



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

### COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

BARBARA STRONCZER, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

## GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 17, 2018 @ 6:30 PM | PS. / MS. 280

- I) The Public Session opened at 6:45 pm.
  - A) Before the Public Session began, Anthony Perez, CB 7 Board member, Health & Hospitals Chair and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair of CB7 announced his resignation from the Board due to a conflict of interest.
  - B) Ron Jordan, from Councilman Richie Torres office, spoke about the Councilman's assistance to 600 residents in filling out their tax returns.
    - 1) There were over 700 votes casted in the Participatory Budget selection.
  - C) Marvin Shelton, from DOE District 10, announced a meeting regarding rezoning of schools on Thursday, April 19th at 6:30 pm at PS 33.
  - D) Jean Happersaud, from the Bronx Public Library, announced the presence of Author Stephen Paul DeVillo at the Library, who will be discussing his book "The Bronx River in History and Folklore" on Saturday, April 21, 2018.
  - E) Claire McVeighn, from Councilman Fernando Cabrera's office, reported on 2 bills introduced by the Councilman that would prohibit any candidate for public office from receiving matching funds if previously convicted of felonies related to fraud or public corruption, and where such judgement had not been vacated.
    - 1) The second bill would address the administrative and financial burden of the hearings process when people who make a living and support their families as livery drivers are charged with a violation. There will be a hearing on this bill on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:30 pm.
    - 2) The Councilman is also calling for an increase in funding for community boards which received no increases for four fiscal years between 2012 and 2015 and only modest increases in recent years.
      - (a) The Councilman is in the process of administering surveys to gather input on how additional funds could be used.
  - F) Frederich Klein, representing Assembly Jeffrey Dinowitz, reported on the Assemblyman's activities in Albany where he is supporting funds for pre-school and strengthening the gun laws presently on the books.
    - 1) He is also supporting legal assistance for those who request it.
  - G) P.O. Stephen Eccevaria, from the 52 precinct, gave the stats on crimes in the neighborhood.
    - 1) He mentioned recent community crimes and the status of the arrests made.
    - 2) The shootings that occurred on the weekend were discussed.
    - 3) He answered questions and continued speaking to residents in the back of the room after he gave his report.



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- H) Dilletta Pina reminded all that there was an election on April 24<sup>th</sup> and everyone should get out and vote.
- I) Turan Blik gave a video presentation on the "I Learn School", a proposed charter school for CB 7.
- J) Luisa McArthur, a parent at the Charter School, spoke about the school and her experience as a parent whose child is registered at the I Learn School.
- 1) She spoke highly of the school and the teachers.
- K) Everett McArthur, a student at the school, spoke of his experience as a student.
- 1) He was articulate and well-spoken as he described his classes and fellow students.
- L) Heidi Salazar reported from Assemblyman Victor Pichardo's office on the tenant support system unit who are there to assist tenants with housing related issues.
- 1) They meet every Thursday from 11am to 3pm at 2175 Jerome Ave. Suite C.
- M) Tom Lucania, representing Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., reported that the letters of acceptance for the Community Board would be going out in June.
- 1) The announcement of the millions of dollars for NYCHA to address health hazards and improve living conditions at NYCHA was greeted with great joy.
  - 2) An Executive Order was made by the Governor declaring a state of emergency in order to expedite the repairs and immediately address public health crises plaguing tenants.
  - 3) Bronx week is May 10<sup>th</sup> through May 20<sup>th</sup>, ending with a parade on Mosholu Parkway starting at 11:30 am.
  - 4) Family Day will be celebrated at the Williamsbridge Oval on May 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - 5) On May 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be training by City Planning.
- N) Ariana Collado, from Councilman's Andy Cohen's office, announced the street naming of Andrew Sandler, the former District Manager of CB 7, on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 am on Waldo Avenue.
- O) Mariel DeLaCruz, from Scott Stringer's office - MICHAEL ASK ISCHIA WHAT SHE REPORTED
- P) Lisa Nicotro, the Director of the Senior Center at MMCC, spoke about the program and the services offered.
- 1) She distributed brochures and invited all to visit on April 25<sup>th</sup> where there will be a Resource Fair and an Open House.
- Q) Helen Redd, from Bailey Houses, spoke on the conditions at the Houses and is looking for support to correct the concerns.
- R) Johnny Rivera announced a Bronx Community Summit to include a town hall meeting on the collective impact on the opioid crisis.



