



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO, CHAIRPERSON

HEALTH & HOSPITALS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

- I. Attendance sheet in file
- II. Presentation:
 - A. Ms. Viera Meiling from the Department of Health came to educate the committee on Legionnaires Disease.
 - B. Legionnaires disease, is a serious, sometimes lethal pneumonia and an influenza-like, self-limited illness, are the two most common forms of legionellosis, which is caused by Legionella bacteria
 - C. The rise in reported cases reinforces the need for health-care providers in all parts of NY and the United States to test and treat adults with severe breathing issues and low immunities. They in turn contact the CDC and with the information they see if it's contained in a cluster or area. IThis disease is not air borne and is highly treatable with antibiotics
 - D. Legionella bacteria can multiply in all kinds of water systems such as:
 - 1. Hot tubs and whirlpools on cruise ships
 - 2. Cooling towers in air conditioning systems
 - 3. Decorative fountains
 - 4. Swimming pools
 - 5. Physical therapy equipment
 - 6. Water systems in hotels, hospitals and nursing homes
 - E. Prevention is aimed at improving the design and maintenance of cooling towers and plumbing system
- III. Update on Montefiore:
 - A. Once again nurses from Montefiore made a presentation regarding the seriousness of reduction in staffing and the effects it has been having on personnel and those going there for treatment. This is showing up in all areas. Just recently there was an incident which made all the papers and was receiving wide attention
 - B. Right after the nurses reiterated their concerns, the committee chair mentioned that we were still in the process of addressing outstanding issues with Montefiore and were planning another meeting with them shortly. In the previous Health and Hospital meeting it was agreed that a letter would be formed specifically inviting Montefiore to a meeting at CB7. Ms. Walker-Santiago recently received a request from Montefiore asking the committee to come hold our next meeting at their facility. Unfortunately, that will not be possible due to the fact that as per the Bylaws all CB7 meetings are supposed to be open to the public. In addition, it has been noted by their personnel that the same issues still exist and with the recent incident that happened at Albert Einstein it is now urgent that a solid solution be implemented so that this doesn't happen again



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- C. Since the letter that the previous DM was supposed to type and give back to Ms. Walker-Santiago and Ms. Bent can't be found, Ms. Walker-Santiago asked the committee to make a motion and present it at the General Board meeting on Tuesday, October 20th, 2015. Once again, unfortunately as per the Bylaws the motion is supposed to go through the Executive Committee first before being presented at the General Board meeting. Due to all the miscommunication and since this matter is pressing, we are requesting that the Executive Committee review this letter and pass a vote on it so that it can be sent out immediately
- IV. Review Budget Priorities:
 - A. Committee met and reviewed the Community Board Budget Requests
- V. **Motion #1:**
 - A. The Health and Hospital Committee moves that Montefiore's administrative staff come to an open meeting to address outstanding issues pertaining to their facilities that are effecting the surrounding community. We wish to invite them for our December 2015 meeting at the Community Boards office.
- VI. Meeting adjourned