



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting held at North Central Bronx Hospital ◇ 3424 Kossuth Avenue ◇ 17th Floor ◇ Bronx, NY 10467

- I. Public Session opened at 6:30pm with the following speakers:
 - A. Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz:
 1. Spoke about zoning law changes
 2. Have concerns about space for building in the future. He spoke against larger apartment dwellings that do not provide parking or green space for the tenants. His concerns are quality of life
 3. A question about affordable housing was raised and addressed by the Assemblyman
 - B. Councilman Andrew Cohen:
 1. Councilman announced that he sponsored K2 bill that were introduced by Mayor DeBlasio and signed today
 2. He stated concerns about the effects of K2 on the Community
 3. Participatory voting for \$1M to be spent on district needs as voted on by Community residents
 4. Mr. Contreras was thanked by Ms. Walker for inviting CB7 to conduct the Board meeting at NCBH
 - C. Assemblyman Jose Rivera:
 1. Spoke about the bill on K2 passed at City Hall today by the Mayor. It is hoped that his issue will be taken up in Albany by Assemblyman Rivera and the full Assembly and Senate Membership
 - D. June Cortez, 52nd Pct.:
 1. Gave a report on the status of the 10 new police officers assigned to the precinct and are out and around the community. He asked that we greet the new officers
 2. Information on the accident on East 194th Street and Valentine Avenue was reported
 3. Also on 194th Street, there are concerns that call for police presence constantly. P.O. Cortez urged the group to report any concerns anonymously
 4. On Friday, the 52nd Pct. Community Council to conduct a breakfast to honor outstanding officers
 5. Cortez announced that there is a Grandmother's breakfast every month that is attended by executives who lend support both financially and emotionally. Call P.O. Cortez at 718-220-5824 to refer any grandmother who is raising a grand child
 6. Stat were reviewed; up in robberies, up in homicides and up in felonious assaults
 - E. Aldo Perez, Community Resident:
 1. Announced a program "Community Peace Patrol Officers" to be made up of volunteers committed to making their neighborhoods safe. Meetings are held the last Friday of the month at 2006 Westchester Avenue from 6pm to 8pm. For more information, contact 718-822-5555
 - F. Candice Spring, NYSNA:
 1. Spoke of conditions at Montefiore and the situation with the nurses there



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2. It was reported that the hospital is short on staff and supplies
3. Talked about the need for a change and are now requesting support from the Community to assist in a change at Montefiore for the benefit of patient care

G. Dilletta Pina, Community Board Member:

1. Invite to join the NAB (Neighborhood Advisory Board)
2. Meeting to be held on on October 22nd at 6:30pm at Williamsbridge Oval. For more information, call 646-343-4699

H. Jeffrey Quarles, Community Resident:

1. West 183rd Street resident who has concerns about the need for paving the street which has not been done in many years. Lowell Green responded that she is looking into the situation with DOT and will get back to him as soon as she gets any information

I. David Cruz, Norwood News:

1. Introduced himself to the group and requested info that would be newsworthy for the paper

J. Jane Addison, Mosholu Branch Library:

1. ESL classes held on Saturdays at 11am
2. After-school program for 1st and 2nd graders on Monday thru Thursdays. Contact 718-882-8239 for more information

K. Kenneth Wyath, Community Resident:

1. Has concerns about the lack of advocacy from people who can empower and organize folks who wish to become involved in community affairs

L. Sarah Bishow, Williamsbridge Oval:

1. Talked about the various programs offered at the center, such as dancing for Seniors, Arts & Crafts, Theater, Fitness Classes, etc. All are welcome
2. Halloween event to be held on October 30th

M. Franklin Thomas, HELP USA:

1. Spoke about the homeless situation in NYC
2. Requesting referrals for people who are in need of housing and other supportive services
3. One time financial help is available to help people to solve problems

N. Roxanna Delgado:

1. Talked about the selection of a DA in an undemocratic process and urges voters to vote for the republican in the upcoming election

II. Public Session closed, and Meeting opened at 7:30pm

A. Attendance

1. Roll-call taken by Barbara Stronczer
2. A Quorum of 27 members was established

B. Ad-Hoc Committee:

1. A change to read that a vote will be taken

C. Agenda and minutes approval:

1. Agenda and minutes were approved with the changes stated
 1. A vote was taken to name Nora Feury as the secretary
 2. Nora Feury was elected with one abstention

III. District Manager's Report:

- A. Tom Lucania presented the Budget Priorities that were approved by the Budget Committee last night at the Public Hearing



