

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



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON    KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

## ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Betty Arce</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>March 5, 2024</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b>Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center, 3225 Reservoir Oval E, Bronx, NY 10467</b>
<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>✓ Betty Arce    ✓ Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky    ✓ Jean Hill          ✓ Rosalie Leslie    _ Gwen Thomas-Steed    _ Lowell Green          ✓ Hugo Gonzalez    ✓ Kazi Noor</b>
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky</b>

**Minutes:**

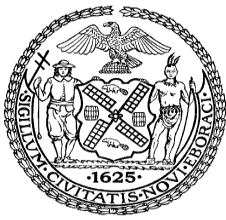
- I. Guidelines & Code of Conduct for the meeting were read**
- II. Introductions/Attendance -**
- III. Review of January 2024 Minutes -**
- IV. Follow-up from Previous Month (If applicable)**
- V. New Business**
  - A. DSNY Issues**
    1. School trash is picked up at least once daily; recyclables on Kingsbridge road are not being picked up. This will be Followed-up.
    2. Starting this Fall, religious institutions will be required to follow the same sanitation rules as residents.
    3. Betty will follow up with the Small Businesses Merchant’s Association & BIDS regarding having a private hauler for trash.
    4. DSNY did a clean-up at the Thrift Shop associated with the Lutheran Church off of Bainbridge Ave.

**a) Questions/Comments**

THIS MEETING’S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

E-MAIL: [KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV](mailto:KCABRERACARRERA@CB.NYC.GOV) ♦ WEBSITE: [WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7](http://WWW.NYC.GOV/BRONXCB7)



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(1) From Sirio Guerrino: *Can merchants share a carter?*

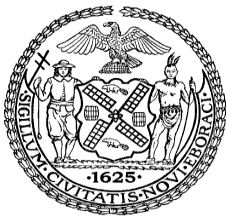
Yes, they can. Businesses can share a carter and their garbage.

#### **B. Updates from Chair Arce -**

1. Commercial containerization-As of 3/1/24, businesses must have containers with attached lids; either with a hinge or attached by a chain. All the garbage must be in a container. Further, in 2 years there will be a standard container that must be used.
  - a) Question from Sirio: *What enforcement will there be for businesses?* **Answer:** There will be a one month grace period before DSNY issues fines to non-compliant stores.
  - b) Question from Kazi: *How are businesses being notified?* Kazi noted that the Flyer was not clear, it only stated to call 311 with questions. **Answer:** Chair advised that comments be sent to the DM with concerns. Helene also suggested that notices be sent via mail to the stores but there is concern that the owners of the property would receive the mail and not the renters who need the information. It was then suggested to meet with the Bids and the Merchants association for follow up
2. Requests for Smart Bins for organic waste should be sent to Betty Arce.
  - f. Chair reported that moving forward the area will be broken down into zones, where different carters will be responsible for their zones.

#### **C. Capital Expenses- the committee reviewed request for 2025**

1. Catch basin issues- the committee suggests more frequent cleaning at certain areas because all basins are cleaned every two years and this can be a problem for any basins that smell and are in need of attention.



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2. Canine enforcement: There was a long and involved discussion on enforcement and what can be done to cut down on this problem. There are only two enforcement agents for the entire borough. The committee suggests to look for other alternatives to address this issue.

**D. Dept. of Environmental Protection, DEP Updates (if applicable)**

1. No updates from DEP

**VI. Other Business:**

- A. The Rat Academy will be held on March 27, 2024 via Zoom. Details to follow
- B. Sirio Guerino shared photos of missing or broken hydrants in the community.
- C. There is the recycling event at the board office on Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>
  1. Volunteers are needed & they should wear green. One or two hours are sufficient to volunteer. Air conditioners and large items are not allowed due to safety concerns.
  2. Jean Hill stated that Tracey Towers would also be able to host an E-Recycling event.

**VII. Next Meeting Date:**

- A. The next committee meeting will be held on May 7, 2024

**VIII. Discussion on Next Agenda -**

- A. There may be a joint meeting with Parks & Recreation and/or The Quality of Life Committee.

**IX. Adjournment**

- A. Meeting adjourned at 8pm