



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

SANITATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday February 11, 2014 6:30 PM

I. Environmental Issues:

A. New legislative proposal for Animal Shelters in the Bronx and Staten Island:

1. Questionnaire from a group that is developing a proposal to have Animal shelters in the Bronx and Queens. The Bronx Animal Shelter Endeavor (BASE) is a group of animal advocates and rescuers in NYC. The questionnaire was handed out to the committee and guests.
2. Forms were filled out and responses and ideas were expressed.
3. The form asked for Services for the Public. Listed below are our needs and ideas:
 - a. Training for our Youth in Vet tech skills
 - b. Training to trap, neuter and return (TNR) –a way to help stabilize feral colonies. These are animals that are feral (not easily adopted) and being fed & cared for by local residents. These colonies help to keep the rodent population under control.
 - c. Help with assistance in getting Pet Food Stamps
 - d. Legal help with housing problems related to pet ownership
4. Services for the animals:
 - a. Adoption/Surrender
 - b. Spay/Neuter
 - c. Affordable Veterinary Services
 - d. 24 hour emergency services
 - e. Drop off for animals abandoned in parks/apartments
 - f. A local shelter in the borough because currently when animals are lost, they are being sent to other boroughs making retrieval much harder and more stressful on both owners and pets.
5. The Committee chair would like the Board to support this proposal; more information will be forwarded as it becomes available. No motion was made. The committee was interested and supportive of the Shelter. This has been a long term goal of the committee.



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6. A guest reported that our local elected officials are very interested in working with the community on these issues. We will be reaching out to them.
7. It was reported that the NYPD is now responsible for animal cruelty cases, formerly it was the ASPCA. There was concern that the NYPD would not have the time or the resources, but reports have been favorable that the NYPD is able to respond quickly and effectively, to these complaints. Calls should be made to the local precinct or 911 for emergencies.

II. Update on PS 51:

- A. The next meeting with the NYS DOH will be held in mid-March 2014, the exact date has not been set yet. This is a follow-up meeting to the meeting that was held with NYS DOH last year. This meeting will give parents an opportunity to discuss their particular concerns regarding their student's health issues.
- B. The remediation of the former school site on Jerome Ave is going well.
- C. A follow-up meeting with the school construction authority regarding new policies for leased schools to prevent what happened at PS 51 from happening again was held in January 2014. The new procedures were reviewed and it appears the new process does covers many of the parents' concerns.
- D. The City Council Legislative proposal regarding PS 51. No new action on this.

III. Sanitation Issues:

- A. There were many complaints about the lack of shoveling on the overpasses and the Green spaces in the area. The difficulty with calling 311 and getting the correct agency was discussed. With the overpass on 204th Street and the Grand Concourse during the last snow storm it took 32 minutes to file a complaint and the area was never shoveled. We do not believe it is a sanitation issue and that is where they wanted the complaint to be listed. Follow-up will be needed on this.
- B. It was also suggested that locations need to be corrected in the 311 system. All agreed that when a caller makes a complaint, there are times when they cannot find the location in the computer and then a complaint is not filed. It was suggested that these locations be sent to the Board and our elected officials for follow-up.

IV. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.