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- 1) It will be held at Metropolitan College on East 149<sup>th</sup> Street in the Bronx from 8:30 am. to 4:30 pm.
  - S) Jason Caraballo, from Montefiore Hospital, announced a 10<sup>th</sup> annual 5K run and a family fun/run walk at the Bronx Zoo on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
    - 1) On Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Women's Clinic with free breast and pelvic examinations for women to detect cancer.
    - 2) On Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be fun day with a checkup of your favorite teddy bear, a visit to the Emergency Room and a presentation on safety tips from the NYC Fire Department.
      - (a) Come to 600 East 233rd Street from 10 am to 2 pm.
  - T) Jennifer Tausig, Director of Jerome/Gun Hill BID, will be sending out flyers on upcoming activities for the summer.
    - 1) She is seeking posters for the 8 foot Tower that will be erected at Mosholu and the Grand Concourse.
  - U) Richard Montenegro, P.S. / M.S. Association's President thanked all for coming to the school for a meeting.
- II) The public session closed and the General Board Meeting opened at 7:40 pm.
- A) The attendance was taken with a quorum present.
  - B) The agenda and minutes were approved with one correction.
- III) Chairperson's Report
- A) Adaline read a prepared letter describing her experience on CB 7 ending with her resignation as Chairperson of CB 7 as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
    - 1) She states that she will continue as a duly appointed member of the Board.
- IV) Executive Committee Report
- A) Barbara Stronczer thanked Adaline for her service.
  - B) She also thanked Anthony Perez for his service and wished him well in his new endeavor.
  - C) There will now be 2 elected vacant positions on the Board.
    - 1) Nominations for Chair and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair will be made at the May meeting with elections to be held at June meeting.
  - D) There is one motion to be voted on from the Housing Committee.
    - 1) Jean Hill read the motion.



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#### 2) **Motion:**

- (a) To provide a letter of support to the NFW Group for their two proposed buildings at 2997 Marion Avenue (18 units) and 2861 Creston Avenue (25 units). As presented, these are community apartments with a target income range of 70%-95% of AMI (area median income) and the developer is seeking Article 11 real estate tax abatement for the project, provided the developer, NFW group, follows through on his proposal, as presented to the housing committee on April 10.
  - i. The motion was approved with 2 oppositions from Andrew Laiosa and Lowell green.

#### V) District Managers Report

- A) Met with City planning to discuss Community Board specific data that can help the Community Board perform at a much greater level for the Residents (In progress).
  - 1) <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/bronx/7>.
- B) We partnered with the Department of Education to do outreach and recruitment for Pre-k students in our area on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- C) North Central Hospital's doctors are having a difficult time with parking in the area.
  - 1) I am currently helping to find potential partners in health care to assist.
- D) Update – The building on 2681-2691 Marion Avenue is fully operational.
- E) The Post Graduate Center for Mental Health has 99 apartments to service the following populations:
  - 1) 50 supported Studio Apartments for Mental Illness.
  - 2) 15 supported 2-bedroom apartments for eligible families in which the head of house hold has a serious mental illness and referred by DHS.
  - 3) 9 community studio apartments for individuals with 60% AMI.
  - 4) 25 two-bedroom apartments for community families below 60% AMI (preference for eligible veterans).
- F) We toured the Fordham Landing shelter and affordable housing facility.
  - 1) The shelter portion seems to be fully equipped with services to help their residents.
  - 2) The affordable housing is semi-furnished.
  - 3) They have on-site: a computer room, a recreational space and around the clock security.
  - 4) I will do my best to attend their CAB meetings to stay up to date with the facility.



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5) A siting for a new shelter within CB 7-244 East 198<sup>th</sup> Street.

