

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Barbara Stronczer
Meeting Date:	March 21, 2024
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting	The Bedford's Community Room
Location:	211 East 203rd Street, Bronx, NY 10458
Members	<u>✓</u> Barbara Stronczer <u>✓</u> Yajaira Arias <u>✓</u> Chad Y. Royer
In Attendance:	_ Jean Hill Betty Arce 🗸 Erick Ascensio 🗸 Edgar Ramos
	✓ Michelle Avila ✓ Leurys Acosta ✓ Samantha Souvatzis
Minutes done by:	Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky

Minutes:

- I. Meeting Guidelines were read by Barbara Stronczer
- II. Introductions/Attendance quorum was met.
- III. Review of February 2024 Minutes -reviewed and approved.
- IV. District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera Updates:
 - A. The precinct egg hunt has a new date, 04/01/24 from 3pm-6pm
 - 1. We are participating and we hired a face painter
 - B. Williamsbridge Oval Egg Hunt on 03/30/24 from 11am-2pm
 - 1. We are tabling at the event too, and hired a balloon artist
 - C. Free tax prep at 03/25/24 and the board is hosting the webinar from 6pm-7pm. Link will be shared via social media
 - D. The State of the Borough is on 04/18/24 at 5:30pm. The borough president will be giving the state of the Bronx
 - E. The community associate passed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review with a projected started date on 04/01/24
 - V. Chair Yajaira Arias Remarks No further updates than those shared by the DM



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VI. New Business

A. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development https://bit.ly/3IGqrXs:

Erick Ascencio motions to send a letter to the Land Preservation Commission in support of the renovation of the four clocks on the tower. Secondly, support the proposed lighting signage and font style for the signage on the building façade and tower. Chad Royer seconds.

1. After discussion, the committee approved the motion.

VII. Committee Reports + Motions

- A. Budget, Personnel & Ethics Jean Hill Not present
- B. Education, Youth & Libraries Leurys Acosta
 - 1. Committee did not due to not meeting a quorum.
 - 2. Yankees Youth Leadership Award Applications are out and due April 7th at 12pm. He is encouraging everyone to help get the word out. Applicants must be between 14-18 years old. The application requires a resume and letter of support and 50 hours of related work experience

C. Environment and Sanitation – Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky on behalf of Betty Arce

- 1. Effective March 2024, businesses must have containers with lids attached. There is a one month grace period for businesses not aware of this change. Summonses will be issued starting on 4/1/2024.
- 2. Rat academy training online on 3/27/24. It is an online training.
- 3. Chair Arce requested that any issues and new locations for composting bins should be emailed to CB7 staff.

D. Health & Human Services - Michelle Avila

1. NYC Sheriff Anthony Miranda attended the meeting. We spoke about his office role in addressing illegal cannabis shops and topics covered were health issues and other information. There was a suggestion to have a town hall to talk about enforcement, compliance and the health risk associated with illegal cannabis consumption.



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- 2. Suggestion to have a joint meeting with the housing committee because of the fires in the community. Specifically, the two family house fire converted to 17 bedrooms where one person died.
- 3. The committee will be hosting a Naloxone training. The kits will be mailed to participants after completion of training.
- 4. There are 3 legal cannabis establishments in the Bronx. Including a medical cannabis establishment in our district: *Verilife*.

E. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Erick Ascensio

1. The Kingsbridge Armory was discussed and it is in the review process by the Economic Development Corporation. The Review of all proposals (RFP) submitted is an internal agency process.

F. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Dr. Steven Payne of the Bronx County Historical Society will be at the next committee meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

G. Public Safety & Quality of Life – Samantha Souvatzis

- 1. In May, the committee will meet with Environment and Sanitation for a joint meeting where they discussed having a town hall in the future
- 2. The issues with 311 have been discussed and revamped. Edgar raised an issue with illegal car washes and that may be an item for discussion.
- 3. Needs assessment conversation and it was agreed that the City Planning assessment will be used to gather data

H. Traffic & Transportation – Edgar Ramos

1. Scott Towers is requesting an ambulance dock and there was a guest there who said they need help with enrollment in the Fair Fares program.

I. Veterans Affairs - Chad Royer

- 1. They are meeting on 3/27/24 and Peter Kempner of Legal Services (VOLS) will present.
- 2. Jeffrey Hunter award is in progress and a tentative date has been set for May 4th, where there will be a flagging event at the Bronx Victory memorial



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VIII. **Other Business:**

- A. Discussion on reformatting the General Board agenda to switch the speaking order around between representatives of elected officials and community members. Elected officials can still present at the beginning of the meeting.
- B. Chair Arias suggested that a letter be drafted to invite the elected officials to the committee meetings, specifically when they have legislative work in progress that relates to our different committees.
- Discussion on Next Month's Agenda-General Board Meeting Agenda Format IX.
- X. Next meeting Date: April 18, 2024
- XI. Chad Royer motioned to close the meeting, Helene Hartman-Kutnosky seconded.