speakers:
  - A. Congressman Charles Rangel's Office by Lauren Loftin:
    1. The Congressman supports the President's actions on making Colleges more aware of Sexual Assaults
    2. He is a supporter of October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month. No information available on when there will be an office located in the Bronx. The office number is 212-663-3900
  - B. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz:
    1. The Labor and Delivery Unit has re-opened at North Central Bronx Hospital
    2. 25 miles- per -hour has now become the default speed limit for NYC
    3. Election Day is Tuesday November 4, 2014. There are 3 ballot initiatives on the back of the ballot. Asked all present to vote
  - C. Dilletta Pina - CB7 member:
    1. Announced a Halloween event on October 31, 2014 at the Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center at 7:00 pm
  - D. Candido De Leon:
    1. Is planning to take over a Billiard Hall located at 2301 Jerome Avenue. This location has been a Billiard Hall for 10 years. Would like a letter of support from the CB. Matter referred to Economic Development Committee
  - E. Inspector Hoffman of the 52nd Precinct:
    1. Announced that burglaries were up in the Bedford Park area. A professional burglar was hitting commercial areas
    2. The State Liquor Authority as of today has shut down the Xtreme Lounge located on Valentine Avenue where a number of serious incidents have accrued.
    3. At 204th and Valentine Avenue outside the Community Board Office, shots were fired. There will be increased patrols and a portable light tower put on the site. Police are investigating the reason for the shots being fired
    4. Shot Spotter will be coming to the precinct
    5. On November 7, 2014, the new 25 miles-per-hour speed limit for NYC goes into the effect
    6. On November 20, 2014, the Precinct's Community Council will be meeting at Scott Towers
    7. She announced that cars are being stolen around the Oval area
    8. There is a new scam were individuals are requesting deposits on apartment that they do not have rights to. Please use licensed real estate agents only
    9. CB7 honored Inspector Hoffman with an award for leadership in the community



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



---

RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

---

10. John Snider, Chair of Public Safety and Quality of Life, publicly thanked the Inspector for sending her officers to his committee meeting
  - F. Councilman Fernando Cabrera:
    1. The Tenant's Bill of Rights passed. It is now on the HPD web site
    2. The "Time Wrap" event was not given a permit for the Armory and will not happen
    3. His office gave out book bags to area school children
    4. Reminded people to get a flu shot-flu kills more people than Ebola
  - G. Mayor's Office by Elvin Garcia:
    1. The mayor signed an executive order that will raise minimum wage to \$13.13/hr.
    2. The Mayor was in the Bronx at the Zoo to talk about the new Municipal Identification Card that will take effect in January
    3. He stated that he would look into lighting issues at the Oval Park
  - H. Borough President's Office by Tom Lucania:
    1. The Bronx has had another drop in the unemployment rate-now a single digit rate 9.8%
    2. The Borough President is looking into having a grading system for nail salons
    3. Wednesday, October 29, 2014 will be Bronx DiVA Spa Day, an event to Raise Awareness of Domestic Violence Programs Available in the Bronx
    4. Halloween Event at Bay Eden Senior Center on Friday October 31, 2014
    5. Tour the Bronx's Bike Event on Sunday October 26, 2014
  - I. Tehmina Brohi from Citizens Committee for NYC:
    1. Talked about grants that are available to community groups
  - J. Samelys Lopez, CB7 member:
    1. Talked about Participatory Budgeting and that Councilman Cohen will have a session on it on October 29, 2014 7:00 pm at Lehman College
  - K. Randy Dillard from CASA/Comm Action:
    1. They are working on a bill that would require eviction actions to have an attorney present
  - L. Shanequa Charles, CB7 member:
    1. Invited all to the Miss Abby event on October 31, 2014 from 11:00 am-5:00 pm on Decatur from 193rd St. to Fordham Road
  - M. David Cruz, Editor-in-Chief, Norwood News:
    1. Said hello to the body
  - N. Jane Addison-Amoyaw from the Mosholu Branch Library:
    1. Invited all to the library; over 195, 000 individuals used the library last year
  - O. Councilman Andrew Cohen's Office by Allyson Oliveras:
    1. Said hello to the body
- II. Public Session ended at 8:00pm, and the meeting began
- A. Awards:
    1. The Inspector was given awards for Police Officers Crystal Reveron, Luis De Los Santos, Dimaz Cortez and John Dinoia , who were not present at the meeting



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

2. Tom Lucania was honored with an award for his support of CB7 while the Community Board was looking for a new district manager

B. Attendance taken, quorum present

1. Members present include: Mohammed Ali, Lynette Arroyo, Nilsa Cintron, Shanequa Charles, Gregory Clark, Sr., Nelson Cruz, Edward Dejesus, Sandra Erickson, Nora Feury, Paul Foster, William Francis, Fidel Gomez, Carlos Gonzalez, Alfred Grant, Lowell Green, Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky, Jean Hill, Jermaine Johnson, Bruce Kaufman, Andrew Laiosa, Samelys Lopez, Eleanor Lundeen, Kevin Miner, Amjad Mujaahid, Dilletta Pina, Ellen R. Ray, Marcos Sierra, Lisa Sills-Short, John Snider, Barbara Stronczer, Ruben Torres, Adaline Walker-Santiago

