



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

**Scott Towers ♦ 3400 Paul Avenue
Tuesday, April 30, 2019 @ 6:30 PM**

Your attendance and participation at community board and committee meeting is vital to a productive operation of the community board in order to achieve excellence in service to our community. The full board meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at various locations within the district.

**The next General Community Board Meeting will be held on: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 @ 6:30PM
LOCATION: Kittay House ♦ 2550 Webb Avenue ♦ Bronx, NY 10468**

PUBLIC SESSION: A sign-in sheet will be available for those wishing to speak. There will be no further comments from the gallery after the closing of the Public Session. Participants are allowed a **MAXIMUM OF 3 MINUTES** for their statement, unless additional time to speak is approved by the board.

AGENDA

- I) Elected Officials & Liaisons / Public Session / City Agency Representatives
- II) Acknowledgement of New York Yankees Community Council Youth Leadership Award Recipients
- III) Closing of Public Session / Opening of Board Meeting
 - A) Attendance
 - B) Approval of Agenda & Minutes
 - C) Motion(s)
 - D) Chairperson's Report
 - E) Executive Committee Report
 - F) District Manager's Report
 - G) Committee Reports:
 - 1) Economic Development & Long Term Planning – William Francis(Page C)
 - 2) Veterans Affairs – Emmanuel Martinez(Page D)
 - 3) Budget/Personnel & Ethics – Andrew Laiosa(Page E)
 - 4) Environment & Sanitation – Betty Arce(Page F)
 - 5) Education & Youth – Myrna Calderon(Page G)
 - 6) Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos(Page H)
 - 7) Housing, Land Use & Zoning – John Snider(Page I)
 - 8) Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer(Page J)
 - 9) Public Safety & Quality of Life – Diletta Pina(Page K)
 - 10) Health & Human Services – Chad Y. Royer(Page L)
 - 11) Public Relations – Lowell Green(Page M)
- IV) New Business
- V) Adjournment



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MOTION(S)

EXECUTIVE MEETING:

I) MOTION(S)

A) Environment & Sanitation:

- 1) To support the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines Standard for New York City.

B) Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs:

- 1) A letter be sent to Parks Commissioner Rosa requesting she look into the status of permits issued at Frisch Field and work out an arrangement to give Oval Community Youth Program, a local team. Additional Expermit time.



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GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chair	Jean Hill
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Scott Towers 3400 Paul Avenue Bronx, NY 10468
Minutes Done By:	Nora Feury, Secretary

Minutes

I. Introductions

- a. Jean Hill opened the meeting at 6:40 pm with a “Thank you “ to the Scott Tower Board for their hospitality in hosting the CB 7 General Board Meeting.

II. Elected Officials/Public Session

- a. Councilman Fernando Cabrera gave an update on the Jerome Avenue zoning including the award of 9 million dollars for construction of PS 246 which was built in 1916.
 - 1. He also cited the OTPS funds that each CB received for additional resources. He is encouraging the CB members to write letters to the Mayor to continue the funding as a permanent line item.
 - 2. The Councilman announced the passing of the Early Voting bill with 7 sites. He is urging the opening of more sites.
- b. Maximo Javier, representing Congressman Adriano Espaillat reported that their office at 2530 Grand Concourse is open for the next 2 months.
 - 1. There will be a 2020 Census Town Hall on May 23rd from 6 – 8 pm at Serviam Hall. All are invited for the latest updates and for information on job offerings.
- c. Josephine Cristostomo, from the Mayor’s office reported on the funding of the Crime Victims Assistance Program to be located in local police precincts. There will be 2 Advocates who will provide resources for victims. NYC will have a hot line for those in need of counseling.
 - 1. There will also be CPR and First Aid training for victims who have mental illnesses. It is an 8 hour training @ 1826 Arthur Avenue . Interested people should call 855-562-2020.



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- d. Jane Addison-Amoyaw, from the Mosholu Library distributed flyers listing the upcoming events for May for Kids, Teens and Adults. Children's Book Week is from April 29th-May 5th, where children may vote on their favorite books. On Saturday, there will be a Book Fair from 11-7.
- e. Joseph Diaz, from the Neighborhood Association for Inter-Cultural Affairs, Inc. (NAICO). The Association provides housing intervention and assistance services to residents of the Bronx since it was established in 1974. NAICO provides the following free services:
 1. Legal representation in Bronx Housing Court
 2. Tenant/Landlord Mediation Services
 3. Homelessness Prevention Services
 4. Referrals for job placement
 5. Family Homelessness & Eviction Prevention
 6. Short term rental arrears
 7. Providing permanent housing for families in transitional housing
 - Call 718-538-3344 ext. 106 for more information.
- f. Justin Sanchez reported on the Borough President's protest against the proposed site for a new jail in Mott Haven.
 1. The Borough President is informing the community of space in local public schools for meetings where he will cover the fees. Call 718-590-3522.
 2. There will be a Public Health Education Event on preventing Legionnaires Disease on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 12 pm at 851 Grand Concourse.
 3. On May 1st, it will be the official Bronx 2020 Census Kick-Off at 10:45 am at the Bronx County Building at 851 Grand Concourse. Another event is the "Break the Fast Together" on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Call to confirm your attendance at 718-590-3522.
 4. Bronx Week is from May 9th – May 19th.
- g. Hidehee Salazar, reporting from Assemblyman Victor Pichardo's office about the availability of free Immigration Services in his office on Friday, May 10th at 10:30am at 2175 Jerome Avenue, Suite C. An attorney who specializes in Citizenship is also available.