G) District Service Cabinet Meeting (DSC)

1) Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP)

(a) I requested from DHS a full list of all Supportive Housing Locations and any potential siting's.

2) Dept. of Transportation (DOT)

(a) Missing ASP Signage – 415 East 204<sup>th</sup> Street.

(b) No Standing Anytime Signage Request – Around the "Islands" Near the Margaret Mack Triangle, across From Tracey Towers; West Mosholu Parkway South & Jerome Ave.

(c) ASP/No Parking Sign Was Shifted About 10 Feet from Original Location – 3463 Putnam Place.

(d) Sidewalk Repair Request – Across From Tracey Towers, Near/In Front of the Bx1, 2 & 28.

(e) We agreed to do a walk-through to identify sites.

3) Dept. of Buildings (DOB)

(a) Parkside Project has been denied by DOB based on the plans submitted.

(b) DOB provides Homeowner services on Thursdays, from 2-7pm @ 193 Arthur Ave.

(c) DOB rep, agreed to attend all meetings relating to new development at Housing Committee meetings.

4) Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)



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**Bronx**

**Wednesday, June 13, 2018 • 1:30-4 p.m.**

**Hostos Community College**

450 Grand Concourse • Hostos Café

Bronx, NY 10451

(a) April is mosquito season – be mindful of standing water.

i. <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/west-nile-virus-community.page>

#### VI) Committee Reports

A) Budget, Personnel & Ethics

1) Andrew Laisosa is requesting that Committees send him requests for funds before the middle of May or we will lose \$ 44,000.

2) He also noted that the revised By Laws will be voted on in June.



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- B) Community Relations & Long Term Planning – No Report
- C) Economic Development – No report
- D) Education, Youth & Libraries – No report
- E) Environment & Sanitation
  - 1) Helene will have a speaker at the Committee meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> who will speak about weatherization. On June 6<sup>th</sup> a representative from DEP will address water issues and information for home owners. There will also be a special presentation on feral cat colonies.
- F) Health and Hospitals – No report
- G) Housing, Land Use & Zoning
  - 1) Jean Hill reported on the meeting with the developer around the properties on Marion Avenue and Creston Avenue.
  - 2) The details were reviewed with the Committee and a motion to send a letter of support for the project with conditions was proposed for approval at the April meeting.
- H) Parks & Recreation
  - 1) Barbara Stronczer opened the meeting with a greeting to Mr. Johnson, the manager of Devoe Park.
  - 2) Mr. Johnson was asked to attend Parks Committee meetings because of the many complaints from community residents about the upkeep of the Park.
    - (a) One issue was the need for assurance from residents that the upkeep of the park would be ongoing.
  - 3) A reminder that Sunday is Earth Day.
- I) Public Safety & Quality of Life – No report
- J) Senior Services
  - 1) There was no meeting this month.
  - 2) In May, there will be a presentation from the Director of MMCC Senior Center and in June, a presentation from the Director from the Bedford Park Senior Center.
  - 3) On Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, there will be a tour of the Holocaust Museum at the Bronx H.S. of Science.
    - (a) Call Lowell for details.
- K) Traffic & Transportation
  - 1) Edgar Ramos reported that the parking situation on Bailey would be handled by NYPD and DOT.
- L) Veterans
  - 1) Cole Hawkins gave an update on the Veterans Event to be held on Friday.



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#### M) Ad Hoc

- 1) Website, Acknowledgement & Media
  - (a) The Committee is looking for sites to visit on the bus tour.
  - (b) They also need information and pictures for the newsletter.
- 2) By-Laws
  - (a) By Laws to be voted on, at the June meeting.

#### VII) New Business

- A) Kenny Agosto, from State Senator Jamaal Bailey's office, thanked Adaline for her service on behalf of the Senator.
  - 1) He also announced that there will be an Opioid Awareness Workshop sponsored by the Senator on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, from 1pm. to 4 pm. at Williamsbridge Oval.
  - 2) There will also be a Community Autism Awareness Walk on April 29<sup>th</sup>, from 11 am - 2 pm at Haffen Park.

VIII) The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.