



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

DUSTIN ENGELKEN, DISTRICT MANAGER

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 14, 2014 @ 6:30 PM

- I. Attendance sheet on file
 - A. In attendance were two guest speakers from the Bronx Animal Shelter Endeavor (BASE).
Marion Koenig, Founder and Ellan Garrison
 - B. Michaela Ross from the CUNY School of Journalism
- II. Environmental Issues:
 - A. Update from NYS DEC on 3200 Jerome Avenue - PS 51:
 1. Building Remediation: The NYS DEC reported that the project is close to completion. It is anticipated that it may be completed as soon as the end of 2014. A new fact sheet will be sent out to inform the public of the completion. Part of the remediation process will involve that the building's air quality and ground water be monitored for 30 years. The site will be reviewed annually
 2. The site will be used for residential housing once the remediation is complete. At that time, the owner of the building may want to make changes to the building and look for tenants. The community is welcome to invite the NYS DEC to come to the board and answer any questions that they may have regarding the building being occupied again. We have been assured that this will be a very safe building to be in, after the work is completed.
 - B. Animal Shelter in the Bronx advocacy - Elected official sign-on:
 1. We had an in-depth discussion of animal issues and concerns in the Bronx:
 - a. The need for and advocacy around acquiring a new full-time Animal Hospital (with 24 hr. emergency care)
 - b. The takeover of the Police for Animal Abuse complaints. We should be getting statistics on calls and resolutions of these issues
 - c. The Police are able to accomplish more than the ASPCA but they recommended that training and equipment is needed to help educate the Police. We were informed that neither specific training or equipment has been given to the NYPD so far
 - d. There is a lot of dog fighting in the Bronx
 - e. Discussed the idea of "Go Bags", a term used by NYC Office of Emergency Operations (OEM) READY NY to help in a disaster. A "Go Bag," is a bag that you prepare ahead of time. You keep it ready with ID, Medications, money and food to grab and take with you in case of an evacuation of any kind. OEM also has literature for pets as well. The committee thought we should distribute these brochures to the community
 - C. Suggestions / wishes for the Long Term Planning Committee:
 1. Initial Topics that were raised were:
 - a. An Animal Shelter (this was priority #6 for the Board for Capital Expense budget). this would not only help animals and their human companions, but it would bring



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jobs and training programs like the Vet Tech Program that was housed at Dewitt Clinton High School

- b. A better way to collect and process recycling
- c. Changes to the use of rat poison in our community; there are concerns that rat poison is killing other wildlife it was not intended to harm. (This may be a Parks concern as well)
- d. Monitoring of how garbage is removed from the areas where Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are involved. A new process to review how efficiently this is being done, was suggested
- e. More wide spread distribution of the Bronx Culture Card or a similar program that can not only offer discounted options for theater and museums, to bring in new audiences; but it could also be used to showcase Bronx talent by adding new offerings of venues that are not as well known

D. New business: None

III. Sanitation Issues:

A. Dog excrement Issues - New date-locations:

- 1. It was agreed that with the ordering options available, we would have to postpone any events until the spring. The event will take place at the Williamsbridge Oval because of the dog run there
- 2. Decide on poster vendor - review sample
- 3. After a thorough evaluation of the sample signs and a discussion of the merits of plastic versus metal, the metal sign won the most votes. The vote was unanimous that we would order 1,000 of the metal clean-up after your dog signs

B. Underpass at Bedford Park needs cleaning. The issue was referred to the District Manager, Dustin Engelken

C. New Business- none stated

IV. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.