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- h. Priya Vavanasi informs us that State Senator Alessandra Biaggi will be available in her district office on Fridays at 1250 Waters Place, Bronx, NY 10461. She is also available at the CB 7 office on the second Thursday of the month.
 1. Priya gave Senator Biaggi's report on the Albany budget with the passing of Criminal Justice Reform, Campaign Finance Reform, Education Financial support and Health Care.
 2. She also noted that the Plastic Bag Ban was approved.
- i. Miles Burnett reported on City Councilman Andy Cohen's update on legislation in the Council ie: Bill INT 0623-A, which requires the Fire Department to report quarterly to the City Council and the Department of Health on the number of opioid antagonists the Department. has available
 1. Bill INT-1251 is a bill with the goal to reduce Green House Gases. This legislation will help reduce energy use and improve air quality.
 2. Bill INT-1301 is a bill requiring the NYC Department of Education to create an on-line portal to facilitate the comparison of funding and spending across schools.
 3. Other issues being addressed are the Tenant Protection Law and the Bus Stops Countdown.
 4. There will be a Safe Disposal Event on June 23 from 10-2 pm at Chandler Park. Call to sign up at 718-549-7300.
 5. There will be a Mammogram screening on June 8th at 10 am at the Mosholu Library.
 6. The Councilman wants feedback from the community on possible parking spots where the signs are obsolete or other conditions exist.
- j. Forham Rahi invites all to the Open House Grand Re-Opening of Assemblywoman Nathalia Fernandez' office at 2018 Williamsbridge Road, from 11am-1pm.
 1. Rain Barrels will be distributed on May 4th from 12-2pm at Loreto Park on Morris Park Avenue or on May 11th from 12-2pm at MS 101 at 2750 Lafayette Ave.
- k. The NY Yankees Scholarship Awards were presented by Jean Hill to the following students:



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1. Ali Alamari
2. Czarina Maysonet
3. Serena Montero
4. Selena Rodriguez
5. Konstanina Sgolombis
 - Each student spoke about themselves and their goals before the presentation. They were warmly received by the audience after they received their awards.
- l. Rudolph Pongnon who wished to introduce himself.
- m. Dilletta Pina reported on the Early Voting bill that was passed in Albany. At present, there are only 7 sites identified for early voting. It is expected a huge increase by 2020 to accommodate more voters.
 1. Dilletta presented an award to Michael Rosario for his assistance in a recent event held by the Committee. He received a great round of applause from all especially Board members who have called on Michael in the past.
- n. Councilman Andy Cohen reported on the Preliminary Budget and shared a proposal of 40 million dollars for a proposed new 52nd Precinct Annex that may be located in Sam's Carpet store.
 1. He is still working on the 5 million to be assigned to Frisch Field for upgrades. Continued funding for Senior Citizens Program remains a priority for the Councilman who is greatly concerned if there is a mention of less funding.
- o. Amy Tsai, who serves on the DOE District Council, spoke about the need for a High School for children with IEPs who live in the community. She is appealing to the community to support the effort of constructing a separate school for children with special needs.
- p. David Deller, from the U.S. Census Bureau, announced the upcoming Census and the importance of responding to the census in order to be counted. Future funding and representation for a district depends on the number of people living in a district.
 1. The Bureau is seeking employees to collect data, supervisors, temporary positions and office work. Some positions may become permanent. Call 855-562-2020 for further information.



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q. Adaline Walker-Santiago announced that jobs are available at Access A Ride with paid training.

1. There will be a Job Fair on May 3-4th. Call 718-863-7972 X 2423.

III. Public Session ends/ Board Meeting opened at 7:55 pm

a. Attendance taken; Quorum present

b. The Agenda and the minutes were approved with changes.

c. Motion(s):

1. Environment & Sanitation Committee: To support the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines Standard for New York City.

- Motion approved unanimously

2. Resolution; Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG)

- **WHEREAS**, sea levels are rising across the globe, and will continue to increase the extent, frequency, and duration of storms and coastal flooding. These risks come with increasing costs, both event-based and day to day. Hurricane Sandy has cost New York City \$19 billion to date¹, and flood insurance rates continue to rise²; and
- **WHEREAS**, by 2050, NYC's average temperature is expected to rise between 4.1 and 6.6°F, and annual precipitation is expected to increase between 4% and 13%, which could exacerbate flooding³; and
- **WHEREAS**, despite these rapidly increasing risks and costs, new waterfront development is occurring at a rapid pace. Over 400,000 New Yorkers have a 50% chance of experiencing a major flood in their homes by 2060, and over 41% of those are economically and socially vulnerable⁴. And, increasing density in neighborhoods across the Bronx calls for smart choices about how we prepare for storms through design and management of developments in the floodplain; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Waterfront Alliance has a tool, the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG®), which can equip Community



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Boards to make more informed decisions on smart design, coastal resiliency, and improved access to the waterfront; and