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- B. Mr. Lucania stated that the Capital Budget can hold 40 requests of projects over \$35,000
 - 1. A **MOTION** was made by Samelys Lopez who recommended to add Capital Funds for Vision Zero plan as our #40 Capital Priority
 - 2. A vote was taken to add the Vision Zero to be #40. The vote was unanimously approved
- C. A **MOTION** was made by Barbara Stronczer to approve the Capital and Expense Budgets
 - 1. A vote was taken and approved
- IV. Chairperson's Report by Adaline Walker-Santiago:
 - A. Acknowledge the Board Members who attended and represented CB7 at the Honorary Breakfast for Assembly Speak Carl Heastie
 - B. NY Yankee Leadership awards are now open for submission. Nominations are due on November 20th
 - C. Announced that the District Manager position is now open
 - D. Announced the Screening Committee:
 - 1. Nilsa Cintron
 - 2. Jean Hill
 - 3. Barbara Stronczer
 - 4. Nora Feury
 - 5. Adaline Walker-Santiago
 - 6. Samelys Lopez
 - 7. John Snider
 - E. City Charter Conflict of Interest Board Rules were read
 - F. Networking Event planned for Friday, November 6th at the office
 - G. The Zoning for Quality and Affordability Text Amendments and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing Program Text Amendments' ULURP public hearing is scheduled for October 28th at 6:30pm
 - H. Councilmen Ritchie Torres and Andrew Cohen, as well as Senator Klein are all advocating for an animal shelter. Senator Klein has set aside \$500,000 for a possible shelter in the Bronx
 - I. The Chair attended several meetings; Met with Parks Commissioner, Allen Bell from Affordable / Supportive Housing, District Service Cabinet meeting, and the K2 summit at Jacobi Hospital
- V. Committee Reports:
 - A. Executive Committee:
 - 1. Advertisement for District Manager was reviewed
 - 2. Personnel issue to be addressed later in Executive Session
 - B. Budget / Personnel & Ethics:
 - 1. By-Laws to be discussed at the next meeting
 - 2. Need members on the Budget Committee to work on the By-Laws
 - C. Community Relations / Long Term Planning:
 - 1. A planning initiative is being planned on the impact of over-development in the community
 - 2. Working with Mayor's Office for a more comprehensive vision when planning development in a neighborhood
 - 3. Next meeting will be held on October 27th
 - D. Sanitation and Environment:
 - 1. Sink holes paved and storm drains on Mosholu were cleaned out



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E. Health & Hospitals:

1. A speaker from the Department of Health was at the last meeting
2. National Food Day is being held on Friday, from 11am to 1pm at NCBH. All are welcome

F. Parks & Recreation:

1. The Committee reviewed a proposal for an area in Van Cortlandt Park to be set aside for barbecuing
2. The next meeting will be held on November 9th
3. Skate park drawings to be reviewed

G. Public Safety:

1. Budget Priorities included cameras all the way to Fordham Road
2. Gun violence and gang violence to be addressed at the next meeting
3. Noise complaints have raised
4. Meetings to be held on the 1st Thursday of the month

H. Senior Services:

1. Report on ID cards follow up
2. Food stamp presentation was made
3. Budget Priorities discussed with emphasis of higher priorities for Senior

I. Traffic & Transportation:

1. Mosholu Parkway Walk was on October 10th. Highlights were mentioned
2. Budget Requests were reviewed
3. A pamphlet on speed bumps to be presented at next meeting
4. The next meeting will be held on November 12th

J. Veterans:

1. Clarification on veterans needs to be reviewed
2. Recommending annual event to honor vets
3. Inquiring about the identity of a WWII veteran living in the community for an honor
4. Preparing for the veterans event at the Bronx Library Center on January 27th

VI. Borough President's Report by Tom Lucania:

A. Provided a written report with the following bullets:

1. Bronx Economy Grows, Unemployment falls
2. MTA Capital Plan / East Bronx Metro North Expansion
3. BronxNet Holds Ribbon cutting for new TV Studio at Mercy College at Hutch Metro Center
4. Bronx Residents vent concerns to Verizon over FIOS

B. Spoke about Bicycle Tour of Bronx to be held on October 25th, which 5700 people have registered to date

C. Talked about an animal shelter in the Bronx

D. Annual Halloween event to be held on October 31st on East 156th Street

VII. Elected Officials Reports:

A. Nestor Medina from Assemblyman Victor Pichardo's Office:

1. Talked about Breast Cancer Awareness month. FREE mammograms on 10/23 at 10am at the Paradise Theater
2. There will be a tenants resource fair on October 26th at 2424 Jerome Avenue at 6:30pm. Call 718-933-69009 for more information



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- B. Brittany Cesanni, from Councilman Fernando Cabrera's Office
 - 1. Hispanic Cultural Celebration on Thursday, October 22nd at Holy Spirit School
 - 2. Immigrant Services available
 - 3. There will be a ribbon cutting to celebrate the finish of the project in the park. Event to take place on Friday at 11am at St. James Park
 - C. Timothy Tapia, Public Advocate's Office:
 - 1. Informed that Walmart stocked and sold guns. The Advocate office is looking to negotiate the sale of firearms with the Walmart Chair
 - 2. ACS is being investigated for poor performance
 - D. Rachel Ferrari from Gustavo Rivera's Office:
 - 1. Tenants specialists available
 - 2. Mammograms available for free
 - 3. Health Halloween Celebration to be held on October 29th at PS9
 - E. Nathalia Fernandez from Assemblyman Gjonaj's Office:
 - 1. Immigration Forum at Bronx House from 6pm to 8pm on October 21st
 - 2. Halloween celebration to be held on October 30th
 - F. Aicha Bomba from Councilman Torres:
 - 1. Reported on LGBTQ youth forum on November 16th at the Bronx Library Center
 - 2. Turkey giveaway on November 23rd from 4pm to 7pm at 1951 Washington Avenue
 - 3. Financial Planning on December 15th at 6:30pm at 644 Adeo Avenue
 - 4. Toy drive coming soon
- VIII. Other items:
- A. The Community Board staff were evaluated by Dustin Engelken before he left and he recommended a salary increase of \$5,000 for Londy Ramirez and \$1,500 for Maria Baez. The executive Committee reviewed the requests and approved both raises
 - B. After much discussion about the raises, a motion came from the floor to table the motion
 - 1. A vote was taken with 16 "YES" and 7 "NO". The motion was tabled
- IX. Meeting resumed and adjourned at 9:00pm