2. Excused Members include: Gloria Bent, Cynthia O'Neal-Riley, Kevin Pellot, Charlesetta Rhett, Velvet Ross, Khadijaha Saeed

3. Absent (Unexcused) Members include: Alora Bailey, Luis Miguel Guzman

C. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. Unanimously approved

III. Reports:

A. Chairperson's Report by Adaline Walker-Santiago:

1. Announced that the NY Yankees were giving out 5 Leadership awards. Each Awards is for \$750.00. Any student who has done 50 hours of community service could qualify. All Board Members will be sent an information sheet via e-mail. No Board or staff member's child can apply

2. The Jerome Avenue/Gun Hill Road BID Fall Festival honored the CB7 Chairperson for her service to the community. The Board had a table at the event

3. There will be a Meet and Greet Event for all Board Members on October 23, 2014 @ 6:30 pm at the Office

4. The Chair attended the opening for the new North Central Bronx Labor and Delivery Unit

5. The squatters on Briggs Avenue are gone

B. Executive Committee Report by Barbara Stronczer:

1. There was a Public Hearing about the FY'16 Capital Budget Priorities and Expense Budget Priorities

C. District Manager by Dustin Engelken:

1. CB7 now has a facebook page, [www.Facebook.com/Bronx Community Board 7](http://www.Facebook.com/Bronx%20Community%20Board%207)

IV. Committee Reports:

A. Budget/Personnel & Ethics by Andrew Laiosa:

1. **MOTION:** (Presented and Seconded):

i. "Community Board7 approves the FY'16 Expense Budget Request and the FY'16 Capital Budget Priorities" - **MOTION** passed

B. Community Relations/Long Term Planning by Fidel Gomez:

1. The Committee will be looking at long term vision for all committees (think 10-15 years into the future)



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



---

RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

---

- C. Economic Development by Eleanor Lundeen:
  - 1. The Committee is working with the merchants on Webster Avenue
- D. Education/Libraries & Youth Services by Bruce Kaufman:
  - 1. Next meeting will be November 20, 2014 at the CB7 office at 6:30pm
  - 2. The Committee is working on a master list of schools, youth groups culture groups, etc. in the community
- E. Environment & Sanitation by Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky:
  - 1. The Bronx Animal Shelter Endeavor Group spoke at the October Committee meeting about the need of an animal shelter in the Bronx
  - 2. The former Bronx New School building will be cleaned by the end of the year
  - 3. The Committee is working on a new "Pick- Up After Your Dog" sign
  - 4. Next meeting is November 17, 2014 @ 6:30 PM
- F. Health & Hospitals:
  - 1. No report provided at this time
- G. Housing / Land Use & Zoning by Jean Hill:
  - 1. PRAXIS and the Post Graduate Center for Mental Health both want to build on a site in the community
  - 2. Next meeting is November 5, 2014
- H. Parks and Recreation by Barbara Stronczer:
  - 1. The Parks Department removed 30 benches on Mosholu Parkway. Questions on if benches were in bad shape. Parks Department did not inform anyone of their action. A letter requesting better communications will be sent. Not sure when benches will be replaced.
  - 2. Oliver Place:
    - i. The Parks Department does not want the responsibility to create and maintain this space as a park
  - 3. **MOTION:** (Presented and Seconded):
    - i. "CB7 will send a letter to DOT requesting that the fence around Oliver Place be repaired. Also the letter will ask if DOT will lease the land to a neighborhood organization or group to maintain" - (**MOTION** passed)
  - 4. The committee will work on a letter to the Parks Department stating that the Parks Department cannot deprive the children of CB7 of play space
- I. Public Safety & Quality of Life by John Snider:
  - 1. The "Time Warp" event at the Kingsbridge Armory was not given a permit and will not happen. There were concerns about safety
  - 2. Simulated Fire-Arm Training will take place in December
  - 3. At the November 6, 2014 meeting the Bronx District Attorney Office will be present
  - 4. All were asked to attend the 52nd Precinct Community Council Meeting
- J. Senior Services by Nora Feury:
  - 1. The Committee has being working with the RAIN Senior Program on Bailey Avenue to improve their program
  - 2. A crime prevention program is being worked on



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



---

RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

---

K. Traffic and Transportation by Lowell Green:

1. A new pedestrian island at the bus stop corner of Jerome Avenue and Gun Hill Road has been created
2. A Public Hearing for a ULURP application for Library Lane(Cole Place) City Map Change will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2014 at CB7 office 6:30 pm.
3. MOTION: (Presented and Seconded):
  - i. "CB7 approves the renaming of 205th Street between Paul Avenue and Goulden Avenue to *Bronx Science Boulevard*." (MOTION passed with 3 "NO" votes)

L. Website/Acknowledgement & Media by Edward Dejesus:

1. The Committee is working on an electronic newsletter

V. New Business:

- A. Samelys Lopez announced a walking tour of the South Bronx on Sunday, November 2, 2014 from 11:00 to 3:00pm. Meet at the Freedman House, located at 1125 Grand Concourse

VI. Meeting adjourned by voice vote at 9:11 pm