- **WHEREAS**, WEDG is a nationally recognized standard to enhance resilience, ecology, and access in waterfront development. Any waterfront project which touches the waterfront edge – residential, industrial, mixed use or park, is eligible for WEDG certification. There are eight WEDG Certified projects in New York City including Starlight Park and Oak Point/ McInnis Cement in the Bronx; and
- **WHEREAS**, WEDG is a toolkit that empowers communities, builders, and decision-makers to consider factors such as hard infrastructure, green infrastructure, ecology, best practices in design and waterfront access options including kayaking, walkways, parks, waterborne transit (ferries) so that the whole community benefits; and
- **WHEREAS**, WEDG is a powerful, simple, and freely available communications tool, and grassroots movement to empower communities to protect their homes and build stronger, more equitable and resilient neighborhoods. From the Bronx to the south shore of Staten Island, WEDG has already made a strong impact on improving waterfront communities, and the movement is growing; and
- **WHEREAS**, as Community Boards are on the forefront of reviewing major projects and reshaping local waterfronts, Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines can help hold developers to a higher standard, improve land use decisions, and help citizens advocate for a more equitable development process. Community Boards can make commitment to creating more resilient, equitable waterfront development in their districts by adopting a resolution encouraging the use of WEDG for all waterfront projects.
- **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Bronx Community Board 7 encourages all waterfront projects in the Bronx Community



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Board 7 district to adhere to WEDG standards from the beginning of the design process and incorporated to the best of the project sponsor's ability design standards which maximize resilience, ecology, and access; and

- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Bronx Community Board 7 encourages designers and developers of new construction and renovation on the waterfront to submit to a full WEDG certification process; and
 - **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Bronx Community Board 7 encourages project sponsors and Waterfront Alliance to hire and employ persons residing or working in the Bronx and Community Board 7 as well as New York City certified Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises in the preparation and evaluation of WEDG certification applications and the design and construction of projects pursuing WEDG certification; and
 - **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Bronx Community Board 7 urges other Community Boards and Borough Boards in New York City to leverage this freely available resource to enhance resilience, ecology, and access by adopting resolutions of their own.
2. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs: A letter be sent to Parks Commissioner Rosa requesting she look into the status of permits issued at Frisch Field and work out an arrangement to give Oval Community Youth Program, a local team. Additional Expermit time.
- Motion approved unanimously

IV. Chairperson's Report

- a. Jean Hill appointed Sandra Erickson, John Snider, Gwen Thomas-Steed, Betty Arce and Alex Karman to the Nominated Committee and motioned the Board to accept her nominations. All Board members approve with 2 abstentions Kevin Davis and Helene Redd. Jean reviewed the nomination steps to be held at the May meeting and the election process to be held at the June meeting.
- b. Jean is still seeking possible bus stops for the bus tour of the community in June.

V. Executive Committee Report



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- a. On May 19th the Bronx Parade will be held on Mosholu Pkwy. It is important that we have representation from the Board members. We will meet at 12 noon on Mosholu Pkwy and Hull Ave. We need volunteers to man the CB 7 table.
- b. The Bus Tour is on June 8th.

VI. District Manager's Report

a. April Agency Reminders:

1. DOB- This interactive map provides current building activity for the past 12 months including permits, complaints, inspections, violations and accidents. Select a category from the main menu to view specific types of activity across the city. Or click on a building footprint to get aggregated building profile statistics. DOB data presented in this application is updated weekly. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/html/dob-building-profiles.html>
 2. DOHMH- Many of our local restaurants are being fined. The issue seems to be a language barrier between the Inspector and business owner. We have requested that all restaurant owners who feel their language needs were not accommodated please reach out to me. This link will help you understand how and what happens during the inspections for a letter grade. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/rii/blue-book.pdf>
 3. NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi- Will be providing constituent services for those residing within her senate district at Bronx Community Board 7 every second Tuesday of the month from 11am-4pm.
 4. NYS Assemblywoman Nathalia Fernandez- is an office RE-Opening/Open House: May 11th, 2019 from 11am to 1pm (718-409-0109)
- b. NYC Council Charter Commission- The 2019 Commission — made up of members appointed by the Mayor, the Speaker of the City Council, all five Borough Presidents, the Public Advocate, and the Comptroller — has a broad mandate to conduct a top-to-bottom review and will bring its recommendations to the public in November 2019. <http://www.charter2019.nyc/>
- c. Montefiore- Is conducting a Community Health Assessment. It's a brief survey and the results will be used to create a report and shape the focus of our community health efforts. They are requesting responses be submitted by April 30th
1. English: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BX_CHS_2019
 2. Spanish: https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/BX_Salud2019



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- d. Bronx Borough President Rube Diaz Jr: Invites you to attend official 2020 Census Kick-off on May 1st, 2019 at 10:45am at the The Bronx County Building 851 Grand Concourse, Veterans Memorial Hall. RSVP at TMCDERMOTT@BronxBP.nyc.gov or call 718-590-6001.
- e. Community updates:
1. I have been working alongside the Davidson Community Association to ensure they are getting the services to address many of their concerns. Among many; the one issue is the illegal prostitution on Davidson and 192nd street. Through my efforts I have been able to facilitate a conversation with the District Attorney's office, 52nd PCT and the Community. We want ensure our Homeowners do not leave the neighborhood due to these conditions while also working with organizations to get the sex workers the services they need.
- f. Demolition Updates:
1. 2732 Creston Avenue: Job 220691464 – Full Demolition of a 2 story house
 2. 2736 Creston Avenue: Job 220691455 – Full Demolition of a 2 story house
 3. 2738 Creston Avenue: Job 220691446 – Full Demolition of a 2 story house
 - Each demolition application was processed on 3/15/2019.
 - 2738 Creston Avenue: Job 220673153 (Filed 12/3/2018) – Construct new apartment building. The Application received a disapproval on 3/26/2019. We do not retain any information on the plans at this time as the plans are disapproved.
 4. Among many community meetings; I attended the Bedford Manor Tenant Association meeting.
 - The residents now have a “live in Super” to provide janitorial services and do minor repairs. A follow up meeting is scheduled for April 30th, 2019.
 5. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center: (not in our CB) But service most of our constituency. I would like to schedule a tour of the facility.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Economic Development & Long Term Planning
 1. Remarks on the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines with supporting documentation
- b. Veterans Affairs
 1. The Veterans Committee will be holding the Veterans Brunch on May 17 at Lehman College.



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- c. Budget, Personnel & Ethics
 - 1. The next meeting will be on May 13.
- d. Environment & Sanitation
 - 1. See the minutes for the report.
 - 2. At the next meeting there will be a presentation from the League of Conservation Votes.
- e. Education, Youth & Libraries
 - 1. Discussion continues on the colocation of a school for children with special needs at DeWitt Clinton.
 - 2. A presentation was made on sex trafficking of young children. See the Committee minutes for further details.
 - 3. The passing of the Re. Foley was announced. Services to be held on Sunday at 3pm at 190th Street and Grand Avenue.
- f. Traffic & Transportation
 - 1. The next meeting will be on May 2nd
- g. Housing, Land Use & Zoning
 - 1. Rent increases continues to be of deep concern to community residents causing CB 7 to have one of the highest rates of evictions in the City. The Committee plans a “ Special Meeting “ in the Fall to discuss preferential rent and other landlord practices. The Metropolitan Council on Housing will be invited.
- h. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
 - 1. Park permits continue to be a concern of the Committee. The next meeting will be on May 8th with a representative from Forestry present.
- i. Public Safety & Quality of Life
 - 1. Dilletta Pina reported on the Public Safety Resource Fair sponsored by the Committee. See the minutes for further details. A job well done. Yajaira Arias was named Vice Chair of the Committee.
- j. Health & Human Services
 - 1. Chad Royer reported on the Lehman Event. He thanked the CB members who supported the presentation. The Committee is planning a Health Fair in the Fall for Seniors with Disabilities. At the next meeting a Columbia



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University student will present a study on the Emergency Room at Montefiore Hospital.

k. Public Relations

1. Lowell thanked all for the News items and pictures. She reminded all to participate at the parade on May 19. Volunteers are need for the CB table.

VIII. New Business

- a. It was noted that a strike by workers on the CAMDA project at 203 – 204 Street and Grand Concourse was taking place.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input type="checkbox"/> Myrna Calderon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edgar Ramos <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Snider <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dilletta Pina <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Royer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Francis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Laiosa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lowell Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nora Feury <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Stronczer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Hill <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emmanuel Martinez
Minutes Done By:	Nora Feury, Secretary

Minutes:

I. Executive Committee Chair Remarks

- a. Barbara Stronczer opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. She welcomed all and asked that the members raise their hands in order to be recognized.

II. Chairperson’s Report

- a. Jean Hill noted that the CB would be having elections in June. She reviewed the guidelines for nominations and the election procedure. Nominations will be made at the May Board meeting and Elections will be held at the June meeting.

IV. District Manager’s Report

a. April Agency Reminders:

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2. DOHMH- Many of our local restaurants are being fined. The issue seems to be a language barrier between the Inspector and business owner. We have requested that all restaurant owners who feel their language needs were not accommodated please reach out to me. This link will help you understand how and what happens during the inspections for a letter grade. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/rii/blue-book.pdf>



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3. NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi- Will be providing constituent services for those residing within her senate district at Bronx Community Board 7 every second Tuesday of the month from 11am-4pm.
4. NYS Assemblywoman Nathalia Fernandez- is an office RE-Opening/Open House: May 11th, 2019 from 11am to 1pm (718-409-0109)
- b. NYC Council Charter Commission- The 2019 Commission — made up of members appointed by the Mayor, the Speaker of the City Council, all five Borough Presidents, the Public Advocate, and the Comptroller — has a broad mandate to conduct a top-to-bottom review and will bring its recommendations to the public in November 2019. <http://www.charter2019.nyc/>
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- 2738 Creston Avenue: Job 220673153 (Filed 12/3/2018) – Construct new apartment building. The Application received a disapproval on 3/26/2019. We do not retain any information on the plans at this time as the plans are disapproved.
- 4. Among many community meetings; I attended the Bedford Manor Tenant Association meeting.
 - The residents now have a “live in Super” to provide janitorial services and do minor repairs. A follow up meeting is scheduled for April 30th, 2019.
- 5. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center: (not in our CB) But service most of our constituency. I would like to schedule a tour of the facility.

V. Committee Reports & Motions

a. Budget, Personnel & Ethics

1. Andrew Laiosa passed around a recent news article about the misuse of CB letterhead at another CB.
2. The Committee reviewed the policies for the use of CB 7 letterhead to avoid any issues.
3. The Attendance at meetings were reviewed with minor corrections made.
4. There was a detailed discussion regarding the budget process with an update on the current expenditures. A copy of the proposed expenditures with their approximate costs were reviewed. It is expected that the total annual budget expenditures will be met.

b. Economic Development & Long Term Planning – No report

c. Education, youth & libraries

1. There was a report on the meeting at DeWitt Clinton which was very well attended concerning placing a school on the premises. The Committee will continue the dialogue of building a school with ADA accessibility.
2. An Education Forum with the NY Public Library is in the planning stage.
3. There was a report on the presentation on Human Trafficking. The presenters will train parents and children to recognize the dangers on how to avoid and report any situations. The Committee will be working with the group and the legislators to bring this subject to the public’s attention.

d. Environment & Sanitation



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1. The Committee reported on the presentation on the environment and reviewed the Dirty Buildings Law.
 2. As a set of guidelines, WEDG provides a diverse and extensive suite of design options for a wide variety of waterfront projects. As a credit-based rating system, WEDG establishes a process and threshold for certification to review a project's performance relative to resilience, access, and ecology in the following six categories:
 - Category 0: Site Assessment & Planning
 - Category 1: Responsible Siting & Coastal Risk Reduction
 - Category 2: Community Access & Connections
 - Category 3: Edge Resilience
 - Category 4: Natural Resources
 - Category 5: Innovation
 3. The committee voted on a motion to adopt a resolution in support of the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines Standard for NYC.
 - **Motion:** To support the Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines Standard for New York City.
- e. Health & Human Services
1. Chad Royer thanked all for participating in the Forum at Lehman. Plans for the Fall will focus on older people with disabilities.
 2. Health assessments with Montefiore Hospital is being planned. At the next meeting a Columbia student will report on research emergency visits at Montefiore Hospital.
- f. Housing, Land Use & Zoning
1. John Snider reported on the Botanical Gardens presentation.
 2. The Committee also discussed Preferential Rent concerns. They are planning a forum regarding rent regulations and tenant's rights. A discussion ensued regarding landlords and tenants with possible legal violation of the rent laws.
- h. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
1. Barbara reported on the concerns of Youth Programs and the issues they encounter with park permits. One problem is the granting of permits to



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groups from outside the Borough leaving neighborhood groups without a place to play.

2. A motion was made to send a letter to Commissioner Rosa to look into the situation:

- **Motion:** A letter be sent to Parks Commissioner Rosa requesting she look into the status of permits issued at Frisch Field and work out an arrangement to give Oval Community Youth Program , a local team, additional permit time.

3. There was an update on the cleanup at Aqueduct Walk. More volunteers are needed.

i. Public Safety & Quality of Life

1. Yajaira Aria was appointed as Vice Chair.
2. Dilletta Pina reported on the Resource Fair which was a huge success.
3. A reminder that the 52 pct meeting is on April 25.
4. Next committee meeting on May 9th.

j. Public Relations

1. Lowell Green thanked all for their cooperation in sending articles and pictures for the newsletter.

k. Traffic & Transportation – No report

l. Veterans Affairs

1. The Outreach Coordinator for Congressman Adrian Espaillet spoke on Veterans issues and housing.
2. The Committee is pursuing information on placing flags on Veterans graves in the local cemetery. Several Board members volunteered to assist.
3. The Veterans Brunch is scheduled for Friday, May 17th at Lehman from 10 – 12. Volunteers welcome.

VI. New Business

- a. Bus Tour on June 8th. Send any proposed stops to Jean Hill.
- b. Bronx Week Parade on May 19th.
- c. Volunteers need to man the CB 7 table.

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 8:25pm



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chair	William Francis
Meeting Conducted By:	Alex Karman
Next Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office

NO REPO THEORA REPO



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VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chair	Emmanuel Martinez
Next Meeting Date:	Thursday, April30 , 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office

NO REPORT FOR APRIL



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ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

Chair	Betty Arce
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, April 2 nd , 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky <input type="checkbox"/> SM Shah Mahmood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gloribel Vega <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex Karman
Minutes Done By:	Betty Arce

Minutes:

I. Introductions

II. Review of last month's minutes

III. Follow-up from previous month

IV. New Business

- a. Review and discussion of WEDG Draft Resolution
 1. Committee members offered edits to the resolution, which would be further edited by Alex Karman.
- b. Committee voted unanimously to approve the following motion with edits:
 1. Motion: Bronx community board 7 supports the waterfront edge design guidelines standard for New York city for all waterfront projects
 Edgar Cisneros – Environmental Legislation Update
 City level
- c. Dirty buildings Bill (1253-2018) (Constantinescu sponsored) & 1252-2018 (Cohen sponsored)
 1. Vote scheduled for April 18th
 2. Enough votes in the city council
 3. Importance for CB 7
 - Mandates retrofitting 50,000 largest city buildings in the Bronx, to reduce pollution by 2030, 2040, 2050 & provides financing
 - Mandates minimum 50% of electricity in NYC from renewable sources
 4. State Level



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- Climate & Community Protection Act – (S2992/A3876)
 - Not included in state budget
 - Enough votes in Senate (including Bailey)
 - Assembly close to receiving needed votes
 - To be taken up in the upcoming legislative session
 - Importance to CB 7
 - Codifies mandatory reduction of carbon dioxide emissions to net zero by 2050
 - Mandates minimum 50% of electricity in NYS from renewable sources
 - Would provide financing to zip codes like CB7. How?
 - Establishes a working group to identify communities most impacted by climate change and allocates resources to provide resilience funding and opportunities (i.e. asthma rates, heat traps, assistance for HVAC improvements)
- d. Plastic bag ban status:
1. Banned as of March 2020
 2. Places a 5 cents fee on paper, subject to county opt-out. NYC council has to vote to opt in by March 2020
 3. All retailers are included except for restaurants
- e. Congestion pricing status:
1. Passed, included in budget
 2. Places a toll for driving in congested areas below 60th Street in Manhattan
 3. Importance for CB7
 - Provides money needed for improvements for MTA
 - Likely to yield air quality benefits by reducing idling & number of cars traversing the city
 - Will likely improve/lower asthma rates throughout the borough
- f. City Council legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050



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1. Int. No. 1253 – Establish the Office of Building Energy Performance & expend retro-commissioning requirements to certain buildings over 25,000 square feet
2. Int. No 1252 - Establish a sustainability energy loan program to provide certain building owners with funding for the installation of renewable energy systems or energy efficient improvements.

V. Discussion on next month's agenda

VI. Next month's meeting date: Tuesday, May 7, 2019

VII. Adjournment – Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm



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RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

EDUCATION, YOUTH & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Chair	Myrna Calderon
Meeting Date:	Wednesday April 3, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Myrna Calderon <input type="checkbox"/> Emmanuel Martinez <input type="checkbox"/> Yeny Medina <u>Exc</u> Denise Relf
Minutes Done By:	Myrna Calderon

Minutes:

I. Introductions

- a. Meeting was called to order however no votes or resolutions could be taken due to lack of quorum.

II. Review of last month's minutes

III. Follow-up from previous month

IV. New Business

- a. Mr. Guerino continued to ask for CB7 and community support to stop the collocation of another school in the Dewitt Clinton HS campus. Board Chair Myrna Calderon reported that she attended public hearing at Dewitt Clinton HS to hear all sides of the issue to report back to the committee. She was disheartened to hear that the DOE officials accused parents and community members of not wanting special needs children in their school. However, parents, teachers, students, administrators and community members all stated their support for special needs students. The problem was a space issue and the fact that three other schools were already being housed in DWCHS. Suggestions were made to use other schools in the Bronx that would be more suitable to special needs students. Also a suggested by administrators was to allow the children to be placed in DWCHS without a separate administration. The ongoing sentiments stated that under the Bloomberg administration DWCHS suffered and now they were finally climbing up again to the great school they have always been. Most speakers felt that another collocation of a school would work against all the progress they have made.



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b. Presentation: Monique Ferguson, Freedom Youth LLC

1. Freedom Youth LLC offers free training to youth and youth workers to prevent the sex trafficking of young people. They work in all 5 boroughs of NYC and Mount Vernon.
2. The purpose of this organization is to train and equip students, Parents teacher's administrator's community members to spot the signs of youth being trafficked. The organization's desire is the work with the Department of Education to prevent youth from being trafficked. And to teach children how to protect themselves.
3. She made us aware of the problem occurring at St. James Park on Jerome Avenue and on 241st and White plains Road, as well as other locations throughout our borough.
4. Ms. Ferguson informed us that youth are being targeted for trafficking starting at age 12-21yrs.
 - 52% are African-American and Latino
 - 50-90% of the youth at Covenant House have been or are currently being trafficked.
 - The main ages are 12-14 years old.
 - 76% are refugee or migrant children
 - 50% are LGBTQ youth
 - 50% are homeless
 - 14% are runaways
5. Cover-ups
 - Cabarets and clubs
 - Grocery Stores - They will pass young people a number they call and trap them
 - Schools - They wait for young people outside schools and use other youth to recruit inside the schools. Parents are not even aware what is occurring.
6. District Manager Ischia Bravo informed Ms. Ferguson that to work with the DOE that Freedom Youth would need a vendor number.



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7. Ms. Ferguson informed us that they were currently under the Nehemiah Project's vendor number and that they were currently obtaining their own.
8. All present agreed to assist in spreading the information and to assist with opening doors for this needed trading in schools, churches and community organizations.
9. Also present at meeting was Sidney Valena, another parent from DWCHS. She also discussed her opposition to the proposed collocation of another school. She also stated that the school had been targeted by the Bloomberg administration. She stated that it is the last remaining large HS in The Bronx and is 130 years old. Current parents and former graduates meet every 3rd Wednesday at Dewitt Clinton HS.
10. She was concerned over the closed door meetings that they were not informed of. She was concerned that the school was already overburdened.

- V. **Discussion on next month's agenda**
- VI. **Next month's meeting date: Wednesday, May 1st, 2019**
- VII. **Adjournment 7:55PM**



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TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Chair	Edgar Ramos
Next Meeting Date:	Thursday, May 2nd, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office

E E I N G H I L L



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RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

HOUSING, LAND USE & ZONING COMMITTEE

Chair	John Snider
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, April 9, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Snider <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erick Ascensio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandra Erickson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edgar Ramos <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helene Redd <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Stronczer
Minutes Done By:	John Snider

Minutes:

- I. Introductions**
- II. Review of last month's minutes**
- III. Follow-up from previous month**
- IV. Old Business**
- V. New Business**
 - a) After a brief discussion and review of March's minutes that included an update on the Bedford Manor building (2987 Webster Avenue) and the tenant association, the meeting was open for new business.
 - b) Recently, the community board has seen a surge in complaints from community residents regarding rent increases, therefore, a discussion was held on what is preferential rent and how it impact the residents of Community Board 7. Landlords who manage rent-stabilized apartments have the option of offering units for a price that's lower than the legal regulated rent, which is determined by the apartment's rental history. In theory, this sounds like a good idea; renters get a cheaper apartment, and landlords may be able to keep apartments full for longer, so everyone wins? According to the Metropolitan Council on Housing, "in most cases the preferential rent can be revoked whenever the lease is renewed, and the landlord can start charging the higher "legal regulated rent" plus other allowable increases. Furthermore, along with preferential rent it's been well documented that residents of Community Board 7 have one of the highest rate of evictions in the city. Therefore, the Housing Community will be hosting a "Special



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Meeting" addressing the issues of preferential rent and evictions. The meeting will be held in September, 2019.

- c) Finally, staff from New York Botanical Gardens gave the board an update on the renovations currently taken place in the conservatory which is scheduled to last until April 2020 with no interruptions to current services.

VI. Discussion on next month's agenda

- a) The CAMBA organization is expected to present
- b) A brief follow up from representatives of STAGG organization and Bedford Manor Tenant Organization

VII. Next month's meeting date: Monday, May 13, 2019; Sister Annunciata Bethell Senior Center

VIII. Adjournment



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JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Chair	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Stronczer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Arce <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nora Feury <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Royer <input type="checkbox"/> Gwendolyn Thomas-Steed
Minutes Done By:	Nora Feury

Minutes:

- I. Introductions**
- II. Review of last month's minutes**
- III. Follow-up from previous month**
- IV. New Business**
 - a) Staffing: Seasonal workers are in place. A rotating crew will maintain some areas such as Harris Field. Joe Magneri, the District Manager is trying to obtain permanent staff for Aqueduct Walk. Devoe Park will continue to have permanent staffing since it is the headquarters for the District 5 Manger.
 - b) Tree Replacement: Complaints regarding the number of dead newly planted trees were made. In spite of the fact that a list of these trees was presented to Parks at the end of last summer, most of the trees were not replaced. Recently, new mulch was delivered and dropped around the base of many of these trees. Mr. Magneri will look into this matter. The committee would like Zev Reuter, the Directory of Forestry, to attend our next meeting.
 - c) Permits Issued at Frisch Field: Several area residents representing the Oval Community Youth Program attended the meeting to discuss the difficulties they are having in obtaining a permit for Frisch Field. The organization was given a permit for Saturdays only. New Era, a league from Washington Heights was given a permit for Sunday through Friday. The residents' complaints included the fact that New Era does not use the field on many of these days. When approached by the leadership of New Era, the local Oval Community Youth Program leader was offered another permit, which New Era held for the Allerton Ball fields. It was decided by the committee to send a letter to Commissioner Rosa requesting she look into the status of permits for Frisch Field.



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1. **Motion:** A letter be sent to Bronx Parks' Commissioner Rosa requesting she look into the status of permits issued at Frisch Field and work out an arrangement to give the Oval Community Youth Program, a local team, additional permit time.

- d) Pilar Maschi from the City Parks' Foundation gave a report on Aqueduct Walk. Although the park continues to be a site for dumping, the area is looking much cleaner. Park crews have been working numerous shifts to clean the area. Ms. Maschi is planning the next meeting concerning Aqueduct Park on Thursday, April 18th from 6:00-8:00PM. The meeting will take place at St. James Recreation Center. It is hoped to have a "Friends of Aqueduct" established in the near future. Ms. Maschi also hopes to be able to develop a similar group for Devoe Park.
- e) Signage: A request to have the "No Barbecuing" signs installed in district parks by Memorial Day was made. Mr. Magneri will try to accommodate this request. He also stated that new signs listing activities not permitted in certain parks would be available in the fall.
- f) Park events during April were highlighted. They included:
1. Shakespeare at the Oval on Thurs. 4/11
 2. An Egg Hunt at the Oval on Sat. 4/20
 3. Earth Day celebration at the Keeper's House on Mon. 4/22
- g) Committee members expressed concerns regarding the use of the skate park by both skaters and BMX riders. The question of safety and intimidation of younger skaters was raised. After much discussion it was decided to monitor the interaction between the two groups during the next few weeks and give the young people the chance to solve any issues that may develop.

V. **Discussion on next month's agenda**

VI. **Next month's meeting date:** Wednesday, May 8th, 2019

VII. **Adjournment**



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PUBLIC SAFETY & QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE

Chair	Dilletta Pina
Meeting Date:	Saturday, April 6, 2019 Public Safety Forum
Meeting Time:	10am-12pm
Meeting Location:	St. James Recreation Center 2530 Jerome Avenue

Agenda:

- I. Introductions**
- II. Review of last month’s minutes**
- III. Follow-up from previous month**
- IV. New Business**

- a) The Public Safety Resource Fair put together by the CB7 Public Safety and Quality of Life Committee and held at the St. James Recreation Center was very well received by the community residents.
 - 1. We had various organizations participate and the event was sponsored by NYS Senator Gustavo Rivera. The Senator even came by and addressed the crowd and stayed a while talking to the community residents individually. We want to acknowledge all the help we got from the Senator’s Staff, especially from Rachel Ferrari who backed us up from the moment we approached her about sponsoring the event and she made sure that we got what we needed.
 - 2. Jason Caraballo, MPA, Community Relations Manager of the Montefiore Office of Government and Community Relations was extremely helpful in getting two important departments to table the event. The Children’s Hospital at Montefiore was represented by Jill Samuels, MBA, Program Administrator of the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Treatment Program. The other Program was the Montefiore Hospital Opioid Overdose Prevention Program represented by Carey Vega, Program Manager.
 - 3. The North Central Hospital was represented by Gloria Bent who had an exhibit about the detrimental effects of sugary drinks on the body and the importance of a healthy diet. The Executive Director, Cristina Contreras, also attended the event.



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4. The American Red Cross also had a table at the event and Roxana Petzold, Response Manager of the Disaster Cycle Services was representing the organization.
5. The FDNY was represented by Adam Lessuck, Bronx Borough Manager and Military Outreach Coordinator of the office of Community Affairs.
6. The NYPD was represented by the Officers of Sectors A, Officers David Rodriguez and Mark Preira and B, Officers Jose De Leon and Shawn Romero.
7. NY Connect Bronx Independent Living Services was represented by Ms. Nadreca Reid.
8. Bronx Against Gun Violence (B.R.A.G.G.) was represented by two of their Supervisors sent by Director David Caba.
9. The Social Security Administration sent plenty of informational materials that we provided to the attendees.
10. One of our 52nd Precinct Community Affairs Officer, Crystal Reveron (who also teaches at Monroe College) brought a group of her students to the event so they could see firsthand how the community is exposed to positive events that bring the residents together.
11. The Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee held a free raffle of three first aid kits. One of the kits was won by Doug Condit, one of our most active Norwood residents. The other two kits were won by two of the young students from Monroe College who were pleasantly surprised that they won something.
12. This event would not have been possible without the Administration of the Recreation Center. The Administration was very helpful and collaborative in our efforts to make this a successful resource fair. They provided us with the space, the tables and chairs, and set up the microphone for us, as needed.
13. We must recognize the Committee Members Yajaira Arias, Helene Redd, and Stanley Richards who made it to the event and cooperated with what was needed. We must thank CB7 Board Members Chad Royer and Lowell Green who came to give us their support.



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14. Robert Cabrera, a Norwood resident, volunteered to man the registration table and we are grateful to him. We want to give a special acknowledgement to our CB7 Board Chair Person, Jean Hill who has shown great leadership ability reflected in the people she has appointed to be committee chairs. She made sure to be present at our Resource Fair to give us her support and we know how busy she is always and we are very grateful to her.
15. The committee is very appreciative of Ischia Bravo, CB7 District Manager, who helped throughout all phases of the planning, including designing our great flyer. We also must commend the CB7 Staff Londy Ramirez and, especially, Michael Rosario. Mr. Rosario and the Committee Chair were in almost daily communication during the event planning and Mr. Rosario was always helpful, courteous, and very patient.
16. I, personally, want to commend any Committee Chair that puts together an event for the community. It is a lot of work and planning to make sure that everything falls into place. So, again, I ask that every member volunteer to help in the events. The committees do need the help and we should be supporting the Committee Chairs, especially someone who is Chairing a committee for the first time.
17. We, all the CB7 Members, should be very proud that now we have a cohesive and collaborative Board.

- V. **Next month's meeting date:** Thursday, May 9, 2019
- VI. **Discussion on next month's agenda**
- VII. **Adjournment**



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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Chair	Chad Y. Royer
Next Meeting Date:	Tuesday, May 21, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Minutes Done By:	Chad Y. Royer

NO APRIL MEETING HELD



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JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair	Lowell Green
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lowell Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cole Hawkins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emmanuel Martinez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Relf
Minutes Done By:	Lowell Green

Minutes:

- I. Introductions**
- II. Review of last month’s minutes**
- III. Follow-up from previous month**
- IV. New Business**
 - a) Update on Newsletter:
 - 1. Committee Chair reported that most of the committees had provided a statement and/or a photo for the newsletter. The committee felt that in the name of transparency a statement from the Budget, Personnel and Ethics Committee should be included in the newsletter. The Committee Chair said that a group photo of the CB7 members was taken at the March General Board Meeting. The Committee Chair and the District Manager will meet soon to start working on putting together the CB7 Newsletter.
 - b) Bronx Week Parade:
 - 1. The Parade will be Sunday May 19, 2019. CB7 usually leads the event. Starting point is Mosholu Parkway and Bainbridge Ave. CB7 will have an informational table at the Festival after the Parade. All members are invited to come help out.
 - c) Bronx Week Tabling:
 - 1. The DM said that there were bags and other items that could be given out at the event in the office. The chair stated that only adults should be given a bag and only people with dogs should get a dog bag.
- V. Next month’s meeting date: TBD**
- VI. Discussion on next month’s agenda**
- VII. Adjournment – Meeting ended at 7:15pm.**